THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPOSING THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT

The texts for the message are I Timothy 4:1-3 and I John 4:1. "NOW THE SPIRIT SPEAKETH EXPRESSLY, THAT IN THE LATTER TIMES SOME SHALL DEPART FROM THE FAITH, GIVING HEED TO SEDUCTION SPIRITS, AND DOCTRINES OF DEVILS: SPEAKING LIES IN HYPOCRISY, MAKING THEIR CONSCIENCE SEARED WITH A HOT IRON." "BELIEVED EVERY NOT EVERY SPIRIT, BUT TRY THE SPIRITS WHETHER THEY ARE OF GOD: BECAUSE MANY FALSE PROPHETS ARE COME OUT INTO THE WORLD:"

For the term "spirit" in John 4:1 is "a possessed possessor of a divine communication." We are warned by God's word to beware of false doctrines and prophets. Jesus said, "BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS WHICH COME TO YOU AND EXAMINE EVERY TEACHING IN THE LIGHT OF THE BIBLE. TEACHINGS MUST STAND OR FALL IN LIGHT OF THE WORD OF GOD. THE GREAT FALLING AWAY FROM THE FAITH IS HERE AND WILL BECOME EVEN GREATER.

1. IT IS IMPORTANT TO EXPOSE THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT BECAUSE... OF THE MISINTERPRETATION OF THE SCRIPTURES. THE PENTECOSTAL EXPERIENCE WILL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN. JESUS SAID, HIS VERY FIRST ONES, AND, BEHOLD, I SEND THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER UPON YOU: BUT TARRY YE IN THE CITY OF JERUSALEM, UNTIL YE BE ENDUED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH," LUC 24:49. JESUS PROMISED TO ENDUER OR ANSWER HIS FIRST CHURCH TO ACCOMPLISH HER COMMISSION. "BUT YE SHALL RECEIVE POWER, AFTER THAT THE HOLY GHOST IS COME UPON YOU: AND YE SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO..."

YOU IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING, BUT INWARDLY THEY ARE RAVENING WOLVES," MATTHEW 7:15.

The charismatic movement is made up of people who believe in speaking in tongues, miracles, miraculous healing, and baptism of the Holy Ghost. It's influence and people are in nearly every established religious faith that waves the banner of christendom. We need to expose this movement for what it really is. It's author and promoter is the devil. We need to constantly be on guard and beware of false doctrine. We need to study God's word and examine every teaching in the light of the Bible. Teachings must stand or fall in light of the word of God. The great falling away from the faith is here and will become even greater.

CHARLES SWILLING

ME BOTH IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA, AND IN SAMARIA, AND UNTO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH," ACTS 1:8. AFTER THEY RECEIVED THIS POWER THEY WOULD BE WITNESSES WORLD WIDE.

The Charismatics claim to speak in an unknown tongue. They consider it a heavenly language man cannot understand. The word "unknown" appears only in I Corinthians 14 in relation to tongues. It is found in verses 2, 4, 13, 14, 19 and 27. The word "unknown" in not in the original Greek. "Unknown" is in italicized...
letters which means it was added by the translators for clarity. Instead of clarity, it has been the grounds to foster confusion and false doctrine.

When the church spoke with other tongues (languages) the multitude heard them speak in their own language. Hearing their own language spoken confused the multitude, Acts 2:6. Some 15 to 17 different languages were spoken in that multitude. The charismatics teach their people speaking in unknown tongues is a sign of spirituality and yet the church at Corinth was in a mess doctrinally, morally and spiritually. They strive to duplicate Pentecost, but you do not see or hear of them speaking in other tongues and others hearing in their own languages. It is a gross misrepresentation of the precious word of God.

B. Because of the deceitfulness of its teaching.

Falsehood and errors do not always appear as such. The devil duplicates everything that God does. He is the master counterfeit. He is the deceiver. His greatest work is done through the appearance of righteousness. Paul, by inspiration, wrote, "FOR SUCH ARE FALSE APOSTLES, DECIEFUL WORKERS, TRANSFORMING THEMSELVES INTO THE APOSTLES OF CHRIST, AND NO MARVEL: FOR SATAN HIMSELF IS TRANSFORMED INTO AN ANGEL OF LIGHT. THEREFORE IT IS NO GREAT THING IF HIS MINISTERS ALSO BE TRANSFORMED AS THE MINISTERS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS: WHOSE END SHALL BE ACCORDING TO THEIR WORKS," II Cor. 11:13-15.

Jesus will tell some people, "...I NEVER KNEW YOU: DEPART FROM ME, YE THAT WORK INQUITY," Matthew 7:23. He will say these words to people who had called Him Lord, professed in His name, cast out devils, and done many wonderful works in His name. Matthew 7:21, 22.

The charismatics appear to be God's people (I am sure some of them are) doing God's work. They claim they do everything like Jesus did, even to the point they try to raise the dead.

The people appear to be so good and gentle and even godly to the point others observe them and think maybe they have missed something. Radio and television stations are purchased and paid for by people who are not aware of their impact and deceitfulness on the public. Prime time television is used to promote their program in the form of PTL clubs. Their programs consist mainly of testimonials from people of all faiths promoting their beliefs.

They strive to promote more love, fellowship and praise to the Lord. Sounds good, but they do this to the neglect of the truth and teaching of the Bible. They seek to disarm any and all religious faiths of the doctrines which separate and divide one religion from another. Jesus said, "GOD IS SPIRIT: AND THEY THAT WORSHIP HIM MUST WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH," John 4:24. A true manifestation of love for Jesus is the keeping and proclaiming of the truth. John 14:23. It is hypocritical to piously say "I love the Lord," but to turn a deaf ear to the truth.

C. Because it is growing world wide.

In our number-crazy world people believe if something is growing it must be right, and if it is in the religious world it must be of God. Are crime, communism, wars, pollution, immorality good or right because they are growing?

The charismatic movement is definitely growing. It is having a greater impact upon the religious world than the ecumenical movement which sought to unite all churches together. The ecumenical movement laid the groundwork by educating the religious world on unity in religion. Most religious faiths, including some more liberal Baptists, joined in and took part. Conservative Bible-believing churches refused to take part in the ecumenical affairs.

Even some conservative groups are responding favorably to the charismatic movement. The extremes are clearly seen when Catholics, Jews, protestant religions, and a few conservative Baptists seek to take part in and become part of this movement.

The charismatics foster the teaching of a world-wide revival just before the Lord returns again. A religious renewal and awakening will take place, according to them. The religious world will receive new life. This idea is contrary to sound Bible teaching. Paul described the last day crown as evil and wicked and rebellious against all basic principles of God's word. Paul wrote, "BUT EVIL MEN AND SEDUCERS SHALL WAX WORSE AND WORSE, DECEIVING, AND BEING DECEIVED," II Tim. 3:13. Paul said in the text, men would depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, doctrines of devils, and speaking lies in hypocrisy. It will be a time when men will not stand for the preaching of the truth, II Timothy 4:3.

D. Because it is tearing up Baptist churches.

Baptist churches are basically conservative Bible-believing, and scriptural. Most movements have swallowed up the religious world before they even affect Baptist churches. Baptists who faithfully proclaim the word and stand for the truth will find by this they prevent a lot of error from affecting them.

Some of the more liberal Baptist groups are getting involved in the charismatic movement. They have their tongue-speakers and their healing services, the false idea of seeking the individual baptism of the Holy Ghost, and women deacons and preachers.

If Missionary Baptist people fall asleep we also will feel the painful effects of this ungodly movement. I have heard of a few missions and churches in our own work having to deal with the charismatics. We are to try the spirits and doctrines of people to determine if they are of God.
There are some things that can warn you of a charismatic behaviour in members. Clapping hands or raising the hands as a sign of or part of worship and praise to the Lord may be an indication. The Psalmist talked about lifting up the hands. The Bible also says, "SALUTE ONE ANOTHER WITH A HOLY KISS," Romans 16:16. Don't you dare try to kiss me!

Singers are used widely to promote the charismatic. Singing can stir the emotions to a boil. You can get strung up or reach a frenzied state of mind as a result of singing. No wonder the Lord wants us to worship Him in spirit and in truth. We are not to be controlled by emotions or feelings alone.

E. Because it is offering something that is not available.

The charismatics say the supernatural and miraculous gifts are available today. They encourage people to seek for them through prayers. They also say to receive and exercise these gifts is a sign of a deeper spiritual life.

Paul wrote to the Corinthian brethren to straighten them out on the truth. This church was in a mess. Chapters 12-14 deal with spiritual gifts. Chapter 13 deals with one of the true manifestations of spirituality, which is love or charity.

Nowhere in the Bible is it taught in word or example that the Holy Spirit baptism is for individual believers. We do not have examples of believers seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The church was endowed with power to carry out her commands, Acts 1:8. Believers are indwelled by the Holy Spirit at the point of salvation. They are filled by the Holy Spirit as they allow Him to control them, Ephesians 5:18.

A miracle is a setting aside of the natural laws and imposing of the supernatural. The charismatics claim nearly every experience as a miracle. Miracles were performed to prepare the people for a divine truth and to bring people to a saving faith, John 20:30, 31. Most miracles were preceded or followed by a message from the Lord.

Miraculous healing served the same purpose. Many people were healed during Christ's personal ministry. The lepers were cleansed, the dead raised, the blind received sight, and the dumb spoke and the deaf heard, the crippled walked, and sicknesses were healed. If people still have this power, why are the hospitals full? Why don't the charismatics hold a healing service in the hospital?

Tongues were never an unknown gibberish. Tongues, according to the Scriptures, was the bestowal of the ability to speak in a different and foreign language without previously studying that language. When they spoke with other tongues some 15-17 nationalities heard in their own language.

It is deceitful, misleading and hypocritical to offer something to people that is not available. Our society has exposed everything. You can see whatever you want to. People are searching and seeking for a mind-expanding experience. The market is flooded with books and movies that deal with the spirit world and the supernatural. The charismatic movement has something to offer that appeals to the flesh and emotions and curiosity which our world is ready to receive.

F. Because it seeks to establish truth by experience rather than the Bible.

The charismatics say, "I don't care what the Bible says. I know how I felt." They seek to establish truth by experience. They are more interested in their experiences than a good Bible message. This also appeals to the flesh. Some people can listen to a two-hour testimony from a former drug addict or drunk or murderer, but cannot sit through a 30 minute Bible sermon. Feelings and experiences can rapidly change from anger to joy to sadness. Paul said, "...AND HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH. IF ANY OTHER MAN THINKETH THAT HE HATH WHEREOF HE MIGHT TRUST IN THE FLESH, I MORE." Paul did not trust his flesh or anybody else. The flesh will let you down.

The Bible is the complete Revelation of God's will for man, II Timothy 3:16, 17. It is inspired and profitable for reproof, doctrine, correction, and instruction in righteousness. Jesus said, "SANCTIFY THEM THROUGH THY TRUTH: THY WORD IS TRUTH," John 17:17. All truth and facts are set forth in the word of God. The three greatest questions of life are answered in the Bible. Where did I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going? Apart from the Bible man can only arrive at the truth by an accident. "EVER LEARNING, AND NEVER ABLE TO COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH," II Timothy 3:7.

All of our experience must measure up to Bible standards to be true. In our text Paul said people would be giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. I do not know what all that implies, but many unusual things will be happening. I will reject any and all experiences that are not set forth by word or example in the Bible.

All truth concerning life, death, and even experiences in life must be accepted or rejected in light of the Bible. No wonder we have the grave admonition to study God's word, II Timothy 2:15. Bible knowledge is necessary to our personal growth and maturity as saved people, II Peter 2:2;

II Peter 3:18. Paul writes, "THAT WE HENCEFORTH BE NO MORE CHILDREN, TOSSSED TO AND FRO AND CARRIED ABOUT WITH EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE, BY THE SELI'GT 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," Ephes. 4:14, 15.
The Lord  
Our Rock  
and Refuge  

D. B. WRIGHT

Psalm 95

Introduction:
A. The Lord is many things to many people.
B. He accommodates our common language to reveal Himself to us.
C. A very timely practice, John 5:39.
D. A very timely prayer, Psalm 119:18.
  1. We might well add, "Open my eyes that I may behold you, dear Lord, as you can be known."
  a. To the sick He reveals Himself as the Great Physician.
  b. To the hungry, He presents Himself as the Bread of Life.
  c. To the thirsty, He calls to drink of the Water of Life.
  d. To travelers along the journey of life He says, "I am the Way, no one gets to heaven without Me."
E. Look with me at a few things the Lord is to His people.

I. REVELATION AND REVEALER OF GOD.
A. John 1:18
B. John 17:26
C. Jesus to Philip, John 14:7-9
D. Hebrews 1:3

II. OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS
A. Romans 3:10
B. Isaiah 64:6
C. Jeremiah 23:6 speaks of a time yet future when the Lord shall be called our righteousness.
D. I Cor. 1:30 speaks of Him as having been made unto us righteousness; I Cor. 15:10.
E. II Cor. 5:21 makes it plain.
  1. This is our only basis of acceptance with God, Eph. 1:6.

III. OUR ROCK.
A. Psalm 89:26
B. Psalm 94:22
C. Verse 1 of Psalm 94, "The rock of our salvation.
  1. Rock, a fixed, firm foundation upon which to base our hope and assurance for eternity.
  2. A solid resting place for our feet, Psalm 40:2.
  4. The Rock that was cleft that thirsty souls might drink to their soul's fill, I Cor. 10:4.

5. He spoke of himself as the foundation rock, Matt. 16:18; I Cor. 3:11.

IV. OUR REFUGE.
A. Psalm 46:1
B. Verse 1 of Text
  1. Hiding place for time and eternity, Col. 3:3. This is the secret to Paul's testimony in II Tim. 1:12.
  2. A safe-fort in the face of enemies, II Tim. 4:14-17; Psalm 62:2.
  3. A safe-hiding place in the time of storm.
    a. Storm comes to the backslidden--Jonah.
    b. Storms come to the most dedicated--Paul in route to Rome.
  4. A safe and solid landing place when one falls, Psalm 37:24.

V. RESTORER OF THE FALLEN.
A. The prayer of a wayward child of God, Psalm 51:12.
B. The testimony of one who had experienced it, Psalm 23:3; Psalm 73:2 expresses the oft repeated experience of the saved. But listen to Psalm 73:22.

VI. REWARD AND REWARDER.
B. Hebrews 11:6
C. Psalm 23:6
D. Rewarder of good done.
  1. Heb. 6:10
  2. Prov. 11:18
  3. Matt. 10:41-42

VII. OUR RULER.
A. Surely after reviewing the above things, one would not rebel at this point.
  1. He is that by right of purchase, I Cor. 6:19-20

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Backsliding  

DANNY O. CHAPPEL

Proverbs 14:14

Introduction:
God's ideal is for the child of God to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. However, when we stop growing it seems that we soon begin to go backwards in the growth process.

I. THE CAUSE OF BACKSLIDING
A. Failure to study the Bible, II Tim. 2:15
B. Failure to pray, James 5:16
C. Paulure to attend, Hebrews 10:25
D. Failure to do what is right, James 4:17

II. THE EFFECT OF BACKSLIDING
A. Lose the joy of salvation, Psalms 51:12
B. Grasp for worldly things, I John 2:15
C. Invoke God's displeasure, Hebrews 12:11
D. Lose interest in the lost, Psalms 142:4

III. THE CURE FOR BACKSLIDING
A. II Chronicles 7:14
B. I John 1:9
"12 REASONS WHY I DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE TONGUES MOVEMENT WHICH IS SO PREVALENT TODAY."

1. Because of the fact that the Bible stated they would cease. I Cor. 13:8-13
2. Because of the fact that the new tongues were languages as opposed to a bunch of gibbering.
   A. Acts 2:8,11
   B. The Word "unknown" is not even in the original manuscripts and a proof of this is that it was placed in italics. Notice every time the word unknown is used in I Cor. 12-14.
3. Because of the fact the Bible teaches that the Spirit will not draw attention or speak of himself. John 16:13-14
4. Because it edifies the person and not Christ. John 16:13-14
   I Cor. 14:4-5 Col. 1:8
5. Because our main job is to present Christ and get people saved but those involved in the "Tongues Movement" today make the Tongues the pre-eminent thing.
   Matthew 28:19-20
6. Because the job of the Spirit is to emphasize Christ and make me like Him and He never spoke in tongues.
   Rom. 8:29
   Ephes. 3:16-19
7. Because those involved today in the movement show disorderliness and confusion.
   I Cor. 14:40
   I Cor. 14:23-24
   I Cor. 14:33
8. Because the greatest percentage of those involved today in this movement are women and they were strickly forbidden to do it in the assembly.
   I Cor. 14:34-35
9. Because of the examples of the Scripture of those who were saved but were not instructed in this area.
   Acts 20:17-27
   Acts 8:26-39
   Acts 16:14-15
   Acts 16:25-34
10. Because those involved today in the movement claim its the height of spiritual experience but the Bible infers it was one of the inferior gifts.
   Note its last in the list.
   I Cor. 12:8-10
11. Because of the inconsistency of majoring on one of the signs with neglect to the others. Mark 16:17-18
12. Because those who are involved in the movement today claim its a sign of being really spiritual, but yet at the time it was in existence the most worldly church in the New Testament was seeking for it.
   They were divided...I Cor.1:10-17

BY
GLEN E. TROPPE

They were carnal...I Cor.3:1
They were babes....I Cor. 3:1
They were on milk and not meat ...I Cor.3:2
They were filled with envy, strife and divisions....I Cor. 3:3
They were walking after the flesh and not after the spirit. I Cor. 3:3
They were puffed up against each other.
   I Cor. 4:6,18
They were boasting about immorality.
   I Cor. 5:1-2
They were taking each other to court.
   I Cor. 6:1-8

THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS
"Even though I clutch my blanket and growl when the alarm rings each morning--
Thank you, Lord, that I can hear. There are those who are deaf.
Even though I keep my eyes tightly closed against the morning lights as long as possible--
Thank you, Lord, that I can see. There are many who are blind.
Even though I huddle in my bed and put off the physical effort of rising--
Thank you, Lord, that I have the strength to rise. There are many who are bedfast.
Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned, tempers are short--
Thank you, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.
Even though our breakfast table never looks like the pictures in the ladies' magazines, and the menu is at times unbalanced--
Thank you, Lord, for the food we have. There are many who are hungry.
Even though the routine of my job is often monotonous--
Thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to work. There are many who have no work.
Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day, and wish my modest circumstances were not quite so modest--
Thank you, Lord, for the gift of life."

---Author Unknown
A GREAT

PEOPLE

Reading: Joshua 17:14-18
Text: Verses 14, 15, 17

I. THE FACTS OF GREATNESS
A. The Greatness of God.
1. God has proved His greatness to men.
   He proved it in His excellency over the armies and Pharaoh of Egypt (Exodus 15:7).
2. God proved His greatness in mercy and pardon for Israel (Numbers 14:19).
3. God is great in His power toward believers, (Ephesians 1:19).
B. The Greatness of Ephraim
1. Ephraim's name means "fruitful", an indication of his father's faith in the greatness of God in Egypt (Gen. 41:52).
2. Jacob, on his deathbed, prophesied of Ephraim's greatness (Gen. 48:19) and of his fruitfulness (Gen. 49:22).
3. Ephraim became a tribe and people of pride (Judges 8:1-3; 12:1; 1 Kings 12:16-17).
4. God promised to cure Ephraim of her pride, and to make her truly great (Hosea 9:11; 12:8).
C. The Three Text Verses
1. "I am a great people"--the pride of greatness.
2. "If thou art a great people--the potential of greatness.
3. "Thou art a great people"--the promise of greatness.

II. THE THREE ASPECTS OF GREATNESS
A. The Pride Aspect (verse 14).
1. Ephraim displayed conceit and arrogance, contempt for the method by which they had received their allotment--"Why have you given me only one portion?"
2. Ephraim demonstrated her pride in the presence of the elders of all the tribes, as though to say, "Look how great I am!"
3. Ephraim was doubtless mindful of the prophecy concerning her greatness, but in a despicable manner, "See God has made me greater than you."
B. The Potential Aspect (Verse 15).
1. Joshua did not deny Ephraim's greatness, but he challenged them to prove their worthiness of the appellation. "If you are so great, go up to the forest country and take for yourselves an extra portion from the country of the giants."
2. What Ephraim had been allotted was too small for them, they complained. But they wanted to have something given them simply because of who they were.
3. Faced with a challenge the Ephraimites did not appear so great. They admitted that the Canaanites were too strong for them, though the Lord had told all the tribes none could stand before them if they followed Him.

C. The Promise Aspect (Verse 17).
1. Joshua assured the Ephraimites that they did have great power.
2. Joshua promised them the reward of true greatness; if they drew upon the source of that greatness they would indeed have more than one lot.
3. The mountain and all its forest would fall to Ephraim, and he could overcome the giants and chariots through the greatness of God.
4. God's greatness, extended to Ephraim, would result in absolute greatness, complete victory over their enemies.

III. THE SUMMATION OF GREATNESS
A. As to Pride
1. Man is warned not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think (Romans 12:3).
2. He is to remember that wisdom teaches that pride precedes destruction (Proverbs 17:19).
3. Pride causes men to make claims beyond their ability and which come back to embarrass them (Luke 18:21, 23).
B. As to Potential
1. Paul had realized the Christian's potential as unlimited when acting in Christ (Phil. 4:13).
2. He also urged the child of God to press on to that goal Christ has set for him, forgetting the past (Phil. 3:14).
3. All we do should be for the truth, for we can do nothing against it (II Cor. 13:8).
C. As to Promise
1. We have the reward of all we need in this life through Christ who strengthens (Phil. 4:19).
2. In the will of Christ He has promised to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think (Eph. 3:20).
3. The children of God are blessed in the outcome with inheritance of the earth (Matt. 5:5).
4. Ultimately we are promised the complete victory "through our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Cor. 15:57).

GOD IS FAITHFUL
TEN SECRETS
OF A
BEAUTIFUL WOMAN

One of the main focuses in today’s modern society is beauty. There are thousands of products on the market claiming to restore, revitalize or enhance the male or female good-looks, youth or sex appeal. Practically all of our advertisements and commercials address our desires to be part of the “beautiful people” stating that their product is the very thing needed for us to achieve this goal.

Strange, isn’t it? Man truly believes that by altering some outside factors he can change his appearance. Matthew 6:27. How differently God sees us! I Samuel 16:7. From this we see that God’s idea of man and man’s idea of comeliness differ. Let us explore this mystery: What is it that makes us beautiful in God’s sight? How can we become beautiful women?

Since God looks at our hearts for beauty, our hearts must first of all be clean and pure. We need a complete application of salvation, Psalm 149:4. If we accept Jesus as Saviour and make Him the Lord of our lives then we “let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us,” Psalm 90:17.

Once the soul has been cleansed by the blood of Jesus, the inner man needs care and sustenance each day, II Cor. 4:15, 16.

The second “secret” is to renew communion with God daily through prayer, Proverbs 15:8; I Thess. 5:17; Phil. 4:6-9; Romans 8:26, 27. A lovely woman has an appointment with God each day – and she has the knees to prove it!

The third secret is a Spirit-controlled temperament. The Bible gives us several facets of Christian temperament. First of all, we should be peaceful; we can have peace with God, Romans 5:11; peace of God, Phil. 4:7; and peace with men, Romans 12:18. It is a real blessing in our day of frenzy and pressure to know a Christian woman who is an island of calm in her home and church.

Secondly, we should be friendly, Proverbs 18:24; Proverbs 27:9. A warm smile and a welcoming word to much to keep our homes, neighborhoods and churches in harmony.

Last, is a loving attitude, I Cor. 13:2-13; I John 4:7. We women, we certainly need to exhibit love in our dealings with family, friends and the world. If we have the love of Jesus in our hearts, then it will spill over into our lives. If you want to be beautiful, don’t buy a mudpack, but show forth peace, friendli-

ness and love in the Lord.

Many times we destroy the beauty of the Lord in us when we have a “slip of the tongue” or discuss matters better left in our prayer closets. James admonishes us to bridle our tongues in Chapter 3. In fact, the Bible has a lot to say about the words we utter: what should and should not be said and the attitude in which our words should come forth, Proverbs 10:31, 32; Proverbs 15:2; Proverbs 16:24; 21:19; 7:15; Col. 4:6. Meditate on each verse. If you want to be a beautiful person guard your mouth. Practice saying sweet things about others and see them respond in kind. You might try following a simple rule of thumb: “If you can’t say something nice, don’t say anything at all.”

Even as God gives us the control we need in our speech, He will give us the fifth ingredient in beauty: wisdom, I Kings 3:5-12; James 1:5.

These scriptures show that wisdom is our gift just for the asking. It is biblical to seek wisdom, Proverbs 2:1-9, as long as we turn it to godly pursuits, as in winning souls, Proverbs 11:30, and understanding God’s will in our lives, Ephesians 5:17. A wise woman will build up her own household, support their endeavors, pray for their souls and care for their needs as in Prov. 14:1. A mother, wife, aunt or sister who has shed wise counsel in her home is beautiful to those whom she has thus aided.

(Continued in February.)
WARNINGS FROM GOD'S WORD

I Peter 5:6-9

CHARLES SWILLING

I. WARNINGS ABOUT SATAN
A. His person, Rev. 12:10; I Peter 5:8; Matthew 13:37; John 8:44; Rev. 20:2; John 12:31; Ephesians 6:12; Matthew 4:3; Matthew 13:19, 38.
B. His power, II Cor. 11:15; II Cor. 4:4; I Cor. 10:13; James 1:13.
C. His plan, Romans 10:2, 3; John 3:1; Gal. 2:16; II Tim. 3:5; Matt. 15:9; Job 14:1; II Cor. 11:23-28; Ephesians 4:29-31; Titus 1:40; II Timothy 4:10; I John 2:15-17; II Timothy 3:16, 17; Hebrews 5:12-14; Ephesians 5:3-5; Matthew 5:27, 28.

II. WARNINGS ABOUT SELF
A. Fleshly lust, Ephes. 2:3; Gal. 5:16, 17; Gal. 5:19-20.
B. Fickle feelings, I Peter 3:7; Phil. 3:3.
C. Fatal pride, I Cor. 10:12; Gal. 6:3; I John 2:16; Proverbs 16:18; Ezekiel 28:2.
D. Feeble nature, Matt. 26:41; Romans 7:14-25.
E. Help fight the flesh.
   1. Eat right.
   2. Exercise right.
   3. Manage right.
   4. Do not make important decisions when mad, weary, or pressured.

III. WARNINGS ABOUT SIN
A. Sin is dangerous, Proverbs 8:36; James 1:14, 15.
B. Sin deceives, Gal. 6:7, 8; Numbers 32:23.
C. Sin defies God.
E. Sin defeats.

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