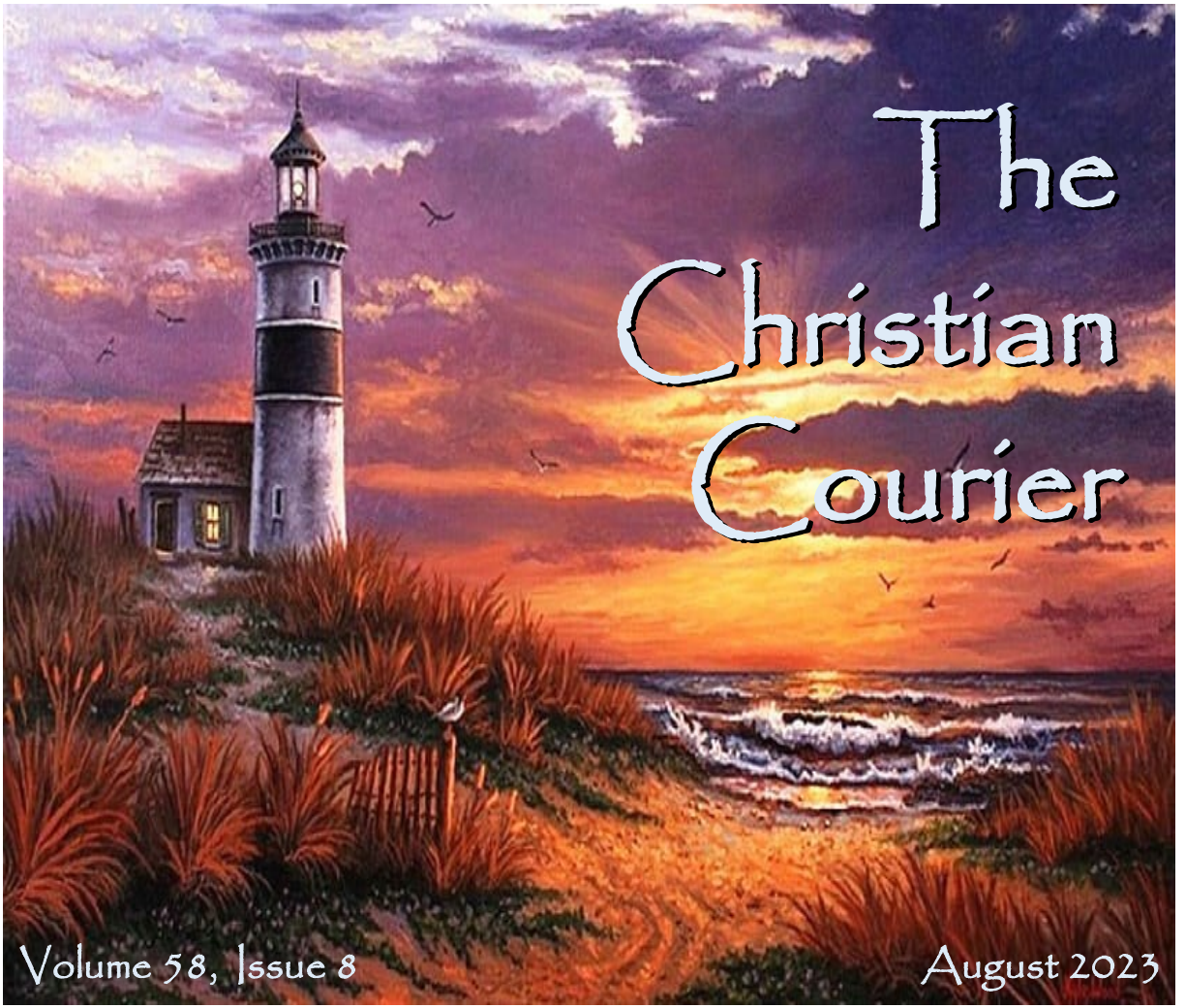


The Race Is On

Bro. Lloyd Allgood

A person must qualify before entering any race. Christ said to Nicodemus (John 3:3) [KJV] *"Verily, verily I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."* [NASB] *"Truly, truly I say to you unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."* Consequently, we must become a new person in order to see the kingdom of God. Christ goes on to tell Nicodemus, (John 3:5) [KJV] "*Verily, verily, I say unto thee, 'Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.'* "(John 3:5) [NASB]

Christ said *" Truly, truly, I say to you unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."* Christ was not just referring to men, he also meant woman, as well. In other words, he meant everyone. This is how we qualify for the race, and there are several scriptures that explain how someone is born again: (Acts 2:38,41; Acts 22:16: Gal 3:27). And there are others, also.

So let us think about ourselves. Once we qualify, we must condition ourselves to run. (Heb 12:1)[KJV] *"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the* ***race*** *that is set before us,"* [NASB] "*Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the* ***race*** *that is set before us,"* Consequently add to our knowledge. Paul said: (2 Tim 2:15) "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*."

Then we run. (1 Cor 9:24)[KJV] "*Know ye not that they which run in a race, run all, but one receiveth prize. So run that ye may obtain*." [NASB] *"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win."* Therefore, we are not competing with others. We are running only for ourselves against that old devil who is right behind us.

Don't get disqualified. All runners have their own lane on the track, so if you step in someone else's lane and trip that runner, or shall we say, "put a stumbling block" in their way, you will be disqualified. (Rom 14:13)[KJV] "*Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a* ***stumblingblock*** *or an occasion to fall in his brother's way*." [NASB] "*Therefore let's not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this: not to put an*

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obstacle or a **stumblingblock** *in a brother's or sister's way."*

The scriptures also state that we should offend not anyone; consequently, this could cause us to be disqualified. (Matt 18:6) [KJV] "*But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a* **millstone** *were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."* [NASB] *"but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it is better for him that a heavy* **millstone** *be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depths of the sea."* (Mar 9:42) [KJV] "A*nd whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a* **millstone** *were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea."* [NASB] *"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it is better for him if a heavy* **millstone** *is hung around his neck and he is thrown into the sea."* This and other sins can cause us to be disqualified.

<u>Finally we finish our race.</u> If we have stayed the course and finished the race, we will receive our prize. The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy before he was executed in Rome in (2 Tim 4:7) [KJV] *"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my* **course**, *I have kept the faith."* He also added in the 8th verse [KJV] *"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."* Verses 7 and 8 in the NASB are as follows: 7) "I have fought **the** good fight, I have finished **the** course, I have **kept the faith**;" 8) *"In the future there is reserved for me the* **crown** *of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing."*

In order for us to run this race and win a crown all we have to do is keep god's commandments. (Matt 22:37-40) [KJV] : 37) *"Jesus said unto him, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.'"* 38) *"This is the first and great commandment."* 39) *"And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." 40) "On these two laws hang all the law and the prophets."* [NASB] 37) "*And He said to him, 'You shall love the lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'"* 38) *"This is the great and foremost commandment."* 39) *"The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"* 40) *"Upon these two*

commandments hang the whole law and the prophets."

We win our crown. So, when we finish that race, we win. We may stumble, but Jesus is there to pick us up when we commit sin. (1 John 1:9) [KJV] *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to* forgive *us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* [NASB] *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous, so that He will* forgive *us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

May the almighty God bless each and everyone. Please give Him the praise and Glory.

Bro. Lloyd Allgood
Duncan, OK



Notes & Letters

Ringgold, Texas

Hello to everyone. Here we are blessed to be in God's care and keeping among all our struggles in the flesh. It is a wonderful blessing to be in the Church of our Lord. Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane in John 17:21-23 "That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me. And the glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them: that they may be one, even as We are one: I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me."

We are able to be one unto God but only in Jesus. In John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, " I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." Satan is the enemy of us all. If we allow him to divide us by anger with each other he wins and we lose. I want to learn and grow in grace and knowledge. And I need my brothers and sisters in Christ to help me to be one as Jesus and God. And I want to help others in every way I can.

In Christ to all.
Larry and Maxine Pollan

Enclosed is a check for the paper copies of The Christian Courier for our members and the postage associated with them. Please use any overage toward the other expenses of The Christian Courier.

May God Bless... Andy Barnes
(on behalf of the Randlett congregation)

I wish to take this time to thank both you for the copies of the Courier that you have sent to me. We are few in number here in Duncan, and we meet at Zeb and Ang's home. I think that I can speak for the three of us that we would welcome anyone to come and worship with us. We usually meet around noon because of Zeb's work schedule.

Also, if you could spare us a few song books we would greatly appreciate it. (already taken care of -Ed) I am also attaching a brief article for you to publish: however, I wish to give all of the praise, if any, to God and not me.

May God bless both of you and your families,

Bro. Lloyd Allgood
(405) 615-0642
LloydAllgood@gmail.com

A Great-Big Shout-Out!

To our contributors this month!
Thank you very much!

Roy Wright – Tina Mickey
Randlett Congregation
Gleed, WA – Aztec, NM

Welcome from the Gleed Congregation

We are happy to report the meeting with Jerry McCay was a great inspirational meeting. Jerry brought wonderful lessons, Thursday June 29th, Friday June 30th, Saturday July 1st and Sunday July 2nd. We want to thank Wynetta for her support of Jerry, Lynell and Ellis for making the trip here with them.

Kathy and I had a great time at Church Camp. We brought 2 grandkids with us, Savannah and Chloe.

Threasa has been working hard to raise money for Church Camp and the Africa funds showing movies on the Fridays the month of July. Special thanks to all who help with the fundraiser.

Tom Core is recovering from heart surgery. Jason Christianson is healing fine from his surgery. Hailey Christianson will be having shoulder surgery on August 10th, prayers for all. Thanks...

Jim Lamb
Church of Christ, Gleed WA

We are not sure how it happened, but in the last issue, July 2023, we unintentionally mixed up Keith and Terry Wilkerson's phone numbers in the Congregation of the Month section. They should be...

Keith Wilkerson: 970-210-3660
Terry Wilkerson: 970-778-5282

Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Mexico Mission
309 Monroe Ave.
Lorenzo, TX 79343

Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Africa Mission
309 Monroe Ave.
Lorenzo, TX 79343

Family Camp Auction!



Cow Elk Tag Auction

- Around Aztec and Bloomfield, NM
- Youth and first time hunter friendly
- Winner will receive:
  - One cow elk tag for the dates chosen
  - Friendly companion to advise and accompany the hunter
- Winner is responsible for:
  - Winner choice of dates: Dec. 2-6, 2023 or Dec. 9-13, 2023
  - Purchasing New Mexico hunting license and stamp
  - Lodging/Meals ○ Must bring .24 caliber or bigger firearm
  - Under 18 will need a hunter safety card.

Opening reserve bid is $1100. Bids will be taken until midnight central time on September 1, 2023. You can bid on the Church of Christ Family Camp Facebook page or by contacting Mike Harcrow (580-212-4588) , Robert Fuson (918-696-3944), or Kevin Lamb (509-969-6881).



Milk of the Word

This month's milk of the word is a book study from the book of Jonah. As you read, look for the answers. A hint is at the end of each question except the last one.

Jonah Questions

1. **Where did the word of the Lord come to? (1:1)**
2. **Where did God tell Jonah to go? (1:2)**
3. **Why did God want Jonah to go there? (1:2)**
4. **What did Jonah do instead of doing what God wanted him to do? (1:3)**
5. **Where was the ship headed? (1:3)**
6. **Where was Jonah when the storm was happening? (1:4)**
7. **What did the shipmaster do when he found out that Jonah was asleep in the storm? (1:6)**
8. **What nationality was Jonah? (1:9)**
9. **What did the men do to Jonah? (1:13)**
10. **What happened to Jonah when he went in the water? (1:17)**
11. **When the men threw Jonah in the water, the storm settled. What did the men think? (1:16)**
12. **What did Jonah do in the belly of the fish? (2:1)**
13. **When Jonah finished praying, what happened to him? (2:10)**
14. **When the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, what did he say? (3:2)**
15. **How big was Nineveh? (3:3)**
16. **What did Jonah cry out as he entered the city? (3:4)**
17. **When the King found out, what did he do? (3:6)**
18. **What happened when God saw that they repented of their evil ways? (3:10)**
19. **Why was Jonah upset? (4:1)**
20. **What did he do? (4:2)**
21. **What did he want God to do in his prayer? (4:3)**
22. **Where did Jonah go? (4:5)**
23. **What did God do for Jonah as he sat there? (4:6)**
24. **What did God do to the gourd? (4:7)**
25. **How was the weather when the gourd was gone? (4:8)**
26. **What did God ask Jonah and what was his reply? (4:9)**
27. **What can we learn from Jonah?**

Submitted by Robert and Christina Fuson



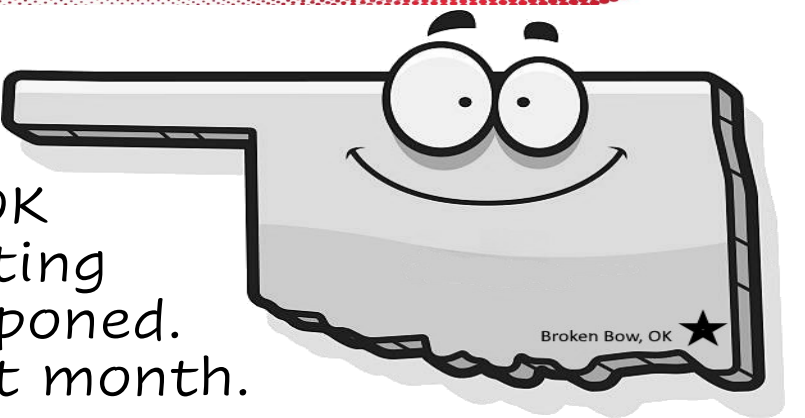
One particular four-year old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets, as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

(Submitted by Tina Mickey)

I have been teaching my three-year old daughter The Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation, " she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail."

We still have some left-over lesson booklets, "3 Questions From Matt. 24", from our last 3 day weekend meeting. Pls email your request to **ChristianCourier1Cup@gmail.com** and we will be happy to mail you one!





Broken Bow, OK
Weekend Meeting
has been postponed.
More info next month.

Congregation of the Month

Lorenzo Church of Christ



407 4th St.
Lorenzo, TX 79343

"At 4th & Monroe"
GPS:
33.670817, -101.539206

Contact: Jerry McCay
(806) 549-0355

Larry Wood
(806) 778-7545

Please come by and visit and worship with us some time!
We'd love to have you! Home of the Lorenzo Love Letter!

Thought for the Month

In circles other than religion, I have heard of being asked if one is running away from their "bad place" or running towards their "good place." This begs the question, "***Are we joyously sprinting towards our salvation and an eternity with the Almighty Father and His Son, or are we fleeing the eternal torment of Hell?***" I suppose for most, there could be a little truth in both, but if our answer is predominately the later, we must ask ourselves: 1) Are we at our full spiritual potential when running away scared? 2) Is God pleased as He observes our actions and motivations in this state? And 3) Are we attractive to the multitude of sinners that we should be trying to lead to The Lord daily? i.e. Do they want what we have? I recon it's very much ok to be terrified of Hell, but shouldn't our primary motivation for a spiritual life be to love our creator and strive for perfect obedience in hopes and faith of someday sharing in the supreme glory of The Almighty? And we MUST honestly ask ourselves if we're doing enough, to justify even in our own minds, to be allowed to pass through those gates.

Love & Blessings - Jesse Warford



Voices from the Past

IT IS WRITTEN

CAVE JUNCTION OREGON, MARCH 15, 1948.

The Work and Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The work and gifts of the Holy Spirit are things of vast importance in our souls salvation, yet badly misunderstood by many. As to the different measures or gifts of the Spirit we refer you to St. Jno. 3:34; where it is stated of Jesus, "For God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him." No one else receives the Spirit "Without measure", as Jesus did. If they did, all the power and working of wonders together with the same inspiration would be received by them. This we know does not obtain, for then we would not even need our Bibles, because we would be inspired as Jesus was and do all the wonders which he did.

This Jesus, who received the Spirit without measure, was to have the power to baptize with the Holy Ghost, Matth. 3:11. This condition does not obtain with those who claim the Holy Ghost without measure today.

All will admit this was restricted; for otherwise, all men and women both just and wicked, would be baptized with the Holy Ghost. Then dear friend, lets appeal to the infallible word of God which makes no mistakes. By reading the 13th and 14th chapters of St. Jno., it can be seen that Jesus was in company with his twelve apostles and gave them some promises, of which one was, "Another comforter", "The Spirit of Truth whom the world could not receive." St. Jno. 14:15-16.

The Spirit was to "Teach them all things" and to "Bring all things to their remembrance which he had taught them." St. Jno. 14:26. Since the world could not receive this comforter, it does not act immediately on the sinners heart to convert him.

Neither do all Christians receive this measure or gift of the Spirit, for if they did they would be inspired as per the promise of St. Jno. 14:26. We learn from St. Jno. 16:13, The Spirit was to guide them into all truth. We will note its reproving power (verses 7-11) later on.

Note Luke 24:33; Jesus' apostles were gathered together. Luke 24:36, Jesus himself appears in their midst. Luke 24:37-48, tells of their terror and information imparted to them. Now, notice the 49th verse "Behold I send the promise of The Father upon you." Upon who? The eleven apostles mentioned in the 33rd verse. But they were to wait at Jerusalem till they were endowed with power from On High. Verse 49.

Acts 1:2-4 verifies the above statements, that the apostles were the ones commanded to wait at Jerusalem, and the ones to whom the promise of The Father was to be given. The fifth verse shows that the baptism of the Holy Ghost was that promise. Read it friend, and reread it, and you will

see His "Apostles" were the ones he was assembled with and were the ones he was addressing when he told them that they should be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days later.

Now read the rest of Acts 1 and you will see that Matthias was chosen to take Judas place and "Was numbered with the eleven apostles." Verse 26.

Now read Acts 2 "And when the Day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all together in one place" Acts 2:1. They who? "They" the apostles. See Acts 1:26. "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:1-4. Who were the "They" and the "Them" who were being inspired? See the record brother -- The apostles. Acts 1:26. And if there is any further doubt see verse 14. "But Peter standing up with the eleven." How many were Peter standing up with? See the record brother; "The eleven." Acts 1:14.

It sat upon each of them. Verse 3. They all spake as the spirit gave them utterance. Verse 4. These "They's" and "Them's" refers to the apostles. Acts 1:26; As no one else were named. Peter stood up with the eleven when he spoke. Acts 2:14. Could anything be plainer?

But says one did not Cornelius in Acts 10 receive the same gift? To be sure, and God shows why. Note, Acts 10:46; And you will see the baptizing of Cornelius and his house, and the astonishment of those Jews at the outpouring of the Holy Ghost upon the Gentiles. Then we see Peter's question to those Jews who were so astounded at what they saw.

Then in verse 47; "Can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?" A witness if you please, that God had accepted the Gentiles. More evidence? Here it is. See chapter 11. The Jews at Jerusalem called Paul in question for his action here. And they had to also be convinced that the Gentiles were acceptable with God. Notice Peter's answer to them and his statement relative to the Gentiles reception of the Holy Ghost; verses 15-16. Then in the 17th verse he puts it squarely up to those Jews -- "Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on The Lord Jesus Christ; What was I that I could withstand God?" Acts 11:17. Not only was this convincing evidence to Peter and to those Jews with him when he preached to Cornelius; but was an equal "Witness" to those in Jerusalem. Hear them; -- "When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, 'Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.'" Acts 11:18

Peter in his rehearsal of the conversion of the gentiles, called it "Searing Witness". "And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;" Acts 15:8. Isn't it plain? Others received the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands as in Acts 8:14-17. You will note that this "Gift" or "Measure" was given by the laying on of the hands of the apostles.

But there was another "Gift" or "Measure" of the spirit which came by obedience to the gospel. See Acts 2:38-39. Peter shows clearly that this "Gift" comes upon all God calls -- that is, who "Repent and are baptized

for the remission of their sins." Acts 2:38.

Acts 5:32 shows the same; that God gives His Spirit to those who obey him. Yes, to the sons of God -- "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts --" Gal. 4:6. Hence, the inevitable conclusion, all sons receive this gift of the Spirit.

It is received through faith -- Gal. 3:2; 3:14. Hence, all the faithful receive this gift. But notice this is not a baptism -- But the gift all obedient, the sons, receive as shown above.

Now, back to the apostles to get the full lesson. Notice in St. Jno. 16:8; in giving the promise of the spirit to the apostles, they were told; He would "Reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." 2 Sam. 23:2; "The Spirit of The Lord spake by me and his word was in my tongue." Notice in all ages the Spirit of The Lord spoke to the people through the prophets. Heb. 1:1. And they were "Holy men" 2 Peter 1:21. The Spirit in ages past did not force itself into the hearts of men and forcibly scoop out all objectionable material; but on the contrary, moved on these holy men of old and taught them what to teach the people. As proof of this, see all the prophets of old.

Neither did the Spirit enter personally into the hearts of the sinners on Pentecost -- (For the world cannot receive the Spirit - St. Jno. 14:17); but on the contrary inspired the apostles as to what to tell the people. Acts 2:1-4. Hence the idea that the Holy Spirit enters personally into the hearts of all sinners and chases out all devils and casts out all objectional material; is erroneous.

Paul was struck down on the road to Damascus; but did the Spirit personally enter his heart and cast out all objectional material? Nay, verily; but he was sent to Damascus. Acts 9:6; Acts 22:10. A man was sent to instruct him. Acts 9:10-18; 22:12-16. You will notice the Spirit through Ananias told him to "Arise and be baptized and wash away his sins calling upon the name of The Lord." Acts 22:16.

Cornelius was told something to "Do" - Acts 10:6; Acts 10:48. "Hear words of Peter" -- Acts 10:22. He shall "Speak unto thee" Acts 10:32. "Hear words" of Peter -- Acts 10:22. "Things commanded" -- Acts 10:33. And what was commanded? Read it yourself brother, "Be baptized" Acts 10:48. Sure he was baptized with the Holy Ghost; but as we have previously shown it was for a witness; and not to clean him up.

The Gospel was preached by the Holy Ghost sent down from Heaven -- but by inspired men -- 1 Peter 1:12.

God revealed the Gospel to the apostles -- 1 Cor. 2:9-13; just as he had promised them -- St. Jno. 14:15-17 and 26; St Jno. 16:7-15. In Acts 8:26-40 the angel told Phillip to "Go" Acts 8:26. Verses 27-28 shows the Eunuch on the road. Verse 29 the "Spirit" said to Phillip, "Go near and join thyself to the chariot." You will notice the Spirit was operating, but through Phillip, and not personally on the Eunuch's heart. Verses 30-40 shows Phillip's sermon, -- the Eunuch baptized, and going on his way rejoicing. Hence, we see the Spirit did, and does, reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. -- just as God promised in St. Jno. 16:8; but He did it by inspiring the apostles as he promised. Acts 1:1-5. But many

deluded people go about telling of miracles as wonderful as any did by the apostles and claim scriptural authority for it. They should read 2 Thes 2.

Usually, Mark 16:17-18 is cited to prove that they have a promise that they will be able to work all manner of signs and wonders that we find done by the apostles. A close study of this chapter together with other scriptures will show their error.

You will notice in Mark 16:9-14 shows some of the "Apostles" were not believing. You will notice the 14th verse shows this beyond a doubt. In the 15th and 16th verses he gave that is styled the great commission. In the 17th verse he tells them these signs shall follow "Them that believe" -- No if any of the eleven stayed in their condition of unbelief as was described in verses 9-14; the signs would not follow them: only "Them that believe." The 19th verse shows Jesus' ascension, and seated at God's right hand. -- The 20th verse shows what "They" (the apostles) did, -- and the promise of "Signs" following was fulfilled. "They went forth and preached everywhere." (past tense if you please) "The Lord working with them; confirming The Word with signs following." Mark 16:20, Heb. 2:3, shows The Word was confirmed (past tense) unto use by them that heard him. Heb. 2:3. Get it brother the confirmation was done by them that heard him, and not by us 1900 years after.

Heb. 2:4 shows God bore them "Witness" both with signs and wonders and diverse miracles and gifts of the Holy Ghost. Hence the word was confirmed, God bore "Witness" to it with all these wonders -- so we see that is completed. Paul shows in 2 Cor 12:12 that these "Signs" were "Signs" of an apostle. Are you an apostle? Where is your faith my friend?

Here is my proof on that my dear Sir. "And thou hast tried them that say that they are apostles and are not, and hast found them liars." Rev. 2:2. Hence we see there was a crucial test by which one could tell an apostle from an imposter, (or) liar. Now, what is that test? Let God's Holy Word answer and all will be well. In 2 Cor. 12:12; Paul gives that test. He shows those Corinthian brethren just how they could know of a certainty that he was an apostle. Hear him; "-- truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience." What were they Paul, we want to know? Hear him -- "In signs and wonders and mighty deeds." 2 Cor. 12:12. See also Mark 16:17-18. Paul emphatically places these "Signs" as "Signs" of an apostle in 2 Cor. 12:12; while Jesus talking to the apostles who were at the time somewhat in unbelief: "These signs shall follow them that believe." Mark 16:19-20; shows those apostles did go preach and God verified his promise to them. That is, these signs of an apostle.

Anyone can see that these "Signs" were tests by which people could tell a true apostle from an imposter. Paul calls attention to these mighty "Signs" wrought by him in Rom. 15:19. God did verify his promise to his apostles in Mark 16:17 -18; for in Acts 5:11 we have, "And by the hands <u>of the apostles were wrought many signs and wonders</u>." By who were these signs wrought? Get it brother -- The apostles. See also verses 13-16; same chapter. Again, Acts 19:11; "And God <u>wrought special miracles by the hand of Paul</u>."

So we see every time special signs and wonders were done they

were done by an apostle for they were the signs of an apostle (2 Cor. 12:12) By which an imposter could and were exposed. Rev. 2:2.

Why would anyone kid themselves into believing that they can work the signs of an apostle? Since the office of an apostle is not one that is handed down from generation to generation but ceased to be as far as living men is concerned when the apostles that Jesus appointed died; their signs also would necessarily cease. But here is positive proof that they ceased.

Prophecies shall fail -- 1 Cor. 13:8. "Tongues shall cease." 1 Cor. 13:8 . "Whether there be knowledge it shall vanish away" -- 1 Cor 13:8. "We know in part, and we prophesy in part" -- 1 Cor. 13:9.

This was the revealing age; they only spoke that part revealed. But when were these "Parts", prophecies, tongues, and knowledge to cease? Get it, here is Paul's answer; "But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away" 1 Cor. 13:10.

Again, in comparing the two eras of the Christian age, he says; "-- Now I know in part" -- Yes, they knew only as it was revealed, "But then shall I know even as I am known." Yes, when God's perfect plan, His will, was revealed, people could <u>know</u> even as they were known.. See 1 Cor. 13:12. The perfect will is here; see Rom. 12:2; Jas. 1:25.

"We stand perfect and complete in all the will of God" -- Col. 4:12. We are perfect, thoroughly furnished by it -- 2 Tim. 3:16-17. We have all things that pertain to life and godliness. -- 2 Pet. 1:3. We must not transgress -- but abide in it -- 2 Jno. 9.

You can see at a glance, dear friend, that; "That which is perfect" is come: not the perfect age, no, but the "Perfect" which was under consideration. They only knew in part -- 1 Cor 13:9 and 12; But when that which is "Perfect" is come then shall I know even as I am known. Hence perfect knowledge to take place of that "Part" knowledge was the perfect which was under consideration. And we get this from the Perfect Will of God -- The Gospel of Christ.

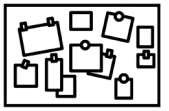
"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity" 1 Cor. 13:13. These "Signs" of an apostle have ceased. 2 Cor. 12:12; Mark 16:17-18. See also 1 Cor. 13:8-13.

Yes, these apostles, in person, are gone; those signs of an apostle have ceased. The apostles speak to us today through the written Word which the Holy Spirit inspired them to write: and those signs, wonders, are operative through that same written Word. Let no one deceive you; anyone who has the Holy Ghost, in the same gift, as the apostles, would be inspired as they were and would not need a Bible as the rest of us mortals do.

When you see some one performing "Lying wonders" turn and read 2 Thes 2:8-9. Then read the 10th to the 12th verses and thank God you have a "Love for the truth" and have escaped this self imposed deception.

May God bless us all in attaining too, and maintaining that unity for which Jesus prayed, is my prayer.

Yours in Christ
J.S. Bedingfield.



Bulletin Board

Those in need of our prayers

John Rawlins	Ottawa, Canada	Needs heart transplant
John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes, heart issues
Wilkister Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Malaria
Agrippina Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Severe back problems
Linda Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Vicki Camp Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Carolyn Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Back pain
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer
Billy Martin	Citrus City, AZ	Fighting cancer
Pauline Holloway	Gleed, WA	Uterine & cervical cancer
Ilene Thrush	Gleed, WA	Several strokes & heart issues
Otto Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, 2 angioplasties
Mariela Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, thyroid issues
Jackie McCay Via	Lorenzo, TX	Recovering from surgery
Jessica Chastain	Stilwell, OK	Health issues
Reba Morris	Stilwell, OK	Lupus, recent loss of husband
Retha Morris	Stilwell, OK	Parkinson's disease
Darletta Spencer	Stilwell, OK	Cancer
Fred Cummings	Yuma, AZ	Congestive heart failure
Dennis Davis	Yuma, AZ	Back & leg issues
Tom Core	Gleed, WA	Recovering from heart surgery
Jason Christianson	Gleed, WA	Healing from surgery
Hailey Christianson	Gleed, WA	Shoulder surgery Aug 10th

Gospel Meetings

Labor Day Meeting	Stilwell, OK	Sept 1-3	Randy Queen
Weekend Meeting	Broken Bow, OK	Postponed	TBA

I G J P F S I L A R M E N I A K G N A J
N R Y T S S A M A R I A S P A I N M F B
D E H R N Y I K E P E R I Z Z I T E S V
I E I G X Q R Z V O P O N T U S K D F S
A C V I S G A I B A B Y L O N J I I A H
B E I R E U Q P A C A R A B I A R A M E
A N T G G L D U I S R A E L B L A N O B
S J E A Y Q E A E T H I O P I A N A R A
H C S S P M M B N Z C A P P A D O C I A
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H S M O P Z B Y S Y T R D A A I B Z E D
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M E S O P O T A M I A B S I T A L Y Y A
R C Y P R U S T K V A H I T T I T E S G

Word Search

(This is a good one!)

For extra credit, see how many countries you can find the book, chapter and verse for

45 Countries mentioned in the Bible

Arabia
Armenia
Asia
Assyria
Amorites
Avim
Babylon
Bashan
Canaan
Cappadocia
Crete
Cyprus
Corinthia
Dalmatia
Edom
Egypt
Ethiopia
Gog
Girgashites
Greece
Hivites
Hittites
Iran
India
Israel
Italy
Jordan
Judah
Jebusites
Kush
Lebanon
Libya
Lydia
Macedonia
Median
Mesopotamia
Persia
Pontus
Perizzites
Rome
Samaria
Sheba
Spain
Syria
Sudan