MAKING A REAL COMMITMENT

"FOR THE WHICH CAUSE I ALSO SUFFER THESE THINGS: NEVERTHELESS I AM NOT ASHAMED: FOR I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED, AND AM PERSUADED THAT HE IS ABLE TO KEEP THAT WHICH I HAVE COMMITTED UNTO HIM AGAINST THAT DAY." II Tim. 1:12

"THOU THEREFORE, MY SON, BE STRONG IN THE GRACE THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS. AND THE THINGS THAT THOU HAST HEARD OF ME AMONG MANY WITNESSES, THE SAME COMMIT THOU TO FAITHFUL MEN, WHO SHALL BE ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO. THOU THEREFORE ENDURE HARDINESS, AS A GOOD SOLDIER OF JESUS CHRIST. NO MAN THAT WARRIETH ENTANGLETH HIMSELF WITH THE AFFAIRS OF THIS LIFE; THAT HE MAY PLEASE HIM WHO HATH CHosen HIM TO BE A SOLDIER." II Tim. 2:1-4

Paul used the word "commit" twice in these verses. The word commit means to make a deposit. It also means to put along side of. Paul committed something to the Lord. He told Timothy to commit or deposit somethings with faithful men. We are going to be committed to something. We are going to give our time, talent, energy, to someone or something. The Lord calls upon us to be committed to Him and His service. The greatest need in the Lord's churches today is for people to make a real commitment.

I call your attention to three things God's people ought to be committed to; (1) Christ (2) Commandments (3) Church.

I. COMMITMENT TO CHRIST.

LOVE JESUS CHRIST. All true commitment comes from a deep love for Jesus. John wrote,"WE LOVE HIM, BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US." I John 4:19 Jesus spoke this truth in John 14:23 "JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HIM, IF A MAN LOVE ME, HE WILL KEEP MY WORDS: AND MY FATHER WILL LOVE HIM, AND WE WILL COME UNTO HIM, AND MAKE OUR ABODE WITH HIM."

When we realize that Jesus was made flesh for us, lived, and died for us, it ought to make us love Him supremely. Everything about the Lord is loveable. The fires of love for Jesus will keep our commitment constant. The Israelites were commanded,"AND THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THINE HEART, AND WITH ALL THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL THY MIGHT." Deut. 6:5. Jesus repeated this command in Matt. 22:37. Love for Jesus will move us to real commitment.

LIVE FOR THE LORD. Love for the Lord will create holy desires to live for Him. Paul reminds us to live for the Lord who died for us. II Cor. 5:14,15 Paul wrote,"I BESEECH YOU THEREFORE, BRETHREN, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, THAT YE PRESENT YOUR BODIES A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY, ACCEPTABLE UNTO GOD, WHICH IS
LIFT UP JESUS. Lift Him up as the Saviour of the world. "NEITHER IS THERE SALVATION IN ANY OTHER: FOR THERE IS NONE OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN AMONG MEN, WHEREBY WE MUST BE SAVED." Acts 4:12 Lift Him up as the solution to every problem. Listen to Paul, "AND HE SAID UNTO ME, MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE: FOR MY STRENGTH IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS. MOST GLADLY THEREFORE WILL I RATHER GLORY IN MY INFERIORITY, THAT THE POWER OF CHRIST MAY REST UPON ME." II Cor. 12:9 Lift Him up as the sustainer of all under all circumstances and in all situations. "I LAID ME DOWN AND SLEPT; I AWAKED; FOR THE LORD SUSTAINED ME." Psa. 3:5 "PRAISE YE THE LORD: FOR IT IS GOOD TO SING PRAISES UNTO OUR GOD; FOR IT IS PLEASANT: AND PRAISE IS COMELY." Psa. 147:1

LEAN ON JESUS. The song "LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS" is a blessing to the soul. We can lean on Jesus for our daily needs. When we need comfort, rest, mercy, forgiveness, guidance, and strength Jesus is always there. He gives us hope and help in all of life. Peter wrote of the Faithful Creator in I Peter 4:19. During the storm the Disciples looked to Jesus for safety. Matt. 8:25

II. COMMITMENT TO THE COMMANDMENTS.

LOVE THE COMMANDMENTS. God's Word is inspired and profitable. II Tim. 3:16,17 God's Word is truth. John 17:17 The psalmist wrote, "THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH." Psalm 119:105 Another precious passage is Psa. 119:11 "THY WORD HAVE I HID IN MY HEART THAT I MIGHT NOT SIN AGAINST THEE." Job wrote, "NEITHER HAVE I GONE BACK FROM THE COMMANDMENT OF HIS LIPS: I HAVE ESTEEMED THE WORDS OF HIS MOUTH MORE THAN MY NECESSARY FOOD." Job 23:12 John wrote these precious words, "BY THIS WE KNOW THAT WE LOVE THE CHILDREN OF GOD, WHEN WE LOVE GOD AND KEEP HIS

COMMANDMENTS. FOR THIS IS THE LOVE OF GOD, THAT WE KEEP HIS

COMMANDMENTS: AND HIS COMMANDMENTS ARE NOT GRIEVOUS." I John 5:2,3 God's Word is a complete revelation of God's will for all people. It answers the three greatest questions. Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? It is a spiritual book given as food for the spiritual needs of people.

LIVE THE COMMANDMENTS. One of the responsibilities of a New Testament church is, "TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER I HAVE COMMANDED YOU: AND, LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN UNTIL THE END OF THE WORLD. AMEN." Matt.28:20 The Lord's people are to be taught the Word. They also are to be taught to practice or do the word. James wrote, "BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD, AND NOT HEARERS ONLY, DECEIVING YOUR OWNSELVES." James 1:22 The Bible is not just truth or theology to accept, but a way of life to be lived. Jesus taught a wise man will hear and heed His Word. "THEREFORE WHOSOEVER HEARETH THESE SAYINGS OF MINE, AND DOETH THEM, I WILL LIKEN HIM UNTO A WISE MAN, WHICH BUILT HIS HOUSE UPON A ROCK." Matt. 7:24 Obedience to the Word brings wonderful fellowship with the Lord. "BUT IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT, AS HE IS IN THE LIGHT, WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP ONE WITH ANOTHER, AND THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST HIS SON CLEANSETH US FROM ALL SIN." I John 1:7


Paul writes us as to the profit of God's Word. "...AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS: THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE PERFECT, THROUGHLY FURNISHED UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS." II Tim. 3: 16,17

LEAN ON THE COMMANDMENTS. The Lord's Word is faithful. "ALL THY COMMANDMENTS ARE FAITHFUL..." Psa. 119:86 The Lord's Word gives us delight. "TROUBLE AND ANGUISH HAVE TAKEN HOLD ON ME: YET THY COMMANDMENTS ARE MY DELIGHTS." Psa. 119:143 The Lord's Word is right and righteous. The Lord's Word gives us a true guide and a standard to go by. The Word of the Lord doesn't change. Men and their values change from one generation to the next, but the Lord of the lords remains the same. We should spend much time with God's Word. We need to read it, study it. II Tim. 2:15 Meditate upon it. The psalmist wrote, "BUT HIS DELIGHT IS IN THE LAW OF THE LORD: AND IN HIS LAW DOTH HE MEDITATE DAY AND NIGHT." Psa. 1:2

III. COMMITMENT TO YOUR CHURCH.

LOVE YOUR CHURCH. Love for the Lord and His Word will move us to love His churches and especially the church you belong to. Notice the great love Jesus had for His church. "HUSBANDS LOVE YOUR WIVES, EVEN AS CHRIST ALSO LOVED THE CHURCH, AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR IT; THAT HE MIGHT SACRIFIC AND CLEANSE IT WITH THE WASHING OF WATER BY THE WORD. THAT HE MIGHT PRESENT IT TO HIMSELF A GLORIOUS CHURCH, NOT HAVING SPOT, OR WRINKLE, OR ANY SUCH THING; BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH." Eph. 5:25-27 "...BUT NOURISHETH AND CHERISHETH IT, EVEN AS THE LORD THER CHURCH." Eph. 5:29

Since Jesus is our example, we are to love His churches as He loves them. Just how much did He love His church? He gave Himself for her. He nourishes and cherishes her. If we are going to love our church as the Lord did we will give ourselves for her. We will also nourish
and cherish her.
You can manifest and demonstrate your love for your church. Attend her services. Hebs. 10:25 Give your tithe and offerings to the Lord through her. Matt. 23:23 Worship the Lord in her. Work for her progress. Precious is the soul that loves the Lord and His churches and longs to sit with God's people, and desires to serve the Lord in her services.
LIVE FOR YOUR CHURCH. As you live for the Lord you will be involved in church work. Notice Paul's words: "UNTO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH BY CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL AGES, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN." Eph. 3:21 The Lord gave the charge and commission to New Testament Churches to do His work. In order to take part in His commission to His churches we must be a member of one of His churches.
Invest your time, talents, and tithes in one of the Lord's churches. Live a Christian life that will be a good influence for your church. Find a job you can do and do it heartily for the Lord. Be willing to do any job your church ask you to do. Empty your life out in her services. The Word of God teaches us to work for the Lord. "FOR WE ARE LABOURERS TOGETHER WITH GOD." I Cor. 3:9 The Holy Spirit burdens the hearts of the Lord's people to do the work.
LIFT UP YOUR CHURCH. Lift your church up at God's throne of grace. Every member has an obligation to pray for the church. If more people would pray for their church there would be fewer problems within the membership. Above all pray for your church.
Look for the good in your church and praise the Lord for it. All some people are looking for are the faults and flaws.
Church life is the best kind of life you can live. The Lord intended for it to be the most rewarding way of life and work. It is a joy to live with and labor with and love with God's people. It is "a blessing to be part of the greatest work under the sun. We ought to be able and willing to share the blessedness of the Lord's service with others. Sundays are so precious. You can rest body and soul in the Lord's services.
LEAN ON YOUR CHURCH. It is wonderful to trust in the Lord and lean on Him. It is wonderful to lean upon the Word of God and the promises recorded therein. It is wonderful to lean upon your church family.
The members of your church can give you the support and strength you need. God can use the members of your church to give you the compassion, love, and encouragement you need. Her members can help you in trying times. A church ought to be a close family experiencing life together. The fellowship, joy, and love that is given and received in church work adds to Christian living.
May the Lord give you the grace you need to be truly committed to Christ, commandments, and your church. God demands it. You church needs it. You will be satisfied with it.

BANDS OF LOVE
1. Christ's life illustrates His Love. Matt. 9:36
2. Christ's Cross displays His love. Gal. 2:20
3. Christ's grace confirms His love. Rev. 1:5
4. Christ's truth affirms His love. John 15:9,12
5. Christ's friends testify to His love. John 11:5
6. Christ's Spirit imparts His love. Rom. 5:5
7. Christ's operation through us demonstrates His love. II Cor. 5:14

"Honor the Lord by giving Him the first part of all your income"
—Prov. 3:9 (Taylor Trs.)

AVAILABLE OUTLINE BOOKS
WORD STUDIES
JOHN CHAPTERS 1-3
SOUNDING OUT THE WORD III
SOUNDING OUT THE WORD IV
GOING ALL THE WAY
1982 BIBLE CONFERENCE OUTLINES
RIGHT SERMONS BY WRIGHT
THE SALVATION OF THE LORD

I WANT TO RECEIVE THE PAPER
NAME:
ADDRESS
ZIP CODE:
CITY
STATE
CHANGE OF ADDRESS
NEW SUBSCRIPTION
DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE SAVED?

D.B. Wright

TEXT: Eph. 2:4-5

INTRODUCTION
A. Some of the sweetest words in the English language in verses:
  1. God is rich in MERCY.
  2. God's great LOVE.
  3. Saving GRACE.

B. The Apostle Paul attributed his personal salvation to these three attributes of God. 1 Tim. 1:13-14
   1. God, out of His great love SENT JESUS TO SAVE SINNERS. John 3:17
   2. God, out of mercy, pardons and forgives sinners. Isa. 55:6-7
   3. God, in grace, REACHES DOWN to us. REVEALS HIS GREAT LOVE TO OUR DULL HEARTS, REGENERATES THE BELIEVING SINNER, RAISES US UP TO THE SAFE FOUNDATION, THE SOLID ROCK OF AGES!
   4. GRACE BRINGS SALVATION IN REACH OF ONE AND ALL. John 1:9; Tit. 2:11
   5. GRACE SAVES all who RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST BY FAITH! Eph. 2:9

C. Do you "KNOW" you are saved?

I. SOME WHO KNOW THEY ARE NOT SAVED!
A. Those who reject Jesus know they are not saved. John 1:11
B. Those who refuse to call upon Jesus in repentance and faith know they are not saved. Rom. 10:13
C. Those who PUT OFF being almost persuaded, know they are not saved. King Agrippa, Felix

II. SOME WHO DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THEY ARE SAVED OR NOT.
A. Those who are trusting their own goodness or righteousness to save them NEVER KNOW WHEN THEY HAVE BEEN GOOD ENOUGH TO BE SAVED.
   1. The TRUTH is. . .we know we are not saved by our own goodness or righteous acts. Eph. 2:9; Tit. 3:5
B. Those who are trying to be saved by DOING GOOD DEEDS never know when they have done enough to be saved.
   1. The truth is...one is not saved this way!
   2. If one was saved by doing good...
      a. How much good would he have to do?
      b. How much would he have to give?
      c. How much would he have to pray?
      d. How much would he have to go to church?
      e. How much would he have to visit the sick?
      f. How many hungry people would one have to feed?
      g. How many orphans would one have to clothe?
      h. How may HOSPITALS, ORPHANAGES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, would one have to build to be saved?

C. Those who haven't EXPERIENCED being saved certainly don't know they are saved.
   1. Being saved is an experience!
   2. Repenting to God is an experience! "I have sinned". As saying to a loved one or friend... "I apologize."
   3. Receiving Jesus into your heart by faith is an experience, as receiving WATER...BREAD...GIFT... or GUEST. John 9:38
   4. Paul told of his Damascus road experience to Kings, Governors, Churches, Prisoners, etc.

D. Those, who for one reason or another, HAVE NOT RECEIVED ALL THE REVEALED TRUTH as recorded in the Bible do not know.
   1. Some have been told "THEY CAN KNOW IN LIFE."
   2. Some are taught to pray, "Finally in Heaven save us."
   3. Some are taught they must hold out faithful to finally be saved.
      a. Like "HOLD TO GOD'S UNCHANGING HAND." (Sounds good.)
      b. The truth is the saved are IN THE HAND OF JESUS AND IN THE HAND OF GOD THE FATHER. John 10:28-30
   4. Many are taught ONE CAN BE SAVED TODAY AND UNSAVED TOMORROW!
      a. These are told they lose it by sinning.
      b. If this were so... HOW MUCH SIN, WHAT SIN, WOULD ONE HAVE TO COMMIT?
      c. The truth, we are all guilty of sin. 1 John 1:8

E. All these LIVE IN FEAR!
   1. This is in violation to PLAIN BIBLE TRUTH! John 8:32; Rom. 8:2, Rom. 6:14
   2. I submit to you by the authority of God's eternal Word that GOD WANTS HIS CHILDREN TO LIVE IN PEACE and NOT WITH FEAR of not living good enough, not doing enough good to be finally saved. Rom. 5:1

III. SOME WHO DID KNOW THEY WERE SAVED!
A. The Ephesians who read and received the TRUTH of this Book! V 5
   1. Not..."ye are working on it!"
   2. Not..."ye just keep living it, and you will make it."
   3. Not..."Just KEEP HOLDING ON!"
B. Those who read and receive. V 8
C. The woman who anointed the feet of Jesus in Simon's house knew she was saved.
   BY THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY! Luke 7:48,50
   1. This one knew four things!
      a. She was a sinner!
      b. JESUS FORGAVE HER SINS!
      c. JESUS SAVED HER AND TOLD HER SO!
      d. She loved her Saviour MUCH!
   D. The Apostles knew they were saved! Luke 10:20
E. The dying thief who called on Jesus knew
   HE WAS SAVED AND GOING TO PARADISE WITH
F. Paul knew he was saved...SAFE IN THE KEEPING
   POWER OF JESUS!
   1. He knew he was saved!
   2. He knew Jesus came to save sinners!
   1 Tim. 1:15
   3. He knew he had committed his soul to
      Jesus! II Tim. 1:12b
   4. He knew His Saviour was able to save
      to the uttermost. Heb. 7:25
G. Those who read THEIR BIBLES and receive

THE LORD'S WORD KNOW THEY ARE SAVED.
1. I John 5:11-13
2. I John 3:1-2

H. Those who listen to the testimony and
   teaching of the Holy Spirit of God know
   they are saved!
   1. Romans 8:9
      a. Every saved person has the Holy
         Spirit indwelling their soul!
      b. This is the same Holy Spirit who
         wrote the Bible!
   2. He is the inside information!
      a. I John 5:10
      b. Romans 8:16
      c. To be saved is to be born of the
         Spirit and this happens in this
         life at the point of personal faith
         in Jesus. Gal. 3:26; I John 5:1

IV. THE APPEAL OF JESUS:
   A. The truth shall make you free! John 8:32
   B. Search it! John 5:39
   C. Mark 4:24
   D. Luke 8:18

---

**THE BELIEVERS CONFLICT**

Maxie Haynes

**TEXT:** Romans 7:14-25

**INTRODUCTION:**
- Two Familiar Questions.
- The Key to the meaning.

**I. STATEMENT OF DISCOVERY. V. 14-17**

A. Statement. V 14
B. Substantiation. V 15
   1. I am capable of doing things which I
totally disapprove.
   2. What I would I do not.
C. Conclusion. V 16-17

**II. STATEMENT OF DISOLUTION. V 18-20**

A. Statement. V 18
B. Substantiation.
   1. For to will is present with me; but
how to perform is not. V 18
   2. For the good that I would I do not
(will to perform, power not to per-
form.) But the evil which I would
not, that I do. V 19
C. Conclusion.

**III. STATEMENT OF DESPAIR.**

A. Statement. V 21
B. Substantiation.
   1. Law of God...Spirit
   2. Law of Sin...Flesh

---

"Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee."  
Matt. 9:2b

---

**IT'S FINISHED**

**TEXT:** John 19:28-30

**INTRODUCTION:**

There were seven statements from the cross.
This is a Cry of Victory!

I. A FANTASTIC WORD.
   A. "It's Finished" is one word in the
      Greek, the word "tetelestai".
   B. Perfect tense- an action completed in
      the past but having lasting results.
   C. Indicative Mood- an assertion of fact.
   D. Passive Voice- The subject receives the
      action of the verb.

II. A Faithful Saviour.
   A. Fulfillment of all the prophecies which
      had been written about Him.
   B. Completion of His sufferings.
   C. The Goal of the Incarnation.

III. A FINISHED WORK.
   A. The accomplishment of the Atonement. Paid
      the debt for our sins, once and for all.
      Heb. 9:11-12; 27-28; Heb. 10:11-12
   B. The end of our sins.
      1. Isa 53:6
      2. I Pet. 2:24
   C. Fulfillment of the Law- Rom. 8:3-4
   D. The destruction of Satan's Power- John
      12:31
THE BENEFICIAL TEACHINGS
OF CHRIST (PART 19)

SERIES THE LIFE OF CHRIST
FOCUS: THE BENEFICIAL TEACHINGS OF JESUS CHRIST
SUBJECT: THE CARE OF OUR FATHER
TEXT: Matthew 6:24-34


In the verses we notice 3 main divisions which will claim our attention in this lesson. These divisions are (1) The Parable, (2) The Provision, and (3) The Promise.

I. THE PARABLE.

A parable was a means of teaching whereby the Lord would use a story or common experience that His listeners were familiar with and then from it seek to reveal some spiritual truths. In verses 25-26 you note the CARE. He did not want them to be FEARFUL. We are not to worry about our provisions. This does not imply that we are to be lazy but rather that we are to realize that God will take care of us. He desired that they express FAITH. The thought here is that if the birds are taken care of by God then surely He will take care of us because we are more important than the birds. Isn't it remarkable how God has so planned this universe so He can take care of everything?

For instance, have you ever took a cup of water and dropped ice cubes in it? You drop the ice cubes in but they will not sink. Instead they float on top. Have you ever thought how strange it is that ice floats. It should sink. It is a law of thermodynamics that cold water is more dense than warm water, so cold water should and does circulate down while the warmer water flows up. If the air above a pond is below freezing and the water in the pond is 10 degrees above freezing, the cold air will cool the surface and cause it to sink. But when the water reaches a point just a few degrees above freezing it begins to expand and loses its density. The result it stays on top, and eventually freezes into ice. This ice, though colder than the water beneath, does not sink, instead it floats. Imagine what would happen if this were not so. The colder ice would then all sink to the bottom until the whole pond or lake would be a solid mass from the top to the bottom and as a result all life in the water would perish.

Now who could have thought of this provision? Our great God made provision for the fish in the lake by placing in nature this exceptional reversal of the general law that heat rises and cold sinks. Yes, He thought of the fish when He created the law of Thermodynamics. And this Creator is our Saviour. Of how much more value than the fish of the sea are we, His children. We can put our complete confidence in such a loving, all wise God who also made provisions for our external life through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Verse 27 deals with the CONFUSION. The thought that He is conveying in this verse is that worry or getting upset and in a state of confusion will not change things or help us.

The CONTROL and CONCERN is seen in verses 28-30.

II. THE PROVISION. Matt. 6:31-32

In verse 31 you notice the problem. According to this passage we are not to worry about what you will eat or drink. Worry shows a lack of confidence in God's promise. Review Phil. 4:19, Phil. 4:6-7 and Rom. 8:28.

In verse 32 you notice the PLAN. Notice in this verse the seeking of the world. That's all they think about, but the...
Lord reminds us that He even knows what we need before we ask Him.

In the home of a poor, but thrifty peasant couple, the young mother sat sewing in the autumn twilight, while the happy laughter of her young son from the garden came through the open door. Her husband, after a hard day’s work in the fields, was sitting near his wife, resting, when she turned to him with a question that had been bothering her as she worked. "How do you think we shall manage through the winter if it is a hard one, George? We have found it difficult enough during the summer and I hardly like to think what will happen if we have another terrible winter like last year." The question awakened something in the man’s heart and put a smile on his face. "Mary, my dear, what is it that you’re making there?" he asked. "Why you know very well. It is a warm winter coat for young Willie." "I guessed as much. Have you discussed it with the youngster and explained to him that you are making it?" "Why, of course not dear. Why ever should I? He’s not interested or concerned about what clothes he wears. All he seems to do is to wear them out as quickly as he can. He leaves all that sort of thing to his mother." But surely you must tell him in order to stop him from worrying about what is going to happen in the winter." "He worry?" said the woman with a smile. "Why just listen to him out there and see how much he’s worrying. He’s happy as the day is long thank God, and even if he had the sense to think about the winter at all he would trust his mother and Father to look after him." Just so my dear and I think that in that the boy is wiser than his mother." The woman’s eyes filled with tears as she saw her husband’s meaning and the burden of worry and the cloud of distrust rolled away by the unquestioning faith of a little child.

Our Heavenly Father knows all about us: our weaknesses, failures, desires, burdens, plans, and needs. He will meet our need if we have done our part.

Of all God’s creatures or creation, seemingly, only people are full of worry concerning the future. Animals show no indication of this inner tension. No fox ever fretted because he had only one hole to hide. No squirrel ever died of anxiety over the possibility that he should have laid up more food for the winter. No dog ever lost any sleep over the fact that he had not enough bones laid aside for his declining years. In a way, it isn’t fair to use this argument to praise animal behavior, because such creatures do not have the intelligence it takes to be a worrier. However, the fact remains that to engage our more fertile brains with such anxious care is foolish. It is foolish for the Christian because it doesn’t help the situation, and it’s sinful because all anxiety reveals a lack of genuine trust in God. We are to live one day at a time. For all His children, God desires a life of trust, not flurry. His will for them each day is this: That they might trust—not worry.

III. THE PROMISE. Matt. 6:33-34

In verse 33 you notice the SEEKING. The SEEKING is seen in the expression, "SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD." The SACREDNESS is seen in the words, "AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE ADDED UNTO YOU." The SERMON is simply we are to put God first. This is the clear teaching of this text. This is His command to all His followers. Following this command is an outstanding promise. We make no mistake when we obey His command. The interest of God and His kingdom must have the supreme place in our lives.

Verse 34 deals with the SATISFACTION — Remember ...

Yesterday is gone—forget it! Tomorrow is not yet here... don’t worry! Today is here... use it wisely!

A CHARGE FROM
A CONCERNED PARENT
John Paul Jones

TEXT: I Chronicles 28:1-21; V. 20 Text

INTRODUCTION:

A. David’s time of service and life were about to come to an end.
B. David had been chosen many years before to be a king because God said he was a man after His own heart.
1. Story of the choosing of David as king.
C. David called the leaders of Israel together that he might say some parting words to them all.
1. Parting words often very touching.
D. He addressed the men with a great deal of respect and tenderness. He arose from his bed. He called them brethren. They had been his servants.
E. He declared his purpose to build a temple for the Lord and that God had not allowed him to do it because he had shed blood.
F. He charged them to adhere steadfastly to God and their duty. This would be for their happiness and the future of the nation.

I. THE CHARGE TO SOLOMON.

A. Know the God of thy Father. V 9
1. Solomon had been taught about God.
2. Importance of knowing God as Saviour and Lord.
3. Jesus said to some, "I NEVER KNEW YOU." Matt. 7:23
4. Responsibility of the Lord’s people to make the Lord known. I Cor. 15:34
5. Greatest evidence that we know God is in our works. Titus 1:16
6. Need a settled assurance of our personal relationship with God. I John 5:19; II Tim. 1:12

B. Serve Him With A Perfect Heart.
1. There are two great words in the New Testament.
   a. Saved. Means sins forgiven and secure in Christ.
   b. Disciple. Means learner and one who serves. Every saved person should be a disciple. It does cost to be a disciple. Luke 14:25-33

C. AND a Willing Mind.
1. God desires that we serve Him because we will to do so. II Cor. 8:12
2. People who gave for the building of the tabernacle gave willingly. Exodus 35:5

II. THE REASON FOR OBEDIENCE.
A. The secrets of our souls are open before God.
1. Jesus knew thoughts. Matt. 9:4
2. Statements that God knows about our secret thoughts found in the Bible. Matt. 6:4; Rom. 2:16

B. Our Present Happiness depends upon Obedience.
1. The sinner makes for himself a hard life. Prov. 13:15
2. God's promise to those who fear Him. Eccl. 8:12-13
3. Jesus said knowing how to serve Him and doing it would make one happy. John 13:17
4. Keeping God's law is the way to happiness. Prov. 29:18

C. Future Generations Involved in Our Choice.
1. We either draw our children and friends to God or hinder them from Him. Exodus 10:5
2. Saying in Israel. Ezek. 18:2

III. ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN FOR THE WORK.
A. The presence of the Lord with us. V 20
   Matt. 28:19-20
B. Christian friends and fellow workers with ability to supplement our effort. V 21

IV. THE MEANS PRESCRIBED.
A. Take heed now. V 10 Make the work personal. The time to start is now. Become serious.
B. The need of courage. V 20

---

THE SUFFICIENCY OF GOD'S WORD

TEXT: II Timothy 3:16-17

Municy Harris

I. SUFFICIENT BECAUSE OF ITS INSPIRATION.
A. Inspiration extended to "all Scripture".
   1. Not just the words of the prophets or apostles, the old or new, but all!
   2. Without exception, every verse has been breathed of God. I know it because...
      a. They are all infallible.
      b. They are all in agreement.
      c. They are all powerful.
         1. Hebs. 4:12
         2. I Cor. 2:9-14

B. Inspiration Extended To All Its Authors.
   1. II Pet. 1:20-21
      a. Forty different writers, from all walks of life, over a period of 1500 years, recorded a book with all parts fitting together perfectly.

II. SUFFICIENT BECAUSE OF ITS INSTIGATION.
A. It Instigates Confirmation.
   1. "PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE..."
      a. Confirms the teachings of Christ and His church.

B. It Instigates Condemnation.
   1. "PROFITABLE...FOR REPROOF..."
      a. Condemns our natural state: "DEAD IN TRESPASSES AND SIN."
      b. Condemns our retirement from right living.
      c. Condemns our departure from truth.

C. It Instigates Contemplation.
   1. "PROFITABLE...FOR CORRECTION."
      a. Causes us to contemplate the correct path.
         1. Salvation
         2. Service
         3. Surrender
         4. Sanctification

D. It Instigates Continuation.
   1. "PROFITABLE...FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS."
      a. Inspires us to continue...
         1. To learn.
         2. To grow.
         3. To submit.
         4. To yield.
         5. To live righteous lives.

III. SUFFICIENT BECAUSE OF ITS INSTILLATION.
A. It Instills Within Us The Ingredients To Make Us Fully Mature.
   1. "ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN...THAT THE MAN OF GOD MIGHT BE PERFECT..."
      a. It takes the child and makes him a man.

B. It Instills Within Us The Ingredients To Make Us Fully Equipped.
   1. "ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN...THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE...THOROUGHLY FURNISHED UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS."