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**What Must I Do To Be Saved?****Hear God's Word**

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"  
(Romans 10:17)

**Believe That Jesus is the Christ**

"I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins"  
(John 8:24)

**Repent of your Sins**

"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent"  
(Acts 17:30)

**Confess Christ Before Men**

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation"  
(Romans 10:10)

**Be Baptized For the Remission of your Sins**

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (I Peter 3:21)

**Opportunities for Growth**

Sunday A.M. Bible Study 9:00  
Sunday A.M. Worship 10:00  
Sunday P.M. Worship 6:00  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30

Larry Albritton, Editor

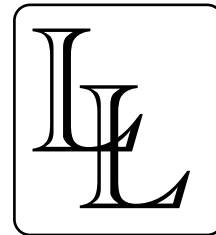
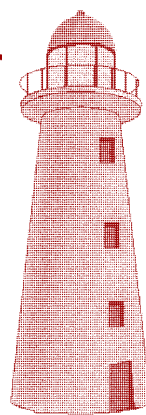
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# LOVE LIGHT



If ye love Me, keep My  
Commandments (John 14:15)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a  
Light unto my path (Psalm 119:105)

Volume Nineteen

January - June

Number One

## Even Jesus Couldn't Please Everyone



By Kenneth L. Thomas

In Luke 7:31-35 the Lord asked, "Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like? They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept. For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil. The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners! But wisdom is justified of all her children."

The same people who criticized John for his ascetic practices, criticized Jesus for being the opposite. In the very next verse we read of an invitation from a Pharisee to Jesus. While he is in the man's house eating, Jesus is criticized for not rejecting the intrusion of a sinful woman. "And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the

Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner" (Luke 7:37-39).

Sometimes we are amazed at the way people react to efforts to do the Lord's work. Like the mule, some of us seem to be in the "objective case and the kickative mood." Much of our controversy revolves around who did it, said it, planned it, etc. I am convinced that one of Satan's greatest tools for destroying faith in Christians is the super-critical attitude that we sometimes express.

Let us all try to examine ourselves before we try to get the speck of sawdust out of someone's eye. That log (beam) in our eye just might distort our view of things. "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins" (1 Pet 4:8). ☩

## AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT!



Larry Albritton

"What was that?" On Friday morning, April the 18<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 4:37 A.M., folks in our area were startled and shaken by a magnitude 5.2 earthquake. It is an unsettling experience to have the earth move beneath your feet, to have walls and shelves tremble about you, and to sense that there is no escape. Several people later commented that they just knew someone had broken into their homes.

Now I understand a little better something which the apostle Peter said, "...the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (II Peter 3:10).

Christ first used the expression "thief in the night" when He spoke of the day when "heaven and earth shall pass away" (Matthew 24:35). "That day and hour," Christ assured, "knoweth NO MAN" (Matthew 24:36). Hence, it comes unexpectedly!

Christ then warned, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." Unexpectedly as an earthquake the end of our world will come. Peter describes this event in frightening detail. "The heavens shall pass away" - This is the same Greek word used by Christ in Mark 13:31. There Christ said "Heaven and earth shall pass away but My words shall not pass away." Unlike this universe, Christ's words will remain! W.E. Vine in his Greek Expository Dictionary said that "pass away" means "to perish." The Holy Spirit goes further in detailing how it will end - "with a great noise."

This expression was used of the fluttering of bird's wings or the wish of an arrow through the air. A great Swoosh will end it all! Also, "the elements will melt with

*Continued on page Three*

**Law, Love**

**And Marriage**



Keith Padgett



“Love and Marriage, go together like a horse and carriage.” These words, made famous by Frank Sinatra some years ago, convey a sentiment which has come under attack in today’s politically correct cultural climate. As in the day when teaming a horse and carriage transportation was made possible, from the beginning God created man and woman for marriage: “So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it...”(Genesis 1:27-28). Then, the Lord God created “...a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall

cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh” (Genesis 2:21-24). Today, however, liberal judges and homosexual activists tell us that idea of marriage is all wrong.

First, I will not use the euphemism “gay” to describe homosexuals. The term “gay” means “joyous, happy, carefree, lighthearted, merry” (Webster’s, unabridged 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed.). If euphemisms are permitted, there are many which better describe the disgusting homosexual lifestyle.

Second, some argue that homosexuality is not condemned in the Bible noting the word “homosexual” is not mentioned. True, the twentieth century term is found nowhere within Holy Writ which was written from 3,800 to 2,000 years ago. But the act is! Consider: “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it *is* abomination” (Leviticus 18:22), and “If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood *shall be* upon them” (Leviticus 20:13). Romans 1:26-27 further notes: “For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which

was meet.” Therefore no rational person can honestly claim the Bible is silent on such matters! But what about marriage?

Marriage implies the union of a man and a woman. How so? Consider “Holy Matrimony” as marriage is often called. It comes to us from two Greek words: *ἅγιος* (Hagios - Holy, set apart) and *ματρικς* (Matris - Motherhood). So then, Holy Matrimony implies “set apart for motherhood.” This is not naturally possible for two of the same gender. But what about the term “marriage” itself? Both terms, “marry” and “marriage,” come from the Greek words *γαμέω?* (gameo) and *ἐκγαμίσκω* (ekgamisko) and mean “wife,” “marry,” “a reproductive cell” and “to give in marriage,” respectively. It is biologically impossible for humans to homosexually reproduce. As Romans 1:27 notes, homosexuality is not “natural,” whether one claims it’s by birth or by choice!

Those who complain that the law prevents homosexuals from marrying are disingenuous. They who practice the “vile affections” of homosexuality may, if they so choose, marry and reproduce like any other man or woman! But if they assert their homosexual “lifestyle” to be “natural,” then they would have to go “against nature” in their own eyes in order to reproduce! They can’t have it both ways. Think about it! ☚

*What Will Be The Basis Of Judgment?*

Charles Leonard



A great host at the judgment will be surprised and shocked to find out the basis of judgment. Only the Bible reveals the real basis of judgment.

Judgment will not be based on the creeds and doctrines of men because they are of human origin. The way we feel will not be the basis of judgment because feelings are changeable and subjective. Many may feel that what their preacher says will be the basis of judgment, but preachers do not all preach the same thing. That being so, which one is really preaching the truth?

The Bible teaches that judgment will be based on the law under which we live. The Old Testament people lived under the law, but we live under a system of faith. "But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster [to bring us] unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Galatians 3:23-24). Christ taught that we will be judged by his words in John 12:48, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that

judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day". According to Paul, the secrets of men would be judged by Jesus Christ according to his gospel. "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel" (Romans 2:16).

All people will be judged by the truth according to Psalms 96:13, "Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth. The basis of judgment will be the truths revealed in the Bible.☚



*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*  
(Proverbs 1:7)

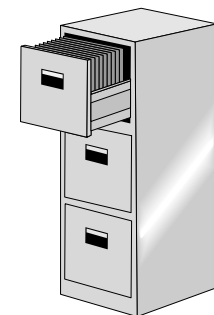
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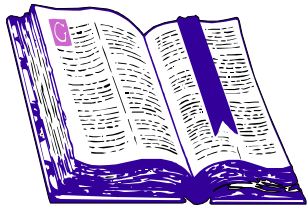
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- “Abortion - A Woman’s Right?” - (DVD)
- Other Topic(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**From The Filing Cabinet**





# Unscramble the Word

Unscramble the tiles to reveal a verse from Ephesians 2. Then unscramble the underlined letters to find a secret message. Place it on the lines below.

A T E	W E	S T	W O R	G O	D H	W A	<u>D</u> I
M	H R I	<u>T H E</u>	U N T	O G	<u>F O R</u>	I P	T H
<u>I C H</u>	D A I	A T	N C	W O	<u>N E D</u>	O R E	L K
<u>B E F</u>	R K S	O O D	W H	N S H	O R	A R	I N
<u>J E S</u>	U S	A S	<u>E</u> H	U L D	C R E	W E	K M A
I S	S H O						


*Leslie Padgett*

*...Thief In The Night...Continued from page 1*

fervent heat” - Elements are the building blocks, the rudiments of the universe, perhaps the very atoms and molecules. To “melt” means literally “to loosen” (Robertson’s Greek Word Pictures). The elements shall be dissolved with tremendous heat! The Greek word for “heat” was also used of the internal heat of a fever (Robertson’s). This “earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up” (II Peter 3:10). The Greek word for “burned up” contains the prefix kata which means “down” (intensive). The word literally means then “to burn down.” It was used by Christ in Matthew 3:12 when He spoke of “the chaff” being “burned up with unquenchable fire.” To “be dissolved” is a reference to “a process of dissolution” (Vincent’s Word Studies). Vine says “a demolition of the elements.”

Finally, in verse 12, Peter uses another descriptive word, “melt.” The word literally means “to melt down” or “to make liquid” according to W. E. Vine (Cf. Isaiah 34:4). What a catastrophic event! On that day “the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ” (II Thessalonians 1: 8). ☞

## THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS

By Eugene Greer

The church is the "called out" (ekklesia, from ek, "out of and klesia, "a calling"). It is composed of those called out of "darkness into his marvellous light" (I Peter 2:9). Or, as Paul wrote, "(God) hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son" (Colossians 1:13).

The church is a peculiar people...God's own chosen people (I Peter 2:9-10), destined in love to be conformed to the image of His Son (Romans 8:29), through whom God has been pleased to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of Christ on the cross (Colossians 1:20).

The church is a chosen race (I Peter 2:9), called and chosen by its response to the gospel (II Thessalonians 2:14). Called not according to its own works, but according to God's own purpose and grace, which was given in Christ Jesus before the world began (II Timothy 1:9). It exists to show forth the praises of Him who called it out of darkness into light (I Peter 2:9) and to make known the eternal purpose of God (Ephesians 3:10-11).

The church is a royal priesthood (I Peter 2:5,9). The sacrifices which it offers are spiritual and acceptable to God by Jesus Christ (I Peter 2:5). It offers to Christ its faith (Philippians 2:17), its praise from

lips that acknowledge His name (Hebrews 13:15), and the living sacrifice of its members who prove in the transforming of their minds what is that good, acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:1-2).

The church is a holy nation, a people for God's own possession (I Peter 2:9). It is to renounce all ungodliness and worldly lusts; living soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world (Titus 2:11-12).

The church is the family of God (Ephesians 3:15), bound together in love (I John 5:1-2; John 13:34-35), assembling together each Lord's day to share communion in memory of their Savior (Acts 20:7). The cup is the communion of the blood of Christ, and the bread is the communion of the body of Christ (I Corinthians 10:16). As the church eats this bread and drinks this cup, it shows forth the fact of His death and the fact of His coming again (I Corinthians 11:26)

The church is God's institution through which He is to work in spreading the gospel to the world (Matthew 28:18-20). Through the church, Jesus is held forth as the light in the world of darkness (John 8:12-20). It is to hold forth the Word of Life (Philippians 2:16; John 6:44). The church is to be a beacon of light to men so that they may glorify the Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:16). "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).☞



# God's Righteousness

- ⌘ *Unbiased - Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour (Leviticus 19:15).*
- ⌘ *Consistent - And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us (Deuteronomy 6:25).*
- ⌘ *Raiment - I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem (Job 29:14).*
- ⌘ *Guide - He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake (Psalms 23:3).*
- ⌘ *Inspired - All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works (II Timothy 3:16-17).*

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**TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE AND RECEIVE A FREE BIBLE REFERENCE BOOKMARK SIMPLY FILL OUT THE SHEET BELOW AND MAIL IT TO THE WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST.**

**FILL IN THE BLANK(S) WITH THE CORRECT WORD(S):**

- ⌘ **II Timothy 2:23** - But foolish and \_\_\_\_\_ questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.
- ⌘ **1 Peter 2:15** - For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the \_\_\_\_\_ of foolish men.
- ⌘ **Proverbs 19:1** - Better is the poor that walketh in his \_\_\_\_\_, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.
- ⌘ **Proverbs 12:15** - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is \_\_\_\_\_.
- ⌘ **Psalms 53:1** - The \_\_\_\_\_ hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good. .

# Gospel Meeting

*Come join us and hear the pure Gospel of Christ proclaimed!*

**June 29th - July 2nd**

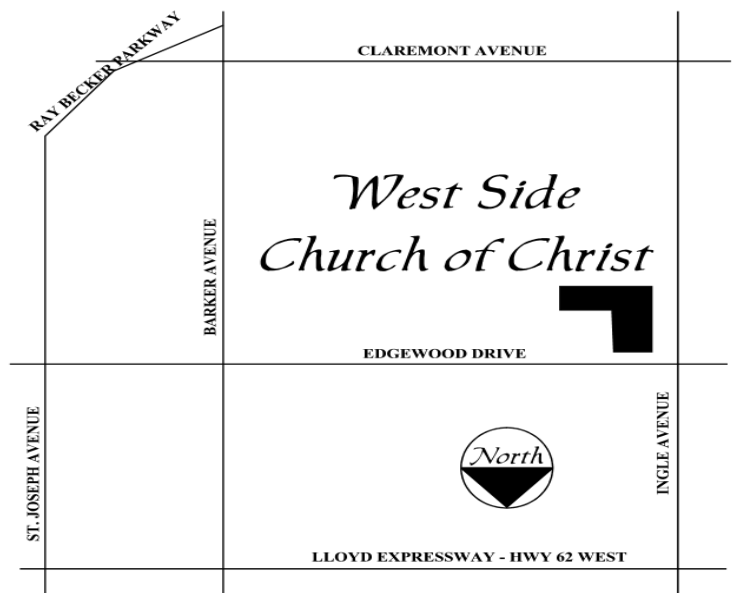
Public Is Invited

Sunday Morning at  
 9:00 and 10:00 Sunday  
 Evening at 6:00

Monday, Tuesday, and  
 Wednesday evening  
 services at 7:00



*Evangelist  
 Kenneth L. Thomas*



**BIBLE STUDY**

**Bring a Bible, Bring a Friend, and  
 bring an open Mind!**

**Dinner on the grounds Sunday at noon**