

# finding **TRUTH** & *Hope*

ISSUE 32

## Will Your Children Survive This Blizzard?

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

*"...If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him ." I John 2:15.*

Blizzards often completely paralyze the activities of city and country areas, and cause death to those caught without warm shelter or food. Many people in the United States have died in blizzards. In 1940, when I was a little girl living in Oklahoma, 144 people froze to death when a cold arctic front swept across the Midwest. In 1958, there were 171 deaths in the northeast; also in the same area 100 died in 1996. New York lost 400 people to a blizzard in 1988. In 1993, 200 died in the eastern part of our country. These are records of some of the worst blizzards in the United States, but Europe records losing 1000 lives as the result of only one blizzard. A blizzard occurs when masses of cold, polar air move out of the arctic regions and into the Temperate Zone. When these air masses meet moist, warm air masses coming from the tropics, a cold front forms, separating the two kinds of air masses. Heavy snow falls along the cold front. High winds blow around the low-pressure area where the two air masses meet.

It seems to me that a spiritual blizzard is blowing across the Church. The chilling spirits of satan have moved into the temperate regions of Christendom and are paralyzing many. Revelation 20:7-9 tells us "...Satan shall be loosed out of his prison. And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth,...and compassed the camp of the saints..." Chapter 9 also tells us that the bottomless pit would be opened and spirits would come out that were commanded to hurt all men which had not the seal of God in their foreheads. These prophecies of the end time are surely being fulfilled. **Millions of seductive spirits are swarming across the land chilling down those who were once on fire for God.** God said, "So then because thou art lukewarm,...I will spew thee out of my mouth." Revelation 3:16. I wonder how many will be spewed out and eventually die in this awful spiritual blizzard? Then what will happen to the

children of those who have cooled off or died? Many people have lost their lives in blizzards because they did not suspect its force or from where it was coming. The World Book Encyclopedia states that weather forecasters can usually tell when a blizzard is coming. But occasionally blizzards change direction and strike cities unaware because only the most skilled forecasters can see all the changes that may occur in a blizzard's path. This spiritual blizzard is the same. There is a subtle, intangible, spiritually evil force behind those things that cause the cooling off.

The impact of that spiritual force is far greater than we suspect. And satan is shrewd. He changes his tactics often so that only those who are the most skillful in spiritual warfare can detect the attack. From the history of the Church we know satan has deceived even those who were skilled in spiritual warfare. Lord, help us to be watchful and seek God to know when and how satan is working.

The subtle power of this blizzard is similar to a magnet or suction. Like quick sand, it will take us under while we're struggling against it. Have you not seen someone struggle and struggle to get loose from material things, but eventually a power stronger than they pulled them under? **Satan will storm us with different things—pleasure, doubts, unforgiveness, the cares of life, etc.** The cares of this life seem to be the most dangerous. Material things are necessary; our very existence demands their attention. But Jesus told us, "...seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33. He feeds the birds of the air, and are we not worth much more than they? **Yet to judge by our anxieties it seems that God cares for the birds but not us.** Jesus also warns in Luke 17:26-30 that as it was in the days of Noah and in the days of Lot so shall it be in the days when the Son of man is revealed. What was happening then? They were

eating, drinking, marrying, buying, selling and building. What are we doing today? One would think that since food and shelter are more easily obtained than in years passed, that we would be more carefree about them. But we are not. Our conversation shows that the devil's snowflakes of materialism are flurrying through our minds. What is our conversation about? What shall we eat? What shall we wear? Where we are living and what we are driving, "...out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Matthew 12:34.

Listen the next time you are in a group. What are the conversations about? The mouth speaks what is in the heart. So what then is on the heart? Jesus said, "For after all these things do the Gentiles seek." By our conversations and where we spend our time and energies will our children judge us to be spiritual Jews or Gentiles?

The force of satan's blizzard is blasting every heart. He forces himself into our hearts through the lusts of the flesh that are not sinful. Food and shelter are not sinful, but satan through his demonic power is using these things to lure us into loving the world more than we love God. I John 2:15-16, says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

Oh, that parents who love only legitimate things of the world could only see the damage it does to their children. Those things that are luxuries to us will be necessities for our sons and daughters. A blizzard of sinless desires will blind them. Will they be able to survive the awful storm and come out loving God with all their hearts?

During storms of physical persecution, the saints have gone through all sorts of pressures, yet stayed true to God. But the pressures of materialism are so different that it is hard to distinguish when "things" are a blessing from God and when they are a curse. Planting and building, buying and selling are perfectly legitimate and even beneficial, but the power behind them presses upon men today until they lose their direction and become unbalanced. Notice how Christians are feverishly making business deals? They are hurrying here and there doing business and talking on the phone in every place, and all hours of the day and night. Their affections are buried by materialism and their spirits are so lean they fall under the lightest

pressures.

Men talk about being caught in the rat race, and for what is the race? Is it not to accumulate the world's goods? Isn't it to enjoy as much of the world as possible? If we want to enjoy the world, it's because we love the world. For who wants to enjoy what he does not love? In the days when it was really hard to make ends meet, a man would work at one vocation and spend his evening at home with his family. Today, fathers are working two jobs, or both mother and father are working, leaving little time for teaching children the Word. Some entrepreneurs have their fingers in several business speculations. They are caught up in a marketing maelstrom that is whirling them madly around like a rat on a treadmill. Are we not able to see that this is not God's plan for His people? God says, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Colossians 3:2-3. Are our children convinced that we are dead to the things of the world? At which do they see our eyes sparkle? When we hear God's Word or when we have obtained something at a terrific bargain or earned extra money? A storm has formed under the direction of satan and has moved out over the world. Let us say, "No" to collecting more "things" and take shelter under God's Word. That is the only way to protect our families and ourselves. It is the only way to avoid being paralyzed by satan's blizzard.

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## ***Finding Truth & Hope***

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( also featuring God's 5 Minutes )

Many past issues of *FT&H*,

Traveling with God (free e-book)

Growing Children in the Light of Eternity (free e-book)

## We have much to take often to God in prayer.

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all (Psalm 34:19).*

We are praying for many that are in a physical furnace of affliction.

*And if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together (Rom. 8:17).*

**May God open our eyes to see, understand, and be aware of the spiritual warfare in which we are engaged!** We have an opponent! Lord help me not be ignorant of his devices and efforts against the Kingdom of God.

Marriage, our sexuality, and family are beautiful creations designed by God Almighty. Powers and principalities of dark spiritual wickedness are warring to cast all of this aside in the minds and lives of people. **The minds of our children are the prize the enemy really seeks to capture.** Let us avail the weapon of prayer.

*I fell down to worship . . . Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God (Rev. 22:8-9).* If our loved ones have lived faithful lives here, they may be even as the angels in Heaven serving God. There are a great host who have gone before us. Let us hear their voices of example, urging us saying, “You can make it.” We can go through to glory by the Bible, earnestly following after God. We can do His work and keep His commandments!

The great gospel story is that we may avail ourselves of His great saving plan of salvation. We may have His cleansing blood applied to our hearts, and all our sins be forgiven. We can be filled with His Spirit and become heirs of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. It's a wonderful plan! God's Son paid dearly so we wouldn't have to spend all our life in bondage to Satan, sin, and it's consequences. The invitation today is not to spurn His provision. Let's catch the vision! Be cleansed from sin and go tell the world so they, too, can be forgiven; so they, too, can be saved! N. D.

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## ***WISDOM CRIES***

Edited excerpts of message by Bro. Marty Clevenger 5-31-22 Guthrie, OK

Wisdom has cried to our heart! Don't take God out of things! King David was the Psalmist! Think you can't fall today? It seems David had a little bit of indifference. A mediocre experience doesn't compare to the lures of the world. Wisdom cries, “Don't go into that area! Don't pass by that street!” All the ingredients weren't right. “He baked a cake.” Think you can change the ingredients after the heat's been put to it??

Wisdom still stands in the streets. Oh God help us! We completely miss the whole point of the point! People are becoming more vicious. People are becoming hard. In the word it says they would be *unthankful, proud, unholy, lovers of their own selves, and fierce (II Tim. 3:2-3)*. They would become like animals! **What we put into our lives matters.**

Do you know that God is faithful? The problem in the program isn't God. The problem is how do you come before a Holy God when you're unfaithful?

I find people have a disconnect from their religious lives and the rest of their lives. **We need to have God all the time in our lives.** I want it to be a great reality! There is a process that happens. You don't separate out moments. Someone put a cup of salt into making cool-aid. The measuring was right. It looked the same. What we put into our lives matters. All of a sudden you have a whole different  
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outcome of your life.

The “winning side” really comes down to a fabulous idea – love God.

## Great Bible Passages for Frequent Reading

The Ten Commandments	Ex. 20:3-17	God is our Refuge and Strength	Ps. 46	Christ Teaches Forgiveness	Matt. 18:21-35
The Lord's Prayer	Matt. 6:9-13	The Choice of Treasure	Matt. 6:19-34	Two Types of Prayer	Luke 18:9-14
The Shepherd Psalm	Ps. 23	When God seems Far Away	Ps. 139	The Love of Christ	Eph. 3:14-21
The Birth of Jesus	Luke ch. 2	Withstanding Temptation	Ps. 1	A Promise for Faithfulness	Prov. 3:1-6
The Crucifixion	John ch. 19	The Promise of the Gospel	Is. ch. 40	Jesus' Mission	Luke 19:10
The Resurrection	Matt. ch. 28	A Prayer of Forgiveness	Ps. 51	Promise of Eternal Life	John 3:16
Resurrection Through Jesus	I Cor. ch. 15	The Fruits of Faith	Heb. ch. 11	Blessedness of Alms	Acts 20:35
The Beatitudes	Matt. 5:3-11	The Value of Scriptures	II Tim. ch. 3	The Way of Salvation	Rom. 10:9
The Sermon on the Mount	Matt. ch. 5-7	Living Successfully w Others	Rom. ch. 12	The Crown of Life	Rev. 2:10
The Great Commandment	Matt. 22:34-40	Happy State of the Godly	Ps. 91	What We Shall Reap	Gal 6:7
Jesus' New Commandment	John 13:34	Banishing Fear of Death	John 11:1-45	Opening the Door to Jesus	Rev 3:20
The Golden Rule	Matt. 7:12	Spiritual Peace	John ch. 14	From Death Unto Life	John 5:24
The Last Judgment	Matt. 25:31-46	Hope in Time of Trouble	Ps. 42, 43	The Wages of Sin	Rom. 6:23
The Great Commission	Matt. 28:19-20	Christian Duties	Col. 3:1-17	Setting a Good Example	Matt. 5:16
The Good Samaritan	Luke 10:30-37	Assurance of God's Mercy	Ps. 40:1-5	The Return for Good Deeds	Luke 6:38
The Prodigal Son	Luke 15:11-32	The Christian Hope	Rom. 8:31-39	Searching the Scriptures	John 5:39
House Built upon a Rock	Matt 7:24-27	Confidence in God	Ps. 37	God's Requirements	Mic. 6:8
The Abiding Chapter	John ch. 15	The Christian's Armor	Eph. 6:11-17	Treatment of Others	Eph. 4:32
The Praises of Charity	I Cor. ch. 13	The Safety of the Godly	Ps. 121	The Gospel of Christ	Rom. 1:16
Wise and Foolish Virgins	Matt. 25:1-13	God's Eternal Mercy	Ps. 103	The Duties of Children	Eph. 6:1, 2

## The Heart of the Matter is the Heart

The heart of the matter is the heart. Until we, as a nation, are willing to admit that, nothing will change. In a country that's seen far too many evils, it's time to acknowledge that we are a broken people in need of the God we keep pushing away. What's really wrong, someone wrote, is something deep down we all know. "The family blew up -- divorce, unwed childbearing, fatherless sons. Fatherless daughters, too. Poor children with no one to love them. The internet flourished. Porn proliferated. Drugs, legal and illegal. Violent videogames, in which nameless people are eliminated and splattered all over the screen... The abortion regime settled in, with its fierce, endless, yet somehow, casual talk about the right to end a life... So much change, so much of it un-gentle. Throughout, was anyone looking to children and what they need?"

Too many hearts are hardened. Most people have refused to go beyond what they see to what we know: that this is a spiritual problem. And only God's truth -- the same truth society has ridiculed, mocked, and rejected is capable of fighting the evil plaguing of our nation.

Violence didn't get its start when God was expelled from school. But it's certainly been given a culture in which to thrive, now that we've banned any discussion of the One who came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Instead, the one who seeks to steal, kill, and destroy has been given unhindered access. Our schools have been forced into marginalizing the source of life. Religion is out, and defining your own reality is in. How can we be shocked when these products of our godless culture shatter society's false sense of security -- built on a foundation of lies? In a world that's walked away from God's design on life, marriage, family, and our very identity, no one should be surprised at what unfolds. It's time to look beyond what's in the hands of these killers to what we've allowed to be put into their hearts and minds. While these forces tug at the fraying fabric of America, our prayers are more important than ever.

Toney Perkins

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## Meekness

Excerpts of Speech by Elisabeth Elliot. Submitted by Diane Doolittle.

Meekness is not weakness, sluggishness or being too lazy to bother to get into an argument. It isn't being too fearful to speak or too indifferent. It's not fragility. It's not cowardice, but strength and power held in check. It is a wise, self-controlled, calm mind displaying gentleness, that is not easily provoked. To be meek is to make yourself small, not to react negatively in the difficult places of life.

Do you need guidance? Be meek. Ps 25:9 The meek will he guide in judgment... Are you weary and overwhelmed? Be meek. Matt 11:28-29 Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Much of our unrest in life comes from conflict. Conflict comes when we want to excuse ourselves, protect ourselves, to think of "my time, my space and my rights." This is completely foreign to Jesus. There is no irritation, whatsoever, in a completely meek spirit. The truest desire, the purpose of Jesus was to love and do his father's will.

To be meek like Jesus, to get the soul rest, is a three step process: 1) Come 2) Take His yoke. To bend the neck to be yoked together with Jesus. The yoke is representative of the will of God. 3) Learn of me. We must be teachable, receptive. The results: you will find soul rest.

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The second part of Ps 25:9 says, “the meek will he teach his way.” To be taught His way, I must be ready to be shown, shown my shortcomings. Am I ready to be shown, to have His finger point at the sensitive places in my heart? Meekness is learned by practicing it in our lives. It is developed through the little irritations, inconveniences, the ordinary things that cut across my will. How do I respond? There is no tit-for-tat. Does my spirit respond in a meek, quiet, gentle, humble, loving way?

Meekness springs from love. All my relationships should spring from my relationship with God. Jesus set the example before us. Think of some of what He has put up with. He broke bread with Judas the night of His betrayal. He took upon Him the lowest role of a servant and washed His disciples' feet. He let Judas betray Him with a kiss. After Peter denied Him, He looked on with love, not bitter, angry rejection.

How can I attain this? I must learn to live spiritually with Jesus. I must allow His love to pierce the hardened areas of my heart. When things invade my territory, space, time or when some act of aggression is made towards me, lift it up to Jesus and ask how it looks to Him? The insults, the hurts? “Learn of me.” “He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth” (Isa 53:7). “Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously” (1 Peter 2:23).

The world insists we stand up for ourselves. Meekness is entirely detached from self-assertiveness. It's a new response to things that would naturally make you lash out. This quality of meekness is linked to Jesus. “I will give you rest.” The rest comes from becoming like Him. The meekness of Jesus is an explicitly spiritual quality.

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Pacoima, CA Campmeeting    August 17-21  
 Myrtle, MO Campmeeting    Sept. 2-5  
 Wichita, KS Revival    Sept. 14-18  
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## Where Are You Planted?

Edited Excerpts of Message by Bro. Rod Smith Loranger, LA 5-29-22

Whom are you serving? Where have you planted yourself? It's a personal choice. I have everything to say about it. We have to be personally connected to Jesus Christ that we too might be able to stand in the judgment in the congregation of the righteous. The good news is that God wants

you to be able to hear those words “well done”; to be able to experience the blessings of Heaven. We don't just end up there by accident! Instead of having the life sucked out of us by the influence of the enemy, we too can have victory. It can be said of us – there was fruit borne that was right for the time; his leaf wasn't withered. When the time comes in God's will, that fruit would be there just as it was intended. The Lord is in the business of doing everything He can that we may bear fruit appropriate to the talent that he has given us (John ch.15). “Every branch . . . He purges it.” It's not always pleasant. It's painful. The Lord covers us in His protection as His sheep.

This is our season. Today is our time. Time is precious. Life is a gift. God is calling for us to say, “Here am I Lord; send me.”

We are presented with decisions every day. Oftentimes we stop. We begin to accept those places. The world offers lots of unsolicited counsel. Be careful of the counsel that comes from the ungodly! We can be drawn into those areas. **Let's make decisions to plant ourselves where we can be fed by the River of Life.** Be deliberate about coming where the Word of the Lord is. Put yourself in places where the Lord would be pleased with you being. The Gospel is not intended to be complicated. What we feed on, on a regular basis. Where I go. What I do. How I present myself. What I meditate on. **If the Devil can't make you bad, he'll make you busy.** We get in ruts. We get comfortable where we are planted. I pray God that we would have a sense of urgency in our spirit. There's a progression that goes from ungodliness to sinning, to scorning – and one day God knocks and it's your time!

You know there are so many benefits to serving our creator. Don't move off the trail. You are doing God's work. You have sacrificed your life to help other people. You are giving your children what will take them through life. Don't be moved. We're going to be so glad when we hear the Lord say, “Well done beloved; you have finished your course, now I have prepared a place for you for eternity.” Eternity awaits!

# PRAYER

Excerpts of Message by Bro. Rod Smith

Loranger, LA 5-22-22 pm

What does prayer mean to you?

- 1) Talking To God
- 2) Personal Communication
- 3) Communion
- 4) Expression of Love
- 5) Plea
- 6) Supplication
- 7) Thanksgiving
- 8) Listening
- 9) Conversation
- 10) Intercession
- 11) Our very breath
- 12) Come in prayers, tears or silence
- 13) State of Mind

Kind of prayer that's effective:

- 1) In Jesus Name
- 2) Singleness of heart  
and mind
- 3) Unselfish
- 4) Humbly
- 5) Boldly
- 6) Expectation
- 7) Urgency
- 8) Tears of Joy
- 9) Often

We may have a load that He asks us to carry for the good of someone else. We have access to the throne of God because of Jesus Christ. Recognize our great need, who we are, and who He is. Some times repentance is in order. Lord, help me recognize my need before you. **Hallowed be thy name. Lord, you are God and I am dust! Lord, I pray that your will be done in my life.** What will prompt God to come visit us in our services? We have a part to play. Let's be genuine people of prayer. **Without prayer we won't have power in our lives. Learn to pray in a way the Lord's pleased with and willing to answer.**

# LOVE

MORAL LAW Pages 105-108 By Clifford W. Wilson

[www.churchofgodevenlight.com/content/uploads/Moral-Law-pdf](http://www.churchofgodevenlight.com/content/uploads/Moral-Law-pdf)

Love is an influence that flows from one to another. Usually it is conceived in one and then directed toward an object of its choice. It works in such a way until the object becomes aware of the extended affection. Should the intended object refuse or ignore the approach, there is no alternative but for the extender to experience disappointment. On the other hand, should the object respond and display an interest, the extender will be encouraged to further demonstrate its feeling of affection. Continued favorable response will allow the relationship to increase to full maturity. True love can only conceive and flourish with the willing consent and conscious effort of two participating parties. Each must be willing to give of its own love and at the same time receive of an offered love. Only in this type of conducive atmosphere can a love affair be born and successfully continue to prosper in a relationship.

Individuals who find themselves being attracted toward each other experience a feeling that they ought to present themselves at their best to each other. There is something about the realization of affection bestowed that calls for an upgrading response in the recipient. When we recognize ourselves being loved and we feel inclined to respond to that proffered affection, we will automatically find ourselves seeking ways to make ourselves more attractive to our lover. We will make conscious effort to present ourselves, as much as we know how, in accordance with what we feel noble individuals ought to be. **True love brings out the best in people.** It is this inward prompting toward self-improvement that the Savior appeals to when we begin to respond to the love He offers us. He invites us to the level of His own virtue. Thus the Savior bids His loved ones to "follow in His steps who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth." (1 Peter 2:21-22.) He also invites, "Be ye holy for I am holy." (Leviticus 19: 1-2.) When individuals have been touched by the Savior's love and realize that He really cares for them, they spontaneously find a desire welling up within themselves to rise to this level of purity. They begin to cast off bad habits, foul language, improper attitudes, etc. This is a direct response to the purity of life and love that the Savior presents to those who are affected by His love. **When men in a natural, sinful state come in contact with a pure, holy, loving Savior they soon realize that this kind of life and quality of living is what the Father desires of all men.** They also become acutely aware that they themselves are far below such excellence. This recognition of inferior performance also prompts those who desire pure living to strive the harder to achieve pure living. All, somewhere along the journey of life, experience these realizations. John 1:9 says, "That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." No man will be able to face the Lord in the judgment and honestly declare, "I am not saved because no opportunity was given me." **All men are brought to an understanding, at some time in life, that they are something less than they ought to be and are offered opportunity to do better.** Their own indwelling concepts of right and wrong are already urging them to perform the right and avoid the wrong. Then, this new concept of the purity of holy beings adds to their yearning toward more virtuous living. Now this recognition of divine love, extended so intensely to them personally, convinces beyond the shadow of a doubt that they are being invited to a more noble plane of living. The only thing that stands between an individual and virtuous living, when he has reached this position, is the freewill consent of his own mind and heart. Only he can provide that, and when he does, his moral improvement will begin immediately. But man would be presumptuous indeed to feel that he is able to take this discerned framework and by force of his own abilities effect the salvation of his own soul. Man cannot love selflessly until he is regenerated into his Maker's image. God is love. Pure love cannot be obtained from any other source. Human love will bear the characteristics of its own source, and so human love is selfish, self-satisfying, self-gratifying and cannot possibly propel the soul to God, the Author of pure love. In our observation of the laws which govern the subjects of Christ's Kingdom, we must keep these ingredients before us at all times, namely: truth, faith, grace and love; all of which are divine elements directly given to man by the Son of God.



## Access to Eternal Life

Moral Law Pages 62-63 By Clifford W. Wilson

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*And he placed . . . Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life (Gen. 3:24).*

Now, here is a truth of great significance that begins to take shape in our understanding. It is God who prescribed and established the porters who are responsible for keeping the way of the tree of life. Jesus and the plan of salvation He brought met the porters' approval and so He was accepted past the porters to the throne of mercy. The plan He presented provided for His subjects' deliverance from sin and access to holiness, thus correcting the very thing that had removed man from God in the beginning. No other candidate known to man has been able to achieve all of this. Religious systems come and go; and they spring from all kinds of sources, but the important thing is that unless the system and its propagator are able to win the approval of the keepers of the way of life, they have no life to offer their followers. Jesus described those who indulge in such things as they who climb up some other way, and He pronounced them thieves and robbers. Christ's ability to satisfy the porters with His sinless, holy life provided Him access to the Father, who is the Source of all life. By this, He is able to offer eternal life to all of His true followers. His true followers are those who have been cleansed from sin in Christ's own blood and who keep themselves free from sin by the power of His Spirit. This cleansing, keeping process renders them acceptable candidates to pass the gatekeepers into God's divine presence also. Any movement or system of religion, regardless of how cunningly it is devised or how popular it may be among the masses of the people, if it makes no provision for cleansing from sin and keeping from sin, will not pass the gatekeeping porters. Then, of course, it can offer no access to God and eternal life. It can provide nothing but false hope and final disappointment. Christ's Kingdom was to be established in righteousness; therefore, we may justly expect that all of His subjects will be made righteous or else they would defile His Kingdom. Righteousness is required in order to pass the porters. Any establishment offering its subjects anything less than true moral righteousness has not passed the gatekeeping porters and so cannot possibly provide for anyone access to eternal life.

## Christ Came to Destroy Sin in the Flesh

Moral Law

Page 89 By Clifford W. Wilson [www.churchofgodevenlight.com/content/uploads/Moral-Law-pdf](http://www.churchofgodevenlight.com/content/uploads/Moral-Law-pdf)

The greatest political dynasties this world has ever known, when we study their internal moral standards, reveal themselves saturated with the characteristics of the carnal flesh and its defiling influence. In the same manner, when we study the internal workings of the world's greatest religions, we find them fraught with the same carnal influences and offering no escape from such influence, even though they present themselves as being under the direction of higher intelligence of some kind. Any system that offers no release from and cure for moral defilement here in this life is not a system ordained by and sent from the true and living God. Christ came to this world to destroy sin in the flesh. (Ephesians 2: 13-22.) Sin in the flesh is the element that destroyed moral virtue in the beginning; therefore, if sin be removed from the flesh, moral improvement will automatically occur. When such is not the case, it is a sure sign that the problem of sin has not been conquered. The cause may be that the religious system being followed makes no provision for sin's defeat, or it may be that the candidate who is following is not willing to abide by all the system teaches. Whatever the case may be, the end result remains the same. Tolerated sin produces morally defiled hearts and lives.

# Fruits of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit and Other Spirits by D. O. Teasley Pages 116-

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While we cannot bear fruit without the help of the Spirit, every child of God must bear fruit in a justified state. In a justified state, of course, we have not the fullness of the Spirit, and yet we are led by the Spirit, and by Him enabled to bring forth fruit unto God. The fruits of the Spirit are named in the fifth chapter of Galatians as follows: Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. Here we have a magnificent cluster of precious fruits. Every justified person must bear all these fruits, and yet justification is not the more fruitful.

**LOVE**—When we are forgiven “we love God because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19. We love our brethren also; for “we know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.” 1 John 3:14. “He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.” John 4:8.

**JOY**—Joy is a very strengthening fruit. “For the joy of the Lord is your strength.” Neh. 8:10. As well as having joy in times of prosperity we often find, as a poet has said, “A joy in sorrow.” Like the apostle, we should rejoice with joy unspeakable when we are permitted to suffer for Jesus’ sake. Of course, without the Spirit, we would be unable to rejoice in trials; but with His gracious presence we are enabled to count all things joy for Jesus’ sake. James says, “My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations” James 1:2. However, the blessing and the joy are not merely to the man that has temptation, but to “the man that endureth.” “Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Heb. 12:11. After the chastening, we are allowed to eat the fruit, and in this the joy is found. As David says, “Weeping may endure for a night: but joy cometh in the morning.” So we should hope on till the morning dawns with its light of joy, and not faint. Bear the divers temptations, and count them joy. Suffer the chastisement, and eat the fruit of righteousness. Weep through the night, and see the morning of joy. As the brightest morning may follow the darkest night, so the sweetest joy may follow the hardest trial.

**PEACE**—“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Rom. 5:1. Peace is a fruit unknown to the children of this world. “There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.” Isa. 57:21. When Jesus was about to depart from this world and be with the Father, He spoke to His disciples of this fruit of the Spirit and said, “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

**LONG-SUFFERING**—How spontaneously does this precious fruit grow out of a life sweetened and controlled by the Holy Spirit. Long-suffering in trials, long-suffering in sickness—long-suffering in all things. When we see the long-suffering of God, how he waited in the days of Noah, and how He suffers long with this present sinful generation, it should exhort us to treat one another “with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love.” Eph. 4:2. “Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering, with joyfulness.” Col. 1:11. It means quite another thing to have “longsuffering with joyfulness”; to suffer long and with joy in the deepest and sorest trial. But even in this, the deep-rooted tree of life will spring forth abundantly.

**GENTLENESS**—“Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great.” 2 Sam. 22:36. What a priceless jewel is gentleness! and what is more pleasant than to be gentle to all we meet? Yea, the Holy Spirit will enable us to be gentle to all men, even to those who spitefully use us and persecute us.

**GOODNESS**—As we have before said, all our goodness must come from God, for without Him all our goodness is as filthy rags. But God is good, and Paul says that He is above all and through us all and in us all; consequently we (God’s people) are all good. Paul in writing to the Romans said, “And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness.” Rom. 15:14. Let us then be filled with goodness, that “others seeing our good work” which God works in us “may glorify our Father which is in heaven.”

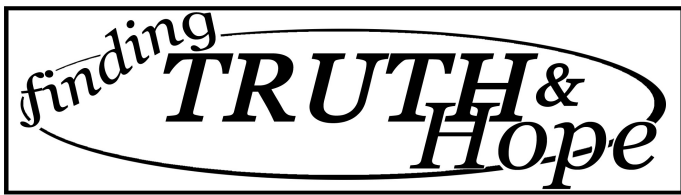
**FAITH**—Faith is the Christian’s motor power, and is abundantly produced by the Holy Spirit. In one sense, we must have faith to receive the Holy Spirit, and even to receive justification; but faith is much expanded by the Holy Spirit. Faith, like all other fruits of the Spirit, is a practical fruit; for “the just shall live by faith.” If all that might be said of faith were written, volumes would not contain it.

**MEEKNESS**—“Meekness signifies a temper of mind that is not easily provoked and suffers injuries without desire of revenge, and quietly submits to the will of God.” The servant of God must “show all meekness unto all men,” and “in meekness instruct them that oppose themselves.”

**TEMPERANCE**—Temperance as here used does not only mean to abstain from intoxicants, but means to be temperate in all things; to let temperance pervade our entire life. The very nature of the Holy Spirit is temperate, and this blessed fruit is brought forth by those who are led by Him. Paul was not only a temperate man, but he also taught it to, and required it of, those over whom the Holy Spirit had made him overseer. “And,” says he, “every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.” 1 Cor. 9:25. Paul here refers to those who strove for masteries in the Olympic games of the Greeks. “Temperate in all things.” These men spent the best efforts of their lives training for the contests in which they were to engage; such as boxing, wrestling, racing, etc. They were also very temperate in their eating; eating only such foods as would give them the needed strength. “A corruptible crown.” When they had put forth such extraordinary efforts, and deprived themselves of so many things, if they were able to gain the victory over their opponents, all the reward they received was a crown of leaves, made from the wild olive, which began to wither as soon as they were plucked. But the crown we strive for is an incorruptible one. Paul’s argument is this: If they would suffer want and deny themselves of almost every pleasure to gain a fading crown of wild olive-leaves, how much more should we live a temperate life to gain “a crown of glory that fadeth not away.”

**THE MORE FRUITFUL STATE.**—After we have been grafted into the true vine—Jesus Christ—and have borne fruit, we have this promise from the Lord: “Every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.” John 15:2. After this cleansing we are not to bring forth a new kind of fruit, but “more fruit.” When we are first grafted in, we bear the fruit of love; after we are purged we bear the fruit of perfect love. 1 John 4:18. In the former state we have joy, but in the “purged” state we have fullness of joy (1 John 1:4); and so on through the whole catalog of the fruits of the Spirit. So then in the more fruitful, purged, or sanctified state, we not only “bring forth more fruit,” but our love is perfected, our joy is made full, etc.

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God's Son paid dearly so we wouldn't have to spend all our life in bondage to Satan, sin, and it's consequences.

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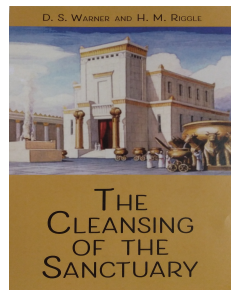
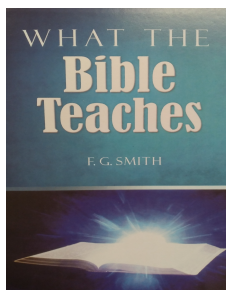
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