SERVING THE LORD ANYHOW


Many Bible Characters are known for certain characteristics. Job is known for his patience. Job experienced severe losses in a short period of time. He had several different problems to deal with at the same time. It seemed like the bottom was falling out. It seemed like his world was crumbling into pieces. Job penned these words, "MAN THAT IS BORN OF WOMAN IS OF FEW DAYS, AND FULL OF TROUBLE." Job 14:1 He knew this by experience.

Job experienced severe problems. He stands as our example and our encouragement. We need to understand that Satan was fighting God and the battleground was Job. We need to remember God did not cause the problems in Job's life. The Devil was the instigator and author of the problems and pressures Job experienced. A diligent study of the book of Job will benefit God's people. It can prepare us for the problems the Devil will cause in our lives. Notice with me The Character of Job, The Conspiracy of the Devil, and The Consolation of the Saviour.

I. THE CHARACTER OF JOB.

Verse one gives a description of Job. Read the latter part of verse one, "...AND THAT MAN WAS PERFECT AND UPRIGHT, AND ONE THAT FEARED GOD, ESCHEWED EVIL." From this passage we learn four things about Job. Your character will determine how well you will hold up in trying times.

Job was perfect. The word perfect does not mean sinless attainment. Some believe those who are saved can live a sinless life. This is contrary to Bible teaching. Job wrote to saved people, "IF WE SAY WE HAVE NO SIN, WE DECEIVE OURSELVES, AND THE TRUTH IS NOT IN US." I John 1:8 The believer does sin. We know this by Bible and by personal experience. Perfect is used to describe a saved person's maturity. It speaks of reaching mature development. Noah was described as a perfect man.

Charles Swilling

This describes his sincerity and integrity in his relationship to God. Gen. 6:9 Paul wrote, "THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE PERFECT, THROUGHLY FURNISHED UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS." II Tim. 3:17 In I Peter 5:10, the word perfect is used to indicate the things accomplished in our lives because of suffering. "...AFTER THAT YE HAVE SUFFERED A WHILE, MAKE YOU PERFECT, ESTABLISH, STRENGTHEN, SETTLE YOU." I Pet. 5:10 Job was upright. Job was not only a saved man, but he was striving to live right. Look at the way Job responds to his problems. Look at the way he treats others while
under pressure. It is easy under such conditions to become angry, rebellious, bitter, and act unbecoming as a saved person. Job was upright. Paul wrote, "TEACHING US THAT, DURING UNGOODNESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS, WE SHOULD LIVE SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY IN THIS PRESENT WORLD." Titus 2:12

We find out what sort of material we are made of during such times. Listen to the words of Job in view of his loss. "NAKED CAME I OUT OF MY MOTHER'S WOMB AND NAKED SHALL I RETURN THITHER: THE LORD GAVE, AND THE LORD HATH TAKEN AWAY; BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD." Job 1:21 God gave us the grace and patience that Job experienced.

Job feared God. The word fear has a two-fold meaning. You should study the word in light of its context to determine the right meaning in a particular text. Fear means to be afraid of. It also means reverence or respect. Job revered and respected God. He considered God to be Holy and he revered Him. The wise man wrote, "LET US HEAR THE CONCLUSION OF THE WHOLE MATTER: FEAR GOD, AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: FOR THIS IS THE WHOLE DUTY OF MAN." Eccl. 12:13. The writer of Hebrews admonishes us to serve God acceptably with reverence and Godly fear. Hebrews 12:28.

Job eschewed evil. The word eschew means to turn aside. He did not walk in evil paths, but he turned aside. He was very conscientious of his service and fellowship with the Lord. Job suffered tremendous loss. Even when we suffer, we can take comfort in the fact Job suffered greater things than what we are suffering. In other word things are not that bad. Peter used the word eschew in I Pet. 3:11,"LET HIM ESCHEW EVIL, AND DO GOOD; LET HIM SEEK PEACE, AND ENSUE IT."

Job was perfect, upright, feared God, and eschewed evil. May I remind you again the life you live and the character you have will either help you or hinder you in your fight against the Devil. The Lord enabled Job to be patient because of his reverence and respect to the Lord. II. THE CONSPIRACY OF THE DEVIL.

Peter gives an accurate description of the Devil in I Pet. 5:8, "BE SOBER, BE VIGILANT; BECAUSE YOUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL, AS A ROARING LION, WALKETH ABOUT, SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR." The Devil will use anyone and anything to blind and bewilder the lost person and the saved person. He used five basic things in his attack on Job.

He used Falsehood. The Devil is a master at lying and deceit. In Job 1:9 he questions Job's motivation of service. "DOTH JOB FEAR GOD FOR NAUGHT? He implicates Job was serving God for what he got out of it. The Devil said, "BUT PUT FORTH THINE HAND NOW, AND TOUCH ALL THAT HE HATH, AND HE WILL CURSE THEE TO THY FACE." Job 1:11 He reasons that Job served God for gain, and if God allowed Job to lose his material possessions he would stop serving the Lord. The only way to fight evil and lies and falsehood is with the truth. No wonder Satan wants to keep people ignorant of God's Word which is truth. John 17:17 It is no wonder the Devil prevents God's people from having a deeper fellowship with the Lord who is the Truth. John 14:6

He used Finances. Job was a rich man. He had 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, 500 she asses, and many servants. Was Job really serving God and fearing Him because of material prosperity?

We need to understand something right here. God was not responsible for Job's loss. We often blame God for the bad things that happen to us. All powerful God allowed the Devil to do what he did to Job. Job 1:2 The Devil is the instigator, author, and worker of evil. You are wrong to blame God for the evil in your life. The Devil took Job's possessions. The oxen and asses were stolen. V. 15 Fire burned up the sheep. V. 16 The camels were stolen. V. 17 His servants were slain.

Job heard of his losses in what seemed to be one continuous message. He was rich one moment and in the next moment he was poor. Was the Devil right? Was Job serving the Lord for gain? Having lost all Job said,"...THE LORD GAVE, AND THE LORD HATH TAKEN AWAY; BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD." Job 1:21 Job realized the truth of Luke 12:15, "TAKE HEED, AND BEWARE OF COVETOUSNESS: FOR A MAN'S LIFE CONSISTETH NOT IN THE ABUNDANCE OF THE THINGS WHICH HE POSSESSETH,"

The Devil's attack on our lives in the financial realm is often successful. He pressures and paralyzes us in this area. God help us to realize life is more than money or material possessions.

He used the Family. Job's children were in the eldest brother's house. The house fell upon them and killed them. Job 1:19 He didn't lose his children over a period of several years. Job had to bury 10 children at one time. Job's life seems to be falling apart. He lost his wealth and now his children. The Devil is tightening his grip on Job. He is putting the pressure on him. Instead of comforting his family, Job's wife tells him, "CURSE GOD, AND DIE." Job 2:9 The loss of possessions and especially family members often destroy a family. From a human standpoint, all seems to be lost. He doesn't have possessions, children, and no comfort is offered by his help mate.

It would be an easy thing just to quit and give up. Job did not sin in word or action. He didn't charge God foolishly. Job 1:22 He used Failing Health. The Lord points out the Devil's objective in Job 2:3, "...AND STILL HE HOLDETH FAST HIS INTEGRITY, ALTHOUGH THOU MOVEDST ME AGAINST HIM, TO
DESTROY HIM WITHOUT A CAUSE." Satan was given the power or he was allowed to do whatever he wanted to. He could not take his life. Job 2:6 I am thankful and glad that God has a hedge about His children. Job 1:10 God allows the Devil to work in our lives for a purpose.

Satan smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot to his crown. We would say he had boils from the top of his head to the bottom of his feet. On top of all of the other problems, Job must face and cope with failing health. Failing health affects the way we feel, our mental outlook, and our emotional stability. What else could happen? The Lord gives this testimony of Job, "...IN ALL THIS DID NOT JOB SIN WITH HIS LIPS."

He used friends. Job had three friends who heard of the evil that had come upon him. They came to mourn with him and comfort him. Job 2:11 They saw his grief was very great. For seven days and nights they sat with Job without speaking a word. Job 2:13 The major part of the Book of Job deals with Job and his friends talking. Job's three friends proceed to declare Job's guilt. The three friends pass judgment upon Job and accuse him of sin. This is a human and normal reaction when someone experiences trying times. We are quick to accuse of sin. People who experience trying times need the support of their friends. They need to feel love from those close by. We need to encourage and comfort one another in trying times. Paul wrote, "HEREFORE COMFORT ONE ANOTHER WITH THESE WORDS." 1 Thess. 4:18

The Devil often uses our friends to defeat us and discourage us. This is especially true of Christian friends. We do not expect Christian friends to act or speak un-Christian like. We expect them to love us and try to understand us and give us support in troubled times. Only your friends can hurt you. You love them and don't expect them to act unfriendly. When they do it hurts. It drains you of strength. It is so discouraging, especially when you are facing and dealing with problems.

The Devil was doing a good job on Job. He used falsehood, finaces, family, failing health, and friends to stop Job from fearing and serving the Lord. Did it work? Did he succeed? The answer, of course, is No. He failed. Job continued to serve the Lord anyhow.

III. THE CONSOLATION OF THE SAVIOUR.

Job trusted the Lord. Job was accused falsely. He lost most of his possessions. He lost his ten children. His wife said, Curse God and Die. He had boils all over his body. His friends accused him falsely. His load was heavy. How could he keep going on? The key to stability in adverse times is to trust the Lord. Job said, "THOUGH HE SLAY ME, YET WILL I TRUST IN HIM..." Job 13:15 Job trusted the Lord. He looked to Him and His Word for strength. Job said, "NEITHER HAVE I GONE BACK FROM THE COMMANDEMENT OF HIS LIPS: I HAVE ESTEEMED THE WORDS OF HIS MOUTH MORE THAN MY NECESSARY FOOD." Job 23:12

The Lord will never let you down. Hebrews 13:4 is a blessed verse of scripture. "FOR HE HATH SAID I WILL NEVER LEAVE THEE, NOR FORSAKE THEE." The Lord is faithful to His people. He cares for us and takes care of us. We are exalted to "TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART; AND LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING." Prov.3:5 Job was looking to the Lord and depending upon Him even if he died. All that he endured did not sway him from trusting in the Lord.

Job looked for the Redeemer. Job suffered so greatly. By faith he looked for a greater and brighter day. Job wrote, "FOR I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH, AND THAT HE SHALL STAND AT THE LATTER DAY UPON THE EARTH: AND THOUGH AFTER MY SKIN WORMS DESTROY THIS BODY, YET IN MY FLESH SHALL I SEE GOD: WHOM I SHALL SEE FOR MYSELF, AND MINE EYES SHALL BEHOLD AND NOT ANOTHER; THOUGH MY REINS BE CONSUMED WITHIN ME." Job 19:25-27 All of the trials and troubles and tribulations will seem nothing in light of the eternal glory that waits the redeemed. Our hope in Christ strengthens and comforts. "WHICH HOPE WE HAVE AS AN ANCHOR OF THE SOUL, BOTH SURE AND STEADFAST." Heb.6:19. Job looked beyond the temporal to the eternal. Job was blessed. This is an unusual occasion. Job lost everything. He stayed true to the Lord. In the end, he was blessed with 10 more children and twice as much possessions. Job 42:12 He was honored by his friends. Job 42:11 Job was a patient man. In good times and bad times he trusted the Lord and served Him. His life is an inspiration to me. I know the Lord can sustain His people in troubled times.

This is an unusual case. Some of God's people suffer and lose and never regain what they lose. The Lord can calm the storm or calm you in the storms of life. He will take care of you regardless. As we face our problems which seem to multiply, may we look to the Lord and whole heartedly depend upon Him.

May we remember the admonition of this poem.

Doubt see the obstacles
Faith see the way
Doubt see the darkest night
Faith sees the day
Doubt dreads to take one step
Faith soars on high
Doubt questions who believes
Faith answers I
RICH GIFTS FROM JESUS

TEXT: II Corinthians 8:9

INTRODUCTION:
A. The "Carnal minded" like the rich man Jesus told of, lives only for this life and measures life by dollars and what they will get.
2. James tells us they forget or ignore one eternal fact. The future is in the hands of God! James 4:14
3. Paul tell us Acts 17:28
B. "Spiritually minded" people have a brighter "UP-LOOK", "OUT-LOOK", and "ON-LOOK!"
1. Psalm 23:6
2. II Cor. 4:18; 5:1
C. Let's set our minds on real riches which we have from Jesus and rejoice in the same for a little while!

I. PEACE! WHAT A WORD!
A. The inward desire of every soul! Peace is not to be found in wickedness! Isaiah 57:20-21
B. Peace is not to be had in "FLESHLY EXPLOITS" nor "MATERIAL GAIN!"
1. King Solomon after a life in revelry. Eccl. 2:1
2. After a life of great accomplishments in the material realm. Eccl. 2:11
D. Peace is the Gift of God...Jesus!
1. Luke 2:14
2. Eph. 2:14
3. Peace is Believing in Jesus! Rom. 5:1
4. Luke 7:50
5. His peace. John 14:27
   a. Peace is trusting, relying on Jesus! Psalm 37:7
   b. Peace... in praying. Phil 4:6-7

II. JESUS GIVE EXALTED POSITION!
A. A Child in the family of God:
   1. John 1:12; I John 3:1-2; Gal. 3:26
B. Safe in threefold position:
   1. In the hand of Jesus! John 10:28
   2. In the hand of the Father! John 10:29
C. Member of His "BODY" and "BRIDE!"
   1. Col. 1:18
   2. To the Church in Corinth:
      a. I Cor. 10:17
      b. II Cor. 11:2
D. Ambassadors of life and light to the world in sin's darkness:
   1. In the world but not of it. John 17:16
   2. In the world but not "AMBASSADORS!" II Cor. 5:20 "WITNESSES" Acts 1:8"Lights" Matt. 5:16
E. Safe of the "SOLID ROCK." Ps. 40:2

III. JESUS GIVES POSSESSIONS!
A. Life: I John 5:11-12
B. Liberty from sin (Romans 6:14) and sin's penalty: Romans 6:23
C. Light for the journey! John 8:12
D. TITLE DEED TO FUTURE INHERITANCE?
   1. Heirs of God: Romans 8:17
   2. I Peter 1:4-5
   3. John 14:2 "A PLACE FOR YOU;"

IV. JESUS MAKES PROVISIONS FOR US IN THIS LIFE!
A. Sustenance: Matt. 6:33; Mal. 3:10;
   1. II Cor. 9:8
B. Strength for service: Phil. 4:13
C. Grace to ENDURE, PERSEVERE! II Cor. 12:9

V. JESUS GIVES PROTECTION!
A. From the the tempter: I John 4:4
B. From temptation: I Cor. 10:13
C. From any enemy Satan may use:
   1. Matt. 10:16
   2. Ps. 23:4
VI. JESUS GIVES US A WEALTH OF PROMISES!
A. Soul Security! John 6:37
B. His eternal presence: Hebrews 13:5
C. RETURN FOR US! John 14:3

SO GREAT SALVATION

TEXT: Hebrews 2:1-4

INTRODUCTION:
JOHNNY WILLIAMS

Our Salvation is Great because of

I. THE CHRIST OF SALVATION. Heb. 9:11-12
A. Our Substitute
B. Our Sacrifice

II. THE COST OF SALVATION. Heb. 9:13-14;
I PETER 1:18-19
A. It cost the Sovereign God His Son.
   1. John 3:16
B. It costs the Saviour His own Blood.

III. THE CONDITION FROM WHICH WE'RE SAVED.
A. The curse of the Law. Gal. 3:13
B. The condemnation of our sin. Rom. 3:23;
   1. John 3:18

IV. THE CROWD TO WHOM IT IS OFFERED.
A. Any Person. Hebrews 2:9

V. THE CLAIM THAT IS OURS.
A. We are Reconciled to God. Rom. 5:10
B. We have Received an inheritance.
   1. Gal. 4:4-6; Rom. 8:15
VI. THE COURSE OF OUR FUTURE.
A. A Heavenly Home. John 14:1-6
B. A Haven of Rest. Rev. 21-22

VII. THE COMMISSION OF THE CHURCH.
B. Promote God's Program. Matt. 28:19-20
CHRISTMAS IS

Christmas Is:
A tree that's standing big and bright,
A Santa Claus for child's delight.
Gifts and presents for everyone,
A luscious meal before we're done.

Shopping for gifts in a special way,
Everyone must be pleased that day.
Parties, baking, toys, and such,
Our family that we love so much.

A sleigh ride in the fallen snow,
Sending cards to those we know.
Candy canes and bells that ring,
Listening to carolers as they sing.

Getting ready for visitors and guests,
And Lord my house is a mess!
The kids home from school for winter vacation,
That really presents a complication.

So much to do, I just don't know
Which way to turn or where to go.
But it will all be over soon,
Then I'll collapse within my room.

BY BARBARA TRAYLOR

Christmas Is:
A baby born of virgin birth,
To proclaim God's glory here on earth.
The singing of angels, a beautiful star,
To guide the shepherds and kings from afar.

A stable and manger in Bethlehem,
Peace on earth; good will toward men.
Our finest gifts cannot compare,
With the gift of love God gave us there.

God knew His Son would have to die
On a cross someday for you and I.
But He gave us Jesus, a gift of life,
To save us from our sins and strife.

There was no Santa that Christmas morn,
It was on that day our Saviour was born.
A little baby so tiny and small,
But a hope of salvation to us all.

As you look back to this day,
Which form of Christmas will your life portray?
Will it show the world about salvation,
Or just another empty celebration?

WHEN A MAN DIES,
WHERE IS HE?

TEXT: Job 14:1-10

JOE STEVENS

INTRODUCTION:
Job is dealing with the age old subject of life, death and eternity. Each are of vital interest to man.

I. A SOLEMN REMINDER. "BUT MAN DIETH"
   A. The seed of death is in our nature.
      Genis 5:5
   B. Death is an appointment none can cancel.
      Hebrews 9:27
   C. Death is irreversibly certain.
      Job 14:8-10
   D. Death is irreparable in effect.
      Job 14:12
   E. Death is liable at any time. Prov. 27:1

II. A SOBERING QUESTION. "WHERE IS HE?"
   A. The infidel dies, and wasteth away, and where is he? Once he sat in the seat of the scornful and said, "Who is God that I should be mindful of Him?"
   B. The agnostic dies, and wasteth away, and where is he? Once he sat in the place of indecision.
   C. The affluent dies, and wasteth away, and where is he? Once he fared sumptuously.
   D. The profane dies, and wasteth away, and where is he? Once he was a blight on society.
   E. The unbeliever dies, and wasteth away, and where is he? Revelation 21:8

III. A SOUL-SEARCHING DECISION
   A. When you die, where will you be?
   B. The decision you make about Jesus will determine your destiny.

WHAT IS SPIRITUALITY?

I Cor. 3:1-3; Gal. 6:1,2

It is Determination for the cause. II Cor. 5:20;
Matt. 28:19-20

It is Discipline in character. Gal. 3:26;
II Cor. 5:17; Rom. 7:14-25

It is Development in contentment. John 16:33;
Phil. 4:11; Psa. 23:1

It is Dependence for courage. Phil. 4:13;
II Cor. 12:9; Hebs. 13:8

It is Delighting in Commandments. Rom. 7:22

It is Devotion to Christ. Mark 8:34-38;
Matt. 6:33

It is Dedication to His Church. Hebs. 10:35;
Eph. 3:21

It is Discernment as a Christian. I Cor. 2:13,
14; Hebs. 5:14
THE BRILLIANCE OF THE PERSON OF CHRIST

In our last study on the life of Christ, we noticed His birth. In the development of that lesson, we noticed: (1) the Prediction of His Birth, (2) the Purity of His Birth, and (3) the Presentation of His Birth as noted in the Gospels. We could have also added the Purpose of His Birth. That purpose was 3-fold: (1) to do the will of the Father (John 6:38), (2) to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10), and (3) to minister and give His life for us (Matt. 20:28).

In this lesson, we'll turn out attention to The Brilliance of the Person of Christ. The scripture text for this study is John 1:1-2, 14. Jesus Christ was more that just a man. He was God in the flesh. He was divine as well as human. This lesson deals with the deity of Jesus Christ which exemplifies the brilliance of His person. While Jesus Christ was really man, He was also truly God. A belief in the trinity is essential to the understanding of the scriptures in their proper perspective. If Christ is not deity - God in the flesh (divine) - He could not have taken the place of sinners so as to make atonement for their sins. A man who can read the New Testament and not see that Christ claimed and is more than mere man, can look all over the sky at high noon on a cloudless day and not see the sun.

Jesus Christ, for purposes of redemption in the incarnation, assumed a distinctive subordination to the Father in that He exchanged sovereignty for servanthood. This is the teaching found in Phil. 2:5-8. It's very interesting and informative to study His relationship and connection with the Father. The scriptures reveal at least 6 things in reference to this connection. They are as follows: (1) He was BEGOTTEN of the Father - (John 3:16); (2) He was DEPENDENT upon the Father - (John 5:19); (3) He was SENT by the Father - (John 8:28-29); (4) He was UNDER the Father's authority - (John 10:18); (5) He RECEIVED His message from the Father (John 17:8); and (6) He will ultimately DELIVER His kingdom up to the Father (I Cor. 15:24).

There are at least 3 different things taught in the scriptures which prove His deity. We will notice these in this lesson (Part I of III) on The Brilliance of the Person of Christ.

I. HIS APPELLATIONS PROVE HIS DEITY

This refers to His names. There are at least 6 names ascribed to the man, Jesus Christ and these names in their significance and understanding substantiate this reality. Notice these names with me briefly.

(1) He's called the Son of God. Matt. 16:16-17. He is a son in a very unique and peculiar sense. We, who are saved, are referred to as Sons of God, but yet; we're not sons in the same sense that Christ is.

(2) He's called the Alpha and Omega. Rev. 1:11. This refers to the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Jesus Christ has always been and always will be. His birth was a mere experience in His existence because He's always been. This is hard for the natural mind to comprehend, but yet the Bible teaches it, therefore it's true.

(3) He's called the Holy One in Acts 3:14. This deals with His character, therefore substantiating the reality that He is more than just a man.

(4) He's called the Lord of All in Acts 10:36. This was part of Peter's sermon which was delivered to the Gentiles in the house of Cornelius. The term Lord carries with it the idea of owner and master.

(5) He's called Lord in Acts 9:16. This has to do with the revelation made to Paul and also includes His salvation.

(6) He's called the Lord of Glory in I Cor. 2:8. This had reference to the wisdom of God in a mystery.

Surely, you can see the significance of these names as they relate to the deity of Jesus Christ.

II. HIS ABSOLUTE DIVINE OFFICES PROVE HIS DEITY

He's the creator of the universe. Notice the text of this lesson for the proof of this statement. In view of the fact that He's the creator, you can logically see that He could not therefore be a creature or part of the creation. He's infinite, not finite. He's divine, not just human. He's truly God, not just mere man.

He's the preserver or uphold-er of all things. Notice Heb. 1:3. His Word is the socket in which the wheel of the universe is set and upon which it turns. The pulse of universal life is regulated and controlled by the throbbing of the mighty heart of Christ.

He's the forgiver of sins. The forgiving of sins is a divine prerogative. He not only declared sins forgiven, He actually forgave them. Notice this teaching in Mark 2:5-11.

He's the judge of the quick and the dead. II Tim. 4:1. The man of the cross is to be the man of the throne. He, who is man's present Saviour, will ul-
It costs to Serve Jesus


INTRODUCTION:

A. No Fancy Frills
B. No Fine Print

I. THERE IS A DEATH TO DIE: VS 26-27
   A. Personal Realionships. VS 26
   B. Personal Reputation.
   C. Personal Realization.

II. THERE IS A COST TO CONSIDER: VS 28-29
   A. Cost to Consider.
   B. Sacrifice to Continue.

III. THERE IS A FOE TO FACE: VS 31-32
   A. Warriors who are not cowards.
   B. Warriors who will not compromise.
   C. Warriors who will not be conquered. VS 23.

IV. THERE IS A SAVIOUR TO SHARE:VS 33-35
   A. Salt flavors. Job 6:6; Col. 4:6
   B. Salt Cleanses. Ezek. 16:4
   C. Salt Irritates. Mark 9:49
   D. Salt Penetrates. Matt. 5:13
   E. Salt Heals. II Kings 2

CONCLUSION:

A. It Cost to Serve.
B. It Pays to Serve. Mark 10:28-31

Sounding Out The Word

December 1983

G.D. Walters

TEXT: Ephesians 6:1-9, 7

INTRODUCTION: There is more wrapped up in this word SERVANT than we will ever know till we get to Heaven.

I. SERVANTS.
   A. Servants have Masters. V. 5
   B. Servants must be Obedient. V. 5

II. SERVANTS MUST SERVE.
   A. Doing Service. V. 7
   B. Servants must serve with Good Will, Willingness. V. 7
   C. Servants must render a Heart Service. "Doing the will of God from the Heart." V. 6
   D. Servants must Serve God. "Not with eye service as menpleasers," V. 6

III. SERVANTS MUST STAND.
   A. Must stand prepared. V. 11
   B. Must stand against the enemy, against the wiles of the devil. V. 11

IV. SERVANTS MUST BE STRONG.
   A. Because of the Nature of the enemy -- Spiritual Wickedness. V. 12
   B. Because of the Power of the enemy. V.12
   C. Because of the Area of the enemy -- Darkness. V. 12
   D. Because of the Current Entrenchment of the enemy -- this Present World. V. 12

V. SERVANTS MUST BE SPIRITUAL.
   A. Because this is a Spiritual War against Spiritual Wickedness.
   B. Because the devil is a Spiritual Enemy.

VI. SERVANTS MUST PRAY IF THEY ARE TO WIN IN THIS WARFARE.
   A. Praying Always, or Continually. V. 18
   B. Praying with Power.
   C. Praying for others, for all saints, unselfish in our prayers.

FROM ALL OF US
TO ALL OF YOU

MERRY CHRISTMAS
SPOTLIGHT ON HEBREWS

A. The human author of Hebrews is not known. Many believe it to be one of the works of the Apostle Paul. (See Hebrews 13:23 & II Peter 3:15) Apollo
   1. The divine author is God. Heb. 1:1
   (See II Tim. 3:16)
   2. Therefore this book is profitable
      for growth.
B. This book was written to saved Jews.
   1. To the people who had lived under
      the Mosaic Law.
   2. They were being persecuted because
      of their faith.
C. The general theme is Christ's New and
   Better Covenant. Heb. 12:24
I. THE PAST AND PRESENT WORK OF CHRIST.
HEBREWS 1:2-3
A. Christ is the heir of all things. V. 2a
B. Christ was the creator of the universe.
   V. 2b
C. Christ is the outshining of God's
   glory. V. 3a
D. Christ is the visible expression of the
   essence of God. V. 3b
E. Christ is the upholder of the universe.
   V. 3c
F. Christ is the one who purged our sins.
   V. 3d
G. Christ is seated at the place of power
   and authority. V. 3e
II. THE PRESENT AND FUTURE WORK OF CHRIST.
HEBREWS 1:8-14
A. Christ our King has a scepter of right-
   eousness. V. 8
B. Christ is the only one completely sin-
   less. V. 9
C. Christ is the one who created this
   universe. V. 10
D. Christ will last longer than creation
   V. 11
E. Christ will never change. We can rely
   on Him. V. 12
F. Christ will put all things under His
   feet. (Conquest) V. 13
G. Christ sends angels to minister to our
   needs. V. 14

Stephen Wood

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The Personnel
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TREASURER .................................. JOHN SKIPPER
ASSISTANT TREASURER ...................... JAMES THOMPSON

The Purpose
(1) Sound Out The Gospel with a prayer that someone, somewhere may hear and be saved.
(2) Sound Out The Word to help Christians intake Spiritual Food which is so vital in their Growth Process in Christ.
(3) Serve as a helper in helping others find a Missionary Baptist Church of like faith and order in their area so that they can give God glory in and through her.

The Program
Mission Ministry
Support various Missionaries, 2 Seminaries, and 1 Youth Camp.

Radio Ministry
KGOL ........................................ Houston, Texas ........ 1070 AM
KPBC ........................................ Dallas, Texas .......... 1040 AM
KHYM ........................................ Gilmer, Texas .......... 1060 AM

Publication Ministry
We print a monthly Religious Paper which contains sermon and study outlines to help you better understand the Scriptures. In addition to our paper we have printed six outline books and desire to print others in the near future. All publications are for free distribution. Write for further information.

Help us SOUND OUT THE WORD through MISSIONS, RADIO, AND PUBLICATIONS. Why not consider this a mission project in your church? All checks should be made out to: SOUNDING OUT THE WORD MINISTRIES, and send to the following address: GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 1813 Aldine Mail Route, Houston, Texas 77039. Your prayerful and financial help will be greatly appreciated.