STANDING AGAINST THE WILES OF THE DEVIL

Text: Ephesians 6:10-12; 1 Peter 5:8,9

Intro: We are encouraged to stand against the wiles of the Devil. The Devil has wiles and he will be fighting us all of our days. As the Lord’s people we are to stand against the Devil and his wiles. We are to be strong in the Lord and to put on the whole armour in the battle with the wicked one. We cannot do this in our own strength, but we can in the strength of the Lord. The Lord will help us if we will fight the Devil.

I. THE ADMONITION TO THE SAVED V10

A. The Father
1. The Father’s will for us as believers is that we be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. V10
2. While the Lord doesn’t do it all for us, He is there to help us resist the Devil. He enables us to do so.
3. The Devil does not have to devour us. 1 Peter 5:8 He will try, but he doesn’t have to succeed.

B. The faith
1. We must be strong in the Lord. Paul teaches us that the Lord’s strength comes when we admit our weakness. II Cor. 12:9
2. We are to trust the Lord with our whole heart. Proverbs 3:5,6 Our faith is to be in the Lord and His might.
3. Hebrews 11 is the faith chapter of the Bible. We are reminded of what people have done by putting their faith in the Lord.

C. The fear
1. We are to have a great respect for the Lord and His Word.
2. The Bible is the inspired Word of God. You can depend upon the Lord and what He said He would do.
3. We are to respect the Lord and reverence Him and listen to Him speak to us through His Word.

II. THE ADVERSARY OF THE SAVED V11

A. The evil
1. The Devil is a killer and destroyer. He is the great deceiver of all people. II Cor. 11:13-15
2. In the parable of the sower he is referred to as the wicked one. He is evil in character and conduct. Matthew 13
3. Jesus said he was a murderer and a liar and the father of it. John 8:44 All the sin and depravity is caused by the Devil and his activity on man.

B. The error
1. He is a liar. John 8:44 He deceives people about the truth.
2. He blinds people to the glorious truth of the gospel of Christ. II Cor. 4:3,4 He blinds them so they will not be saved.
3. He blinds the saved to the truth of God’s Word. He uses religion to teach a lot of error and falsehood.
4. Most religions believe you have to do some good works to go to heaven. Those who repent and believe will go to heaven.

C. The enemy
1. He walks about seeking whom he may devour. I Peter 5:8
2. He stands against and opposes God and His holy people and will always do so.
3. He is never up to any good. He wants lost man to go to hell. He wants saved man to ruin and wreck his influence for the Lord.

III. THE ARMOR FOR THE SAVED V13

A. The plan
1. Put on the whole armour of God. When you are going to fight, put your armour on.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church
1823 Aldine Mail Route
Houston, Texas 77039
(713) 442-7137

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
2. Your loins girt about with truth. Put the breastplate of righteousness on. Your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.
3. Have the shield of faith. Have the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit.

B. The protection
1. Put the whole armour of God on to be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil. V11
2. You need to wear some protection. You need to do something that will protect you.
3. Get ready for battle. You can fail to wear this armour.

C. The perception
1. We do not wrestle with flesh and blood. V12 It would make it easier if we were.
2. We wrestle against principalities, powers, and rulers of the darkness of this world.
3. This is a spiritual battle and to win we must be ready spiritually to fight the good fight of faith.

IV. THE AID FOR THE SAVED V17
A. The Word cautions
1. The offensive weapon is the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. V17
2. Often Jesus said, Be on guard. Watch out for some things in your life.
3. One time He told His disciples to be on guard against the deceiver of the Pharisees. This was referring to their teaching or doctrine.

B. The Word calms
1. When Paul taught about death and the resurrection he said, "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thess. 4:18
2. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. Rely heavily upon the Lord and His holy Word.
3. II Corinthians 12:9, Philippians 4:13, 19, Matthew 6:33, and Hebrews 13:5,6 are wonderful passages to remember.

C. The Word counsels
1. God's Word and obedience to it shows us to be wise according to Jesus. Matt. 7:24-26
2. God's Word is good for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction. II Timothy 3:16,17
3. Read and study what the psalmist said in Psalm 19:7-11

V. THE ASSISTANCE FOR THE SAVED V18
A. Prayer prevents fainting.
1. Jesus teaches us to always pray and not to faint. Luke 18:1
2. As we face life and all of its problems, we faint a lot of times. We become very weak and yield under the pressures.
3. Prayer prevents fainting and fainting reveals a lack of prayer.
4. After you put on the whole armour of God, pray always. V18

B. Prayer prevents fear.
1. The Devil knows how to mess with your mind. He knows how to mix you up.
2. The peace of God keeps our hearts and minds. Phil. 4:7 The Devil will work on your mind which affects your heart.
3. God works on your heart which can control your mind.
4. The closer you are to the Lord, the less fear you feel. The peace of God does guard our hearts and minds.

C. Prayer prevents frustration.
1. We often get frustrated in the Lord's work. Life is very frustrating.
2. Elijah got frustrated when he crawled under the Juniper tree and wanted to die. I Kings 19:1-5
3. Pouring our hearts out to God and telling Him about our fears and worries and troubles helps.
4. The Lord knows how weak we are and He wants us to realize we are weak so we will claim His strength. II Cor. 12:9

SATAN
Satan was created by the Lord and for the Lord. However, Satan rebelled against God and purposed to rise above God. Ezekiel 28:17; Isaiah 14:13,14

NAMES GIVEN TO SATAN
1. Satan - means "adversary" Zech. 3:1
2. Devil - means "slanderer" Rev. 12:9
3. Lucifer - means "the shining one Isa. 11:12
4. Abaddon - means "destroyer" Rev. 9:11
5. Apollyon - means "destroyer" Rev. 9:11
7. Belial - means "lawless" II Cor. 6:15

(Satan and the Devil are the names most frequently given.)

DESCRIPTIONS OF SATAN
1. tempter - I Thess. 3:5
2. serpent - Rev. 12:9
3. dragon - Rev. 12:9
4. wicked one - Matt. 13:19
5. murderer - John 8:44
6. liar - John 8:44
7. god of this world II Cor. 4:4
8. prince of this world - John 12:31
9. prince of the power of the air - Eph. 2:2
10. the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience - Eph. 2:2
11. angel of the bottomless pit - Rev. 9:11
12. accuser of the brethren - Rev. 12:10
13. the adversary - Matt. 5:25
14. roaring lion - I Pet. 5:8
15. angel of light - II Cor. 11:14
16. the enemy - Matt. 13:39
17. prince of devils - Matt. 12:24
18. son of the morning - Isa. 14:12
19. anointed cherub - Ezek. 28:14
20. covering cherub - Ezek. 28:16
21. great red dragon - Rev. 12:2
22. deceiver - II John 1:8; Rev. 12:9

This material is part of a book that we will print later on. The book title is MY PERSONAL NOTEBOOK by Neal Clark. We hope to come out with copies of the book very soon.

NEW BOOK

FUNDAMENTAL FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING by Michael Crane is available. We have printed 6,000 copies of this book. Bro. Crane uses this material in a prison ministry that reaches the lost in the prison system.

GUIDELINES FOR CHURCH MEMBERS!

FOCUS: WORDS BEGINNING WITH THE LETTER "W"

Introduction:
A. PROPER evaluation of life!
   1. What is life to you?
   2. What is the most important thing in life to you?
B. PROFITABLE evaluation of life.
   1. Evaluate it in the light of eternity.
   2. Evaluate it in the light of your connection with Jesus Christ.
   3. Evaluate it in the light of your involvement with the Church.
C. PURPOSEFUL evaluation is this aim of this series.

I. WALK WITH THE LORD! Acts 9:31
   A. Their RESPONSE to His invitation. Matt. 11:28-30
   B. Their RESOURCES that they are enjoying.
      1. Learning of the Lord - TAUGHT & TRAINED.
      2. Resting in the Lord - TRUST.
   C. The REFLECTIONS about them are most blessed indeed.

II. WATCHERS! I Thess. 5:6
   A. The SUGGESTION - Focus on the key word "watch".
   B. The SECTIONS.
      1. Watching out for temptation. Matt. 26:41
      2. Watching for their prayers to be answered. Col. 4:2
      3. Watching out for the wolves that do not care for the flock. Acts 20:28-31
   5. Watching for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Matt. 24:42

III. WEEPERS!
   A. The AWARENESS regarding the term - it deals with compassion and concern for others.
   B. The AREAS.
      1. Weep for those that are unsaved. Psalm 126:6
      2. Weep with those that weep. Rom. 12:15

IV. WORKERS!
   A. Their REALIZATION - it takes work to advance the cause of Jesus Christ.
   B. Their RESPONSE - they are willing to do their part and even more.

V. WORSHIPERS!
   A. Their UNDERSTANDING.
      1. I Peter 2:9
      2. Worship deals with our response to the Lord and His Word.
3. It embraces adoration - praise - and obedience.
B. Their UPLIFTING

Glen E. Tropp
402 Shenandoah Dr., Benton, AR 72015

DID YOU KNOW? The S.O.T.W. ministry has printed 61 books and all of them are still available. These books have been sent into 49 states and 61 countries throughout the world. In third world countries people read the books and pass them along to others. So only the Lord knows how many books this ministry has all over the world and where they are and the good they are still accomplishing for the Lord.


come for all things are ready

Text: Matthew 22:1-10; 11:30; Revelation 22:7
Introduction: The Lord has made thorough preparation for the salvation of the lost.

I. GOD IS READY.
A. He gave the Son to die. Romans 5:6,8,10
B. He sent the Holy Spirit to convict. John 16:7-13
C. He commissioned the church to preach. Matt. 28:18-20
D. He commanded all to witness. Mark 14:36; Acts 1:8

II. THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST IS NOW READY.
A. Christ came for this hour. John 12:237
B. Christ came to seek and to save the lost. Luke 19:10
C. Christ saves all who come to God by Him. John 6:37
D. Christ cried from the cross, "It is finished." John 17:4; 19:30

III. THE PASTOR IS NOW READY.
A. Paul said, "I am ready to preach the gospel to Rome." Romans 1:14-16
B. Paul warned them day and night with tears. Acts 20:31
C. Paul prayed for the salvation of the Jews. Romans 10:1

IV. THE CHURCH, HER MEMBERS, ARE NOW READY.
A. The church now ministers in Christ stead. I Cor. 5:20
B. The church is to evangelize the world. Mark 16:15
C. The Spirit and the Bride, the Church say, "Come". Rev. 22:17
D. Jesus, the head of the church said, "Come unto me." Matthew 11:28-30

V. HEAVEN IS NOW READY.
A. Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us. John 14:1-6
B. Angels rejoice when a soul is saved. Luke 15:7,10

VI. THE PROMISES ARE NOW READY.
A. Now is the accepted time. II Cor. 6:2
B. No one who comes will be rejected, cast out. John 6:37
C. Whosoever calls upon the Lord shall be saved. Rom. 10:13
D. All who believe shall be saved. Acts 16:31

VII. GOD'S PARDON IS NOW READY.
A. God will abundantly pardon. Isa. 55:7
B. God will cleanse all iniquity. Jer. 33:8
C. God is slow to anger and ready to pardon. Nehemiah 9:17

VIII. HELL IS READY FOR YOU.
A. Prepared for the Devil and his angels. Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10-14
B. Hell enlarged herself. Isaiah 5:14

IX. ONLY YOU THE UNSAVED ARE NOT READY.
A. Almost persuaded is not enough. Acts 26:28
B. You alone will be to blame if you are lost.
   1. The rich young ruler went away sorrowful. Matt. 19:22
C. Your decision today will determine your destiny.
   1. How you will spend your life.
   2. Whether or not you are saved.
   3. You forsake sin and Satan and suffer forever.
   4. If you will know the joy of eternal life.

X. OUR DUTY IS TO GO INTO THE HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES AND INVITE MEN TO COME. LUKE 14:23

Vernon Lierly 725 Nakomis Dr., NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87123

From India

After receiving the SOTW materials, my preaching has been tremendously changed in many ways. Many of the messages have been translated into Tamil already. I am waiting on the Lord to meet the needs to print them for the blessing of our brethren who don't read English.

From the Philippines

You know Bro. Swilling we're living in the third world country and we can't afford to buy books because we're financially hard up.

And I thank God because the Sounding Out the Word ministries provide books free of charge to foreign countries. Praise the Lord! To this regard, I would like to ask you a favor to send me some of your free books and study outlines.

From Romania

Greetings from Romania where I returned a few days ago. As soon as I arrived I found your parcel with outlines on the table. Thank you so much for them. I'll try to distribute them to other pastors in this country. May God bless you richly for your efforts in spreading the true light in the world. I'll pray for you all. I am looking forward to hearing about you soon.

From the Philippines

I am very much blessed every time I hear of good things you've done to us Christians here in the Philippines, am glad to for the ministry you have which indeed help Christians
and Churches in terms of Christian literature and books or reading materials. I have heard that you are giving books, literature, and reading materials in your ministry.

Thank you for your ministry beloved, may the Almighty God abundantly bless you and your staff and your ministry as you labor for Him. I will pray for you and your ministry.

From Ethiopia

I am born again Christian. I read Sounding Out the Word 160 from a friend and I am blessed very much. I have shared the message with brothers and sisters.

Please send this magazine and other spiritual books. In Ethiopia there is no spiritual books available. If we find some it is very expensive. We can’t even touch it. Please also send King James Bible.

From Oklahoma

Thank you for providing me with your newsletters and books of sermons. They have been a real blessing to me and a great help to my ministry. As an associate pastor, I used your material to help me build sermons because I did not get to preach very often. Now as the senior minister of a church, I use them to keep my congregation well-fed from God’s Word. Your books and newsletter are a big part of keeping my “sermon barrel” full each week!

In addition to preaching use, I use them for my own devotional use. They are very inspirational and thought provoking to me. It just helps to start my day off better after I spend time in the Word. Your outlines and messages give me a basis from which to build the kind of devotional life I know I need to have in order to carry on ministry effectively. Thank you for your love and concern for the ministers of our world and for providing us with such high quality material to assist us in leading God’s people into the riches of God’s Word. Be assured that I am praying for you and your ministry daily. May God continue to pour out His blessings upon you in everything that you do!

The Sounding Out the Word ministry is a MISSION ministry that is reaching into 61 countries. In third world countries good Bible materials cannot be found or it is so expensive people can’t afford it. Please help us with this mission work to provide material to people who are hungry and can’t afford to buy it.

THE CHRISTIAN WALK

Text: Philippians 1:21

Introduction: In the background of our text, we find that Paul has gone through some terrible times. Yet, in all this, he makes a tremendous declaration about his goals and purposes in life. In the wording of Verse 21, we can see that Paul declares certain things about the Christian life. Paul was not Superman and the Christian life is not a fairy story or “Mission Impossible.” It is PERSONAL. It is PRACTICAL. It is POSSIBLE. It is PROFOUND. As these apply to Paul, so they apply to us.

I. TO BE CHRISTIAN IS PERSONAL. "For me."

AVAILABLE BOOKS

37th Annual Pastors and Missionaries Conference
The Mysteries of the New Testament by Herbert Brown
Clark's Counsel to Corinth by Neal Clark
What Will You Do with Jesus? by Kenneth Bazar
The Christian's Jubilee by Herbert Brown
Scanning the Scriptures (NT) by Glen Tropp
The Principles of Discipleship by Paul Magness
Sermon Outlines by Paul Bazar
38th Annual Pastors and Missionaries Conference
Waiting for the Sun Rise by L. Chester Guinn
Ministerial Burial by Charles Swilling
Are in the Soul or Soul in the Fire by Kenneth Clink
The Lord Is by Glen Tropp
Object Lessons for Every Age by Muncy Harris
39th Annual Pastors and Missionaries Conference
Finding Your Way by Sammy Eldredge
Outlines of Philippians by Ray O. Brooks
Discipulado (Spanish) by Marvin Prevost
Morals, the Master, and Me by Kenneth Clink
Illustrations Which Illustrate by Don Shuttz
Outlines of Colossians by Ray O. Brooks
40th Annual Pastors and Missionaries Conference
The Jordan: Divide, the Healing of the Spring, and Other Miracles of Elisha by O.R. Griffin
Bible Lesson Work Book by Mike Daniel
What Are You Waiting For? by J.B. Powers
Lessons From Life by Jesse Spurlack
41st Annual Pastors and Missionaries Conference
Lessons on Prayer (Workbook) by Mike Daniel
The Revelation of Jesus Christ by John Turuttle Jr.
Discipulado Biblical Basic by Raymond McAlister
What Young Preachers Need to Know by Herbert Brown & George Crawford
The Finished Work of Christ by Elvin Crocker
Outlines on the Holy Spirit by Vernon Udy
A Study of Psalm 119 by J.W. Griffith
The Family by Sammy Eldredge
Women for His Vessels by Violata B. Hayes
What If This Were Your Last Day to Live? by Gordon Shafter
The Preaching of the Cross (Racein) by George Crawford
The Fundamentals of Christian Living by Michael Crane

A. Personally applied concept. Romans 10:9
C. Personally applied conclusion. John 6:68
D. Personally applied condition. John 1:12

II. TO BE A CHRISTIAN IS PRACTICAL. "For me to live."
A. Practical dependance. Philippians 4:13
B. Practical demonstration. Philippians 3:7,8
C. Practical declaration. II Corinthians 4:18
D. Practical deliverance. Philippians 4:6,7

III. TO BE A CHRISTIAN IS POSSIBLE. "For me to live is Christ."
A. A positive reflection. Joshua 24:15
B. A positive recognition. II Chronicles 7:14
C. A positive resolve. Philippians 3:9
D. A positive remembrance. Ephesians 2:10

IV. TO BE A CHRISTIAN IS PROFUND. "To die is gain."
A. Amazing consideration II Corinthians 5:6-8
B. Amazing commendation. Matthew 25:21
C. Amazing change. Psalm 17:15
D. Amazing concept. II Timothy 4:6-8

V. SUMMARY.
A. To be a Christian is personal - no one else can do it for us.
B. To be a Christian is practical - Christ makes it so.
C. To be a Christian is possible - It is not a manufactured story.
D. To be a Christian is profound in all of its beauty.

This is one of the sermons in the book VICTORY IN JESUS by Jesse Spurlock. We have made copies of this book. We will print it in the near future. Send an offering to help with the copying expenses.

Jesse R. Spurlock, 305 W. Jarman Drive, Midwest City, Oklahoma 73110

_________________________________________________________

STEPS TO GOD'S BLESSINGS
Text. Hebrews 10:36

Intro:
A. God desires to bless His church!
B. God desires the salvation of the lost!
C. There are essentials to being used and blessed of the Lord.
1. Isaiah 59:1,2
2. John 15:43
3. James 4:2,3
4. Matthew 7:7
D. Thus we see that there must be - Clean Living, Constant Fellowship with Jesus, Prayer for the Right Reason, and Effort before God blesses.

I. PRAYER IS AN ESSENTIAL TO GOD'S BLESSINGS!
A. We are taught to pray for open doors. Col. 4:3
B. We are to pray for LABORERS to go through doors which God opens. Luke 10:2
C. We are to pray for Holy boldness to speak the Word of the Lord. Eph. 6:19
D. We are to pray that the Word be not hindered.
1. There are many adversaries. I Cor. 16:9
2. Satan is ready to take away the Word from the hearts of the hearers. Luke 8:12
3. Therefore the need to pray. II Thess. 3:1
4. The Word Convicts Acts 2:37, Converts Psalm 19:7, leads to faith Romans 10:17, is the power of God to salvation to everyone that believes, II Tim. 3:15, I Cor. 1:18, is designed to produce PURITY of life. Psalm 119:9, 104; John 17:17

II. PERFORMANCE IS ESSENTIAL TO GOD'S BLESSINGS.
A. Note II Timothy 4:2 and Isaiah 55:11.
B. Performance includes doing the Word.
1. Witnessing of Jesus. Acts 1:8; John 1:40,41
2. Sowing and planting the Gospel. I Cor. 3:6-9; Psalm 126:5,6
3. Teaching the Word: Matthew 28:19,20; II Timothy 2:2

III. PATIENT PERSISTENCE:
A. This does not suggest:
1. Indifference
2. Idleness
3. Shifting responsibility
4. Careless living

B. As fishermen:
1. Keep searching for the fish.
2. Change bait.
3. If one gets away... go after others!

C. As farmers:
1. Long hours of hard work in preparing soil.
2. Careful selection of seed.
3. Proper sowing or planting.
4. Constant weeding.
5. Prayerful, patient expectation of harvest. Ecc. 11:1,4,6

D. As parent who spends long, prayerful years in:
1. Living an unfeigned life before the children. II Tim. 1:5
2. Keeping the Word before them. Deut. 6:6-9

E. As the Teacher-Preacher who:
1. Makes visits and contacts.
2. Studies the Word.
3. Prays for the pupils.
4. Waits with prayerful expectation.

_________________________________________________________

TO OUR READERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES: We often appeal for offerings to help this ministry. We have received a few offerings from individuals in other countries. We know and realize that people in most other countries can’t afford to send an offering. The appeal for offerings are mainly directed to people in our country who can help us send free material to people all over the world. OUR MATERIALS ARE FREE! Please send for the paper and books.
WOULD YOU BUILD AN ARK?
Text: Genesis 6:1-14

Intro:
A. Judgment most assuredly is coming, perhaps sooner than most may want to believe.
B. The return of the Son of God is near and then judgment. Matthew 24:37
C. Noah was told to build an ark.
   1. Noah was told how to build the ark.
   2. Noah was told when to build the ark.
   3. Noah was told when to enter the ark.
D. Why Noah? Would it have possibly been you or me during that day?
   1. Many questions arise from this account almost 4,000 years ago.
   2. We know the Lord will destroy the earth again, but not by water, but by fire.
E. Have you prepared an ark? Our home - would your family follow you? All must give an account, but based on your influence and testimony, would they enter?
F. Notice some evidences which showed why Noah was chosen.

I. FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD. Verses 8,9
A. Grace - the Lord looked upon him for his fellowship (walked with God).
B. Considered Noah
C. Confided in Noah
D. Commissioned Noah

II. FOLLOWED AFTER GOD. V22
A. Did not try to take short cuts.
B. Was obedient to God.
   1. Listened
   2. Launched out - 120 years
   3. Learned
   4. Led his family in building

III. FAITH IN GOD'S WORD Hebrews 11:7
A. Moved at God's Word
   1. Alert to God's command.
   2. Action is a testimony of faith.
   3. James says show me faith.
B. Manifested God's:
   1. Power - wrath and deliverance
   2. Patience - 120 years
   3. Providence - protecting hand
   4. Petition - all who will enter in

IV. FOCUS ON THE PLAN
A. God had His plan and it was for Noah to obey and obey Noah did.
B. You and I have today because of the Noah's in history.
C. Would you be a Noah?
D. His family followed him into the ark.
E. Are we building an ark today.

Conclusion: Do you know Jesus Christ who can deliver and will deliver you from the wrath to come.
John 3:16

Mike Black 14739 Lerner Drive, Houston, Texas 77015

FUTURE BOOKS TO BE PRINTED
Sermon Outlines by Luther Crawford
52 Bible Doctrine Outlines by Randy Cloud
Basic Bible Training by Raymond McAllister (English)
Reflections of the Heart by Doyle Brown
My Personal Notebook by Neal Clark
What We believe by Paul Magness
Victory In Jesus by Jesse Spurlock
Lord, Teach us to Pray by James Kirkland
Sermon Outlines by Vernon Livly
Sermon Outlines by Raymond Howard
My Favorite Salvation Sermons by David Harris
Outline Studies in Malachi by O.H. Griffith
Human Emotions by Sammy Eldredge
Preaching from the Parables by Harold Walker
The Faithfulness of Deacons by John W. Gilmore
What We Have In Christ by Charles Swilling
The Second Mile (And other sermons I love to preach) by George Crawford

We will print these books as we have the time and the finances to do so. Please remember this ministry in your prayers.

MAKE ME A SERVANT (H)
Text: Philippians 2:5-11

I. MAKE ME A HUMBLE SERVANT.
   A. The mind of Christ Phil. 2:5
   B. The Master Matt. 6:33; Phil. 3:10
   C. The ministering I Cor. 6:19,20

II. MAKE ME A HOLY SERVANT.
   A. The conviction of the Spirit John 16:7-11
   B. The confession of sin I John 1:7
   C. The cleansing of sin II Cor. 6:17

III. MAKE ME A HAPPY SERVANT.
   A. The pleasing God I Thess. 1:8,9; II Tim. 2:2-4
   B. The perception of grace Phil. 3:10
   C. The principle of gratitude Phil. 4:4

IV. MAKE ME A HARMONIOUS SERVANT.
   A. Harmony with the Master I John 1:7
   B. Harmony in mind Phil. 4:7
   C. Harmony with man Romans 12:18

V. MAKE ME A HELPING SERVANT.
   A. Help the lost sinner Luke 19:10
   B. Help the lingering saved Hebrews 10:25
   C. Help the longing servant. Phil. 3:10

Charles Swilling
"WHAT THE WORK OF JESUS DOES FOR US"

1. Jesus is the real Hope of fallen humanity. (Hebrews 6:19,20).
2. He was typified in the Old Testament by the King, Priest of Salem.
3. The preeminent Christ is the believer's Surety.
4. For this theme, "WHAT THE WORK OF JESUS DOES FOR US" is the subject for discussion.

I. THE BLOOD OF JESUS SAVES US AND KEEPS US SAFE.
A. After the sin of Adam and Eve, His shed blood was typified, Genesis 3:21.
B. The pronouncement for sin's penalty is death, Genesis 2:17; Romans 5:12; 6:23.
C. Since the source of life is in the blood, it is required for the remission of sin guilt, Genesis 9:4; Hebrews 9:22.
D. The blood of Christ is from the better Sacrifice, Hebrews 9:23-26.
E. The blood of Jesus saves us, by the grace of God.
   1. Redemption from sins is through His blood, I Peter 1:18,19; Revelation 5:9.
   2. The remission of sins is by His blood, Matthew 26:28.
   3. We are justified by His blood, Romans 5:9.
   4. Peace is made through the blood of His cross, Colossians 1:20.
   5. The white robe of His righteousness is available to all, through His blood, Revelation 7:13-17.
F. The blood of Jesus keeps us safe.
   1. All who fully trust the Lord are safe, Proverbs 29:25.
   2. The one offering, which Jesus made, keeps us safe, Hebrews 10:3-14, 18.

II. THE CONCERN OF JESUS COMFORTS AND STRENGTHENS US.
A. His concern resulted in compassion.
   1. For wandering religious people, Matthew 9:35-38.
   2. For his friends who suffered loss, John 11:30-36.
   3. For all of God's children in times of needs, Hebrews 4:15,16.
B. Understanding His great concern, comforts His people, who have learned to fully rely upon Him. (Proverbs 3:5,6).
C. Knowing His concern leads to spiritual strength, Psalm 18:6; 118:5,6; Nehemiah 8:10.

III. THE PROMISES OF JESUS CHALLENGE AND PROVOKE US.
A. The promises of Jesus are certain, Corinthians 1:20.
B. The promises of Jesus are valuable.
   1. Because of what they include, II Corinthians 12:9.
C. Sincere children of God are challenged and provoked by His promises. (Philippians 2:13).
   1. To be challenged is to be summoned or called forth by an act of the will (to will); determination is needed, II Corinthians 8:10-12.
   2. To be provoked is to be stirred or incited to action (and to do); action is also needed, James 1:22, 4:17.

Elvin Crocker, 6202 Winkleman Rd., Houston, TX 77083

GOD BLESS AMERICA
Text: Proverbs 14:34, Mark 12:17

Introduction: America, a nation born out of faith in God. Our forefathers came to this country searching for a place where they could worship God according to the dictates of the Word of God. Her worship of God is very evident as we look at her history. Her witness of Christ to the world has been remarkable and her wealth has exceeded any nation of the world. Her lands have been a haven for the gospel and her love has been demonstrated by her mission work.

I. BECAUSE OF HER PAST HISTORY - Proverbs 14:34 "Righteousness exalted a nation"
   A. Her foundation was of God.
   B. Her faith was in God.
   C. Her feeling was toward God.
   D. Her families around God.
   E. Her freedom enjoyed because of God.

II. BECAUSE OF HER PRESENT CONDITION - Proverbs 14:34 "Sin is a reproach to any people"
   A. Her sinful condition
   B. Her sorrowful condition
   C. Her saddened condition
   D. Her satisfied condition
   E. Her spiritual condition

III. BECAUSE OF HER PREVAILING FUTURE - Mark 12:17 "Render unto God"
   A. Her people
   B. Her praying
   C. Her preaching
   D. Her possessions
   E. Her prosperity
   F. Her peaceful future

Neal Clark, Rt 1 Box 48-A, Daingerfield, TX 75638
NEVER A GOD LIKE YOU

How could I ever thank you
Lord God, for all you’ve done
The way you flood my life with blessings
For eternal life through your Son

For having an ear that listens
Caring when I hurt inside
For being such a loyal friend
In whom I can trust and confide

For opening up the new doors
Then when I fail to see
You even push me through them
And never once give up on me.

Oh, Lord, how I praise you
For all you will ever do
The world may have god and idols,
But there’s never been a God like you!

Dottlee Reid, 2202 Camelie Circle, Baytown, TX 77520

THINGS THAT ARE A MUST

Text: Hebrews 11:6

Intro: The word "must" carries the meaning: something required, necessary or compelled. Have you ever heard the expression, "Oh, that is simply a must"? There are many things in our lives we think are a must that are not. There are some things many people disregard as a must that are a must.

The Bible affords us a lesson on things that are a must; and it all begins as our text reveals, "for he that cometh to God MUST believe that He is", Text.

May we examine this subject from the standpoint of things that are a must with regard to: The Saviour, The Saint, and The Sinner. Put it another way if you like: things that are a must for The Christ, The Christian, and the Christless.

I. THE MUST IN THE SAVIOUR’S LIFE.

A. The must of his birth.
1. He must be born of a Virgin, because prophecy had declared it and prophecy must be fulfilled, Isaiah 7:14.
2. He must be born in Bethlehem, Judea, Matthew 2:3.6.

B. The must of His Father’s business, Luke 2:49; John 9:4
3. The business of Winning, Luke 19:5 - Zacchaeus was won to Christ and service; John 4:4 - There was a woman He must win, a city He must win.

D. The must of His death, John 3:14. Win the soul to Christ; with the life to service.
F. The must of His Second Coming, John 14:3.

II. THE MUST IN THE SAINT’S LIFE.

A. The must of worship, John 4:24.
B. The must of work, II Timothy 2:6. This verse teaches that the saved must work before partaking of the fruits: spiritual blessing and fruits.
C. The must of conduct, II Timothy 2:24.
1. Must not strive ...[be] quarrelsome, fighting, contending.
2. Must be gentle, kind, mild-tempered, patient
D. The must of a bodily change, I Corinthians 15:51-54.
1. The perishable part of us must put on the imperishable nature.
2. This mortal part of us, this nature that is capable of dying, must put on immortality (freedom from death).

III. THE MUST IN THE SINNER’S LIFE.

A. The sinner must see himself as a sinner, John 16:8. (This refers to the convicting of sinners.)
2. The sinner should see himself separated from God, Ephesians 2:17.

B. The sinner must be born again, John 3:1.
1. Must recognize Christ as the only way of salvation, Acts 4:12.

Conclusion: We can depend upon Christ doing what He must do. To Christians I say, let us be mindful of the things we must do to be effective in God's service.

Sinners, it is a must that you be born again.

This is one of the sermons in the book, SERMONS BY LUTHER CRAWFORD, we are going to print this book of outlines in the near future.

Luther Crawford, P O Box 16, Pickton TX 75471-0016

TEETH: HUMBLENESS BY THE WORD

Text: Psalm 119:65-72

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Psalm 119
1. Longest "chapter" in the Bible
2. Alphabetical acrostic of eight verses each
3. Uses a word which refers to the Scriptures in every verse, except 122.
B. Aim of Psalm 119
1. To instruct those who returned from exile in the values of God's Word.
2. Aleph: urges men to be true to the Bible
7. Vau: teaches us profession of faith by the Word
9. Cheth: depicts friendship through the Word.

C. The Lesson
1. Teth: shows how the Word can produce humbleness.
2. Lamed: He who humbles himself under God's powerful hand, will find his sufferings turn to blessings: they make him especially, learn and feel his own sins and God's mercy.
3. Rieger: God brings men down from their own wisdom by humiliations, and commonly from their own righteousness by more severe humiliations.
4. Synopsis: The Word produces humility:
   a. Because it teaches discernment between good and evil, vs 65, 66.
   b. Because it is the fountain of all good, vs 67, 68.
   c. Because it enables one to withstand the world's slander, vs. 69, 70.
   d. Because affliction eventually results in delight, vs. 71, 72.

II. MAIN BODY
A. The Teacher, vs 65, 66.
   1. It will teach the servant of the Lord well.
   2. It will teach him judgment and knowledge.
   3. Lessons are easier when we believe His commands.

B. The Discerner, vs 67, 68.
   1. Affliction recovers us from straying.
   2. It teaches us the worth of keeping His Word.
   3. His statutes teach us His goodness.
   4. Emphasis: We discern how He humbles us by His Word.

C. The Enables, vs 69, 70a.
   1. Enemies forge falsehood against the Lord and His people.
   2. We are enabled to serve Him with all our heart.
   3. The world's heart is sealed with the fat of sin.

D. The Delighter, vs 70b-72.
   1. After affliction we realize its good.
   2. It is a means of learning the Word.
   3. We delight in the Word which becomes more precious and delightful than silver and gold.
   4. Emphasis: Humility increases our spiritual delight in God's Word.

III. CONCLUSION
   1. We learn humbleness of the Word.
   2. When we learn its lessons.
   3. When we discern God's lessons in affliction.
   4. And it delights us to realize it.

J.W. Griffith, 1301 Highland drive, Henderson TX 75652
This is one of the sermons in J.W. Griffith's book, A STUDY OF PSALM 119. We have printed 5,000 copies of this book.
Send in for your free copy or copies today or call 1-713-442-7137;

THANKFUL

We have so much to be thankful for
Where do we begin?
Thanking God, as we should
First, for forgiveness of our sins
Then thanking Him for His compassion
As He gave His Son on Calvary's tree
Thanking Jesus for His submission
Dying to set fallen man free
And for our spouse that He sent us:
Thank you God for sending him
And our many years of happiness
My heart is full to the brim
And for our blessed children,
Thank you God, they are a joy
Grandchildren and great grandchildren,
What man could ask for more.

Dovie Brown, 2619 Sinclair, Pasadena, TX 77503

OVERCOMING FOOLISHNESS
Text: Galatians 3:1

Introduction: Paul uses strong language to get the attention of those he cares for. Sometimes we need to do the same thing. The Galatians were accepting false ideas which led them to foolish behavior.

J. B. Phillips - "O you dear idiots of Galatia, who saw Jesus Christ the crucified so plainly, who has been casting a spell over you?" (Gal. 2:1)

Caleb Colton (English clergy) - "The wise man has his follies no less than the fool; but herein lies the difference - the follies of the fool are known to the world, but are hidden from himself; the follies of the wise man are known to himself, but hidden from the world."

We need to know two things to overcome foolishness:
(1) the cause, and (2) the cure.

I. THE CAUSE OF FOOLISHNESS
A. Deception:
   1. The Judaizers had "bewitched" (cast a spell on
them.

a. The original word is used only here in the New Testament.

b. Def. "To mislead by pretenses as if by magic arts, to fascinate."

2. Deception comes in two basic ways: external and internal.

a. External deception:
   1. Text
   2. Genesis 3:4 “And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:"

b. Internal deception results from:
   1. Conceit - believing your right.
   2. Self-righteousness - convincing self.
   3. Rationalization - convincing others.

c. Proverbs 12:15 “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.”

B. Disobedience:
   1. To know what God wants you to do and then not do it is to act foolishly.
   2. Romans 1:21-23

C. Diversion:
   1. When we allow something to divert us from God we are acting foolishly.

   J. Wilbur Chapman: “It is not the ship in the water, but the water in the ship that sinks it. So it is not the Christian in the world but the world in the Christian that constitutes the danger. Anything that dims my vision of Christ, or takes away my taste for Bible study, or cramps my prayer life, or makes Christian work difficult, is wrong from me, and I must, as a Christian, turn away from it.”

II. THE CURE FOR FOOLISHNESS

A. Discernment:
   1. Realize that any decision that opposes the revealed will of God is a foolish one.
   2. Realize that any attempt to justify an action or decision that opposes the revealed will of God is foolishness.
   3. Realize that obedience to God is the only cure for foolishness.

B. Decision:
   1. Not to be deceived by others.
   2. Not to be deceived by self.
   3. To obey the truth that is clearly revealed from God.

C. Determination:
   1. A decision without determination is a deception!
   2. Joshua 24:15

Conclusion: The heart of foolishness is saying “no” to God. Overcoming foolishness is as simple as saying “yes.”

Kenneth Click, 2401 W. Bond, Denison, TX 75020

I WILL GIVE THANKS UNTO GOD

Text: I Chronicles 16:8-12

THANKSGIVING: An acknowledging and confessing with gladness, the benefits and mercies, which God bestows either upon ourselves or others. I Timothy 2:1. The sacrifice of Thanksgiving, is given in Leviticus 7:12, “If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil . . .”

Today, for many people Thanksgiving is nothing more than a day off from work, with a big meal and a day to watch a football game . . . Thanksgiving is so often call “THE TURKEY DAY,” without even giving thanks to God for any of the blessings which they have received. Ephesians 5:20.

The month celebrated as a national holiday of Thanksgiving, it’s sad to say, has lost most of its meaning to the American people, and to Baptists also.

1. IF WE LEARN TO THANK GOD FOR EVERYTHING, HE WILL BLESS. Psalm 100:1-5.

   A. God has the power to bless us through all of our trials and troubles. “Serve the LORD with gladness . . .”

   B. The Holy Spirit will influence every area of one’s life and draw him or her closer to Him if we will give thanks to God when we “Enter into His gates with thanksgiving . . .”

   C. The Heavenly Father will sometimes make one walk through the valley of the shadow of death to bring us unto the nearness of Him. “For the LORD is good and His mercy endureth for ever.”

II. IF WE LEARN TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD HE WILL KEEP US AWARE OF HIS PRESENCE. “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye (you all) are called in one body: and be ye thankful,” Colossians 3:15.

   A. There are times when one may actually not feel like giving thanks unto God . . . lazy, angry, worried, sick, or something else.

   B. One needs to know that he or she is never alone.

   “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil . . . Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever,” Psalm 23:4-6.

   C. When one does God’s will and shows his gratitude unto God, God will honor your prayers of thanksgiving . . . will assure us of His presence.

III. IF ONE WILL GIVE THANKS UNTO GOD, HE WILL LEAD THAT PERSON BY THE STILL WATERS OF LIFE. “Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good,” Romans 12:21.

   A. God will lead you to look for His purpose in your situations, Romans 6:17, “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto you.”
B. If you are a child of God you should remember that nothing touches a child of His because He cares for His own.

C. You may try to find your own way out without going unto God, and He will let you suffer until you come back unto Him.

D. No matter what the situation may be—they trials or tragedies. He will help one of His children if we thank Him for all blessing. He said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

IV. WHEN YOU CAN SAY FROM THE HEART, I WILL GIVE THANKS UNTO GOD FOR LIFE’S HARDSHIPS, THEN WE GROW, IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH, AND HE WILL HELP. He says, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest,” Matthew 11:28.

A. We as children of God fail to cast our burdens upon Him. ... and He will offer thanksgivings unto Him... and He lets us carry our own burdens.

B. Sometimes we feel as if we are perfectly adequate to take care of our own needs, and God allows us to and feel helpless.

C. When one realizes just how much you need Jesus in your life, then you will offer thanksgiving unto Him. David said: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”... I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence shall my help come,” Psalm 46:1; 121:1.

V. GIVING THANKS UNTO GOD IS A NECESSARY PART OF LEARNING TO TRUST GOD. “Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord... My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning.” Psalm 130:1-6.

A. God does not say for us to have the attitude that God will respect us for not obeying Him, but He does say that He will bless those who offer thanksgiving unto Him.

B. God will never leave one of His children, but many of His children have failed to offer thanks for His wonderful work for us.

VI. GIVING THANKS UNTO GOD WILL CAUSE ONE TO PAY ATTENTION UNTO GOD RATHER THAN UPON THE THINGS OF THE WORLD. (The things of this world will grow vainly dim, when we come to the end of the way.)

A. We need to give thanks unto God for everything that we have or the things we receive. The Apostle Paul said to Felix, “We accept it always, and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness.”

B. Paul praised the Lord, not for the ropes that bound him, but that he was a child of God and through his bonds, he praised God with thanksgiving.

C. Afflictions, trials, disappointments all become a way of life for God’s people, but with Him we can still remain faithful unto Him.

VII. GIVING THANKS UNTO GOD WILL CHANGE ONE’S MIND FROM EVIL TO LOVE. Psalm 3:1-8 “LORD, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me. 2) Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah. 3) But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head. 4) I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah. 5) I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me. 6) I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about. 7) Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly. 8) Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.

A. There are some things you simply cannot know, but God knows all things.

B. God knows exactly what He will take to shape you into the likeness of His Son. “What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.”

C. While you cannot know the future, you can trust the One who holds the future. He controls the world, He wants you to let Him have control of your life. Then one can be grateful.

VIII. RIGHT NOW, ALL OF US SHOULD MAKE THANKSGIVING DAY A DAY OF PRAYERFUL THANKSGIVING, A DAY TO REMEMBER. Psalm 20:7, David said: “Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we (l) will remember the name of the LORD our God.” Psalm 92:1-2, “It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, most High: to shew forth thy lovingkindness every night.”

IX. THIS YEAR ALL OF US SHOULD MAKE THANKSGIVING DAY A DAY TO REMEMBER THE LORD. When life is moving so fast we can’t keep up with the things of the world, we should stop and remember the Lord’s goodness; His Day, and sing praises unto Him for His mercies. “Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindness; for they have been even of old, Remember not the sins of my youth, not my transgressions...” Psalm 25:7-8.

M. G. McNeil, 707 Elaine, Henderson, TX 75652