



THE TRUMPET

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Voice of the LORD
Ministries

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GOD shed HIS blessings on us all
by letting us live Free.

Other countries live in fear
no freedoms do they see.

Despite the problems that we
must deal with every day

We'll stand our ground together
and as one Nation pray;

Be with us LORD in all we do
protect us all from harm

Lest we forget our enemies
and fail to sound alarm.

Evil times surround us as
our freedoms are encroached.

Silent enemies from within withdraw as
they're approached.

Seek them out for all to see lest our freedoms
here be broached.

America was founded on GODLY precepts
in YOUR book.

Many of us realize but some don't even look.

Eroding rights we fought to gain are
threatened once again.

Regenerate our hearts Dear LORD
this battle we must win.

It's not too late to change our ways
and dig in for this fight.

Conform us LORD renew our love
help us to do what's right.

AMERICA the land I love it's truly our delight.

THE WAY THE TRUTH THE LIFE

Every religion has its own set of beliefs and within them all, they all require certain things to be done in order to reach the intended goal or purpose. However Christianity isn't based on Doing to receive eternal life but by believing. So what is it we must believe?

While many things could be said for time and space, let's see in this one scripture, What it is that makes Jesus The Way, What makes Jesus The Truth, and How is Jesus the Life?

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.

What is it that makes Jesus The Way?

1. Jesus is the Way by what He did at the Cross,
John 3:16/ Rom.5:19

What is it that makes Jesus The Truth?

2. Jesus is the Truth by fulfilling what the Scriptures said concerning Him. John 1:45/ Luke 24:44-46/
Rom.3:21-22

What is it that makes Jesus The Life and How is He that Life?

3. Jesus is the Life, by allowing us to be placed into Him, Rom.6:3-5, whereby we receive all that He is.
John 1:4/2 Pet.1:3/ Rom.8:2

So to exclude Christ from what He has done makes the Cross of Christ of none effect in our lives, Gal.5:4, therefore we aren't walking on the Narrow Way that leads to Eternal Life but the Broad Way that leads to Destruction.

We can know Jesus as the Way and we can know Jesus as the Truth but if we aren't partakers of His Life, then what good is it?

Only as we abide in Him, Jn. 15, can we know Him as the Way, the Truth and the Life and can we Know we are on the Narrow Way!

Pastor Don Ragsdale

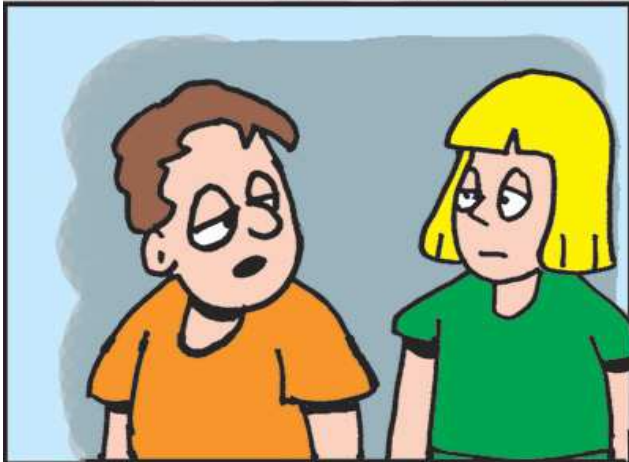
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CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Money is so tight at our church right now that our pastor isn't taking his pay. He's actually being good for nothing!"



Cousin Leroy

Ole Leroy spent Saturday visiting his ninety-five year old Granny at the nursing home. "How are you feeling Granny?" Leroy asked. "Oh," said Granny, "I'm just worried sick!" "What are you worried about, dear?" Leroy asked. "You look like you're in good health. They are taking care of you, aint they?" "Yes, they are taking very good care of me." "Are you in any pain?" he asked. "No, I have never felt better in my life." "Well, what are you worried about?" Granny leaned back in her rocking chair and slowly explained her major worry. "Every close friend I ever had has already died and gone on to heaven. Well, I'm afraid they're all wondering where I went."

Bubba's New Winders

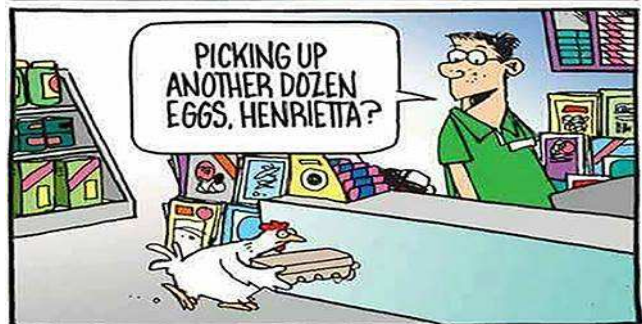
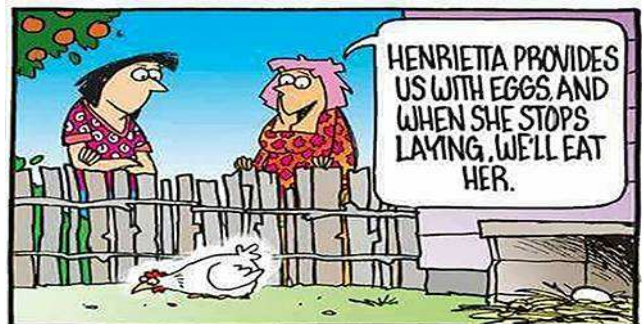
A window salesman called up Bubba. "Hello, Mr. Bubba," said the sales rep. "I'm calling because our company replaced all the windows in your house with our triple-glazed weather-tight windows over a year ago, and you still haven't sent us a single payment." Bubba replied, "But you said they'd pay for THEMSELVES in 12 months."

Shipwreck Rescue?

The shipwrecked sailor had spent several years on a deserted island. Then one morning he was thrilled to see a ship offshore and a smaller vessel pulling out toward him. When the boat grounded on the beach, the officer in charge handed the marooned sailor a bundle of newspapers and told him, "With the captain's compliments. He said to read through these and let us know if you still want to be rescued."

Good News, Bad News for Pastors

- Good News: You baptized seven people today in the river.
Bad News: You lost two of them in the swift current.
Good News: The Women's Guild voted to send you a get-well card.
Bad News: The vote passed by 31-30.
Good News: Mrs. Jones is wild about your sermons.
Bad News: Mrs. Jones is also wild about the "Gong Show," and "America's Funniest Videos"
Good News: The trustees finally voted to add more church parking.
Bad News: They are going to blacktop the front lawn of your parsonage.
Good News: Church attendance rose dramatically the last three weeks.
Bad News: You were on vacation.
Good News: Your biggest critic just left your church.
Bad News: He has been appointed the Head Bishop of your denomination.
Good News: The youth in your church come to your house for a surprise visit.
Bad News: It's in the middle of the night and they are armed with toilet paper and shaving cream to "decorate" your house



... and that is WHY the chicken crossed the road.



VOTL
Voice of the LORD

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Billy R. Douglas

“Divine Health...Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster”

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Corinthians 12:9

Over the years I have heard many boast of the reality of Divine health but much like the legends of such myths like Bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster and aliens none of them have ever actually experienced or seen it. What is divine health? The term means to live life without ever...EVER experiencing sickness of any kind. My response to that is this. Divine healing YES...divine health?? Another story altogether. We certainly believe that the LORD still heals, He is the great physician! But we also know that as long as we are in these earthly bodies we are going to have aches, pains and yes even times of sickness thanks to the fall in the garden. BUT the story does not end there PRAISE THE LORD! One of these days those who keep their faith in Christ will go to a land where we will have the ULTIMATE divine health! When we put off this frail, mortal man and put on the immortal we will step from this life of woe and into the presence of a living God! Then there will be no more sick bodies...no more pain...no more death...NO MORE TEARS!! I don't know about you but that sure sounds like Heaven to me!! And that aint even the best part...the best part is JESUS will be there and like Thomas we will see His scars and touch His hands, His feet and His side and without a doubt we too will stand there and with joy unspeakable proclaim MY LORD AND MY GOD!!!! A local Pastor was visiting an elderly woman who had lived through much adversity. But amazingly, she had also outlived the doctor who had described her condition as terminal many years earlier! The lady had a contagious confidence in the Lord. The preacher began speaking with the dear lady about death. She responded quickly that although she was not afraid of death, she preferred to concentrate on the Bible's promises of Christ's return and of Heaven. "I'm not looking for the undertaker," she exclaimed confidently. "I'm looking for the Uppertaker!" HALLELUJAH!! Although we in this fleshly body will feel the pains of sickness, age and yes maybe even death if the LORD tarries we also look toward Home, the BLESSED HOPE of Heaven and eternal life with our LORD and Saviour! I will leave you with a few scriptures that I know will encourage you the way that they do me each time I read them...

We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.
2 Corinthians 5:8

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 1 Corinthians 15:52-55

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. Revelation 21:3-4

Until next time may the LORD Bless and keep you is my prayer, Pastor Billy R. Douglas

"Now don't that sound like heaven? Don't that sound like home?
Where the Son of God is reigning and those tears are finally gone,
Now don't that sound like heaven? Don't that sound like home?
Darkness there is overtaken by the light that's always on."



Is Christ Divided? conclusion

Evangelist Mike Heltsley

1st Corinthians 1:10 - Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Galatians 1:6-10 - I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. 10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. Luke:6:39 - And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch? Denominationalism has men following men into different and often opposing directions. Is Christ divided? My high school driver's training teacher told us a true story. It was a foggy night along the lake, and a car was following two other cars. The driver couldn't see the road, so he just watched the taillights of the cars ahead. When the taillights ahead went right, he went right, and when they went left, he went left. He saw one pair of taillights dip down, then the other, so he followed them—right off the road and down over an embankment! All three cars wrecked! It pays to be careful whom you follow! But let us not forget that Paul was writing to the church at Corinth when he spoke of the divisions among them. Is Christ divided? We have the one-cuppers, the two-veilers, the Sunday-schoolers, the women-speakers, the Christian-collegers, fellowship-hallers, the fellowship-allers—no I didn't stutter!—and the disfellowship-allers, and on, and on, and on...I ask you again, is Christ divided? Brothers and sisters, we need to be working hard on mending fences. We need to lay aside that partisan spirit that says, "I am of Paul", or "I am of Apollos", "I am of Mike Heltsley", or "I am of Jimmy Swaggart". Christ is not divided. Yet we say that we are the church, the body of Christ, and we are divided. This ought not to be so. We must lay aside the philosophies of men and let the Holy Ghost guide us. Ephesians 4:1-7 - I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Some people will say, "We are of different faiths, but we will all go to heaven together." The Bible says that there is one faith. Faith, as defined in the scriptures, does not merely mean a doctrine. Faith refers to the trust that we place in Christ and the finished work of the Cross. We believe that He is who He said He is. We believe that He is resurrected from death. We trust that He has gone to prepare a place for us in heaven, and that He will come again to take us there. If we trust Him, we must keep His commandments. John 17:14-21 - I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word 21 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. Is Christ divided? John 17:20-21 - Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 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. Is Christ divided? If you are in denominationalism, you need to come out of it! If you are in a cell-group, you need to come out of it! If you are in the world, you need to come out of it! Revelation 18:4 - And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. 2nd Corinthians 6:16-18 - And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17: Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18: And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. 1st Corinthians:11:1 - Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Ephesians 4: 14-16 - That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. In the church, since we are one body, we have an obligation to look after the health of the body. If your natural body is injured or sick, you seek to heal it. If the body of Christ is injured or sick, we need to work to heal it. Who are you following today? Are you following Jesus? How do you know? Do you study the scriptures to find out? 1st Corinthians 11:1-2 - Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. 1st Corinthians 4:16-17 - Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me. For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church. John 5:39 - Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. Ephesians 4:5 - One Lord, one faith, one baptism, Are you listening to that one Lord? Are you in that one faith? Have you received that one baptism? Christ is not divided. Why don't you share that one faith, have that one baptism, and be added to the one body of Christ, His sanctified church? You will be born of the water and of the Spirit, washed in the blood of the Lamb of God all because of the finished work at the Cross.



Fathers, Be The Real Hero

Pastor Steven Huston

What is a hero? One writer put it this way: "A hero is someone who puts their own well being and comfort aside in order to help someone else. This is the definition of love! Shouldn't YOU be the hero in your child's life—a real (true), living, breathing, flesh-and-blood, day-in/day-out hero? ... Your child needs you to be his or her daily present hero, as you lead them to the Ultimate Hero who will never leave them or forsake them." To be a real hero takes time and commitment. Many dads come home tired after a hard day at work; they're either physically beat or mentally exhausted—sometimes both. Unfortunately, that's when a dad's real work begins. Mustering up the strength to spend time with his family and pulling together the mental acuity to deal with questions pouring out of a young child's mouth while discerning the emotional and spiritual needs of wife and children is the real work of fatherhood. Yes, "This looks like a job for Super Dad!" Younger children are easily enthralled with their dads—God gave us that easy start. What will you do with it from there? It takes time; it takes work; and it takes real commitment to keep their heart into the teen and adult years. Rules without relationship breeds rebellion and relationship without rules eventually breeds contempt. It's up to us to be there in the moment—not easily sidetracked with cell phones and other things—keeping their hearts and constantly pointing them to the Father's loving grace and the atoning work of Christ. I have one daughter who regularly asks me what I want for my birthday, Father's Day, Christmas, etc. She has come to expect this answer before she even asks—"I want all my children to love Jesus and walk in His ways." Yes, it's borrowed from 3 John 1:4; but it's the truth and puts before her mind my real desire and expectation. So, the question is: How badly do I want that? What am I willing to put into "my own present?" During today's The Briefing program, Al Mohler had a 10 minute segment called "Moralistic Therapeutic Deism and the role of parents & churches in America's teenage spiritual crisis." It's a very important 10 minutes and I urge you to listen to it ([click here](#)). This segment talks about the current crisis of children growing out of their belief in God and distancing themselves from the community of faith in which they were raised. Perhaps this segment is best summed up by this statement from Mohler: "It becomes increasingly clear that the majority of American teenagers are not rejecting doctrines they have been taught; rather, they've never been taught these doctrines at all. What they are doing is absorbing from the larger culture the doctrines of a secular age. The doctrines that come from moralism: the belief that all God really wants is that we behave, that we be nice. And therapeutic—meaning that we understand our problems primarily in therapeutic categories. We believe that there may be a problem with us but it's something that can be resolved by feeling better about ourselves or coming to a more satisfactory self-identity. And then deism. Let's be very clear, deism is a persistent heresy. It is the belief that there is some kind of god but not a god who is sovereign, ruling over the universe; not a god who cares particularly about me; not a god who desires a personal relationship with me; but rather just a generalized deity who probably created the world and has some relationship to it but only in the most distant and abstract sense." How devastating! This research shows a very real and present danger for my children and yours. Again, listen to this segment; read the companion article which Mohler wrote in 2005; then realize that we—as dads—have a vitally important role to play in the lives of our children. We have a responsibility to the God of heaven, to the Lord Jesus Christ, and to our children (and society) to live out real, Biblical Christianity. It's not enough to wish that our children will love Jesus and walk in His ways. It's not enough to just take them to church and expect them to catch true Christianity; actually, that is more likely to act as an inoculation. So, what's a dad to do? Following the example of our Heavenly Father, let's be super-dads. Live a holy life as an example to follow; leading our wife and children in the way they should go. Build a relationship with your children and explain very plainly what you expect from them (expect no less from yourself); "charge" them to a life of holiness.: "For you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory." 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 Of course, a passionate family devotional life is vital. Include special, regular times of individual training and study as well. It's exciting to see a child/teen's reaction to a truth they hadn't realized before. Building spiritual memories is just as important—if not more important—as fun family memories. By the way, fun and spiritual do not have to be, nor should they be, mutually exclusive. Pray with and for your children. Pray for their future spouse and your grandchildren (should the Lord tarry). Prayer is a vital part of a personal relationship with God. Dads, we can't just assume because we love God that our children will. Neither can we just assume that they know we love them. It's up to us to spend time with them—showing and telling them that we love them. It's up to us to point them to the God who so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son in our place. It's up to us to show them we believe—belief is an action word—and point them to this atoning Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Even in all of this, there are no guarantees. We are only planting, watering, and fertilizing; it is God who gives the increase. After all, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast! I am well-acquainted with a grandfather who is burdened to be this kind of "hero" to his grandson. I see him do these very things and expect that God will honor his faithfulness. Listen, this is not only a war for this present generation; this is a generational battle that will reach far into the future. The effects of our actions today will long be felt when even our names are no longer remembered. *We can't do this in our own power; to be a super dad we must rely on the super power of God. Here's my desire for Father's Day: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." (3 John 1:4) What's yours?*



REESIE'S RECIPES

Loaded Peanut Butter Cake

Peanut Butter Cake

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, room temperature
- 3/4 cups sugar
- 3/4 cup brown sugar, loosely packed
- 3/4 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 3 large eggs
- 2 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 3/4 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/4 cup water

Peanut Butter Frosting

- 2 cups salted butter, room temperature
- 1 1/4 cups peanut butter
- 9 cups powdered sugar
- 6-7 tbs milk

CAKE: Prepare three 8 inch cake pans with parchment paper circles in the bottom and grease the sides. Preheat oven to 350°F. In a large mixing bowl, cream the butter, sugars and peanut butter together until light in color and fluffy, about 3-4 minutes. Add sour cream and vanilla extract and mix until well combined. Add the eggs one at a time, mixing until just combined after each. Combine dry ingredients in a separate bowl, then combine the milk and water in a small measuring cup. Add half of the dry ingredients to the batter and mix until well combined. Add the milk mixture and mix until well combined. Add remaining dry ingredients and mix until well combined. Divide the batter evenly between the cakes pans and bake for about 21-23 minutes, or until a toothpick comes out with a few crumbs. Remove the cakes from the oven and allow to cool for about 2-3 minutes, then remove to cooling racks to cool completely. **FROSTING:** In a large mixer bowl, beat the butter and peanut butter together until smooth. Slowly add half of the powdered sugar and mix until smooth. Add 5-6 tablespoons of milk and mix until smooth. Slowly add the remaining powdered sugar and mix until smooth. Add additional milk, as needed to get the right consistency. To put the cake together, use a large serrated knife to remove the domes from the top of the cakes so that they're flat. Place the first cake on a serving plate. Spread frosting on top of the cake. Add the second layer of cake on top of the frosting. Spread frosting on top of the cake. Top the cake with the remaining layer and frost the outside of the cake. Garnish with peanut butter chips if desired.

Strawberry Banana Cheesecake Salad

- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
- 1 (3.4 ounce) package instant cheesecake pudding, unprepared
- 1-1/4 cup Simply Pure Vanilla Coffee Creamer
- 2 pounds strawberries, hulled and sliced
- 3 medium bananas, cut into coins
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

In a medium tall bowl, using an electric mixer, whip cream cheese until it becomes smooth. It may bind up in the beaters, but continue as is and it will loosen up. Add dry pudding mix. Beat until well combined. With mixer running slowly add creamer to the cream cheese mix. Add it about a tablespoon at a time and then mix until it becomes a smooth mixture and all of the creamer has combined into the cream cheese. Continue until all of the creamer has been added to the cream cheese. Whip until smooth. In a large bowl, combine sliced strawberries, banana coins and lemon juice. Stir until all the fruit is coated with lemon juice. Add cheesecake mixture to fruit. Gently fold cheesecake mixture into fruit. Chill until ready to serve or serve immediately.

Cinnamon French Toast Bake

- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 2 cans (12.4 oz each) Pillsbury® refrigerated cinnamon rolls with icing
- 5 eggs
- 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 3/4 cup maple syrup

Garnish:

- Icing from cinnamon rolls
- powdered sugar
- maple syrup, if desired

Melt butter and pour on ungreased 13x9 inch glass dish. Separate cans of dough into 16 rolls reserving the icing for later use. Cut each roll into 8 pieces and add to buttered baking dish. Beat eggs in medium bowl. Add cream, cinnamon and vanilla and beat until well blended. Pour over cut pieces of cinnamon roll pieces. Sprinkle with pecans and drizzle 3/4 cup syrup over the top. Bake at 375 for 20 to 28 minutes or until golden brown. Cool 15 minutes. Remove the covers from icing and microwave on medium or 50% power for 10 to 15 seconds. (Should be thin enough to drizzle.) Drizzle icing over the top. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Serve with syrup if desired.



The Promised Land

George Whitten

Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

It is among popular "Christian" belief that an abundance of material and other blessings follow those whose hearts are truly after God and that those who seem to consistently struggle to that end, cannot possibly be in God's perfect will. I want to submit to you a realization I had about this very thing. I think we might have it all backwards. Almost all the great men of faith I've read about in the Bible had to spend some time in the wilderness. Abraham, Moses, John the Baptist, just to name a few. God had to make them desperate. He had to cause them to be quiet and undistracted enough to hear His still, small voice. He had to make them hungry and thirsty enough to cry out for a miracle. Interestingly, the word for wilderness, in Hebrew, is "meed-bahr". And meed-bahr comes from the word "leh-da-behr", which means to speak. Some of us are walking through the desert right now. It's hot by day -- there is only rugged, thorny, sandy terrain for miles and miles and there seems no end. By night, the wind is unbearably cold and we stumble over things we can barely see. Snakes and scorpions live here. It seems like a lonely place. But this is actually a place of blessing! It is for our growth, and ultimately for our prosperity that God has brought us here! Like it or not, the wilderness is where He can speak to us most effectively. It is the place He can most easily get our attention. It is the place we will cry out to God and truly listen for His voice. Know that God is with you today! He is walking along with us through this wilderness and longing to comfort us! If we would only cry out to Him and heed His voice! The promised land awaits! And there's so much work to be done!!

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Pastor Billy R. Douglas

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A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: Proverbs 18:16 A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Additional passages for Today: Exodus 23:8; Deuteronomy 16:9; Luke 21:1; Matt 26:15; Acts 24:26

Thought for Today: Man may be fooled by gifts and smooth talkers, but, God isn't! Come to God with a humble heart today.

Story for Today: "You've heard it said, you can fool some of the people some of the time, but, you can't fool everyone all of the time." Darcy put down her pen and re-read her note. It wasn't exactly what she wanted it to say. She would have to think a little longer... Glenna had said she would have another week before the lecture so she wasn't feeling too much pressure, yet! Darcy knew what it was like to have people give you compliments and kudos because they wanted something from you. And yet she still struggled with how to explain the concept to the group of girls that she would be speaking to next week. Darcy and Glenna had partnered together to work with an all girls home in the city close to where they lived. Glenna had been preparing gifts to give that would help with her talk and they both had been going over Bible verses and stories that would help make the point, she hoped. Still, she needed something good. Something the girls could relate to. She needed God to help her! He was the only one that would be able to reach these abused, neglected and hurt girls. And she needed them to see that He was the one that they needed to bring their gifts to, the one that was greater than any man. Sometimes it is helpful to give a present to someone to get their attention, but, only by giving the most important gift, the only gift that everyone has to offer, to God first will we have the most productivity in our life. And that gift is YOUR SELF; your whole being. Like Joseph, who even though he was sold into slavery, was able to find favor of all over him, so can we find favor when we live a life unto God like Joseph. And the opposite is true too, like with Samuel's sons, they received gifts as bribes and offered up perverted judgments and all of Israel suffered with them. Darcy struggled with how to let these girls see that they still had choices. They had the opportunity to live a life for God or for self. She needed them to see that a life lived for God would bring blessing, while a life lived for self would end with suffering. How could she help these girls see that their life was a precious treasure and that giving it to God was the only wise thing to do? She knew that many of the girls that were pregnant at this time, were in this condition because they had used their bodies to get things and many of them really didn't even realize how they were hurting themselves. Many of the girls she had spoken to had told her that they didn't feel like they were a treasure. They felt like they were damaged goods, not really worth anything to anyone. Many didn't think God could ever forgive them, let alone love them. Glenna saw the look of consternation on Darcy's face as she entered the room. She knew how important it was that they reach these girls before they went back out into the world and made more bad choices. She knew that God was working through them on this project and she knew that God would give Darcy the words to say. However, she knew the struggle that it was for Darcy at this moment. They needed to pray. She grabbed Darcy's hand and suggested they break for prayer.

Questions for Today: Have you given the gift of yourself to the Father to be used as a servant for Him? Do you seek to follow God's will for each day of your life? Do you offer gifts to others in hope of gaining influence?

SONG FOR TODAY: Give Of your Best to the Master

PRAYER: Dear Father, Thank You for the most precious gift of Salvation. Thank you for life. Please keep us from using the gifts and talents that You have bestowed upon us for anything but to bring You glory and honor. Please help us to redeem the time that You give us. Help us to find favor with man as we serve You obediently. Please open the doors to the opportunities that You have for us. And please close all doors that would lead us out of Your will! Guide us and protect us. We thank you for all you do and we Praise You for who You are! Help us to grow more in You and Your ways each and every Day. In Jesus' Name we pray, AMEN



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Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8

When giving to this ministry please prayerfully consider becoming a Ministry Partner by giving a love gift of any size each month.

Ministry Partners



MINISTRY PARTNERS NEEDED

Please prayerfully consider becoming a VOTL Ministry partner by sending a love gift of any size each month. We need your help to continue this World-wide Gospel outreach



Have a friend that you think might enjoy receiving THE TRUMPET? Send us their mailing address and we will send them a copy of the latest issue of THE TRUMPET along with a sign up card so that they can sign up if they wish to continue receiving them!



PRAYER LIST

If you would like to send a picture of a loved one, a special prayer request or when you send a name to be added to our prayer list we will place it in our Prayer Box. Our Prayer Box sits on the altar at VOTL Tabernacle and your prayer requests are prayed over daily and in our services.

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Ann Hinton
Jamey Howell
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Judy Frizzell
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And he said unto them, Go ye
into all the world, and preach the
gospel to every creature.

Mark 16:15

God's Simple Plan of Salvation

My Friend: we are about to ask you the most important question of your life. Your joy or your sorrow for all eternity depends upon your answer. The question is: Are you saved? Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal LORD and Saviour? It is not a question of how good you are, nor if you are a church member, but have you put your faith in Jesus? Are you sure you will go to Heaven when you die? The Bible makes the plan of salvation plain and simple. *Romans 10:13* says *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Call on Jesus today. Put your faith and trust in him and ask him to forgive you of your sins and to be your LORD and savior and you will be born again...SAVED!! Do this today, tomorrow may be to late! Please write or call us if you have made the decision to accept Jesus. We would love to send you some material to help you with your new life with the LORD.



Please feel free to share with us any prayer requests, testimonies or suggestions that you may have. Also if you have something you would like to share with our readers we would love to hear from you!



VOTL Tabernacle

216 Hill St. Livermore, KY

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Sunday Morning Service 11 AM

Everyone Welcome

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