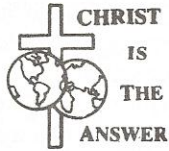


SOUNDING OUT THE



"A MINISTRY OF GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH - HOUSTON, TEXAS"

VOL. I-6

1979 AUGUST

FOR WHOM DID CHRIST DIE ?

BY
GLEN E. TROPP

It's a shame that, to a great degree today, people are motivated and moved to believe what they believe, based upon the Philosophies and Personalities of men instead of the pointed principles of Divine Truths which are recorded in the Precious, Pure, and Powerful Word of God. Only God really knows how much we need preachers today who are grounded, settled, and students of His Word. We need preachers who will preach "The Word" and not simply what they have heard others say. Yes, we need men of God who will get in the Book and saturate their souls and minds with the blessed Word of God and then declare those truths with such a fervency and fire that people will know that we have been alone with God and His Word.

The subject for our consideration today is as follows: "For Whom Did Christ Die?" This is one of the most serious and solemn truths in all of God's Word because anything that deals with the salvation of souls is a serious matter.

Before we get into the actual presentation of this passage, it may be well to notice

the following. We must all agree that one of the attributes of God is that He's Omniscience, which means that He knows all. He knows who is going to be saved and who isn't. He knows this not because He has ordained it as such, but simply due to His omniscience. We, as human beings, will never be able to understand the infinite mind of God with our finite minds. If we could, then God would cease to be our God. Every person that I know who has embarked upon a study of trying to figure out how God knows all has been led off the deep end and has become such a fanatic on something that he himself does not understand, that he has become side tracked from the main job of the Christian through the ministry of the Church, and has been lif-

ted up with some type of an ego trip of thinking himself to be some one wise, when in reality, he has left the area of real usefulness for the Lord. Our main job is to witness to others about Jesus Christ and then after they're saved, lead them to be scripturally baptized, and then teach them all things that the Lord has commanded or commissioned. I must say that any teaching that would distract one from doing what the Lord has commanded is useless and unwarranted.

Now, let us notice Hebrews 2:9 "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

I. THE PERSON OF CONDENSATION

First of all, we notice the PERSON OF CONDENSATION. This is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. The Word of God doesn't even let us wonder about who He is, if we really desire to know. In Matthew

Grace Missionary Baptist Church

1823 ALDINE MAIL ROAD
HOUSTON, TEXAS

NON-PROFIT-ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 2399

Chapter 16, the Lord Jesus asked His disciples who He was, and blessed be to God Simon Peter, answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

Jesus Christ was God in the flesh, reconciling a lost and dying world back unto himself. One needs to keep in mind that Jesus Christ has always been. His birth into the World was just an experience in His existence because He's always been. Now, that's hard for us to understand because of our finite minds. It's hard for us to grasp because we all know that our existence started when we were born and it's hard for us to conceive in our minds how that He existed before His birth; but to deny this is to openly deny the plain, simple teachings of God's Word. Some of these scriptures are as follows:

HEBREWS 2:9 "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

II CORINTHIANS 8:9 "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

JOHN 1:1-2 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

JOHN 1:14 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

You'll also remember that during the ministry of Jesus, on one occasion, He had a conversation with some of the descendants of Abraham and He said to them "Before Abraham was, I am."

So, Jesus Christ the Son

of the Living God, came down from Heaven's Glory and was born of a virgin, He was robed in a human body and subjected himself to the limitations of this body. He was more than man. He was the God-man. Next we'll notice:

II. THE PURPOSE OF HIS CONDESCENSION

Our text declares that He came to taste death for "EVERY" man. Now, dear friend, He either tasted death for "EVERY" man or this verse is wrong. I believe God and His Word. There are a few today who say that Jesus died just for the elect. Well, that's not what the Bible says. Now one may be able, intellectually, to sway and spellbound the crowds with their great and swelling words of man's wisdom, but brother, the Bible warns us to not let our beliefs be formulated by man's wisdom, but rather in the Power of God.

I CORINTHIANS 2:1-5 "And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

EPHESIANS 4:14-16 "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the

measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

By one man sin entered into the human race. Romans 5:12 states this truth, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Also, by one man can all who believe have eternal life. Notice these scriptures:

ROMANS 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

JOHN 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

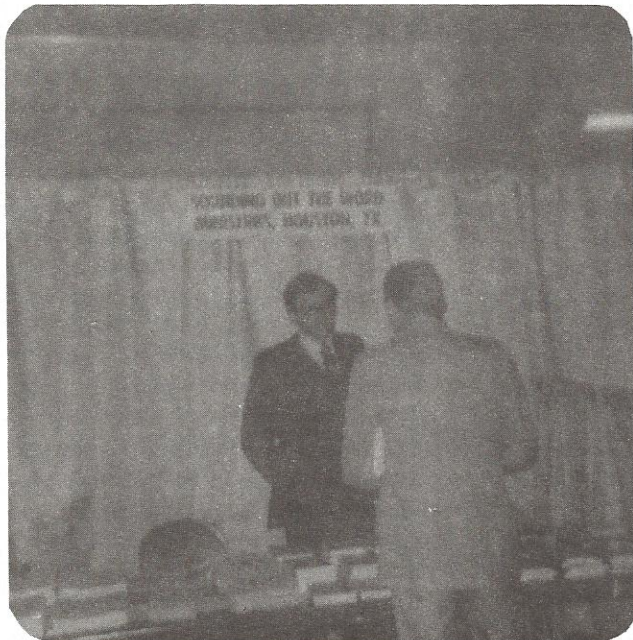
Now there are some who say yes preacher, but one must be drawn before they can come to Christ, to which I concur. The Bible states this in John 6:44, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day." They further say that He doesn't draw all men. Well again, one needs to know more of the Word. Look at what Jesus said in John 12:32, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, WILL DRAW ALL MEN UNTO ME." May God help us to not take isolated passages of scripture and try to prove "our beliefs." It's possible to take any subject you desire and prove your belief if you'll take the scripture out of context and ignore other passages that deal with the same subject.

May God help us to realize that Jesus Christ tasted death for all men and that all men have a chance to be saved.

JOHN 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

REVELATION 22:17 "And the Spirit
{CONTINUED ON PAGE 8}

ABA MESSENGER MEETING



This is a picture of the Booth that we had at the recent ABA Meeting in Okla. City.



SOUNDING OUT THE WORD MINISTRIES
 GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 1823 Aldine Mall Rd. Houston, Tx. 77039 Glen E. Tropp, Pastor

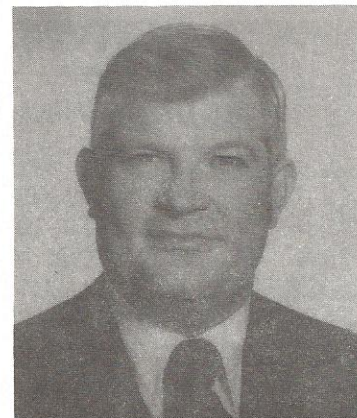
DIRECTOR:.....GLEN E. TROPP
 TREASURER:....ELLIS GOODWIN
 ASST. TREAS...JOHN SKIPPER

MISSION MINISTRY:
 Support is given to 29 Missionaries
 2 Seminaries, and 1 Youth Camp.

RADIO MINISTRY:
 KXYZ...1320AM.....Houston, Texas
 7:00PM Each Saturday
 KPBC...1040AM.....Dallas, Texas
 2:30PM Each Sunday
 KHYM...1060AM.....Gilmer, Texas
 4:00PM Each Sunday

PUBLICATIONS MINISTRY:
 Write for further information.

THE BINDING AND BURNING BY KEN. ASHLOCK



TEXT: MATTHEW 13:24-30,36-40

INTRODUCTION: A parable has one main objective of truth. This parable is teaching the definite and severe difference in those who know God and those who do not know God.
 Matthew 13:49

I. LET US FIRST OBSERVE THE PARABLE.

- A. The Kingdom of Heaven....like a man who sowed good seed in his field.
- B. While men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares in the same field.
- C. When the wheat came up, the tares came up also.

II. THE PARABLE EXPLAINED.

- A. He that sowed the good seed is the Son of Man.
- B. The field of wheat is the world.
- C. The good seed (wheat) are the children of God.
- D. The tares...the children of Satan.
- E. The enemy that sowed them is Satan.
- F. The harvest time...the end of the world.
- G. Reapers are the angels.
 1. Tares are bundled and burned.
 2. The righteous shine forth as the Sun in the Kingdom of Heaven.

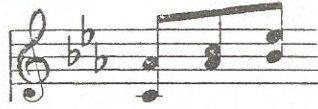
III. THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION.

- A. The Saved and unsaved will always be found together in the world.
 1. The purest and strongest preaching will not prevent some even being in the church.
- B. This parable teaches that Satan is never going to let the gospel be preached that he does not sow his tares.
 1. Therefore, we as God's people, should be dismayed by opposition from without or within.
- C. This also teaches that none of us are qualified to say who is saved and who is lost from just outward observance.
- D. The parable teaches the great contrast between the saved and unsaved.

CONCLUSION

MUSIC IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE

BY
JOHNNY WILLIAMS



The subject of this article is "Music In The Worship Service". In Eph. 5:18-19 we read: "AND BE NOT DRUNK WITH WINE, WHEREIN IS EXCESS; BUT BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT; SPEAKING TO YOURSELVES IN PSALMS AND HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS, SINGING AND MAKING MELODY IN YOUR HEART TO THE LORD".

One of the most important parts of the Worship Service is the Song Service. Nothing can or should replace the preaching of the Word of God, however, a good soul-stirring song service aids both Pastor and congregation in receiving the Word into their hearts.

I can make no claim of being an absolute authority on this subject, but having been a Pastor as well as serving as Min. of Music/Assoc. here at Grace Church, I feel I do have some understanding of Music from both perspectives. In discussing this subject there are four Basic Points I want to consider.

I. THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

The Music Ministry of a Church is divided into Congregational Singing and Special Music. The most important key to having a successful Music Ministry is Personal Participation from the people of the Church. The Music Dir. should pick music that will uplift the spirits and prepare hearts for the Word of God. This does not mean to get on the so called "Pump Handle" to get emotions to the high keel, but to center thoughts and attitudes on Christ and get minds off fleshly pursuits of life at least for a while. Our ABA Hymnal is full of hymns that will accomplish this.

However, we as Music Directors should not overlook the effective use of choruses, not only to accomplish what has already been discussed, but also to add variety to the song ser-

vice. Here are some ways in which these choruses can be found. First, there are Books of choruses which can be purchased at reasonable cost to your church. Second, you can use choruses to many gospel songs that are not included in the Hymnal. Lastly, a Choir Dir. with a good musical ear can pick up on choruses he hears others use in their services, such as Revival Meetings, or he may use those he hears on Gospel Radio. A good Music Dir. will always keep his ear open for a good chorus to sing.

II. THE MESSAGE OF THE MUSIC

When choosing Music for your Song Service whether for Congregation or some Special Group the wise Music Dir. will check the lyrics closely. It has been well said, "It's just as bad to sing a lie as it is to preach a lie." The fact is not all, possibly very few, of the composers of Gospel Music are Baptist. This does not necessarily mean their music cannot be used, but it does make it necessary for the Music Dir. to be aware of what is being said in the song.

There are times when an unscriptural song can be made scriptural by making some minor word changes. This can be done very effectively without destroying the Music value or the effect of the composition. Many times the same thing can be accomplished by simply omitting a verse and adding some repeats to make it the desired length if that becomes a problem.

Some might think this is "Splitting Hairs". It is my personal conviction that this is the most important test of whether or not a song can be used. If it is impossible to make a song scriptural by using the minor alterations above, it is best that the song not be used no matter how popular it is or how appealing the Melody.

III. THE MASTERING OF THE MUSIC

All special Music should be

rehearsed and presented in a way that is pleasing to the Lord, and that is most effective in the service. I believe we are to give our "best" to the Master in our service to Him.

The wise Choir Dir. should set up a time for choir rehearsal and stick with that same time each week. In most churches, the best time for this is Wednesday Night after services. I feel this is the Best time because the special music is fresh on the minds of your choir members when times comes for Sunday morning Worship. Churches with a complete graded choir system usually have the following Schedule. Wed. night-Sanctuary Choir, Sunday night- Youth, Beginner, and Junior choir. Each local church situation is different so times of rehearsals have endless combinations but whatever the schedule, choir members should be encouraged to be there at that time.

In order to be successful in "Mastering" the music a good Choir Dir. must realize the potential and the limitations of the group he is working with. He must be careful not to pick music that is too difficult for them. On the other hand he must at times challenge them with new and different music. This is how interest is kept high and progress is made Musically.

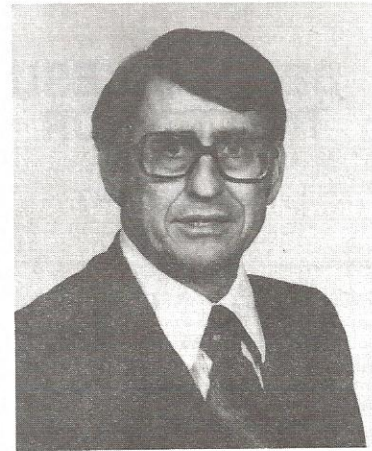
If the Music Dir. is working with a small church he should try and use three part (SAB) music. There are even some nice two part (Ladies & Men) arrangements that can be found. If the Music Dir. has the ability he can easily re-arrange some of the harder arrangements making them easier for his choir.

After the music is chosen and the time for rehearsal is set the Music Dir. should then teach the composition to his choir using all his training and natural ability to present to his church the best possible special music. No composition should be presented before it is ready. If it has not been rehearsed the same rule applies.

See "The Mission of the Music" in September issue.

WHAT ABOUT THE NEW GENERATION ?

BY
LUTHER CRAWFORD



TEXT: ACTS 2:40

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Peter's sermon on Pentecost was a great sermon. It was a full sermon. The preacher was full of the Holy Spirit. The sermon was full of prophecy, full of Christ, full of warning, and full of exhortation and admonition.
- B. In the conclusion of his sermon, Peter exhorted those of his day to repent and be saved from that "untoward generation." Untoward means "crooked," "unwilling."
- C. What about the now generation? What about our own age? Surely we are living in a crooked and unwilling generation.
- D. Observe three things about our own generation.

I. THIS IS A THINKLESS GENERATION IN WHICH WE ARE LIVING.

- A. As a whole people today are NOT THINKING ABOUT GOD. Paul said, "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge." Romans 1:28
- B. As a whole people today are NOT THINKING ABOUT SALVATION, AND ETERNAL MATTERS.
 1. People today are living for earthly things: gold, silver, land, houses, and pleasure.
 2. People are setting their affections upon the perishable things of earth.
- C. As a whole people are NOT THINKING ABOUT SERVING GOD, AND HIS CHURCH.
 1. How sad, any professed Christians growing cold, unconcerned, indifferent, and inconsistent.
 2. Many give no thought to church attendance, prayer, Bible Study, witnessing giving of tithes or talents.
- D. As a whole people are NOT THINKING ABOUT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST.
 1. No thought to the prophecies and purpose of His Coming.
 2. No thought to the judgment involved with His Coming.
 3. Jesus Himself predicted: "Be ye therefore ready also: For the Son of Man cometh at an hour when ye THINK NOT."
 4. Because our age is a THINKLESS age this generation has become all tied up in "NOTS."
 - a. See not
 - b. Hear not

- c. Know not
- d. Awareth not
- e. Prepare not.
- f. BELIEVETH NOT.

II. THIS IS A THANKLESS AGE IN WHICH WE ARE LIVING.

- A. Paul describes this age. "This know that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, UNTHANKFUL, unholy."
 1. "Because when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, NEITHER WERE THANKFUL: but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." Rom. 1:21
- B. It is evident that in our generation people as a whole are simply NOT THANKFUL:
 1. For God's blessings in general.
 2. For God's Son who died for all mankind.
 3. For God's Church.
 - a. God's Churches have the commission to spread the gospel message. Let us BE THANKFUL we were privileged to come under the influence of the New Testament Church
 - b. How thankful are you to be a member of the Lord's Church?

III. THIS IS A TRUSTLESS AGE IN WHICH WE ARE LIVING.

- A. It was so in the days of Noah.
- B. It was so in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah:
- C. Trust-less-ness is sweeping our land, therefore I am thankful that I TRUST THE LORD.
 1. I trust Him because of Who He is.
 2. I trust Him because of what I am.
 - a. I am a sinner.
 - b. I am trusting the Lord because He said He loved me and gave His Son to die for me. I trust Him because He said if I would repent and trust Him I would be saved.

BEHOLD JESUS THE SAVIOR

BY
D.B. WRIGHT



SERIES: "BEHOLD" MESSAGE NO 4

TEXT: I TIMOTHY 4:10

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Today's Message is entitled "Behold Jesus, The Saviour."
 1. He's my Saviour.
 2. He's the Saviour of many of you.
 3. Our text says He is the Saviour of All.
 a. That is, He has paid your sin debt.
 b. He shed His blood to cleanse you. I John 1:7
 c. He has satisfied Divine Justice for all your sins.
 d. The only reason you are not saved is You will not accept Him by heart faith. John 1:11-12
- B. May God the Holy Spirit direct our thoughts as I attempt to speak to you today of Jesus, The Saviour

I. BEHOLD THE SAVIOUR-SENT TO ALL MANKIND.

- A. Review again and again, the Angel's Message to the shepherds in the night hours. Luke 2:10-11
 1. Good News.
 a. A Saviour is born.
 b. A Saviour for you Shepherds.
 c. A Saviour for all people.
- B. Behold the Saviour who has already paid the ransom for all mankind.
 1. I Tim. 2:5-6
 2. What Ransom?
 a. Our sins wages. Rom. 6:23
 b. The curse of God's holy and just Law. Gal. 3:13
- C. Let the Holy Spirit lead your eyes away from the Manger in Bethlehem to that place of the Skull called Golgotha and Calvary and there Behold the Saviour tasting death for every man.
 1. Phil. 2:8
 2. Heb. 2:9

II. BEHOLD JESUS, THE SAVIOUR, THE SUPREME SACRIFICE.

- A. Old Testament believers offered In Faith animal sacrifices before the law and under the law.
 1. These were said to be "the shadow" of things to come.
 a. Col. 2:17
 b. Heb. 10:1

- c. Heb. 10:4
 2. They were all fulfilled in the Saviour who became our Passover.
 a. I Cor. 5:7
- B. New Testament Churches of today observe what the Bible calls The Lords Supper. I Cor. 11:20
 1. This memorial ordinance was instituted by Jesus Himself. Matt. 26:26-28
 2. This memorial service points backward to the day when the Saviour made of himself a Sin Sacrifice for all mankind.
 a. I Cor. 11:24-26
 b. Heb. 9:26
 c. Heb. 9:28
 d. Heb. 10:12
- C. Behold the Self-Sacrificing Saviour Satisfying Divine Justice for all our sins.
 1. Isa. 53:6
 2. I Pet. 2:24
 3. Isa. 53:11

III. BEHOLD JESUS, SAVING ALL WHO BELIEVE.

- A. John 3:17 Luke 19:10
 B. Saviour of all.
 1. Lights all.....John 1:9
 2. Draws all.....John 12:32
 3. Appears to all...Titus 2:11
 C. Behold Jesus-The Saviour Who is Able to Save. Heb. 7:25
 D. Saviour of all who call on Him.
 E. Behold, Jesus, who saves and tells me so. Lk. 7:5 II Tim. 1:9 Eph. 2:5

IV. BEHOLD JESUS, SEEKER OF SOULS.

- A. Some came as thieves and robbers. Jn.10
 B. Others seek to snare the souls of man and make them twofold more the child of Hell than themselves. Matt. 23:15
 C. The Saviour is Jesus.

V. BEHOLD JESUS, THE SINGLE SAVIOUR.

- A. Isaiah 45:22
 B. John 14:6
 C. I Tim. 2:5
 D. Acts 4:12



BIBLE EXPOSITION

BY
GLEN E. TROPP

EPHESIANS 1:2 "Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ."

I. THE CONCERN.

II. THE CONQUERING ELEMENTS.

III. THE COMPASSION.

In our last exposition, we noticed verse one. In the analysis of this verse, we noticed, The Penman, The People, and The Position.

Now, in verse 2, we notice first of all, THE CONCERN of the Apostle Paul for these Saints. This concern is evidenced and exemplified in his message, both vocally and in letter. He desired that they might have grace and peace. He certainly stands out as a prime example of one who is truly concerned. Other verses of scripture also reveal this concern that he had for others. Look at II Cor. 11:28, "Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches." Yes, Paul had a concern for people and the Lord's Churches everywhere. In many places today, you get the idea that the Churches are in competition or that they are working against each other or to beat each other. May God deliver us from this attitude. Surely, we need to follow the Biblical Example as seen in the Apostle Paul and be concerned for all of the Lord's True Churches.

Next, in this verse you notice THE CONQUERING ELEMENTS. These elements are Grace and Peace. I refer to them as such, because if one does not have them He'll not be a conqueror. Paul desired that they might have these two elements in their lives.

Grace is the unmerited favor of God toward us. It is certainly sufficient to meet all of our needs as taught in II Cor. 12:9 "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." This Grace is accessible to all who are saved as emphasized or declared in Romans 5:1-2 "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

There are different areas of God's Grace. There is the SAVING GRACE OF GOD. Notice Ephesians 2:8-9. Some examples of people who experienced the saving Grace of God are: The Woman of Samaria as recorded in John 4, Zacchaeus as recorded in Luke 19, and the Ethiopian Eunuch as recorded in Acts Chapter 8. There is the SANCTIFYING GRACE OF GOD. Note Gal. 1:15-16. There is also the SERVING GRACE OF GOD. Note Heb. 12:28. There is the SUPPLYING GRACE OF GOD as taught in Hebrews 4:16.

He also desired that they might have peace. Peace is one of the fruits of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:22) The Lord also desires for us to have this peace. John 16:33 "These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

Peace, as it relates to

God and us is used 3 ways in the Bible. There is such a thing as Peace With God. The Revelation of this Truth is recorded in Romans 5:1. This deals with Sonship or Relationship. It deals with the matter of Salvation or going saved. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Then, there's the Peace of God. The Peace with God is used in connection with our acceptance of Christ. The Peace of God deals with our Participation with Christ. The Peace of God deals with Fellowship. You cannot ever break the Relationship, once it is established, but you can break the fellowship. Fellowship, or the Peace of God, is experienced upon our compliance to the Will and Ways of God. Notice Hebrews 12:1-2, Isa. 26:3, and Phil. 4:5-9.

The third way Peace is used deals with our association with others. This means companionship. Note Romans 12:17-21 and Matthew 5:9. This peace does not involve compromising. This peace, that Paul desired for them to have was an inward experience. It's of the Spirit. It's part of the New Creation.

Finally, you'll notice THE COMPASSION of the originators of these blessings. They come from God the Father. (James 1:17). They come because of Jesus Christ and our relationship with Him. Oh, what love they have for such unworthy creatures as you and me.

This was Paul's desire for these people. This should be the desire of all believers for others. That all might recognize that the things that men need are available only in Jesus Christ. That all might fully comprehend that marvelous grace of our Almighty God and accept by faith those things that we stand in need of.



rit and the bride say, come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is a-thirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

ROMANS 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

ACTS 10:34 "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, OF A TRUTH I PERCEIVE THAT GOD IS NO RE-SPECTOR OF PERSONS."

God's demands are still the same for all men. Repentance of Sins and Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. If one dies and goes to hell, he goes because of his refusal to repent and believe and not because He didn't have a chance.

Then someone may say, yes preacher, but what about the person who has never heard. Once again, through faith, we must realize that God knows all. God knows who would be saved if they would hear, and he gives us a biblical example of this in Acts chapter 8. The Ethiopian Eunuch was under conviction and he realized his need but didn't know what to do. God laid it on the heart of Philip to leave a Revival in Samaria and go to this man. The man was saved after Philip witnessed to him. God help us to do our part and quit trying to understand the things that God didn't see fit to tell us. God deliver us from any teaching that would hinder the plain command as given in Matthew 28:18-20 which states:

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

THE MAN WHO DESIRED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT GOD

BY
MARVIN GARDNER



TEXT: ACTS 8:26-38

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Philip was a preaching deacon.
 1. He was very dedicated to the service of God.
 2. He preached in the city of Samaria and many believed the Word of God.
 - B. There was joy in the city.
 1. It is always a joy to see people get right with God.
 2. It not only brings joy to their heart, but it also brings joy to the hearts of others.
 - C. The Lord calls upon Philip to go down to Gaza, a desert land, because the Lord had another work for him.
 1. There was a man who needed help.
 2. I want us to look at the man who had a desire to know more about God.
- I. THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH COULD NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE WORD.
- A. He had been to Jerusalem to worship. v-27
 - B. He was sitting in his chariot reading Isaiah.
 1. The Spirit of God had gripped his very soul and he had a desire to know more about God.
 2. He needed some help with the Scriptures.
 - C. A Lost person cannot understand the Bible.
 1. I Cor. 2:14
 2. He could not understand because he did not have the Spirit of God.
- II. A PERSON MUST BE PROPERLY INSTRUCTED TO BE SAVED.
- A. This is where Philip comes into the picture.
 1. Vs 29-31
 - B. Philip gave him the instruction that he needed.
 1. Note also Isa. 53:6,7,32,33
 2. He preached unto Him, Jesus.
 - a. This is the message that must be preached today.
 - b. There is nothing that will take the place of the preaching of the Son of God.
 - C. Philip had to teach the Ethiopian the right way to find peace with God. vs 36-37
 1. Rom. 5:1
 2. Gal. 2:6
- III. SAVED PEOPLE MUST BE PROPERLY TAUGHT THE WORD OF GOD TO GROW IN GRACE.
- A. Saved people should have a desire, in their heart, to know the truth.
 1. By reading the Word, praying, meditating, and coming to the house of God a person becomes a mature Christian.
 - B. Christians should search the scriptures.