LOST SOUL, LISTEN!

"AND HE MUST NEEDS GO THROUGH SAMARIA. THEN COMETH HE TO A CITY OF SAMARIA, WHICH IS CALLED SYCHAR, NEAR TO THE PARCEL OF GROUND THAT JACOB GAVE TO HIS SON JOSEPH. NOW JACOB'S WELL WAS THERE. JESUS THEREFORE, BEING WEARYED WITH HIS JOURNEY, SAT TRUSS ON THE WELL: AND IT WAS ABOUT THE SIXTH HOUR. THERE COMETH A WOMAN OF SAMARIA TO DRAW WATER JESUS SAITH UNTO HER, GIVE ME TO DRINK. (FOR HIS DISCIPLES WERE GONE AWAY UNTO THE CITY TO BUY MEAT.) THEN SAITH THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA UNTO HIM, HOW IS IT THAT THOU, BEING A JEW, ASKETH DRINK OF ME, WHICH AM A WOMAN OF SAMARIA? FOR THE JEW HAVEN NO DEALINGS WITH THE SAMARITANS. JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HER, IF THOU KNEWEST THE GIFT OF GOD, AND WHO IT IS THAT SAITH TO THEE, GIVE ME TO DRINK: THOU WOULDDEST HAVE ASKED OF HIM, AND HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN THEE LIVING WATER." John 4:4-10

This is the heart stirring account of the salvation of the woman of Samaria. Verse 4 tells us Jesus must needs go thru Samaria. The only revealed reason was the woman would be at the well to draw water. Jesus met her there and told her about the living water.

My lost friend, God has a message for you. He will send His message by His messengers. He has something to tell you and He wants you to get the message. The Lord uses His preachers to deliver His message. I believe He has burdened my heart to deliver this message to you. I ask that you listen to God's word. Listen to this message.

I. I HAVE SOME BAD NEWS FOR YOU.

We are constantly getting news from people, calls, or the mail. Some of the news may be good and some may be bad.

You are lost. That is bad news. Jesus went thru Samaria because of this lost woman that He would talk with at Jacob's well. Listen to Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which is lost." You are lost, undone, and incomplete. If you have ever been lost out in the woods, you can understand what it is to be lost spiritually. You are lost and cannot find your way. You are blindly going through life staggering and stumbling and searching. You are lost to the true meaning of life. Jesus said, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life..." John 14:6

You are sinful. That is bad news. Paul wrote, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23 All have sinned. An evidence of this truth is death. Rom. 5:12 You are a sinner by birth Psa. 51:5. You are a sinner by choice and practice. Eph.2:1-3 Isaiah points out our sinfulness in Isa. 64:6. You cannot face God in peace in your sinful condition.

You are dead in sin. That is bad news. Paul penned these words, "And you that were dead in trespasses and sins." Eph. 2:1 As physical death is the separation of the spirit or soul from the body, so spiritual death is the separation of the spirit or soul from God. You are not alive unto God. You
have not life. You cannot commune or fellowship with God. There is terrible feelings of horror and panic when you realize you will face Him in your sinful condition.

You are an enemy of God. That is bad news. Paul pointed out in Rom. 5:10, "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son..." You are rebelling against God's will, work, way, and word. You are resisting His person and power. Jesus said to Saul, "...Why persecutest me?" Acts 9:4 Jesus spoke these words about the Jews, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." Matt. 23:37

II. I HAVE SOME SAD NEWS FOR YOU.

You will die. That is sad. This is an appointment you will keep. Hebs. 9:27 Death is caused and brought on by sin. Rom. 5:12 James points out the finished work of sin is death. You will die in your sinful, lost, and undone condition. How sad. To die in your condition means you have no hope, no help, and no healing. It is awesome to realize that people can and do die in this terrible awful condition.

Sometimes people think they are going to keep right on living, but death is sure and certain. It is recorded of the man who lived 969 years, and he died. Gen. 5:27 That is a long long time, but he died. Life is so uncertain and death is so sure and often sudden, ready or not, you will die.

You will go to hell. That is sad. Luke 16:19-31 gives an account of a rich man dying without God and lifting up his eyes in hell. The rich man was suffering in pain. He was tormented in a flame. Hell is a real fire kindled to torment all Christ rejectors. Paul wrote, "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power." II Thess. 1:8,9

Jesus loves you. That is glad news. Jesus said, "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." John 3:16 Paul wrote, "But God com- mendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8 Paul questioned, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" Rom. 8:35 The love that Jesus has for people is wonderful and glorious. The life and death of Jesus gives abundant proof of His love for man. Oh, how He loves you and me. Love always gives. Jesus was and is a giving Saviour and Redeemer. Jesus knows all about you and loves you any way.

Jesus wants to save you. That is glad news. Jesus said, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10 Jesus is able and capable of saving you and cure your sin condition. Jesus died for all men and He desires to save one and all. Peter wrote, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us- ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." II Pet. 3:9 Jesus will not turn any away who seek His salvation.

Jesus can give you life. That is glad news. He had the power to raise Lazarus from the dead. He stopped a funeral procession and raised the widow's son headed for the graveyard. Jesus has the power to give you life. "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." John 10:28 Jesus also said, "...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10 Jesus said to the Jews, "And ye will not come to me; that ye might have life." John 5:40

Jesus can make you right
with God. That is glad news. Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice...?" Exod. 5:2 Saul ask, "Who art thou, Lord?" Acts 9. Lost people are not right with God. They are not in harmony with God. Jesus wants to reconcile the lost sinner to God. II Cor. 5:19 Lost sinners are made right with God when they repent of sin and believe in Jesus as personal Saviour. The gospel is defined as good news. The angel spoke these words to the shepherds, "...Fear not for, Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10,11 Listen to the words of the Apostle Paul, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." II Cor. 5:21 Listen, lost sinner! The message deals with some bad news, sad news, and more importantly, some glad news. You can be saved. Repent of your sins and trust Jesus as your personal Saviour today.

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THE PASTOR'S WIFE

Being a pastor's wife is not easy. I have found during these 35 years that it requires sacrifice, selflessness and an understanding heart. Over the years there have been times, it is physically and emotionally demanding. Yet in all the fields of occupation that my husband could have entered into, this one is far the most satisfying, because he is where the Lord would have him to be. He feels as Paul when he uttered the words in I Timothy 1:12, "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;"

I don't look at his position as being singular, for he and I are one flesh. I am his helpmate, his partner in life, even though I feel I have failed in so many ways.

I feel so strongly in supporting him in his ministry because I have known some pastors who found themselves torn between serving their church and pleasing their wives. I would not want this to be on my record when I face my Lord at the end of this life, that I had kept my husband from his ministry duties because of my own selfish demands.

There are times of personal sacrifice and seemingly inconvenient things that happen, but his pastoral work must always be top priority in our lives. He has been called upon to minister to the needs of the sick, the bereaved, or to the homes of those that the problems of life had got the best of them. My brief time of sharing him with those who are in need is such a short time in comparison to eternity for that soul that has the opportunity to find Jesus precious to his heart, through the undying efforts of my husband. Ministering to the spiritual needs of others is the most vital work a pastor can do. Since his dedication for this work came about many years ago, I feel that it is all the more important that I be able to minister to his needs, and to support him in every way I can.

As the years go swiftly by, the role of a pastor's wife becomes sweeter, the every day chores are counted as a blessing from God, and the many opportunities I have had to serve the Lord in this capacity, have become most precious to me. I feel that maybe some where along the way, God has been able to receive some glory from my life as I have labored in this much needed field.

Vermell Howard

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SOUNDING OUT THE WORD

We have a ministry in our church called "Sounding Out the Word" Our only goal and purpose, is that the gospel may be heard. Through the love of God we want to send, His word throughout our land. With the prayer that someone who is unsaved, Might hear and understand. We send the word through radio, And through monthly publications. We support seminaries and a youth camp and missionaries in various places. The materials that we furnish, are absolutely free. They're here for just the asking, And we want them to always be.

You too can share and be a part Of "Sounding Out God's Word." With all of us working together, The gospel can be heard.

We need your prayers and offerings For it's through your love and care; That we are able to "Sound Out the Word." For those who are lost to share.

By Barbara Traylor

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JESUS CARES

By Kathy Shirey

Does Jesus really care what we as His children go through? Yes, I believe He does. Through having a re-occurrence of cancer this last July, I have seen just how much He cares for me.

I. HE'S BEEN MY BURDEN-BEAKER.

Questions have come to mind such as if I'm going to get well, what it's going to take for me to get back into remission or if I don't get well, what's going to happen to my husband and kids. Countless decisions about doctors, drugs, type of treatments and hospitals have had to be made. Jesus has helped to bear these burdens. Psalm 55:22 "CAST THY BURDEN UPON THE LORD, AND HE SHALL SUSTAIN THEE; HE SHALL NEVER SUFFER THE RIGHTEOUS TO BE MOVED."

II. HE'S BEEN MY COMFORTER.

There's been times when it seems no one really understands or can relate to what I'm going through. Yet many times I've felt like Jesus has just wrapped His arms around me and said, "It's going to be all right." There's comfort in the fact that:

A. He's Heard My Prayers -

We have the assurance in James 5:15 that the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord will raise him up, and then in James 5:16 that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

B. He's Heard My Cries -

I've just gotten used to the fact in July that I had one malignant tumor when another one was found in August and finally two more in November. Being human you're going to cry as cancer is not good news. I have had to ask God though to forgive me for tears shed from worry and fear of the unknown of what I or my family might have to go through because of this disease. Psalm 56:3 "WHAT TIME I AM AFRAID, I WILL TRUST IN THEE." I'm learning to trust and lean on the Lord and to have faith that all things are happening according to His will and purpose for my life. Romans 8:28 "AND WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD, TO THEM WHO ARE THE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE."

III. HE'S BEEN MY SPECIAL FRIEND.

Proverbs 18:24b "THERE IS A FRIEND THAT STICKETH CLOSER THAN A BROTHER." Jesus has been there every moment. It's great to tell and share things with a special friend that you might not with a general acquaintance. Even in radiation treatments when everyone's left the room, Jesus has been there.

IV. HE'S BEEN MY STRENGTH.

Psalm 138:3 "IN THE DAY WHEN I CRIED THOU ANSWEREDST ME, AND STRENGTHENEDST ME WITH STRENGTH IN MY SOUL." Whether God healed my body or not, I found I was strengthened with determination to be all I could as one of His children and also to persevere while undergoing radiation and chemotherapy treatments. Phillipians 4:13 "I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHENETH ME."

V. HE'S MINISTERED TO ME THROUGH FAMILY & FRIENDS.

I feel so fortunate to have had a husband to stand by me like Charles. If I've not been able to do my normal duties as a wife and mother, he's always there to pitch in and help. Stanley and Stephanie sense when Mama's not up to "par" on treatment days and never cease to amaze me as to how much love they can show and what they can dream up to do for me. The food that people have brought, offers to keep my kids while I'm at the doctor, driving me to the doctor if needed, cards, prayers and words of encouragement have meant so much. Matt. 25:40 tells that in as much as you've ministered to one of God's children, you've done this for Him and He will be rewarded.

THANK YOU JESUS FOR CARING FOR ME.

THE LIFE OF FAITH

Maxie Haynes

TEXT: Romans 4:16-25

INTRODUCTION:

A. Principle of Faith Expounded:
B. Principle of Faith Explained:

I. ABRAHAM'S FAITH WAS CONFIDENCE IN A PERSON:

A. Faith's Validity is determined by its object.
B. Faith's volume is determined by our knowledge of the object.
1. Knew God to be a God who quickens the dead...life out of deadness.
2. Knew God to be a God who calls things into existence...something out of nothingness.

II. ABRAHAM'S FAITH WAS CONVERSANT WITH THE PROBLEM:

A. Faith is not ignoring your problems...
B. Faith is thoroughly realistic.
1. Problem-Deadness; Provision-Life.
2. Problem-Barrenness; Provision-Existence.

III. ABRAHAM'S FAITH WAS CONSTANT IN ITS PROGRESS:

A. Initial Faith
B. Continual Exercise of Faith.
1. Not Wavering
2. Steadfast

IV. ABRAHAM'S FAITH WAS CONVINCED OF THE PROMISES:

vs 19
vs 20
vs 21
WHO THE LORD IS!

TEXT: Jer. 33:3  Jesus is............
I. THE BLESSED SON OF GOD
   A. The Illumination. Matt. 16:13-16
      1. This included the reality of His virgin birth.
   B. The importance of this belief.
      1 John 4:1-3.

II. THE BEARER OF OUR SINS
   A. The verses substantiating this claim.
      1. Heb. 9:28
      2. Isa. 53:6
      3. Isa. 53:11
   B. The view.
      1. Deals with the doctrine of substitution.
      2. He took our place.

III. THE BLOOD OFFERING FOR THE SINS OF MANKIND
   A. The proof.
      1. 1 Pet. 1:18-19
      2. 1 John 1:7
   B. The perception.
      1. The need for the shedding of blood.
         a. Rom. 6:23
         b. Lev. 17:11
         c. Heb. 9:22
      2. The power of the blood.
         a. Power to give justification.
            Rom. 5:9
         b. Power to purge our consciences from dead works to serve the living God.
            Heb. 9:14
         c. Power to cleanse us from all sin.
            1 John 1:7
         d. Power to wash us from our sins.
            Rev. 1:5

IV. THE BEGETTER OF LIFE
   A. This reality expressed.
      1. John 10:10
      2. John 11:25
      3. John 14:6
   B. This reality explained.
      1. The Bible depicts man, in his natural state, as being dead in trespasses and sins.
         Eph. 2:1.
      2. The reason for this is the disobedience as seen in the life of Adam.
      3. We are dead spiritually which necessitates the need for the new birth.
      4. If you have and know Christ, you're alive - if not, then you are still dead in trespasses and sins.

Glen E. Tropp

JESUS,

MY FRIEND,

WANTS YOU

TEXT: Matthew 11:19

INTRODUCTION:

D.B. Wright

A. Jesus was neither a glutton nor a wine-bibber.
B. The Scriptures reveal that He lived without sin!
C. This was a critical remark made by the holier than thou Christ rejecting crowd of His time.
D. Jesus did have time and love for sinful people.
   1. Matthew 9:10
   2. Luke 5:32
   3. Timothy 1:15
   4. John 3:17
E. JESUS BORE THE MARKS OF A FRIEND!
   1. Proverbs 17:17
   2. Proverbs 18:24
   3. John 15:13
   4. Jesus died for sinners, thus he died for me, you! Jesus is the FRIEND OF SINNERS!

JESUS, MY FRIEND...WANTS YOU TO "KNOW" SOMETHINGS!

A. He wants you to know He loves you.
   1. He loved us and died for us. Gal.1,2:20
   2. He STILL LOVES after we are saved. John 13:1
   3. In love He removes all sin stains from our soul. Isaiah 38:17
B. Jesus, my Friend, wants you to know He knows you!
   1. He knows everyone! John 2:24-25
   2. He knows our ways. Proverbs 5:21
   3. Examples:
      a. John 1:48
      b. John 4:16-18
C. Jesus, my friend, wants us to know we are sinners by both nature and choice!
   1. Luke 5:32
   2. Romans 5:12
D. Jesus, my Friend, wants you to KNOW HE GAVE HIMSELF FOR SINNERS' SALVATION!
   1. Matthew 1:21
   2. Isaiah 53:6
   3. Hebrews 2:9
E. Jesus, my Friend, wants you to know HOW TO BE SAVED!
   1. Luke 7:50
F. Jesus, my Friend, wants the SAVED TO KNOW THEY ARE SAFE!

Send in today for your free copy of RIGHT SERMONS BY WRIGHT. This book contains 34 sermon outlines by Bro. D.B. Wright. The outlines exalt and magnify the Lord Jesus Christ.
GOD’S WARNING SIGN

TEXT: Matt. 16:1-6  ver.6

INTRODUCTION:

Many times in the word of God we find the word beware. It means: to be cautious, to be careful. It is a danger sign but the danger can be avoided by observing the sign. Why didn't Jesus give the Pharisees and Sadducees a sign? He had already given plenty of evidence to prove he was God's Son. They said: Show us a sign, prove to us some things. They would not have accepted Jesus regardless of what he did and Jesus knew it. In verse 4 Jesus placed his approval on the book of Jonah. Jesus is saying, my resurrection will be the only sign I will give you. What if the Pharisees wanting to know more about Jesus? Matt. 27:62-66.

I. SOME THINGS THAT WE ARE TO BEWARE OF IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

A. Beware lest you fail to obey the Lord.
   1. Why obedience?
      a. Obedience brings blessings.
      Exod. 23:22-25.
      b. Obedience honors God.
      1 Sam. 15:22
      c. Obedience reveals our love for Christ.
   2. Obedience is the proof of love.
      a. For parents. For God.

B. Beware lest you forget the Lord.
   Deut. 6:12.
   1. Things that we are not to forget.
      a. Our deliverance from bondage — by his power.
      1. Deut. 6:12 said: The Lord brought you out of the land of Egypt. (Not you) Israel forgot God.
   2. Not to forget that God is a sovereign God and that we are to serve and worship him. Rom. 6:22.
   3. We are not to forget that God controls our heart beat, the next breath we breathe.
   4. Some things that would cause us to forget. Prosperity.
      Deut. 8:10-14a.
      a. We face the same danger as Israel.
      b. Pride. Deut. 8:14 - Then thine heart be lifted up.
      c. Pride of self-attainment.
      James 1:17.
      d. Wrong company. (Both youth and adults)

II. SOME THINGS TO BEWARE OF IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO MAN. (Certain Kind of Men)
   A. Jesus said: Beware of false prophets.

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THE BENEFICIAL TEACHINGS OF CHRIST (Part 10)

Our precious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, spent much of His time while He was on earth teaching and admonishing the people that He came in contact with. There has never been a teacher like our Lord. In fact, I have a great longing in my soul to sit at the feet of Jesus and hear Him teach. There are a lot of questions that I have in my mind that need answers. One of these days our Lord will reveal these things to us. Right now, we need to go with what we've got. We need to become doers of the Lord's Word. The Lord, the teacher of all teachers, not only taught some profound principles but He practiced these principles in paths of life. This truth needs to be comprehended by us today. We need to walk our talk and talk our walk. The pitiful reality that is evidenced in so many of our lives is that we preach and teach a dynamic gospel and message, but then turn around and live firecracker lives.

The scripture for our consideration in today's lesson is Matthew 5:20-48. This passage includes many general thoughts on quite a few different subjects. In fact, there are nine different areas that He briefly gives profitable instruction about.

I. RIGHTEOUSNESS - Matt. 5:20, "FOR I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT EXCEPT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL EXCEED THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE Scribes AND PHARISEES, YE SHALL IN NO CASE ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN."

A. The REALITY of righteousness. According to the scriptures, our righteousness is as filthy rags. (Isa. 64:6) In relation to the total concept of righteousness as taught in the scriptures, we conclude that what the Lord is talking about here is the fact that we need the imputed righteousness of Christ. This is the righteousness that exceeds the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees. Concerning salvation, this means that we accept Christ as personal Saviour, and His righteousness is imputed to our account. Concerning sanctification, this means that through Him and by His power we're able to do that which is right. Phil 4:13

B. The RESULTS of righteousness. Once again this refers to His imputed righteousness. The results are 2 fold: (1) cleanliness and (2) consecration. I John 1:9

C. The REWARDS for righteousness. The rewards of receiving Him as Saviour (imputed righteousness), and allowing Him to be Lord of our lives now is 3 fold. There's the reward of happiness Prov. 21:21; hope Ps. 55:22: and honour Prov. 21:21

II. HATE - Matt. 5:21,22 "YE HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID BY THEM OF OLD TIME, THOU SHALT NOT KILL; AND WHOSOEVER SHALL KILL SHALL BE IN DANGER OF THE JUDGMENT: BUT I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT WHOSOEVER IS ANGRY WITH HIS BROTHER WITHOUT A CAUSE SHALL BE IN DANGER OF THE JUDGMENT: AND WHOSOEVER SHALL SAY TO HIS BROTHER, RACA, SHALL BE IN DANGER OF THE COUNCIL: BUT WHOSOEVER SHALL SAY, THOU FOOL, SHALL BE IN DANGER OF HELL FIRE."

A. The START of hate. Hate had it's beginning with Cain as it relates to humanity. Gen. 4:1-13 This sin is caused by Satan, selfishness and stubbornness. The consequences of this sin are certainly far-reaching and hurtful, but it does more damage to the one who is plagued with it inwardly, both now and in eternity, than it does anyone else.

B. The SANCIFICATION from hate. Here are a few suggestions that will help you to not develop hate for someone; (1) Don't be jealous of a person who gets ahead in life, but rather be happy for them; (2) Put away all malice. I Pet.2:1 This can be accomplished through prayer; (3) Remember that a soft answer will turn away wrath. Prov. 15:1 and (4) Learn through the Lord's help and power how to love others.

III. RECONCILIATION - Matt. 5:23-26

A. The ALTAR speaks of repentance, reconciliation, and righteousness. Matt. 5:23, "THEREFORE IF THOU BRING THY GIFT TO THE ALTAR, AND THERE REMEMBEREST THAT THY BROTHER HATH OUGHT AGAINST THEE:"

B. The AGREEMENT shows Christianity, consecration and concern. Matt. 5:24, "LEAVE THERE THY GIFT BEFORE THE ALTAR, AND GO THY WAY: FIRST BE RECONCILED TO THY BROTHER, AND THEN COME AND OFFER THY GIFT."

C. The ADVERSARY is seen in Matt. 5:25, "AGREE WITH THEE ADVERSARY QUICKLY, WHILES THOU ART IN THE WAY WITH HIM: LEST AT ANY TIME THE ADVERSARY DELIVER THEE TO THE JUDGE, AND THE JUDGE DELIVER THEE TO THE OFFICER, AND THOU BE CAST INTO PRISON." The correct Biblical procedure for reconciliation is seen in Matt. 18:15-17.

D. The ATTITUDE is expressed or implied in Matt. 5:26. This included a forgiving attitude, forgiving attitude, and a faithful attitude.

IV. ADULTERY - Matt. 5:27,28 To conserve space, I'll not type out the remaining verses in connection with this lesson but urge you to get your Bible and read them.

A. The COMMAND concerning adultery is seen in Exod.20:14

B. The COMMITTING of this
sin needs to be understood. We can commit adultery (1) by a thought James 1:14-15; (2) by imagination Matt. 5:28; and (3) by deed II Sam. 12.

C. The CLEANSEING. The Bible states we can be cleansed from this sin through repentance and confession. I John 1:9 The Bible also tells us to cleanse ourselves from all the sins of the flesh. II Cor. 7:1

V. CLEANLINESS - Matt. 5:29-30

We should have (1) Clean hearts Jer. 17:9, Matt. 5:8 and Psa. 51:10; (2) Clean habits; (4) Clean homes; and (5) Clean heads. Our hands should be helping, holy, and happy hands.

VI. DIVORCE - Matt. 5:31, 32

A. The REASONS for divorce. The reasons can usually be put into the following areas: (1) Sin - Hebs. 13:4; (2) Selfishness - Eph. 5:28; and (3) Stubbornness - Eph. 4:32. Be willing to say "I'm wrong" or "I'm sorry."

B. The RESULTS of divorce. The results are 3-fold: (1) Separation; (2) Sin, and (3) Suffering. When divorce occurs the mates suffer, the children suffer, relatives suffer, and in many instances the church suffers.

C. The REMEDY for divorce. If we will exemplify the following, this will help to eliminate divorce: (1) Compassion - I Cor. 13; (2) Co-operation; (3) Christ-likeness; and (4) Consecration Josh. 24:15.

VII. TRUTHFULNESS - Matt. 5:33-37

According to verse 33, we can exemplify truthfulness by PERFORMING our promises. In verse 34, we can exemplify this trait by PRONOUNCING His name only in reference to spiritual, sacred, and sanctified things. In verse 35, we can do this by PROHIBITING our swearing by controlling our thoughts, tongue, and temper and finally in verse 37 we're called upon to PRACTICE honesty, holiness, and to be honorable.

VIII. RETURNING GOOD FOR EVIL - Matt. 5:38-47

The main thought under consideration in this passage is for us to exemplify divine and dedicated love and allow God to not only take care of us but our enemies as well.

IX. PERFECTION - MATURITY - Matt. 5:48

The general idea of this area deals with our growing process in Christ. We need to be mature in our thinking, talking, telling, actions, attitudes, appetites, and affections. We also need to be mature with our time, talents, testimony, traits, tithes, and treasures.

We've briefly covered many areas which hopefully will benefit us in our development as Christians.

(Continued from page 6, GOD'S WARNING SIGN)

Matt. 7:15.
1. Beware of the hypocrisy.
   Matt. 7:15; Mark 12:38-40.
2. Beware of their teachings.
   Matt. 16:6-12.
   a. Because their teachings will damn the souls of the unbeliever.
   Matt. 15:12-14; Phil. 3:2.
   b. Because their teachings will spoil and rob the believer of his rewards.
   Col. 2:8; 1 Tim. 6:20-21; 1 Tim. 4:1; 2 John 7:11; Eph. 4:14.
B. Beware of those that cause division.
   Rom. 16:17-18.
C. Beware of those that will lead you away from Jesus.
   1. Many boy and girl, man and woman has been led away from serving Christ by those they have as so called friends.
III. SOME THINGS WE ARE TO BEWARE OF IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO SELF - 2 Pet. 3:17.
A. Beware of covetousness.
B. Beware of losing faith in the future that is promised us in God's word.
C. Beware lest we be led by the error of the wicked from a steadfast and holy life.
   2 Pet. 3:14-17.
1. 1 Pet. 5:8. Satan has many ways and many means to drag us down.
D. Beware lest we fail to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ.
   1. God expects us to grow.
E. Beware lest we backslide.
   Prov. 14:14.
   1. The danger is always present.
   IV. BEWARE UNSAVED LEST YOU DIE LOST AND GO TO HELL.
   A. Satan can make you think some other time will be better to be saved.
   1. The devil doesn't care for you, why listen to him.
   B. Don't put Jesus off, the odds are against you.

Raymond Howard

**Something Worth Living For**

1. We have an unashamed hope. Rom. 5:5
2. We have a Christ hope. I Cor. 15:19
3. We have an eternal hope. Tit. 1:2
4. We have a blessed hope. Tit. 2:13, 14
5. We have a sure and steadfast hope. Hebs. 6:19
6. We have a lively hope. I Pet. 1:3
7. We have a purifying hope. I John 3:1-3