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“And there went a man of the house of Levi, and he took to wife a daughter of Levi” (Ex. 2:1).

THE PARENTS OF MOSES

Moses was a member of the tribe of Levi. He was the seventh from Abraham. Abraham was the seventh from Heber and Enoch the seventh from Adam. Miriam and Aaron were already born when Moses was born. Jochebed was his mother, with Amran being his father.

Concerning the birth of Moses, Ellicott’s Commentary said: “Note the extreme simplicity of this announcement, and compare it with the elaborate legends wherewith Oriental religions commonly surround the birth of those who were considered their founders, as Thoth, Zoroaster, Orpheus. Even the name of the father is here omitted as unimportant. It is difficult to conceive anyone but Moses making such an omission.”

The phrase, daughter of Levi, doesn’t mean that Jochebed was actually the daughter of Levi, who, in fact, had been dead many years, but rather that she was of the tribe of Levi.

MOSES

Concerning Moses, Arthur W. Pink said: “From Adam to Christ there is none greater than Moses. He is one of the few characters of Scripture whose chorus is sketched from his infancy to his death. The fierce light of criticism has been turned upon him for generations, but he is still the most commanding figure of the ancient world.

“In character, in faith, in the unique position assigned him as the mediator of the Old Covenant, and in achievements, he stands first among the heroes of the Old Testament.

“All of God’s early dealings with Israel were transacted through Moses. He was a prophet, priest, and king in one person, and so united all the great and important functions which later were distributed among a plurality of persons. The history of such an one is worthy of the strictest attention, and his remarkable life deserves the closest study.”

ANOTHER VIEW

I.M. Haldeman said of this man: “The life of Moses presents a series of striking antithesis. For instance, he was the child of a slave, and the son of a queen. He was born in a hut, and lived in a palace. He inherited poverty, and enjoyed unlimited wealth. He was the leader of armies, and the keeper of flocks. He was the mightiest of warriors, and the meekest of men. He was educated in the court of Egypt, and yet dwelt in the desert. He had the wisdom of Egypt, and the faith of a child. He was fitted for the city, and yet wandered in the wilderness. He was tempted with the pleasures of sin, and endured the hardships of virtue. He was backward in speech, and yet talked with God. He had the rod of a shepherd, and the power of the Infinite. He was a fugitive from Pharaoh, and an ambassador from Heaven. He was the giver of the Law, and the forerunner of grace.

“He died alone on Mount Moab, and appeared with Christ in Judea. No man assisted at his funeral, yet God buried him.”
THE FAITH OF JOCHEBED

“And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

“And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river’s brink.

“And his sister stood afar off, to witness what would be done to him” (Ex. 2:2-4).

That which stands out so vividly in this account is the faith of Jochebed, the mother of Moses.

I have no doubt that the Lord moved upon Jochebed from the time of the conception of Moses in her womb, in that she sensed there was more here than meets the eye. I also believe that feeling not only persisted but grew in intensity unto the time of her delivery. When the child was born, she knew beyond the shadow of a doubt that there was something extensively unique about this baby; hence, she would go to any length to save its life.

SATAN

Not being successful in attempting to force the midwives to kill the boy babies when they were born, Pharaoh issued another edict, which demanded that all boy babies be drowned in the Nile River at the time of their birth.

As we follow the narrative throughout the Scriptures, we see that Satan does everything within his power to kill those who are truly called of God. Concerning Christ and Satan, the Scripture says: “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He (Christ) also Himself likewise took part of the same (became flesh and blood); that through death (the Crucifixion) He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the Devil” (Heb. 2:14).

The death which Pharaoh demanded was typical of the eternal death which Satan brought upon the human race as a result of the Fall.

THE POWER OF DEATH

What did Paul mean by the term, the power of death, and that the Devil had this power?

Satan’s power lies in the realm of sin. The Scripture says, “The wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23). Sin gives Satan the legal right to hold men in captivity, which leads to spiritual death and ultimately means eternal separation from God. In fact, the power of sin and death is so strong that before the Cross, every saint of God who died, which included all the Old Testament saints, did not go to Heaven. Rather, they were taken down into Paradise, in the heart of the earth, and actually held captive there by Satan. While they were not over in the burning side of Hell, with a great gulf separating the Paradise side from the burning side (Lk. 16:26), still, they were held captive by the Evil One. In other words, the sin debt still hung over them simply because the

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 6]
blood of bulls and goats could not take away sins. However, that was all that existed before the Cross, and I speak of the sacrificial system, which was a stopgap measure until Christ would come (Heb. 10:4).

HE LED CAPTIVITY CAPTIVE

All of the Old Testament saints were waiting for Christ, who had been promised, to become a partaker of flesh and blood, and we refer to the Incarnation. It would be the perfect human body that He would offer up in sacrifice on the Cross, which would atone for all sin. When that happened, and it most definitely did happen, Jesus Christ then went down into Paradise, and the Scripture says, “He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men” (Eph. 4:8).

The term He led captivity captive is a strange term, but yet it holds a wealth of meaning. The word captivity refers to all the Old Testament saints held in captivity by Satan, even though he could not put them into the burning side of Hell. However, when Jesus died on the Cross, He then went down into Paradise and liberated every single one of these individuals, thereby, making them His captives, and took them with Him to Heaven. This was all because of the Cross, the price there paid, and, thereby, all sin being atoned. Now, when a believer dies, and we speak of all time since the Cross, the saint immediately goes to Heaven to be with Christ because there is no more sin debt hanging over the head of any child of God (Phil. 1:23).

Through death, which refers to the crucifixion, Jesus destroyed Satan’s power of death because all sin was atoned. While the wages of sin still is death, because of what Jesus did at the Cross, any person who comes to Christ, expressing faith in Him, can have every single sin washed away, which thereby destroys the power of death.

THROUGH DEATH

If it is to be noticed, it was through death that Jesus accomplished this. It was not the Resurrection or going down into the burning side of Hell and suffering there as a sinner, as some teach such foolishness! It was through death that Christ accomplished this great thing, which refers to the Cross, and the Cross alone.

So, the death that Pharaoh proposed was actually Satan’s motif. However, through this proposed death, the Lord would turn Pharaoh’s edict into victory. Jochebed hid baby Moses for three months, and, incidentally, his name at the time was not Moses. We have no idea as to the name that Jochebed gave him, if any, because the name Moses was actually given to him by the Egyptian princess who adopted him.

Led by the Holy Spirit and evidencing faith in God, and great faith at that, Jochebed made a little ark for baby Moses, laid him in the ark, and pushed it out into the Nile. She told his sister, Miriam, to watch from a distance to see what would happen. I think that Jochebed had at least an inkling of knowledge as to what the Lord was going to do. I doubt that she understood it completely, but I believe the Lord told her exactly where to put the ark into the water, which was where the daughter of Pharaoh came to wash herself daily.

THE DAUGHTER OF PHARAOH

“And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river’s side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it” (Ex. 2:5).

The Holy Spirit worked all of this out, even down to the minute details. He told Jochebed exactly what to do and had something in mind that Jochebed could not have possibly dreamed.

As we said in one of the headings, God works in little things as well as He does in the great things. In fact, He takes little things, such as this before us, and turns it into great things; however, all that God does is by and large done according to the faith of an individual. God seldom works beyond or without our faith. Jochebed had faith. She heard the voice of the Lord, and she obeyed the voice of the Lord. All of this requires faith.

The Holy Spirit had everything timed just right—the place, the person, and the progress. The little ark was floating among the flags where the princess would bathe, and her eyes fell upon this which would prove to be such a major part in the great kingdom of God—Moses.

TEARS

“And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews’ children” (Ex. 2:6).
**FULL-POWER STATIONS**

- **Baton Rouge, LA** ............. 88.5 (WJFM)  
  Covering parts of Southern Louisiana

- **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

- **Graysville, TN** .................. 95.7 (WAYB)  
  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

- **Benton/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

- **Augusta/Little Rock, AR** ........... 97.7 (KJSM)  
  Covering Central Arkansas, Western Tennessee, a small part of Northwestern Mississippi, and a small part of Southern Missouri

- **Desoto/St. Louis, MO** ............ 100.1 (KDJR)  
  Covering Southern Missouri, parts of Eastern Missouri, and Western Illinois

- **Palm Springs, CA** ....... 90.9 (KPSH)  
  Covering the Coachella Valley

- **Winfield/Wichita, KS** .......... 91.9 (KBDD)  
  Covering South Central Kansas and North Central Oklahoma

- **Crete, IL** .................. 88.1 (WBMF)  
  Covering South Chicago and Chicago Heights

- **Ottawa, IL** .................. 88.9 (WWGN)  
  Covering Ottawa, West La Salle, East Joliet, and North DeKalb

- **Kankakee, IL** .................. 88.3 (WAWF)  
  Covering Northeastern Illinois and Northwestern Indiana

- **Nashville, AR** ............. 96.9 (KSSW)  
  Covering Southwestern Arkansas

- **Mobile/Citronelle, AL** ....... 102.1 (WQUA)  
  Covering Mobile, Alabama

- **Lafayette/Church Point, LA** ....... 91.9 (KCKR)  
  Covering Southern and Western Louisiana

- **Ada, OK** ............. 88.7 (KAJT)  
  Covering South Central Oklahoma

- **Albion/Rochester, NY** ....... 102.1 (WJCA)  
  Covering North Western New York State

- **Norman/Oklahoma City, OK** ...... 89.3 (KSSO)  
  Covering Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

- **Panama City, FL** ........... 91.7 (WFFL)  
  Covering Panama City, Florida

- **Beatrice/Lincoln, NE** .......... 88.9 (KNBE)  
  Covering South Eastern Nebraska

- **Grand Island/Hastings, NE** ....... 90.7 (KNFA)  
  Covering South Central Nebraska

- **Lakewood/Jamestown, NY** ....... 88.9 (WYRR)  
  Covering Lakewood and Jamestown, NY

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

- **Bastrop, LA** ............. 88.3 (KJGM)  
  Covering Bastrop, Monroe, and the Northeastern part of Louisiana

**COMING SOON**

- **Bristow, OK** ............. KREK  

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**TRANSLATOR STATIONS**

- **Dublin, GA** ........... 90.9
- **La Grange, GA** ........ 90.3
- **Waycross, GA** .......... 90.7
- **Carlinville, IL** ........ 89.1
- **Effingham, IL** ........ 88.7
- **Freeport, IL** .......... 91.3
- **Jacksonville, IL** ...... 88.1
- **DeRidder, LA** .......... 89.5
- **Grayson, LA** .......... 91.9
- **Many, LA** .......... 91.3
- **Minden, LA** .......... 91.1
- **Morgan City, LA** ....... 91.5
- **Natchitoches, LA** ...... 90.1
- **Alexandria, MN** .......... 91.7
- **Morris, MN** .......... 90.5
- **Kirksville, MO** ........ 88.1
- **Mountain Grove, MO** ...... 91.7
- **St. James, MO** .......... 89.3
- **Springfield, MO** .......... 91.5
- **Willow Springs, MO** ...... 90.5
- **Columbia, MS** .......... 88.3
- **Morehead City, NC** ...... 91.9
- **Rockingham, NC** .......... 88.3
- **Corning, NY** .......... 89.5
- **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 great power of God that particular day, at least, in this instance, was brought down to the tears on a baby’s cheeks.

Concerning this moment, George Williams writes: “Great events have hung upon a tear, but never greater than those which were brought to pass by the tears of this baby! The defeat of Satan, the salvation of Israel and of the nations, the trustworthiness of God’s Word, and the salvation of the world through an Incarnate Saviour—all these lay hidden in the tears that wetted that infant cheek upon that day.”

FAITH

Let’s once again look at faith as it regards the entirety of these actions, and especially that of Jochebed and her husband, Amran.

Though faith vanquished fear as it regards this couple, yet lawful means were used to overcome danger: the mother hid the child and later had recourse to the ark. It is not faith but fanaticism which deliberately courts danger. Faith never tempts God. Even Christ, though He knew full well of the Father’s will to preserve Him, yet withdrew from those who sought His life (Lk. 4:30; Jn. 8:59). It is not lack of faith to avoid danger by legitimate precautions. It is no want of trust to employ means, even when assured by God of the event (Acts 27:31). Christ never supplied by a miracle when ordinary means were at hand (Mk. 5:43).

CIVIL AUTHORITIES

Another important truth which here receives illustration and exemplification is that civil authorities are to be defied when their decrees are contrary to the expressed Word of God. The Word of God requires us to obey the laws of the land in which we live and exhorts us to be “subject unto the powers that be” (Rom., Chpt. 13), and this, no matter how wise and just or how foolish and unjust those laws appear to us.

Yet, our obedience and submission to human authorities is plainly qualified. If a human government enacts a law and compliance with it by a saint would compel him to disobey some command or precept of God, then the human must be rejected for the divine. The cases of Moses’ parents, of Daniel (Dan. 6:7-11), and of the apostles (Acts 5:29), establishes this unequivocally. However, if such rejection of human authority be necessitated, let it be performed not in the spirit of carnal defiance but in the fear of God, and then the issue may safely be left with Him. It was by faith that the parents of Moses “were not afraid of the king’s commandment.” May divine grace work in us “like precious faith,” which overcomes all fear of man.

(Submitted: Arthur W. Pink)

A NURSE

“Then said his sister to Pharaoh’s daughter, Shall I go and call to you a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?”

“And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child’s mother.”

“Then said his sister to Pharaoh’s daughter, Shall I go and call to you a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?”

“Then said his sister to Pharaoh’s daughter, Shall I go and call to you a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?”

Evidently the baby was beautiful because, immediately, the daughter of Pharaoh fell in love with the little fellow. Of course, we know the Lord had something to do with this as well.

At about the time that Pharaoh’s daughter picked up the child, for she, no doubt, did so, Moses’ sister Miriam, who had been standing nearby, asked those there if she could get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child. Miriam, as well, was led by the Lord in this.

PHARAOH’S DAUGHTER

Pharaoh’s daughter instantly agreed that this would be the thing to do and told Miriam, with whom she was not acquainted, to go find a nurse. Guess what? Miriam went straight to her mother, who, as well, was the mother of the child. She immediately came to the riverbank.

Pharaoh’s daughter told her to take the child and care for it, and she would pay her wages to do so. Of course, she never dreamed that the lady to whom she gave the child was actually the child’s mother.

So Jochebed would take care of baby Moses and be paid by the state for doing so. I wonder what Satan thought of this! His plans to defeat the great plan of God were foiled, with the Lord even playing a little trick on the Evil One. Getting the court of Pharaoh,
which had given instructions for the boy babies to be killed, to rather pay Jochebed to care for the child presents itself not only as a defeat for Satan but, also, an insult to the Evil One. I think from this we have to come to the conclusion that God also has a sense of humor.

Can you imagine what Satan said to the demon spirits who were supposed to have been attending the funeral of little Moses!

**THE ARK**

Though Moses was brought to the place of death, he was made secure in the ark. This speaks to us of Christ, who went down into death for us. The righteousness of God made imperative the payment of sin’s awful wages, and so His spotless Son died “… the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God …” (1 Pet. 3:18).

It was faith which placed baby Moses in the ark, and it is faith which identifies us with Christ. Again, just as Moses was brought out of the place of death, when Christ rose again, so we rose with Him (Rom. 6:3-5; Eph. 2:5-6).

As well, as the heavenly Father arranged for the tender care of the baby, He also arranges the same care for us.

All of the events that took place that day were in no way chance happenings. All were designed by the Holy Spirit, as all are always designed by the Holy Spirit, at least, as it regards those who follow the Lord. From this, we can take a lesson as to how minutely the Lord leads and guides, how He plans every detail, and under grace, we can be certain that His protection and care are certainly no less.

1 Ellicott’s Commentary on the Whole Bible, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, pg. 195.
2 Arthur W. Pink, Gleanings in Exodus, 2002, pg. 16.
4 George Williams, The Student’s Commentary on the Holy Scriptures, Grand Rapids, Kregel Publications, 1949, pg. 44.

This message was taken from the Jimmy Swaggart hardback book, Great Women of the Bible, Old Testament.
THE LAW AND CONFESSION

Following hard on the heels of “knowledge” is “confession.” Confession constitutes a major element in hyper-faith ministry. Scriptural formulas confessing result into existence—thereby releasing benevolent forces on our behalf—constitute a major force in this gospel. Their “law of confession” is a routine quoting of certain Scriptures. The Word of God is seen as a self-energizing entity—a deity within itself. Specific Scriptures are utilized, out of context, completely ignoring all related Scriptures addressing the same principles. By using these isolated Scriptures, God is supposedly obligated to perform certain actions. The verbalized confession becomes the total force.

Of course, within this system, the burden on the individual becomes almost too great to bear. Above all, he must not lose his confession; he must not weaken his confession; he must not err in his confession. No matter what happens, he is compelled to ignore reality and to maintain his confession.

As a result, sick people are prayed for and automatically declared healed. Why? Because certain specific passages of Scriptures have been applied to their sickness—and once the confession has been made, it is impossible for them to not be healed! In their thinking, the Word of God (which, again, has become a deity within itself) has been imprisoned within their laws—and the individual has to be healed.

The will of God is totally ignored. These unfortunate individuals are instructed to never see a doctor since this would counteract their positive confession, with the consequent loss of their healing (or whatever it was they asked for). The sad fact is that some have actually died by observing this dangerous and hurtful teaching.

The Word of God is basically removed from the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Individuals are told they can do anything Jesus did—if they have the right type of knowledge, believe correctly, and have the right confession. They can have anything they confess. They are told that the believer—infused with the new
kind of nature (the new knowledge)—can speak (even as God spoke) worlds into existence. This type of teaching is often termed “the God-kind of faith.”

The hyper-faith people basically deny the effect of sickness, death, trials, and problems in their lives, when these problems are present. They seem to feel that they have the power to release “forces of good” as a consequence of their knowledge and confession. As such, they have little or no compassion for those who are sick or who suffer from trials or difficulties. They simply state—with a cold, scientific logic—“You are suffering because you have refused to know your place in Christ (knowledge).”

They also say, if you pray according to God’s written Word and follow His instructions, you will always get results. If you miss it (they say), it is your faith that failed, not God.

They infer somewhat that prayer, in the sense of need, is the enemy of confession. They say prayer asks for help without denying that the circumstances exist; in other words, it is the opposite of confession. They suggest, rather than praying, to confess the answer, because in confessing the answer we repeat the magic formula causing the negative factors to disappear. They further imply that prayer (asking God for help) is a sign of weakness and dependence, so we should religiously avoid this type of praying. We should instead confess our position in Christ—because confession has the ready answer, and all we really have to do is begin confessing. In view of this, we are instructed not to pray as one normally would since prayer is really an enemy of faith, as indulged in by most Christians. Prayer is much talked about, but it is really twisted to conform to the principle of confession.

Once again, the veil of condemnation falls heavily on the shoulders of the believer. He is told that he can govern the circumstances round himself—using only the written Word of God. He can use this as a club—forcing God into a particular position, or at least as a magic talisman (good luck charm) that will banish all problems. The trusting are further told that results probably will not happen overnight just because we “confess” certain things once or twice. In other words, we must keep saying them, over and over again, and keep believing them.

Once again, the responsibility of the results falls on the individual. Consequently, the individual is the one who is glorified, if and when results occur. The name of God and His Word are spoken of constantly, and are “used” continuously. But, in actuality, it is the individual who is glorified, and God receives very little of the praise. They even tell us that these are the same principles “used” by Jesus.

The believer is discouraged from the usual manner of praying since this would require him to repeat the problem aloud for all to hear. (This amounts to acknowledgment of the problem!) Some insist that praying for help implies that God has left something undone; that redemption is incomplete. Within the hyper-faith teaching, nothing is incomplete. We are even told that the prayer of repentance and forgiveness is not for the modern-day saint, and no Christian should ever confess sin, as one generally does. Some teach that a confession of sin should be replaced by a confession of who the believer is—a new creation in Christ. This is somehow supposed to erase the slip into sin consciousness.

**SIN AND SALVATION**

If you will notice, their leaders seldom preach against any kind of sin. There is little said about it because (they say) it will cause people to have a “sin consciousness.” Not surprisingly, they don’t really believe in conviction either. They suggest that conviction is really condemnation. They pay lip service to getting people saved but devote little energy to it. Their brief, mechanical altar calls are little more than passing efforts. Their entire movement depends on someone else winning souls to God—and only then do they appear to elevate these to new levels of knowledge. As such, their teaching must be viewed as somewhat parasitical.

They have very little regard to foreign missions except in limited settings. This is not surprising in that their teaching of “higher knowledge” does not appear too much to the heathen of Africa, Asia, Central or South America. They do, however, mention “thousands saved.” This fits in with the confession concept. Even though there are a few outward results, they tend to confess to great numbers being saved.

They think the confession of the believer can control the world around him (completely ignoring the will of God); and if results are not seen, it is the confession that is at fault. They also imply that the believer no longer really needs God’s grace, but is himself invested with the ability to do what is necessary in life. Hence, one hears a great deal about the ability of God in the believer. In other words, the believer becomes something of a free agent, or a franchisee, doing all sorts of great things.

When this is carried to its final conclusion, it completely ignores the will of God, falling into the area of presumption and leaving the believer out of God’s will—exercising his own judgment and will—which is the ultimate sin. He will then commit Satan’s sin of using God’s Word against His
(God’s) purposes. Individuals are told to confess anything into existence—from Cadillacs to resurrection—completely ignoring the will of God in the matter. This is their “right” in their “new knowledge in Christ Jesus,” they say.

**DENIAL OF HUMAN NATURE**

This is one of the basic teachings of Gnosticism—dualism—a teaching that one cannot have a human nature and a Godly nature at the same time. One is either totally divine, or totally satanic, never just human.

We are told that man is either operating totally in the flesh realm (the world of the senses) or in the spiritual realm. This, as we have mentioned, is the dualism of Gnosticism. Therefore, they would convince us that sickness is purely spiritual in origin and must be healed on that level instead of on the physical level. Consequently, they sometimes say that sickness is aligned with a sinful state of the ill person. It is always a spiritual problem (they say).

In view of all this, those adhering to this philosophy do not feel that Christians truly undergo trials and/or testings. If an individual appears to undergo trials or testings, that person is operating in the realm of the senses, or the flesh realm, the world of carnality or of Satan.

They equate any individual living completely free of all difficulties or problems as operating in the world of the divine, which is God. It is always one or the other. The individual is never just “human”; consequently, you seldom hear them mention the fact that they are tired. Converts are told never to confess any type of sickness. If they have a cold, they are to say (by faith) that they do not have a cold—because confessing something of this nature would indicate humanity. They do not operate in the realm of the senses; they operate on a higher plane.

Anyone who prays, admitting total dependency on God, is filled with flaws and inconsistencies. To pray for God’s help would be considered as foolish by the hyper-faith people. They simply do not have flaws or inconsistencies. They have already arrived at a state of co-divinity with God. This “dualism,” once again, touches on the superior, or master race, syndrome. These teachers seem blind to man’s basic human nature. They do not seem to realize that we are actually poor, undeserving creatures, desperately in need of God’s help. However, due to the Fall, we were born spiritually incomplete and inadequate, needing a Redeemer. Only Jesus Christ is acceptable to God as our Saviour and Redeemer. He loves us deeply and everlastingly.

They also tend to deny the fact that when we are saved (born again) our humanity does not cease. They ignore the fact that we still possess the flaws and inconsistencies of humans, and only God’s grace and mercy—through Jesus Christ—allow us to enter into the presence of God. They lose sight of the fact that within ourselves we are unworthy, and therefore must depend totally upon God for His mercy and His grace.

**BEARING THE CROSS AND THE ATONEMENT OF CHRIST**

The hyper-faith teaching, with its implied denial of the Cross of Jesus Christ, stems basically from the Gnostic duality teaching that Jesus Christ became a partaker of the satanic nature on the Cross. In other words, they suggest that He became identified with Satan. They claim He could not have died physically without first dying spiritually.

They seem to say—concerning the mortality of the body of Christ—that His death on the Cross was proof that He had ceased being the Son of God. They seem to have a complete misconception of the Incarnation, feeling there can never be two natures present in a person. Only one or the other may be present, but never both simultaneously (dualism of Gnosticism).

Their basic teaching appears to hinge on the statement that Jesus was both divine and satanic—but not at the same time. In their view, He was divine while He was on the earth but became sinful while on the Cross, as He took our sins upon Himself.

The logical extension of their philosophy is that when Jesus took our sins upon Himself on the Cross, He became personally in need of redemption because of those sins. In short, He became a sinner on the Cross. Because of this He died spiritually, went to Hell, and as a result had to be born again exactly as we have to be born again today. This goes back to the Gnostic “redeemed Redeemer.” They flaunt the Scripture which says...
He was the first-born of many creatures—and they distort this to suggest that He was born again (in the sense of a spiritual birth). They seem to ignore the fact that this refers to a physical birth, not a spiritual birth.

Irenaeus, the ancient teacher who so strongly refuted Gnosticism, said, “No creed is so blasphemous as theirs ... cutting off and dividing Jesus from Christ, Christ from Saviour, Saviour from Word, and Word from Only Begotten.”

The new Gnostics also seem to feel that Jesus took on our satanic flesh on the Cross, and then died. As mentioned earlier, they use the scriptural reference of II Corinthians 5:21, completely pulling it out of context. They imply that the Cross is the place of the spiritual death of Jesus, in addition to His physical death. In truth, this borders on blasphemy. It would seem that the power and forgiveness, provided in the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, is lost to them—rejecting as they do their need for anything beyond knowledge.

One has the feeling that they repudiate Calvary. They make light of such songs as “The Old Rugged Cross,” etc. This type of song is looked at with disdain. They protest that they do not want to identify with the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. One can’t help but conclude that they do not feel they have to go through repentance and the Cross. It is ignored, treated as “past miseries.”

The truth is, as the Apostle Paul said in Galatians 6:14, “But God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.”

I am sure that many hyper-faith teachers do not realize, nor would they admit, that this part of their teaching is the very heart of Gnosticism, as it is related to Christianity. I’m sure most of them would not suspect that their denial of the Christian position on the Cross and the Atonement is basically the “dualism” of Gnosticism. Unfortunately, the fact that one is not cognizant (aware) of an error does not make the error any less destructive.

IN CONCLUSION

I know I have not covered all details. The subject is so broad that time and space will not permit deeper analysis. I have, however, tried to give some insight into hyper-faith thinking and teaching—although omitting discussion of the basic foundations of Christianity. Space limitations demand that we assume most Christians already know “what was once delivered unto the saints.” I pray you, the reader, will not become confused with this rather brief presentation. I’ve not only tried to state all the aspects accurately, but I have also endeavored to be fair and impartial.

My heart bleeds for the scores of people being deceived by the hyper-faith teaching. I feel this is basically a new covering for the old apostasy of Gnosticism. If one will study the audiences of these teachers, it becomes apparent that they are comprised of mostly young people, with some exceptions of course. These individuals, due to lack of experience, do not have the firm foundation they should have in the Word of God. Consequently, they are “easy prey” for this type of teaching. It has a powerful attraction.

Hyper-faith requires little of nothing from the individual concerning clean living. Overt sin within lives is ignored or never preached against. In other words, one gives up nothing to embrace the present day hyper-faith philosophy.

Secondly, there’s the promise of instant riches. Sad to say, there is an element of selfishness and greed in most people’s hearts—even Christians'.

Of course, all this philosophy has the apparent blessing of the Word of God. With these twin appeals, it exerts great allure. Individuals are promised instant health and wealth—and this is a heady gospel.

“Miracles” and “healings” are spoken of constantly; when in reality there are few miracles, and precious few healings. Trusting followers are led to believe that God is continually speaking to the teachers. “God told me” seems a constant part of the preaching. The whole performance is dignified by the implied protection of a heavy spiritual canopy.

The fact is, God does speak to people, but I’m concerned that He doesn’t speak with the constancy suggested. Stupendous statements and claims are made—statements and claims having no documenta-
It is in this way that many abandon their walk with God and become embittered. They end up denying God, His work, His church, and all that real salvation comprises. And all because they believed, with all their hearts, a premise built on a foundation of sand. The shores are littered with the wrecks of these hapless individuals. They placed their all in the hyper-faith doctrine, but instead of gaining all, they lost all.

These individuals, of course, are ignored. There’s no compassion for the hyper-faith dropouts. They are dismissed with a flippant “They missed it” and brushed aside like so much debris—because there is always a fresh crop of gullibles to take their place.

I have delivered this message with great sadness and heaviness of heart. My heart breaks to see what is happening. I am not an outside observer. I have been there, and I know what I’m talking about. I know and understand their teaching. I know where it comes from; I’ve witnessed its results.

Even though some may strike out against me, saying I’ve attacked individuals, I can only answer: God knows my heart. I have no desire whatsoever to strike out or attack anyone. I love all people everywhere. I do not, however, love the results of the hyper-faith ministry—which I sincerely believe is a carry-over of the ancient error of Gnosticism.

I believe most of its adherents have a serious lack of Bible foundation, with a resultant void in what they believe and what they teach. Unfortunately, regardless of a person’s sincerity, erroneous teaching always produces unfortunate results.

It has cost me greatly to say these things; but I have done what I believe is God’s will. The saddest part of all is that I feel the majority of these hyper-faith teachers are good people who simply do not know that the heart of their teaching borders on a denial of the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ and the basic teachings of the Word of God. They would certainly disagree with this, but this is the road they are traveling.

Again, I emphasize that all error will lead to difficulty and destruction.

In closing, I can only echo the words of our Saviour, “…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. If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve Me, him will my Father honour” (Jn. 12:24-26).

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Worship and praise of God should characterize the majority of our communion and fellowship with the Lord.  

THE BOOK OF PSALMS is not only the largest book of the Bible, but Psalms is also Earth’s first songbook. The Hebrew word is sepher tehillm, which means, “the book of praises.” In the Greek the title is Psalmoi, which means “songs.”

The theme of Psalms is trust, worship, and praise; consequently, worship and praise of God should characterize the majority of our communion and fellowship with the Lord.

The book of Psalms contains five books corresponding to the five books of the Pentateuch and to the five books of the Apocalypse, the book of Revelation.

They are as follows:

- **Book One (Psalms 1-41):** Genesis; Revelation 1-3
- **Book Two (Psalms 42-72):** Exodus; Revelation 4-9
- **Book Three (Psalms 73-89):** Leviticus; Revelation 10-11
- **Book Four (Psalms 90-106):** Numbers; Revelation 12-18
- **Book Five (Psalms 107-150):** Deuteronomy; Revelation 19-22

**PSALMS 30:5**

This verse has been a great comfort to saints of God throughout time; however, before we address the wonderful truth and encouragement of this verse, it is important to note that this verse is actually prophecy concerning Israel.

**PROPHECY**

Most believers don’t realize that Psalms is also a book of prophecy concerning the perfections, the sufferings, and the succeeding glories of the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The prophetic meaning of the verse pertains to Israel during the millennial reign of Christ.

For more than 2,000 years, Israel has been weeping due to her rejection of Jesus Christ as Messiah. But at the end of the battle of Armageddon, Israel will finally accept Christ as the Messiah, and her weeping will be turned to joy. There is much more that could be said, but space dictates that I move on to the meaning of this verse as it concerns believers today.

**FOR HIS ANGER ENDURES BUT A MOMENT**

Sin is the primary cause of God’s anger, as all sin is against God no matter how it is carried out. Israel’s sin was their rejection of Christ, and actually, any sin on our part could be looked at as rejection of God, His Word, His will, His way, and His holiness.

When we step out of faith and into flesh, which always plays out to some kind of failure, the Lord
grows angry and, as a parent disciplines a wayward child, so too does the Lord chastise us.

Hebrews 12:6 says, “For whom the Lord loves He chastens.” This is done not out of spite but because of His great love for us. But we have His promise in this verse that such anger will endure only for a moment.

The purpose of chastisement is to bring us back to proper relationship and fellowship. Chastisement forces us to look honestly at our hearts; it forces us to see how much we have grieved the Holy Spirit.

**IN HIS FAVOR IS LIFE**

How does one have favor with God? Is it by the doing of good works, certain deeds, church attendance, etc.? The answer is no. The way, and the only way, we can have the favor of God is by the expression of our faith in Christ and what he has done for us at the Cross. As you have heard us say over and over, Jesus Christ is the source of all good things from God, while the Cross is the means.

The word favor as used here means “to kindly and tenderly affected toward; to show mercy, as an inward disposition.” So his chastisement is really an expression of God’s love and God’s mercy and grace.

The word life as used in this verse means “alive, lively; having vital energy or life.”

George Williams translates this portion of verse thusly: “For a moment His anger; for a lifetime His favor.”

**weeping may endure for a night**

This portion of the text plainly tells us that the believer will, at times, endure great trials and problems. No one is immune from weeping and travail of soul. Life does bring hardships and conflict, but notice, the Lord plainly states that whatever one is facing or going through, it is not forever. It may seem to us that it is ongoing, but it will pass.

Beleaguered Christian, don’t lose faith and don’t give up, for the night always turns into morning.

The word joy as expressed in this verse means “a shout of joy; a cry of joy; singing.” Williams translates the phrase thusly: “Weeping may come in to lodge at even, but singing comes to dwell in the morning.”

Only the Lord can turn our weeping into singing.

You may be going through a trial of affliction that has brought weeping, but it will pass. Morning is coming, and our weeping will be turned into singing.
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CAMPMEETING SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
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ACCOMMODATIONS

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<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
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<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
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## UNITED STATES (NATIONWIDE) CABLE, SATELLITE, & DIGITAL LISTINGS

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<td>Verizon FiOS</td>
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<tr>
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## UNITED STATES (REGIONAL) CABLE LISTINGS

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<td>Lucas Valley Cable</td>
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<td>Andover · Avon · Berlin · Bloomfield · Bolton · Bristol · Burlington · Canton · East Hartford · Ellington · Farmington · Hartford · Hebron-Marlborough · New Britain · Plainville · Simsbury · Tolland · Vernon · West Hartford · Windsor</td>
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CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

THE EVANGELIST OCTOBER 2014 | 25
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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<td>Kentucky</td>
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INTERNATIONAL LISTINGS

INTERNATIONAL CABLE & SATELLITE LISTINGS

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SONLIFE BROADCASTING NETWORK IS CHURCH FOR 90-YEAR-OLD WIDOW AND HER FAMILY

DEAR EVANGELIST, My dad passed away on May 8, 2013, and since that time my mother’s health and mental condition have declined drastically. I have not taken her to church since December 2013, and that has been difficult for the family as my brother is the pastor, and all of her grandchildren are on the stage singing and ministering. To the point, we watch SBN and on Sunday mornings tune in to the live service. She doesn’t respond to anything until the service starts and a song that she is familiar with begins. Then I see her singing and mouthing all the words without fail. Amazing since her capacity to remember anything else is gone. A few weeks ago, when Brother Jimmy led the congregation in the sinner’s prayer, I saw my little 90-year-old mother with her trembling hand raised and tears running down her cheeks repeat the sinner’s prayer with him. When the family came in for lunch that day, I told them that Mimi had finally been saved after a lifetime of serving the Lord! When you receive Communion, I get things together and we have it along with you! I just wanted you to know what a blessing this has become to our life, from watching it while dressing for church or anytime I wanted to hear a good sermon or great singing, to now becoming the only “church” that we attend. We are taking advantage of the Campmeeting as I speak.

– Georgia

BELIEVER TESTIFIES THAT TITHING DOES WORK

DEAR EVANGELIST, I watched your show today, and turned to God’s Word and I came across Malachi 3:10. A lady said she too felt scared and couldn’t live without the 10 percent that one would pay in tithe. But I believe that God is not a man that could lie, and that His Word is the truth. So, I told God I was afraid that I would not have enough money to live on, but I am believing Malachi and that He would pour out blessings more than I could handle. Praise God! He has provided and even allowed me to finally get an Expositor’s Study Bible and even the book, The Message of the Cross. Yes, God is almighty and true to His Word!

– Email

THREE TVs PLAY SBN AT ALL TIMES

DEAR EVANGELIST, Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus. I just sent in a request to join your Media Church. I must tell you all how much we enjoy every single part of SBN. We usually have three TVs going with SBN at all times. Brother Swaggart has been a part of my life since I can remember. I am 57 years old, and I can still remember when I was 12, 13, 14, and 15, lying in bed listening to my old turntable with Brother Swaggart singing as I fell asleep praying in tongues. Praise God for that man, and praise God for all of you. While I’m at it, I will add that Brother Donnie doesn’t have to take a back seat to anyone preaching! He can preach, and so can Gabe! We love you all and pray for you daily. We have been sending our tithe and will continue to be faithful to Jimmy Swaggart Ministries.

– Louisiana

RETIREES LISTEN TO BROTHER SWAGGART’S SERMONS ON IPODs

DEAR EVANGELIST, My husband and I want to give thanks to you and your family for being the instrument to God’s Word. We have enjoyed your sermons tremendously. When I was growing up and attending the local Methodist church, I quickly became bored and hated going to church because of the way the services were led. In the early 1980s, we gave our hearts to Jesus and went on to build a home and a future. Now that we are in our retirement years, we enjoy everything you have made available to us. Every morning, I plug into my iPod and listen to Brother Swaggart’s podcast sermons while I drink my morning coffee. There is no better way to wake up in the morning than to listen to God’s Word. We listen to every word in his sermons. I am so proud to be part of your Media Church. When I listen to Brother Swaggart, I see, hear, and
feel the Lord within his sermons, so I know the words being spoken are pure 100 percent truth. God bless you all, and keep it coming. We are listening!

– Kansas

SMOKER CAN’T LIGHT CIGARETTE WHILE WATCHING BROTHER SWAGGART ON TV

DEAR EVANGELIST, My parents have belonged to the Media Church for quite some time now, and have followed the Word of God for some years now. Of course they pray for our salvation and talk to me and my husband about Christ Jesus and Him crucified whenever they can. This past Christmas they were visiting us, and we had your network on and were watching. I stepped out to my patio to have a cigarette as I always do (I stopped smoking in my house approximately 12 years ago when my grandchildren started to come into our lives) and from my patio, as you sit in a chair, you can see my TV from there. I picked up the cigarette and was watching Brother Swaggart, and I could only take two puffs! I felt Oh my, I can’t do this, and I put it out! Half an hour later, I went back out to light up again, and could not even light it as I saw Brother Swaggart on my TV! The thing to include so importantly before this: I prayed to quit, that I liked it, but for the Lord God to please help me. I was having throat problems—the cords in my neck were hurting and aching daily—so that is why I started to pray, knowing I better quit. I believe my Lord God threw that upon me, seeing your show on my patio that evening; I could not do it anymore! Praise God! As of today, I still have not picked up a cigarette. To include, as well, as of today’s date, I have not had a beer, which happened about two weeks after I did not pick up another cigarette! Your network is on my TV daily ever since! Because of this, my parents bought a new Bible for me and my husband about two weeks ago, thank the Lord. I am praying for my husband’s salvation too; would you please pray for us? Thank you very much for reading this. Love you very, very much—all of you. I feel like I know all of you simply by TV, and thank our Lord God for all of you.

– Louisiana
Rom. 6:3-5 – “Know you not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ (plainly says that this baptism in into Jesus Christ and not water [1 Cor. 1:17; 12:13; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 4:5; Col. 2:11-13]) were baptized into His death? (When Christ died on the Cross, in the mind of God, we died with Him; in other words, He became our substitute, and our identification with Him in His death gives us all the benefits for which He died; the idea is that He did it all for us!) Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death (not only did we die with Him, but we were buried with Him as well, which means that all the sin and transgression of the past were buried; when they put Him in the tomb, they put all of our sins into that tomb as well): that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (we died with Him, we were buried with Him, and His resurrection was our resurrection to a newness of life). For if we have been planted together (with Christ) in the likeness of His death (Paul proclaims the Cross as the instrument through which all blessings come; consequently, the Cross must ever be the object of our faith, which gives the Holy Spirit latitude to work within our lives), we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection (we can have the likeness of His resurrection, i.e., live this resurrection life, only as long as we understand the likeness of His death, which refers to the Cross as the means by which all of this is done).”

**If we ever lose sight of that or look to something other than Jesus Christ and Him crucified, we will no longer be able to enjoy more abundant life.**

**Buried with Him by Baptism into Death**

As Verse 3 tells us that we are “baptized into His death,” the next verse (Verse 4) explains to us that we are also “buried with Him by...”
baptism into death.” As Verse 3 expresses the fact that we have been placed into Christ by the person of the Holy Spirit, Verse 4 reveals to us how this is done — by death. In the mind of God, when Jesus Christ died on Calvary’s Cross, you and I died with Him. Of course, I speak of our salvation experience. However, this experience does not stop there, for in the mind of God, as Christ was buried, our old man was buried as well. This means that our old person, the one we used to be, has now been crucified and buried. All of our past sins, transgressions, and failures were buried with Christ. I like to say it this way: When they placed Christ in that tomb, they, as well, placed our old man in that tomb with Him. Of course, this is all done spiritually and not physically. The person that we used to be before we accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour was placed in that tomb and sealed with that stone, never to be taken out again.

**JESUS CHRIST IS OUR SUBSTITUTE**

All of this was done by simple faith and not by the means of anything else. As we have stated before, at Calvary, Jesus Christ became our substitute, for it should have been you and me who received the penalty of death that day. The reason is simple — we were the ones who failed God. We were the ones who were guilty before our Creator. Christ never failed in word, thought, or deed, but we failed in all things. However, seeing man in his condition, God would formulate a plan of redemption, even before the foundation of the world (I Pet. 1:18-20), that would see Christ becoming man to do for us what we could not do for ourselves. We must understand that a sinner cannot save another sinner, so Christ would have to come down to earth to die upon a cruel Cross to redeem those who would simply believe. *Jesus died for me* are some of the greatest words that can ever be uttered because He literally became our substitute, for without Him, we would all be doomed to a Devil’s Hell.

**AN IDENTIFICATION PROBLEM?**

At the same time, not only must we understand that He has become our substitute, but we must identify with His sacrifice for complete redemption. What I’m about to say is the truth, but most would take umbrage with the following statement: I believe that it is impossible for any believer to experience any spiritual growth unless that believer understands the Cross relative to his everyday life and living. Now, I understand that this is a strong statement, but I believe it to be true. The fact is that all true Christians understand that Christ is our substitute, but they fail to properly identify with Christ and His finished work on Calvary’s Cross, meaning that most believers have an identification problem. If the believer identifies with anything other than Jesus Christ and Him crucified, such as *The Purpose Driven Life*, or any man-made fad or scheme, that will bring about spiritual failure. It will cause untold harm and will lead to wreckage and a lack of spiritual growth.

Our identification must be totally and completely in Christ, who He is, and what He has done. Once this takes place, then we are guaranteed the help of the Holy Spirit to work in our lives to bring about the growth that we need. In other words, this is how we live for God. We cannot live for Him by any other means or ways. It is all based squarely upon who Christ is and what He has done for us at Calvary’s Cross. This is the key to all spiritual victory and growth, and this is the key to more abundant life. Our life is found in Christ and not in ourselves.

While preaching at Crossfire on this very subject, I told our young people that the only way to get to God is through Jesus Christ; the only way to get to Jesus Christ is through the Cross; and the only way to get to the Cross is through a denial of self. There is no other way for a person to come to God except by means of the Cross of Christ, and not by the means of self-effort. It is not by following a list of rules and regulations, but rather by faith in the finished work of Christ. It was His death on Calvary’s Cross that satisfied the demands of a thrice-holy God and broke the chains of sin over the life of the sinner and the saint.

▶ This article will be continued in the next issue of *The Evangelist*. 

“...believe that it is impossible for any believer to experience any spiritual growth unless that believer understands the Cross relative to his everyday life and living.”
CIRCUMSTANCES AND SIN

The two elements that work the hardest against a believer’s faith are negative circumstances and sin. Life is never easy, especially for those who choose to follow the Lord with all their hearts. The adversaries are many, the friends are few, and there is never any quarter given from powers of darkness. When a negative circumstance occurs — either one of our own making, or perhaps one we had absolutely no control over — the fight to destroy the established faith of the believer begins. We are filled with all manner of questions, doubts, and fears. The situation may bruise us emotionally, physically, spiritually, or all three. The heart and mind begin to waver in regard to the faithfulness of God. “If God is for me,” we say, “then who could be against me?” Then we look at the circumstances we are facing and begin to question whether or not God is really for us.

Sin degrades the faith of the believer, for all sin hardens the heart of the individual who performs it. Above the condemnation experienced by the failure. In either case — the case of sin or negative circumstance — we will often find a believer who is oppressed, shaken, defeated, bruised, and hurting. This one is a bruised reed.

THE BRUISED REED

The reed referred to by Isaiah was one of the most common plants in Israel. It had multiple uses, from use as a walking stick to being used in the process of making papyrus, a type of paper. The point is this: it was so common that if it became cracked, broken, or weakened through use, the one who was using the reed simply threw it away — discarding it as a useless thing — and picked up another one to take its place. First off, let me say that there has never been a believer who has ever existed whom Jesus considered useless. Every single child of God has a special task to do and a unique place in the heart of God. He is our Saviour and King, but always remember that God is our Father! He will take that one who has been bruised by sin or circumstances, bind him up, see to his healing needs, and then send him forth to accomplish the task he was born to do. God has no substitutes sitting in line waiting for us to fail or quit. He chooses those who choose Him. If you won’t stop believing, there is not a sin, a circumstance, or an adverse situation that he cannot bring you through. God will not throw you away and go
Why WEBC&S?

“I will begin my sophomore year at World Evangelism Bible College this fall. The journey I’ve had to progress through has been a difficult one. I’ve had many trials, desert places, and attacks from the Devil to bring me to the end of myself. This college has helped me establish a closer relationship with my heavenly Father and to know His love. I’m excited for this upcoming semester because even though these times of “pressing” will be difficult, it is worth it to be close to Him and His love. The Lord is using WEBC to strengthen my faith, establish a foundation, and draw me closer to Him so He can raise up a standard in this world which He can use to proclaim His glory.”

Chez Babin LOUISIANA

“I was called by the Lord to WEBC. During my time here, I have had the honor to be taught by God’s leaders whose hearts are grounded in the Word by godly experiences. I believe they have been taught by God Himself. Teachers and students alike share tears, laughter, and joy as the Holy Spirit takes control, comforting souls and giving hope for the future. As I reflect on my stay here, the Message of the Cross has strengthened my faith to believe God for more and to believe that all of His promises are yes and amen. This school always leaves me thirsty and desiring for more of God’s Word and His presence, and at the same time, fulfilled.”

Lacy Holland LOUISIANA

get a replacement! He waits for us to turn to Him in faith and to once again participate in the wonderful relationship with Christ that God’s redemption plan has made available. He is waiting for us to rise up and walk with Him in faith. If you won’t quit believing, God won’t quit on you!

THE SMOKING FLAX

The smoking flax is another example much like the bruised reed. The term flax actually refers to the wick that was used in the oil lamps of Isaiah’s day. Due to use, the wick could become strangled with soot and burned debris. The oil (a type of the Holy Spirit) in the vessel could run low. In this case, there was a need for trimming the wick. When God sees that the believer is a dimly burning wick, He doesn’t extinguish it. Instead, He trims the wick (addresses our spiritual need) and refills the vessel with fresh oil (through the moving and operation of the Holy Spirit). This being done, the wick burns bright against the darkness and benefits many by its light.

ONLY BELIEVE

My friend, God does not intend or set out to extinguish the light that He has “hung up” in your soul. If that light goes out, it will be the result of your faith being attacked and your decision not to believe in the goodness of your God. I exhort you today—no matter what the circumstance that has beset you or the heartache brought on by sin—God does not desire to break you (the bruised reed) into a million tiny pieces and throw you away. It is not His desire or plan to extinguish the dimly burning wick. If you will but believe in who Jesus is and what Jesus has accomplished for you at Calvary, Isaiah promised that He will not fail or be discouraged until your restoration is completed! What a marvelous God. What a beautiful Saviour! Let your faith in Christ arise!

“Only believe, only believe.
“Only believe, only believe.
“Only believe, only believe.
“Only believe, only believe.

Only everything is possible, only believe.

Only believe, only believe.

All things are possible, only believe.”

THE EVANGELIST OCTOBER 2014
The greatest weapon of defense any nation has against the deluge of outside forces is the prayer of God’s righteous.

The political, moral, economic, etc. issues that confront our nation cannot be scrutinized with philosophical debate and rhetoric. I find one looming conundrum that affects all aforementioned aspects: the border crisis. There is endless verbosity by plenty of commentators going around the airwaves, spewing enough sewage to make everything noxious to discerning nostrils. The Hegelian-style tactic of creating a catastrophe so that a desired end may be brought forth is greatly evident. Simply notice how one side claiming, “We should protect our borders” is pitted against the other side shouting, “This is a humanitarian issue.” Illegal immigration is both!

**STRANGER AND SOJOURNER**

Perhaps one of the greatest examples in history of immigration is the constant traveling of the Hebrews. Beginning with Abraham, the Lord plainly prophesied, “Your seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them” (Gen. 15:13). Centuries later, the Hebrew people would become not just transient visitors, but oppressed slaves in Egypt. The stay of the Hebrews in Egypt was designated by God to be temporary, not permanent. Jehovah considered the Hebrews to be strangers in the land of Pharaoh. The great exodus of the Hebrews saw an interesting turn of events, as now the scene changed from Hebrews in the land of Egypt to Egyptians in the camp of the Hebrews! When the Law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai, God reminded Israel how they were to treat the strangers among them:

> “You shall neither vex a stranger nor oppress him: for you were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Ex. 22:21).

The attitude and responsibilities of the stranger were also addressed by the Lord:

> “You shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as one of your own country: for I am the Lord your God” (Lev. 24:22).

In short, the word to the Egyptian “strangers” was: Live under the righteous laws of God along with the Israelites. God’s civil laws were incumbent upon all who lodged with Israel. The stranger was to refrain from work on the Sabbath just as the Israelites were commanded to do (Exodus 20:10). The stranger could also willfully adopt the Hebrew faith by being circumcised and abiding by all the laws. Should a stranger not embrace the faith of the Hebrews, they were still permitted to remain with the children of Israel but could not publicly worship any other gods. The result of disobeying the moral and civil structure of Israel was to face destruction: “He who
sacrifices unto any god, save unto the Lord only, he shall be utterly destroyed” (Exodus 22:20).

The civil portion of the law would govern society and bring civil restitution for wrongdoing. The moral law demonstrated the standard of righteousness demanded by God. However, due to the sinful heart of Hebrew and stranger alike, the sacrificial system provided a means of atonement, which enabled the presence of God to abide with the camp of Israel. How beautifully are God’s righteousness and love both displayed in the law and the sacrifice!

“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” (Romans 8:3-4).

America is no different today than Israel of yesterday. Our civil laws are built upon the Word of God. The moral direction of this nation has always been In God We Trust. The preachers anew should be proclaiming as the prophets of old, “Look to the sacrifice!” America has nothing to offer the world but a Saviour who can give them eternal life, liberty from sin, and the pursuit of happiness beyond this mortal coil! The answer for the United States is Jesus Christ and Him crucified. The answer for every “stranger” in America is not looking unto Washington or Wall Street, politicians or preachers, but unto Jesus.

The promise of liberty resonated each time the Liberty Bell rang. Inscribed on the bell is Leviticus 25:10: “Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.”

The liberty promised in Leviticus 25:10 speaks of the Year of Jubilee. This was a time when all debts were forgiven, slaves were set free, and property was restored to its original owner. When that Liberty Bell resounded, America was no longer under the heavy hand of the British because we declared our independence and paid for it in blood. Our founders believed in Jesus Christ, the one who created all men equal and endowed us with our inalienable rights. When the sinner comes to Jesus Christ, regardless of color, culture, or creed, he is set at liberty; the debts and demands of the law are no longer attributable to him! That is the reason for Jubilee!

**QUESTIONS**

In closing, I present to you several questions that, if pondered, will help prepare the minds and hearts of saints for instruction on what ought to be our cry unto God. Please consider the following: How do we view the illegal immigrants coming to America today? Should Americans welcome unlimited numbers into the United States? Should America keep her borders secure? Just who is coming to America? Should there be a clear way to citizenship? What language should we all speak? What does culture have to do with it? What is the biblical answer for the border crisis? Next month we will address these questions and many others as we examine God’s Word for the answers.
WHO WAS JUDE EXHORTING to contend for the faith? Is this applicable to Christians today? Is it even being attempted by the church today? How do we effectively contend for the faith?

Verse 1 answers to whom this was written. It was written to “them who are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and (are) called.” Jude was writing to believers to stand up and contend for the faith. This is not a call to only those called to be pastors or even evangelists, but to all who have been sanctified, all who have been preserved in Jesus Christ, and all who have been called as children of God.

What is the faith we are to contend for? Is it the “name it and claim it” doctrine? Is it the “prosperity” gospel? Is it the “once saved, always saved” doctrine? Is it the “humanistic feel good” gospel or the Hebraic Roots Movement? Is it a mixture of these for which we are to contend? No. The word faith (pistei) is in the singular. It is a specific faith for which we are to contend. Jude said that we are to contend for that specific faith that was once delivered to the saints or holy ones (hagiois). What was the message once delivered that caused them to become saints? Clearly it was the Message of the Cross: Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

There is a theological term used to describe the act of contending for or defending the faith. If correct doctrine is defended among the unsaved, it is referred to as apologetics. If it is defended within the church, it is called polemics. Paul, no doubt, was a polemist. Most of his writings and, therefore, most of the New Testament, dealt with correcting false doctrine. Paul defended the Message of the Cross against all enemies, foreign or domestic. He would not back down. It was then the foundational message of the church. It is still now the foundational message of Christianity. He would not allow it to be compromised or corrupted.

Jude’s words are just as applicable today as when they were first penned. If there was ever a time for the saints of God to contend for the faith that was once delivered unto them, it is now. The only way to effectively contend for the faith is through Spirit-led application of God’s Word.

George Duffield, Jr., penned the famous Christian standard:

“Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the Cross;
Lift high His royal banner,
It must not suffer loss.”

I wonder if we would be wrong in saying that it certainly has suffered loss. The pure Gospel of Jesus Christ has been attacked, with less and less saints of the Cross standing up and contending for the faith. The church today needs saints of God to stand up for the Message of the Cross. We need a few more polemists. Calling all contenders! Stand up, stand up, ye soldiers of the Cross; lift high His royal banner, it must not suffer loss.
With every Jimmy Swaggart Bible Commentary you purchase, we are giving as a special bonus the book Catholicism and Christianity. This is a book that every believer ought to read. It will open up the religion of Catholicism as nothing I believe you have ever read before. It will be a page turner, holding you spellbound.

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Take advantage of this most excellent offer! Incidentally, if you get two Commentaries or more, you will get the same number of books as our gift to you.
2014 THANKSGIVING CAMPMEETING

I hope you are making plans to be with us in the upcoming Thanksgiving Campmeeting. The dates are November 26-30. It’s going to be a little bit of Heaven on earth.

The way the Spirit of the Lord is moving in these camps, only He knows what is going to happen next. I’ve never seen anything like it! The freedom, the joy, the worship of the Lord—it’s like Heaven coming down. So, if you can be with us and don’t (for whatever reason), you’re going to miss something. But all of you who will be with us—and we are expecting the building to be packed to capacity—I think it’s going to be blessings unparalleled. I’ll be looking for you.

WHAT WE SAID LAST MONTH

I thank the Lord for the many Word of the Cross churches which are beginning all around the world.

Many of these churches don’t have the facilities to provide suitable music for the praise and worship. So I would invite you—at no cost whatsoever—to tape our Sunday services off of television, and you may feel free to use that as a part of your worship service.

You can set up a screen, play the video, and your people can join in with the praise and worship, which many are already doing. And you are invited to do the same, if this is something that would meet your need. As stated, there is no charge.

TELEVISION

As the Lord opens doors all over the world, including in the U.S.A., we are, by His grace, going through those doors.

Please note the following: there are several salient passages in the Word of God, that let us know we’re living in the last of the last days, in other words, the ending of the church age. This means that this world is facing the coming great tribulation, which will be worse than anything it has ever known in its history. Jesus said so (Mat. 24:21).

These signs of the last of the last days are:

» Daniel’s prophecy of knowledge increasing in the last days (Dan. 12:4). Ninety-nine percent of all inventions have been brought about beginning at about the turn of the 20th century. What is now happening in this capacity tells us that it’s about over.

» The outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28; Acts 2:16-17). Since approximately the turn of the 20th century, it is stated that approximately 500 million people have been baptized with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking with other tongues.

» The restoration of Israel (Isa. 11:11-12). Israel, as most know, became a nation in 1948, after wandering as outcasts all over the world for some 1,900 years.

All of these things are symbols of the lateness of the hour in which we live. But there is one more that we need to consider:

» The Message of the Cross (Mat. 24:14).

The Gospel of Jesus Christ began with the preaching of the Cross in the early church. That was the message then, and it is the message now. In other words, the church is being brought full circle. The only thing that can bring the church back to its rightful place—at least those who will believe—is the Message of the Cross. I definitely believe that this is a last day message.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP

I speak of your prayerful support, and I speak of your financial support. I plead with you that you pray for us daily, that we may be exactly what the Lord wants, and do exactly what the Lord wants done. So many of you
are faithful each month to the work of God. What a blessing you are, and one day soon, in the portals of Glory, you will then see just how important all of this was and is.

TAKE ADVANTAGE

We have excellent offers in this issue of The Evangelist. I would pray that you would take full advantage of them.

We do everything we can to give you material that is first rate in quality and first-rate in the presentation.

Incidentally, every one of you ought to avail yourself of getting each new book that we put out. You need to read what is said. It will most definitely help you in your Christian walk. Anything that does that is valuable indeed.

Once again, make plans to be with us in the upcoming Thanksgiving Campmeeting. It’s going to be a blockbuster.

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Donnie Swaggart  
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OCTOBER 3-5, 2014 – McDERMOTT, TN  
Pastor David Beatty  
Pine Hill Church of God  
1484 Old Alabama Road, McDERMOTT, TN  37353  
423.472.8103  
→ FRI & SAT 7 PM | SUN 10:30 AM & 6 PM

OCTOBER 24-26, 2014 – SUITERSVILLE, PA  
Pastor Frank A. Rocco  
The Church of Sutersville  
1683 Mars Hill Road, Sutersville, PA  15083  
724.446.1550 | www.thechurchofsutersville.com  
→ FRI & SAT 7 PM | SUN 10:15 AM & 7 PM

NOVEMBER 7-9, 2014 – PEORIA, IL  
Pastor Jon Wenger  
Heritage Christian Center  
900 Hitt Street (Rt. 71), Ottawa, IL  61350  
815.434.0507  
→ FRI 7 PM | SAT 6 PM | SUN 10 AM

Gabriel Swaggart  
Office: 225.768.3072  
Email: crossfire@jsm.org

OCTOBER 25, 2014 – CADDO MILLS, TX  
Pastor Jerry McGinn  
Light House Assembly  
Highway 66, Caddo Mills, TX 75135  
903.527.3039  
→ SAT 7 PM

OCTOBER 26, 2014 – TYLER, TX  
Pastor Samuel Priddy  
The Lord’s House  
3204 Van Highway, Tyler, TX 75702  
903.592.3372 | www.thelordshouse Tyler.com  
→ SUN 10:30 AM

David Borg  
Office: 225.768.3890  
Email: davidborg@jsm.org

OCTOBER 10-11, 2014 – HAZLEHURST, MS  
Pastors Billy & Dondri Mangum  
Tree Of Life Worship Center  
6007 Beasley Road, HAZLEHURST, MS  39083  
(Church is located in the Rockport Community)  
601.894.8429  
→ FRI 7 PM* | SAT 6 PM*  
*Special Musical Guest - Martha Borg

Bob & Sharon Cornell  
Office: 225.768.3887  
Email: bobc@jsm.org

OCTOBER 4-5, 2014 – JONESBORO, LA  
Pastor David Walsworth  
First Assembly of God  
1490 S. Hudson Avenue, JONESBORO, LA  71251  
318.259.4095  
→ SAT 6:45 PM (Sharon Ministering) | SUN 10:45 AM

OCTOBER 24-26, 2014 – WATERTOWN, WI  
Pastor Jeff Steiner  
Promised Land Church  
243 Spaulding St., Watertown, WI 53098  
920.390.0336 | www.plcwi.org  
→ FRI 7 PM | SAT 10 AM (Teaching) & 7 PM | SUN 10 AM

Loren Larson  
Office: 225.768.3890  
Email: info@webc.edu

OCTOBER 3-5, 2014 – QUEEN CITY, TX  
Pastor Curtis Hutchinson  
CrossWay Church  
610 Highway 59, Queen City, TX 75572  
903.799.7181  
→ FRI 7 PM* | SAT 10 AM (Teaching) & 6 PM* | SUN 10 AM  
*Special Musical Guests - Joseph & Grace Larson FRI/SAT PM Services

OCTOBER 18-19, 2014 – CROSBY, TX  
Pastor Ronnie Mitchem  
Victory and Praise Worship Center  
21907 FM 2100, Crosby, TX 77532  
281.324.9033 | www.victoryandpraise.com  
→ SAT 6 PM | SUN 10:45 AM

Please visit www.jsm.org to view full list of meetings.
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SHARE-A-THON

OCTOBER  16, 17, 20, & 21
NOVEMBER  13, 14, 17, & 18
DECEMBER  11, 12, 15, & 16
JANUARY 2015  15, 16, 19, & 20
FEBRUARY 2015  12, 13, 16, & 17