HOW MUCH DOES YOUR CHURCH MEAN TO YOU?
Text: I Timothy 3:15

Intro: Paul wrote to explain how people ought to behave at the house of God. The Churches of the Lord are the pillars and ground of the truth. New Testament churches are light houses of the Lord Jesus Christ. How much does your church mean to you? To some people they mean only what they can get out of them or from them. To some people they are good for business contacts or to exhibit their abilities. To others there is a deep and abiding love for the Lord and the church of their membership.

I. THE WONDERFUL FELLOWSHIP
A. We fellowship in the word.
1. As we walk in the light we have fellowship with the Lord and one another. I John 1:7
2. This plainly teaches us to live according to God's Word and we will fellowship with Him.
3. Our fellowship with one another also depends upon our living for the Lord according to His Word.
4. There is a great need for the Lord's people to love one another deeply. Sometimes it seems like churches have a lot of babies in their membership.
5. They act just like little children who are selfish and are ready to quit or go their own way when things do not go their way.
6. We are members of a church to bring honor and glory to the Lord. We are to behave like the Lord wants us to. Philippians 2:5

B. We fellowship in the work.
1. Walking or conducting our lives according to the Word involves working for the Lord.
2. Our work is to be in a church by Christ Jesus. Eph. 3:21 There are so many things that you can do for the Lord in and through one of His New Testament churches.
3. We are laborers together with God. I Cor. 3:9 We are to labor for God with one another. God saved you to serve Him. He wants to do a work in your life for His Kingdom and cause.

C. We fellowship in the way
1. The fruit of the Holy Spirit of God is listed in Galatians 5:22,23. We are called Christians because we are suppose to live like the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. This describes the ways of the Lord. This also teaches us what kind of characteristics we should have and show in our lives. The fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life will be used of God.
3. The Lord's way is a way of peace, love, fellowship, forgiveness, and patience. This is the spiritual way that the Lord wants you to live.
4. Study the basic everyday conduct the apostle Paul instructs us to exhibit in Ephesians 4:22-32. Paul teaches us there are some things we are not to do. There are some things we are to do.

D. We fellowship in the worship
1. Jesus teaches us we are to worship in spirit and in truth. John 4:24
2. The psalmist was rich in teaching us to praise the Lord. We call our services, worship services. We meet together to worship the Lord.
3. It is a wonderful and precious time when the Lord's people meet to worship Him as we sing, pray, listen to the preaching, and respond during the invitation time during the services.

II. THE WONDERFUL FRIENDSHIP
A. Friends that love.
1. The greatest friend you can have is the Lord Jesus Christ. We sing the song, WHAT A FRIEND WE
III. THE WONDERFUL FAITH

A. The truth
1. This is the faith that was once delivered unto the saints. Jude 3 This is the system of truth that God has delivered to His churches to support and proclaim.
2. The faith is the set of doctrines or teachings of the Lord that He delivered to His churches. Matt. 28:19,20 Churches are involved in a lot of things in our day, but when you put the commands of the Lord in the background instead of in the front of all that we do, it is wrong.
3. Paul teaches us that God's Word is inspired and profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. II Tim. 3:16,17
4. It is so sad to hear of preachers and churches who are more interested in programs and other things than the preaching and teaching of the Word of God.
5. It is the truth that makes people free. John 8:32 The truth needs to be taught and preached with great care and zeal.

B. The trust
1. We are to trust in the Lord with all of our hearts. Proverbs 3:5,6 You can trust Him with everything because He loves and cares for you.
2. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Romans 10:17 Our faith is fed and fueled by the Word of God. Every saved person should take every opportunity possible to listen to God's Word.
3. We must study and know God's Word. We must trust the Lord and do what He teaches us to do. The Bible is the greatest instruction book of all time. It is the greatest answer book of all time.
4. Preachers are not the only ones that should read and study God's Holy Word. II Timothy 2:15 Peter teaches us to desire the sincere milk of the Word. I Peter 2:2

C. The triumph
1. The truth will make us free. John 8:32 The truth frees us from a lot of error. The Devil is working overtime to attack the truth of God's Word.
2. Our faith in the Lord will always give us the victory. I John 5:4,5 The Word of God informs us about the Lord and His will for our lives. He gives us the victory in life.
3. This faith will help us overcome the world. Study Hebrews 11 and see how faith gave great Bible characters the victory. Trust the Lord and His Word.
4. Paul reminds us that we have victory in the Lord Jesus Christ. I Corinthians 15:57 A steady diet of God's Word will move us to trust the Lord in all situations.

IV. THE WONDERFUL FRUIT

A. The maturing
1. Jesus desires that we produce fruit. John 15:1-8 The terms fruit, more fruit, and much fruit are used in this passage. This is the desire of our Lord for us.
2. The fruit of the Holy Spirit is listed in Galatians 5:22,23. The Holy Spirit will produce or seek to produce this fruit in our lives.
3. God's Word has much to do with the perfecting of the saints. II Timothy 3:16,17 The perfecting of the saints doesn't have to do with sinless perfection, but the developing or maturing of God's people.
4. Peter encourages us to grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. II Peter 3:18 Peter teaches us to desire the sincere milk of the Word that we may grow thereby. I Peter 2:2

B. The ministering
1. Jesus came to be a minister, not to be one ministered unto. Matt. 20:28 He gave His life a
ransom for many to minister. He is our example.
2. We also are called upon to minister to others. In order for us to minister, we must grow in grace and knowledge. II Peter 3:18
3. Study what Hebrews 5:12-14 teaches. We should grow to the point God can use us to instruct others. Every saved person should continue to grow in the Lord.
4. In order to grow, we must put off some things that are listed in I Peter 2:1 and Ephesians 4:28.

C. The marvel
1. The Thessalonians turned from idols to worship and serve the living God. I Thess. 1:9 They received Jesus and when they did they turned from these idols to serve God.
2. Saul of Tarsus became Paul, the apostle. The blood thirsty became the beloved brother and preacher. The Lord can change people. His power to do so has not failed.
3. It is still amazing to see people transformed by the power of God. Thank God there are people that we know that have been transformed by the grace and power of God.
4. I know a preacher that gives his personal testimony of what God has done for him. He was changed from a lost church member, using and selling drugs and alcohol, in and out of jail, and living a wicked life to a man that was saved and turned from the things he used to do and is now preaching God's holy Word.

V. THE WONDERFUL FINISH
A. The presence of the Lord
1. One day the Lord will return for all His people. John 14:1-3 This passage is a wonderful passage of God's Word.
2. Jesus will come back to take His people home forever. We have a very wonderful promise in John 14:1-3.
3. The dead will be raised. The living will be changed. Both will go to meet the Lord in the air and to forever be with Him. I Thess. 4:13-18
4. In this life, we know the Lord will never leave us or forsake us, but in the life to come we will serve Him. He will be with His people.

B. The permanence of the home
1. Heaven is the eternal abode or home of the redeemed. There can be no sweeter name than heaven for the redeemed of the Lord. Many songs have been written about this eternal home of the saved.
2. John described just a few things that will not be in heaven. Rev. 21:4 The former things are passed away. What a wonderful place where there will be no pain, sorrow, crying, death, or sin.
3. Heaven is forever. We will never say, Goodbye again. Time will be no more after the 1,000 year reign with Jesus. Only the redeemed have the promise of everlasting life with Jesus.

4. John describes some of the things about our home in Revelation 21,22. Paul wrote Eye hasn't seen, ear hasn't heard, neither has entered the heart of man what God has in store for them that love Him. I Corinthians 2:9

C. The perfection of the people
1. When we were saved by God's grace, the work of the Lord, just started on His people. The song goes, He's still working on me, to make me what I ought to be.
2. One day we will receive a new body from the Lord. One day the flesh will die and the old adamic nature will be done away with.
3. There is coming a day when the Lord will present us to the Father unblamable and unproveable. No one can blame us or reprove us when the Lord gets through with us.
4. When we go home, we will be the finished product of the Redeemer's grace. We will be what we really want to be in our lives now.

From Florida
I always look forward to receiving Sounding Out the Word. It is a great blessing to me and to others that I share it with. I always look forward to receiving it in the mail with the same anticipation a little child looks forward to Christmas Day!
I would like to take this time to thank you for this ministry and other ministries you undertake in getting out the Word of God.
I wish that I could do more to help you in your ministry of getting out the Word of God. Please accept this small offering.

JOHN SAW A SAVIOR
Text: Revelation 1:14-18

Introduction: Among the many things John saw in the book of Revelation, none are greater than Jesus Christ. John gave us a detailed description of our Lord in Revelation chapter one. John saw Him and heard Him and he fell at His feet as a dead man. What a great blessing it is to read of this great event. John saw:
I. THE RELIABLE ONE: "The Faithful Witness" Rev. 1:5
A. He was the faithful Son.
B. He was the faithful sacrifice.
C. He was the faithful Savior - "saving one."

II. THE RESURRECTED ONE: "The first begotten of the dead." Rev. 1:5 - The Resurrection of Christ has done things for His people.
A. It revived their frightened souls.
B. It renewed their frustrated hopes.
C. It rekindled their faltering faith.
D. It restored their forgotten vision.
E. It rebuked their foolish doubting.

III. THE RULING ONE: "The prince of the kings of the earth."
A. He guides us in our worship.
B. He guards us in our winters.
C. He girds us in our work.

IV. THE ROMANCING ONE: "Him that loved us." Rev. 1:5
   A. His love was decided in eternity past. Romans 4:8
   B. His love was demonstrated at the cross. John 19:30
   C. His love delivered at the resurrection.
   D. His love is decisive in salvation. John 3:18
   E. His love is delightful in results. John 10:28

V. THE REDEEMING ONE: "Washed us from our sins in His own blood." Rev. 1:5
   A. With His precious blood - 1 Peter 1:18,19
   B. With His powerful blood - Col. 1:4
   C. With His purchasing blood - Eph. 1:7

VI. THE RETURNING ONE: "Behold he cometh with clouds." Rev. 1:7
   A. His coming to resurrect the saved
   B. His coming to rapture the Saints
   C. His coming to reward the servant

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This is one of the sermons in a book that Bro. Neal sells entitled GLEANINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES.

Facts about Sounding Out the Word: We have 18 churches who send us a monthly offering. We mail material into 69 countries and 49 states. We mail out 150 packages each month. We receive around 30 - 35 offerings each month including the 18 churches. We are sending material to individuals, churches, prisons, business places, Bible Schools, and the military. We print 8 papers each year. We print 6 to 8 books each year as time and finances allow. We have been in this ministry close to 20 years.

THINGS THAT EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND ABOUT THE LAST JUDGMENT
Text: Hebrews 9:27

Intro: This short verse makes two definite statements; man must die and man must stand in judgment. No one questions the first fact, but the second fact is not so readily accepted because no one has experienced it or seen anyone else who has experienced judgment. The reason we do not have first hand knowledge of judgment is because it comes after death.

I. EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT JUDGMENT IS REAL.
   A. Just as real as death. Both are uttered in the same sentence with the same emphasis.
   B. Why should there be any doubt when we see the way God has dealt with sin through the ages:
      1. He judged the sin of Adam.
      2. He judged the sins of Israel.
      3. He judged the sins of all men. Hebrews 9:26,28
      4. Could there be any question about future judgment?
   C. Some will be surprised by judgment.
      1. That judgment is real.
      2. That they are called into judgment.

II. EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHO THE JUDGE WILL BE.
   A. It will be the One who has earned the right through personal sacrifice. John 5:22 Peter said: Acts 10:42
   B. It will be the One who has earned the right through personal experience. Hebrews 4:15
   C. It will be One who will abide by the law of God in making judgment. Romans 2:16

III. EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHAT THE JUDGMENT WILL BE ABOUT.
   A. It will be about man's relationship to the righteous laws of God. Jeremiah 17:10; Revelation 20:12
      1. God's law demands punishment for sin.
      2. God's law offers pardon for sinners.
   B. It will be about man's relationship to the righteous Son of God. John 5:24

IV. EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHO WILL BE JUDGED.
   A. The just and unjust among all men. Eccl. 3:17
   B. The just will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ. II Corinthians 5:10 Romans 14:10
      1. Not to determine where one will spend eternity.
      2. But to determine the degree of reward or loss. Matthew 16:27
   C. The unjust will stand at the Great White Throne Judgment. Revelation 20:11,12 This will determine eternal destiny.

V. EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND HOW TO PREPARE FOR FINAL JUDGMENT.
   A. The first step is repentance and faith. Nothing else matters if this step is not taken. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."
      1. The unrepentant will have no defense in the judgment. They will stand naked before the Judge.
      2. Only those who have repented and trusted Christ will be able to stand in the judgment and be declared innocent.
   B. Follow up preparation includes keeping His commandments.
      1. Every repentant believer will be judged according to the deeds of the flesh.
      2. Prepare to stand unashamed in judgment.
   C. An immediate preparation that needs to be taken is confession.

Conclusion: With the abundance of information about the final judgment, man is left without excuse for not being prepared. Now is the time to prepare for the final judgment.

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WHEN SHOULD WE PRAISE THE LORD?
Text: 1 Peter 2:9,10

I. WHEN SINS ARE FORGIVEN Psalm 103:2-4
A. Our sins
  1. Committed as an accident when we’ve let our guard down.
  2. Performed in purposed defiance of God's will.
B. Those of other believers James 5:19,20
  1. Lack of knowledge and understanding
  2. Lack of strength to say "no".
  1. Blasphem y of the Holy Spirit
  2. Evil deeds done while unsaved

II. WHEN THE SAVED BECOME SURRENDERED I Samuel 15:22
A. To being a child of God II Cor. 5:17-21
  1. Turning from ungodly ways and attitudes
  2. Transforming into a "re-made" person
B. To the will of God in life James 4:13-15; Phil. 2:13,14
  1. Accepting where to live, work, and serve in church
  2. Acknowledging whether to marry or not, to whom and when
C. To the call of God into service
  1. Responding to God's choice of the position to serve through
  2. Yielding to God's placement of where to serve

III. WHEN SINNERS TURN FROM THEIR TRANSGRESSIONS Luke 15:3-7
A. Unbelievers quit their rejecting John 3:18
  1. They respond to the Holy Spirit's conviction.
  2. They exercise faith in God's promises.
B. Selfish believers stop their rebelling.
  1. They admit God has rightful authority over them.
  2. They conform to being a child of God.
C. The called end their resisting.
  1. They submit to God's need for them.
  2. They eagerly do what God needs done.

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Series: BUILDING FOR GOD!
Focus: PRODUCTIVITY-THE AFTERMATH OF REVIVAL AND REAL WORSHIP
Text: Nehemiah 9

Introduction:
A. The REVIEW - the REBUILDING of the STRUCTURE - Chs. 1-7
The REVIVING of the SPIRITUAL - Chs 8-13
1. Nehemiah 8 - deals with a great Bible conference that culminated in a revival. There was conviction, contrition, and concern. Their compliance with the commands of the Lord produced GLADNESS.
2. Nehemiah 9 - deals with the aftermath of a revival.
B. The REASONING - comparing Neh. 8:2 with Neh. 9:1 reveals that the events which took place in chapter 9 occurred approximately 3 weeks after the events of chapter 8.
C. The REVELATION - The evidences of real worship or revival - 4 things.

I. A RETURN TO BROKEN HEARTEDNESS! Nehemiah 9:1-3
A. The SYMBOLS reveal this reality - V1.
  1. Fasting
  2. Sackcloth
  3. Earth (dust) upon them
B. The SEPARATION principle V2
C. The SUPPLICATION principle V2
D. The SCRIPTURES prominence V3
  1. When we come to this sacred place and refuse to comply with His Word, rebel against His will and resist His Spirit, then we've not really worshipped, nor will we experience revival.
  2. Psalms 51: 17 "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, 0 God, thou wilt not despise."
  3. Isaiah 57:15 "For thus saith the high and lofty one that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

II. A REFLECTION UPON GOD'S GOODNESS! Nehemiah 9:4-32
A. Reflections upon His activity.
  1. Creation V6
  2. Choosing Abram V7,8
  3. Caring for Israel Vs 9-15
B. Reflections upon their forefather's resistance Vs 16-18
C. Reflections upon God's faithfulness in spite of their faithlessness. Vs 19-32
D. Reasoning - reflections upon God's goodness had shown them how unthankful and ungrateful they really were.

III. A RECOGNITION OF THEIR OWN SINFULNESS! Nehemiah 9:33-37
A. Acceptance of blame and being accountable V33
B. Awareness - most blame someone else for their problems.
  1. An evidence of real worship and revival is when we quit blaming others and say - "I'm the problem."
  2. Not my brother - not my sister, but it's me Oh Lord standing in the need of prayer.

IV. A RENEWAL OF OBEDIENCE Nehemiah 9:38
A. Real worship and revival is a new beginning of obedience unto God.
B. They said, in effect, in verse 38, we're going back into
a covenant with you.

1. Chapter 10 reveals where they begin to sign on the dotted line.
2. This speaks of confession and commitment.

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IT BOTHERS ME! WE ARE TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!!! Many of our brethren are going home to be with the Lord. What happens to their outlines that they have studied for prayed for and been Spirit led to build? Most of the time their faithful wives keep them or they are given to a brother in the ministry. Sometimes they are never used again. This really bothers me. We have printed a book of outlines by five of our brethren who have gone on to be with the Lord. We encourage families and churches to be bothered by this and help us change it. It costs about $1,500.00 to $1,800.00 to print 5,000 copies of a 50 page book. What a way to remember a faithful man of God or even honor a man of God who is living now. I HOPE THIS BOTHERS YOU TOO!!!

THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST
Text: Romans 8:6-16

Intro:

A. The Spirit INDWELLS the believer. V9
B. The Spirit ASSURES the believer of salvation. V16; I John 5:10
C. The Spirit LEADS the saved. V14; Acts 8:29
D. The Spirit LIBERATES the saved from fear. V15
E. The Spirit EMPOWERS the saved for service. Acts 1:8; for OVERCOMING V13; Gal. 5:16
F. When allowed to control the life, the Spirit PRODUCES a new person bearing new fruit. II Corinthians 5:17, 22,23
G. V9 "...Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." John 3:6
H. To possess the Spirit of Christ, one must be born again.

I. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS THE SPIRIT OF HUMILITY.

A. Philippians 2:8
B. Matthew 11:29
C. As seen in people like:
   1. Moses Exodus 3:11
   2. Isaiah 6:5

3. As Jacob Genesis 32:10
4. As Paul I Corinthians 15:9
D. Matthew 18:3

II. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS THE SPIRIT OF SEPARATION.

A. Hebrews 4:15
B. I Peter 2:22
C. Who used the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT to overcome the tempter.
   1. Matthew 4:4
   2. Matthew 4:7
   3. Matthew 4:10

III. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS THE SPIRIT OF SELF SACRIFICE.

A. Philippians 2:7
   1. He was known as the carpenter's son.
   2. He was known as a man of sorrows. Isaiah 53
   3. The critic said of Him...Luke 19:7
   4. Isaiah 53:2c
   5. Isaiah 53:9
B. He lived as a SERVANT. Philippians 2:7; Matthew 20:28
C. He died as the LAMB OF GOD to pay the sin debt of the human race. John 1:29; Isaiah 53:6; John 10:11; Galatians 3:13; I Peter 2:24
D. His followers Matthew 16:24

IV. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS THE SPIRIT OF SUBMISSION.

A. Luke 2:51
B. Matthew 26:39
C. He taught Christians to be submissive to both our heavenly FATHER and ONE ANOTHER. Matthew 6:10,33; Ephesians 5:21

V. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS THE SPIRIT OF DEDICATION.

A. John 6:38
B. Luke 2:49 from age 12
C. John 9:4 Didn't eat the apple and give God the core.
D. Romans 12

VI. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS THE SPIRIT OF POWER.

A. Matthew 28:18
B. Power over storms.
C. Power over elements. John 2
D. Power over physical infirmities:
   1. Sight to the blind
   2. Lame walked.
   3. Dead lived again.
E. Power over the last enemy...King death. John 2:19; 10:18; Rev. 1:18
F. Power to save and keep saved. Hebrews 7:25; John 10:28

VII. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS THE SPIRIT OF COMPASSION AND LOVE.

A. Christ is touched with our infirmities. Hebrews 4:14
B. Mark 6:34
C. John 15:13
D. He loved, sought, saved the chief or sinners. Gal.2:20; John 1:9; I Tim. 1:15
E. He never quits loving. John 13:1
F. He gave a new commandment. John 13:34,35

D.B. Wright at home in glory....

A MESSAGE ABOUT THE RISEN SAVIOUR
Text: Mark 16:1-8

Intro:
1. This is one of the four accounts about the resurrection.
2. This text deals with some of the women who came to the tomb on the third day only to find it empty with the exception of the angel who had a message for them to tell.

I. IT WAS A MESSAGE ABOUT ACCOMPLISHED REDEMPTION.
A. It spoke of Jesus who had been crucified. V6
   1. Crucified because it was prophesied of Him.
   2. Crucified as a substitute for others/not a martyr.
B. About His burial there can be no doubt. Were they not at the tomb at this very time He had been buried three days before. There can be no doubt that He was dead.
   1. A watch of Roman soldiers had been set.
   2. A massive stone had covered the opening. V3,4
C. It spoke of a resurrection from the dead. V6
   1. This was also prophesied of Him and by Him.
   2. It was necessary if He was proved to be different from others. Else His death would have been without value.

II. IT WAS A MESSAGE OF CHEER FOR HIS DISCIPLES.
A. He had been illegally arrested, tried, and convicted.
B. The disciples were sad because of what had happened.
   2. He had been in the tomb for three days and nights.
C. They surely were as those described in Ephesians 2:12 and also I Corinthians 15:19.
D. Imagine how you would feel if all your trust in Christ were for nothing. Every hope I have for time and eternity is wrapped up in who He is and what He has done.
E. The message of the angel was the message of hope they needed to hear. V6-8 No wonder that these turned the world upside down.

III. IT WAS A MESSAGE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DISAPPOINTED CHRIST.
A. I can truthfully say that He has never disappointed me, but I can speak just as truthfully about my disappointing Him.
B. Notice the emphasis the message has for one disciple. Are you like Peter? A disappointment to Christ
C. It is a message to Churches that have left their first love. Revelation 2:5
D. It is a message to churches filled with people who have the attitude that they have all they need.

Revelation 3:17-20

IV. IT IS THE MESSAGE THAT EVERYONE MUST BELIEVE AND TRUST.
A. There is no question that eventually we shall all come face to face with eternity. Then what?
B. The only hope that has ever been offered is the one that is offered in Christ. There is none other name...
C. You will do well to trust Him this morning.

Calvin Francis who is with the Lord in glory.

CAN'T LOSE FOR WINNING!
Text: I Corinthians 15:57; I John 5:4

Intro:
1. I just can't win for losing. Does this sound familiar? Haven't we all been in situations and felt like we just couldn't win for losing? Sports teams seem to get in this rut from time to time.
2. I am a poor loser. I don't like to lose. I like to win. I like for my team to win, don't you? It takes effort to win. You don't have to do much to lose.
3. I want to remind us, as God's children, that we can't lose for winning. How about that! There is a country song entitled, "Born to Lose." Seems like some people are born to win. Born again to be winners. Even though there are some of God's people who seem like losers, being truly born again they can't lose for winning.
4. When we come into the world by means of the physical birth, we are losers to begin with.
5. There is ONE who came into the world, born of a virgin, born sinless, sent by God, to make provisions for VICTORY AND WINNING. That ONE is Christ. Paul is thanking God in the text for VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. Amen!

I. THROUGH CHRIST WE ARE WINNERS OVER THE WORLD.
A. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" I John 5:4,5
B. The world is in bad shape. The world system is anti-God, anti-Christ, anti-Bible. We are instructed not to love the world, but in spite of it all, we do, and it seems sometimes like we are losing in the world, but not so, remember we can't "lose for winning."

II. THROUGH CHRIST WE ARE WINNERS OVER SATAN, AND HIS BEAST, AND FALSE PROPHET!
A. We born again ones know Satan is real and powerful. We know he is our enemy. We know his tactics.
B. John the Revelator, while on the Isle of Patmos, saw and recorded things pertaining to the church age and the last times, the end times. Look at Revelation 15:1,2 He spoke of those who had gotten victory over the beast.

III. THROUGH CHRIST WE HAVE THE VICTORY OVER DEATH, HELL, AND THE GRAVE!
A. Listen to Paul. "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law."

B. Listen to Jesus. "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."
1. Jesus said, "I have come that they might have life and have it more abundantly."
2. Jesus said, "Because I live ye shall live also."
3. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection."
4. Jesus said, "Verily verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."
So this means we cannot lose our salvation.

Conclusion:
1. So, are we born to lose? No we are born to win and we cannot keep from winning. Even when it seems sometimes we are defeated, we cannot lose for winning.
2. So, may we be encouraged by the promises of Jesus. Be reminded that we are born to win. Win others to the saving power of God. Win others to the Church. Win others to the Bible.

Luther Crawford

EASTER

Easter eggs hid in the grass
Watch the children play.
Hunting for the pretty eggs,
On this special day.

Do you think they really know,
The meaning of this day?
How Jesus came to die for them,
To take their sins away.

That first Easter long ago,
From the grave He did arise.
To the Roman soldiers,
It was a great surprise.

But little children you must know,
That Jesus died for you.
Confess your sins believe in Him,
It is all you have to do.

Than one day like Jesus did,
You will burst forth from the grave,
And meet him in the air,
Because your soul he saved.

Dovie Brown 2619 Sinclair St., Pasadena, Texas 77503

GOD WILL KEEP US IN PERFECT PEACE
Text: Isaiah 26:3,4

I. THE MASTER OF EVERYTHING
A. The King
B. The key
C. The keeping

II. THE MIND OF MANKIND
A. The mind
B. The meditation
C. The memory

III. THE MASTERY OF MANKIND
A. The will of man
B. The work of the mind
C. The willingness to obey

IV. THE MINISTERING OF THE LORD
A. The renewing of the mind
B. The reasoning
C. The reviving of the mindset

V. THE MATURITY OF OBSERVATION
A. The peace
B. The perfect-mature
C. The perception

Charles Swilling

May the Blessings of the Lord
be with you!