"Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen"
Matthew 28:19-20

Sounding Out The Word
A ministry of
Grace Missionary Baptist Church
Charles Swilling, Pastor

SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE
Text: Ephesians 4:14-16

Intro: In verses 11-16 the apostle Paul admonishes the church at Ephesus to do some things. The Lord gave some men to do certain things in the church body to accomplish some things for the Lord. One of those things was to speak the truth in love. We have the truth as a church. We are to preach it and teach it to others. The characteristic with which we are to speak the truth is love. Love is the supreme motivation and moving of the saved and the churches of the Lord. Let's notice some things that we should speak in love.

I. SPEAK THE TRUTH ABOUT SIN IN LOVE.

A. The truth
1. The Bible has much to say about sin. It defines sin in many simple ways. Sin is dangerous, deadly, damaging, and dulling.
2. Sin is all unrighteousness. I John 5:17 Sin is the transgression of the law. I John 3:4
3. Sin is whatever is not of faith. Rom. 14:23 Sin is the thought of foolishness. Prov. 24:9 Sin is knowing to do good and not doing it. James 4:17
4. Man calls sin a mistake or a fault. According to the definitions of the Bible it is a failure of man to obey the Lord's commandments.

B. The trouble
1. Those who sin wrong their own souls. Proverbs 8:36 It is difficult to understand or explain. Man seems to think doing wrong is right.
2. The saved who sin cannot have fellowship with God. I John 1:7 Isaiah teaches us that sin comes between God and His people. Isaiah 59:1,2
3. The saved who sin will be chastised or punished of God. Hebs. 12:6 The Lord will correct us because He loves us. Sin will hurt us and God desires our good.

C. The toughness
1. The Bible does teach that the Lord will judge our works. II Cor. 5:10 The works may be good or bad.

2. The lost will stand before the Lord in judgement. Rev. 20:11-15 The Lord knows what the lost do, say, and think. He has the knowledge to deal righteously with the lost.
3. Even in this life we are rewarded for good or evil. We must pay for the way that we live. There is a law recorded in Galatians 6:7,8. Whatever a person sows is what the person will reap.

II. SPEAK THE TRUTH ABOUT SATAN IN LOVE.

A. The Devil
1. The Devil is a real person who seeks to do his horrible terrible work in the lives of people. Jesus said he is a liar and the father of it and a murderer. John 8:44
2. Peter warns us about the Devil or Satan in I Peter 5:8,9. Satan walks about seeking whom he may devour. He wants to prevent the lost from being saved. II Cor. 4:3,4 He wants to prevent the saved from serving the Lord.
3. Jesus was tempted by the Devil in three areas in Matthew 4:1-11. The Devil works in deception. He is the great tempter of all people.

B. The devouring
1. The Devil is out to devour every soul that he can. I Peter 5:8 This term means he wants to consume you and your life.
2. He works on the flesh and its desires. Rom. 7:14-25 He works on the mind to blind the saved and lost. II Cor. 4:3,4
3. When you see a life that is ruined, wrecked, and destroyed, you will see a life where the Devil has been hard at work. The Devil cannot make us do

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anything, but he can deceive us and influence us to do the things we do.

C. The desires
1. We were born with a sinful nature. Paul said that we all have sinned and come short of God's glory. Rom. 3:23
2. The sinful nature manifests itself by sinful thoughts, acts, and speech. Eph. 2:1-3 The book of First John was written to saved people. We cannot deny our sins. We must confess them so they can be cleansed of the Lord. 1 John 1:8-10
3. The saved go through many battles with the flesh. Gal. 5:17 The great apostle Paul describes this great struggle we have in the flesh. Romans 7:14-25 There is a fight between God and the Devil in our lives.

III. SPEAK THE TRUTH ABOUT SELFISHNESS IN LOVE.
A. The flesh
1. The flesh feeds on selfish ways and desires. That was the great struggle in Paul's life. Rom. 7:14-25 The truth in these verses apply to us today.
2. The flesh is not subject to God and cannot be. Rom. 8:6-8 There is a part of us that cannot and will not submit or yield to God.
3. That is why the flesh must die. The nature to sin is real. We know it. Others know it. God knows it. We are instructed to mortify or kill the desires of the flesh described in Colossians 3:5.

B. The fear
1. The flesh fears a lot of things. Most of all it fears the truth. Even lost sinners know they need to be saved, but put it off knowing that it will change their lives. They may not be willing to pay the price.
2. Some of the hardest times in your life will be facing up to the truth and acting upon it. The invitations during church services give us opportunity to do this very thing.
3. The flesh would rather lie, deceive, cover up, ignore, or deny sin than do something about it. To confess our sins demands a broken spirit and a contrite heart. Psalm 51:17

C. The faults
1. Our sin nature is revealed in the faults and flaws that we have. All of us have a sinful nature within us. We also have faults or flaws in our traits that the sin nature works on.
2. Selfishness is about jealousy, envy, and evil speaking. Some people are very jealous of others and their abilities or looks or jobs. Some may be full of envy. Envy is feeling you deserve someone else has more than they do. Because of jealousy and envy we may speak evil of others.
3. Selfishness is about hurting and harming others physically, mentally, and emotionally to get our own way. Covetousness deals with what people are willing to do to get what others have. To obtain a goal in life some people are willing to do almost anything. This includes those who are saved.

IV. SPEAK THE TRUTH ABOUT SOLUTIONS IN LOVE.
A. The problems
1. Life is filled with problems. Job wrote, "Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of troubles." Job 14:1 This is a Bible fact that cannot be ignored or denied.
2. We have known problems all of our lives. We have dealt with family, job, church, personal, and friend problems all through life.
3. There is a right way and a wrong way to deal with problems. God's way is and will always be the right way to handle problems. Isa. 1:18

B. The people
1. The lost and saved will face problems in life. Some of the problems may be the same.
2. No one is exempt from these problems. They are real and we deal with them on a daily basis.
3. If you have a problem, there is a solution to it. Matt. 11:28-30 There is a right way and a wrong way to handle it.
4. Certainly saved people should deal with problems according to the Bible. The way you deal with problems will reveal you to be a saved person or a Christian.
5. A saved person has been redeemed by the Lord. A Christian is a saved person trying to live like the Lord wants him or her to live. Phil. 2:5

C. The pride
1. One thing that often compounds a problem is our pride. Human pride will deny we are at fault. Human pride is not of God. It is of the world. I John 2:15-17
2. We want to blame others for our problems. We may even deny that we have a problem. The Lord would have us to reason with Him in light of His holy Word. Pride is the opposite of humility. God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. James 4:6
3. When we confess our sins the Lord will forgive and cleanse us of all unrighteousness. I John 1:9 This very act will right a lot of wrongs. This is what repentance is all about. You don't see a lot of weeping over sin and confession of sin in our churches today.
4. Some people want to apologize for weeping in churches, but we need to apologize for there not being more tears in our services and confession of sins against God and one another.

V. SPEAK THE TRUTH ABOUT SEPARATION IN LOVE.
A. The saved
1. The saved were saved to live for God and glorify Him. Matt. 5:16 Allow or let the light of Jesus shine in your life for His honor and glory.
2. We are called upon to seek God's kingdom and righteousness first. Matt. 6:33 This is a demand and a command from God to those that He saves.
3. We are to present our bodies a living sacrifice unto
God which is our reasonable service. Rom. 12:1,2
Don't tell me if you are willing to die for Jesus. Tell me you are willing to live for Him and sacrifice your life to Him.

B. The sinful
1. We know and we are aware of the fact that we fail and we do sin against the Lord. I John 1:8 This is not a justification, but an explanation. Some people use this truth to excuse themselves from even attempting to live for the Lord.
2. John describes the three areas of our trouble with sin. I John 2:15-17 The lust of the flesh and eyes and the pride of life gives us trouble. Each of us have to deal with this and struggle against it daily.
3. We sin mentally, spiritually, physically, and emotionally. We can sin with words, ways, and will.
4. The Bible writers teach us how to live for the Lord and what we must do to live a separated life.

C. The separation
1. We are called upon to live a separated life. II Cor. 6:17 Come out from among them. We are to abstain from the very appearance of evil. I Thess. 5:22 Do not get involved in or with that which even has the appearance of evil.
2. We are admonished to walk in the light as He is in the light. I John 1:7 If we do not, we cannot fellowship with Him. I John 1:6 A walk in the light is a walk in agreement or in accordance to the Word of God.
3. Paul admonishes us not to be conformed to the world, but be transformed. Romans 12:2 We are to prove or test the good, perfect, and acceptable will of God.
4. We are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. This demands that we study and think of God's Word and apply it to our lives.
5. We should accept the Bible truth. We should apply Bible truth. We should alter because of Bible truth. God said it and that settles it.
6. So many today would rather change the Word of God than change their ways and lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.
7. We are to glorify the Father in our bodies and spirits which are His. I Corinthians 6:19,20 They belong to Him. One day we will give an account unto Him for the way we have lived.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE
WITH THE OLD RUGGED CROSS
Text: Galatians 6:14

Introduction: In John 19:17, the Bible teaches us that Jesus went forth bearing the cross. He did willingly and lovingly. The cross is the hub of Christianity and the badge of the Christian. The cross of Christ has been preached in every century and has brought joy and rejoicing to many sinners.

I. WHAT HAVE I DONE WITH THE SAVIOR OF THE CROSS. Rev. 3:20
A. What have I done with His incarnation-John 1:1-3
   1. Look at modern day theology.
B. What have I done with His crucifixion-I Cor. 2:2 His death speaks:
   1. Sacrifice-Hebrews 9:12-13
   2. Substitution-I Peter 2:24
   3. Satisfaction-Isaiah 53:11
   4. Sufficiency-Hebrews 2:9
C. What have we done with His resurrection-Rev. 1:18

II. WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH THE SERMON OF THE CROSS. I Corinthians 1:18
A. Sermons concerning the blood of the cross-Col. 1:20
B. Sermons concerning the blessings of the cross-John 3:14,15
C. Sermons concerning the Book of the cross-I Timothy 3:16,17

From Trinidad
I appreciate the help which is obtained from the outlines which you have been sending to me. There must be quite a lot of time and effort expended to produce such elaborate work. I must say therefore that the Lord truly has called you and your helpers to this great work.
I am in charge of four churches here in my Homeland and therefore do not have all the time that I desire to prepare as thorough an outline as I hoped for my pulpit ministry and Bible classes. The outlines are truly helpful in this regard and for my own personal benefit as well.

From Myanmar
As I am serving for the Lord as a youth leader, I am in need of your help in supporting Biblical materials which will be helpful for my ministry. I also have seen your papers called "Sounding Out the Word." I believe this paper will be useful Therefore would it be possible please put me on your mailing list to receive the Sounding Out the Word paper.

From Texas
Thanks for sending me the sample materials that I requested. I was extremely impressed with all of it. The Holy Spirit has used you men to put together some tremendous sermon outlines.
Would you please put me on the mailing list for your paper, SOUNDING OUT THE WORD. Also would you please send me the free outline books. I am enclosing a twenty dollar check to help with the ministry and will try to send more later. Thanks again for your labor of love.

From Georgia
I had been receiving Sounding Out the Word ever since I surrendered to preach back in August, 1992. I appreciate Grace Missionary Baptist Church for their work in this ministry. I thank the Lord for His churches and the different types of mission work they are in.
Please send a list of the books you offer as I have some from November 92 and find them a great resource. Thanks again for your work for the Lord and may each of you receive a blessing from it.
III. WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH THE SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS. II TIMOTHY 2:3
A. Soldiers who stand for the cross. Eph. 6:13
B. Soldiers who speak for the cross.
C. Soldiers who shine for the cross-Matt. 5:16

IV. WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH THE SONGS OF THE CROSS. Ephesians 5:19
A. Songs that present Christ to the world.
B. Songs that promote Christ's Word.
C. Songs that please Christ.

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Series: Building for God
Subject: Exposition of Nehemiah 1:1-11
Focus: WEEPING BEFORE WORKING

Introduction:
A. The STATEMENTS worthy of notice.
      a. It deals with how to serve God.
      b. It embraces the methods and motives of spiritual service.
   2. This book deals with Nehemiah who was a layman who got a burden on his heart and responded with action.
   3. This book gives us the keys of how to serve the Lord effectively.
      a. How to deal with opposition.
      b. How to handle the matters of criticism.
      c. How Satan attempts to discredit the work of God;
B. The SERIOUSNESS of this presentation.
   1. This chapter sets the stage for the rest of the book.
   2. This chapter is crucial.
C. The SPIRITUAL principle set forth.
   1. WEEPING before WORKING.
   2. BURDEN before BUILDING.
   3. Before we can effectively work for the Lord, we must have a burden for the Lord's work.

I. THE PALACE - Neh. 1:1
"The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace."
A. The PLACE
   1. The palace of a Pagan King.
   2. This was an unlikely place for God to begin a work.
B. The PERCEPTION
   1. God has a way of doing the miraculous in unusual, unlikely and unique places.
   2. God was getting ready to use one man to lead out in a great work.

II. THE PLIGHT WHICH NEHEMIAH HEARS ABOUT Neh. 1:2-4
A. The REQUEST - Neh. 1:2 "That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah: And I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem."
   1. A group had returned from Jerusalem.
   2. Nehemiah enquires about the conditions in Jerusalem.
B. The REPORT - Neh. 1:3 "And they said unto me, the remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire."
   1. The FACT - the report is 3 fold - 3 key words.
   2. The FOCUS
      a. Condition of REMNANT - deals with the PEOPLE.
         (1) Great affliction - trouble within.
         (2) Great reproach - trouble without.
      b. Condition of the WALLS - broken down - deals with PROTECTION.
         (1) The significance of the walls - the walls provided protection and security for the people (unprotected & insecure).
         (2) The spiritual application - many walls are broken down among God's people.
            a. Walls of separation, dedication, protection, Bible study, and prayer.
            b. As such, God's people are susceptible to the attacks of the enemy.
      c. Condition of the GATES - burned with fire.
         (1) Purpose of gates - entrance - no opportunity for entrance.
         (2) Profit - spiritual application.
            a. The gate of soul-winning
            b. The gate of proper preparation - ILLUS - building needs.
C. The REACTION of Nehemiah. Neh. 1:4 "And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven."
   1. It got to his heart.
   2. The true works of God are born in the heart of concern.
   3. God will work through the heart of people who care.

III. THE PRAYER WHICH THIS MAN PRAYED.
Nehemiah 1:5-11
A. FACT - Notice carefully the format of this prayer.
B. FOCUS
   1. ADORATION - Neh. 1:5
   2. APPEAL on the basis of two things. Neh. 1:6
      a. Because of the PERSON who is praying - thy servant.
      b. Because of the PERSISTENCE - night and day.
   3. AWARENESS
      a. AWARENESS of SIN which led to confession. Neh. 1:6, 7
         (1) If your prayers answered you've got to deal with sin in your life.
         (2) There is no reason to pray to rebuild the walls unless we admit and realize why
             the walls are down in the first place.
         (3) The reason for our problems - disobedience to the Word of God.
      b. AWARENESS of the SCRIPTURES. Nehemiah 1:8-10
         (1) His appeal to God is based on claiming the promises of His Word.
         (2) John 15
   4. ASKING Neh. 1:11
      a. If we will have power with men for God we must first of all get alone with God for men.
      b. You can't go before men for God until you go before God for men.
      c. All true works for God must begin with someone on their knees.

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NEW BOOK: We have finished printing 5,000 copies of VICTORY IN JESUS by Jessie Spurlock. I know you will enjoy this book of outlines. We have already made them ready by copying them and offering them before we ever printed them.

THE PRICE OF FISH
Text: John 21:1-7

Introduction: In our text, we find the disciples, after the crucifixion. They have become discouraged in their service. Each part of this story can stand as a type of something else. The FISH are the SINNERS, the NET is the GOSPEL, the SEA is the WORLD, the BOAT is the CHURCH. The CASTING on the RIGHT SIDE of the boat teaches the PROPER HANDLING of the Word of God. The DISCIPLES represent the BACKSLIDEN CHILD OF GOD. Because of all of these types, we can find some very strong lessons for us when we become discouraged.

I. THE AGREEMENT - "I GO A FISHING - WE GO ALSO WITH THEE."
   A. Wrong Object - Fish, not men. Matt. 4:19
   B. Wrong Observation - Crucifixion, not resurrection.

   Phil. 3:13
   C. Wrong Obedience - Influenced by Peter, not by Christ. Luke 22:31, 32; Romans 14:13
   D. Wrong Obsession - Old occupation, not new duty. Luke 9:62

II. THE ACTION - "THEY WENT FORTH."
   A. Wrong Direction - Away from God. Amos 4:8
   B. Wrong Destination - Into a ship. Mark 16:15
   C. Wrong Decision - We go with thee. I Cor. 11:1
   D. Wrong Determination - We go a fishing. Rom. 9:3

III. THE APPLICATION - "ENTERED A SHIP IMMEDIATELY."
   A. Nothing wrong with the boat - Wrong use. Phil. 3:8
   B. Nothing wrong with the net - Wrong message. Rom. 1:16
   C. Nothing wrong with the ability - Wrong reliance. Col. 3:17
   D. Something wrong with the crew. John 6:66-68
   E. Something wrong with faith. Rom. 14:23
   F. Something wrong with the side of the boat. Isa. 55:11

IV. THE ANGUISH - "THEY CAUGHT NOTHING."
   A. Their plan failed. James 4:13-15
   B. Their self-reliance failed. I Cor. 15:10
   C. Their agreement failed. Jer. 17:5
   D. Their efforts failed. John 15:5; Phil. 4:13

V. SUMMARY:
   A. They made an agreement to go away from God.
   B. They took action to fulfill their agreement to go away from God.
   C. They applied their agreement to their action.
   D. They found to their anguish that everything failed.
   E. Because of the actions of the disciples, we can know that any and all rebellion against God's plan and instructions will fail.

Jessie Spurlock 305 W. Jarman Drive, Midwest City, Oklahoma 73110 This is a sermon in the book, VICTORY IN JESUS Send in for your free copy today.

GUIDE ME TO THE RECEPTION IN GLORY
Text: Psalm 73:24

Introduction:
   A. We live in a world where guidance is so needed.
      1. There are wise counselors.
      2. There are deceived counselors who do not know the way to glory.
         a. "Blind leaders of the blind."
         b. "Way that seems right to a man."
   B. Our God, who is omniscient, all knowing, is willing, ready and able to guide us with His counsel.

I. GUIDE ME TO SALVATION.
   A. There are many plans offered by man which will not work—will not save from sin.
      1. Adam had a plan of "fig leaf" salvation.
      2. Cain had a plan without faith and without blood.
      3. Naaman, the leper, had better rivers in his country.
      4. Pharisees, Sadducees, Jehovah's all had a plan.
Please help us! We are printing 40,000 copies of two different tracts for Ernesto and Juan Gallegos. This is the first tract we have printed for our people. I am told there is a great need for good scriptural material to be used by our Spanish brothers and sisters in Christ.

without Christ.
5. Plans today, like baptismal regeneration, church membership for salvation, good living, etc., will fail to save.

B. But, Lord, guide me to YOUR SALVATION.
1. "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."
2. Jesus saves us from (out of) our sins.
3. He makes a new creation out of us, puts a new song in our heart, even life forevermore.
4. His salvation is by grace through faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Son.

II. GUIDE ME INTO SERVICE.
A. Make me a good servant.
1. When I think of a servant, I think of obedience.
2. Whoever we yield our members to obey, his servant we are whom we obey. (Is it God or Satan?)
3. Let us be obedient servants of our Lord, who loved us and loves us still.

B. Make me a good steward.
1. When I think of a steward, I think of faithfulness.
2. A good steward must be faithful in all things.
3. Let us be faithful over that which our Lord has assigned us, i.e., preaching, singing, teaching, studying, attending, praying, etc.

C. Make me a good son.
1. When I think of a son of God, I think of loving the Father and what He loves.
2. I know He loves His Son, the church bought with His own blood, His Word, His people, and sinners.
3. "Be ye followers of Christ."

IIII. GUIDE ME TO THE SANCTUARY.
A. To worship (each of us will worship something).
1. I believe there are four things that make for a well-rounded worship service: praying, praising, paying, preaching.
2. Can a person really worship as good at home?

B. To study
1. I need to know more about life here and now-where did it come from?, how did we get here?, where are we going?
2. Why can we sin, disobey, and yet prosper?

3. David found the answer when he went into the sanctuary. Psalm 73:17

C. To fellowship
1. Tell me the kind, the caliber of people you love to be around...good, kind, gentle, honest, helpful or wicked, dishonest, filthy-mouthed, full of bad habits?
2. I love the fellowship of God and His people.
3. We are sinners saved by grace, but grace teaches us to deny ungodliness.

Conclusion:
1. Receive me, when I die and guide me to glory.
   a. The beggar died and was carried by the angels into Paradise.
   b. That escort will do for me, Lord. Receive me.
2. Receive me at thy coming.
   a. I know you are coming again, audibly, visibly, not secret from your people-receive me.
   b. I know you will receive your people unto yourself as you prayed, "That they may be with me where I am."
3. Receive me to the RECEPTION IN GLORY.
   a. At the reception, meet the groom and bride, the attendants and guests.
   b. Dressed in the finest available: "best robe."
   c. Finest fellowship.
4. The reception of glory will be a reception of victory and eternal blessings.
   a. It is no wonder the Psalmist desired to be "guided to the reception in glory."
   b. It is worth attending.

George Crawford 105 Fairview Dr., Longview, TX 75604 This is one of the sermons in the book THE SECOND MILE by George Crawford. Send in for your free copy today.

Please help us! We are inviting the members of Grace M.B.C. and friends of Sounding Out the Word to help us purchase a new computer for the Sounding Out the Word ministry. It will cost us about $2,500.00. If you can give an offering, or you know of someone who can help us with a good deal or you can donate a computer to us, please prayerfully do so for the honor and glory of God.

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Scanning the Scriptures II By Glen Tropp
Sounding Out the Word I
Sounding Out the Word II
Sounding Out the Word III
Sounding Out the Word IV

Joe C. Rushton gave an offering in memory of Bro. A.J. Kirkland and Bro. Havis McRyde, his long time friends. WHAT A WAY TO REMEMBER THE LORD'S SERVANTS! WHAT A WAY TO EXPRESS IT. HIS OFFERING WILL GO to help publish the truth in 61 countries and 49 states.
THE RESURRECTION BODY
Text: Philippians 3:21
Intro: The resurrection is one of the most important doctrines in the Bible.
I. THE RESURRECTION BODY IS RESERVED NOW.
   A. II Corinthians 5:1-4
   B. While the saved are here in this body, we are longing in the Spirit for the time when we will be clothed upon with the spiritual body from heaven.
   C. Paul even said, "I am in a strait, desiring to be with the Lord and knowing that to stay here is better for those he preached to."
II. THE RESURRECTION BODY WILL BE RAISED.
   A. I Thess. 4:15,16
      1. When the Lord comes for the saints, He will raise first those who are dead in Christ.
      2. And then we which are alive and remain in our bodies, are to be caught up.
   B. So not only will the dead be raised up from where they were laid, but also the living saints will be raised also.
III. RESURRECTION BODY WILL BE REFASHIONED.
   A. Our text verse said, it will be made like unto His glorious body.
      1. Jesus had flesh and bone.
      2. But also He could walk through walls.
      3. He could appear and disappear at will.
      4. Luke 24:30,31 tells us that He broke bread with the two disciples of Emmaus, then He vanished out of their sight.
   B. I Corinthians 15:52,53 The dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. This incorruptible must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality.
      1. In order for our bodies to fit into the heavenly realm and presence of God we must be changed.
      2. Corruption cannot stand in God’s presence.
IV. THE RESURRECTION BODY WILL BE RECOGNIZABLE.
   A. Jesus was recognized in the upper room.
   B. Mary at the tomb, after she heard Him speak recognized Him.
   C. He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once.
   D. The apostles and disciples went forth proclaiming that they had seen Him.
      1. Each person will have personality.
      2. It is not altogether clear how but we will be recognized.
   3. Moses and Elijah were clearly recognized on the Mount.
V. THE RESURRECTION BODY WILL BE COMPLETELY RIGHTEOUS.
   A. First, I would remind you that Jesus did not mention blood. Luke 24:39
   B. It was through the blood that we were corrupted at birth.
   C. When we stand before God, we will stand in complete righteousness.
VI. THE RESURRECTION BODY WILL BE RELUCTANT.
   (Figuratively speaking)
   A. This means reflecting light.
   B. We will be like Christ and our light will show what He did for us.
   C. And those who are saved will bring glory to Him through that light they show.

Sammy Eldredge P.O. Box 336, Timpson, Texas 75975

BACK ISSUES OF THE PAPER: This issue makes 172 Sounding Out the Word papers. We have made copies of all of the papers and they are available to you. We have copied 100 complete sets of these papers. The cost for doing this was over $1,100.00. Send in for your set of Back Issues today. We do ask that you help us with the expense of making the Back Issues ready and available.

WHAT SHALL WE SAY, THEN?
Text: Romans 4:1

I. SALVATION –Imputed righteousness is by grace through faith in Christ. Romans 4
   A. Nicodemus was told, "Be born again."
   B. Peter testified to this fact. Acts 10:43; 15:11
   C. From Adam to the last person saved it was and will be by grace.

II. LIFE AFTER SALVATION SHOULD BE LIKE CHRIST. Romans 6:1
   A. Baptism signifies that we are dead to this world, but alive to God. Romans 6:4-10
   B. Lives should be yielded to God. Romans 6:11-13

III. PROMISES OF GOD ARE SURE. Romans 8:31
   A. Justification means the saved one stands before God as though he never sinned. Romans 8:33; Romans 3:26
   B. Eternal life is a possession. John 10:28; 1 John 3:2
   C. No power can avail against God. John 10:29; Romans 8:35-39

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THE FIRST LOVE
Text: Revelation 2:1-7

Intro:
A. The Lord walks in the midst of His churches to OBSERVE and to EVALUATE...as well as to sustain. Rev. 1:13
B. Note the GOOD He found in the Church at Ephesus.
   1. They were a working, labouring people.
   2. They were a patient people.
   3. They could not tolerate evil.
   4. They practice discipline.
   5. They were not quitters, V3
   6. They hated false doctrine, V6
C. Their weakness: "Thou hast left thy first love," V4
   1. "The love which you had at the first."
   2. The love of First things,"
   3. "Where LOVE FOR GOD wanes, LOVE FOR MAN diminishes, and where love for man is soured, love for God degenerates into religious formalism...CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT LOVE IS A PERVERTED FAITH..."

I. THE SAVED PERSON HAS INBORN LOVE!
A. Romans 5:5
   1. This is not legislated.
   2. This is not something one has for another because the other MERITS, MEASURES UP TO A SET OF DEMANDS OR EXPECTATIONS.
   3. This is a Holy Spirit INBORN QUALITY which every born again person possesses.
B. This inborn quality is the GREATEST GIFT of the Spirit. I Cor. 13:13
C. This inborn quality gives a two-fold evidence.
   1. It gives the individual evidence that he or she is saved. I John 3:14
   2. It gives evidence to THE OUTSIDE WORLD that one is saved. John 13:35
D. This love is EVIDENCED by certain other QUALITIES.
   1. Obedience John 14:21, 23
   2. Love's NEGATIVE SIDE I Cor. 13:4

3. Love's POSITIVE QUALITIES Hebrews 12:2; Romans 8:18
E. This love can be LEFT. (To omit, pass over, to let alone, to care not for, to suffer to become less intense, to relax, to leave, to depart from, to desert, forsake) Harper

II. LOVE'S FIRST THINGS!
A. Who/what the believer is to love:
   1. Negative side I John 2:15-17
      a. Not money I Tim. 6:10
      b. Application: Don't put WORLD ON SAME LEVEL OR ABOVE GOD. Demas did. II Timothy 4:10
   2. The believer's first love:
      a. God, our heavenly Father. Matt. 22:37
      b. The Saviour John 14:15
      c. The leading, comforting, interceding Holy Spirit.
      d. The Lord's body which is His Church. Jesus did. I John 4:11
      e. The Word of Truth Psalm 119:97, 113
      f. The members of your family Eph. 5:25
      g. Lost Souls John 3:16

III. EXAMPLES OF LOVE YOU HAD AT THE FIRST LOVING THE FIRST THINGS:
A. The man who was born blind who had been given his sight, sought, and saved. John 9:38
B. Acts 9:6 Paul
C. Acts 8:36 Eunuch
D. Acts 16:16; II Cor. 5:14
E. The desire to right wrongs. Luke 19:8
F. Love for others lost in sin. John 4:29, 30

IV. THE DANGER OF A LOVELESS CHURCH
A. If a church be thus it is because MEMBERS ARE THUS.
B. The warning given by the Head of the church. V5
C. Repent for what?
   1. Not loving God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
   2. Not loving the Word of God.
   3. Not loving the Church of God.
   4. Not loving one's family.
   5. Not loving LOST SOULS for whom Jesus died.

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