SEVEN DON'TS FOR YOUNG PREACHERS

"LET NO MAN DESPISE THY YOUTH: BUT BE THOU AN EXAMPLE OF THE BELIEVERS, IN WORD, IN CONVERSATION, IN CHARITY, IN SPIRIT, IN FAITH, IN PURITY, TILL I COME, GIVE ATTENDANCE TO READING, TO EXHORATION, TO DOCTRINE. NEGLIGE NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE, WHICH WAS GIVEN THEE BY PROPHECY, WITH THE LAYING ON OF THE HANDS OF THE PRESBYTERY. MEDITATE UPON THESE THINGS: GIVE THYSELF WHOLLY TO THEM; THAT THY PROFITING MAY APPEAR TO ALL. TAKE HEED UNTO THYSELF, AND UNTO THE DOCTRINE: CONTINUE IN THEM: FOR IN DOING THIS; THOU SHALT BOTH SAVE THYSELF, AND THEM THAT HEAR THEE." I Tim. 4:12-16

The Apostle Paul writes to the young preacher, Timothy and offers instruction to the young man. Paul admonishes him to be an example to believers and to take heed to himself. We do know that young preachers need someone to offer them advice and counsel that will help them. Sometimes, a young man will do things that will hurt his ministry. Other preachers may know that it will hurt his ministry, but not say anything to the young preacher. He may not want to risk offending or losing the friendship of the young preacher and so he chooses not to help by lovingly offering advice.

I thank God He is still calling young men into the ministry. I rejoice in men surrendering to the ministry. We need many more preachers and ought to be praying for God to call more men into the gospel ministry. I am praying for young preachers as I write this article and hope God will use it to His honor and for the benefit of young preachers.

I. DON'T BE FULL OF PRIDE OR PRESUMPTUOUS.

You, hopefully, will begin to gain knowledge in the Word of God. If you choose to go to a seminary and I pray that you will, you will gain a great deal of knowledge from God fearing and Bible-loving teachers. If you apply yourself, you will gain a lot of knowledge very quickly. There are blessings and dangers in gaining knowledge. You can take it and use it for God's honor. If you aren't careful, it can cause you to be full of pride. You can become a know-it-all.

You may gain the knowledge and store it in the head, but fail to use and apply it with the heart. You may think you know more than some who have studied the Bible prayerfully for years. You can become full of pride and even ask preachers to let you preach or imply regularly that you would be willing to, if given the opportunity. You should pray that the Lord give you the opportunity and allow Him to open doors for you.

II. DON'T BE A CHURCH HOPPER.

Preachers can be church hoppers just like other church members. A church hopper is a person who changes churches regularly. Some preachers may change their churches every 4-6 months. I have known of a few who joined 3-5 churches in one year. The young preacher has a desire to be used of God. He wants opportunities to preach and serve. This is good because God has called him to do that very thing.

Young men should show their pastor and church they love the Lord and are serious...
about the Lord's work by being faithful and dedicated to a New Testament Church. To change churches regularly leaves the impression you are not stable or settled in the Lord's work and you are not setting the right example. Church hoppers may be good preachers, but bad church members. The best you can do is ask the Lord to lead you to a church and serve Him in the church He leads you to faithfully.

III. DON'T BE INCONSISTENT.

God has called you to preach His wonderful Word and to serve Him with His people. Paul told Timothy, "LET NO MAN DESPISE THY YOUTH." You can prevent this by being an example of the believers. There are young preachers who do not go to church regularly when they are not pastoring. They may talk like the world and live like the world because they do not feel responsible when they are not pastoring. Some may be critical and complaining about the church they belong to and their pastor.

God and churches are seeking men who are doing the work where they are. I was taught and believe the position will seek the man instead of the man seeking the position. Churches are seeking young men who are workers and examples of believers. A church may ask your Pastor about you and your service to the Lord. May he have the grace to tell them the truth about your life and service. It you don't go to church regularly, tithe, witness, visit, study God's Word, how can you hope to be a pastor of a people someday and try to lead them to do what you are not doing?

IV. DON'T BE IMPATIENT.

God has called you to preach. In His own time He will give you the opportunity to preach and a field of service. There are times when you will need to wait patiently on the Lord. He is the Master of the vineyard and when the time is right, He will open the door of service for you.

If you are impatient, you can make a lot of mistakes that you will have to live over. You may try to push things and contact churches that are pastorless and offer your services to them. They will look on this as forwardness and may be even pride on your part. Some preachers even join churches that do not have a pastor with the hope that the church will call them as pastor.

The Lord's servant must be patient and depend upon Him to provide the opportunity for service.

V. DON'T BE AN ImitATION.

You are one of a kind. God intends for you to prepare for the highest calling in the whole world. He wants you to grow and develop and allow Him to mold and fashion you into the person He wants you to be. He wants you to simply be you. Some preachers are known for their leadership, ability to quote scriptures, use of illustrations, humor in preaching, way of out-lining, and explanation and or application of the scriptures. They study diligently. They preach and pastor with love and conviction. They do not try to make a name for themselves, but their special talent and ability causes recognition.

Sometimes young preachers try to imitate preachers with special talents. They may try to act like them, talk as them, or imitate special God given talents. They may quote or read from known and popular writers. They may try to preach the way some T.V. preachers preach. The impression they are leaving is they are trying to imitate some man instead of trying to be like our precious Lord. Our preaching and teaching is to edify and exalt Jesus not each other. We are to live like Jesus and preachers Jesus and His Word.

VI. DON'T BE NEGLECTFUL.

God's calling to a life of service in and thru the churches is a wonderful life. It is a heavenly calling that must have a proper balance. God's man needs to be very attentive to his personal and family life. We can get so busy preaching and doing the work of ministry, we substitute activity for worship. God's man needs to develop and maintain a personal devotional life with the Lord. Nothing can take the place of a close relationship with the Lord. The preacher needs to be attentive to his wife and children too. The Lord never intended for us to take care and minister to every family except our own. It is a better experience for a preacher to go thru marriage and parental problems because he has neglected his wife and children in order to put his church first. The Lord wants preachers to take care of and minister to his family. The way a preacher's wife lives and the way his children act can make or break the preacher.

A young preacher can be so zealous as to minister to his church in such a way as to neglect his family. Ephesians chapters 5 and 6 were written to admonish all of God's people even preachers and their families.

VII. DON'T BE A PROFESSIONAL.

The ministry is a calling not a professional occupation. Paul said, "WOE IS UNTO ME IF I PREACH NOT THE GOSPEL." I Cor. 9:16 Paul did not choose the ministry, God chose him to minister. Paul wrote, "PAUL, CALLED TO BE AN APOSTLE OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH THE WILL OF GOD." I Cor. 1:1 God help us to never look on the ministry like a lot of professional men look at their professions. Professionals can become uncaring, mechanical, cold, calloused, and only concerned with popularity, power, position, and money.

Preachers are to be loving and caring servants of the Lord. The Lord wants to love others thru us. May we minister to God's people being touched, moved, and having
concern about their needs. May we escape the pitfall of desiring popularity, position, and money in the Lord's service. When your heart is in the work and in your preaching people will know you are doing what you are called to do. God help us to pattern our lives after the Master of whom it is written, "FOR WE HAVE NOT AN HIGH PRIEST WHICH CANNOT BE TOUCHED WITH THE FEELING OF OUR INFIRMITIES: BUT WAS IN ALL POINTS TEMPTED LIKE AS WE ARE, YET WITHOUT SIN." Hebs. 4:15

God will take care of His men as they do His work. He uses His churches to supply their financial and material needs. God's people should pay God's man enough to live comfortably as he does His work. When churches do not fulfill their responsibility, God's man still accounts the ministry a calling, not a profession to move where there is more money and a greater position. It is true some preachers may change churches for more money and a larger church but thank God this is an exception to the rule. Most of the men I know want to follow God's leadership and serve the Lord and His people in the greatest way.

WHO THE LORD IS!

Jesus is...

I. THE DIVINE ONE - Matt. 16:16-17
   A. His APPELLATION (names) prove His deity.
      1. Son of God - Matt. 16:16-17
      2. Alpha & Omega - Rev. 1:11
      4. Lord of all - Acts 10:36
      5. Lord - Acts 9:17
   B. His ABSOLUTE divine offices prove His deity.
      1. Creator - Col 1:16
      2. Upholder - Heb. 1:3
      3. Forgiven - Mark 2:5-11
      4. Judge - II Tim. 4:1
      5. Giver of eternal life - John 17:2
   C. His ASSOCIATION with the Father proves His deity.
      1. Matt. 28:19
      2. II Cor. 13:14

II. THE DEVOTED ONE
   A. Devoted to His father. Luke 2:29; John 4:34
   B. Devoted to His father's purpose.
      1. The purpose. Heb. 10:7; Heb. 2:9
      2. The devil tried to eliminate this. Matt. 4:1-11
      3. Simon Peter was used by the devil to distract him. Matt. 16:21-23
   C. Devoted to His promises. John 12:32

III. THE DISCERNING ONE
   A. The meaning- discern means to perceive or recognize clearly.
   B. The message.
      1. John 2:25
      2. John 1:48
      3. Prov. 15:3

IV. THE DELIGHTFUL ONE
   A. The meaning - delightful means giving great pleasure - to be highly pleased.
   B. The message.
      1. He highly pleased the Heavenly Father.
      2. He highly pleased the Samaritan woman.
      3. He highly pleased and gave great pleasure to the Apostle Paul.

4. He highly pleases and gives great pleasure to all who come to Him.

V. THE DELIVERING ONE
   A. Delivers us from the PENALTY of sin.
      Rom. 6:23
   B. Delivers us from the POWER of sin.
      Eph. 5:18
   C. Delivers us from the PROBLEMS of life.

VI. THE DEPENDABLE ONE
   A. Depend on Him to SAVE you. Heb. 7:25
   B. Depend on Him to SECURE you. John 10:28-29
   C. Depend on Him to SATISFY you. John 10:10
   D. Depend on Him to STRENGTHEN you. Phil. 4:13
   E. Depend on Him to SUPPLY your needs. Phil. 4:19

VII. THE DOOR - John 10:9
   A. Door to the sheepfold. John 10:9
   B. Door to Heaven. John 14:6
   C. Door to storeroom of grace. Rom. 5:1-2
   D. Door to all the good & eternal things.

Glen Tropp

SOMETHING NEW. This is the first year that we have video taped our Bible Conference. The master tapes have been made and we are glad to offer these messages to you. We have two tapes. One has the different speakers that preached on Thursday. The other has the three sermons delivered by Bro. Thomas McElmurry. These messages deal with the end time. For an offering to the Sounding Out the Word Ministries of $15.00 we will send you one tape or both tapes for $25.00.
SEVEN WAYS TO MESS UP A GOOD SERMON

TEXT: II Timothy 4:1-5

INTRODUCTION:
Regardless of what the world, the community, or even the church thinks, Preaching Sermons has, is, and will always be the MAIN BUSINESS of the Preacher. Preaching seems to be having a lesser and lesser effect on more and more people. The success of your ministry may or may not be in the eyes of the world based upon the sermons you preach. More demands are being made on the Preacher, by the world, the community, and even the church. Pastors must contend with Jezebel's, Judas's, Demas's and Diotrephes's preaching sermons is still the main business of the preacher. You can rest assured Preacher, ole Satan is going to try every way he can to mess up your Preaching Ministry! He doesn't care how successful and popular you are in the community, how many hours you spend at the hospital or how good a bulletin you publish, as long as you don't PREACH. This message is the negative approach to the positive preacher in the pulpit. So how do you go about messing up a good sermon?

I. FIRST OF ALL DON'T PREPARE IT!
A. Many a crop has been lost because of the lack of PREPARATION. A lack of preparation is a sign of laziness.
1. Solomon learned a lesson when he went by the field of the slothful. Prov. 24:30-32
2. Solomon also instructed: Prov. 24:27
3. Soil must be tilled, prepared, cultivated.

B. Many a house has fallen because it was built upon a weak, or un-prepared foundation.

C. Many a good text and sermon subject have been fouled up because of the lack of PREPARATION TO PROPERLY PREACH IT!
1. The best way to prepare a sermon is to study. II Tim. 2:15
2. Prepare the sermon in such a way as to catch the attention of the congregation in the introduction!
3. Prepare in such a way as to HOLD the audience through the main part, and the conclusion!

D. An un-prepared sermon is messed up to start with.

II. ANOTHER WAY TO MESS UP A GOOD SERMON IS BY PUTTING TOO MUCH OF SELF IN IT!
A. Many a sermon has been messed up because of the BIG "I" in the pulpit.
1. "I" this and "I" that.
2. You heard those kind, to hear them tell it, no one else has ever preached!
3. Take the sob stories, rabbit chasing out of some sermons, and all you got left is the subject and predicate.

B. Paul said I Cor. 3:7.

III. ANOTHER WAY TO MESS UP A GOOD SERMON IS BY PUTTING TOO MUCH OF ANOTHER PREACHER IN IT!
A. Many a sermon has been messed up because there was too much of some other preacher in it!
1. Too much of someone else's personality. DON'T IMITATE!
2. Too much of someone else's thinking. Do some thinking for yourself.

B. Many a sermon has been messed up because there was too much of someone else's sermon outline.
1. Don't get me wrong, use someone else's outline, but don't just grab it and preach it. Make yours to suit your style, your way.
2. Remember, everything we know, we read it somewhere, or heard it from somebody, or someone taught it to us.

IV. ANOTHER WAY TO MESS UP A GOOD SERMON IS SIMPLY --- "DON'T LIVE IT."
A. Make no effort to live what you preach and you sermon is fouled up!
1. If a sermon is good enough to preach on Sunday, it ought to be good enough to live by on Monday!
2. To the Jews Paul said. Rom. 2:17-24

B. This is the most difficult part of preaching.
1. It's easier to preach it than live it.
2. Paul confessed it was hard for him. Rom. 7:18-21

V. ANOTHER WAY TO MESS UP A SERMON IS TO PREACH IT LIKE YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT YOURSELF!
A. Ever hear a sermon and you wonder if the preacher himself really believed it?
B. Preacher didn't seem convicted?
1. Ever been guilty of preaching, just because it was your duty?
2. Ever felt like your preaching was just mechanical?
C. Preacher doesn't have to romp and stomp to be sincere, convicted and concerned, but regardless--PREACH what you believe and believe what you preach! Remember the power is not in the thunder, but in the lightning!

VI. ANOTHER WAY TO MESS A SERMON UP IS TO PREACH NEGATIVELY ALL THE TIME!
A. Many a preacher has messed up His preaching ministry by preaching only negative type sermons! Shorts-Sports-Shows, Civic clubs, cigarettes, etc.
B. It's true the Bible says, REPROVE, RE-
BUKE but it also says Preach sound doctrine. Feed flock, milk & meat. Positive preaching pays

VII. LEAVE CHRIST OUT-AND YOUR SERMON IS ALL FOULED UP!
A. Many a sermon has been messed up because the ONE we are to preach is left out!
B. Many a church has lost effectiveness because Christ is on the Outside!
   1. He is seen at the door knocking!
   2. He wants in!
   3. Preachers want in your sermon, so He can get into the hearts of sinners!
C. PREACH HIM as the Lamb slain from before the foundation of the world!
D. PREACH HIM virgin born-sinless, Saviour
E. PREACH HIM as the Founder, Foundation, Head, Saviour of the church.
F. Preach Him Coming Again!

THYATIRA - A CHURCH SETTLED IN SIN

TEXT: Revelation 2:18-29

INTRODUCTION:
This is the longest of the letters to the seven churches. The rebuke is very harsh.

I. THE CHURCH
   A. The City- Name means "Sacrifice Continually".
      1. Smallest of the cities.
      2. Industrial Activity with trade and commerce.
      3. Center of Trade guilds. (Unions)
   B. The Congregation

II. THE COMMENDATION. V 19
   A. I know thy works.
   B. I know thy charity.
   C. I know thy service.
   D. I know thy faith.
   E. I know thy patience.

III. THE COMPLAINT. V 20
   A. The Woman Jezebel.
      1. In Old Testament she wicked woman who married Israel's wicked King Ahab,
         after which she set up the worship in Israel. I Kings 16:29-33
      2. In this church this Jezebel was a real woman and Jesus called her "Jezebel" to describe her.
   B. She called herself a prophetess.
   C. She deceived the Servants of God to commit fornication, and eat things sacrificed to idols.

B. The Significant History
   1. Early in the 4TH Century after the Death of Diocletian, two men contended for the throne.
   2. Constantine in the West, Maxentius in the East.
   3. Tradition has it that the night before the battle at Milvian Bridge, Constantine saw a vision in the sky in the shape of a Cross bearing the words "in hoc signo vinces" or "by this sign conquer".
   4. He won the battle and declared himself a Christian. His conversion has always been debated.
   5. This was the beginning of the state church.
   6. The period of Thyatira was the escalating of this state religion. It was a combination of Greek Idol Worship and Nicolaitism.
   7. This period saw many who refused to become a part of this religious system martyred. V 24

IV. THE COUNSEL. V 21-23
   A. He gave her a period of time to repent.
   B. She repented not.
   C. Her and all her children will be destroyed.

V. THE CONSEQUENCES.
   A. Jezebel and her deeds represents false religion.
   B. Her children are other religions that come out of her.
   C. They will be destroyed.

IN ADAM - IN CHRIST

TEXT: Rom. 5:12-21

Maxie Haynes

I. THE HEADSHIP OF ADAM VS. THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST, 5:12-15
   A. Heritage of Sin and Death through Adam. Vs. 12-14
   B. Heritage of Grace and life through Christ. Vs. 15

II. THE CONTRAST OF ADAM'S AND CHRIST'S HEADSHIP. Vs. 16-21
   A. Sin and Death-Justification and Life. Vs. 16-18
   B. Many made sinners-many made righteous. Vs. 19
   C. Abounding Sin-Abounding Grace. Vs. 20
   D. Death through Sin-Life through Christ. Vs. 21
GOD

SO LOVED US

D.B. Wright

TEXT: John 3:16-18

INTRODUCTION:
A. God is LOVE! I John 4:8
B. God's greatest manifestation of His love is Jesus! I John 4:9-10
C. God's LOVE, MERCY, AND GRACE ARE TERMS UNFATHOMABLE by the depraved mind of humanity!
1. No man has ever exalted God enough for His great love wherein He loved us.
2. No man has exhausted this subject to perfection.
3. Kings have extolled His great and merciful love, Isa. 38:17
4. The Bible says the love of Christ "passeth knowledge". Eph. 3:18-19
D. Though God's love may not be fully comprehended, IT CAN BE KNOWN, SEEN IN JESUS, AND EXPERIENCED BY FAITH. I Tim. 1:14

I. GOD SO LOVED US...THAT HE "REACHES" DOWN TO US!
A. Lightening our hearts: II Cor. 4:6; John 1:9
D. With life giving power: John 14:6; John 10:10; I John 5:10-11
E. With a Looking eye:
1. Not to "catch" us in some fault that He might smite us with His wrath:
2. With heart-sorrow because of our "spiritual blindness." Luke 19:41-42

II. GOD SO LOVED US....THAT HE "REVEALS HIMSELF" TO US IN JESUS.
A. Hebrews 1:1-3
B. Jesus revealed the COMPASSION, SYMPATHY, CARE AND CONCERN of God for humanity.
1. In compassion He taught many things.
2. In sympathy He wept with those in sorrow.
3. Out of concern He ministered to humanity.
4. In love He died to take away our sin debt.
C. Jesus revealed both the "power"and "willingness" of God to forgive sins.
1. He performed miracles that mankind might know that He had power to forgive sins. Mark 2:10
D. Jesus revealed the high and holy character of God. I Pet. 2:22-23; Matt. 4:10
E. Jesus revealed God's love for lost souls!
1. John 3:16
2. Romans 5:8
3. In love Jesus sought the lost to save them. Luke 19:10

III. GOD SO LOVED...THAT HE "RECEIVES" US IN JESUS CHRIST.
A. He invited us to come! Isa. 1:18; Isa. 45:22; Rev. 22:17; Matt. 11:28
B. He receives us AS WE ARE!
1. As sinners:
   a. As the enemy said: Luke 15:2
   b. As illustrated in the Father receiving the returning son. Luke 15:11-32
   c. He received him in compas- sion. V 20; He received him as "MY SON." V 24
2. God receives all who believe in Jesus as SONS OF GOD. Gal. 3:27; John 1:12; Rom. 8:16; I John 3:1-2
3. God receives us as HEIRS: Rom. 8:17
4. God receives us as UNCLEAN AND MAKES US RIGHTOUS BY CLOTHING US IN THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF JESUS. II Cor. 5:21

IV. GOD SO LOVES US...THAT HE "REMOVES" ALL SIN FROM THE BELIEVERS SOUL!
A. This He does not for our sakes...but for Christ's sake. Eph. 4:32
B. The prophets preached it. Acts 10:43
C. Hezekiah EXPERIENCED IT. Isa. 38:17
D. The Bible declares it. Heb. 10:17
E. He promised it. Isa. 1:18
F. He tells us how! I John 1:7 Rev. 1:5
G. He also REMOVES ALL CONDEMNATION from the believer. Rom. 8:1; John 5:24
H. He removes the PENALTY of our sins. Rom. 6:23; Heb. 2:9

V. GOD SO LOVED US...THAT HE "REMAKES" THE BELIEVERS IN JESUS!
A. II Cor. 5:17
B. Illustrated in Jeremiah 18:1-4
C. Remember what Jesus told the RELIGIOUS, BUT UNSAVED sinner in John 3:7:
   1. To be a child of God you must be born again. John 1:12-13
   2. To be "seen" heaven you must be born again. John 3:3
   3. To "enter" heaven you must be born again. John 3:5
   4. To be "born again" you must receive Jesus as God's Son, you Saviour by heart faith. Gal. 3:27; I John 5:1

VI. GOD SO LOVED US..THAT HE RENEWS US DAILY!
A. There are many, many enemies out there in a cold sin-filled earth as (tem- tation, frustrations, fears, doubts, common cares of life, disappointments,)
THAT DRAIN US SPIRITUALLY and would DEVOUR US.
1. God, our Father knows this!
2. Jesus knew it and prayed for and sought to prepare and comfort us for it. John 17
B. God revives the humble. Isa. 57:15
C. God, like the prodical's father, RESTORES OUR SOULS.
1. The sweet Psalmist of Israel PRAYED FOR IT FOR HIMSELF AND OTHERS. Psa. 51:12; Psa. 85:6
2. He testified of it! Psa. 23:3
D. HIS INDOWELLING SPIRIT RENEWS US DAY BY DAY! II Cor. 4:16

What Paul Saw When He Was Blind

Text: Acts 9:8-18
Intro. Saul of Tarsus was a zealot. His life was dedicated to the promotion of Pharisaism and to the destruction of its enemies. Paul had 20-20 vision, but was blind. It was only when he was struck blind for three days that he really saw things as they were.

I. WHAT PAUL SAW WHEN HE HAD GOOD EYESIGHT.
A. He saw Christ.
1. He considered Christ a heretic.
2. He saw Christ a threat to his beloved Phariseism.
3. He set out to wipe from the face of the earth the name of Jesus Christ, His followers, and His church.
4. Paul had good eyesight, but was blind.
   a. He was probably present at the crucifixion of Jesus. Rom. 11:1; Phi. 3:5,6;Gal.1:14;Acts 8:1;Luke 24:48
   b. Paul said he knew the Jews, the High Priest, second in command, Pharisees, and Scribes. He had been a part of them. Acts 26:4
   c. Paul consented to (agreed with, approved of) the murder of Stephen. Acts 7:57-8:1
B. Some of the sightless people in the world have 20-20 vision. II Cor.3:14;4:4; I John 2:11;II Pet. 1:9
1. They see salvation in baptism. They see salvation in church membership and good works.
2. They see in grace a license to sin.
3. They see in church membership a position in the community, more customers, prestige, and benefits of a place for weddings and funerals.
4. They need to anoint their eyes with eye-salve. Rev. 3:18

II. WHAT PAUL SAW WHEN HE WAS BLIND.
A. He saw Jesus. Acts 9:5
1. He did not see Him a heretic and fraud as he once did.
2. He now recognizes that Jesus is who He says He is, the Son of God.
3. Have you seen Jesus?
   a. Have you seen Him dying on the cross for your sins?
   b. Have you seen Him on His throne, high and lifted up?
   c. Have you been corrected by Jesus? Heb. 12:6
   d. Are you guilty of troubling the Lord's churches?
   e. Have you believed the wrong thing? Have you done a wrong thing in the name of right?
   f. Repent before the Lord is compelled to chastise you.
B. Paul saw himself as he really was.
1. He saw how helpless MAN really is. Acts 9:8 He was blind three days.
2. This little Napoleonic egoistic who had been so powerful and self-sufficient must now be led by the hand.
3. God has to knock the strut out of us before He can use us.
4. He saw how wrong he had been and how hellish Phariseism was.
C. Paul saw the Pastor of the Damascus Church coming to his aid. Acts 9:10-12
1. This is the person he was going to persecute, imprison or perhaps kill.
2. He had planned on scattering his flock and closing his church.
3. Now his only hope of regaining his eyesight rested with that Baptist preacher.

Don Shultz

Giving thanks always FOR ALL THINGS. Eph. 5:20

THIS ISSUE IS THE 70TH ISSUE OF OUR SOUNDING OUT THE WORD PAPER. WE STILL HAVE ABOUT 50 COMPLETE SETS OF ALL 70 ISSUES. WE ARE BEGINNING TO RUN OUT OF SOME ISSUES (3 or 4) OF THE PAPER. IF YOU WANT A COMPLETE SET OF ALL OF OUR PAPERS WRITE TO US TODAY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN OFFERING TO COVER HANDLING AND POSTAGE.
THE BENEFICIAL TEACHINGS
OF CHRIST (Part 12)

The focus for our attention is this lesson on the Beneficial Teachings of Christ is Matt. 6:10 which is part of the Model Prayer. Notice that when we pray we are to pray for "THY KINGDOM COME". Involved and included in this petition are two elements: (1) The Prophetic Element and (2) The Personal Element. Notice these briefly.

I. THE PROPHETIC ELEMENT.

The MESSAGE of this statement. Remember that prophecy in this instance refers to the future. When we pray this we are in effect saying, "LORD, COME AND SET UP THY KINGDOM." We are in agreement with John when he said, "EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS." Rev. 22:20

The MEANING of this statement in reference to prophecy is as follows. It means the kingdom of God is going to be established upon the earth. Isa. 9:6,7, Dan. 2:44, Luke 1:31-33 and Matt. 25:31. Included in this fact is the revelation of the fact that the Lord will bring it to pass. We will certainly not bring it to pass. He alone can (1) bind the devil, (2) destroy all evil, (3) renew the faith, (4) restore order in the place of chaos and confusion, and (5) lift the chaff from the wheat within the church. This also means that when you pray this you are praying for the fulfillment of God's purposes on earth which include (1) The Rapture I Thess. 4:13-18; (2) The Repaying, Jude 14-15; and (3) The Reality of Victory, Rev. 20:1-15. It also means that you are joining in with others in this great prayer of expectation. Notice Rom. 8:18-23. "FOR I RECKON THAT THE SUFFERINGS OF THIS PRESENT TIME ARE NOT WORTHY TO BE COMPARE WITH THE GLORY WHICH SHALL BE REVEALED IN US." FOR THE EARNEST EXPECTATION OF THE CREATURE WAITETH FOR THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SONS OF GOD. FOR THE CREATURE WAS MADE SUBJECT TO VARIETY, NOT WILLINGLY, BUT BY REASON OF HIM WHO HATH SUBJECTED THE SAME IN HOPE. BECAUSE THE CREATURE ITSELF ALSO SHALL BE DELIVERED FROM THE BONDAGE OF CORRUPTION INTO THE GLORIOUS LIBERTY OF THE CHILDREN OF GOD. FOR WE KNOW THAT THE WHOLE CREATION GROANETH AND TRAVAILETH IN PAIN TOGETHER UNTIL NOW, AND NOT ONLY THEY BUT OURSELVES ALSO, WHICH HAVE THE FIRST FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT, EVEN WE OURSELVES, WAITING FOR THE ADOPTION, TO WIT THE REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY."

II. THE PERSONAL ELEMENT.

There are at least four facts involved in this area.

Fact No. 1 - None of us can really and realistically pray, "THY KINGDOM COME IN THE WORLD" until first we pray, "THY KINGDOM COME IN MY OWN HEART." There must be a coronation in our own heart when we crown Jesus as Saviour, Lord and King. This refers to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Fact No. 2 - Until a person is right with the Lord he cannot sincerely pray this prayer.

Fact No. 3 - Christ came to dwell in us and set up His kingdom in us. He demands the right of Kingship so that in the setting up of His kingdom He may destroy in me the kingdom of flesh and sin. Notice the expression, "DWELL IN ME." Eph. 3:16-19 "Dwell" means to literally live in a home. This carries with it the idea of the Lord making our hearts His home. He should feel at home in our hearts. You know it is one thing to be in a person's house and quite another thing to feel completely at home there. He comes in to take over. As He rules and reigns we experience abundant life.

Fact No. 4 - Unless Christ reigns in our hearts by His Spirit now, we shall never really reign and rule with Him in glory. You'll be with Him if you're saved, but there's a big difference in being with Him and reigning with Him. Study the following passage in light of this reality. Rom. 8: 17-18 and II Tim. 2:10-13.