# ISAIAH SERIES

1 - ~~Foregleams Of~~ Messiah - ~~Isa~~ 7:1-16

2 - I Saw Also The LORD - Isa. 6:1-13

3 - His Infernal Majesty - Isa 14:12-17

4 - The Messianic King + His Kingdom - Isa. 11-12

5 - Five Four Milestones in Satan's Career - Isa 14:12-17
Ezek. 28:11-19

6 - The Millennium Portrayed - Isa. 35

7 - The Promise Of God - SURE! - Isa 40:1-4

8 - The Power Of God - SUFFICIENT! - Isa. 40:12-27

9 - The People Of God - SUSTAINED! - Isa. 40:28-31

10 - For Whom Did Christ Die? Isa. 53

11 - He Took My Place - Isa 53:1-12

12 - God's Prospered Word - Isa. 55:1-13

13 - Jesus Christ The Anointed One - Isa 61:1-2

# Background To Book Of Isaiah

**INTRO** — 1:1-2a

A.- Vision — Num. 12:6-8
B.- Prophet — One who speaks for God.
C.- Kings of his day
D.- Call — HEAR De. 31:28

## I.- CHARGES AGAINST JUDAH — 1:2-9

A.- Forsaken Their God — 1:2-4 — Devastating Analogy

B.- Refused Instruction — 1:5-6

C.- Overrun By Heathen — 1:7-8
- Nibbling on the fringes of the Land
- About to take Israel
- Eventually will engulf Judah also.

D.- Majority Have Sold Out — 1:9 REMNANT

## II.- EVIDENCE ADDUCED — 1:10 — 5:30

WORLDLY ATTITUDE 2:6-9

A.- Religious Forms Are External 1:10-14
1 — Ch. membership — UP
2 — Bible Knowledge — DOWN
3 — Balanced ministry — VERY RARE

B.- Hands Are Full Of Proof Of Disobedience — 1:15
Philosophy of the Ch. + its ministry — Evangelism — Bible Teaching

C.- Dearth Of Godly Leadership — 3:1-4
D
Team Ministry
INTERNSHIP

E.- Wanton Immorality — 3:16
- President Kennedy
- President Nixon
- Rep. Wayne Hayes

## III.- GRACIOUS ADVICE — 1:16-20

A.- Wash + Be Clean - Take Care Of The PAST — 1:16
Gal. 1:4

B.- Put Away Evil — PRESENT — 1:16
Be Clean
Stay Clean

C.- Learn To Do Well — FUTURE — 1:17

D.- Door To Repentance Is Still Open. — 1:18 2:10-11
Let us reach out in concern

E.- ALTERNATIVES Are Clear — 1:19-20
1 — Willing + Obedient — Eat the good of the land
2 — Refuse + Rebell — De...

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Isa. 1818

Let's Be Reasonable — 1 Sam. 12: 1-15

Intro. A. Sat. Eve. Post story - stepfather and boy don't get along. Man talks to boy often; doesn't get anywhere at all. Finally sits boy down and reasons out a better relationship. (story continued later).

B. Relationship of God and Man should be a reasonable one according to the Scriptures.

1. - "should be" and "are" - often different
2. - Many problems
3. - Let's do some "reasoning".

I. FALSE REASONING (scriptural Examples)

A. Trifling Reasoning (Mk. 8: 1-21) (16-17)

1. Background of feeding of 4000
2. Unbelief of Parisees-desiring of a sign
3. Warning by Christ to disciples - "Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod"/
4. Disciples REASON about bread and not the issue of leaven of doubt and denial. Miss real point.
5. Bread is no issue to one who fed 4000, but the denials of the ungodly is a real issue.

B. Prideful Reasoning (Luke 9: 46-48) (46)

1. Reasoning out superiorities and inferiorities
2. No defined standard of excellencies
3. Each thought himself the superior one
   Each wanted to be the greatest - PRIDE
4. Illus. of Child used - no pride there
5. Standard set - SERVICE: not false reasoning of excellences.

C. Selfish Reasoning (Luke 20: 9-18) (15)

1. Reasoning out that killing is better than paying
2. Heir disposed of to selfishly gain inheritance
3. Selfishness is not to one's good, but leads to death.
4. It is wrong and the cost is prohibitive.

D. Doubting and Reasoning Against God. (Mk. 2: 1-12) (6-8)

1. Background of preaching, teaching and HEALING
2. Faithful friends bring palsied man
3. Jesus forgives sin
4. Scribes REASONED doubting and against God -wilful!
5. Scribes consider this blasphemous; doubting Deity of Jesus
6. Challenge of Jesus - which is easier?
   - forgiveness which is not visible
   - outward command of healing
   - obviously, forgiveness for no human can check up on this
7. Proof of Deity of Jesus is demonstrated in power
8. Reasoning against Jesus is Reasoning against God and is wrong.

E. Reasoning to no conclusion. (Matt. 21: 23-27) (25)

1. Challenging Question of authority of Jesus
2. Jesus promises to produce authority if a question is answered.

3. Question is "loaded"; John's baptism: of God or men?
   - fear of rebuke for unbelief of message
   - fear of people in fervor of belief
4. Answer "We cannot tell"
5. Perhaps the worst of all FALSE REASONING
   - Facts known
   - Consequences known
   - Issues avoided

II. CONSTRUCTIVE REASONING
A. Scriptural method
1. Gives content "Give them something to believe" Lewis Chafer
2. Gives Holy Spirit material to work on
3. In spite of blindness (2 Cor. 4:3-4) and foolishness( 1Cor. 1: 18,21; 2:14)
4. God honors this method
B. Scriptural Illustrations:
1. Samuel - 1 Sam. 12 -personal acquital 12: 1-5
   - call to reason 12: 6-7
   -rehearsal of God's deliverances 12: 8-15
2. Christ - Luke 4 - Synogogue Scene 4:16
   - Isaiah read 4:17,19
   - Applied to self 4: 20,21
3. Stephen - Acts 7 - Rehearses God's provision
   - Rehearses Istreal's faithlessness
4. Paul - Acts 17: 2,3 - Christ to die
   -Christ to be raised
   -Jesus is the Christ
   - Acts 18:4 - further use of reasoning
   -Book of Romans - "As it is written"

III. LOVING REASONING
A. Illus. of step-father and boy used in Intro.
1. Scout hike with man in charge and boy needling him
2. Dangerious pool of water and waterfall warning
3. Count shows step-son missing; hat floating on water
4. Man dives in and frantically tries to find boy and finally comes out unsuccessful and exhausted.
5. Boy comes out of hiding; man exasperated
6. Question, "Why did you try to fool us into thinking you had fallen in?" Answer: "To see if you really loved me enough to try to save me."
B. Parrallel - By God — "The Love of God"
1. God loves us - enough to save us
2. God provided a savior - Rom. 5:6-8
3. God lovingly reasons with us- Isa. 1:18
4. none too bad - none too good

IV. REACTIVE REASONING

A. Philippian Jailer - Acts 16: 25-34
   1. Imprisonment of Paul and Silas
   2. Earthquake frees prisoners
   3. Jailer about to kill himself
   4. Warning and conviction
   5. Salvation cry and acceptance

B. Felix - Acts 24: 24,25.
   1. Curious inquirer
   2. Gospel presented and applied by Paul
   3. Scriptural REASONING
   4. Conviction and Rejection "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."

Conc. Let's be Reasonable
   A. Not rest on trifling and false excuses
   B. Constructive message
   C. Loving persuasion
   D. Your reaction

Isaiah 55:7

"Let the wicked forsake his way, + the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord; and to our God; for He will abundantly pardon

IV. [illegible]

A. [illegible] - Acts 16: 25-34

1. Imprisonment of Paul and Silas
2. Earthquake frees prisoners
3. Jailer about to kill himself
4. Fearing a conviction
5. Salvation cry and acceptance

B. Felix - Acts 24: 24-25

1. Curious inquirer
2. Doctrine presented and applied by Paul
3. Scriptural REASONING
4. Conviction and Rejection "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."

Conc. Let's be reasonable

A. Not rest on trifling and false excuses
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D. Your reaction

Isaiah 55:7

# The Person Of Christ In The Book of Isaiah

**Intro:** A.- This Season

B.- Person of Christ — ALWAYS "in season"

C.- Isaiah
1- 2nd only to Psalms
2- In Prophecies of Messiah
3- Emphasizes
— Person
— Work
4- At Least 7 outstanding facts

## I.- His Unique Birth — 7:14

A.- A Sign — Ex. 3:11-9
B.- A Virgin — Gen. 24:16, 43
C.- A Son — Gen. 3:15; 4:1; Gal. 4:4
D.- Immanuel. — 8:8, Mt. 1:22-23

## II.- His Solitary Dignity — 9:6

A.- Sublime Titles — 5 of them
B.- Son given, not born — Luke 1:35

Exact Terms
Exalted Titles — 5 of them
Eternal Throne

## III.- His Racial Connection — 9:7; 11:1

A.- David's racial son
B.- David's regal heir
— Luke 1:32-33
3:23-38

Adam
Abraham
Isaac
Jacob
Judah
Jesse
David
Jesus

## IV.- His Human forerunner — 40:3-5

A.- Promised
B.- Described — In ministry by Isaiah
In appearance by Mt. + Lk.
C.- Message — "Prepare ye"

John 1:6-7

## V.- His Earthly Ministry — 42:1-4

As Servant — 42:1-4 — Mk. 10:45; Phs. 2:5-8
As Savior — 42:5-9; 49:6
As Sovereign — 49:7 — Phs. 2:9-11

Dual Purpose

## VI.- His Prophetic Office — 61:1-3

A.- Relation in Trinity — 49:14-16
- Accusation
- Answer

B.- Ministries
1- Preach good tidings
2- Sent to bind up
3- To Proclaim liberty
4- Opening the prison
5- Proclaim the acceptable year of ~~the~~ Lord

COMMA

Related to 2nd Advent
6- And the day of vengeance
7- To comfort all that mourn

C.- Cf. Lk. 4:18-19

## VII.- His Priestly functions — 53

A.- Vicaral sufferings — 53:1-3
B.- Vicarious sufferings 53:4-6
C.- Voluntary sufferings 53:7-9
D.- Victorious sufferings 53:10-12

Jn. 12:32 — "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

Conclusion — What do you see in X?

- Accept the facts?
- Accept the PERSON!

"JESUS CHRIST THE BRANCH" Read Lk. 1:57-80--Isa. 4:2
"DAYSPRING FROM ON HIGH" Lk. 1:30-35

**INTRO:** **A.-ILLUS:**

1-One day as Napoleon Bonaparte was talking to his attendant in the place of his banishment on the island of St. Helena regarding the heroes of history, he suddenly turned & asked: "CAN YOU TELL ME WHO JESUS CHRIST WAS?"

2-As the officer hesitated, Napoleon said: "WELL, THEN, I WILL TELL YOU. I think I understand somewhat of human nature, and I tell you all these were men, and I am a man, but not one is LIKE HIM; Jesus Christ WAS MORE THAN A MAN.

3-"Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and myself founded empires--great empires--but upon what did the creations of our genius depend?-------UPON FORCE!

4-Jesus alone founded his empire UPON LOVE, and to this very day millions would die for Him.

**B.-Descriptive Metaphors In Scripture For Christ:**

1-Refuge
2-Redeemer
3-Shepherd
4-Husband
5-Father
6-Counsellor
7-Lover
8-Stone, or Rock

**C.-Metaphor of CHRIST THE "BRANCH":**

1-"Branch"--Not one of many branches off the trunk of a healthy tree
--But rather as a shoot out of a stump after the glory of the tree is gone & only the cut-off trunk remains
--Thus, "sprout"=="shoot"=="BRANCH"

2-Picture of obscure & unpretentious origin out of a nation which had lost its regency & was indeed "CUT OFF" like a stump from its former glory

3-Lk. 1:78--"Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the daystring from on High hath visited us."
--Part of Zacharias' "Benedictus" to God
--Word ἀνατολὴ is the Greek word here translated "DAYSPRING"
--This word is used in the LXX to translate the term "BRANCH" in all 6 passages of its O.T. use.
--LXX is the Greek translation of the O.T. made in Alexandria about 260 B.C.
--Thus, Zacharias is making a reference to Christ as "the Most High", to whom John would be a "Prophet", but also to Messiah in His character as "BRANCH", "shoot" or "sprout"

4-ILLUS--Dr. Donald Grey Barnhouse told of several oak trees which he planted near his house, and all but one

closing Hymn 317

grew more than 20-feet high. That other one was damaged and died at the soil line, but the root system remained intact. A shoot came forth--spindly and week. Barnhouse was about to tear it out when a horticulturist told him to leave it be, and this shoot would catch up with the other trees.

Barnhouse relates that: "Though I could hardly believe what I was told, I left it alone. After 2 years it was 6 feet tall; after 4 years it was 12 feet tall. It had a fine branch system, all fed from a root system equal to that of the other trees I'd planted."

God slices thru the Gentile forest like a hurricane, lopping boughs with terrifying power, hewing down the tallest trees with His axe of judgment. Then, from the most unlikely stump, comes forth a NEW TREE.

Jesse, the father of King David was in the royal line from Abraham to the Messiah. Who would expect that a ruler of little Israel would surpass the Caesars? God's forestry is not like man's. When he speaks, a dead stump brings forth life: Christ comes to deliver His people.

PROP — See Jesus as Foreshadowed in O.T. under this term "BRANCH"

"We would see Jesus"

**D.-MESSAGE ON "THE BRANCH":**

1-Branch of DAVID--------Kingly line
2-SERVANT, the Branch----Servitude
3-MAN Who is the Branch--Humanity
4-Branch of the LORD-----Deity

## I.-THE BRANCH OF DAVID-----(KINGLY DESCENT):

### A.-Messianic Lineage:

1-Isa. 11:1--"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of His roots."

--"Shall come"--Yet future to Isaiah's day

--"A rod"--Symbol of rulership; a SCEPTRE

--"Out of the stem of Jesse"=STUMP

** Descendancy thru Judah

** Gen. 49:10--"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah...until Shiloh come" ——Now narrowed down

** Kingship promised thru David's line as a son of JUDAH + JESSE

--"A Branch"--an offshoot

--"Shall grow"

** Not burst on the scene as a Theophany

** Rather, meticulously prepared & presented

--"Out of his roots"

** Beautiful glory of Solomon's empire was "cut down"

** Israel is now under Rome's domination

** Messiah will come out of the roots of the cut off stump.

2-Jer. 23:5--"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign, and prosper, and shall execute judgment & justice in the earth."

--"Unto David"--Fulfillment of 2 Sam. 7 promises

--"And a King shall reign"

** Promise indicates a literal restoration

** Throne & glory will be returned

** Impossible to spiritualize this into the Church

** Let's not ROB Israel of its "hope"

--"And prosper"=="act wisely"
--"Shall execute judgment & justice in the earth"
** For the first time in history the poor & the meek will get a square deal NEW DEAL SQUARE DEAL GREAT SOCIETY
** Result of Christ's visible reign
** Only Jesus Christ can present adequate credentials today of His right to this throne of David. All others' lineage records destroyed 70 AD

3-Jer. 33:15--"In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and He shall execute judgment & righteousness in the land."
--Very similar to Jer. 23:5
--"In those days"--Ref. to Millennium: Yet Future

B.-Emphasis on RIGHTEOUSNESS:
1-Jer. 23:5-6
2-Jer. 33:15-16
3-That's a change from the kind of Kings usually on the thrones of the world's kingdoms

C.-New Testament Confirmation:
1-Matt. 1:1--"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham." THRONE rights LAND rights
2-Rom. 1:1, 3--"Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God...concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;" HUMANITY
3-Rev. 19:16--"And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS"
4-Parallel with Gospel of Matthew
--Kingship is shown
--BRANCH IS KING as Matthew presents Jesus Christ to the Jewish reader Valid credentials to inherit David's Throne.

II.-MY SERVANT THE BRANCH--(HUMILIATION + SERVITUDE):

A.-Theme of Humiliation:
1-Zech. 3:8--"Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH."
--"Behold"--Something to see & wonder at
--"I will bring forth"
** By the power of God
** At a time future to Zechariah in 519 B.C.
** A Person expected by Zechariah
--"My Servant" ** Not just One Who is a servant
** Term 'my' indicates His devotion to God--Ties in w/ Isa. 42:1 also
--"The Branch"
** Identifies this Servant with the One spoken of in a Kingly connection in Isa. 11 and Jer. 23 & 33
**Jews were puzzled & confounded by this term "BRANCH".
** Couldn't reconcile a KINGLY aspect with

the SERVANT aspect of "The Branch"

✳2-Isa. 42:1-12
--Read 42:1-5a
--Theme of an extended passage of Isaiah is THE SERVANT of Jehovah
--Seen as weak & rejected — MEEK
--Also seen as a mighty conquerer
--Very obvious references to Christ here

3-Isa. 49:5-7 (Read)
1 --Servant is to restore Israel
2 --Servant is also (49:6) to be a light to Gentiles
3 --Servant isto become Ruler of rulers, & King of kings

4-ILLUS--The young lady to whom MOZART was first engaged to be married became discontented with her choice when she saw more of the world, so she gave up the composer. She thought him TOO SMALL in stature.

When the world had begun to recognize his greatness, she explained her refusal of him by saying: "I knew nothing of the greatness of his genius. I saw only a little man."

Isaiah speaks of the rejection of Christ by the world in much the same way: "He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected of men."

But oh! How disappointed will those same rejectors be when they see Him in His beauty!

B.-New Testament Confirmation:
1-Phs. 2:5-11
2-Self-humiliation of Christ Who "took upon Him the form of a SERVANT" ✳
3-Obedience even unto death
4-Followed by exalting at the hand of the Father, and extolling at the mouth of mankind
5-Parallel with the Gospel of Mark
--Servitude shown as Christ is constantly serving
--Mk. 10:45--"For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many."
--BRANCH is SERVANT as Mark presents Jesus Christ

## III.-THE MAN WHOSE NAME IS THE BRANCH ____(HUMANITY):

A.-Humanity Is Theme:
1-Zech. 6:12-13--"And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both."
--"Behold the man"--HUMANITY is asserted
--"Whose name is The BRANCH"--Identification with the One Who is both King & Servant also
--"He shall grow up"--Gradualness of arising (Isa.11:1)
--"Out of His place"--Palestine is HIS land
--God calls it "MY" land

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR"

--"He shall build the temple of the LORD"
** Proper worship
** Proper service
"My House shall be called a House of Prayer for all nations"
--"He shall bear the glory"--Requires a BODY of humanity
--"He shall be a priest forever upon His throne"
** Unusual combination
** King-Priest
** Must be a man to function as both
** Christ fulfills as Prophet, Priest and King

2-All these statements demand that the BRANCH be indeed a man who possesses all the reality of a man
3-Teaching of the Humanity of Messiah

Jn. 19:6 "Behold the MAN"

B.-New Testament Confirmation:
1-1 Cor. 15:45-47
2-Both Adam & his anti-type (Christ) must be men
3-Contrasts between Adam & Christ
--In LIFE PRINCIPLE
** 1 Cor. 15:45
** Adam was made a living soul (life receiving soul)
** Christ is a quickening spirit (life giving person)
--In NATURE ** 1 Cor. 15:46
** Adam was natural in nature
** Christ was spiritual in nature
--In POINT OF ORIGIN
**1 Cor. 15:47
** Adam was of the earth
** Christ is the Lord from heaven
4-YET, with these distinctions, BOTH WERE TRULY HUMAN....
5-Parallel with the Gospel of Luke:
--Humanity is shown as Christ is seen to have
** Human genealogy
** Human family
** Human boyhood
** Human relation to David's line
** Human passions
** Human frailties
** Human emotions
** Human physical frame
--Key phrase in Luke's gospel is "Son of Man"
--The Doctor, Luke, wrote about the "Man whose Name is The BRANCH", about the humanity of our Savior

## IV.-THE BRANCH OF THE LORD----(DEITY):

A.-Deity Is The Theme:
1-Isa. 4:2--"In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped."

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

--"In that day"--Used in 4:1 & 2 as reference to time after the Tribulation when its a "perpetual leap year"
--"Shall"---yet future
--"The branch"--Law of first reference
*--Not capitalized because not a full-blown concept yet
--Capitalized in 11:1, etc
--"Of the LORD" **=="of Jehovah"
** This Branch is DEITY
** Same Branch who is King, Servant & Man
** Immanuel character is seen
** Further revealed in Isa. 7:14
--"Be beautiful and glorious"--Christ shall be thus "in that day" of His millennial kingdom
--"The fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely"--sufficient provision for all need
--"For them that are escaped of Israel"
** Relates to Israel
** Relates to restored Israel
** Relates to converted Israel
** Relates to Israel after Messiah's return in glory

B. New Testament Confirmation:
1-Luke 1:30-36
2-Mt. 25:31--"When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory"
3-Parallel with the Gospel of John
--DEITY of Christ is the theme of John's gospel — 7 Miracles / "I Am's"
--Seen in every chapter
--Summarized in 20:31--"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God: and that believing ye might have life thru His Name."
--BRANCH is DEITY as John presents the life of Jesus Christ

CONCLUSION:

A. The Presentation To The Multitude:
1-John 19:1-6.....esp. 19:5
2-"Behold the Man"
--"Ecce Homo" in Latin
--Presented to the nation in these words by Pilate
--PRECISE WORDS predicted by Zechariah concerning "The BRANCH"
--Israelites should have caught this divinely arranged last warning to their hearts
--But in their blind frenzy they cried.....
--"Crucify, "CRUCIFY," "CRUCIFY HIM"
3-I invite YOU to "BEHOLD THE MAN"

N B

4-Jesus Christ--Died by man
--Died **in the stead** of man
--As the Holy Son of God, took the place of sinful men
--**Bore the punishment** due to men

5-His death therefore **shattered the authority** of Satan and death and the grave over mankind.

6-**AS MAN** He arose, the Conquerer of death
--**1 Cor.** 15:21--"For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead"
--**Col.** 1:18--He "is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence"

7-**ILLUS**--Some years ago two Christian missionaries entered a town in **Poland.** No Jew would listen to them. At last they sent a challenge to the Rabbi for a public debate on whether Jesus was the Christ.

For 3 days the **synagogue** was **crowded**, and at last the missionaries were cast out, spit upon, and beaten---barely escaping with their lives. The **Rabbi was applauded** as a splendid monument of truth.

Next Sabbath he **did not conduct** the worship in the synagogue. Another Sabbath passed with a deputy in the pulpit. **Then a notice** was issued that Rabbi Goldringer wished to see all the members of the **synagogue** on the 3rd Sabbath.

Amid breathless silence, the Rabbi--very pale--arose & said: "Brethren, you are all aware of the recent controversy. You were good enough to **acclaim me** as **victor** in that debate. As I have to stand before the Judge of all the earth, I must tell you, let the consequences be what they may, that **I WAS CONQUERED**; and I am here to say, among all those who know me best, that **JESUS OF NAZARETH IS THE MESSIAH** of whom Moses and the Law spake."

**B.-Jesus Christ--The BRANCH:**

1-As **KING** of David's line--------Matthew's gospel
2-As **SERVANT** of God----------Mark's gospel
3-As truly **MAN**----------Luke's gospel
4-As full & undiminished **DEITY**---John's gospel
5-Truly; Jesus Christ is **THE BRANCH** ?
6-**Are you** engrafted into Him by faith?
7-Have you been **as honest as the Rabbi** in examining Messiah Jesus' credentials?
8-Have you put **your trust** in
--The BABE of Bethlehem
--The CHRIST of Calvary
9-"Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, If He's not born in thee, thy soul is still forlorn"

"WE WOULD SEE JESUS"

**POEM**

'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus -- #317
"Angels From The Realms Of Glory"--#43
"I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day"-#52
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"----------#48

Westbrae--12/24/67
12/16/73
4/4/77
Trinity Bapt Ch, Moundsville, WV.

12/23/79 – AM – Pettus Baptist Ch., Pettus, WV
PM – Mt. Hope Bible Church, WV
12/30/79 – Mt. Tabor Bapt. Ch., Beckley, WV
12/15/85 – OKBC

"THE 'BEHOLDS' OF CHRIST's BIRTH" Isa. 7:14, etc.

INTRO:

A.- Read Isaiah 7:1-14

B.- Draw Attention To "BEHOLD", as a frequently used term in Scr.

C.- Series Of These In Scripture
1- Related to Christ
2- Esp. to His Birth
3- But not limited to that

I.-The Behold Of **Prophetic Anticipation**: (Isa. 7:14; 1-14)

A.-The **Situation**:
1-Invasion threat by Syria & Israel
2-No need to fear--BURNED OUT

B.-The **Sign**:
1-Term used in Ex. 4:8, 9 ** Rod turned to a snake
** Hand turned leprous
2-Indication of DIVINE INTERVENTION

C.-The **Specifics**:
1-Virgin to conceive
2-Son to be born (sex predicted)
3-Immanuel--------Mt. 1:23

II.-THE BEHOLD OF **PARTICULARS**: (Lk. 1:31-33)

= Deliverer

A.-His Birth:--------"Thou shalt conceive in thy womb"
B.-His Sex:----------"A son" (supernaturally)
C.-His Name:---------"Call His Name JESUS" = JOSHUA of O.T.
D.-His Character:----"He shall be great" Mic. 5:4; Lk.7:16
E.-His Nature:-------"Called the Son of the Highest"
F.-His Station:------"The THRONE of His Father, David"
G.-His Work:---------"Reign over the House of Jacob..."
H.-His Continuance:--"Of His kingdom there shall be no end"

III.-THE BEHOLD OF **PRINCIPLE**: (Lk. 1:34-37)

A.-The Question:------"How shall this be?" (1:34)
B.-The Explanation:---1:35
C.-The Confirmation:--1:36 } REASSURANCE!
D.-The Declaration:---"For with God nothing shall be impossible" 1:37

IV.-THE BEHOLD OF **PARTICIPATION**: (Lk. 1:38)

A.-Humble Maiden:
B.-Humble Manner

Supernaturally inspired submission

V.-THE BEHOLD FOR **POSTERITY**: (Lk. 1:48;----1:46-56)

A.-Redeemed:--------1:46-47
B.-Regarded:--------1:48a
C.-Rewarded:--------1:48b--49
D.-Remembrances:----1:50-55
E.-Return:----------1:56

VI.-THE BEHOLD OF PROCLAMATION: (Lk. 2:10-------2:8-11)

A.-Shepherds Received It:-------Lk. 2:8-9

B.-Angels Revealed It:----------Lk. 2:10
1-"Fear not"
2-"Joy"
3-"Good Tidings"
4-"To all (the) people"==ISRAEL

C.-Savior/Redeemer and MESSIAH

VII.-THE BEHOLD OF PROMISE: (Lk. 2:34-----2:25-35)

A.-Simeon's Character: (Lk. 2:25)
1-JUST==Relation to men
2-DEVOUT==Relation to God
3-"Waiting for the consollation of Israel"==Relation to the Scriptures.

B.-Simeon's Consolation: (Lk. 2:26-32)
1-Revealed expectation — Not see death until he's seen the Lord's Christ
2-Recorded exclamation (1:29-32) + Thy Salv. + A Light

C.-Savior's Cleavage: (Lk. 2:34-35)

VIII.-THE BEHOLD OF PROPHETIC FULFILLMENT: (Mt. 2:1-2---2:1--11)

A.-The Magi's Coming:----------Mt. 2:1
B.-The Magi's Questioning:-----Mt. 2:2
1-Where is HE that is born King of the Jews?
2-HIS Star ** Num. 24:15-19
** STAR and SCEPTRE
3-Come to worship Him
C.-The Magi's Worshipping----HIM----Mt. 2:11
1-With their BODIES
2-With their SOULS
3-With their GOODS ** Gold--------Testimony to divinity
** Frankincense--Fragrance of a HOLY LIFE
** Myrrh----Symbolized His death
** Giving is an integral part of
W O R S H I P P I N G
4-God's gracious provision for financing their trip to Egypt & living expenses there

IX.-THE BEHOLDS OF PROTECTION: (Mt. 2:13-14 and 19-21)

A.-Flee To Egypt: (Mt. 2:13-14)
B.-Return To Israel: (Mt. 2:19-21)

OBEDIENCE

## X.-THE BEHOLD OF PURCHASE: (John 1:29, 36)

A.-Substitute:
B.-Sacrifice:
C.-Supernatural Savior: ---Heb. 7:26

"For such an high priest became us who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, + made higher than the heavens."

## XI.-THE BEHOLD OF PERSONALIZATION: (1 John 3:1-2)

A.-Great Love:
B.-Great Liberty:---------"SONS of God"
C.-Great Loss:------------"Knew Him not"
D.-Great Likeness:--"NOW are WE....WE shall be like Him"
E.-Decision:

Pause and marvel carefully at the supernatural gift of God's love. He couldn't give us something from this earth, for everything in the world deteriorates and is corrutible. This is due to man's SIN. This tremendous GIFT came from heaven above, providing that which man could never provide for himself, even ETERNAL REDEMPTION !!

## XII.-THE BEHOLD OF POSITION: (2 Cor. 5:17)

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things are passed away, behold, all things are become new."

A.-New Creation:---------IN CHRIST
B.-New Condition:--------OLD...PASSED AWAY...BECOME NEW
C.-POSITION is heaven-high
PRACTICE is growing & gaining — Climbing on Track

## XIII.-THE BEHOLD OF PEACE: (Ps. 37:37)

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace"

A.-The Goal-----Peace
B.-The Gain-----Peace
C.-The Godly----"Perfect...."Upright"
D.-The GIFT thru Christ:

## XIV.-THE BEHOLD OF OUR PROSPECT: (2 Cor. 3:17-18)

"Now the Lord is that Spirit; + where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord"

A.-The Confronting:
B.-The Changing: (METAMORPHASIZED)
1-In the present
2-In the future (SOON)
--Rapture--1 Th. 4
--OR--Resurrection--1 Cor. 15
--"LIKE HIM"--"Changed into the same image"
3-No longer subject to the rules of time & space
--Sickness
--Temptation
--Pain
--Emotional upsets
--Separations
4-GLORY is ahead when we are WITH CHRIST

CONCLUSION:

A.-See Our Lord: (Heb. 12:2) "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith..."

B.-See Our Life: (Col. 3:4)
1-In the present
2-In the future
"When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."

C.-See the meaning of God's Plan For Christmas in

THE BEHOLDS OF CHRISTMAS

SUPERNATURAL INTERVENTION
of God in man's affairs

What is your response????

12/14/75--Westbrae
12/21/75--Calvary Columbus
12/18/77-Daniels M.B. Ch.
12/20/81 - Lester Bapt. Ch, W. V.
12/12/82- Lower Falls Bapt., WV.
12/2/84-Old Kanawha Bapt. Ch., WV
12/11/94-Hilltop Bapt. Ch.

#48 - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (100)
#43 - "Angels, From The Realms of Glory" (99)
#46 - "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" (101)

"FOREGLEAMS OF MESSIAH" Isa. 7:1-16
Luke 1:30-33

1

**INTRO:**

**A.-The Time:**

IMAGINE WITH ME a group of men — artists who live at different times over a span of many hundreds of years. They are cooperating in painting a portrait on a huge canvas. They see no model or master blueprint. Each man in his generation approaches the canvas and adds a few brush strokes to the image. Amazingly enough they produce a fine painting. Then their painting is stored away for four hundred years. After this length of time it is unveiled and shown to be the likeness of a Man then living!

Impossible? In the human realm, yes. But that is exactly what God has done in the Bible. This Book — written by God — provides for us a composite picture of the Son of God. The picture was painted by prophets living over a span of eleven hundred years, the last of whom wrote some four hundred years before Jesus appeared upon the earth.

The story of the gospel is a wonderful record of promise fulfilled. All that happened to Jesus upon the earth happened according to a divine plan. From Moses and the prophets we have received the pre-written history of Jesus Christ before He came.

**B.-**

"But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God

--Evangelical prophet
--Emphasizes **BOTH** Messiah's **Person** and **Work**

**C.-The Topic:**

OUTLINE
1-Messiah's Unique Birth
2-Messiah's Solitary Dignity
3-Messiah's Earthly Ministry

4-**PROP.** Our purpose today is to present Jesus Christ in **clarity** and **simplicity**, yet with power, so that all may **KNOW** HIM, **WORSHIP** HIM, and **SERVE** HIM
To that end let's take a look at...

**INTER:** What can we see of Jesus that will help us to Know Him?

## I.-MESSIAH'S UNIQUE BIRTH:

**A.-Background Understanding:**

1-Isaiah 7:1-14
2-**Ahaz** is king of **Judah**
3-**Pekah**, King of Israel & **Rezin**, King of Syria are in military alliance against Jerusalem **BEFORE** Israel went into captivity to the Assyrians
4-King and people are **terrified** In Judah
5-Isaiah **sent to Ahaz** by God
--Told **not to fear** or be fainthearted at this alliance
--Told they are "**smoking**", (not) "**flaming** firebrands" that are **almost burned out** (within 65 years)
--Told that Israel was soon to be into captivity + 50 no longer a threat to Judah
6-Reassuring sign offered
--Ask a **SIGN** of the LORD thy God
--Sign in the **depth** or in **heaven** Invitation to claim a MIRACLE!
--Ahaz **refuses** to ask for a sign
--**False piety**; Evasive words (7:12)

7-Isaiah's reply--No longer personally to Ahaz, but representatively as head of House of David
--Isn't it enough that you weary me ? (2)
*--Must you weary God also ?
--SIGN GIVEN by God
SAME WORD — Isa 7:14 / Ex. 4:8-9

**B. A Sign:**
1-Term used widely in O.T.
2-Term used to denote a MIRACLE
3-ILLUS--Ex. 4:1-9
(a) ROD became a snake
(b) HAND became leperous
(c) WATER of the Nile became blood
4-So, this is not a natural phenomenon which is promised

**C. A Virgin:**
1-Long time controversy over this word
2-True that there are 2 words for "VIRGIN" in Hebrew
• "BETHULAH" is the technical term & is unquestioned
• "ALMAH" is the word used here — Ex. 2:8
** Liberals deny it always means "virgin"
** Translated it "young woman" in RSV
*** UNGER--"'virgin' is, nevertheless, the proper rendering in Isa. 7:14 of almah, which may not only take this meaning (Gen. 24:43), but in the light of Matt. 1:23 must take this meaning." (Dictionary, P. 1159)
3-No "SIGN", or miracle, if a young married woman conceives, for that is perfectly natural
4-Terms used interchangeably in Gen. 24:16, 43
*5-ROBERT DICK WILSON--Master of 40 Oriental languages: "There is absolutely no evidence in either Babylonian, Arabic, Aramaic, Syriac or Hebrew, for the use of almah in the sense of 'young married woman'. I have looked up every passage in which it occurs in Hebrew and its equivalent in cognate languages, & I have sought in vain for any such usage. Dictionaries are man-made. Demand the original source from anyone holding a word means so-and-so."
6-So--we see that this sign is of a miraculous conception and birth prophesied to the nation of Israel !

**D. A Son:**
1-Until very recently doctors have declined to predict the sex of an unborn child
2-Much less, the sex of one 740 years before its conception.
3-The line--Gen. 3:15 "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman + between thy seed + her seed: He shall bruise thy head + thou shalt bruise his heel."
Gen. 4:1 And Adam knew Eve his wife + she conceived + bare Cain, + said, I have gotten a man from the LORD."
Gal. 4:4--"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law"
4-MESSIAH is in view here !
The GOD-MAN!
100 Centuries between the Promise + the Fulfillment

**E. Immanuel:**
1-Meaning: == "God with us"
2-Used also in 8:8; Mt. 1:22-23
3-Obviously the fulfillment of Isa. 7:14 is Jesus of Naz.
4-Description of His UNIQUE BIRTH
5-Confirmed in the Gospel of Luke 1, 2 + 3

## II. MESSIAH'S SOLITARY DIGNITY:

READ THIS

### A. The Exact Terms (9:6a, b):

1-"For unto us a **child** is **born**,"
- --Fulfillment of 7:14 prophecy
- --Seen in Bethlehem's manger
- --Luke 2:4-7
- --The **CHILD** was **born** — CONTRAST

2-"...unto us a **Son** is **given**"
- --This is the **SON** of God
- --Eternal God gave His eternal Son
- --Micah 5:2--"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."
- --The **Gift of God**
- * --John 3:16
- --The **SON** was **given**

* 3-**Impossible** to reverse the **wording** & be scripturally accurate--**SON** was not born, *for He was eternal*
--**CHILD** was not given

4-**Beautiful accuracy** in its **exact words** in **Scripture**. !

### B. The Exalted Titles (9:6d+)--"His Name shall be called..."

1-**Wonderful**
- --in birth
- --in ministry
- --in spoken words
- --in miracles of healing the sick & raising the dead
- --in His death
- --in resurrection & ascension
- --**Parallel**--Judges 13:17-18--"And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, What is thy name, that when thy sayings come to pass we may do thee honour? And the angel of the LORD said unto him, why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is **secret**?==(**Wonderful**) acc. ASV

? ? ? = Pele

2-**Counsellor**--**People today**--*confused
*perplexed
** Mixed up
- --**Safely able** to **trust His words** — WISE
- --**Infinitely wise**
- --**Personally loving**
- ** --No one who **follows** Him will **go astray** — Best Advice

3-**The Mighty God**--Sometimes **good advice isn't enough**
- --We need **POWER** as well !
- --Sometimes only the **intervention of God** can salvage a situation
- * --Here we have **Immanuel**, the **Creator** & **Sustainer** of the universe — FULLY ABLE

4-**The Everlasting Father**--**Strange term** when **applied to the Son**
- --**ASV** margin ==**"Father of Eternity"**
- --**Appropriate** inasmuch as He is the maker of all we see in creation
- --The Son is **not to be confounded** with the Father, though He & the Father are **ONE** (Jn. 10:30)

"I and my Father are ONE"

--But He is **the One** in whom the **ages meet** (Heb. 1:2 margin), therefore He is rightly designated, **"The Father of the ages"** (4)

*--As the hymnwriter, **Phillips Brooks** wrote:

"The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in Thee tonight."

5-**The Prince Of Peace** (The Mighty God)

--Notice a definite article, **"THE"** here & in #3

*--Not one of many, but **THE ONLY ONE** *

--Those who trust Him find peace

** In Isaiah's day

** In our own day, also } BOTH!

--Prince of Peace is **rejected** by the world

--Therefore the world has **no peace**--and will have none

--Christ would have brought peace **1900 years ago**, but man's **unbelief rejected it**

--God's plans are **not frustrated**---though delayed

--The **time will yet come** when this exalted title will be fulfilled, and Christ will be acknowledged as **THE** Prince of Peace

REAL PEACE

BENEVOLENT DESPOT

**C.-The Eternal Throne (9:6c, 7):**

1-**Government** upon His shoulder

--Messiah will be the **world's ruler** — Earth reign of David's Son

--A millennium is still coming

--Reign will **increase** in scope

--Peace will not end

2-**Throne** of David--**Promised line** for Messiah

--Genealogical **credentials** in **Mt.** & **Lk.**

--No other person can prove their right to that throne — Records lost in A.D. 70

--**Only JESUS** can

--**Lk. 1:31-33**

--**Characterized** by **judgment** and **justice**

--To last **"for ever"**

--This eternal throne is backed by the **promise** of God

--"The zeal of the LORD of Hosts will perform this"

TENSION between BELIEF + REJECTION

3-NOTE--**Birth** of Jesus--------Rejected by the **JEWS**

--**Kingdom** of Jesus-------Rejected by **Amillennialists**

--**Deity** of Jesus--------Rejected by the **LIBERALS**

** *--All 3 are **ACCEPTED** by **Bible believers**

4-I'll believe in His **UNIQUE BIRTH** and His **SOLITARY DIGNITY**

.....Won't you?

## III.-MESSIAH'S EARTHLY MINISTRY:

**A.-As A Servant (42:1-4):**

1-**Three "Servants"** in Isaiah--**David** (37:35)

--**Israel** (41:8, etc)

--**Messiah** (42:1-8, etc)

2-**Messiah** described--**"Mine elect"**

(42:1-4)

--"in whom my soul delighteth" 42:1

--"I have put my Spirit upon **Him**" 42:1

--"He shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

--Meekness; 42:2
--Witness is not obnoxious--42:2
--No premature judgment-----42:3
--No failure in His work-----42:4

3-Reminds of--Mark 10:45-"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister & to give His life a ransom for many"
--Phs. 2:5-8

4-So, we see, in Jesus' earthly ministry the fulfillment of the prophecies of Messiah as a **Servant**

**B. As The Savior (42:5-8):**

1-The Savior is also the **Creator**---42:5
2-**Dual purpose** of Messiah's salvation
--For **Israel**
--And for **Gentiles** — BOTH
--Isa. 42:6
--Isa. 49:6 — extra Light — Dual
3-**Result** of salvation--42:7
--To **open** blind eyes
--To bring out prisoners
--To **enlighten** those in darkness
--To free the prisoners
--ILLUS --Perhaps you've heard of Mrs. **Hattie Hollowell**, who has become known as "**THE FORGOTTEN WOMAN**", after spending **3 years, 4 months & 16 days** in a NYC jail, completely **forgotten** by authorities. The Judge blamed the incident on "some **slipshod work**" on the part of the woman's attorneys, who supposedly were working on her behalf.

There had been **an infraction** of the law & it may be that the woman was **guilty**, and possibly **deserved punishment**. But the fact that she had never been judicially sentenced, the length of time she spent in prison, and the fact that **those responsible** had **completely forgotten** about her, indicated a lack of concern on the part of someone.

When her case finally was brought to light, it was dealt with as quickly as legal machinery would allow and she was eventually released. **BUT** for more than three years **Mrs. Hollowell** had been in prison, **FORGOTTEN**. Physically she had been **WELL CARED FOR**--fed, clothed, given medical attention, had warmth and light--but she was **STILL IN PRISON**.....and no one seemed to care.

The concern of almighty God was for such **souls in prison**, when He sent His Son to be our Savior. People may be well fed and clothed, but it **cannot be said** that no one cares for their souls---**God did**.....and He **sent His Son** to free them

**C. As The Sovereign (49:7):**

1-**Kings** shall **see** and **arise**!
2-Princes shall **worship**
3-**All** "because of the LORD"
4-Evidence of **their respect**
5-ILLUS--On March 23, **1743**, **MESSIAH** was introduced in London. On that occasion George II was present; he was so awed by the "**Hallelujah Chorus**" that voluntar-

The Music of The

ily he rose in his seat and stood during the entire selection. The audience, seeing the King rise, had to rise too and remain standing as long as their Monarch did. What began as a spontaneous gesture became a tradition: since then it has been habitual for audiences to rise during the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus". HOW MUCH MORE when the Messiah Himself, as Sovereign of the universe is present.

6-Jesus has come! We've seen Messiah's earthly ministry as
- A SERVANT
- THE SAVIOR
- But where is His SOVEREIGNTY?
- Not to be seen with the eye..... YET!

7-Therefore an accusation-----Isa. 49:14
8-Divine answer----------Isa. 49:15-18
9-Mankind may forget their own, but the Lord cannot---and will not P.T.L.
10-Messiah Jesus will yet reign as SOVEREIGN
11--Phs. 2:9-11

## CONCLUSION:

### A. Our "FOREGLEAMS OF MESSIAH":

1-His Unique Birth
2-His Solitary Dignity
3-His Earthly Ministry

### B. Our "Follow-Thru" With Messiah:

1-Jn. 12:32--"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." → In FAITH or in JUDGMENT

2-What do YOU SEE in Messiah-Jesus?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| --A Sign | A Seed of Woman | --Throne of David |
| --A Son | | --Servant |
| --Immanuel | | --Savior |
| --Exalted titles | | --Sovereign |

3-Do you accept the FACTS ?
4-Have you accepted the PERSON ? (+ His gift of salvation ?)
5-Why not today?
6-Won't you follow-through on the Foregleams ?
7-To some Christianity is an argument. To many it is a performance. To a few, it is an experience---- the experience of a personal encounter with Messiah Jesus.....Won't you be one of the few who experience HIM ?
8-You must meet Him------As Savior....or --As Sovereign Judge ! Acts 17
9-Which will it be?
10-Why not yield today--Be saved !
--Be submitted to Him !

OPEN CONFESSION ! of your decision

Lower Falls Bapt. Ch.-12/13/92
Boomer Bapt. Ch, WV-12/6/81
Daniels M.B. Ch-12/25/77
Mims, Fla-1st Bapt-10/6+8/76 "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" -96
Westbrae--12/18/66 "Wonderful" -11
Calvary Columbus 12/15/74 "Oh Come, All Ye Faithful" -48
Mt. Hope Bible Ch-12/17
Old Kanawha Bapt Ch-
Beckley Regular Bapt
7/17/99-Dunedin Bible School

12/26/99 – AM – Calloway Heights
12/26/99 – PM – Grace Gospel Ch
12/11/11 – Hilltop Baptist Ch.

Isa. 7:1-16; Luke 1:26-28

INTRO: **A.-The Virgin Birth---Historical Perspective:**

1-From its beginning, the Church of Jesus Christ has held the **VIRGIN BIRTH** of our Lord Jesus Christ to be a **true** and **essential doctrine** of the Christian faith

2-To **unbelief** in all its forms, this truth has always been **offensive.** **Attacks** by **opponents** of the christian faith **began** as **early** as the **3rd century** A.D.

3-From age to age, men who **oppose** the Christian faith have **bitterly assailed** this **fundamental doctrine** of the Bible

4-It is not surprising, therefore, that the **present** day should see a vigorous revival of the **ancient assaults** upon this vital truth.

5-The **MODUS OPERANDI** of attack is virtually **the same,** as is the vigor with which it is prosecuted. The identical **objections heary with age,** are once again revived and pressed into service, though they are dressed in modern terms.

**B.-The Virgin Birth---Sources Of Attack:**

JEWS

1-**THE JEWS** have objected to the V.B. thru all ages, for they are opposed to a "**Christological interpretation of the Scriptures**"

--**John 8:41**--"We be not born of fornication"

UNBELIEVERS

2-FROM **UNBELIEVERS outside** the Church

--Formerly this was the major source of onslaught

--Skeptics such as Cerinthus, Celsus, Ingersoll, Voltaire and Paine.

--Tom Paine, Celebrated American revolutionary & skeptic wrote in his book "AGE OF REASON", "**Mythology** had prepared the people for the belief of such a story as the **virgin birth.**"

--Statements such as this are **not surprising** from avowed atheists and unbelievers

CHURCHMEN

3-FROM **CHURCHMEN within** the Church as they've followed the lead of destructive German **Higher Criticism** in the **past 150 years**

--Presently the assaults are intitiated & pursued by "**men of the cloth**"; **CHURCHMEN** decrying Bible doctrine to which they have sworn allegiance in ordination vows.

--Most of the "**old-line** denominations" are shot thru with such **denial**

--**Some** of the **supposedly "conservative"** bodies also ** Southern Baptist Convention
** Missouri Synod Lutheran

*--**MOCKERY** of the faith they have promised to proclaim

--Harry Emerson **Fosdick,** for many years the influential pastor of the famed RIVERSIDE CHURCH in New York City, had this to say in a sermon delivered in **1922:** "To believe in V.B. is one of the familiar ways

QUOTE

in which the ancient world was accustomed to account for unusual superiority--a biological miracle that our modern minds cannot use....Intelligent people **no longer believe** in the V.B."

QUOTE

Dr. **Miller Burrows** of Yale, one of the **RSV** translators with a "front" record supporting communist causes, stated in a letter: "It has never seemed to me that the virgin birth, taken literally, **really** made **any difference** for my faith. I cannot see how having one human parent makes Jesus any more divine than having two...as a literal fact it seems to me out of keeping with God's way of working in the universe. I do **not personally believe** in the virgin birth as literal historical fact." (Christian Beacon, 12/16/54)

APOSTATE?

4-Such utterances as these, made by men **WITHIN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, made by men who have been solemnly **ordained to proclaim the Gospel** of Jesus Christ, serve only to underscore the **necessity of reaffirming** once more the **common faith** of the Church through the ages, expressed in all the historic creeds; namely, **FAITH IN** THE **VIRGIN BIRTH** of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C.-The Virgin Birth—A Vital Part of Christian Doctrine:**

1-**Without** the **V.B.** of Christ, there could be **no Calvary**. The V.B. of the Savior is an **indispensible necessity** in the plan of salvation

2-**IF** the V.B. were **not true**, there would be a number of devastating results:

- Matthew & Luke were **mistaken**, stupid **fools**, or outright **liars**
- The Bible would contain **false accounts**, and would be a book of **FICTION** instead of a book of **FACTS**
- Doctrine of **infallibility** of the Scriptures would therefore **break down** completely
- Mary would be a **liar**, for she confessed, "**I know not a man.**"
- The Bible would then be a **crude attempt** to **shield** an unfortunate woman from the accusation of ~~adultery~~ fornication
- **AND, prophecy must FAIL**, for Matthew says that these things were done that prophecy might **be fulfilled**

3-The **V.B.** of the Lord Jesus Christ is, therefore **AN INDISPENSIBLE NECESSITY** if we are to retain our faith in the Word of God, and in the revelation of redemption as given in the Bible.

4-When our father, **Adam**, **sinned**, the entire human **race fell** in him as its **FEDERAL** & REPRESENTATIVE **HEAD**. Adam's sin is transmitted to all his descendants so that every child born since then with Adam's blood is **born a sinner** under condemnation & in **need of a Savior**.

5-**This Savior**, therefore, **must share Adam's flesh & humanity**, but **not Adam's SIN**!! That is **the reason** for the V.B.

- A Redeemer must be **born** Who is a **MAN**, to atone for man's sin.
- But the Redeemer must be **without** the **sin of man**.
- At the same time the Redeemer must be **INFINITE GOD HIMself**, for sin deserved the punishment of eternal death, since it is committed against an infinitely holy being.

NB! 6-SO Our Redeemer must meet 3 conditions NB! (3)

1--He must be a MAN
2--He must be GOD
3--He must be without sin

7-How does Jesus Christ fit this prescription ??

1 --He became a man by being born of a human mother
2 --He was God, for He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and without the agency of a human father according to God's record
3 --He was sinless by reason of the Virgin Birth.

## D.-The Virgin Birth---A Definition:

DEF. 1-Virgin Birth means that the Lord Jesus Christ as to His human nature was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary by a supernatural conception by the operation of the Holy Spirit of God.

2-Outline--I.-The Line Of The V.B. Starts:
II.-The Line Of The V.B. Jumps:
III.-The Line Of The V.B In A Virgin:

3-Prop:--To show the truth of this BIBLICAL doctrine which bears--To witness to the UNIQUE Virgin-Born Son of God, Who is our Savior.

## I.-THE LINE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH STARTS:

### A.-The Line Begins---Protevangelium:

1-Gen. 3:14-15--"And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, & above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, & dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, & between thy seed & her seed; it (HE) shall bruise (CRUSH) thy head & thou shalt bruise His heel."

2-HINT of the V.B. here in "HER SEED"
3-Promise given here thru the woman. NB
4-Hope of mankind is IN A MAN, not an angel, but a man Who will be "seed of the woman", which is a peculiar term.
5-This promise of a seed related to Christ

--Gal. 3:16--"Now to Abraham & his Seed were the promises made. He saith not 'And to seeds' as of many, but of ONE, 'And to thy Seed', which is Christ"

--Thus, the promise of the Virgin Born Redeemer is funneled thru Abraham

### B.-The Line Through Abraham:

1-Blurred because Abraham had 8 sons--Ishmael by Hagar
--Isaac by Sarah
--6 sons by Keturah

2-WHICH ONE would be the channel of Messiah??
3-God leaves no doubt
4-Gen. 21:12--"In Isaac shall thy seed be called."
5-BUT Isaac had 2 sons--Jacob & Esau — Which??
6-God made a sovereign choice of Jacob instead of Esau

--Rom. 9:11-13--"(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated"

--SOVEREIGN ELECTION of God

--And, He has that right!

(4)

## C.-The Line Through Jacob:

Fathers of Israel's Twelve Tribes

1-Complicated somewhat.....

2-Because Jacob had 12 sons

3-WHICH ONE will provide the Redeemer & Ruler!?

4-Gen. 49:10--"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from his feet until SHILOH come; and unto Him the gathering of the people be"

shall

--SHILOH is a PERSON, not a place

="The Bringer of Rest, of Peace"

--Think of the prominence of "PEACE" as it relates to our Lord

NIB

5-THUS, the line is narrowed greatly

--Seed of a woman

--Abraham's descendent

--Isaac's line

--Jacob's family

--Judah's tribe

--MILLIONS, yes BILLIONS of possibilities are thus excluded

--We know where to watch

Judah's line

# II.-THE LINE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH JUMPS:

## A.-Why Is Genesis 38 In The Bible?!

1-Deals with the sin of Judah with Tamar, his daughter-in-law

2-WHAT PURPOSE was there for recording this sordid act in the Scripture?

3-God's laws must be fulfilled, and He shows the process of that fulfillment

4-Deut. 23:2--"A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even unto his 10th generation."

--This does not preclude SALVATION in those 10 generations

--Deals, rather, with the SERVICE toward God being acceptable in His sight

5-Messianic Redeemer was to be out of JUDAH'S TRIBE

--Fulfillment cannot be cancelled

--But fulfillment must be DELAYED because of the righteousness of God's laws for man

--No need to look for the Redeemer for 10 generations now.

--Until then, HE CANNOT COME!

## B.-Israel Cries For A King:

1-NINE generations after this sin of Judah with Tamar

2-God has promised a King--Thru Moses (De. 17:14-20)

--But IN HIS TIME

--Israel is unwilling to wait God's time----so clamors

3-God could have given them JESSE of the line of Judah
--but, GOD DIDN'T
--Why not ??
--Why did God give them Saul of the line of Benjamin
--Isn't that strange?? WRONG LINE

(5)

*4-In Ruth 4:18-22 we see that Jesse was the 9th generation of Judah's line, and David was the 10th generation
--Thus, God's choice of a King for Israel was David in the line of JUDAH
--Israel's premature demand for a King yielded them Saul
--With Saul they got all the headaches of a King & kingdom out of the perfect will of God

## C.-The Line In David:

1-God's promise is in & thru David
2-Many texts & passages
3-Summarized in Acts 2:30--"...knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins according to the flesh, He would raise up Christ to sit on His throne."
4-Line is to be followed thru DESCENT FROM DAVID
5-David really makes that difficult-----with 24 sons !
*6-WHICH ONE is "the" one ??
7-God gave royal standing to David's son Solomon in 2 Sam. 7----see 7:12-13--"And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, & I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for My Name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever."
8-Descent of the throne passed from FATHER TO SON from David, to Solomon & on down to AHAZ, an exceedingly wicked & unrighteous king

742-727 BC

# III.-THE LINE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH IN A VIRGIN:

## A.-The Sign To Ahaz:

Message #1

1-Isa. 7:1-9
--Threat of invasion of Judah by an alliance of REZIN King of Syria, with REMALIAH, King of Israel
--Message of Isaiah the prophet of God
** "FEAR NOT, neither be fainthearted..."
** "...two tails of these smoking firebrands"== Power of these 2 kings is not "flaming", but almost burned out
--TWO-FOLD REASSURANCE
** Isa. 7:7
** "...within 65 years shall Ephraim be broken
7:8
ed

Message #2

2-Isa. 7:10-13--Second message of God to Ahaz
-Isa. 7:11 ** ANY SIGN or miracle is offer
** Sign in earth beneath or in heaven above
** SIGN == MIRACLE of divine intervention
** Ex. 4:8-9; Isa. 38:7-8

"This shall be a SIGN unto thee from the LORD... Behold I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward..." Isa. 38:7-8

--False piety of Ahaz in reply
** Isa. 7:12
** Pious front in refusal by Ahaz
--Isaiah's rebuke (7:13)

3-GOD'S SIGN--Isa. 7:14-16
a-A miracle is to be expected
b-A VIRGIN shall conceive
** Unparalleled in either mythology or religious literature, though some have sought to find such parallels
** Come back to this term "virgin more fully in a later message
** Suffice to say here "...as a matter of fact there is no place among the seven occurrences of 'almah' in the Old Testament where the word is clearly used of a woman who was not a virgin." (Machen, "The Virgin Birth", P. 288)
c-A SON **Fulfillment will be "seed of the woman" promised in Gen. 3:15
** More in Isa. 9:6--CHILD is born & the SON is given
d-Call His name IMMANUEL
** Shows this virgin-born child to be DEITY !
** Means "God with us"
** Gal. 4:4--"But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem..."
** Distinct fulfillment of this prophecy is claimed in the N.T. in connection with the birth of Jesus Christ
* Mt. 1:21-23 (READ)
e-Isa --7:15 deals with the plainness & simplicity of the life which young Immanuel would be brought up
f--7:16 ** Speedy decline of Kingdoms of Judah & Israel is forseen
** Some make "THE CHILD" to be Isaiah's son (7:3) rather than Messiah
** Noteworthy item---"the land that thou abhorest shall be forsaken of both her kings"
** Indication of a time with no Davidic King on the throne of Israel

4-SO, God gives a sign to ALL ISRAEL, not just to faithless King Ahaz
5-That MIRACLE-SIGN is the hope of a virgin-born God-Man Who will be "God with us"
6-Therefore A VIRGIN is the one to look for now to bring forth the One promised of God

B. The Expectancy In Israel:
1-Over 700 years roll by following Isaiah's predictions
2-400 "silent years" after close of O.T. Cannon with Malachi and his promise of "The Messenger of the covenant" and "The Sun of righteousness" Who was to come
3-EVERY MAIDEN hoped that it would be she who would be chosen

as the most **highly favored** of God to be **the mother** of this virgin-born child

4-**GREAT EXPECTANCY** in Israel about the time when Jesus was born--**Maccabbees** have thrown off Greece's yoke
--Patriotic **fervor** burns hot
--**Apocryphal** books **cry out** for **God to come** & gather His people again
--**Rome** is a foreign dominator
--**Herod** rebuilds & refurbishes **the Temple** in Jerusalem
--**Hope** of **a DELIVERER** runs high!
--**Israel's people** are widely **dispersed**
--Yet, as Alfred **Edersheim** writes: "Whatever shades of difference, then, we may note in the expression of these views, **all anticipate** the **deliverance** of Israel, their restoration, and future pre-eminent glory, and they all connect these events with the **coming** of the **Messiah.**"(Life & Times Of Jesus The Messiah, I, P.82)

## CONCLUSION:

### A.-Definition Of The Virgin Birth:

1-The expression "**VIRGIN BIRTH**" **means** that the Lord Jesus Christ as to **His human nature** was **conceived in the womb** of the virgin Mary by a supernatural operation of the **Holy Spirit** of God

Def

2-**Apostle's Creed**---"He was **conceived by the Holy Ghost**"

3-As such the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ stands as an **ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE EVENT** in the history of the world.

### B.-Delineation Of The Virgin Birth:

1-**Promises** of the V.B. begin on the **earliest pages** of the O.T.

2-**Progress** of the doctrine of **the LINE** OF THE V.B. is part of the **fabric of** the **O.T.** record

3-**To deny** the **V.B.** it is necessary to **deny** the **inspiration**, accuracy and authority of the **Scriptures**

4-**THE ISSUE**, then, is **clear**
--**BELIEF** of God as He reveals Himself in the Scriptures as sending His virgin-born Son into the world as Savior of all who believe
--**REJECTION** of God, His promises and His love-provided Messiah-Redeemer

ONE OR THE OTHER! OR

### C.-Declaration Regarding The Virgin Birth:

1-The **whole case** has not yet been presented, but will be

2-There is absolutely **no reason for** any **misunderstanding** of the Bible at this point!! With an exactness and a minuteness that cannot be evaded, the Scriptures declare that **JESUS CHRIST** WAS **BORN OF A VIRGIN** in the most literal sense

3-It is **impossible**, therefore, **to justify a denial** of the doctrine of the V.B. on the grounds of **"that's just your interpretation"** alone

4-So clearly is the doctrine taught that it can only be **denied** by denying the **Bible itself**

NB

5-If a man accepts the Bible as GOD'S HOLY WORD, then he must inevitably believe that Jesus Christ was VIRGIN BORN

(8)

6-That is my declaration of faith: "Jesus Christ, the virgin-born Son of God is my personal Savior."

7-What is your declaration??

The FACTS believed and Your RESPONSE received.

- Have you
- Will you make that choice TODAY?

A Lamb — Ex. 12:3
THE Lamb — Ex. 12:4
YOUR Lamb — Ex. 12:5

SERIES

#1 — This message
#2 — Born Of A Virgin — Lk. 1:26-47
#3 — Whose Son Is This — Isa 9:1-7; Mt. 1:16-25
#4 — N.T. Witnesses To The V.B. — Luke 1:1-4; 2:1-20
#5 — Eyewitnesses To The V.B. — Luke 2:21-38
#6 — The V.B. & The New Birth — John 3:1-18

12/13/70 Westbrae
Tell Me The Story Of Jesus #106
#21--Come Thou Almighty King #6
#43--Angels, From The Realms Of Glory #99
#331--Trust In The Lord #204 Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus /379

Lookout Bapt. Ch., WV. - 12/4/83
OKBC — 11/23/86
Oak Hill Bible Church, WV — 12/4/88
Bible Center Church, Chas. WV - 11/4/90
Glen View Ind. Bapt. Ch — 12/30/90
Hilltop Bapt. Ch. — 11/13/94
Middletown Bible Ch — 1/8/95
Harper Heights Bapt. Ch - 12/15/04
Hilltop Bapt. Ch — 12/26/04
Crow Christian Ch — 12/3/06

# "WHOSE SON IS THIS?"

Isa 9:1-7
Matt. 1:16-25

INTRO:

## A.- Defining The Virgin Birth:

1-**Traced the "LINE"** of the Redeemer from **Eve** to **Mary**--thru the O.T.
--thru the N.T.

2-**Defined** the Virgin Birth as meaning that "the Lord Jesus Christ as to His human nature was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary by a **supernatural operation** of the Holy Spirit of God

## B.-Modern Denials Of The Virgin Birth:

1-Bishop **James A. Pike**: EPISCOPALIAN
"I'm inclined to believe it is a **myth**, introduced to explain the dual nature of Christ. A myth is a particular **literary form** for telling the truth... The moment you literalize it, you **spoil the myth.**" (San Rafael Independent Journal, Jan. 30, 1960)

2-Dr. **Theodore A. Gill**: PRESIDENT OF SAN ANSELMO **PRESBYTERIAN** SEMINARY
"All Christians honor the mother of Jesus, but some have serious questions about the birth **legends**." (Christian Century, May 7, 1958)
"What of us who make the virgin birth **no part of our personal confession**, however often liturgical obedience involves us in its public repetition..." (Christian Century, April 2, 1958)

3-**NOTE THE TERMS OF DENIAL:**
--"Myth"
--"Legend"

## C.-The Real Truth About The Virgin Birth:

1-Christianity depends upon its great **FACTS**. It cannot be ethically & morally **true** and at the same time historically **false**. In the Virgin Birth of Christ, we have a **supreme** & **stupendous miracle**. In one sense it is the most supendous & overwhelming **fact** ever presented to human intelligence. It even made the great mind of the Apostle Paul ponder when he exclaimed: "Great is the mystery of Godliness. God was manifest in the flesh..."(1 Tim. 3:16)

2-But after all, even the **creation of man** is a **mystery**; even the facts of the physical universe are a mystery, as God reminded Job when He asked that series of questions about the creation of the world & the upholding of it: "**WHERE WAST THOU**, when I laid the foundation of the earth?" (Job. 38:4)

3-If you have **difficulty accepting** any fact of the Christian faith, such as the **Virgin Birth**, the **resurrection**, the ascension, or some of the miracles that Christ performed, the thing to **remember** is what the Angel Gabriel said to Mary: "WITH GOD **NOTHING** SHALL BE **IMPOSSIBLE**." (Lk1.37

4-The whole problem is one's **concept of God**. **He** is the Great Miracle. **Grant HIM**, and all else is possible. What kind of a God do you believe in"

- --A God so **small** that you can understand HIM ??
- --A God **no greater** than yourself ??

5-Probably, in the last analysis, it is a **question of authority**. The **AUTHORITY OF GOD**, or the **OPINION OF YOUR OWN FINITE MIND**.

6-**Trench** has written in "NOTES ON THE MIRACLES"

"Admit a God--that mystery supreme!
That cause uncaused! all other wonders cease:
Nothing is marvelous for Him to do:
Deny Him---all is mystery besides."

7-OUTLINE--I.-The PROPHETIC WITNESSES To The V.B.
II.-**The LEGAL LINE Of The V. B.**

8-Prop:-- We need to look at the evidence and answer the question!
"WHOSE SON IS THIS?"

## I.-THE PROPHETIC WITNESSES TO THE VIRGIN BIRTH:

### A.-Isaiah's Witness:

1-**7:14**--"Therefore the LORD Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

--**Promise** is **from the LORD** Himself as author
--**SIGN**, wonder, miracle to be expected; **SUPERNATURAL INTERVENTION** in human affairs
--To be looked for---"**Behold**"!
--**A VIRGIN** ** And that's exactly what the word means, the RSV translators notwithstanding.
** Useages: Gen. 24:16, 43 Rebecca
Ex. 2:8 Miriam
Prov. 30:19
Song of Sol. 1:3; 6:8
Isa. 7:14
Almah
** **ROBERT DICK WILSON**, master of 40 Oriental languages: "There is absolutely **no evidence** in either Babylonian, Arabic, Aramaic, Syriac or Hebrew, for the use of **ALMAH** in the sense of '**young married woman**'. I have looked up every passage in which it occurs in Hebrew & its equivalent cognate languages, & I have sought in vain for any such usage. Dictionaries are man-made. Demand the original source from anyone holding a word means so and so."

--"Shall **conceive**"; a **UNIQUE EXPERIENCE** for one who is **a VIRGIN**
--That conception shall **yield** a **SON**
--That SON is "**God with us**"
--Even the ultra-liberal **Gressman** sees this as "a

presentation of a **stupendous divine personage**, whose birth **transcends** the **ordinary** human sphere." (Quoted by **Machen**, P291)

2-**9:6-7**--"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government & peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, & upon His kingdom to order it, & to establish it with judgment & with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of Hosts will perform this."

- --**CHILD** is **born**; **HUMANITY**-----Not "**given**"
- --**SON** is given; **DEITY**----------Not "**born**"
- --**Note** the **names** ascribed to this "One" Who is both child & Son
- --Note the **definite article** "**The**", indicating specificity of this Person
  - ** The mighty God
  - ** The everlasting Father
  - ** The Prince of Peace
- --Continuance is to be "**for ever**"

Note the very specific language

**B.-Jeremiah's Witness:**

1-**31:22**--"How long wilt thou go about, o Thou backsliding daughter? for the LORD hath created a **new thing** in the earth, A woman shall **compass a man**."

2-Word from Jehovah

- --Addressed to the rebellious nation
- --Message of "**CREATION OF A NEW THING**"; something not before known, & the V.B. is a unique incident in human history
- --**UNIQUE OCCURRENCE** in man's realm; Result of **Divine intervention**
- --This **miracle** is to be "in the **earth**", not in heaven or beneath the earth
- --Related to a **WOMAN**. → Gen. 3:15
- --Woman is to "**COMPASS**" a man, rather than "**BEAR** a child"
- --Confirmed in **Mt. 1:16**--"And Jacob begat Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom (fem. gender; single number) was born Jesus , who is called Christ."

**C.-Micah's Witness:**

1-**5:2**--"But thou, Bethlehem- the thousa come forth Whose goin lasting."

2-Locates **the PLA**

3-Identifies it a in Galilee (Jos

4-This "**ONE**" is t **relationship** to

--He wa

--He was to be **ETERNAL**--"Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

5-Scofield--"The **child** was **born** in Bethlehem, but the **Son**

Messiah must have a birthplace. Three continents--Europe, Asia & Africa--were known to the ancient world. Asia was chosen. But Asia has many countries--one of them is indicated, a little country known as THE **LAND OF PROMISE**, Palestine. Here were three districts, Judaea, Galilee and Samaria. It is Judaea that is the elect one. But here again are many villiages. Out of these the favored one is little **BETHLEHEM**. To make the prediction more definite and certain, it is Bethlehem in the land of Judah. (A.T. Pierson)

The **PERSON** is described

was from everlasting." (P. 949) YES!!

6-Micah 5:2-cited in Matt 2:4-6 as the revelation of the expected site of Messiah-King's place of birth according to prophecy.

(4)

### D.-Summary Of Prophetic Witness:

1-Lorraine Boettner--"A natural birth would have been a most unnatural thing for such a person as Jesus.... There is, in fact, nothing about His Person which is not unusual. He Himself is the greatest miracle, and we expect Him to move in the atmosphere of the supernatural...The miracles then become the reasonable thing, not the unreasonable; the credible, not the incredible"

## II.-THE LINE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH IN JOSEPH'S HOUSE:

### A.-Summary Of The Kingly Line:

1-Seed of the woman, Eve
2-Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah
3-JUMP of 10 generations to David because of Judah's sin of incest with Tamar, his daughter-in-law
4-From David to Solomon and on through succeeding generations and a total of 19 Kings of Judah after Solomon and down to ZEDEKIAH — No more after Babylonian Captivity

Descend- ant of Jesus

### B.-Survey Of The Situation In Nazareth:

1-Walk into Joseph's house in Nazareth
2-A simple home and a humble carpenter's shop
3-FIVE BOYS playing there (James, Joses, Simon, Juda & JESUS (Mark 6:3)
4-Joseph has ROYAL BLOOD from David thru Solomon as seen in his genealogy in Matt. 1:1-17
5-THESE FIVE BOYS have TWO THINGS IN COMMON:
--Same mother; Mary
--Same father; Joseph
-Let us remember that any child born into that home after Mary & Joseph were married was
* JOSEPH'S CHILD in the eyes of the law and of the community
* --PROOF of this is seen in the case of Matt. 1:6 where Solomon is recorded as David's son, though Bathsheba had previously been the wife of Uriah, even at the time of the child's conception.
6-Thus, we appear to have FIVE REDEEMERS !!??!!??

### C.-Solution Of This Mystery:

1-HOW are four of these 5 boys to be DISQUALIFIED ??
2-All 5 run back to David thru the lineage of Nathan on their mother's side according to Luke 3 — Not the ruling descent.
NB
3-Line of Joseph runs back to David thru Solomon
4-Joseph's line is "O.K." til CONIAH
--Matt. 1:11-12--"And Josias begat Jeconias & his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon: And

after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel...."

NB → --CURSE is on Jechonias or Coniah, son of Jehoiakim
--Jer. 22:24-30 (READ)
--Jer. 36:30--"Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David; and his dead body shall be cast out in the night to the frost."

5-T H U S, the 4 true physical sons of Joseph are ELIMINATED and disinherited because Joseph's line is under a curse from God 4
--Joseph's physical sons are removed
--Joseph's legal, but non-physical son is not eliminated for His genealogy right to David's Throne is thru Mary, who is also of David's descent.

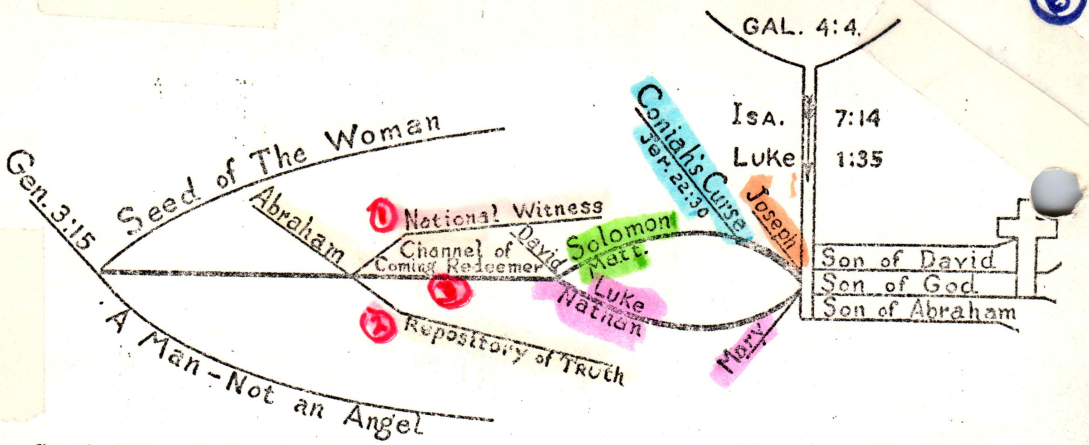
6-Jer. 23:5-6--IS FULFILLED !!
--"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch & a King shall reign & prosper, & execute judgment & justice in the earth. In His days Judah shall dwell safely: and this is His name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."

7-Joseph's LEGAL SON (though not his physical son) Jesus Christ
--Born & reared in a small town where everyone knew everyone else---and, their business
--Mary & Joseph about to be married
--Mary is found to be "WITH CHILD"
--Joseph goes ahead & marries here
--EVERYONE ASSUMES that Jesus is Joseph's child
NB → --Lk. 3:23--"And Jesus Himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph
--Jesus was Joseph's child in the eyes of the community
--SO RECORDED in the genealogical records in the Temple at Jerusalem

8-TRUE FACTS REVEALED:
--Matt. 1:16--"And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom (feminine gender, singular pronoun) was born Jesus, who is called Christ."
* --Note the ommission of "BEGAT" in connection of Joseph and Jesus
--Joseph is NOT THE ACTUAL FATHER of Jesus Christ
--Christianity depends upon the FACTS !!
--A matter cannot be ethically & morally true and at the same time be historically false.

9-"JESUS" is a precious Name to all believers because it always reminds us that He is the God-sent Saviour. Jesuswas the Name given to Him by God when He came into the world. It teaches us the purpose of His incarnation. It is His HUMAN NAME reminding us that He who always was God, became --in a point of time--Man also !! Peter made much of this Name in the healing of a crippled man & in declaring that there is no other Name sufficient for our salvation.

10-Insert Schematic from R.I. Humberd, The Virgin Birth




Genesis 3:15 is the first prophecy of the coming Christ. This Redeemer is to appear somewhere in the human race, not among the angels. The line is narrowed to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and finally to David. God has at least three purposes in calling out Abraham but we are interested only in His purpose of providing a channel for the incoming Man.

The Messiah was to receive His body through the loins of David and His royal standing through David's son Solomon. The curse of Jeconiah was on the line of Joseph (Mary's husband) descendant of David through Solomon. Christ received His body through Mary who was a descendant of David's son Nathan. The royal line lay in Joseph's children but the curse on Jeconiah rendered them ineligible to the throne of David. Since Jesus was conceived of the Holy Spirit and not of Joseph, He was not true seed of Joseph. Thus He escaped the curse on Jeconiah, but, being born after the marriage, He was Joseph's legal son and thus the only living person eligible to the throne of David. *

## E.-Significance Of The Genealogies:

"With the birth of the Messiah & the **validity** of His Davidic & Abrahamic descent **established**, no further need existed for Jewish genealogies to be kept. At least, it is impressive to recall that these **records** soon after were **destroyed** when the Temple was razed in the Roman War of A.D. **66-70**. An impostor cannot lay claim to David's Throne by appealing to his descent from David: the records are gone. **Only** the true Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, has **proof of His ancestry** through the lists presented in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke....When the two writers Matthew and Luke published our Lord's lineage, the Jews **could not attack it**, because it was drawn from their own lists."
THE PROPHETIC WORD *

2-Indeed, as the Apostle's Creed puts it:
"He was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary."

## CONCLUSION:

### A-The Question Restated:

1-Message **Title**----"WHOSE SON IS THIS?"
2-Message **content**:
I.-Prophetic Witnesses-+-Isaiah 7:14 & 9:6
+-Jeremiah 31:22
+-Micah 5:2

Thru Matthew's Record

II.-Legal Right Witnesses
A.-Matthew (1:1-25) gives **LEGAL** right to David's throne
B.-Luke (3:23-38) gives **PHYSICAL** right to David's throne

3-The ANSWER--Jesus Christ is +-Son of DAVID-----KING **Royalty**
+-Son of GOD-------DEITY
+-Son of Abraham---HUMANITY

4-H. O. Van Gilder--"Take away the narratives of the Virgin Birth and you leave that Personality **unexplained**, and we are reduced to the **gropings** of His contemporaries who sa said, 'Elias, or one of the prophets'; or 'John the Baptist' brought to life again.'"

7

## B.-The Answer Reaffirmed:

1-Several years ago Dr. Bolton Davidheister, Professor of Physical Sciences wrote:

> "**The probability** of **ONE** PREDICTIVE PROPHECY being fulfilled is like filling an area **10 miles** by **10 miles** by **6 feet** deep with **pinto beans**, & sending **a blind man** to find **ONE RED BEAN** in the whole lot."

2-Multiply that by **all the prophecies** we have looked at today and see the marvelousness of the Virgin Birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. !! Proliferation

3-Choice is necessary:

20th Century

APOSTATES CROAKING--"To believe in the Virgin Birth is one of the familiar ways in which the ancient world was accustomed to account for unusual superiority--- a biological miracle that our modern minds cannot use. ...Intelligent people no longer believe in the Virgin Birth." Harry Emerson Fosdick

Q

1st Century

APOSTLE'S CREED--"He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary."

4-"**How else** can we **explain Him?** Here is a man, born in Bethlehem of Judaea, who lived among the people of His day. He was a man whom Pilate could say, 'I find no fault in him.'(Jn. 19:6) He is the one of whom the thief said, 'This man hath done nothing amiss.' (Lk. 23:41). Peter at Pentecost said, 'Ye men of Israel hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves know' (Acts 2:22). There was no reply to Peter's words. To these words the testimony of John could be added. How could a mere man live the life He did? There has never been another like Him, nor will there ever be. The **only explanation** of how He could live among men holy, harmless and undefiled (Heb. 7:26) --live a life without a single question mark against it-- the **only answer** is that He was born of a virgin Yes, as the creeds have it, He was '...conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary.' **I believe** in the virgin birth."
S. Lewis Johnson.

5-**I also believe** in the Virgin Birth

6-What is YOUR BELIEF about "WHOSE SON IS THIS ?"

What is YOUR Evaluation?

AND

What relationship will He have to you?
— SAVIOR or ? — NOW
— JUDGE — ? — or LATER

Westbrae 12/27/90
Lookout Baptist 12/18/83
O. K. B.C. 12/7/87
Grace Gospel Ch – 12/23/90 – SS.
Bible Center Ch. – 1/20/91 – PM
Hilltop Bapt. Ch. – 11/27/94
ABC Chapel – 12/5/94
Middletown Bible Ch – 1/8/95
Hilltop Bapt. Ch – 12/24/04
Harper Heights Bapt. Ch. – 12/29/04
Crow Christian Ch – 12/17/06

#42 O Little Town Of Bethlehem"
#53 There's A Song In The Air"
#46 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"
"EMMANUEL" ——— #134

SERIES
#1 – What The O.T. Teaches About The V.B. – Isa 7:1-16
#2 – Born Of A Virgin – Luke 1:26-47
#3 – Whose Son Is This? – Isa. 9:1-17
#4 – N.T. Witnesses To The V.B. – Luke 1:1-4; 2:1-20
#5 – Eyewitnesses To The V.B. – Luke 2:21-38
#6 – The V.B. & The New Birth – John 3:1-18

**Intro:** In Sept. 1938 a man who lived on Long Island was able one day to satisfy a life-long ambition by purchasing for himself a very fine barometer. When the instrument arrived at his home, he was extremely disappointed to find that the indicating needle appeared to be stuck, pointing to the sector marked "HURRICANE." After shaking the barometer very vigorously several times, its new owner sat down & wrote a scorching letter to the store from which he had purchased the instrument, and on the following morning, on his way to his office in New York, he mailed the letter.....,That evening he returned to Long Island, to find not only the barometer missing, but his house also. The barometer's needle had been right-----there was a hurricane!!!..... .....Similarly, how many Christians there are who seem to regard the clear fingers of prophecy in the Word of God with like indifference & disdain.

1-Prophecy---$\frac{1}{4}$ of Bible was prophetic when written & $\frac{1}{2}$ of this has already been LITERALLY fulfilled-----so will the rest
2-Prophetic Landscape---Isa. 7:14; 9:6-7; 42; 53
3-Remarkable order of context
--Isa. 10--Tribulation
--Isa. 11--King & Kingdom after destruction of Asshur
--Isa. 12--Millenium's worship

Mt. 2:1-2

## I.-MESSIAH KING AND HIS KINGDOM 11:1-9

### A.-Qualifications of Messiah: (Isa. 11:1-5)

1- Messiah's Ancestry (11:1):

- "Shoot" or "Rod" - Tender one growing out of a cut-off stump
- "Of Jesse" - Not of David
  - Shows poverty as seen in Joseph + Mary
  - HUMILIATION of Israel at time of Jesus' birth
  - "A Nazarene" - Mt. 2:23
  - "BRANCH" - Of Jehovah - "God with us" -
    - HEAVENLY GLORY - Isa. 4:1-2
    - Of David - Davidic line -
      - EARTHLY GLORY - Jer. 23:5
    - The Servant - Obedient unto death - Zech. 3:8
    - The Man - Son of Man - HUMANITY - King-Priest to rule - Zech 6:12-13

"And He came + dwelt in a city called Nazareth that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, 'He shall be called a Nazarene.'

Isa. 4:2 NOTE

"Behold the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, + a king shall reign + prosper, + shall execute judgment + justice in the earth."

"Hear now, O Joshua the High priest, thou, + thy fellows that sit before thee; for they are men wondered at: for behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH."

A

2 - Messiah's Power - Its Source (11:2) (2)

- Holy Spirit * 7-fold fullness - Rev. 1:4 "Seven Spirits which are before His Throne"
  * John 3:34
  B * Lk. 4:18
  * Mt. 12:22-32 Blasphemy against the H.S. Read

- REST - H.S. is to abide + not come/go as otherwise seen in O.T. economy

- 3 COUPLETS of graces of the Spirit C
  - Wisdom + Understanding - Moral + intellectual apprehension - Jn. 2:24-25
  - Counsel + Might - Power to originate + carry into action
  - Knowledge + Fear - Acquaintance with the true will of God
  - Perfectly found in Christ ALONE
  - Illus - One Candlestick w/a Centerpost + 6 branches all portray HIM Who is the LIGHT OF THE WORLD

3 - Messiah's Reign - Its Character: (11:3-5)

- Quick understanding - "His delight shall be a sweet savor"
- How will He reign?
  - Isa. 9:6-7
  - Contrast w/ Isa. 1:21-24 D
  - NEGATIVELY
    - Never change acc. to Heb. Construction
    - Not acc. to appearances only
    - Not acc. to hearsay evidence

"Because He hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath from the dead."

  - POSITIVELY - In righteousness acc. to Acts 17:31 The poor the meek
    - First time the poor get a fair shake.

A "And speak unto Him, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is the BRANCH: and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: even He shall build the temple of the LORD; + He shall bear the glory, + shall sit + rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both" - Zech. 6:12-15

B "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to preach deliverance to the captives, + recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" - LK. 4:18

C "But Jesus did not commit Himself unto them, because He knew all men, And needed not that any should testify of man: for He knew what was in man." John 2:24-25

D - Isa. 1:21-24 - "How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is dross, thy wine mixed with water: thy princes are rebellious, + companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, + followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto →

them. Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, + avenge me of mine enemies."

E - 2 Sam. 23:2-3 - "The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, and His word was in my tongue. The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God."

F - Rom. 15:12 - "And again, Esaias saith, there shall be a root of Jesse, + He that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in Him shall the Gentiles trust."

G Rev. 16:12 - "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared."

H John 4:10, 14 - Jesus answered + said unto her, 'If thou knewest the gift of God + Who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, + He would have given the living water... But whosoever drinketh of the water that I give him shall never thirst: but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

• "Slay the wicked" — WICKED ONE
Contrast w/ treatment of the poor + meek
-Divine commentary
Ps. 2:9; 2 Thess 2:8
ROD of His Mouth is the Word of God - Heb. 4:12

Ps. 2:9 "Thou shalt break them w/ a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

2 Th. 2:8 - "And then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume w/ the Spirit of His mouth + shall destroy w/ the brightness of His coming

• Girdle - Binds these virtues to the supernatural endowments of 11:2

E

-Fulfills 2 Sam. 23:2-3 concerning a RIGHTEOUS RULER
-David, Solomon + all other good men rolled into One
-PROPHET presents a bright future against a dark present

B. Qualities Of Messiah's Kingdom: (Isa. 11:6-9

1 - Animals - Rom. 8: 19-22
—Those native to Palestine
—Representative of ALL animals
—TRANSFORMED NATURES; not carnivorous
—Literal + true
—But a part of the curse remains

2 - "Child shall lead them" - INNOCENCE
• Adam ruled nature + then lost his rulership
• Christ regained control for MAN

Ps. 8:6-8

• Wilms - Kansas State has tested animals to see if they can be trained not to devour one another IF their diet can be altered. They have found that devouring characteristics are not part of animals' nature,

inherent or involuntary. THEY ARE TAUGHT

Likewise FEAR is "trained in" to animals that are wild. When raised apart from older animals they can be taught to eat straw instead of flesh.

If man can do this on experimental level, it makes the millennial promises seem more credible to our feeble faith.

HOWEVER - Only the Lord can bring it to pass universally. It takes GOD to turn man + nature 'in heart + tongue to PRAISE GOD, for He' is ABLE!

3 - Serpents + Snakes

- Complete safety even with these
- VERY DANGEROUS species now
- Age of children - Jonah 4:11

"And should I not spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein more than sixscore thousands persons that cannot discern between their right hand + their left hand; + also much cattle."

4 - Extent of Messiah's Realm - 11:9

- "THEY" includes all creatures
- Safety - No hurting or destroying
- WHERE? - "My holy mountain"
  - Kingdom will be WORLDWIDE
- WHY? - the earth is full of the Knowledge of the Lord - Hab. 2:14
- WHEN? - Second Advent
  - Beneficent Despot will be the earth's RULER

## II. MESSIAH'S KINGDOM ESTABLISHED: (11:10-16

### A. When Established?: (11:10)

1 - "In that day" - Day of the Lord at 2nd Advent
- 1000 yr. REIGN
- World not getting "better + better"

2 - Root of Jesse — Rom. 15:12 F

3 "ENSIGN" — Rallying banner
— Gentiles will seek Him

4 - His rest = (Religious sense) Resting Place
— Mt. 11:28

"Come unto Me all ye that labor + are heavy laden + I will give you rest."

## B. How Established?: (11:11-12)

1 - By the POWER of Adonai = The Lord; The Master; The Husband

2 - Recover the Remnant
- REGATHERING
- A Second Time — Egypt in past in EXODUS + Babylon + Then + Jer. 23:7-8
WORLDWIDE !

3 "In that day" — Not present; Not eternity; But BETWEEN — 1000 YRS!; NOT fulfilled in Israel's nationhood, for it is a Return in UNBELIEF !!

4 - WORLDWIDE

5 - ISRAEL + JUDAH — Jewish! NOT the Church

## C. Results of Establishment: (11:13-16)

1 - Harmony — No longer 2 nations
— UNIFIED! No ENVY
— Under Messiah, Their KING

2 - Adversaries — Surrounding nations
— Ancient enemies subjugated
Philistines, Edom, Moab, Ammon, EGYPT

3 - Spectacular natural events
— Tongue of the Sea of Egypt (RED SEA)
— The River = Euphrates (Dried Up) — Rev. 16:12 G

4 - Specific places from which they return
— NATIONS
— "Islands" or COASTLANDS of the seas

5- HIGHWAYS of return, not TUNNELS as the Talmud teaches

6- Powerful changes — Zech. 14:4-5

7- Only #3 has not yet occurred

## III.- WORSHIP IN MESSIAH'S KINGDOM — FRUITAGE OF HIS REIGN: (12:1-6)

### A.- Elohim Is Israel's Salvation: (12:1-3)

1- Fruition
- Joy
- Thanksgiving
- Praise
- Make it known in this life!

2- Attitudes
- PAST "anger"
- PRESENT gone + comfort in its place

3- "El is my salvation"
- By TRUST / FAITH
- A cleansed remnant
- Faith is the antidote to fear

"For the earth shall be filled w/ the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."

4- Jehovah
- My strength + song
- Self-Existent One
- Name is exalted

Hab. 2:14

5- "WATER" from the wells of salvation
- Precious in the deserts of the EAST
- John 4:10, 14
- John 7:37, 38
- Israel no longer as Rom. 10:1-4

H

### B.- Praise + Song Among The People: (12:4-6)

1- Related to "in that day"
- Praise
- Testimony
- Singing
- ANTIPHONAL CHORUSES

I

2- The NAME OF GOD — GLORIFIED
- Full Knowledge of Him
- Isa. 11:9

O

3- CRESCENDO!

"Great is the Holy One"

PRAISE / WORSHIP / GRATITUDE!

## CONCLUSION:

### A:- Prophetic Truth For Israel

1- Related to Israel, not the Church

2- Jesus Christ is GREAT DAVID'S GREATER SON!

3- He will reign as KING of the JEWS when they are the head of the nations, not the tail!

4- Clearly this has NEVER BEEN FULFILLED and it will not be in the Church, for ours is a spiritual + heavenly Kingdom

5- YET to be LITERALLY FULFILLED as will all prophecy from God.

6- GLORIOUS DAY ahead for God's ancient people ISRAEL!

7- Response of redeemed hearts!

### B:- Practical Truth For Us:

1- Make biblical distinctions

- SAVIOR — Israel + Church
- HEAD - Only of the Church
- BRIDEGROOM → LORD — " " " "
- LIFE — " " " "
- KING — Only of ISRAEL + Gentiles

(OVER)

BRIDEGROOM — To the Church which is His BRIDE (8)

2- Join in Praise — NOW!
— No need to wait for the Millennium

3- Remember - John 12:32 - "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."
— Drawn in SALVATION or
— Drawn in JUDGMENT
— Be sure of YOUR RELATIONSHIP
— Which is it for YOU?

4- Let us keep "the banner of the cross" at the tip-top of our flagpole!
— Let us never "lower the flag" of our allegiance when we are so close to VICTORY IN Jesus!

**Benjamin Disraeli, British Prime Minister**
**(1804-1881)**

The great Hebrew Christian statesman, Benjamin Disraeli, known as Lord Beaconsfield, wrote this about Jesus: "The pupil of Moses may ask himself, whether all the princes of the house of David have done so much for the Jews as the Prince Who was crucified on Calvary. Had it not been for Him, the Jews would have been comparatively unknown, or known only as a high oriental caste which had lost its country. Has not He made their history the most famous in the world? Has not He hung up their laws in every temple? Has He not vindicated all their wrongs? Has He not avenged the victory of Titus and conquered the Caesars? What successes did they anticipate from their Messiah? The wildest dreams of their rabbis have been far exceeded . . . Christians may continue to persecute Jews and Jews may persist in disbelieving Christians, but who can deny that Jesus of Nazareth, the Incarnate Son of the Most High God, is the eternal glory of the Jewish race?"

12/16/05 - [illegible]
5/28/06 - Hilltop Bapt. Ch - SS

"Crime to Punishment" Isa. 14:12-17; Ezek. 28:11-19

Intro: The story you are about to hear is TRUE. Presented before you will be the documented case history of an actual crime. We will travel from the actual crime to the ultimate execution of the guilty one.

This story is: Biblical True About Satan
One devil; many demons.
Only person apart from Christ who is so clearly and extensively documented in God's word.
Purpose:---Christians not be ignorant of his devices
---Unsaved to be warned.

Real Personal Wicked

## I.-CRIMES OF SATAN

A.-Origin and Duties:
1-Created being--Ez. 28:15
2-Cherub that covereth & protects God's throne--28:14
3-Beauty & wisdom--28:12-13
4-Perfect until sinned--28:15

B.-Two-Fold Wickedness: Evil began with Satan — not God.
1-Ambitious Pride---5 "I wills" (Isa. 14:13-14)
--ascend into---go into 3rd heaven
--exalth throne--Reign in God's heaven
--sit--receive earthly worship
--ascend above--secure some of God's glory for himself
--like the most High--Possessor of heaven & earth
---------Matter of the heart---Ezek. 28:17--ILLUS--1 Tim. 3:6

2-Untruth
--Led Eve & Adam astray with lies--1 Jn. 3:8
--Christ's appraisal--Jn. 8:44
--Deceiver of the whole world--Rev. 12:9
--THE lie-- 2Th. 2:9, 11--Lying wonders & the Man of Sin

## II.-ACTIVITIES OF SATAN

A.-Old Testament:
1-Deception of Eve
2-Inciting false sacrifice by Cain
3-Disobedience of all the earth in Noah's time
4-Refusal to scatter from Babel
5-Backsliding escapades of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob
6-Accusation against Job---Job. 1:8-12; Rev. 12:10 "accuser"
7-Imprison & destroy Israel in Egypt thru killing male children
8-Exclude Israel from Palestine
9-Gibeonite League
10-Israel's schismatic altar E. of Jordan
11-Israel's lust for an earthly king
12-Saul's backsliding from God & his poor reign
13-David's numbering of people--2 Chron. 21:1
14-Attempt to cut off Messianic line thru Coniah
15-Apostasy of the nation of Israel

B.-New Testament:
1-Activity of Satan & demons was great around 1st advent of X, & so will be great around time of 2nd advent.
2-Possession and influence of many--not the same as most mental sickness.
3-Temptation of Christ--departure is only for a "little season"
--temptation to bypass the Cross
4-Trial and sifting of Peter
5-Influence on Judas to betray Jesus

6-Incitement of Christ's crucifixion by rulers & princes.
7-2 Cor. revelations:
--God of this world--4:4
--Beguiling of Eve--11:3
--Fashions self as an angel of light--11:14-15
--Thorn in flesh--12:7
8-Devouring of Christian's joy and testimony 1 Pet. 5:8
9-Accuser of the Brethren--Rev. 12:10

III.-JUDGMENT OF SATAN
A.-Time & Place:
1-Crucifixion of Christ
2-Cross of Christ is a judgment on Satan
3-Legal sentence passed, but EXECUTION comes later
B.-Scriptural Evidence:
1-Heb. 2:14--shorn of power
2-Col. 2:14-15--spoiled principalities & powers
3-Jn. 16:11--Prince of this world is judged

IV.-EXECUTION OF SATAN
A.-Question:
1-"Why not an immediate execution?"
2-Principle:---"The iniquity of the Amorite is not yet full."
3-God is PROVING in PRACTICE that Satan is both prideful & untrue
4-Not a lack of power on God's part, but part of a THOROUGH test
B.-Stages of the Execution:
1-Cast from Heaven in the Trib.
--Predicted in Ezek. 28:17
--Christ spoke of it--Lk. 10:8
--Actually done--Rev. 12:7-9
2-Imprisoned in the Bottomless Pit for 1000 years--Rev. 20:1-3
3-Final Penalty--Rev. 20:10--lake of fire & brimstone...shall be tormented day & night forever.

Concl: A.-Crimes--Ambitious Pride
--Untruth
B.-Activities--Multitudinous
--Wicked
C.-Judgment--By Christ
D.-Execution---Future
--Sure
--No pardon here for there is no redemption provided
E.-Application-----Mt. 25:41--place prepared for Satan is the place where the unsaved go. Only way to avoid it isto trust Christ
----1 Cor. 15:57--Provision of God for the Xn.

God's Will vs "I will"

"Four Milestones In Satan's Career" Read. Luke 4:1-15

ISA - 14:12-17

Intro. A.-ILLUS--The man who denies the existence of the evil One reveals the fact that he has not been considered a worthy foe by the prince of darkness. The great evangelist, Charles Finney, realizing this truth from a deep experience of opposition. ON one occasion, after he had been preaching on the subject, a man came to him, & said; "Mr. Finney, I don't believe in the devil." The preacher looked at him keenly for a moment, & replied: "Don't you now? Well, you really resist him for a while, & you'll soon change your views." The mighty author of evil is not slow to accept the challenge that is thrown to him by a holy life.

B.-World War II slogan ..."Know your enemy"
1-Highlights of his career--past & future
2-Contrast--Jesus--"IN the beginning"
--Satan--"FROM the beginning."--Creature

I.-I WILL BE LIKE THE MOST HIGH

A.-Pride
1-Ascend into heaven---go into the 3rd heaven to dwell
2-Exalt my throne---Reign from God's heaven
3-Sit---Receive earthly worship
4-Ascend above---Secure some of God's glory for himself
5-Be like the Most High--Possessor of heaven & earth.

B.-Falsehood:
1-Trying to be something he wasn't
2-Trying to pass from prerogatives of the creature to those of the Creator
3-Led multitudes of angels astray--Rev. 12:4--1/3 of angels
--Jude 6 & 2 Pet. 2:4
4-Beginning of wickedness is in HEAVEN with Satan

II.-BE AS GODS

A.-Situation:
1-Garden of Eden
2-Addresses Eve & Adam
3-Slanders God to man & Man to God

B.-Denial:
1-Contradicts--Word of God--ILLUS---Dr. Graham Scroggie, of Edinburg, spoke once on the text, "In the volume of the book it is written of me." Among other things, he said that modern criticism tells us that Genesis is a myth & Revelation a mystery." He then asked, "I wonder who it was that inspired that theory?" A voice in the tent shouted out, "The Devil." "Quite right,"exclaimed Dr. Scroggie;"and I will tell you why the Devil is so anxious to get rid of Genesis & Revelation; because in Gen. his sentence is declared & in Rev. it is executed
--Goodness of God--"God is holding out on you"
--Judgment of God--"God won't judge sin"
--Personality of God--"You can be just like He is"
2-Invitation to "Be ye like Elohim"
3-Impossible for a creature--yet it is a rebellious aim.
4-Satan "Fathered" this lie--Jn. 8:44; 1 Jn. 3:8
5-Perpetrated a hideous deception against man away

C.-Result: Word of God does not fail---though Satan snatch it/
1-Sin entered into the world---into the Race---Into Adam & Eve--Rom. 5:12
2-Death passed upon all men---Heb. 9:27
--Physical death-----separation of soul from body
--Spiritual death----separation of soul from God
--Second death-------eternal continuance of spiritual death
3-Gulf fixed between God & Man--Only God could span it.

m D.-Cure:
1-Sacrifice of a Holy, Righteous, Sinbearing Substitute
--Accomplished in Jesus Christ's Death
2-God did His part ....and more.
2-Personal acceptance & obedience by man:
--not mere mental assent to facts
--not mere outward obedience with no heart in it
--Heartfelt CHANGE
--OVERT OBEDIENCE to God's plan of salvation & a changed life.

III.-TEMPTATION OF THE LAST ADAM IN THE WILDERNESS:
A.-Test of Christ:
1-No temptation to "Be as Elohim"---Knew Christ IS GOD
2-Physical elements weaken the body of Christ--Physical test
3-Spiritual test---"Worship me"--Passion to "be like the Most High" and be worshipped.
4-Worldly test--Kingdoms of earth are offered
--Genuine offer for they are controlled by usurp/er
--Man's by right & hence Christ's
--Attempt to get Christ to by-pass the cross.
B.-Prideful Audacity of Satan:
1-Outlandish to lead both angels & men astray into sin
2-Without parallel to attempt to TEMPT GOD
3-Invites the creator to worship the creature.
4-Pride had "befogged" Satan's mind
C.-Defeat of Satan:
1-No sin nature in Christ
2-No sinful acts in Christ ...Jn. 14:30
3-Total reliance by Christ upon..."it is written"
4-Satan departs---but only temporarily.
5-ILLUS---Griffith Thomas once told the story of a poor Negro who was a helpless slave of drink. He tried again & again to get free, & others tried to help him, but he could not get rid of his drunkenness until he was saved. When he was converted there was a wonderful change and someone said, "So at last you have got the mastery of the devil." "No," he said, "but I have got the Master of the devil now. ..... Since Satan is a supernatural enemy, it takes a supernatural power to overwhelm him. Christ is that Power. Christ in the believer is not only the hope of Glory, but He is also the hope of Victory.

IV.-THE MAN OF SIN------In the Tribulation
Intro:---Antichrist is Satan's counterfeit of Christ. The "mystery of godliness" and "the mystery of iniquity" are both running along their courses thru this dispensation.
--The first will culminate in "the manifestation of the Sons of God" & the establishment of the kingdom at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
--The second culminates in the manifestation of the Anti-Christ & the kingdom of the beast.
--The latter Satan brings in, first, as a counterfeit of God's Son and His kingdom. He would have accomplished this long ago if it were not for a mighty hinderer, the Holy Spirit.
A.-Incarnation of Satan:
1-"I am a god"--Ez. 28:2
"I sit in the seat of god" God's Verdict "Thou art a man & no god."
2-Seeks worship & rulership of the world
3-Satanic powers & wonders accompany him--2 Th. 2:9-12

B.-World Ruler:
1-"speaks great things"--Dan. 7:8
2-Confirms a Cov. to gain worship--Dan. 9:27
3-Erects an idol of himself to gain worship--2 Th. 2:4; Mt.24:/
4-Power & warfare--Rev. 13:3-8
5-Atheistic in nature--1 Jn. 2:18

C.-End:
1-Return of Christ to the earth
2-Judgment by Christ---2 Th. 1:7-10; 2:8

CONCLUSION:

A.-Two Sins---1-Pride in self
2-Untruth toward God and others

B.-Consuming Passion:
1-No redemption for self or other fallen angels
2-Attempt to thwart others from being saved--2 Cor.4:4
3-Hatred of man--given dominion in earth
--made lower than angels
--crowned with salvation
--Redeemed to heaven
--made next to God
4-Any & all methods to thwart God
5-His ministers:--2 Cor. 11:13-15--Ministers of personal righteousness
--talk others into "self-reliance"
--Dangerous & damning

C.--F.C.Jennings---"He so weaves the course of this age; its religious forms, ceremonies, external decencies, respectabilites, & conventionalities as to form a thick veil that entirely hides 'the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ; which consists in righteous mercy to penitent sinners only. This veil is not formed by evil-living, depravity, or any form of what passes as evil amongst men; but by cold formality, heartless decency, proud self-complacency, highly esteemed external respectability, & we must add, church-membership--all without Christ. It is the most fatal of all delusions, the thickest of all veils, & the most common. It is the way that because it IS religous, respectable, decent 'seems right unto a man but the end thereof is death',; for there is NO CHRIST, NO LAMB OF GOD, NO BLOOD OF ATONEMENT IN IT." Pp. 29-30 "Satan"

Don't Yield to Satan, but open your heart to Him who lies not, but is THE WAY, THE TRUTH + THE LIFE --- Jesus Christ God's Son sent to win you for heaven.

INTRO: A.-The Context:
1-Read 34:1-5, 8
2-Vengeance upon Idumea--Why?
--Because of ancient antipathy
--Descendants of Esau
--Denied passage to Israelites marching from Egypt to Canaan (Nu. 20)
3-Details--"a great slaughter in the lad of Idumea"(34:6)
--"their land shall be soaked with blood" (34:7)
--"For it is the day of the LORD'S vengeance(34:8)
--"from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever." (34:10)
--"none shall be there" (34:12)
--Only wild beasts there; WILDERNESS FOREVER
4-When?--"For the indignation of the LORD..." (34:2)
--Technical term for Great Tribulation or "Time of Jacob's Trouble" (Jer. 30:7)
--Isa. 26:20-21--"Come,my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain."
--This locates the CONTEXT of Scripture and of time for Isa. 34 and 35 which follows.

B.-The Contrast:
1-Isa. 34--Tribulation
--Judgment
--Desolation
--Wilderness
2-Isa. 35--F. C. JENNINGS--"How refreshing to turn from the storm of judgment to the calm of blessing! But the very storm affords a foil that increases the sweetness of the calm." (P. 412)

C.-The Content: (The Millennium Portrayed)
1-A Time Of Rejoicing (35:1-2)
2-A Time Of Retrospect (35:3-9)
3-A Time Of Return (35:10)

PROP We need to know WHAT'S AHEAD for this old earth. God will keep His promises!

I.-A TIME OF REJOICING (35:1-2):

A.-Physical Transformation (35:1):
1-TRANSFORMATION is the word--wilderness
--solitary place
--desert == "sandy wastes"
2-These will be--glad
--rejoicing
--blossoming as the rose (or "bulbous lily", narcissus)
3-Wonderful transformine

B.-Physical Abundance (35:2):
1-It is not mere fertility, but restitution of all things--
the lifting of the CURSE
-blossom abundantly
-rejoice with joy & singing
(2)
2-Glory of Lebanon--Forested with cedars
3-Excellency of Carmel--Beautiful mountains & view
4-Excellency of Sharon--Fertile for productivity
5-All this physical abundance upon a land that has been a DESERT and a SANDY WASTE
6-F. C. Jennings--"Yet these are only attendants upon Jehovah, whose beauty outshines all." (P. 414)
7-Thru this"...they (men) shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency (or "splendor") of our God."
8-A Time Of Rejoicing--
--In the physical transformation
--In the physical abundance
--In the God who has given this
} CHANGE
9-Leads them to.....

II.-A TIME OF RETROSPECT (35:3-9):

A.-Remembering Of The Tribulation (35:3-4):
1-Imperative needs (35:3)
--Weak (or "dangling") hands
--Feeble (or "tottering") knees
--In need of
**Strength
**Confirming
--Show the people's despondency and despair
--Prov. 13:12--"Hope deferred maketh the heart sick"
--For long centuries Israel yearned for the countless ills that were imposed upon them in their dispersion from the LAND
2-Imperative Commands (35:4)
--Words to the "Fearful" = "the tension-filled"
--Characteristic of the Trib
--Lk. 21:25-28--"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."
-Rev. 6:15-17--"And the kings of the earth, and ghe great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, 'Fall on us, and hide us from the fa[illegible] of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?'"
--Commands **"Be strong"
**"Fear not"
} God speaks to His people
3-Imperative Encouragements (35:4b)
--"Behold, your God shall come..."

--"With vengeance...with recompence"
** Not so at Christ's first advent
** Isa. 61:1-2 with Lk. 4:16-20
** Related to the second advent
** 2 Thess. 1:7-10a--"And to you who are troubled rest with us, when 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: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come..."

--"He will come and save you"
** Promise is sure
** Salvation is not BY US, but FOR US
** Man can't save himself
** Salvation is wholly in God's hands
** Isa. 43:1--"But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine."
** Confidence for Israel in God's promises — and for us also!

B.-Reviving The People (35:5-6a):
1-"THEN" is the time
--At the end of Jacob's Trouble
--Divine accomplishment
2-Miracles--Nothing unusual for them to occur at the end of one dispensation and the beginning of another
--Moses in Egypt & at Sinai
--Christ and the Disciples in the Gospels and Acts
--Acts 3:6 c "...In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."
3-Restoration--Eyes of the BLIND
--Ears of the DEAF
--Legs of the LAME
--Tongue of the DUMB
--Intensive verbs here indicate that this is no "half-cure" or temporary relief
--Physical, yes
--Emblems of SPIRITUAL RESTORATION also (SIGNS of Divine Intervention)
4-PASSIVE mood indicates that God does all of this for man

C.-Renewing Of Nature (35:6b-9):
1-The Land--(35:6a-7)
--WATER is plentiful (Waters, Streams, A pool, Springs) 35:7
--Supportive of a large population with "...every man under his own fig tree."
--Desert; Parched Ground == "the glowing sand"; "the mirage"
--Lair of Jackals
--Dry grass will become a place of reeds and papyrus, which demands much fresh water
--Everything that sin had turned upside down shall be turned to PARADISE

2-The Spirit--(35:8)
--It is a HIGH way
** Open, clean, holy, safe & pure
** Moral as well as spiritual meaning
--Unclean are barred; Because DEFILED
--Beasts of prey are barred
--Guarded by Him who purchased them
--Wayfarer is welcome
--The simple shall not err in finding "The King's Highway"
--Called "The Way Of Holiness"
** Not personal righteousness which avails
** But HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS allows entrance
** Unmistakably plain way
** Perfectly secure highway
** Safe arrival guaranteed
** Via HIS holiness
--Walk of the redeemed is "THERE" (35:9)

3-The Nations--(35:9)
--"No lion...nor ravenous beasts"
--Not on highway to hurt
--But, they do continue to exist in the Mill.(11:9
--No longer ferocious though remembered as "ravenous"
--Literal animals — Yes!
--PERHAPS something MORE
** Ancient & modern custom of representing fighting armies by emblems of the BEASTIAL kingdoms
** Macedonian leopard & Babylonian lion
** Russian bear & American eagle
**We cannot but think that both in Isa. 11:9 and 35:9, Isaiah had in mind also the mortal political and military enemies of his nation
--Is it any wonder that "the prophets have inquired diligently" into the Word to find the times and the seasons when so great things should come to pass?

## III.-A TIME OF RETURN (35:10):

A.-The Ransoming: (35:10

1-Today (since 1948) Israel is "in the land"
--But by human power
--By U.N. decree and "Allied" military power — U.S. Govt. support + guarantees
--There in UNBELIEF

2-Absolute & Unconditional promise
--"And the ransomed of the LORD shall return..."
--God's REMNANT
--Never 100 %
--Always "a remnant according to the election of grace"
--Truly redeemed ones

3-"Shall return"--From Egypt under Moses
--From Babylon under Ezra & Nehemiah
--From all the earth by angelic ministration
--Mt. 24:30-31--"And then shall appear the

sign of the Son of Man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds..."

Isa. 43: 1-6

--This cannot be said to have been accomplished at the Return from Exile
--Just look at the land and at the people to see that
--They will "Come to Zion" then
--Go into Millennium alive
--Without translation or resurrection
--Still in mortal bodies
--Fountains of procreation in millennium

4-ALSO ressurrected Israel will be there
5-Not a GRADUAL completion of this picture, as with a mosaic, but with a MIGHTY CHANGE at the appearance of the Lord when the Church is manifested with Him in glory CATACLYSMIC TRANSFORMATION

B.-The Rejoicing: (35:10)

1-Come to Zion
2-Amid songs, joy, and expressions of festivity & mirth
3-Loud & boisterous & exuberant
4-RAWLINSON--"...dancing and singing were the ordinary manifestations of religious joy (Ex. 15:1, 20; Jud. 11:34; 21: 19-21; 2 Sam. 6:5, 14, 15; Ps. 30:11, etc), and would naturally follow the great deliverance..." (P. I-568)
5-"Upon their heads"--may refer to custom of pouring oil on heads
--Eccles. 9:8--"Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment
6-Joy & gladness for all blessings; both spiritual and mundane
7-IRONSIDE--"While we who belong to the Church, the Body of Christ, have our hearts fixed on the heavenly hope, as we look for the coming of our Lord Jesus and our gathering together unto Him, we cannot but rejoice to know that God has such blessing in store for Israel His earthly people and for the nations of the earth who have been the prey of such distressing circumstances throughout their history, circumstances they are so powerless to change.

"It is most humbling to man's pride, to realize that all our boasted civilization is utterly unable to prevent war & oppression in spite of Peace Conferences, a now effete League of Nations, and our present United Nations.

"Christ alone can put things right. His return is man's only hope for lasting peace." (Isaiah, Pp. 219-220)

CONCLUSION:

A.-Resume Of Millennial Portrait:

1-A Time Of Rejoicing (35:1-2)
2-A Time Of Retrospect (35:3-9)
3-A Time Of Return (35:10)

B.-Reassurance Of Millennial Prospect:

1-ILLUS--An Arctic explorer was once asked, whether during 8 months of slow starvation which he and his comrades endured, they suffered from the pangs of hunger. "No," he answered, "we lost them in the sense of abandonment, in the feeling that our countrymen had forgotten us and were not coming to the rescue. It was not

till we were rescued and looked in human faces that we felt how hungry we were.

So it is with mankind, they are not fully aware of their hunger for God until it is satisfied by seeing HIM face to face.

2-Rom. 11:1-2a--"I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Know ye not the scripture...?"

3-JAMES H. BROOKES--"Let anyone read the prophecy of Isaiah at a single sitting, taking it for granted that the Holy Ghost knew what He wanted to say, and giving to the words Judah, Zion, Jacob, and other proper names their natural and obvious meaning, and it will be impossible for him to doubt the future and glorious restoration of Israel to their own land." (Israel & The Church, P. 61)

4-We here are--Premillennialists
--Dispensationalists
--Pre-Tribulation Rapturists
--EMMINENTLY BIBLICAL
--Recognizing Israel's promises
--Distinguishing the Church's hope

5-Principle--Isa. 8:20
--Isa. 34:16a--"Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail..."

NB

6-This is the ONLY HONEST WAY to deal with such a passage as Isaiah 35

7-For it is written: Phs. 2:10-11--"That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

8-Believe it--For Israel
--For the Church
--For YOURSELF

God's promises are TRUE
Rom 9-11 for Israel
Rom. 5:9 for Church

The Bible Stands
How Firm A Foundation
Standing on the Promises

Westbrae 12/5/65 Hymns:
Mountain View Baptist, Alderson, WV - 4/23/80

"THE VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS
THE PROMISE OF GOD — SURE"

Isa. 40:1-11
Isa. 61:1-2

(1)

INTRO: A.-ILLUS.

1-Isaiah's message from the 40th chapter is indelibl imprinted on my memory by a day in 1954 in Dr. Unger's Hebrew Exposition Class.

2-I'd worked late on a paper for another class & in our 7:50 a.m. class I was called upon to translate the first verse right after prayer.

3-I hadn't looked at my Hebrew text, nor had I even read the chapter in the English.....So, I just said in honesty: "Sir, I am not prepared to translate."

4-Dr. Unger looked at me with disdain, and quoted: "COMFORT YE, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE, SAITH YOUR GOD."

5-I was embarassed beyond words, for I could have translated that without preparation, but so much of Isaiah is very difficult.....

6-THUS, I've never forgotten the message of COMFORT from Isa. 40, though I felt very little comfort that class session!

B.-Problem Of The Unity Of Isaiah:

1-Never doubted (until) destructive "Higher Criticism"

2-Based upon--Denial of supernatural & miraculous
--Denial of the element of predictiveness of prophecy

1 Genesis
2 Deuteronomy
3 Isaiah
4 Jonah
5 Daniel

3-Postulated 2, 3, or 4 Isaiahs

*--Isaiah wrote about 700 B.C.
--2nd Isaiah is said to have been about 550 B.C., after the Exile to Babylon
*--Still doesn't get away from all prophecy, but only that which they relate to the return from Exile

4-Contrary Proof

--Over 20 citations in N. T. from Isaiah and 9 of these are from Isa. 40-66

--Sample case uses passages from both sections

*--John 12:37-40

--Competent scholars assign a date of 150 B.C. to the Isaiah scroll found in the desert among the Dead Sea Scrolls. This is by 1000 years the oldest MSS of Isaiah now known. Does this ancient scroll confirm the theory of 2, 3, or 4 Isaiahs? Dr. Oswald T. Allis points out that Ch. 40 begins on the very last line of the column which contains Chapters 38:9 to 39:8

in 1948

*--The last words on the one column are, "CRY UNTO HER", and the first words on the next column are: "THAT HER WARFARE IS ACCOMPLISHED." Certainly, therefore, the Scribe who wrote this MSS of the prophecy was altogether unaware of what the critics alleged, that beginning with chapter 40 we have an important change of historical situation, and an entire change of authorship.

--One has well written, "If the questioning of

the authorship of the Book of Isaiah were brought up in a court of law, the case of the promulgators of 2 or 3 Isaiahs would be thrown out of court for lack of evidence." Clarence McCartney

2

C.-Our Message---COMFORT To Israel: (Message of)

1-Voice of Pardon----------40:1-2
2-Voice of Preparation-------40:3-5
3-Voice of Promise----------40:6-8
4-Voice Of Proclamation------40:9-11

PROP = THE PROMISE OF GOD — SURE!

INTERROG — HOW is this sure message of COMFORT made known

TRANS — Made Known in VOICES

## I. VOICE OF PARDON-----(Isa. 40:1-2):

### A.-Comfort's Address:

1-40:1-2a
2-Addressed--To Israel
* --NOT to the Church
--Church is not mentioned or foreseen in the O.T.
--We can learn from this
* --It is NOT "TO" us, but it is "FOR" us!
3-Message--Not of judgment
--But of Comfort
4-"Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem"=="Speak home to the heart of Jerusalem"; Cause to breathe again; CONSOLATION + POWER
5-Trinity of COMFORT
--Father
--2 Cor. 1:3--"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort"
--Spirit
--Jn. 14:16--"And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever;"
--Jn. 14:26--"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."
--Son
--Isa. 61:1-2
--1 Jn. 2:1--"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate (a Comforter) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:"

### B.-Comfort's Basis (Pardon):

An appeal to the HEART

1-40:2
2-"Warfare is accomplished"
--Time of Israel's suffering predicted to end
--Time of God's appointment of restoration has come
* --"Service" in the sense of dispersion is past
Prophetic anticipation sees it ended!
3-"Iniquity is pardoned"
"It is finished" == "Paid off"
--Not by atonement through penance
* --Not by "works"
--FULL SATISFACTION has produced pardon!
--HOW ??????
* --By God's grace
--"Christ has for sin, Atonement made,
What a wonderful Savior!"

4-"Received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins
--Not redemptive suffering
--Why such suffering, then? (3)
--Because of principle that: "Greater light brings greater responsibility
--Israel had PRIVILEGES! ** The law & the prophets
** The Levitical service
** The Shekinah glory
** The Messianic promises
** The adoption to sonship
Romans 9:4-5
--Privilege neglected or rejected must be dealt with by a righteous God

Illus

5-ILLU If a Jew were in financial difficulties & he turned his home or his farm over to a creditor in order to meet his debts, a paper would be made out giving this full information. One copy would be kept by the one who placed the mortgage on the property and the other would be nailed up on the doorpost, so that anyone would understand that this property was transferred temporarily to another. When the account was settled & everything was paid, the notice on the doorpost would be DOUBLED, tacked up double, covered over. That indicated it was all settled.

When it says, "She hath received of the Lord's hand the double for all her sins," it is as though it said the account has been FULLY PAID. Nothing more now to suffer, because the Lord will have pardoned her iniquity. (HAI, P. 238, Isaiah)

6-Believing of this "Voice of Pardon" by Israel
--A "remnant" in this age of grace
--Seen in Romans 9-11
--Yet a full turning to the Lord
--STILL FUTURE
--Rom. 11:26--"And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob "A nation to be born in a day"

## II. VOICE OF PREPARATION----(40:3-5):

### A.-Preparation Of Way:

1-40:3

2-The Voice--Not named
--Cries out to be heard!
*--John the Baptist applies this to himself
** Mt. 3:3--"For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"
** Jn. 1:23--"He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias."
*-John is the FORERUNNER

3-ILLUS--In the ancient east a Monarch would send HERALDS ahead of his procession to announce his coming to his subjects.

So John was sent with a message..... Herald of His Coming

4-"Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God"

Message of Preparation

--Preparation of heart was necessary

--The One Who is coming is DEITY!!

** "LORD"

** "Our God"

Appeal to the WILL — Preparation is ESSENTIAL!

**B.-Promise Of Justice:**

1-40:4--

2-Physical change envisioned in Millennium

3-Example is Isa. 35

4-Figure for moral change to justice & equity also

5-Titanic "engineering feat" envisioned

--To change nature

--To change geography

--To change man — Greatest change of all!!

**C.-Prediction of Glory:**

1-40:5

2-Future prediction from Isaiah's day

3-Revelation of "the glory of the Lord"

--In Christ in first advent

--John 1:14

--Seen on Mt. of Transfiguration

4-"All flesh shall see (it) together"

* --Not just Israel shall see (WB)

--But ALL flesh shall see Him

Q → --WHEN?

A → --Not at first Advent, but at 2nd Coming & Mill.

--Rev. 1:7--"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen"

--Mt. 24:30--"And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

5-That day will come!

? 6-Are you prepared ??????

BASIC QUESTION!

7-ILLUS--In the Spanish-American War, when some transports with supplies for the U.S. Army found it impossible to find a secure anchorage off the Cuban coast, they were compelled to discharge their cargoes into boats while they cruised to & fro.

It was impossible to land the horses & mules in this manner, so it was decided to push them overboard and trust to their swimming ashore. Some instinctively swam toward the beach; others swam in circles; while others, more frightened, made out to sea.

It looked as though many would be lost & the ship's officers were greatly concerned. The did not know what to do. Then they saw a soldier on shore running to the point of a headland.

He put his bugle to his lips & blew the calls the horses & mules had learned to know during their training. The penetrating notes were heard by the bewildered, struggling animals. Some responded at once, others more tardily, but the bugler continued to sound his calls until every one was safe

ashore. Similarly, OUR DUTY is to proclaim the Gospel to those who are bewildered and struggling in sin. Ours is a VOICE OF PREPARATION. Voice of Preparation brings to safety

(5)

## III.-VOICE OF PROMISE-----(Isa. 40:6-8):

DECLARATION, not ARGUMENTATION

A-"Cry":
1-40:6a
2-"Cry"=="Preach"
3-Isaiah was "called" to preach
4-Need more today who will hear and accept that "call" of God — PERHAPS YOU
5-But, we must listen--Not only for the COMMISSION,
--But also for the CONTENT
--"What shall I cry?"

6-God answers with a two-pronged message
[A]--Frailty of man
[B]--Finality of Scripture
--many today w/ an unscriptural message!

- FEEL GOOD
- PROSPERITY MESSAGE

B.-Frailty Of Man:
1-40:6-8b
2-Depravity of man makes it so no message from earth alone can bring comfort and hope
3-WHY ??
4-Man is like:
--The flowers of the field
--The grass of the meadows and hills
** Blown upon by God's breath
** Fading beauty
** Withering away
** No lasting quality !!

--PICTURE OF MAN
- Frailty
- Depravity
- Helplessness
- Transitoriness

NOT VERY FLATTERING

5-Isaiah's comparison of the frailty of man would be a devastating word to the eastern mind. These were not westerners, accustomed to being led by IDEAS. These Jews were accustomed to being led by PERSONAGES as the embodiment of God's will

6-ILLUS--I read a book review several years ago in TIME Magazine which so clearly showed this frailty of man. Nicholas Henderson had written "PRINCE EUGEN OF SAVOY".

Eugen was a frail & effeminate lad from Savoy whom France's Louis XIV concluded would never make a soldier, so he fled from France with a vow to return against France --with his sword in his hand.

Eugen was a Major General at 22 in the Vienese Army; a Field Marshall before he was 30. In his 54 years of service to the Emperor, he liberated half of Europe from 1½ centuries of Turkish rule. Eugen revolutionized military tactics, and led his troops with such bravado that he was wounded in action 13 different times.

Even when he was 71, the Habsburgs still thought of Eugen as the best defender of their land. At that age, & just 2 years from his death, he was dispatched to the War of Polish Succession. Outnumbered 5 to 1 by the forces of France, he failed

miserably.

Years later, Frederick the Great, remembering his days of apprenticeship mourned the fate of Eugen: "What a humbling reflection for our vanity. The greatest geniuses end up as imbeciles. Poor humanity, boast of your glory if you dare!"

7-Such a view of the frailty of man should send us reeling, in need of the.....

**C.-Finality Of The Word:**

1-40:8b

2-Vivid contrast with man

3-Word of God
- Heavenly origin
- Perpetually relevant
- Eternally true

Bible NEVER FAILS!

NB

4-Critics come, and critics go, but the Word ABIDES!

5-Poem---"The Anvil" John Clifford

"Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith's door,
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

"How many anvils have you had," I said,
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," said he, and then with twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."

And so, thought I, the anvil of God's Word,
For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;
Yet though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed....the hammers gone."

6-Scripture brings a "Voice Of Promise" for ever
- --Ps. 119:41--"Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, even thy salvation, according to thy Word."
- --Ps. 119:65--"Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according to thy Word."
- --Ps. 119:89--"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

**IV.-VOICE OF PROCLAMATION:--(Isa. 40:9-11):**

**A.-The Proclaimers:**

1-40:9

2-Appeal is--To Zion
- --To Jerusalem
- --To the nation of Israel

NOT the church

3-God's ancient people are to "bring good tidings"
- --"Lift up thy voice with strength"
- --"Lift it up, be not afraid"

4-These are to be "missionaries" in the Tribulation after the Church has been raptured
- --144,000
- --Two Witnesses
- --Multitude who are martyred

B.-The Person:

1-Their message is "BEHOLD YOUR GOD" — 40:9

2-They witness to His PERSON

3-The "Coming One" is deity

4-"Behold the Lord GOD will come..." To + For Israel (7)

5-Fulfillment of Emmanuel=="God with us"

6-2nd Advent is "at hand" when Israel's remnant is proclaiming His coming

C.-The Performance:

1-40:10

2-"The Lord GOD will come with a strong hand," PRESENCE

--Strength of God

--He will deliver from sin

--Message then to Israel

--Message now to all

--Rom. 10:11-13---------(read)

3-"And His arm shall rule for him" POWER

--King of Kings and Lord of Lords

--Benevolent Despot

--Rules with a rod of iron

--Ps. 2:8-9--"Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

4-"Behold his reward is with Him, and His work before Him"---In reward

--In retribution John 5:24-27

--Basic issue----What have you done with Christ ?

5-40:11

6-Shepherding--Ps. 23 in the O.T.

--Jn. 10 in the N.T.

--The same One Who holds the lambs in His bosom, holds the oceans in His hand

--Safety and gentleness in His care

--DAVID said: "Thou hast given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great." (2 Sam. 22:36)

--Rev. 1:16-17--"And He had in His right hand seven stars: and out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and His countenance was as the sun shineth in His strength. And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying, 'Fear not; I am the first and the last:'"

CONCLUSION: A.-Four Voices:

1-Voice of Pardon

2-Voice of Preparation

3-Voice of Promise

4-Voice of Proclamation

5-These are---FUTURE TO ISRAEL

6-Yet, there's.....

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®
BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

B.-A Present Application:

1-Voice of Pardon--on the basis of Christ's death as OUR SUBSTITUTE -

2-Voice of Preparation--Heart must be softened
--Turning to the Lord in response to the preaching of God's Word

3-Voice of Promise--Man is a feeble & frail creature
--Only the Word is secure
--Only the Scripture is "FINAL"

4-Voice of Proclamation--Believers are to be proclaimers
--Witnesses to HIS PERSON
--Acts 1:8
--That's our job.....NOW !

5-ILLUS--A Hebrew Christian in New York City was greatly interested in a sign in the window of a gift shop which read, "WE MEND EVERYTHING BUT BROKEN HEARTS".

Entering the shop, he was greeted by a young Jewess. "What can I do for you, sir?" she asked.

"I am interested in your sign in the window. I am wondering what you do with broken hearts?"

Thinking she was being put on, she flippantly replied: "Oh, we send them to the hospital."

The enquirer replied: "Have you not read in your Old Testament of the Messiah who came to heal the broken-hearted?"

"Well, I guess I haven't," answered the Jewess. "TELL ME MORE ABOUT HIM".

6-What a joy we have-----the joy of sharing Christ with others - We can't leave the "HERALDING" to the angels!

7-HE ALONE can bring comfort to the sorrowing heart!

Let's give them The PROMISE OF GOD that is SURE!

Middletown Bible Ch, (IFCA Regional) CT 9/19/84
Old Kanawha Baptist Ch. 10/14/84
Dennison Corners Community Ch, N.Y. - 8/5/86
Glen View Ind. Bapt. Ch - 4/18/99
5/24/99 - Sydney, Australia - Bible Conf.
6/2/99 - Living Water Bapt. Ch - Melbourne
5/29/05 - Open Bible Bapt. Ch - Beckley
7/3/05 - Harvest Bapt. Ch. - Blacksburg
Westbrae--12/17/67
9/1/74 - AM
Calvary Columbus - 11/3/74
Mims, Fla - 1st Bapt - 10/3/76
Trinity Bapt. Mountainville W.V. - 3/6/77
Cambridge Bible Ch. - 3/4/78
1st. Bapt, Warrensville. - 4/2/78

6/15/08 - Harper Heights
8/14/08 - Beulah Bapt. Ch

I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go
Tell Me The Old, Old Story
Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne (#46)
Hark, The Herald Angels Sing
Joy To The World
Daniels M.B. Ch. 4/20/18
ABC Chapel - 1/28/81
Putney B.C., Putney, Ky - 3/22/81
Grace Gospel Ch., Huntington - 9/2/84
Thy Word Have I Hid In My Heart" (177) (158)
"Where He Leads I'll Follow" (467)
(39)

"THE POWER OF GOD---SUFFICIENT!" Isa. 40:12-27
Ps. 100:1-3

1

**INTRO:**

**A.-Outside Exposures!**
1-**Camp**--Pines & firs
--Mountains
--River
--Clouds
--Clean air
2-Caused us to sing "HOW GREAT THOU ART"
3-External stimuli to lift our minds & hearts & views of God out of the "ordinary"

**B.-Biblical Exposures!**
1-Isa. 40:12-27
2-Divine **revelation** of our God
3-**Insights** we'd not gain by personal observations
4-TREMENDOUS **CONTRAST**
--True God of creation, redemption & revelation
--**Man-made gods** that can't hold up their worshippers, nor even themselves
--Incomparable view of the God of heaven & earth

**C.-This Message:**
1-**PROP**--Realize that "THE POWER OF GOD---IS SUFFICIENT!"
--Personalize that the the same power of the same God revealed in **acts of creation** is available for our daily lives
--Take "**COMFORT**" (Isa. **40:1**)
2-Outline:
I.-The CREATOR
II.-The COUNTERFEIT
III.-The COMPARISONS
IV.-The CONTEMPLATION
3-Be able, thus, to say
to sing
to stabilize, because of
"HOW GREAT THOU ART!"

INERROG
How shall we know that God IS sufficient in His power?
By seeing Him as He is!

**I.-THE CREATOR (Isa. 40:12-17):**

**A.-The Creator's Omnipotence (40:12):**
1-"**Who**"--The "coming One" & "ruling One" of 40:10
--Not a petty conquerer, but the eternal Creator
--No attempt to "**prove** that God exists"
--HE IS **ASSUMED** as in **Gen. 1:1**
Eternal majesty of Jehovah
2-Same One Who holds **lambs** in His bosom holds **oceans** in His hand
3-**Vastness** of the universe is so great that even **light years** is an inadequate & insufficient means of measuring it.
4-**Physical elements** of the universe are in **His** omnipotent control.
Oceans in cup of His hand
Space measured by span of His hand

B.-The Creator's Omniscience (40:13-14):

1-Penetrating questions

2-Absolutely no answers possible from any man

3-N.B.--Prominence of PERSONAL PRONOUNS

--God is personal, for He is a Person!

4-No one showed God anything

--Eastern cosmogonies might represent Bel or Ormuzd calling inferior deities to counsel

--But Jehovah needs no counsel, for He is eternal and omniscient — No research assistants needed!

5-TOTAL and unaided knowledge

6-All knowledge and truth are GOD'S TRUTH

C.-The Creator's Omniprevalence (40:15-17):

My Coined Word

1-"BEHOLD" (40:9, 10, 15, 26) — 6 Times

2-God's view of the nations

--"PUNY"!!

--"isles"=="continents"

--"nothing" is Heb. "tohu"=="waste; chaos"

--Everything POLITICAL is in God's hands also

--Carl Armerding--"The other similies used in this verse are equally striking. What serious-minded student of geography or of geopolitics would ever think of likening the nations to a drop which falls unnoticed from a bucket, or to the fine dust on a pair of scales which makes no perceptible difference in the weight of that which is being weighed in the balances? But the sacred writer goes even further and says: 'All nations before Him are as nothing; they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.' How great must He be of whom such language can be used with propriety!" ("Words Of Hope, Comfort And Cheer", P. 62).

3-Not an argument from History to God, but from God to history. GOD is central!!! Everything follows from Him

4-God is so great that no suitable offering exists to adequately show His praise (40:16)

--Heb. 10:1-4

5-LOFTY VISION of God; Absolutely Sovereign!

6-Lump "all nations" and still God prevails over all

HIS STORY

Omniprevalence

II.-THE COUNTERFEIT (40:18-20):

A.-Interrogative Inquiry (40:18):

1-CONTRAST is set in terms of BITING SARCASM

--Mighty power of God

--Helpless man-made idols

--HE stands out and alone!

2-Question as to there being any proper likeness to Elohim=="The strong One Who creates"

3-The thought of the INFINITY OF GOD leads to the primary argument against idolatry — God WAS IS & ever SHALL BE.

B.-Idolatrous Images (40:19-20):

1-Description of idol-making

2-Metal images for the RICH

3-Wooden idols for the POOR

4-DEF--An idol is a creature made by a creature
==Anything that takes the place of the true God in one's heart is an idol, no matter what it is!
** Money
** Stocks or bonds
** Houses
** Job
** Fame
** Beauty
** Position, etc.

Hobby
Business, Children

3

5-Counterfeit gods--Can't even keep themselves from toppling over
--How can they keep from falling the people that bow down to them??????

6-Polemic against idolatry in Isa. 40:18--48:22
--40:18, 25
--41:21-24, 29
--42:8, 17
--44:8-20
--45:16
--46:1-2, 5-7
--48:5-6, 16-18
--Romans 1:21-23
--1 John 5:21

An Icon

7-ILLUS--When John Knox was a prisoner in France they brought him 'a painted board, which they called OUR LADY, and commanded him to kiss it... who, seeing the extremity, took the idol and, advisedly looking about, cast it into the river, and said, "Let OUR LADY now save herself; she is light enough, let her learn to swim."
After that was no Scotsman urged with that idolatry.' (Knox's History Of The Reformation)

8-NO POWER in any counterfeit god.

Cannot stand up + Cannot swim

## III.-THE COMPARISONS (40:21-25):

### A.-He Probes (with questions) (40:21):
1-Four questions
2-Probing to elicit a reply,,,,though Israel be reluctant
3-Works on them to rally their common sense
4-Heb. 1:1-2-God, who at sundry times & in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds."

### B.-He Presides (40:22-23):
1-Over the earth
2-Over the inhabitants--"Grasshoppers" (Num.13:33)
3-Over princes
4-Over judges
5-Picture of ABSOLUTE SOVEREIGNTY
6-And.....He is still personal

### C.-He Predicts (40:24):
1-Specifics are stated about idolators
2-ABSOLUTE authority to predict & to bring to pass
3-Prerogative of deity to tell the future & to accomplish it.

A series of "shall nots"

D.-His Pre-eminence (40:25):
1-Asked as a question
2-Answer is obvious!! God of the Bible is the INCOMPARABLE ONE !!
3-Comparison is ODIOUS!
4-POWER of God is sufficient and no other is like unto Him
5-God stands out with no equals;;
HE IS PRE-EMINENT — Amen!

## IV.-THE CONTEMPLATION (40:26-29)

A."LIFT Your Eyes" (40:26a):
1-It is a COMMAND
2-Get eyes off from problems & circumstances and yourself
3-Get eyes onto GOD!!
4-That requires looking "high", where God dwells
5-Ps. 121:1-2

B.-LOOK ("Behold"--40:9, 10, 15, 26) Upon Your God (40:26b+):
1-Personal God--"WHO"
--Not a blind force
--Not an impersonal "First Cause"
--But PERSONAL as well as POWERFUL!! — BOTH!
2-Creator (Genesis 1:1, 16-18)
3-Caller--Ps. 147:4-5
4-Controller--Col. 1:16-17--"For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him and for Him; and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist."
--Heb. 1:3--"Who, being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His Person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;"
--NO FAILURE with God
5-Isa. 45:22-25
--Text that led to conversion of Charles Haddon Spurgeon
--ILLUS--Carl Armerding tells of a lady he met while ministering in New Zealand some years ago. Among the sick that he called upon was one dear woman who was completely helpless because of arthritis.
In the course of one conversation with her, Dr. Armerding asked her what she considered the greatest lesson she had learned as a result of her affliction. She told him that the greatest lesson she'd learned while lying there helpless on her back was TO LOOK UP!!
As a matter of fact it was the only way she could look. She couldn't even move her head from one side to the other. She was compelled to look up. But she didn't consider that a calamity, but a blessing, for she'd come to know the Lord as never before.

"Look unto Me, & be ye Saved"

6-Have you also come to where you "LOOK" to God???

(5)

**C.-LEARN And LEAN (40:27-29):**

1-With such truth revealed, WHY such foolishness by Israel??

2-Thinking to **escape** God's sight & judgment

3-**BELIEVE THE RECORD!!!**

--**Ps. 19:1**--"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handywork."

--**Acts 14:17**--"Nevertheless He left not Himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness."

--**Rom. 1:19-20**--"Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."

4-He is **all-powerful**--40:28-29

--Learn it

--**Lean** upon HIM

--No insufficiency when He works in and through us

5-POEM:

"I cannot, but God can;
Oh, balm for all my care!
The burden that I drop
His hand will lift and bear.
Though eagle pinions tire,
I walk where once I ran,
This is my strenght to know
I cannot, but He can!"

6-ILLUS of this truth is seen in Paul in 2 Cor. 12:1-9

**CONCLUSION:**

**A.-Recapitulation:**

1-The CREATOR (40:12-17)
2-The COUNTERFEIT (40:18-20)
3-The COMPARISON (40:21-25)
4-The CONTEMPLATION (40:26-29)

**B.-Reinforcement:**

1-The Power of God----SUFFICIENT!!

--He meets every need

--Therefore God's people ought to take "COMFORT" (40:1)

2-**Where** is His power sufficient??

--In creation

--In the nations

--In personal life

--In redemption (Rom. 1:16)

--In the **church**----------Psalm 23:1

In our daily live

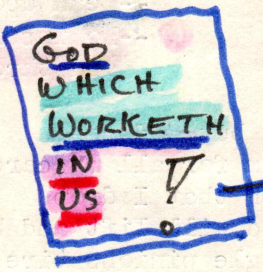
3-Who is the **channel** of God's power??
--1 Cor. 1:30-31--"
--**Jesus Christ ALONE**!

4-WHO is this power **available** to??
--1 Cor. **1:26-29**
--Let **us** be "**COMFORTED**" also

5-**HOW** ???------1 Cor. **1:18-25**
--**Faith** in the One Who died for us on the **Cross**

**C.-Your Decision:** —REACTION
1-Believe God's Word
2-Receive God's Son
3-Become God's child
4-Let God become....

....**your sufficiency**!!
He is ABLE to accomplish WHATEVER He calls His own to do — for it is




Westbrae--9/8/74--#403--"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (40) 17
Calvary Columbus 12/12/74 --"Under His Wings" (269) 484
[illegible], Fla — 1st Bapt. 10/3/76 --"How Great Thou Art". (37) 16
[illegible]nity Bapt — Moundsville, W.Va. 3/6/77 #333 Trusting Jesus
[illegible]mbridge Bible Ch — 3/4/78
[illegible]t Bapt Ch, Warrensville — 4/4/78
[illegible]nieto M.B. Ch — 5/7/78
Middletown Bible Ch (IFCA Regional) CT. — 9/20/84
[illegible]ace Gospel Church, Huntington, WV — 10/7/84
Kanawha Bapt. Ch. 10/21/84
[illegible]nison Corners Com. Ch — 9/6/86
[illegible]n View Ind. Bapt. Ch. — 4/18/99
[illegible]dney, Australia — 5/25/99

6/27/99-International Bapt. Ch. Melbourne
6/19/05-Hilltop Bapt. Ch. + 9/10
7/24/05-Crow Christian Ch, WV
8/10/08 Harper Hights
9/21/08-Beaulah Bapt, Summers

"THE PEOPLE OF GOD---SUSTAINED" Isa. 40:28-31
Psalm 103:1-22

1

INTRO

A.-ILLUSTRATION--Bird Without A Feather:

In a cage in Los Angeles there is a golden eagle, not imprisoned for life, but recuperating from the effects of having been shot at by some hunters in the Mojave Desert. He had lost his flight feathers, and hadn't been able to swoop down on ground squirrels, hare, or rabbits as he used to. He was found, perched on a rock, by 2 travellers, who decided that if left to himself he would soon die. "His take-home, in fact, had been getting increasingly meagre---snakes, dead animals, and other slow-moving desert riffraff. He had lost weight...His normally seven-foot wing spread was down to an unmajestic six."

The travellers caught the bird and took it home with them, and have been caring for it since.

What a sight that poor bedraggled, beaten bird must have been! It should have been mounting up with wings into the heavens, but it was defeated, hungry, and ready to die.

There's a wonderful promise in Isaiah 40:31 for God's children. Most of us know it. It reads: "They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, & not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."

But to look at some of us that promise is not operative. We've been shot down by our enemies. We're living on a starvation diet. We've lost our flight feathers. The solution for such people is to do what the verse says: "WAIT ON THE LORD." Wait, and you'll soon be in flight again!

B.-Message---"THE PEOPLE OF GOD---SUSTAINED!"

1-Not the purpose of God that we be frustrated and powerless

2-Ample provision has been made

3-What are we to do? PROP

Let us --LEARN God's prescription for our being sustained
--PRACTICE the prescription in our daily lives
--EXPERIENCE the power of God

4-Let's look at it:

Outline I.-The PERSON Of God--------Our Resource:
II.-The PLAN Of God---------Our Recipe:
III.-The PURPOSE Of God-----Our Realization:

## I.-THE PERSON OF GOD----(Isa. 40:28-29): → OUR RESOURCE!

God over everlasting things.

### A.-"The Everlasting God": (40:28)

1-Isn't He known?
Isn't He heard of??

2-WHO is He??--He's the One who's always the same
--No change; No fluctuations
--Our CONSTANT ONE in the midst of a constantly shifting scene
--Stanza 2 of "Abide With Me"

"Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see:
O Thou who changest not, abide with me!"

READ

3-Uses of this Name of God: El Olam = "From everlasting to everlasting"
--Gen. 21:22-34
--Deut. 33:27--"The eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms: and He shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them."
--Isa. 9:6--"For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."
--Heb. 13:8--"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever"

*** 4-Message: IMMUTIBILITY — God over everlasting things!

### B.-The LORD: = JEHOVAH

1-What does this Name mean?
--Comes from present tense of the verb "to be";
"I AM"
--Meaning is of "the self-existent One" Who reveals Himself + always Keeps His covenant
--He WAS, He IS, He EVER SHALL BE"

2-Use of this term--Most frequent Name of God in Scripture
--6823 times in O.T.
--In use from Genesis 2:4 onward
--Not explained until Ex. 6:1-8
--TWO CONCEPTS involved:
* Identified with revealing Himself
* Identified with keeping His covenant
--"Special Name" for God in His relationship with His people, ISRAEL

TURN TO THIS!

3-Read Ex. 6:1-8

** 4-Message: THE SELF-EXISTENT ONE WHO REVEALS HIMSELF AND ALWAYS KEEPS HIS COVENANT
--As if God signed His letters: "Yours to count on"

### C.-The Creator Of The Ends Of The Earth:

1-Expressed from Gen. 1:1 onward
--32 times in first chapter of Genesis containing 31 vss.
* --ELOHIM="The Strong One Who Creates"
--2570 times in O.T.

2-OMNIPOTENCE of God in His resources
--No fainting with Elohim
--No weariness with the Creator
--No limit to His knowledge of you & Your problems

3-Message: UNLIMITED POWER — OMNIPOTENCE!!
4-Outgrowth seen in:

--Rom. 1:19-20--"Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."

Power + Person

--Eccles. 12:1--"Remember now thy Creator(s) in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;"

**D.-Point Of These Divine Names:**

1-Isa. 40:29

2-God is a **POWER-GIVING Person--Not withheld;**
But **freely bestowed!!**

3-But **to whom** is this power available???
--World's view: "God helps them that help themselves"
--Divine view: God helps the faint & the strengthless ones or the **HELPLESS!!!**

NB

4-**Contrast--40:30**
--"Youths"=="Growing persons that are increasing in power"
--"Young men"==Choice young unmarried men; Bachelors with all their vigor"
--**BOTH** will "faint" and "utterly fall"
--Strongest can still get weary
--Human energy will be exhausted & insufficient
--Most sure-footed can stumble
--**BUT** there is **no exhausting** of **God's resources** to the helpless one who **turns** to God

NB

5-**Our need is TOTAL:**
**His power is TOTAL!!**

6-It is not "I";
It is not "I and God";
It is not "God and me";
It is....."GOD"--"He giveth power."
**THAT** is what the **Person of God** is **all about**

7-If tempted to despondency because of pressure of adverse circumstances, **lay hold** of this:
--SAME GOD as in ages past;
--SAME MERCY as toward other sinners;
--SAME POWER as in creation, the Red Sea and the resurrection of Christ.

## II.-THE PLAN OF GOD--(Isa. 40:31):

OUR RECIPE!

John Wright Follette--"This is a very familiar promise & one which most of us have delighted to repeat as a comfort and means of strength to our fainting hearts. But do we find the blessings mentioned here uncommon in our lives? I fear the truth too many times is that we run and are weary, we walk and do faint. Let's look at it again.....

## A.-The Great Essential:

1-"But they that wait upon the LORD..."!

2-Five words in Hebrew for "TRUST"

--This one means "to wait, to expect, to look for, to hope"

--Other places:

** Gen. 49:18--"I have waited for Thy salvation, O LORD"

** Ps. 27:14--"Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD."

** Ps. 37:9--"For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth."

** Ps. 69:5-6

** Ps. 130:3-5

--Term is used in rug making. Strands twisted together & enlarged into an unbreakable rope

--CONTINUOUS tense

--God wants us to confess our inadequacies and incapabilities, so we'll COME TO HIM! We're to take hold of His strength instead of despairing. — Keep at this!

3-Essential that our TRUST be expressed by WAITING in EXPECTANCY toward God! = CONFIDENT EXPECTATION

--Lam. 3:25-26--"The LORD is good unto them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeketh Him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD."

--Matter of TRUST and CONFIDENCE

4-Plan of God for our lives means that we must turn to Him continuously in expectation:

--The great essential!!

--The ONE ESSENTIAL

5-H.A.Ironside--"...they who have learned to refer everything to God and to wait quietly upon Him will be given all needed strength to rise above depressing circumstances, enabling them to mount heavenward as eagles facing the sun." (P. 243--Lectures On Isaiah)

## B.-The Great Exchange:

1-"...shall renew their strength;.."

2-Ps. 103:5--"Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

3-"RENEW"=="EXCHANGE"

--Same term used when speaking of a change of garments

--Psalmist speaks of it like the renewal of the eagle

--O.T. terminology for filling of the Spirit; the empowering of the believer by God

--Result that's promised is that STRENGTH is renewed; ours is replaced by His strength

NB

--Our great need is to rid ourselves of the self-strength we normally operate in, so that God may clothe us with His own strength

--IMPARTED POWER

--Josh. 14:11--"As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war both to go out, and to come in."

Caleb

(5)

4-ILLUS--Hudson Taylor at 37, already a mighty man of faith and a great missionary warrier, was longing for a victory he did not have. He was often restless & irritated, defeated in his prayer life, a struggling Christian, wondering if there was not something better for him.

He read a letter from a fellow missionary of the China Inland Mission, one little known, who told his director out of a full heart how he had come into joy and peace and victory. Hudson Taylor "saw it like a flash," he writes and his "EXCHANGED LIFE" began: the miracle of Chris working out through him.

Hudson Taylor was a great missionary and a great Christian to begin with. But that was not the secret of what he found. Quite otherwise. He wrote the guardian of his children in England to teach them in their young years not only God's plan of salvation by grace, through faith, to make them Christians; but God's plan of present salvation by grace, through faith, to enable them to live a victorious life.

You can read about it in "HUDSON TAYLOR'S SPIRITUAL SECRET."

5-POEM:

"I cannot, but God can;
Oh, balm for all my care!
The burden that I drop
His hand will lift and bear.
Though eagle pinions tire,
I walk where once I ran.
This is my strength to know
I cannot, but He can."

6-John Wright Follette writes:

While praying over this idea of exchanging strength, I wondered why it should be necessary to exchange so many times. The Lord made me see that it was because of normal spiritual growth in the spiritual; just the same as growth in the natural necessitates the changing of garments.

Have we not all noticed a young boy---how he outgrows his clothes so soon and sometimes needs to exchange a suit before it is really worn out? It is not a question of the suit being worn or shabby as much as it is a question of growth.

So in our Christian development, we need many changes of garments (spiritually speaking). Many blessings, experiences and manifestations, which served beautifully at one time in our Christian development utterly come short now. Owing to a deepening in God and greater room being made in our hearts, the demand comes for more of God, an exchange of garments and a fuller revelation of His Spirit"

7-What a FANTASTIC EXCHANGE!!!!

C.-The Great Expressions: (3 of them--"Mount up"; "run"; "walk")

1-"...they shall mount up with wings as eagles;"

2-"Mount up"=="Ascend"

** Peculiarity especially found in eagles

** RISE ABOVE our difficulties because of His exchanging our strength

** Enter into intimate fellowship
--EAGLE ** Altitude of flight (Above the storms "in the heavenlies")
** Rapidity of flight
** Power of scent (Discernment)
** Keenness of vision (Birds-eye view) Perspective
** Solitariness ++ Geese in flocks
++ Eagles are "Loners" as were Abraham, Moses, Elijah and Paul
** Associated with BIG THINGS
++ Sparrows may chirp in your back yard
++ Eagles' habitat is in Rockies, Sierras or Grand Canyon---out where it is BIG !!

--Probably many of our difficulties in life are because:
** We've not WAITED on the Lord
** We've not RENEWED our strength
** We've not MOUNTED UP like eagles as God intended

--But God wants us to soar above our problems, have the vision to see what He would have for us and claim the blessings He wants to bestow!

--That's a GREAT EXPERIENCE !!!

2-"...they shall run, and not be weary..."
--ENERGETIC EFFORT accomplished by God's Divine power
--Such persisting comes from a pouring in of God's power into our lives
--Ps. 119:32--"I will run the way of Thy commandments, when Thou shalt enlarge my heart."
--Phs. 4:13
--ILLUS--Elijah outrunning the chariot of Ahab down from Mt. Carmel before the rains fell
--Heb. 12:1-2--"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."
--That's a GREAT EXERCISE!!

3-"...and they shall walk, and not faint."
--Christian life is often described as a "walk"
--Not just the spurt of the moment
--But the steadiness of a lifetime
--Common & everyday
--But, oh, so essential
--Progress that is continuous with monotonous regularity
--Christian experience that takes the daily routine and transforms it into "THE GLORY OF THE GRIND"
--Continuing faithfully without faintness when all human resources have been exhausted
--Ps. 119:45--"And I will walk at liberty: for I seek Thy precepts."

(7)

--That's GREAT ENDURANCE!!!

--Life at its best with God----Steady & Faithful!!

4-See those "Three Great Expressions" of God's sufficiency at work:

--"Mount up" — Great Experience

--"Run" — Great Exercise

--"Walk" — Great Endurance

--John Wright Follette--"That seems like a tremendous come-down; like a strange anti-climax, and also,---They shall walk and not faint. This is not an anti-climax but rather the logical result of waiting. Man's order would be to WALK, RUN, and then MOUNT UP and thus reach the gradual growth of the Christian in power and strength. But here God is telling us something different. He is showing us the purpose of all that has gone before. The end in view is the practical everyday life to be lived in the power & energy of the Holy Spirit. We go up there that we may serve down here."

NB

WHO?

5-YOUNG---------Mount up with wings and fly with expectancy & exhuberance

MIDDLE AGED---Run with patience the race set before them

OLDER ONES----Quiet walk with God as they get nearer "home"

6-Movement toward a climax; from easier to harder!

## III.-THE PURPOSE OF GOD: OUR REALIZATION

### A.-God's Purpose Is People-Oriented:

Have you not Known?

1-"My people"--40:1
"Speak ye"---40:2
"Prepare ye"-40:3
"Behold your God"--40:9
"Behold the Lord God"--40:10
"He shall feed His flock"--40:11

Hast thou not Known?

2-QUESTIONS--Isa. 40:21, 28
--Youths...Young men

3-God's purpose relates to P E O P L E !!

### B.-God's Purpose Is Power-Imparting:

1-Chapter 40 begins with COMFORT to the heart of Israel that God will redeem and restore them

2-Chapter 40 ends with EXHORTATION to have their trust be in God Himself

3-What will God do???

4-Isa. 40:29--"He giveth power..."

5-POINT:--God's people are to be sustained in every circumstance...

IF they are trusting in Him to bring to pass that renewed strength of the EXCHANGED LIFE.

## CONCLUSION:

**A.-Recapitulation:**

1-The PERSON Of God
2-The PLAN Of God
3-The PURPOSE Of God
4-To the end that GOD'S PEOPLE BE **SUSTAINED**!! P.T.L.!

**B.-God's Power For Sustaining:**

1-God gives **HIS STRENGTH**, **not limited** human power.

2-Two Biblical **Standards** of **POWER:**

O.T. a-Deliverance from Egypt by blood & power for Israel
N.T. b-Resurrection from the grave for the Christian

3-2 Chron. 14:11-12--"And Asa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: **help us**, O LORD our God; for **we rest on Thee**, and in Thy Name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against Thee. So the LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled."

4-The **stock market** writes with fevers and chills. **Politicians** bludgeon one another with words. The **economy** seems bloated beyond control, and the air is filled with concern over energy, oil, Arabs, Watergate, pardons and inflation. EPA, High interest, Imbalance in Trade, Unemployment, USSR, Terrorism, WAR

**How wonderful** in such a sick world to know that "they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint."

Indeed.... The People Of God ARE Sustained!!!

Bethel Bapt. Ch, Summersville—9/28/08
Harper Heights Bapt. Ch—8/27/08
Westbrae--9/15/74-- "Praise The Savior" #144
Calvary Columbus 12/1/74 "Trusting Jesus" #333
Miami, Fla-1st Bapt—10/4/76 Blessed Quietness #318
Trinity Bapt-Moundsville W.Va—4/5/77 How Firm A Foundation #326
Cambridge Bible Ch. 3/5/78
1st Bapt. Ch. of Warrensville—4/3/78
Putney Bible Ch, Putney, KY—3/22/81
Northeast Regional of IFCA—9/18/84
Old Kanawha Bapt. Ch—11/4/84
Grace Gospel Church—Huntington, WV—11/25/84
Dennison Corners Com. Ch., NY—8/7/86
Glen View Bapt. Ch, Beckley—4/19/99
Sydney, Australia—5/26/99
Calvary Bapt. Ch—Melbourne—6/27/99
Hilltop Bapt. Ch—6/26/05
Crow Christian Ch—7/31/05

"WINGS FOR THE SOUL" Isa/ 40:31
or
"THE EAGLE-SAINT"

1

INTRO:

A.-The Cost Of Low-Living:::HIGH!!:

1-Many examples of low-living in the Bible
--Lot in Sodom
--Samson on Delilah's lap
--David on the housetop
--Prodigal in a far country
2-SCANDAL enough to make the angels weep
3-Heart-break to our God, I'm sure
4-Alexander Maclaren--"One looks round upon a lethargic, a luxurious, a self-indulgent, a world-besotten professing Church, and asks: 'Are these the people on whose hearts the cross is stamped?'"
5-Discouragement with what we often see!

B.-The Contrast Of High-Level Living:

1-God shows us the way
2-Isa. 40:31--"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."
3-Different outlook; greater possibility
4-ILLUS--Boy Scouts have EAGLE SCOUTS--top rung of their ladder
--God has EAGLE SAINTS--Those with wings for their souls!!

C.-Chosen Symbolism In Scripture:

1-Living Creatures--Ezek. 1:5-14
--Rev. 4:6-7
Read
--Composite of symbols to make a single point
--Four faces on each living creature
2-N.T. Parallel in the 4 gospels
--Matthew--LION == Kingly beast; Messiah as King of the Jews
--Mark--OX == Servant Who came to minister; Faithful in service & sacrifice
--Luke--MAN == The God-provided Perfect Man to deal w/ all our imperfections
--John--EAGLE == The heavenly One; Life on a higher plane
3-POINT of the eagle in Scripture is of the powerful, overcoming, victorious christian life
4-Worthy, then, of our meditation upon the eagle so that we might gain "WINGS FOR OUR SOULS"

I.-WINGS FOR THE SOUL---PREPARATION:

A.-The Eagle's Habits:

1-Flight & swift flight is a repeatedly espressed theme:

--2 Sam. 1:23--"...they were swifter than eagles,"
--Prov. 23:5--"Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven."

2

2-Many birds lose their power of flight by becoming content to live on a lower plane of existence
3-To counteract such a tendency the mother eagle "stirreth up her nest"
--Deut. 32:11--"As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:"
--She won't allow her fledglings to "settle down" comfortably in the nest
--Barnhouse:

When an eagle wants to teach its little ones to fly from the nest high upon a cliff, hundreds of feet up in the air, it prods one of the little eaglets and with its beak noses it out of the nest. The eaglet starts to fall, and the great eagle flies underneath, puts its wing out, catches the little one on its back & flies a mile into the air. When you can hardly see the eagle as a point in the sky, it turns sideways, and down falls the little eaglet----fluttering for maybe a thousand feet. Meanwhile the eagle circles around the eaglet and underneath it; the eagle catches the eaglet on its wings and carries the eaglet up in the air again.

After dishing the eaglet out again & letting it go, the eaglet comes down farther and farther---sometimes within a hundred feet of the ground. Again the great eagle catches the little one on its back and up they go another mile. The little eagle is at perfect rest---and it is learning to fly. Way up in the sky, the great eagle will bow over again and little by little the eaglet will learn to fly. The eagle knows when the eaglet is tired; it scoops the eaglet into the nest, noses out the next one and starts all over again.

God says, "THAT'S THE WAY I TAKE CARE OF YOU." But you may say, "I don't like to have my nest stirred up. I like everything cozy & tidy, & I just like to stay in my baby ways where I am."

But God loves you. That's why He won't let you stay as a baby; He wants you to learn to fly! Sometimes you have to be carried aloft, and you may have a horror of having to go by yourself, but it must come if you are to grow----and learn to fly.

4-Many believers are content to settle for lower levels in their spiritual lives
5-God wants us to develop our wings and so He "stirs up our nest"
6-Sometimes it's frightening;
Always there is something new;
Designed to develop the habit of FLIGHT!

B.-The Eagle's Home:
1-Matter of instinct in the eagle

2-Job 39:27-28--"Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, & make her nest on high? She dwelleth & abideth on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, & the strong place."
3-**Safe** from danger; **removed** from predators
4-So also with the instinct of the child of God
5-**Psalm 91:1-2**
6-For the one who is "at home with God" as his home, then he's able to express absolute confidence
7-**Psalm 91:3-8**

## C.-The Eagle's Haunts:

1-Creature of **solitude**
--Once in awhile you'll see an eagle with other birds
--Soon it will fly away & soar by itself alone
--Geese are found in flocks
--Eagles are **loners**!
--Jer. 49:16--"...O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill: Though thou shouldest make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD."
--Obad. 4--"Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, & though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD."
2-Hunts & feeds singly, living in high trees or in crags
3-**Pairs off** for mating & nesting
4-So with the **EAGLE CHRISTIAN**
--**Eyes** get **dazzled** & **blinded** by the attractions of the crowd
--Need to draw away to a secret place to see & to think clearly again
--DANGER if we're in continuous association with the world without some relief
--See it in **Psalm 73:**
** Vs. 3--Perplexity over the prosperity of the wicked
** Vs. 5--They seem exempt from troubles
** Paradox was **INSOLVABLE**!
** "**UNTIL** I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end." (73:17)
--**How did that happen** that insight was gained??
--By **drawing nigh to God** (Ps. 73:28)
--Thus the EAGLE CHRISTIAN is one who spends time alone with God in fellowship & communion

## D.-The Eagle's Hazards:

1-Eagles do have a peculiar problem
2-**A horny substance**--a fungus--grows on its beak.
--Hinders in its hunting
--Hampers its flight
3-To overcome this problem the eagle will **mercilessly beat its beak** against the rocks to **break off** that fungus that hinders its activities
4-So also with the **EAGLE CHRISTIAN:**
--Heb. 12:1--"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and sin which

doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

--Merciless judgment of sin in our lives

--OR--Hindering of flight & foraging

5-Have YOU been willing to part with that hazard that keeps you from exercising the wings of your soul????

## II.-WINGS FOR THE SOUL---POWER:

### A.-The Eagle's Strength:

1-When God reminded Israel of His dealings with them, He used the eagle as a symbol of strength

2-Ex. 19:4--"Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself."

3-STRENGTH of the eagle--For Israel's deliverance

--For ours as well in a spiritual sense today

4-Wings of eagles overcome the pull of gravity by the stronger power of flying:

--Harry McCormick Lintz: "The Eagle Christian overcomes the lower laws of earth-bound existence by the higher law of spiritual flight." (Birth Marks Of The Born Again, P. 109)

--N.T. expression of this

--Rom. 8:2--"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

--ILLUS--Peter's experience of walking on the water

--Accomplished because his eyes were on the Savior

--Moment-by-moment contact with Divine strength

--Eyes off the Lord...

..and onto his circumstances

--And HE SANK!!

5-Hannah Whitall Smith--Described three of her friends in this fashion. "If all three should come to a spiritual mountain which had to be crossed, the first would tunnel through it with hard & wearisome labor; the second would meander around it in an indefinite fashion, hardly knowing where she was going; but the third would flap her wings and fly right over." (The Christian's Secret Of A Happy Life, P. 243)

6-That.....is living with an eagle's strength!

### B.-The Eagle's Skills:

1-Four wonderful & unknown things:

--Prov. 30:18-19--"There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not: The way (characteristics) of an eagle in the air; the way (habit) of a serpent upon a rock; the way (path) of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way (manner) of a man with a maid."

--Reference to "that wonderful power of flight that enables a bird to hang as if frozen in the sky for long periods appearing to our sight immovable, or

to sail & soar directly into the eye of the sun, seemingly to rejoice in its strength of flight & to exult in the security & freedom of the upper air." (Gene Stratton Porter, ISBE, II, P. 885)

--**Just so** THE EAGLE CHRISTIAN has a life it is impossible for the unbeliever to understand

5

2-Biblical Illustration Of Caleb:

--Joshua 14:7-12

--He recounts his experiences of the **faithfulness** of his God

--On that basis he makes the faith-filled request for the mountain in which the Anakims---the giants--dwell

--Caleb was then **85** years old---& still a strong man

--No one else had been able to dislodge those giants

--That old warrior with nothing but his faith in God requests:

"GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN" !

--Not only overcame the enemies & conquered the mountain fastness of Kirjath-arba

--ALSO he became a blessing to others in it.(15:19)

**C.-The Eagle's Survival:**

1-**Eagles live** to **remarkable ages** in captivity

2-Probably **even more** long-lived when free

3-ILLUS-

One of the saddest things of life is to see Christians who are supposed to be victorious descending to the **low level** of **spiritual defeat** as if God had nothing better for them. In a fishing village located on the shore of one of the Great Lakes, there was a pair of captive eagles. When only 2 weeks old, they were taken into captivity & kept in a large cage. When they were fully grown, their wing span measured 6 feet.

One day when the owner had gone fishing, some mischievious boys opened the cage & let the birds go. Since they had been in captivity, however, they had never learned to fly---although the instinct for the sky was not fully crushed. Flailing with their wings, they floundered about in an effort to get off the ground. One rose high enough to get on a low branch of a forest tree---where it was **soon shot** by a hunter.

The other headed toward the lake, where, unable to fly, **it drowned**.

**GOD** had **intended** that these birds should enjoy their **freedom** in the sky. But from all of this they had been cut off.

**THINK** how much this is like so many of God's children! Instead of enjoying the glorious liberty the Lord intended for all of us, repeatedly we are brought into the depths of despondency & discouragement----too often we grovel in the dust & dirt; the muck & mire of the earth.

We even **lose the respect** of our **unconverted neighbors** & **relatives** for our brand of "CHRISTIANITY"

seems no different or better to them than their own life-style.

4-**What they need is to see:**

--Isa. 40:31--"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint."

--Ps. 103:5--"Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's."

--That's **SURVIVAL** of the eagle that flies high!!

## III.-WINGS FOR THE SOUL---PERSPECTIVE:

### A.-Place---Above The Clouds:

1-S.S. Times--"An eagle sits on a crag & watches the sky as it is filling with blackness, and the forked lightnings are playing up & down. He is sitting perfectly still...untill he begins to feel the burst of the breeze & knows the hurricane has struck him. Then he swings his breast to the storm, and **uses the storm to go up** into the sky. Away he goes----borne upward upon it. That is what God wants every one of His children---- to be more than conqueror---turning the storm into a chariot.

2-Eagle is **obedient** to his **God-implanted instincts:**

--Builds the nest high

--Flies next to the stars

--Finds that the isolated crags suit it best

--**LIVES** AS **NEAR HEAVEN** as it can get

3-**So** with the **Eagle Christian also**

--Preparation for living with wings determines perspective

--Heritage of his birth enlarges his horizon

--Thus the eagle ( and the Eagle Christian) **lives ABOVE THE CLOUDS**

4-Many dwell in **darkness** & **despair** under threatening clouds

--Nests built low

--Flying just off the ground

--Pressed in by every experience of life

--**Living life on** the **LOWEST PLANES**...

.....near the ground....

...& often in the gutter!

5-Eagle wants to live in the light of God's sunshine **U P H I G H** in conformity with its new nature

6-ILLUS--

An elderly Scottish woman made it a point to never miss a service at the Church where George Matheson, the blind preacher was Pastor. Matheson, you may recall, is the man who wrote the great hymn--"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go."

One day, this dear old lady surprised all of her neighbors & friends by announcing that **she was moving out** from her basement room to a bright, sunny apartment on the 3rd floor.

There'll be **so many steps** to climb," protested one of her friends.

"Why don't you stay where you are?" asked another.
"Oh", she smiled, "You cannot hear Matheson preach and live the rest of your life in a cellar."



I'm sure **you understand** something of what she meant. Her ears, her heart had heard such great spiritual truths that her soul was living in the sunlight and she just had to let her tired, **old body get caught up** to the **heights of her soul**.....and hers was a BIBLICAL ATTITUDE, too!!

**B.-Perception---Discernment Of Issues:**

1-Job 39:28-29--"She dwelleth and abideth on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, and the strong place. From thence she seeketh the prey, and her eyes behold afar off."

2-Eagle doesn't have to be "**PART OF THE MESS**" to see it & to smell it!!
- -Discernment
- -Perceptiveness
- -Without any involvement or compromise

3-In these darkening days of desperation **only** those who **LIVE ABOVE**----not beneath----**see things** with **full clarity** and distinguish conflicting issues:
- --Moral realms
- --Religious trends
- --Spiritual truths
- --Political problems

4-EAGLE CHRISTIANS can see beyond the perplexing problems of daily life here below to...

...HEAVEN'S HOPE...The Coming One

5-**Already** they **bask** in the warm rays of their expected Sun of Righteousness, for Whom they wait by faith and eagerly expect His coming soon

**CONCLUSION:**

**A.-The Eagle's Lessons For Us:**

1-**PREPARATION** according to the instincts implanted by God

2-**POWER** by development of God-given abilities, so we can soar and fly above the things of a low-life

3-**PERSPECTIVE** to live above the storms and to see clearly what is ahead

**B.-The Eagle's Challenge To Us:**

1-**Low-living**.....has exceedingly **HIGH costs** !!

2-High-flying **may be solitary**....

3-But it takes the EAGLE CHRISTIAN nearer God.

4-What's **your decision**??
- --Receive "WINGS FOR YOUR SOUL" in the new birth?
- --Fly high with God and develop into an EAGLE CHRISTIAN?

Westbrae--9/29/74--#58--"Glorious Calvary"
#98--"O Happy Day"
Glen View Baptist Ch, Crab Orchard - 4/20/99
Harper Heights Bapt Ch - 9/21/08
Bewlah Bapt. Ch - 10/5/08

"WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT WORSHIP" Isa. 44:1-20
Ps. 96:1-9

INTRO:

**A.-Demise Of Worship:**

1-ILLUS--Our fathers suffered to gain us **freedom of worship**. A later generation heedlessly passes by the open doors of God's Church as though this freedom were a freedom "**FROM** worship" instead of a freedom "**OF** worship"

Little Jane said, "Mother, you know that vase that you said had been in our family a long time; the one that was great-grandmothers, then grandmothers, and now yours----the one that's been **handed down** from generation to generation?"

"Yes, dear, I know the one", her mother replied.

"WELL, MOTHER, I'M SORRY, but this generation just **dropped it** and broke it."

2-So it is with worship !!

3-We live in the generation that has "**DROPPED IT**" !!

**B.-Definition Of Worship:**

1-Hebrew word=="**To bow down**"
--Outward symbol of inward reverence

2-Dictionary Def.--"**Honor, respect, deference, homage** paid to God

3-Historical Definition=="Worship"=="**WORTH--SHIP**"

4-Personal Defitition: "Worship is a **personal response** to a Divine Revelation."

5-ILLUS--Isaiah 6: **Crisis** of the death of the King
Exposure to the Living God
**New perspective** on self & fellows
ENCOUNTER with God

--**Revelation** of God requires a **PERSONAL RESPONSE**

6-Dr. Wm. Temple: "What the Bible speaks of so beautifully, we **practice so poorly**. What God commands we give such mediocre obedience. This we will believe when we understand what WORSHIP is. To worship God is to quicken the **conscience** by the holiness of God, to feed the **mind** with the truth of God, to purge the **imagination** by the beauty of God, to open the **heart** to the love of God, to devote the **will** to the purpose of God. This did all who in the past worshipped God. This do all who truly worship God now."

**C.-Details Concerning Worship:**

1-John 9:31--"Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God and doeth His will, him He heareth."

2-OUTLINE: I.-FALSE WORSHIP DESCRIBED:
II.-TRUE WORSHIP DESCRIBED:

3-Prop:--To know what God will **not receive**, and to know what is involved in ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP.

I.-FALSE WORSHIP DESCRIBED:

**A.-IDOLATRY: A False Object Of Worship:**

1-Ex. 20:1-6 (READ)

2-Primacy of the **TRUE God**-----No other Gods!

3-**NO IMAGES**--Not to MAKE them
--Not to BOW DOWN to them
--Not to SERVE them
--As seen in Daniel 3
** **Image** of gold is erected
** Command to "**BOW DOWN**"
** **Refusal** to bow down by Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego

4-**Why??**--Because idolatry is a **PERVERSION**
--Rom. 1:25--"Who changed the truth of God into a lie, & worshipped & served the creature more than the Creator, Who is blessed forever."
--Isa. 42:8--"I am the LORD: that is My Name: and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise to graven images."

5-Because **Idols** are **IMPOTENT**
--Unable to **save** or to **help**
--Isa. 46:6-7--"They lavish gold out of the bag, & weigh silver in the balance, & hire a goldsmith; & he maketh it a god: they fall down, yea, they worship. They bear him upon the shoulder, they carry him, & set him in his place, and he standeth; from his place shall he not remove: yea, one shall cry unto him, yet can he not answer, nor save him out of his trouble."
--Rev. 9:20--"And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk."

6-IDOLATRY can be--Of **images** (O.T. & Bk. of Revelation)
--Of **angels** (Rev. 22:9; Col. 2:18) "See thou do it not; for I am thy fellowservant...
--Of **men** (Peter by Cornelius; Acts 10:25-26.... Paul & Barnabas by mob in Ephesus; Acts 14:11-18. Saint in heaven by John; Rev. 19:10)
--**WRONG** in any case of idolatry

Kinds

7-ILLUS--Lyman Beecher Stowe in "Saints, Sinners & Beechers" tells of one occasion when **Thomas** K. Beecher substituted for his famous brother, **HENRY WARD** BEECHER, at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn. Many curiosity seekers came to hear & see Henry Ward Beecher. Upon Thomas K. Beecher's appearance intthe pulpit the sightseers **started for the doors**. Thomas K. Beecher reached forth his hand for attention & made this announcement:

"ALL THOSE who came here this morning to worship Henry Ward Beecher may **NOW WITHDRAW** from the church; all who came to WORSHIP GOD **may remain**."

Idolatry is a FALSE OBJECT of worship

**B.-FORMALITY; A False Manner of Worship:**
1-Doing what is "EXPECTED" or what is "PROPER" without any meaning or purpose because it is "**THE FORM**"
2-Observance of "**DAYS**" (As Advent, Whitsunday, Easter, Christmas) or "**SEASONS**" (as Lent)
3-2 Tim. 3:5--"Having a **FORM of godliness**, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."
--As in Col. 2:16-23
--**LEGALISM**---Law is the "**FORM**"
--**Spiritism**--INTRUSION is the "form"

--Individualism----SELF is the "form"
--RITUALISM-------Pomp & Ceremony are the "form"

4-PRINCIPLE--Ex. 30:9--"Ye shall offer no strange incense...
--Substitution of the FALSE for the REAL
--As with statues of "saints" in the R.C. churches do little more than encourage idolatry, diverting attention from God to plaster & wood saints instead of producing LIVING SAINTS

5-ILLUS--There is a rather amusing story that comes out of the days in the early 1930's when oil was first found in East Texas. Several dirt farmers who had been on the verge of starvation, found themselves overwhelmed with UNTOLD RICHES. One such family that had been extremely poor became virtual millionaires overnight. As usual, they wanted to GO THE LIMIT and make up for the things they had been missing in life. In this spirit the wife headed for the beauty parlor.

This woman told the beauty operator that she wanted "THE WHOLE WORKS". The operator asked: "Ma'm, do you want a shampoo? The newly rich woman rose up indignantly and said: "I DO NOT WANT A SHAM-POO. I WANT A REAL-POO."

Similarly.....in the matter of worship, informed ---and even many uninformed people---are tired of the sham, the substitute..... and they want REALITY in worship.—FORMALITY is a false Manner of worship

## C.-FLESHLINESS: A False Means of Worship:

1-Feelings--These are inordinatly prominent today
--Running rampant; UNCONTROLLED
--"Wildfire religion" to use Dr. Merril F. Unger's description

2-Using SENSUOUS MEANS to gain spiritual results & to excite spiritual attitudes.
--Pleasing appeals to the unsaved, the ignorant & the carnal
--Tongues
--Healings
--Jazz music or worldly musicians + music
--Hollywood-type movies
--Often presided over by a WOMAN or a SHOWMAN

3-Devotion to a sect, a denomination, a cause or a movement more than to Jesus Christ

4-ILLUS--Lev. 10:1-5---"STRANGE FIRE" is the intruding of "will worship" of the flesh of man into worship
--God will not abide this

5-Everett C. Lerch--"There are multitudes of people in this world today who are just like Nicodemus. They admire the ceremonies or beauties of their religion. The music is beautiful. The architecture of their church or cathedral is beyond compare. The ceremonies are impressive. The ordinances & rituals are solemn. The special days are kept. The words are spoken. These, and many more things are dong--but that is all that their religion means to them.

They have RELIGION, but like Nicodemus, they are lost in sin, without the hope of heaven as Jesus taught it." (P. 2 of tract: "Have You been Born Again?)

Dulled into insensitivity due to FLESHLINESS, a false means of worship

## D.-LEAVEN; A False Ingredient of Worship:

1-Leaven is **STRICTLY FORBIDDEN** in Scripture
- --Lev. 2:11--"No meat-offering, which ye shall bring to the LORD, shall be made with leaven..."
- --1 Cor. 5:7--"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us."

2-Constant picture of **EVIL** & **SIN** throughout the Scriptures.

3-Leaven may PRESERVE **food**, but it SPOILS **spirituality** !!

4-Modern **Leavens**
- Liturgies
- --**Creeds** that become straight-jackets
- Prayer Books and Prayer forms
- --**Trappings** of **office** for Christian leaders
- Confessional booths
- --**Denominational structures** — Bishops + District Superintendents
- Compromise of position or of practice
- --**Unsaved preachers** in pulpits
- Unsaved teachers in schools

5-They **SPOIL** true worship !! — LEAVEN is the introduction of a False Ingredient into worship

## E.-CONVENIENCE; A Contributor To False Worship:

Geo. Wilson

1-"**Close** to my home"----------HANDY — Too far to walk across the street

2-"My family has **always gone there**"----------TRADITION

3-"Someone always **stops by for me**"----------LINE OF LEAST RESISTANCE

4-"I can **get up late** & **still make it**"----------LAZINESS

5-"I can **go early** & then the **rest of the day is mine**, and I can do as I please."----------SELFISHNESS

6-**Don't forget** the **lesson** of 1 Kings 12:25-33.
- Jeroboam revolted against Rehoboam & took 10 of the 12 tribes with him **into rebellion** against God and against God's King.
- THEN, to keep the people from returning to Jerusalem to worship God, and perhaps defect back to Rehoboam's kingdom....
- Jeroboam built **2 places of worship** (Dan & Bethel) and erected golden calves at each "So Israel would not have **so far to go** to worship"
- **So**.....CONVENIENCE led to idolatry & contributed to false worship.

## F.-NEGLECT; An Evidence Of False Worship:

1-We are more apt to worship God in the singing of the hymn: "There's a **green hill** far away", than we are on the 3rd green of a **golf course**.

2-We are more apt to worship God in John 6: "The feeding of the 5,000", than at a **picnic lunch** on a **mountain side** some Lord's Day morning.

3-We are more apt to worship by LAKE GENNESARET than at LAKE BERRYESSA. Summerville Lake

4-We are more apt to worship God by the Sea of Galilee than by the Pacific at Santa Cruz beach. or Atlantic at Myrtle Beach

5-We are more apt to worship God on the Road to Emmaus than on Highway 30, 40, 99 or 101. 77, 79, 64

6-**IF WE ARE IN LOVE with Jesus** Christ, we just cannot stay away from Him, from His House, from His Word, from His people,

7-Brethren, we are more apt to worship God with **the WORD** of God open before us than with the **Newspaper** or the **T.V.**

7-ILLUS--During World War II an **Indian Maharaja**, conversing with an American, asked him, "DO YOU KNOW WHY GOD IS PUNISHING THE CHRISTIANS BY LETTING THEM FIGHT AND DESTROY EACH OTHER AS THEY ARE?".....Then, answering his own question, he said: "**If I paid as little attention to my religion** as most Christians do to theirs, **I would expect God to punish me.**"

This Hindu prince said that although **only 1%** of the officials in his employ were **British**, yet for their sake he kept all his offices **closed on Sunday**, and had built **two Christian churches** that they might have both **TIME** and **PLACE** for worship

Yet, he went on to say that services were held only about once in 3 months. **WHAT ARE THEY DOING ON SUNDAY?**, he was asking. "They are hunting, boating, tennising, racing, playing cards, drinking, working in their yards, and just loafing.

If you ask me why God is punishing the Christian nations, I think that there you have the answer." --NEGLECT !!

An evidence of false worship

## II.-TRUE WORSHIP DESCRIBED:

### A.-The OBJECT Of Worship----GOD Himself:

1-Rev. 22:8-9--(READ)
- --Simple & clear
- --**Unmistakeable**, except for conscious perversion
- --**ONLY GOD** is due worship and worthy of it
- --Ps. 150:1, 6--"Praise **ye** the LORD....Let **every thing** that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise **ye** the LORD."

2-Related to a PERSON
- --John 4:20-24
- --Not a place
- --Not a time
- --Not a ceremony
- --Not a form, except as they point to Christ, as did the O.T. Tabernacle & its furnishings
- --Related **to** the **FATHER**
- --In and **thru** the **SPIRIT**
- --**By** the **TRUTH** of God's Word
- --**ONLY true object** of worship is **GOD HIMSELF**
- --Ex. 20:1-3--"And God spake all these words saying, I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have **no other gods** before me."
- --Ex. 34:14--"For thou shalt worship **no other god**: fo the LORD, whose name is JEALOUS, is a jealous God:"

3-God's requirement--**2 Kings 17**:35-37--"Israel; with whom the LORD had made a covenant, & charged them, saying, Ye shall **not fear** other gods, **nor bow** yourselves to them, **nor serve** them, **nor sacrifice** to them. But the LORD, wh brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, Him shall ye fear, and Him shal ye worship, and to Him shall ye do sacrifice. And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods."

4-**CONCLUSION**--Mt. 4:9-10--"And (Satan) saith unto Him,

'All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.' Thn saith Jesus unto him, "Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."

**B.-The MEANS Of Worship----Thru Sacrifice:**

1-God's appointed manner of worship

2-**O.T.Pattern**--By way of **BRAZEN ALTAR** & blood sacrifice.
--ONLY **ONE WAY** of approach
--Lev. 17:11--""The life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul"
--**No "BACK DOOR"** into heaven
--**SACRIFICE** is **essential**

3-**N.T. Pattern**--Heb. 9:22--"..and without the shedding of blood is no remission." By blood
--Heb. 10:12--"But this man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God." By sacrifice
--Heb. 11:6--"But without faith it is impossible to please God: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." By faith

4-God expects approach **by His prescribed manner**
- --**Not** the repetition of **animal sacrifices** now
- --But the recognition of the **ONE SACRIFICE** ALREADY MADE in Jesus Christ on the cross

5-God is pleased with REGULARITY OF APPROACH by the redeemed.

6-ILLUS--One writer tells that "In the kitchen of a little apartment in London, he saw that the wife of a workingman has a motto **over** the **kitchen sink**: "DIVINE SERVICE IS CONDUCTED HERE THREE TIMES DAILY."
I think there is a "**breath of heaven**" about that. It is our regularity & faithfulness in small things that prepares us for the larger things that God has in store.

**C.-The CHANNEL Of Worship----Thru The High Priest:**

1-**O.T. Economy**--**Aaron** and his family descenants
--Serve **beginning** at their **30th year**
--Serve **until** overtaken by **death**
--Must be a **properly qualified** High Priest
--**BUT**, still just a **temporary** service **TIL HE DIED**

2-**N.T. Economy**
--**Christ** is our High Priest now +PERMANENTLY
--Heb. 9:11-12--"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."
- --**Began** His priestly ministry after His **30th year**
- --**Died** and **rose again** from the dead
- --**Death** has **NO MORE DOMINION** over Him

--Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek (Heb. 7:22-8:1)
Beyond Death

3-In Christ we see these TWO ELEMENTS COMBINED
--The Sacrifice offered for sin as the basis of the believer's worship
--The High Priest alive to serve as the channel of the believer's worship
--1 Tim. 2:5--"For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

CONCLUSION:

A.-False Worship Described:
1-Idolatry
2-Formality
3-Fleshliness
4-Leaven of corruption
5-Convenience
6-NEGLECT

B.-True Worship Described:
1-TO GOD as the OBJECT of our worship
2-THRU a blood sacrifice as the MEANS
3-Thru a HIGH PRIEST as the Channel
--John 14:6
--Worship is always through the MEDIATION of the Lord Jesus Christ
4-Distinctions:
--In Thanksgiving we are concerned with BLESSINGS
--In prayer we are concerned with NEEDS
--In worship we are concerned with HIM

C.-True Worship Made Possible:
1-ILLUS--I may not know music myself, but I am one who constantly is seeking to learn. I am reliably informed that on every good organ their are FOUR PRINCIPAL STOPS. There is the main stop known as "DIAPASON," then there is the "FLUTE" stop, and another named "STRING" stop. The last is labeled in Latin: "VOX HUMANA", The human voice, and we are told that this stop is very seldom in tune. If you put it in tune while the Sanctuary is warm, it will be out of tune when it becomes cold. If you tune it while the room is cold, it will not be right when the crowd assembles. My friends, it is hard to keep "VOX HUMANA" in tune.

This great universe of God is a mighty instrument, & one day Jesus Christ went to the console of God's organ---HIS CREATION---and He pulled out the stop known as "Diapason", and when he pulled that stop out the solar and stellar spaces broke into mighty song. Then he reached down & pulled out the "Flute" stop, and these little feathered friends, the birds, began to sing. Then He reached in and pulled the "String" stop and light went humming across God's universe and the angels lifted their voices in praise.

Then He reached down and pulled out "VOX HUMANA", but it was out of tune. Now the great Organist, Jesus Christ was not only a musician, but He knew how to repair the damage sin had done to mankind, and so He left the console of heaven and came down to earth to bring about

True Worship Made Possible

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®
BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

2-ARMINIUS' SYSTEM:--**Total reverse** of Calvinism
--Man sick, but not dead or depraved
--Election conditioned upon human choice (solely)
--Unlimited Atonement
--Grace that can be received or rejected
--Possibility of loss of salvation

3-**WHO IS RIGHT** ??
--Not a question of choosing between **two godly men**
--Not a question of choosing between **2 contrary systems**
*--But rather: "WHAT SAITH **THE SCRIPTURES**" ??
--**ONLY** God's Word is our infallible rule of faith and practice, and not the systems of men.

4-Large segment of fundamental believers embrace **FOUR** of Calvin's **FIVE POINTS** OF CALVINISM, but differ on the extent of the Atonement

5-Some have called us CAL/MINIANS because we believe in an Unlimited Atonement

6-Others call us **Moderate** or **Modified** Calvinists

Labels aren't too satisfactory
MUCH VARIATION

## B.-The Case For Limited Atonement:

1-Let us begin with a studious **desire to be FAIR**
--**Honest & godly** men hold this view
--They do draw their view from the **Scriptures**!!

2-**THEIR CASE**:— Case of the CALVINIST
--John 10:15
--Death of Christ "for the **sheep**"==for the saved
--John 15:13
--Death of Christ "for His **friends**"==for the saved
--John 17:2, 6, 9, 20, 24
--Christ prays for the ones "**GIVEN**" by the Father to the Son and those to be saved thru their witness==prayer for the saved only
--Rom. 4:25
--Death and Resurrection of Christ presented as "for **our** offences/..for **our** justification indicating **for** the saved only
--Eph. 1:3-7
--Redemption & forgiveness seem only to be for the "**US**" who "chosen in Him before the foundation of the world"
--Eph. 5:25-27
--Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for **IT** and no word about any efficacy of His death for any others.
--2 Tim. 1:8-10
--Salvation seems **ONLY** to be for "**US**" who are actually saved

3-Sounds convincing, doesn't it??

4-**NO DOUBT** that Christ died for **the ELECT**!! AMEN!

5-**If** those were **the only** BIBLE TEXTS on the subject, we'd have to agree to the Doctrine of LIMITED ATONEMENT

6-Several **weaknesses**:
--Would encompass those already saved, but **leave doubt** about including any others
--**Who knows who**---if any more---are elected to be saved??
*--**WORST OF ALL**, this case deals with only a **small portion** of the Scriptural revelation on the subject, generally either **IGNORING** other texts or **TWISTING** them

NB

## C.-The Case For UNLIMITED Atonement:

(5)

1-Def.--A. H. STRONG--"The Scriptures represent the atonement as having been made **for all** men and as sufficient for the salvation of all. Not the **ATONEMENT**, therefore, is limited, but the **APPLICATION** of the atonement through the work of the Holy Spirit." (Syst. Theol., P. 771)

2-Christ died for **THE WORLD**:

--John 1:29
--John 3:16-17
--John 4:42
--John 12:46-47
--2 Cor. 5:19
--1 John 2:2
--1 John 4:14

WORLD

"w/o strength" + "ungodly" encompasses ALL
"sinners" in 5:8
"enemies" in 5:10

3-Christ died for **ALL**--Romans 5:6, 8, 10
--2 Cor. 5:14-15
--1 Tim. 2:6
--1 Tim. 4:10
--Titus 2:11
--Heb. 2:9
--Isa. 53:4-6

ALL

--ILLUS--The night was dark; the road lonely! **A man** named **KLINE**, lying in wait for one whom he believed to be his **enemy**, and whom he had decided **to kill**, was startled to hear the voices of **several children** raised in **singing**. They were returning home after having practiced some hymns for their Sunday School program. And what were they singing??

The guilty conscience of this man heard: "JESUS DIED FOR **AULD MAN KLINE**, AND JESUS DIED FOR ME." Terror-stricken, he fled to his home.

Next time there was a gospel meeting held, he was present & before long he was able to sing with the children: "JESUS DIED **FOR ALL MANKIND**, AND JESUS DIED FOR ME"

4-Christ died for **WHOSOEVER**--John 3:16
--Acts 10:43
--Rom. 10:13
--Rev. 22:17

WHOSOEVER

5-Christ died for **DENIERS**----------2 Pet. 2:1

DENIERS

6-**THUS** we see a **UNIVERSALITY** and an **UNLIMITEDNESS** to the atonement of Christ!!

## D.-The Contrast of Positions:

1-**LIMITED** ATONEMENTISTS believe God provided salvation for the elect to the end that **the elect** might be saved

2-**UNLIMITED** ATONEMENTISTS believe God provided salvation for **ALL MEN** to the end that the elect might be saved

3-**BOTH** are correct in this, but the limited atonementist is right only as far as he goes. The unlimited atonementist is **correct all the way** with the full revelation of the Bible

4-L.S.CHAFER--"The **moderate Calvinists** who believe in unlimited redemption..." ...contend that the death of Christ itself saves no man, either actually or potentially, but that it does **render all men SAVABLE**; that salvation is wrought of God alone & at the time the individual believes."

(III, P. 185)

5-MATTHEW HENRY:--The atonement is "SUFFICIENT for all; EFFECTUAL for many."

6

## CONCLUSION:

### A.-Practical Effects Of Limited Atonement Belief:

Confusion

1-No burden for evangelism

OFTEN

2-No burden for Biblical missions

3-Institutionalism, rather than gospel ministry of the local Church

Denominationalism

4-Failure to believe that ANY man and EVERY man is a candidate for heaven

NB

5-Nothing could be more confusing to the unsaved person than to be drawn away from the consideration of the saving grace of God in Christ, to the contemplation of the question of whether he is elect or not.

### B.-Practical Effects Of UNLIMITED Atonement Belief:

Compulsion

1-Renders the whole world savable

2-Renders believers INDIVIDUALLY RESPONSIBLE to "Send The Light"

--Cross of Christ has provided salvation

--Spirit of God is ready to apply it

--WE MUST PREACH IT !!

!!

--1 Cor. 9:16-17--"For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me."

3-This understanding is part of THE BIBLE BASIS OF MISSIONS

4-ILLUS--Coming back to our opening story of the artist, STENBERG, when that painting was finished it was hung in the gallery at Dusseldorf. One day a young aristocratic German Count, wandering thru the studio, paused before Stenberg's CRUCIFIXION. That painting moved him greatly, as did the words written under it: "THIS I DID FOR THEE; WHAT HAS THOU DONE FOR ME?" Those words and the painting set Count Nicholas Zinzendorf to thinking about what Christ would have done with his life. The result was the giving of his own life in missionary service, founding that noble brotherhood---THE MORAVIANS.

5-Do we thus understand UNLIMITED ATONEMENT?? -Giving our lives?

### C.-Personal Effect Of The Unlimited Atonement:

CONFIDENCE

1-Christ died--For my sin

--For your sin

--For the sin of the WHOLE WORLD

2-Adequate and sufficient provision for your salvation has already been made

3-DISTINCTION must be drawn

--AVAILABILITY of the gospel

--POSSESSION of the gospel

--Matthew Henry's words: "Sufficient for ALL; Effectual for MANY"

4-Single issue before you today!

--John 3:18--"He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already because

he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

THE CHOICES --BELIEF.....or.....UNBELIEF

--"Both salvation and condemnation are conditioned on the individual's reaction to one and the same thing, namely, the saving grace of God made possible by the death of Christ." (LSC. III, P187)

--What is your reaction ???

** BELIEF ??.....or...

** UNBELIEF ??

ESSENTIAL --ILLUS--Application of Christ's death as "FOR ME"

--Seen in the Blood Applied from the slain Passover Lamb in Egypt by Israelites to gain protection from the death angel

5-Rom. 4:5--"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."

6-L.S.Chafer--"...by believing he turns from all works of his own on which he might depend, and confides in Another to do what no human works could ever do." (III, P. 201)

7-WILL YOU.....TODAY.....Put YOUR TRUST in Him?

And then → Put your trust to work to reach the world Christ provided for in His full atonement?

-"Wounded For Me"

Westbrae--3/28/71--"Alas, And Did My Savior Bleed?"--# 93

Calvary, Columbus 3/21/76 --"What A Wonderful Savior"----------# 116

ABI chapel-11/21/77 --"Just As I Am"----------# 198

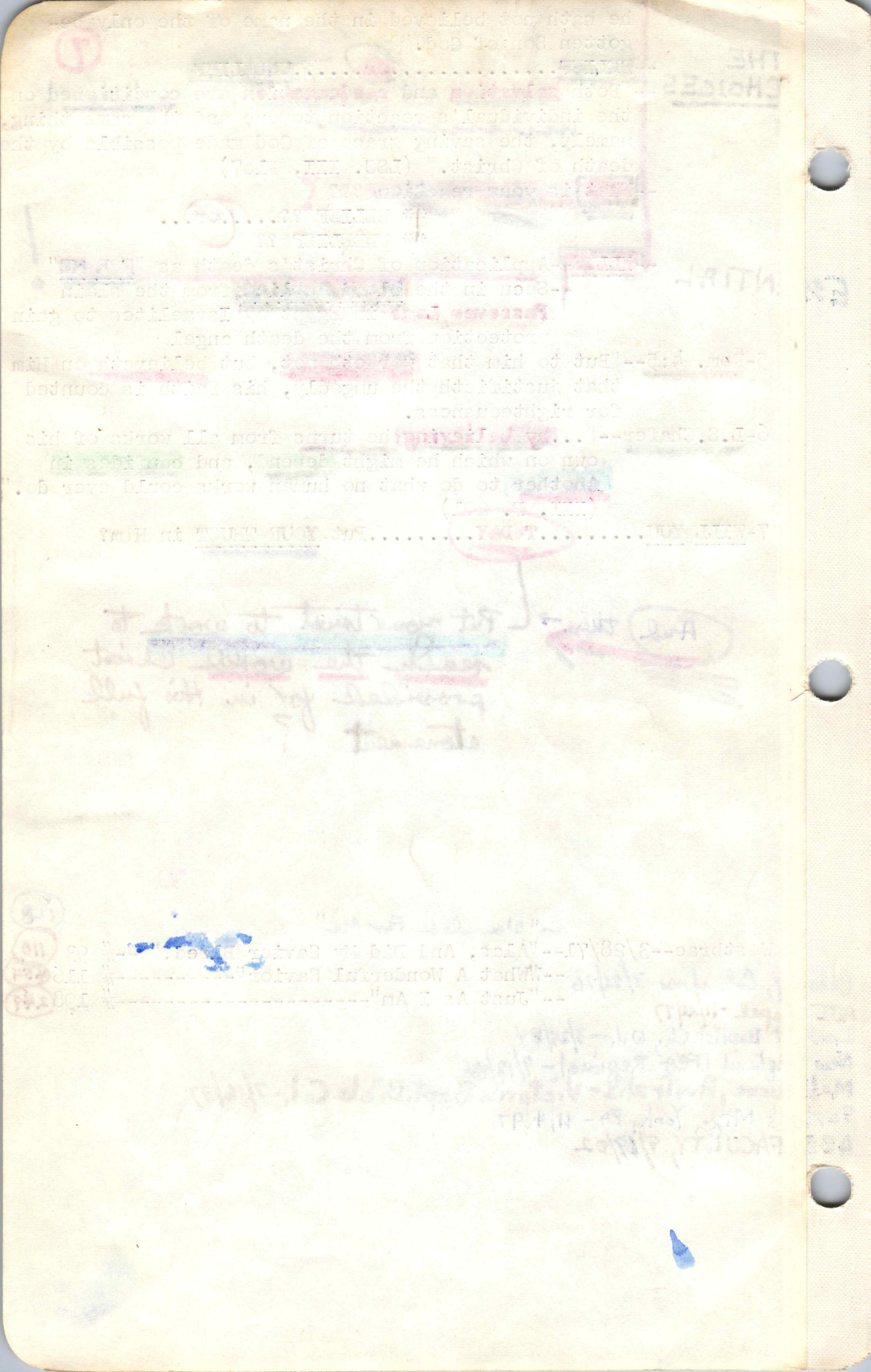
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ABC FACULTY, 9/[illegible]/02



"HE TOOK MY PLACE"

Isaiah 53:1-12
Rom. 5:6-11

(1)

**INTRO:** **A.-Basic Background:**

1-Man created innocent
2-Man **fell** into **sin** in Adam
--Rom. 5:12--Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned
--Reproduction: "After his kind"
--Sinners produce sinners
3-**WHOLE RACE** is **infected** with the "virus of sin"
4-Requirement of a **Sacrificial substitute**
--**Another** must take my place
--Gen. 3:21--Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them."
--Lev. 17:11--For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul."

**B.-Dangerous Error:**

1-Gen. 4:1-7
2-Story of **Cain** & Abel
3-**Fruit** of the land brought by Cain; **not a blood sacrifice** as **commanded**
4-**ATTAINMENT** is exhibited & **ATONEMENT** is rejected
5-Cain refused to make a sin offering
6-**Action** of **killing** Abel
--shows his heart of rebellion
--shows his heart of rejection of God and the Godly action of his brother
--Jer. 17:9--"The heart is deceitful above all thing, and desperately wicked: who can know it
7-SIN MUST BE **PAID FOR**---**BE ATONED FOR**
---By **self**
---Or by a **SUBSTITUTE**
---**In hell** or **on the Cross**
8-**ILLUS**--Did you ever have the experience of someone actually bearing a punishment in your place? You yourself had done the wrong and another knowingly and lovingly took the blows for that wrong?

I shall not soon forget the story told of one of America's great men of God concerning his experience as a little lad. **His mother** had been very zealous to keep her home spick-and-span, and had given orders that the children were to **respect** her **cleanliness** & not to desecrate it. She was particular to give instruction concerning the whiteness of the **bed linens**, of which she was justly proud. **DEFINITE PUNISHMENT** was promised to any member of the family disobeying her orders.

Little **James** fully understood all the orders but like many another a little lad, he loved to play in mud and dirt. One day he made **mud pies** after a summer rain. Tired & weary after his "**TOIL**", he trod up the stairway into his mother's

room and was soon fast asleep, sprawled across her snowy white linens.

In due time the mother arrived. Her household rules had been BROKEN. James was guilty of gross disobedience, and must be punished. In the nick of time an OLDER BROTHER, hearing the sobs and the confession from his mother's room, hastened to his brother's rescue. After a bit he was convinced that his mother was right in her determination to punish James; her household rules had been broken, and since she was always true to her promises of reward as well as punishment, it would not be right now to overlook the boy's disobedience.

As there was only one right way to help mother keep her word and at the same time to deliver his little brother from punishment due him, he bent his body over the little lad's and the mother laid her blows of chastisement upon the innocent older brother in James' place.

I have an "ELDER BROTHER", who has done the same for me. It was Jesus, who upon Calvary's cross bore the blows of the wrath of our righteous God against sin..... ....."God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

C.-Message Outline:

1-Substitution In Prophecy
2-Substitution In Fulfillment
3-Personal Involvement In Substitution
4-PROP.---To show the PERSONAL, PRESSING need to know that Jesus took YOUR place !

I.-

## I.-SUBSTITUTION IN PROPHECY:

A.-Person Despised (Isa. 53:1-3) — Read — VISUAL SUFFERING

1-Message rejected - Not popular
2-ARM of God not seen
--Creation was His fingerwork
--Redemption took His bare right arm
3-Messiah grew up in the hard ground of Israel — Apostate nation
4-No beauty seen nor desired---UNSAVED'S VIEW
5-Despised & rejected— PRESENT Tense!
6-Identified with OUR sorrows and sins
7-ILLUS--During the war a minister, going along a street in London, saw a wounded British soldier painfully hobbling along. Stopping him, the minister astonished the soldier by saying, "THANK YOU FOR BEING WOUNDED FOR ME."

The soldier could only "LOOK" his surprise. People had sent him cookies and cigarettes, and had given him entertainment, but no one before had ever thanked him for what he had suffered on behalf of others.

Then the minister continued, "I know Someone who was WOUNDED FOR YOU." "YOU"....."Wounded for me, sir?" replied the soldier, now even more surprised. "Who could that be?"

"It was our Lord Jesus Christ," replied the minister. The Bible Says: "He was wounded for our transgressions." With that the man of God went on his way, leaving the soldier to think about the One who was WOUNDED FOR HIM.....

--I wonder if that soldier ever thanked the Savior
--HAVE YOU ?? — Good Question

VICARIOUS SUFFERING — Read (3)

**B.-Passion Detailed (Isa. 53:4-6):**

1-Despised One is made our Sacrificial SUBSTITUTE

2-Took the Place I deserved
- --our sorrows
- --our griefs
- --we did esteem Him stricken, smitten, afflicted
- --our transgressions
- --our iniquities
- --chastisement of our peace
- --This scene of suffering is described in Prophecy, but God drew a curtain of darkness to shut out idle curiosity from the cross.
- --Plato himself, outside the Jewish tradition and 4 centuries before Christ said: "The JUST MAN will be scourged, racked, thrown in chains; he will have his eyes burnt out, and after enduring every pain, he will be crucified."

3-SUFFICIENT --with His stripes we are healed
- --Nothing MORE
- --Nothing LESS
- --Nothing ELSE
- --53:10-12 — Read

4-Summary--53:6
- --Racial rebellion of mankind
- --Individual rebellion of every man
- --This is one side of the ledger — REBELLION
- --ILLUS--It was a dark, winter's night. The rain was falling fast, and there was nothing more inviting than the warm glow of the fire before which we were sitting on a ranch in Oregon.

There was a knock at the front door. The rancher went to answer it, as the rest of the family had all gone to bed. Coming back to me, he said that he had just learned that all his sheep were missing from the field in which he had placed them. He must go to find them. So, having prepared with waterproof clothing & lanterns, we went forth into the darkness.

In one of the hedges of the field, where the sheep had been left, the farmer discoved what he called "A BOLTING HOLE". A strong sheep had worked its way thru at that point, and would be followed by all the others.

It was either in the 3rd or 4th field that we came upon the straying animals. And when we found them scattered over the pasture, No Two of them seemed to be together. Each one had chosen its own course, regardless of the path any other had taken. ALL WERE LOST ALIKE. Each had followed its own heart.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way"

All sinners are lost alike, but each one has gone his own chosen way.

--Other side of the ledger--The SUBSTITUTE took all the punishment due to the scattered sinners
--Go in a sinner at the first "ALL" of 53:6

--Come up a believer at the second "all"
--Enough of a sacrifice to satisfy for ALL
--Ps. 69:4--"They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away."
--SUPERERROGATION

## II.-SUBSTITUTION IN FULFILLMENT: VOLUNTARY SUFFERING 53:7-9 Read

### A.-Substitution Is Not:
1-Just a fantasy
2-Just an empty hope
3-Just an unfulfilled dream

### B.-But Substitution Is True:
1-Literal and historical
2-The God-Man took my place.....your place
3-1 Tim. 2:5--"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."
4-Sinless Savior
--No sin of His own
--"For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God." 2 Cor. 5:21
--Able to bear our sins
--Mark. 10:45--"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many."
5-HISTORICAL ILLUS----Barabbas Barabbas
--Christ took his place on the cross
--By faith he could become what his name's meaning is--"SON OF THE FATHER"

### C.-Substitution Is The Consistent Testimony Of Scripture:
1-Rom. 5:6--"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."
2-Rom. 5:8--"But God commendeth His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
3-1 Cor. 15:3--"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures;"
4-Gal. 1:4--"Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father"
5-Tit. 2:14--"Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."
6-1 Pet. 2:24-25--"Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but now are returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls."

7-1 Pet. 3:18--"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God..."

(5)

## III.-PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN SUBSTITUTION:

### A.-Historical Facts:

1-Prophecies made
2-Christ fulfilled them
3-Redemption completed-----"It is finished" (Jn. 19:30)
4-All this done for ME.....for YOU
5-All this done for us without our even being asked
6-PURE GRACE !

### B.-God's Requirement:

1-Believe the facts--
- -You are a sinner
- -God loves you, even as a sinner
- -Christ died as your SUBSTITUTE

2-PERSONALLY ACCEPT the provision as for you

3-ILLUS--John Coutts, an ungodly sea captain lay dying in his cabin in mid-ocean. He felt helpless & alone, & shrank back as the dread of eternity seemed to close in upon him. Calling the first mate he asked: "Williams, can't you get down on your knees and pray for me? As you know, I've led a wicked life, and I'm afraid this is the end!"

But the first mate was not a praying man, and he said he just couldn't do it, though he surely would if he could. The captain then called for the second mate, and in a frantic voice pleaded, "Ask God to have mercy on my soul!" "I wish I could, Captatin," he replied, "but I've never prayed in my life."

"Then see if somebody on board has a Bible," the captain pleaded. "See if somebody can read the Bible to me!" They searched the ship for someone who could pray, or at least had a Bible. They were about to give up the search, when a sailor said that he had seen the cook's boy reading a book that looked like a Bible. The first mate located the cook's boy, Willie Platt, in the galley. He finally admitted, rather timidly, that he had a Bible. "Then take it, my boy," said the mate, "and hasten to the captain's cabin. He wants you."

As Willie entered the cabin the Captain lay still, the pallor of death already upon his face. Seeing the boy, he rallied and cried out, "IS THAT A BIBLE, MY BOY?" "Yes, Captain." "Then sit down, lad, and see if you can find something that will help me, for I'm afraid I'm going to die soon. See if you can find something about God having mercy on a sinner like me."

Willie wished he knew his Bible better. He could only think of one verse, one in the 53rd chapter of Isaiah that his mother used to read to him. He turned hopefully to this wonderful chapter which sets forth so fully God's love for poor sinners such as John Coutts and started to read.

Reading slowly, he came to the 5th verse---

"He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed." The poor captain, listening

now for his very life, realizing that this was his last chance to be saved, lifted his hand and said, "STOP, MY LAD! THAT SOUNDS LIKE IT! READ THAT AGAIN."

"Captain," replied Willie, "my mother used to have me put my name in that verse. May I put it in now, and read it the way she taught me?" "Certainly, sonny; put your name in it, just where your mother told you, and read it again." Reverently and slowly, the boy read it as follows:

"He--Jesus--was wounded for Willie Platt's transgressions. He was bruised for Willie Platt's iniquities: the chastisement of Willie Platt's peace was upon Him, and with His stripes Willie Platt is healed."

When he had finished, he felt the Captain's hand upon his arm. "My boy," he said, "put your Captain's name in, and read it again. Put in John Coutts! John Coutts!"

Willie read again, very slowly: "He was wounded for John Coutts' transgressions. He was bruised for John Coutts' iniquities: the chastisement of John Coutts' peace was upon Him, and with His stripes John Coutts is healed."

The captain lay back on his pillow and repeated over and over again those precious words of Isaiah 53:5, putting in his own name each time. The joy of heaven filled his soul as he laid hold by faith upon the Savior, seeing that His great work on the cross was sufficient to pay for his sins.

Before he fell asleep in Christ he witnessed to every man on board that he was saved, for the "chastisement" which he so richly deserved had fallen upon ANOTHER. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

VICTORIOUS SUFFERING — Isa. 53:10-12 Read

4-Following this decision
- --A new life.
- --This must follow
- --Proof of the new life
- --If a "change" is not there, it must be because there is no reality to the profession
- --2 Cor. 5:17--"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

**CONCLUSION:**

**A.-Substitution:**
1-Prophesied in detail
2-Fulfilled in the Person and Work of Jesus C.
3-PRICE IS ALREADY PAID
- **Jesus suffered, bled and died
- **For YOU, for ME

4-Dangerous error to reject God's only provision for your salvation
5-Acts 4:12

B. DIVINE COMMENTARY
1-52:13-Exaltation Promised
2-52:14-Humiliation Presented
3-52:15-Expiation Pictured

**C.-Decision:**
1-Accept the fact that HE TOOK YOUR PLACE
2-Reject the gift of God
3-Let it be clear, you CANNOT BE NEUTRAL
4-ILLUS--A fisherman told of how he was lying in his bunk aboard his boat in Plymouth Sound, when he heard a splash in the water not far off. He jumped out of his berth,

for he thought he knew what it was; there was another ***. fishing boat not far off, and the man with it was a drinking man. He rowed there with all speed in his little boat leaned over the side, praying all the while for God's help

Presently he got hold of the man's arm and pulled him up, and he was drunk, sure enough! He lifted him back to his boat & put him in his berth & worked over him & rubbed him an hour or more, til he began to come to himself. Having done everything to make the man comfortable, he returned to his own boat.

Next morning he pulled over to see how the man was. He was standing leaning over the side of his craft. To a "GOOD MORNING", he returned no answer. "HOW ARE YOU THIS MORNING?" his rescuer inquired.

"What's that to you?" was the surly reply..... "Why, I can't help taking an interest in you. I saved your life last night," replied his rescuer. ..."GET OUT", responded the other & roundly cursed him.

The rescuer turned away, his heart breaking with tears aflowing. He looked up to heaven and said, "O Lord Jesus, my blessed Lord Jesus, I am sorry for Thee. I know now how Thou dost feel. That is how the world is always treating you. I am terribly sorry for Thee."

5-HOW ABOUT YOU ? ? ?
6-Are you rejecting the ONE who not only saved you from death, but died that you might not have to die ? ?
7-Must have a "PASSPORT" for heaven.---Do you have a properly authorized "Right Of Entrance" to that FOREIGN LAND?
8-Jn. 1:12--"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on His name:"
9-POEM:

"Upon a life I did not live,
Upon a death I did not die.
Another's life, Another's death,
I hang my whole eternity."

10-What are you counting on for your eternity?
11-Have you let the Lord Jesus Christ TAKE YOUR PLACE ???

Do It Today ... Now!

Westbrae--12/11/66 "Wonderful" #11
3/5/78-Cambridge Bible Ch. "Wounded For Me" #494 (2) (123)
4/5/78-1st Bapt. of Woodsville "What A Wonderful Savior" #1160 (454)
3/18/84-Lookout Bapt. Ch. "Jesus Paid It All" #104 (3) (125)

BOORUM & PEASE "NoTEAR" ®

## INTRODUCTION:

### A.-The Bible Has Become **Accessible**:

1-**In our language**
2-Major translations--KJV--1611
--ASV--1901
--RSV--1948 & 1952
--NEB--1959
--NASB--1960 NT
--NIV--1978
3-One-man works--Moffat
--Wesley
--Weymouth
--Darby
--Bruce
--Phillips
--Wuest
4-**Versions** and **perversions** of varying quality

### B.-The Bible Has Become **Commonplace**:

1-Hospitals, Hotels & Motels - Gideon's
2-Most homes in America
3-Bookstores & Department stores
4- / K-Mart / WalMart

### C.-The Bible Has Become **Widely Presented**:

1-Tracts, booklets & portions
2-Radio & TV
3-Hundreds and thousands of churches across the land
4-**But still**, there is "**a famine** for the hearing of the Word of God" (Amos 8:11)
5-PROP: We need to understand HOW we have gotten to the state of affairs of today, and we need also to understand HOW God will **prosper** His Word to our needy generation.

Available to ALL

See Jas. 1:18

## I.-A HISTORICAL REVIEW OF THE CHURCH ERA:

### A-The Early Church Era:

1-In personnel--Apostles in Jerusalem
--Saints scattered thru persecution
--Gospel was **preached**
--**Acts 5:40-42**
2-In problems--Going to prison was no deterrent to preaching the gospel; **PREACHER IN PRISON** as Paul did at Philippi (Acts 16)
--N.T. Canon was formed out of letters written to instruct & encourage churches undergoing persecution
--**PRISON EPISTLES** written while Paul was under House Arrest in Rome
--**John** was **BANISHED** to Patmos because of his faithful witness
--All of the other apostles were **MARTYRED** because of their faith and faithfulness

3-In Roman Empire:
--Almost constant opposition & persecution
** --DIOCLETIAN, the Emperor of Rome, instituted in 303 A.D. the worst attack against the Bible ever known. Almost every Bible was seized and destroyed. Multitudes of Christians perished. IN Rome a Column of Triumph was erected with the Latin inscription:
"THE NAME OF CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED"
* --Yet faith in Christ in the hearts of believers could not be extinguished
--Copies of the Scriptures were preserved, copied laboriously by hand and distributed throughout the Empire
! --In 325 A.D., less than 1/4 century after Diocletian, Emperor Constantine declared the BIBLE to be the supreme authority in all deliberations at the First General Council at Nicea

## B.-The Middle Era Of The Church:

1-Constantine --Purportedly saw a sign of the Cross in the sky, along with the Latin words "IN THIS SIGN CONQUER"
* --Edict of Milan in 313 A.D. for Religious Toleration by Constantine
* --"MARRIAGE" between Roman State and the Church
--Rise of the "Holy Roman Empire followed
--Spiritual decline as power increased
* --Dark Ages followed in which the Bible became a "C L O S E D B O O K"

2-Philosophy reigned --Aristotle & Plato from the past
--Thomas Aquinas, Scholasticism, Mysticism & Monastaries from the contemporary scene

** 3-Martin Luther was an Augustinian Monk. He was fully grown & trained before he had even seen a Bible.
* 4-His colleague, CARLSTADT, at the Univ. of Wittenberg, had his Doctor of Theology degree without having read the Bible
5-Problems for common people
--Bible was in LATIN & people were so illiterate they could not read or write even in their native tongues
*** --R.C. Ch. took a stand against the people reading Scripture for fear their knowledge would destroy the power & control exercised by the church
* --AND IT DID after 1517 !!
** --Archbiship of Maintz said of a copy of the Scripture:
"I do not know what this Book is, but whatever it is, I perceive it is against us."
--That's not simply an ancient view within Romanism
--ILLUS--PCR in Houston R.C. Hospital -- Sister Superior saw me reading, stepped up & saw it was my BIBLE, and said: "A verse or two a day may be all right, but not too much! It will only CONFUSE YOU."
***
6-Some did read the Scriptures:
--Rumblings of dissatisfaction preceded the Prot. Reformatio
--Bible believing Christians OUTSIDE the R.C.Ch. all thru the centuries.

- WALDENSES
  - ** Founder was Peter Waldo, wealthy merchant of Lyons, F
  - ** Curiosity to know the contents of Scriptures he was accustomed to hear read in Latin. Employed 2 priests to translate them into the vernacular
  - ** Made the Scriptures his rule of life & practice
  - ** Distributed his wealth to the poor
  - ** Secured many followers as he taught the Scriptures, urging them to turn from their sins (c.1170 A.D.)
  - * ** Archbishop forbade such preaching because they were laymen, & not ordained by R.C. Ch
  - ** Appealed to the Pope, who commended his poverty, but refused to overrule the Bishop
  - * * Finally excommunicated by Lucius III at Synod of Verona, 1184, because their preaching was causing the evangelical faith to spread rapidly
    (A Manual of Church History, I, Pp. 570-71)
- --ALBIGENSES--Translated the Word into the Vernacular
  - --R.C. Ch. gave INDULGENCES if people would wage war against these believers
  - * 60,000 believers were slain in one day in the south of France in a "HOLY WAR" because they loved the Scriptures.
- --Etc.

## C. The Era Of Reformation:

1. John Wycliff (1324-1384)
   - --Called the "Morningstar of the Reformation"
   - --Translator of the VULGATE version into English
   - --Motives ** Resented the exploitation of the people by the Church of Rome
     - ** Honed for reform within the Church
     - ** Believed that if the people knew the Scriptures, they would overthrow the yoke of tyrrany
     - ** Wanted the people to come to a personal faith through God's Word
   - * * --Translated the Bible into ENGLISH in 1378-82
   - --CONDEMNED TO DEATH by R.C. Ch. for this
     - ** Object of 5 Papal Bulls of denunciation
     - ** Yet died of natural causes in 1384
     - ** 31 years after his death (in 1415) the Council of Constance declared him a HERETIC, anathemetized 45 articles drawn from his writings, ordered his books burned, exhumed his bones and threw them out of consecrated ground of a R. C. cemetary.
     - ** Translation of his works was banned
     - ** Punishment was decreed for anyone possessing a copy of Wycliff's work
2. William Tyndale (1484-1536)
   - --Englishman
   - * --Skilled in 7 languages
   - --Translated Erasmus' Greek Text of N.T. into English
   - --Persecuted in England, so fled to Germany to complete his translation.

* -Gutenberg's press invented 1450 +/-
  ** Tyndale's Bible printed on this & copies smuggled into England
  ** VOW: "If God spare my life, ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth a plough shal know more of the Scripture than thou (the Pope) doest."
  ** Many copies confiscated & burned by Church authorities in England
  *** Actually, one printing of 5,000 copies was sold to the Roman authorities to finance a printing of 25,000 copies
  ** A real hunger for the Word of God developed in England
  -- Tyndale was betrayed by a "friend" to Church authorities
  ** STRANGLED & burned at the stake for the offense of translating & publishing the Bible
  ** Prayer at death: "Oh God, Open the eyes of the King of England." (Oct. 6, 1536)

** 3-KJV in 1611 (75 years after Tyndale's death)
  -- Answer to Tyndale's dying prayer ??
  -- Commissioned by King James to be prepared
  -- Translated by 54 scholars who were all true believers & "top scholars" of their day
  ** -Preface says: "COMMISSIONED TO BE READ IN THE CHURCHES"
  -- Printed in English
  -- First printing of 20,000 copies as an "Open Bible" in England
  -- Tyndale had not prayed in vain !!!

## D.-The Modern Denominational Era:

1-Its Rise--Martin Luther
  ** German man
  ** Sought to reform R.C. Ch. from within
  ** Excommunicated from R.C. Ch.
  ** Founder of the Lutheran
  ** Brought along "much baggage" of Romanism with him when he left

--John Calvin
  ** Frenchman (1509-64)
  ** Wrote INSTITUTES OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION
  ** Founder of Presbyterian & Reformed churches
  ** Wedded the power of the state to the actions of the Church
  ** He also has a lot of "carry-over" from Romanism

--John Wesley
  ** Englishman
  ** Ordained an Anglican clergyman
  ** Saved thru the missionary influence of Moravian missionaries in Americ
  * Tried to stay in the Church of England, but eventually was forced out

--PLUS many other men

2-Its Ruin--From 1550 -- 1850 most denominational churches and pastors preached enough gospel for people to hear it and be saved.

--Rise of German **rationalism** & **HIGHER CRITICISM**
--**Undermined faith** in **Bible**, the miraculous & the virgin birth of Jesus Christ
--Imported into **USA** after Civil War
--**Undermined** orthodoxy in all the old line denominational groups
--Control passed from conservative to liberal hands in the early 1900's

3-**Removal**--**Separatists** began to have fellowships **WITHIN** their denominational groups **to fight** the **galloping "M O D E R N I S M" of unbelief**
--Saw that they were **not** being successful in their **fight to regain** leadership & restoration of biblical standards
--**"COME OUTERS"** did come out of denominations
--**Independency** of local churches was rediscovered
--Gathered together into **fellowships**, without any domination from headquarters

Various Names

4-Return to biblical patterns--**INDEPENDENCY** of local church
--Voluntary association of men and churches for mutual benefit
--Solid **Biblical** preaching & evangelism
--**Rise** of Bible Colleges & Seminaries to train men in God's truth

## II-A BIBLICAL REVIEW OF THE CHURCH'S MESSAGE:

### A-An Overview Of Isaiah 55:

1-**THE CALL** (55:1-5)

a) Isaiah's **Invitation** (55:1)--To "**every one**"
--Not limited to Israel
--**The THIRSTY** are invited

b) Isaiah's **Exhortation** (55:2-3a)--Do not seek only on a physical level
--Rather, "**COME UNTO ME**" (God's Person)

c) Isaiah's **Explanation** (55:3b-5)
--Everlasting promises
--Unconditionally offered (55:3b
--**Israel's** place (55:4)
--**Gentiles** called also (55:5)
BOTH!

d) APPLICATION:
We also in our generation must **invite**, **exhort** & **explain**

2-**THE CHALLENGE** (55:6-7)

a) **Seek** and **Call**-----Do it **N O W** !!

b) **Forsake** and **Return**--God has **pardon** ready
--Saved while **IN** your sins, but **saved FROM** our sins !!
--Multiplied blessings are to be found in a **vital relationship**.

c) APPLICATION
** We must in our generation confront people with God's message (6)

3. THE CONFIDENCE (55:8-13)

a) Confidence in God (55:8-9)
--His thoughts and ways
--HIGHER than ours !

b) Confidence In God's Word (55:10-11) Effective!
--The ILLUSTRATION of rain and snow (55:10)
--The INTENTION of results from God's Word (55:11) "It shall Prosper"

Bible Margin Notes

c) Confidence in God's blessings (55:12-13)
--In Attitudes ** 55:12
** Joy, peace, singing, enthusiasm
--In Actions ++ 55:13
++ Fruit is transformed
++ Thorn to a Fir tree
++ Briar to a Myrtyle tree
--In Aftermaths ** 55:13
= Results
** For a NAME; Renoun or memorial; Glorious
** For an everlasting SIGN;
--Remaining
--Supernatural intervention
--Isa. 19:20

d) APPLICATION
We also in our generation must have confidence in God's Word's ability to work and to change people.

## B.-An Intensive View Of Isa. 55:10-11:

1-The Prospered Word is OF DIVINE ORIGIN:
--Rain & Snow ** Comes down from heaven
* Not of human origin, but DIVINE
--"So shall My Word be that cometh out of My mouth"
--2 Pet. 1:20-21 --"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of an private interpretation, for the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost"
--GOD is the author, revealer & Divine ORIGINATOR of the Scriptures

2-The Prospered Word has A GRACIOUS MINISTRY
--Not to return to Him in a fruitless cycle
* --But in the meantime to fulfill a mission
--Rain & snow ** Watereth the earth
** Maketh it bud
** Seed to the sower
** Bread to the eater
Immediate + Ultimate results
--Change brings about usefulness to others
Pass it on to OTHERS !
--"So shall My Word be that cometh forth out of My mouth"
--Jas. 1:18--"Of His own will begat He us with the Word of truth that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

--Luke 8:4-8
--Good seed of the Word is on the GRACIOUS MISSION of bringing forth LIFE in the hearers

3-The prospered Word has A SILENT MINISTRY
--Rain ** Quiet, in most cases
** Soothing to hear a gentle rain
** Almost immediate results from a good rain
** Grass & trees & bushes turn green in a week or two-----SPEEDY !!
--Snow ** Quiet, always
** Changes the appearance of the landscape immediately
** But does not produce immediate productivity
** Long-delayed results will come in nature's cycle of seasons
--WATER is produced in both cases, from rain & snow
--Germination of seed will take place
* UNSEEN by human eyes
* UNHEARD by human ears
--"So shall My Word be that goeth forth out of My mouth."
--A silent & unseen action occurs, but a ministry which is silent does, in reality, occur.

4-The Prospered Word Has A CERTAIN RESULT
--Result is certain in the physical realm
** Sowing
** Watering
** Germinating
** Growing
** Producing
*--Isa. 55:11--NOT VOID !!
--"shall accomplish"
--"shall prosper"
** --CERTAIN in the spiritual realm also !!
--TIME ** May be on "RAIN standard time"; almost immediately
** May be on "SNOW standard time"; after considerable delay
*** But God has promised to prosper His Word, and we can count on it; IT IS CERTAIN !!
--Areas of properity ** Salvation
** 2 Tim. 3:14-15
** Sanctification (=CHANGE)
* 2 Tim. 3:16-17
--Same principles hold in both the physical, which we can readily see... ...and in the spiritual, which we have more difficulty in tracing
--Because Rom. 11:36--"For of Him, and through Him, and for Him, are all things: to Whom be glory for ever, Amen."

5-You see, God PROMISES a crop, and God PRODUCES a crop through the "seed sown"

## CONCLUSION!

### A.--Biblical Illiteracy:

1-Public schools teach--Noble Brutus from Julius Caesar
--Adonis from Greek mythology
--George Washington from American history

2-But they have no word about
--Adam and Eve in the Garden
--Abraham as the father of the faithful
--Moses as the transmitter of the Law of God at Sinai
--David as God's chosen King over His people
--Jesus Christ as Son of God and Savior of the world

3-An **unannounced test** was given to five classes of college-bound 11th & 12th graders at Newton, Mass. High School
--Several students thought that Sodom & Gomorrah were lovers
--Others thought that the four horsemen appeared on the Acropolis
--That Matthew, Mark, LUTHER and John wrote the Gospels
--That Eve was **created from an apple**
--That Jesus was **baptized by Moses**
--That Jezebel was **Ahab's donkey**
--And that the stories by which Jesus taught were called **PARODIES**.

4-SHOULD public schools teach the Bible ??
--Much sectarian clamor about this in our days
--**Opposed** by both humanists and secularists
--It is a RELIGIOUS Book, but it is **also the base** for our **CULTURAL heritage**.
--**Not likely to be re-introduced** into the Public School

5-What then??

### B.-Biblical Imperative:

1-Get the Bible--Into ourselves
--Into our families
--Into our neighborhoods
--Into those we can influence...as has been done by many in years past

2-**H O W ??** (A) **INTAKE:**
** Worship services; Attending
** Teaching sessions; Learning
** Personal study; Personalizing
** Progressive & continual **INTAKE** !!

(B) **OUTPUT**
++ Isa. 55:12--"For ye shall go out...
++ Sunday School
++ Home classes--children/youths/adult
++ Involvement and Participation by every born-again believer
++ **Y O U are needed in God's Work** !!
Now!

3-Questions:

9

a) Can God prosper His Word THROUGH YOU to a needy world?

b) Will you today decide to become actively involved in
- -Sowing
- -Watering
- -Reaping ???

c) To paraphrase Reagan President of the United States,
"If not now, when??
If not you, who?"

4-Proposition restated:

It is fairly clear how we have gotten to the state of affairs we find in the worldtoday,...

...but we need to also understand and cooperate with how God can prosper His word to the needy generation among whom we live today.

It is OUR DUTY!

Westbrae 9/13/64 (a similar message)
Westbrae 8/8/71 (a similar message)
O.K.B.C.--9/20/87
ABC Chapel- 10/7/09
Hilltop Bapt. Ch.-

"Tell Me The Story Of Jesus" #113
"Thy Word Have I Hid In My Heart" #158
"Break Thou The Bread Of Life" #99
"My Savior" #154

"THE PROSPERED WORD"
"God's PROSPERED WORD"

Isa. 55:10-13
Read [illegible] Jer. 23:28-29
15:16

(1)

**Intro:** A.-Bible Has Become Commonplace:
1-Buy it in a 5 & 10¢ Store
2-Buy it in Bible Bookstores
3-Buy it in Department stores
4-Buy it thru the mails
5-Multitude of translations & versions (and PERVERSIONS) available
6-YET---So common it has become commonplace— BUT — STILL "a famine for the hearing of the Word of God"
7-Good to REMEMBER those who gave it to us

A
I.-HISTORIC REVIEW: — A little lesson in History

A.-First 300 Years Of The Christian Era: THE EARLY CHURCH ERA
1-Biblically
--Acts 5:28, 40-42
--Acts 8:25
--Going to prison was no deterrent to Gospel preaching
--N. T. formed out of letters to churches in persecution
--4 N. T. books written from prison
--Apostle John banished for his witness
--All other Apostles martyred for the faith
2-Roman Empire
--Almost constant persecution
--DIOCLETIAN--The emperor of Rome, instituted in 303 AD the worst attack on the Bible ever known. Almost every Bible was destroyed; multitudes of Christians perished; a column of triumph was erected with the Latin words: "THE NAME OF CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED"
--But the Scriptures in the hearts of believers could not be destroyed
--Copies were laboriously made by hand-copying Mss.
--Yet in 325 A.D., less than ¼ century after Diocletian, Constantine declared the Bible the supreme authority in all the deliberations of the First General Council at Nicaea.

THE MIDDLE CH AGE
B.-Following Constantine: "In this sign conquer" in the clouds along with a CROSS
1-New Era--Constantine's vision
--Edict of Milan in 313 AD for Religious Tolerance
--Marriage of Ch. & state
--Rise of "HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE"
--Spiritual decline into Dark Ages
--Bible became more of a "CLOSED BOOK" than at any other time in history — PHILOSOPHY REIGNED
--Martin Luther, the great German Reformer, was fully grown before he had SEEN a Bible
--His colleague, Carlstadt, at the University of Wittenberg, had his degree of DOCTOR OF THEOLOGY without having read the Bible
2-Problems For Christians
--Bible was in LATIN & most of the people were so illiterate they couldn't read their NATIVE TONGUE, let alone Latin

--Moreover, the R. C. Ch. took a stand against the people reading Scripture for fear it would destroy the power & control of the Church (2)

* --AND IT DID after 1517

--Any wonder then that the Archbishop of Maintz said of a copy of Scripture---"I do not know what this book is but whatever it is, I perceive that it is against us"

--Not just an ANCIENT VIEW of Romanism

--P.C.R. in Hospital in Houston with Sister Superior about reading the Bible---"A verse or two may be all right, but not too much! It will only confuse you"

3-Those who read the Scriptures

--Rumblings of dissatisfaction preceeded the Protestant Reformation — Bible-believers OUTSIDE the R.C. Church in all ages.

--Waldenses--"According to early accounts, the founder of the sect was Peter Waldo, a wealthy merchant of Lyons, who, from curiosity to know the contents of the Scriptures, which he was accustomed to hear in Latin, employed 2 priests, the 1 to translate, & the other to copy into the vernacular, large portions of the Scriptures. It is probable that he was already inclined to make the Scriptures his guide. Certainly, when he came to a knowledge of scriptural truth he was not slow to put it into practice. Following the command given by Christ, when sending forth the 70, and in view of Christ's expressions with regard to the danger of wealth to the Christian life, Peter distributed his means to the poor, secured numberous followers, and, both personally and thru his disciples, taught the Scriptures to all that would hear throughtout that region, urging them to turn from their sins (c.1170)

The Archbishop of Lyons forbade their preaching on the ground that they were laymen; but they replied: 'We must obey God rather than men.' When the archbishop insisted upon a cessation of their work, they appealed to Pope Alexander III (1179), sending him some of their translated books. Alexander commended their poverty, but refused to come between them & the archbishop. They continued to teach and preach, and appealed to Lucius III, successor to Alexander (1183). At the synod of Verona they were excommunicated (1184). They now assumed a more decidedly hostile attitude toward the hierarchical church, & thru their evangelical zeal spread rapidly...."(A Manual Of Church History, Vol 1, pp. 570-71)

--Albigenses--Translated the Word into the Vernacular

--R.C. Ch. gave INDULGENCES if people would wage war against these

--60,000 believers were slain in 1 day in the South of France in a "Holy War" because they loved the Scriptures

--Etc., etc.

— THE ERA OF CHANGE

C.-Translators Of The Reformation Days (Into English):

1-John Wycliff (1324--1384)

--Called the "Morningstar of the Reformation"

--Translator of Latin VULGATE into English

--Motive--Resented the exploitation of the people by the Church of Rome; Hoped for reform WITHIN Romanism

--Believed if the people knew the Scriptures they would overthrow the yoke of tyrrany

--Wanted the people to come to personal faith thru the WORD

--Translated the Bible into English in 1378-82
--Condemned to death in England several times
--Object of 5 Papal Bulls of denunciation
--Yet died a natural death in 1884
--On May 4, 1415 (31 years after death) The Council Of Constance declared him a heretic, anathematized 45 articles drawn from his writings, & ordered that his books be burnt, his bones taken up & thrown far out of consecrated ground. (P. 2516, Vol III, Schaff -Herzog)
--Translation was banned & punishment decreed for any one possessing a copy of Wycliff's work

2-William Tyndale (1484--1536)
--Englishman; Translator of Erasmus' Greek text into English; Skilled in 7 languages
--Persecuted & fled to Germany to complete his translation
--Advantage of Gutenberg's printing press was his, though copies had to be smuggled into England — FAMOUS VOW:
--Many confiscated & burned by authorities — Actually financed more copies this way once.
--Yet, a hunger for the Word developed
--Tyndale was betrayed to Romanist authorities by a "friend"
--Strangled & then burned at the stake for the offense of being a translator & publisher of the Bible
--Prayer at death ---"Oh God, Open the eyes of the King of England"--(Oct. 6, 1536)

3-King James Version
--Answer to Tyndale's dying prayer?
--Commissioned by King James under 54 scholars — All true Bible believers + "top" scholars
--Finished in 1611
--Commissioned to be read in the churches
--Printed in English
--First printing of 20,000 copies as an OPEN BIBLE in England
--Tyndale had not prayed in vain!

"If God spare my life ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth a plough shall know more of the Scripture than thou (the POPE) doest."

A

## II.-PRACTICAL REVIEW:

### A.-Recent Usefulnesses Of The Bible:

1-Several years ago a renowned Biblical scholar said that the Bible is "the most exciting book in the world. It looks at life frankly; glosses over nothing; and in page after page, reads as if it were written yesterday". He went on to describe it as being "a most useful work; modern, & vibrantly alive for every generation."

2-In the religious & ethical sense, few would ever question that statement. But the world recently learned of the Bible's usefulness & importance in a somewhat different capacity from what we normally associate with the value of that good Book. Engineers & scientists are using the Bible as a guide to develop the natural resources of Israel.

3-About 20 years ago a Biblical archaeologist puzzled over 1 Kings 7:45-46--"All these vessels, which Hiram made to king Sololmon for the house of the Lord, were of bright brass. In the plain of Jordon did the king cast them, in the clay ground." The archaeologist knew the word brass meant copper. But if these mines ever existed they had disappeared almost 3000years ago. Following the Bible's directions, he came upon a site which local Arabs said their ancestors had called

'COPPER RUIN'. He excavated, & found many crumbled walls & furnaces black with heaps of copper slag. Pottery in all of them was from the time of Solomon. Here, at last, were King Solomon's famous mines. (4)

4-Today the area is a hubbub of activity. "Wherever we find the richest outcroppings," the chief mining engineer said, "we come upon the slag & furnaces of Solomon's miners. We often get the feeling that someone has just left."

5-An industrialist began his search for oil in the Bible. He read in Genesis 19:24, "Then the Lord rained upon Sodom & upon Gomorrah brimstone & fire from the Lord out of heaven; lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace." To him these rising flames meant natural gas, which indicates the presence of oil. Geologists found evidence of oil, & Israel's first well was drilled in Nov. 1953.

B.-Other Fields Of The Bible's Usefulness:

1-Drama--A professor at Columbia University acclaimed the Book of Job the best disqussion of the question of existence ever written, for in this soul-searching drama the minds of erudite men grapple with the age-long problem of the sufferings of the righteous

2-Philosophy--Note the wise and sententious maxims of the Book of Proverbs. We read modern proverbs in the newspapers occasionally, but not to compare with the compacted wisdom contained within the 31 chapters of this book where we have wisdom revealed for every relationship of life with an outlook that commends itself as approved of God.

3-Psychology--Read with insight the play of minds & feelings in the beautifully simple story of Joseph or take time to meditate on the steps whereby our blessed Lord Jesus led the Samaritan woman to faith in Himself. Volumes on psychology will add nothing here, for it's all found in the Book!

4-Medicine--Quarantine was enjoined by Moses upon the children of Israel in case of certain diseases. The laws of Moses concerning regulations for leprosy, whether in a person, or a garment, or a house, are still the marvel of medical scienc

5-Political Science--This is the subject of government. Refresh your memory on the manner in which Moses under God's hand led a disunited band of 6 million people thru the wilderness, how they were finally settled in the land, how & under what circumstances they were granted peace & order, & how God ruled them thru 42 kings in all. The Books of Kings in themselves provide for man an incomparable treatise on what acceptable government is and is not.

6-Geography--No place ever mentioned in the Bible has ever been proved erroneous. Dr. Melvin Grove Kyle, an internationally famous archaeologist, said on more than one occasion that no discovery of excavation in the last 100 years has in any way invalidated one single statement of the Bible. It was because at least one general in the English Army during W. W. I believed the Bible & read the account in 1 Sam. 14 that he won a victory at Michmash. He found the account true to the geography of the land....and followed God's ancient orders.

7-Physiology--Take but one verse--Lev. 17:11: "For the life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh atonement by reason of the life. Bind a cord about your thumb so tightly that no blood courses thru it, & it will begin to decay immediately. Why? The life of the flesh is in the blood..." Yet, it was only in the 17th century that medical science discovered the truth that the blood circulates in the human body. Moses knew it centuries before Christ. But how? Does not the living God, who made the human body, know its constituent elements? Moses knew it by revelation & by that alone!



8-Law--Every reputable law school in the world studies the Mosaic code of laws recorded in Exodus 20. Every important code of laws since Moses' time, from Justinian's Code to the Code of Napoleon, all these codes are indebted in greater or lesser measure to the laws of Moses

9-Biography--The best known and most beloved biographies in the world are those of Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David, Daniel, Paul, Peter, John, & Christ. Need we remind ourselves that it is the BIBLE that tells us of these lives.

10-Astronomy--Although the Bible is not primarily a book of science, wherever it touches science, it is absolutely accurate. If one were to turn to the statements of the ancient Greeks & Romans concerning matters of the heavenly bodies, he would find such that are both ridiculous & absurd. But come to the Bible & you will see that no word has been found untrustworthy despite the advances of modern science. Has modern astronomy disproved Job's statement (26:7): "He stretcheth out the north over empty space and hangeth the earth upon nothing?"

11-Zoology--The Encyclopaedia Britannica admits that the best description of the nature, habits, & ways of the crocodile --called in Job 'leviathan'--and of the hippopotamus called 'behemoth'--is to be found.....not in a science textbook, but in the Book of Job.

12-And what shall we say more. For time would fail us to speak authoritatively in many other timely fields.

13-Surely JOHN LEA was correct in "The Book Of Books And Its Wonderful Story", when he wrote as its first sentence:

> "The foundation upon which Christianity is based is that the Bible is true, that it is God's revelation to man concerning matters which are of supreme importance in relation to human destiny, and that it is the only reliable source of information in this respect."

## III.-BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE PROSPERED WORD:
(Parallel of Rain & Snow To The Word)

A.-A Divine Origin:

1-Rain & snow
2-Come down from heaven
3-Not of human origin, but DIVINE
4-"So shall my Word be that cometh forth out of my mouth"/
5-2 Pet. 1:20-21

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation for the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

6-GOD is the author, originator & REVEALER +

Divine Originator (6)

**B.-A Gracious Mission:**

1-Not to return to Him in a fruitless cycle

2-But in the meantime to fulfill a mission

a-Rain + snow
- --watereth the earth
- --maketh it bud
- --seed to the sower
- --bread to the eater

b-CHANGE + USEFUL to others

55:11

3-"So shall my word be that cometh forth out of my mouth"/

4-Jas. 1:18--"Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

5-Luke 8:4-8

6-Good seed of the Word is on the gracious mission of bringing forth LIFE in the hearers!

**C.-A Silent Ministry:**

1-Rain--Quiet, usually
- --Soothing
- --Immediate results
- --Grass shows green in a week or 2 — Speedy

2-Snow--Quiet, always
- --Changes the appearance, but not for productivity
- --Long-delayed results in nature is development

3-Water is produced in BOTH cases, from rain & snow

4-Germination takes place------UNSEEN & UNHEARD

5-"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth"

6-A silent & unseen action takes place, but a ministry does occur

**D.-A Certain Result:**

1-Certain in the PHYSICAL--
- Sowing
- --Watering
- --Germinating
- --Growing
- --Producing

2-Isa. 55:11--
- --not void
- --shall accomplish
- --shall prosper

Certain in the spiritual also

3-Time may be "RAIN-TIME".....almost immediate

4-Time may be "SNOW-TIME".....very long delayed

5-But GOD PROMISES TO PROSPER HIS WORD — It is CERTAIN!

6-Areas of prosperity--Salvation
- --2 Tim. 3:14-15
- --Upbuilding = SANCTIFICATION (= CHANGE)
- --2 Tim. 3:16-17

7-Same principles in PHYSICAL and in SPIRITUAL

8-Because Rom.11:36--"For of him & thru him, & for him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen"

**E.-An Ultimate Report:**

1-Prospered whereunto God sends His word

2-Results--
- go out with joy
- --led forth with peace
- --Multitude will rejoice together
- --In Natural family

--In Super-Natural family
--Nature is changed
**Instead of THORNS come FIR TREES
**Instead of BRIERS come MYRTLE TREES
--Results are evident to all!
--The results of the PROSPERED WORD — THEY MUST SHOW!

3-Everlasting Name
4-Everlasting Sign
5-Hallelujah---GOD PROMISES A CROP
---God PRODUCES A CROP
6-Let's be busy sowing this seed! — Which tells us of Jesus!

CONCLUSION: A.-ILLUS-----Story is told of a convicted killer in Central America who was promised a pardon & his freedom if he could walk thru the streets of the city with a full glass of milk in his hands without spilling a drop.

When he returned he was asked what people said as he walked by; what they thought of his actions; how they acted toward him. He replied: "HOW WOULD I KNOW? I HAD NO EYES OR EARS FOR THEM. MY EYES WERE ON THE GLASS, FOR I HELD MY LIFE IN MY HANDS."

Neither dare we pay attention to anything else for in our hands we hold the LIFE OF ETERNITY for many .....to share it, or to withold it!

Nothing should deter us from sharing this good seed of the gospel — This must be our TOP PRIORITY!

B.-Teaching The Bible Today:

1-The over-publicized "Johnny" may follow the adventures of Ulysses by reading the Odyssey in school; he may become acquainted with the noble Brutus by reading in Julius Caesar in school; but he will not find out about King David or Joseph's coat or Paul of Tarsus or of Jesus Christ the Son of God and his Savior by reading the BIBLE in school, simply because the Bible is rarely studied there. Nor will he learn these truths and about these persons anywhere else, according to the evidence.

2-One piece of evidence is contained in answers to an unannounced test given to 5 classes of college-bound 11th & 12th graders at Newton Mass. H. S. Several pupils thought that Sodom & Gomorrah were lovers; that the four horsemen appeared on the Acropolis; that Matthew, Mark, Luther, and John wrote the gospels; that Eve was created from an apple; that Jesus was baptized by Moses; that Jezebel was Ahab's donkey & that the stories by which Jesus taught were called parodies.

3-Should the public schools teach the Bible? In the sectarian clamor over that question the voice that pleads the case of the humanities cannot be heard. The Bible is indeed a religious book, but it is also a part of our secular cultural heritage. To keep it out of our public schools because it is controversial & because the public cannot trust the good sense of

both the teacher & the pupils to treat it as a part of the humanities is a simple but questionable judgment. A knowledge of the Bible is essential to the pupil's understanding of allusions in literature, in music, and in the fine arts; in news media, in entertainment, and in cultured conversation

4-Is he to stuy mythology & Shakespeare, but not the Bible? Is it important for him to learn what it means when a man is called an "Adonis" or a "Romeo", yet unimportant for him to be able to distinguish a Jonah from a Judas?

5-This year in grade school, Jr. H.S., H.S., & College our youth will read Shakespeare as usual, Mythology as usual, American Literature as usual.....BUT.....The Bible is not in the curriculum.

6-We may not get the Bibles into the schools, but we must get this "PROSPERED WORD" into ourselves, into our youths, and into others

7-By-----S.S.
--Worship Services
--Teaching Sessions
--Home Bible Classes.
--~~Schools~~
-Xn. Day Schools
-Children's Classes

-Discovery Clubs
-VBS
-PERSONAL WITNESS!
How about YOU?

Can God prosper His Word thru you?

Westbrae 9/13/64
8/8/71

Hymns -(4) "My Savior" ——— # 154
(2) "Thy Word have I Hid In My Heart" — # 158
(1) "Tell Me The Story of Jesus" — # 113
Choir -(3) "Break Thou The Bread"

~~OKBC 9/20/87~~
Communion

Re-did 9/20/87
but did not use material in
Roman Numeral II.

JESUS CHRIST THE ANOINTED ONE (MESSIAH) Isa. 61:1-2
Read Matt. 16:13--17:13

INTRO: A.-Bible Content; Where?:

1-We often hear it said that a person should have the Bible in his heart as well as in his head. The need of this is vividly illustrated in an incident relating to the first Christmas.

2-When the Magi came to Jerusalem looking for Him who was "born king of the Jews," Herod sent for the religious leaders of Israel & demanded of them where X should be born. They had the information on the tips of their tongues. They knew the prophecy & lost no time in repeating it. They had the information in their heads, but they did not allow that portion of the Word of God to control their hearts. They did not follow in the train of these devout strangers who came to see the Baby who was the Messiah. The hearts of Israel's leaders being wrong, they did not walk in the paths of duty & homage.

3-In that day, nevertheless, as far from God as their hearts were, these leaders gave lip service to the hope of a personal Messiah. But when the heart is wrong, eventually everything is wrong. The spiritual infection seen in the parents is passed on to the children, and the disease becomes more virulent with each succeeding generation.

B.-Current Jewish View Of Messiah:

1-According to Wilbur Smith in M.M., April 1956, Today Orthodox Jewry has now cast off all hope of a personal Messiah. They look for nothing more than a homeland of their own, political freedom, economic betterment, and moral perfection. The Gentiles, they trust, will share in these blessings.

2-Dr. S. W. Barron of Columbia University writes in Christian And Religious History Of The Jews (vol. 2; P. 250): "There could no longer be a belief in a personal Messiah to redeem the Jewish people & lead it back to Palestine. The true Messianic hope is in a Messianic age when ethical monotheism, bringing justice and peace also, will be fully realized. The mission of Israel is to work collectively for this prophecied end; this is the new Messiah. All references to a personal redeemer must be discarded."

3-How blinded this ancient people have become! How far they have drifted from the truth of the Word! Their hearts are wrong, so that even their eyes do not read the Word of God correctly. God, however, has promised that His people will be willing in the day of His power (Ps. 110:3).

4-The message of the 1st Christmas centered in the fact that Messiah=-The Anointed One--would be Redeemer, King, Priest & Prophet.

5-One day, and that day may not be too far distant,

Israel will look at Him who bears in His Body the wounds received in the house of His friends (Zech. 13:6). They will turn to Him as their Messiah Redeemer, and also find Him to be Prophet, Priest & King!

## I.-WHO WAS ANOINTED?:

ANOINTINGS

### A.-According To The Old Testament:

1-Kings were anointed
--1 Sam. 10:1--Saul
--1 Sam. 16:13--David
~~--1 Kgs. 19:16a--Jehu~~

2-Priests were anointed
--Lev. 8:10-12--Aaron & his sons

3-Prophets were anointed
--1 Kgs. 19:16b--Elisha

Some few combined 2 of these offices
—Zechariah 1:1
—Zech 6:11

4-Protection of God was upon these "anointed ones" who stood as His representatives

READ TOGETHER

5-Ps. 105:14-15--"He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reproved kings for their sakes; saying, 'Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.'"

### B.-THE PREEMINENT Anointed One:

1-Prophets, Priests & Kings were foreshadowing pictures of their fulfillment which was to come in a Greater Prophet, a Greater Priest, and a Greater King.

2-These 3 offices were to be combined in ONE PERSON---The Anointed One.

3-Term "Anointed"=="Messiah"=="Christ"

4-Messianic hope in Israel at the time of Christ according to EDERSHEIM--"And so, when John came with his stern asceticism, you felt he was not one of you. He was in one direction outside your boundary-line, and I as the Friend of sinners, in the other direction. The axe which he wielded you would have laid to the tree of the Gentile world, not to that of Israel & of sin; the welcome & fellowship which I extented, you would have had to the 'wise' the 'righteous', and not to sinners. Such was Israel as a whole." (I, P. 671).

## II.-JESUS IS THE ANOINTED ONE:

PROMISES

### A.-According To The Old Testament:

1-Ps. 2:1-3
~~2-Ps. 45:6-8~~
2-Isa. 61:1-2---Quoted by Christ in Lk. 4:18-19 as applying to Himself
3-Dan. 9:25-26--"Messiah"

PRESENTATION PROMISES

### B.-According To The New Testament:

1-John 1:41, 45
~~2-John 3:34~~
3-John 4:25-26
4-Commonly translated "CHRIST" in the N. T. in 353 verses of usage out of 7959 verses; or 1 out of every 22 in N.T.
5-Summarization of "THE ANOINTED" or "CHRIST" in Col. 2:9

POINT

C.-Meaning Of The Term "The Anointed One":
1-Redeemer from sin
2-Israel's one hope
3-Union of 3 concepts in 1 term---(Rev 1:4)
--PRIEST------"...from Him which is..."
--PROPHET-----"...and which was..."
--KING--------"...and which is to come..."
4-This "Anointed One" concept grows out of man's need for a Mediator between himself and God
--Job. 9:32-33--"For God is not a man, as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment. Neither is there any daysman betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both.
--Linked with Job 16:21--"O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleadeth for his neighbor"
--1 Tim. 2:5
5-The Lord Jesus Christ combined and continues to combine all of these qualities as the WORD of God to lead sinful man out of his error, darkness & falsehood, revealing to man the love, law, & grace of God.

PRESENTATION

D. ~~Timing~~ Of The Anointing:
1-Anointed from eternity past — Ps. 45:6-7
2-Introduced into PUBLIC RECOGNITION at Baptism, but this was Baptism by John, but it was not John's Baptism (which was of a sinner into repentance in preparation for the King of the Kingdom).
3-Lived a sinless life though in contact with sinful men
4-Anticipatory suffering in Gethsemane---NO EFFICACY
5-Substitutionary suffering on Calvary---EFFICACIOUS

Omit this; confuses the issue + misses the point of the message

## III.-MINISTRY OF THE ANOINTED ONE:

A.-Isaiah 61:1-2: MINISTRY PROPHESIED
1-"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me"--Christ's power is thru the Holy Spirit — Isa. 11:2 + Jn. 3:34
2-"Because the Lord hath anointed Me"--Christ's "Appointment" to Messiahship — PAST
3-"To preach good tidings to the meek"--Message of HOPE
4-"He hath sent Me to bind up the broken hearted"---Ministry of HEALING
5-"To proclaim liberty to the captives"--Message of DELIVERANCE
6-"And the opening of the prison to them that are bound" Ministry of FREEDOM
7-"To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord"--Message of IMMEDIACY
8-"And the day of vengeance of our God"--Ministry of JUDGMENT
9-"To comfort all that mourn"--Ministry of CONSOLATION
10-NOTE--3 out of 7 of these activities center in a preaching ministry
--That is the glory of the ministry of an anointed one, TO PREACH, for thru the foolishness of preaching (1 Cor. 1:21) God saves them that believe.

11-NOTE--These 7 activities embrace Christ's ministries at BOTH advents without any distinctions---more on this later.

12-Illus--The mountains "blend" from a far view & the "valley" of this age is not seen in the O.T.

B.-Luke 4:16-22: MINISTRY PRESENTED

1-Custom of Christ to be in the House of God for worship (4:16)
2-Shared actively in the services (4:16)
3-Knew the Scriptures (4:17)
4-Read the first 5 of the 7 statements from Isa. 61:1-2 about God's Anointed (4:18-19):
  (1)--"To preach the gospel to the poor"--------HOPE
  (2)--"To heal the broken hearted"--------HEALING
  (3)--"To preach deliverance to the captives"---DELIVERANCE
  (4)--"To set at liberty them that are bruised"-FREEDOM
  (5)--"To preach the acceptable year of the Lord--IMMEDIACY
5-"And He closed the book" (4:20)
  --Observed dispensational distinctions contained in a coma OMITS LAST TWO ITEMS
  --Turned the eyes of the people on HIMSELF
6-Claimed that HE WAS THE FULFILLMENT OF THIS SCRIPTURE
  --4:21
  --Only as far as He read, for then
  --Open declaration of His office as THE ANOINTED ONE
7-Reaction (4:22)
  --All understood His claim--"And all bare Him witness"
  --All were impressed with His words--"...and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth
  --YET, they did not receive Him--"...And they said Is not this Joseph's son?"
  --Jn. 1:11

MINISTRY PREACHED

Burden of Peter's first sermon - JESUS is the MESSIAH (or Christ) of God - 2:36

C.-Acts 2:14-36:

1-Peter preaches (2:14)
2-Joel's prophecy fulfilled (2:15-21)
3-Works of Jesus prove He is Lord & Christ (2:22-24)
4-David foretold Messiah's Kingship after death (2:25-31)
5-Jesus' resurrection proves He is Lord & Christ (2:32-36)

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye crucified to be both Lord and Christ."

CONCLUSION:

A.-Recapitulation:

1-Anointed Ones--Prophet
  --Priest
  --King
  --THE Anointed One
2-Jesus is THE Anointed One
  --Acc. to the O.T.
  --Acc. to the N.T.
  --From eternity past
  --Publicly recognized at Baptism
  --Efficacious at Calvary--FOR THE WHOLE WORLD
3-Ministry Of The Anointed One
  --Summarized in Mt. 9:35-36 as well as anywhere
  --Specifically spelled out in Lk. 4:18-19
  --Applied to people---Acts 2:14-36

B.-Then Why Mt. 16:20 & 17:9?:

1-Warned disciples not to tell any man that He was Jesus the Christ

2-Not because that was not the truth

3-But so they'd not lead to Jewish hopes of the Kingdom being fulfilled then at that time.

4-With Israel's temporary rejection of the King, the Kingdom would be delayed

5-Christ would then become THE ANOINTED ONE to a larger group than just to Israel

(NB) 6-Isa. 42:1-7 — Israel Gentiles also) Eph. 3:1-12

7-As Donne said in his lifetime of 1573--1631: "Caesar is not Caesar still, nor Alexander, Alexander still; but Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One) is Jesus still, and shall be forever!"

Hymns:

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

"Praise Him! Praise Him!" — 223

"O For A Thousand Tongues" — 222

"Out Of The Ivory Palaces"

12/29/68 — Westbrae

10/5/76 — Mims, Fla - 1st Bapt,

# I SAW ALSO THE LORD

Isaiah 6:1-3; Acts 26:13-19

## INTRODUCTION

A - Whose Vision?
B - The Historical Situation:
  1 - Other nations
  2 - Own Nation - OUTWARD - Material Prosperity
    - INWARD - Spiritual Corruption
  3 - THEN - Death of the King!
  4 - Proposition: We need to understand the basic requirements for serving God and for spiritual usefulness.

## I. THE VISION - A CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD: (6:1-4)

A - God's Being (Attributes):
  1 - Sovereignity
  2 - Transcendence
  3 - Perpetuity
  4 - Majesty
  5 - Holiness
  6 - Glory
  7 - Universality
B - Isaiah's Seeing: (Attitudes);
  1 - He SAW God!
  2 - A personal encounter
  3 - A Transforming experience

## II. THE CLEANSING - A DEALING WITH SIN: (6:5-7)

A - The Confession of Sin: (6:5)
  1 - Having seen God, now he sees himself
  2 - Deeply convicted
  3 - Sees beyond the dead King and sees through to the King that LIVES!
  4 - Precursor to cleansing is confession of sin
B - The Purification of Sin: (6:6-7)
  1 - The cleansing
  2 - The comfort
  3 - The cure
  4 - When a man is cleansed, then he is also prepared

## III. THE CALL - A COMMISSION FROM GOD: (6:8-13)

A - The Call of God: (6:8a-c)

B - The Response Of Man: (6:8d-e)
  1 - Note the progression of preparation
  2 - Motives *Gratitude to God
    *Commissioned to serve
  3 - Clear answer to what constitutes a call
    *Seeing God's holiness
    *Seeing sin's awfulness
    *Seeing self in need
    *Seeing forgiveness for ourselves
    *THEN - IICorinth. 5:14-15
      - Absolute self-surrender
      - Ardor grows out of pardon experienced
  4 - What question to ask?

5 - <u>What answer</u> to give? ( See I Samuel 23:1-5)

C - The Command to serve: (6:9a,b)
D - The Message to Deliver: (6:9c-13)

CONCLUSION:

A - Effective Service For God:

B - A New Testament Example: (Acts 26:13-19)

# THE POWER OF GOD--SUFFICIENT!
## Isaiah 40:12-27

INTRODUCTION:

A. Outside Exposures:
B. Biblical Exposures:
C. Personalization:

I. THE CREATOR: (Isaiah 40:12-17)

A. The Creator's Omnipotence: (40:12)

B. The Creator's Omniscience: (40:13-14)

C. The Creator's Omniprevalence: (40:15-17)

II. THE COUNTERFEIT: (Isaiah 40:18-20)

A. Interrogative Inquiry: (40:18)

B. Idolatrous Images: (40:19-20)

Others: Isa. 40:18,25; 41:21-24,29; 42:8,17; 44:8-20; 45:16; 46:1-2, 5-7; 48:5-6,16-18; Romans 1:21-23; 1 John 5:21

III. THE COMPARISONS: (Isaiah 40:21-25)

A. He Probes (With Questions): (40:21) (Heb. 1:1-2)

B. He Presides: (40:22-23) (Num. 13:33)

C. He Predicts: (40:24)

D. His Pre-eminence: (40:25)

IV. THE CONTEMPLATION: (Isaiah 40:26-29)

A. "LIFT Your Eyes:" (40:26a) (Ps. 121:1-2)

B. LOOK ("Behold"--40:9,10,15,26) Upon Your God: (40:26b+)
1. Personal God
2. Creator (Gen. 1)
3. Caller (Ps. 147:4-5)
4. Controller (Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:3)
5. Isa. 45:22-25

C. LEARN and LEAN: (40:27-29)
BELIEVE the RECORD! - Ps. 19:1; Acts 14:17; Rom. 1:19-20
He is all-powerful - Isa. 40:28-29

CONCLUSION:

A. Recapitulation:
B. Reinforcement:
   1. Where?
   2. Who is the channel?
   3. Who is the power available to?
   4. How?
C. Your Decision:

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## UNDER HIS WINGS

Verse 1

Under His wings, I am safely abiding;
Though the night deepens and tempests are wild,
Still I can trust Him; I know He will keep me;
He has redeemed me, and I am His Child.

Verse 2

Under His wings, what a refuge in sorrow!
How the heart yearningly turns to His rest!
Often when earth has no balm for my healing,
There I find comfort, and there I am blest.

Verse 3

Under His wings, O what precious enjoyment!
There will I hide till life's trials are o'er;
Sheltered, protected, no evil can harm me;
Resting in Jesus I'm safe ever-more.

Chorus

Under His wings, under His wings,
Who from His Love can sever?
Under His wings my soul shall abide,
Safely abide forever.

## HOW GREAT THOU ART

Verse 1

O Lord my God! When I in awsome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed:

Verse 3

And when I think; that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die- I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died, to take away my sin.

Chorus

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art,
How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savoiur God to Thee
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

# THE PROMISE OF GOD--SURE!
## Isaiah 40:1-11

INTRODUCTION:

A. The Message:
B. The Problem: (John 12:37-40)
C. The Comfort

I. VOICE OF PARDON: (Isa. 40:1-2)

A. Comfort's Address: (40:1-2a)
   1. To Israel
   2. Trinity of Comfort
      a. Father (2 Cor. 1:3)
      b. Spirit (John 14:16,26)
      c. Son (1 John 2:1-2; Isa. 61:1-2)

B. Comfort's Basis: (40:2)
   1. Pardon is the basis
   2. Warfare accomplished
   3. Iniquity is pardoned
   4. Received double
   5. Believing of this Voice of Pardon - FUTURE; Rom. 11:26

II. VOICE OF PREPARATION: (Isa. 40:3-5)

A. Preparation Of Way: (40:3)
   1. Voice not named
   2. Voice identified with John the Baptist (John 3:3; 1:23)
   3. Deity is coming

B. Promise Of Justice: (40:4)

C. Prediction Of Glory: (10:5)
   1. Future from Isaiah's day
   2. A revelation - John 1:14
   3. All flesh shall see - WHEN? - Rev. 1:7; Matt. 24:30
   4. That day will come!

III. VOICE OF PROMISE: (Isa. 40:6-8)

A. The Cry = The Preaching: (40:6a)
B. The Frailty Of Man: (40:6b-8b)
C. The Finality Of The Word: (40:8b)
   Ps. 119:41,65,89

IV. VOICE OF PROCLAMATION: (Isa. 40:9-11)

A. The Proclaimers: (40:9)

B. The Persons: (40:9)

C. The Performance: (40:10-11)
   1. His presence - Rom. 10:11-13
   2. His power - Ps. 2:8-9
   3. His reward
   4. His shepherding - Ps. 23; John 10, Rev. 1:16-17

CONCLUSION:

A. Four Voices:
B. Present Applications:
   1. Voice of Pardon
   2. Voice of Preparation
   3. Voice of Promise
   4. Voice of Proclamation
   5. Let us give them THE PROMISE OF GOD that is SURE!

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# HE TOOK MY PLACE
## Isaiah 53:1-12; Romans 5:6-11

**INTRODUCTION:**

A. Basic Background Perspective:

B. Dangerous Error:
1. Story of Cain and Abel
2. ATTAINMENT versus ATONEMENT
3. Sin must be paid for--Atoned for
   -By self or by Substitute
   -In hell or on the Cross
4. Proposition: We want to show the personal, pressing need to know that Jesus took YOUR place!

**I. SUBSTITUTION IN PROPHECY:**

A. Person Despised: (Isa. 53:1-3) VISUAL SUFFERING
B. Passion Detailed: (Isa. 53:4-6) VICARIOUS SUFFERING

**II. SUBSTITUTION IN FULFILLMENT:**

A. What Substitution Is Not:

B. But Substitution Is True: (Isa. 53:7-9) VOLUNTARY SUFFERING
1. Literal and historical (1 Tim. 2:5)
2. Sinless Savior - No sin of His own (2 Cor. 5:21)
   - Able to bear our sins (Mark 10:45)
3. Historical illustration in Barabbas

C. Substitution Is the Consistent Testimony of Scripture:
1. Rom. 5:6,8
2. 1 Cor. 15:3
3. Gal. 1:4
4. Titus 2:14
5. 1 Peter 2:24-25; 3:18

**III. PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN SUBSTITUTION:**

A. Historical Facts:

B. God's Requirement:
1. Believe the facts - You are a sinner
   - God loves you
   - Christ died as YOUR SUBSTITUTE!
2. Personally accept God's provision as "For YOU!"
3. See this as Jesus' VICTORIOUS SUFFERING
4. Following this personal salvation decision
   -A new life received
   -A new life to live
   -Change is proof of reality (2 Cor. 5:17)

**CONCLUSION:**

A. Substitution:

B. Divine Commentary:
1. Isa. 52:13 - Exaltation promised
2. Isa. 52:14 - Humiliation presented
3. Isa. 52:15 - Expiation pictured

C. Decision Is Necessary:
1. Accept Him
2. Reject the Gift of God
3. You cannot be neutral
4. How about you . . . . TODAY?

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# God's Prospered Word

Isaiah 55:1-13

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## Introduction:

A. The Bible Has Become Accessible:

B. The Bible Has Become Commonplace:

C. The Bible Has Become Widely Presented:

Proposition: We need to understand how we have gotten to the state of affairs of today, and we need also to understand how God will prosper His Word to our needy generation.

## I. A HISTORICAL REVIEW OF THE CHURCH ERA:

A. The Early Church Era:

1. The personnel (Acts 5:40-42)
2. The problems
3. The Roman Empire

B. The Middle Era of the Church:

1. Constantine – 313 A.D.
2. Martin Luther and Carlstadt
3. Problems for common people
4. Some did read the Scriptures
5. The Waldenses and Albigenses

C. The Era of Reformation:

1. John Wycliff – 1324 - 1384
2. William Tyndale – 1484 - 1536
3. King James Version in 1611

D. The Modern Denominational Era:

1. Its rise – Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Wesley
2. Its ruin – 1550 - 1850
3. Removal by "Come Outers"
4. Return to biblical patterns

## II. A BIBLICAL REVIEW OF THE CHURCH'S MESSAGE:

A. An Overview of Isaiah 55:

1. The CALL (55:1-5)

   - Isaiah's Invitation

   - Isaiah's Exhortation

   - Isaiah's Explanation

2. The CHALLENGE (55:6-7)

   - Seek and Call; Do It NOW!

   - Forsake and Return

3. The CONFIDENCE (55:8-13)

   - Confidence in God

   - Confidence in God's Word

   - Confidence in God's blessings

B. An Intensive View of Isaiah 55:10-11:

1. The prospered Word of DIVINE ORIGIN (2 Peter 1:20-21)
2. The prospered Word has a GRACIOUS MINISTRY (Luke 8:4-8)
3. The prospered Word has a SILENT MINISTRY
4. The prospered Word has a CERTAIN RESULT
5. So, you see: - God promises a crop and

   - God produces a crop through the "seed sown"

CONCLUSION:

A. Biblical Illiteracy:

B. Biblical Imperative:

1. Get the Bible into...
2. How? - INTAKE

   - OUTPUT
3. Three Questions
4. Proposition restated:

It is fairly clear how we have gotten to the state of affairs we find in the world today...
...but we need to understand and cooperate with how God can prosper His Word to the needy generation among whom we live today.

5. It is OUR DUTY!