



THE TRUMPET

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The Lesson of the Homeless Man

(Author Unknown)

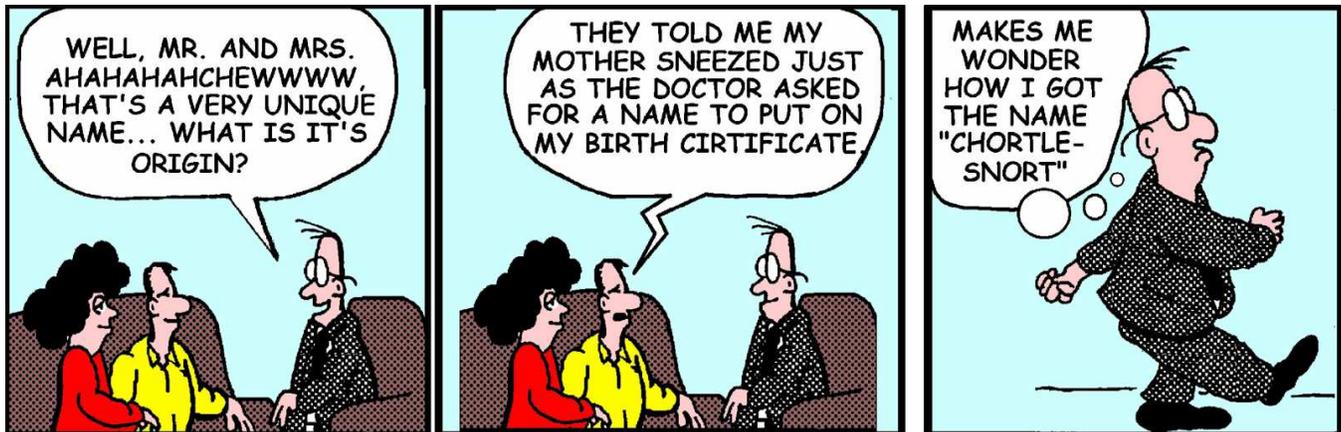
It was a cold winter's day that Sunday. The parking lot to the church was filling up quickly. I noticed as I got out of my car fellow church members were whispering among themselves as they walked in the church. As I got closer I saw a man leaned up against the wall outside the church. He was almost laying down as if he was asleep. He had on a long trench coat that was almost in shreds and a hat topped his head, pulled down so you could not see his face. He wore shoes that looked 30 years old, too small for his feet, with holes all over them, his toes stuck out. I assumed this man was homeless, and asleep, so I walked on by through the doors of the church. We all fellowshiped for a few minutes, and someone brought up the man laying outside. People snickered and gossiped but no one bothered to ask him to come in, including me. A few moments later church began. We all waited for the preacher to take his place and to give us the Word, when the doors to the church opened. In came the homeless man walking down the aisle with his head down. People gasped and whispered and made faces. He made his way down the aisle and up onto the pulpit where he took off his hat and coat. My heart sank. There stood our preacher...he was the "homeless man." No one said a word. The preacher took his Bible and laid it on his stand. "Folks, I don't think I have to tell you what I am preaching about today..."

One Soul At a Time

By Rev. Eric McGrath

Believers have a mission,
And it's very clear to see,
That we don't have to look that far,
Or travel over land and sea.
There's a mission field outside our door,
Just waiting to hear from you and me.
We're called to take our land back,
One soul at a time.
Some people think that government,
It's their responsibility.
Or else it belongs to the school,
To set our morality.
But the Lord has another plan,
And it involves you and me.
We're called to take our land back,
One soul at a time.
Only Jesus can provide the hope,
That this land needs so bad.
At one time there were lots of folks,
Deep faith in God they had.
But times sure are different now,
They call for all of us to stand.
We're called to take our land back,
One soul at a time.
One soul at a time,
Is the plan that Jesus gave.
He called us when He left our world,
Gave us victory o'er the grave.
It wasn't neon lights and glitter,
But the good old gospel saves.
We're to take our land back,
One soul at a time.

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15



Cousin Leroy

One night as Leroy was tucking his little 4-year-old daughter in to bed she wanted to hear a Bible story so he told her the story of the prodigal son. He told her how he had taken his inheritance early, left and spent it all on living it up and partying until he had no money left and had to work on a pig farm where he couldn't even afford to eat what the pigs ate! How that he remembered his Pa and went back home to ask for a job and forgiveness. His Pa welcomed him home with much joy! After Leroy finished the story he asked his daughter what she learned and she immediately said, "Never leave home without your credit card!"

The Wedding

At a wedding ceremony, the pastor asked if anyone had anything to say concerning the union of the bride and groom, it was their time to stand up and talk, or forever hold their peace. The moment of utter silence was broken by a young beautiful woman carrying a child. She started walking toward the pastor slowly. Everything quickly turned to chaos. The bride slapped the groom. The groom's mother fainted. The groomsmen started giving each other looks and wondering how best to help save the situation. The pastor asked the woman, "Can you tell us why you came forward? What do you have to say?" The woman replied, "We can't hear in the back."

A's & B's

So the reporter asks the coach, "Is there any truth to the rumor that your new quarterback is dumb?" The coach replies, "Well, he makes straight A's." The reporter, suitably impressed, says, "Wonderful!" "But," says the coach, "his B's are kind of crooked."

Putting on the Brakes

Jill's car was unreliable and she kept telling her husband John about it, but when he would drive it, it would always seem fine. So he dismissed it thinking that she was exaggerating. Then he got a call:

John: "Hi honey."

Jill: "My brakes went out. Can you come get me?"

John: "What!? Where are you?"

Jill: "I'm in the drugstore."

John: "And where's the car?"

Jill: "It's in here with me..."

Worn Out

Three little boys were bragging about how tough they were. "I'm so tough," said the first boy, "that I can wear out a pair of shoes in a week." "Well," said the second little boy, "I'm so tough, I can wear out a pair of jeans in a day." "That's nothing," said the third boy. "When my parents take me to see my grandma and grandpa, I can wear them out in just one hour."



Seducing Spirits



Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 1 Timothy 4:1

The above passage of scripture speaks of “seducing” spirits and doctrines of devils. The word seduce means to deceive, to “lure” away from the truth softly or little by little. John Wesley once said...“What one generation tolerates the next generation accepts.” America did not get in the shape she is in today over night and neither did the church. When we see the things of darkness being so widely accepted by the church we see a people that have been seduced away from the truth unto doctrines of devils. The truth of the matter is that the occult and witchcraft are so widely accepted by Christian and non-Christian alike because our nation has been fed “candy coated” witchcraft to the point where most of the church is so spiritually blind that they cant see the evil that sets right before our eyes. While walking through the store the other day seeing the Halloween decorations and costumes I couldn't help but ask myself “I wonder just how wicked and evil something has to look before the church realizes that it is against God's Word?” Sadly it stands to reason that the more you feed upon the things of the devil the easier it gets to swallow the things that he serves up. The Bible plainly teaches us to beware of “wolves in sheep's clothing” and to watch out for “the little foxes” for when evil is clothed in the disguise of that which looks fun and harmless that is when it is most deadly. As the years have passed our nation, and the church for that matter have accepted the lie of the devil that the occult and witchcraft and harmless and fun. Through television as children we were taught that there was a good side of evil. With programs like “Bewitched” and “I Dream Of Jeannie” we were taught these lies of the devil. Cartoons made it even easier to reach the minds of our children seducing a generation with doctrines of devils and the occult through cartoons such as Scooby Doo, Casper The Friendly Ghost, The Smurfs and dare we leave out Barney and his bag of magic just to name a few. Little by little the seeds of the occult and Satanism planted in the minds of a generation that now thinks that you can play with fire and not get burnt and will even go as far to accept things as wicked as Harry Potter, Zombies, Vampires and more. And as if television and movies weren't enough the devil leaves no stone unturned he uses advertisements, toys, books, games and of course the internet! Now I know just mentioning some of these things will cause some Christians to roll their eyes at me BUT in doing so you only help me to prove my point. The point that the devil, witchcraft and the occult have been made nothing more than cartoon characters in a struggle with darkness that is all too real! What does all of this have to do with Halloween? More than you think. The callusing of our hearts and minds to the occult through the few things that I have made mention of in this article and trust me there are many many more that have conditioned our society to the place where they cannot even recognize Satan for the deceiver that he is. Saddest of all is “the church”, it is one thing to see the world deceived by this and taking part in this darkness but the church follows right along with them. Allowing their children to feed upon the things of the occult, taking part in Halloween which is no more than a satanic ritual. Having fall festivals, hallelujah parties and more, trying to make holy that which stinks in the nostrils of God. And let us not stop with the celebration of Halloween but we are seeing more and more New Age and occultic things and teachings make their way into our churches across this land. This is not just about Halloween this is about the powers of darkness and wickedness in high places that are determined to destroy anyone and everyone that will open the door to let them in. We as the body of Christ should be praying and coming against the forces of wickedness in high places and taking a stand against that which is unholy and demonic instead of stumbling around spiritually blind playing with the things of the devil. I cannot tell you the times that I have heard “Christians” talking about how much they enjoy shows like The Walking Dead...SHAME on the church for being so spiritually ignorant that they not only do not take a stand against evil but they sup with devils from the same table. The church has been seduced by the enemy and it is time...HIGH TIME for the church to wake up and stand for truth! Souls hang in the balance and we have been commissioned to reach them! Reach them with the only message that destroys the chains of evil that have them bound. The only message that still sets the sinner free and puts the devil on the run!! The message of the finished work of the Cross of Christ!! It is time for the church to repent of any past involvement in the occult and witchcraft whether knowingly or in ignorance and be the light that we are suppose to be! Let the world see Jesus in you, forsake the things of darkness! The words of this old song still ring true today...*Souls are crying, men are dying, Won't you lead them to the cross. Go and find them, Please help to win them Win the lost at any cost.!!*” Until next time may the LORD bless and keep you is my prayer.

Pastor Billy R. Douglas



THE FIRE SHALL EVER BE BURNING

By: Evangelist Mike Heltsley

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Command Aaron and his sons, saying, This is the law of the burnt offering: It is the burnt offering, because of the burning upon the altar all night unto the morning, and the fire of the altar shall be burning in it. And the priest shall put on his linen garment, and his linen breeches shall he put upon his flesh, and take up the ashes which the fire hath consumed with the burnt offering on the altar, and he shall put them beside the altar. And he shall put off his garments, and put on other garments, and carry forth the ashes without the camp unto a clean place. And the fire upon the altar shall be burning in it; it shall not be put out: and the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order upon it; and he shall burn thereon the fat of the peace offerings. The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out. LEVITICUS 6:8-13

It was the responsibility of the priest to make sure that the fire did not burn out, They would keep watch to assure that the fire was maintained. I remind you, it is our responsibility to assure that we maintain the fire of the Holy Ghost in our lives. Some might say, Pastor, I am not a priest, it's the Pastors job to maintain the fire, it's the staff's job to maintain the fire, it's the husbands job to maintain the fire. 1 Peter 2:9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light What does this scripture mean? It means that through Christ, every believer has been made a priest before God and allows us direct access to God. It means that it is our responsibility to guard the flame, to be keepers of the flame, and to maintain the fire. How do we maintain the fire? We maintain the fire with the right components. There are three components to fire, "fuel, oxygen, and ignition source." There are three components to maintaining the fire. 1. Fuel – Prayer Acts 1:14 - These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. The 120 were joined together with one focus, prayer. Notice the parallel between the spirit descending upon them, and upon Jesus. Jesus' Baptism: Luke 3:21-22 - Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased The Disciples Baptism: Acts 2:2-4 - 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 like 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. They were getting alone to pray. Jesus was always getting alone to pray. When the disciples could not cast the demons out of a boy, his father brought him to Christ who cast the demons out. Matthew 17:19-21 - Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting. If we are to maintain fire, we must be people given to prayer. 2. Oxygen – Praise The Lord is worthy of our praise. 2 Samuel 22:4 - I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. Israel had just been to war again against the Philistines. David was getting up in years and grew tired in the battle and there were four giants fighting with the Philistines. Three were the sons of Goliath and the fourth the brother of Goliath and their objective was to kill David. Four of David's mighty men went against them in battle and killed all four of the giants, thus was David's song of praise, I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. Psalm 113:1-3 - Praise ye the Lord. Praise, O ye servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and for evermore. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised. Some people may not understand you, they will say, why are you so extroverted with your praise, but they do not know where God has brought you from. They don't know your past, and when you remember the past God delivered you from it will bring forth praise. David said in Psalm 40:2 - He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. Church, fire will not burn without oxygen and you cannot maintain your spiritual fire without praise. The bible tells us that God inhabits, or dwells in the praises of His people. The Triumphant entry, the people spread out branches and laid their coats on the road and began to praise the Lord. Luke 19:39-40 - And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. 40 And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out. He is worthy of our praise. Our praise is a fragrance unto Him. As we praise Him our fire grows. 3. Ignition Source – The Word. When Jesus went into the wilderness to fast and pray, the enemy tried to put out His fire. Matthew 4:1-11 - Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him. • Stone to bread- It is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. • The kingdoms of this world if you will worship me – Get thee behind me, satan: For it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him alone shall thou serve. (For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever) • If you are the son of God, jump off this pinnacle (suicide) – It is written, thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. The word of God will light you up if you read it and hide it in your heart. Fire can become so intense that everything around it will burst forth on fire due to spontaneous combustion. If you maintain your fire, and keep it burning hot, everything you come in contact with is at risk to become a part of it. Our children are depending on us to pass, or transfer the fire to them. 2 Timothy 1:5-6 - When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. The only way this is possible is if it is maintained.



Think Twice—Post Once

What happens when we, as image bearers of God, are more interested in bearing our own image than His? There are many who use social media to do just that, bear their own image rather than glorifying God. Even worse, there are many today who also bare their own image, or images of others. Turning what should be used as an opportunity for homage into a venue for vanity and a path for pornography. Nathan Bingham put it well at a recent Ligonier conference, as he warned of vanity in a digital world, “As sinful creatures we are really good at putting the ‘me’ into media.” Let’s face it; the human race is a self-centered people. From Eve eating the forbidden fruit which was pleasing to her eyes to someone posting what they had for breakfast; from Cain killing his brother in the field to the hurt partner posting spiteful words or revenge porn; from Nebuchanezzar’s mind hardened in pride—turning him into a beast—to the posting of our accomplishments and events; our vanity is digitally displayed before an ever-watching world. Too often people don’t even think about what they are posting. Good or bad, modest or not, happy – sad – angry, informing everyone—even strangers—of our self-important lives is only a click away. BUT...“Is this self-obsession, this vanity, in line with living a life seeking God’s glory; or are we seeking our own?” asks Mr. Bingham. He reminds us that the world encourages us to seek after self; but Christ, calls us to die for self, to live for God, and to love our neighbors. Although it would ease our conscience a bit to blame social media, we need to admit that the problem isn’t with Facebook, Twitter, and the ever-alluring internet; it’s with our sinful nature. Social media is just another outlet in which our sinful nature so easily escapes without the restraining power of the Holy Spirit ruling in our lives. Mr. Bingham encourages his listeners to give thanks for the technology that God has given us, but exhorts us to be ever-vigilant in examining ourselves. Are we pursuing God’s glory or our own in our use of social media and technology? Throughout his short lecture he reminds us of the carpenter’s axiom, “Measure twice; cut once;” calling people to “Think twice; post once.” Here are three principles he gives the Christian, to help curb our social media bent toward worldliness. 1) Seek an outward focus: Ask yourself—is this ultimately serving God or my neighbor, or is it serving self? Often these things are a matter of motive and are a question that only we can answer. Are we posting things that encourage others to godliness, exemplifying a Christ-centered family or godly relationship for others to see, or are we posting with the motive of being seen? Take care not to judge others. Questioning our own motive may cause us to post nothing at all. Remember, think twice; post once. 2) Steward your social media: “The library of Congress is archiving every tweet that is posted. And your Facebook profile is telling the story of your life.” “Tweet by Tweet, selfie by selfie, you are creating your legacy, for God’s glory and the world’s good or for ill.” We have a tremendous opportunity to show others how we are following Christ. Your social media posts will outlive you. Would you post differently if you knew that your great-granddaughter would one day read your status update? Would you tweet differently if you knew that an unbeliever would read it? Each post and tweet is seen by the Lord God Almighty. Remember, think twice; post once. 3) Submit to God’s Word: The Scriptures should govern our lives both off line and online. “It seems that when Christians connect to the internet all their thinking gets distorted...I like to call it the digital deception. You put an I-phone in someone’s hand and words they would never say to someone face-to-face they suddenly tweet or leave as a comment on a blog. Images we would never look at, or own, if they were printed in a magazine, we will linger over online, if not seek them out. And even worse, some of those inappropriate images are the selfies, the immodest selfies, posted by Christians.” “It’s like we’ve forgotten what holiness is. Abraham Kuyper, is known for saying that there is not a square inch in the whole domain of human existence over which Christ, who is sovereign over all, does not cry, ‘Mine.’ Jesus cries ‘Mine!’ over your time, over your Facebook posts, and over your internet history. Are you submitting to the word of God or are you living in the digital deception?” This digital age can certainly be a blessing, as well as a temptation to evil and self-centeredness. Let’s take Nathan Bingham’s very good advice to: Think twice; post once. Think of Christ and His claim on our life, think of what our post says to others, and then post to the glory of God!

Pastor Steve Huston 103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. Eph 5:11

Reprove Them - To Avoid Them Is Not Enough



REESIE'S RECIPES

No Bake Strawberry Cloud Cake

Cloud Cakes
Whipped Cream
Chopped Strawberries
Strawberry Glaze

Line your desired serving dish with the Cloud Cakes. Add the strawberry glaze over the Cloud Cakes. Generously sprinkle the chopped strawberries over the glaze. Top the cake with whipped cream.

Crock Pot Beef Stew

2 (1 oz) packages dry onion soup mix
1/2 teaspoon paprika
2 pounds lean beef stew meat
(cut up into bite sized pieces)
5 medium potatoes, peeled and diced
2 to 3 cups baby carrots
1 small Onion, chopped
2 (10 oz.) cans cream of celery soup
1 cup ketchup

In a large plastic bag, combine the dry onion soup mix and paprika. Add in meat and shake the bag to coat meat with the seasonings. (You may have to do that step in two batches, for all the meat to fit) Once meat is coated, spread out evenly into a greased 7 quart crock pot. Top meat evenly with diced potatoes, carrots and onion. Mix the cream of celery soup and ketchup in a small bowl. Pour mixture over the meat and vegetables. Cover crock pot with lid. Cook on low heat for 8 hours or until meat is cooked through and vegetables are tender. Stir to combine everything then serve.

Sausage Breakfast Casserole

1 lb Breakfast sausage, mild or regular
1 Onion
6 Eggs, large
4 cups Hash, frozen browns
1 tsp Salt
1 cup Colby jack or cheddar cheese
1 1/2 cups Cottage cheese
2 cups Swiss cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a skillet pan over medium-high heat, cook sausage, diced onion, and salt until sausage is no longer pink. Crumble sausage as you cook it. While sausage is cooking, combine the remaining ingredients in a large mixing bowl and mix together. Once done, drain sausage mixture and add to the large mixing bowl. Stir together to combine. Dump into a 9x13 baking dish sprayed with cooking spray. Cook for 45-50 minutes or until the edges are golden brown and the middle is set. Let cool for 10 minutes before serving.

Salmon Patties

1 can pink salmon, drained & cleaned
2 T. diced onion
Pinch of salt and pepper
1 large egg
1 T. buttermilk
2 T. cornmeal
4 T. all purpose flour
Vegetable oil

In a bowl, combine the salmon, onion, salt and pepper. Stir in the egg, buttermilk, cornmeal and flour. Combine well. Heat about 1/4" oil in the bottom of a med. size iron skillet over med. high heat. Drop spoonfuls of the salmon mixture into the hot oil and flatten out just a tad. Fry, in batches, about a minute per side or until golden brown. Drain on a paper sack or paper towel lined plate. Makes 10 patties.



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Love At All Times

And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. Genesis 22:2

When Abraham is told by the LORD to offer up his son, Isaac, the word "love" is spoken for the first time in the Bible. The Hebrew word for love is "ahavah". This first mention of "ahavah", which is the very nature of God [1 John 4:8] occurs in direct connection with sacrifice, the sacrifice of a most precious and beloved son. Abraham could not have known at that time that his obedient offering would foreshadow and typify the love of our Heavenly Father who offered up His only begotten Son 2000 years ago. Notice that in both cases love is directly connected to sacrifice -- and that the greatest love comes from God's sacrifice for our sin. The greatest love involves sacrifice; perfect love is costly. There are times when loving someone is hard -- almost impossible it seems. Yet we have this precedent, Abraham, the Father of faith, and we have Jesus the Messiah who consummated and perfected "ahavah" in the loving sacrifice of His own life. So while it's easy to love when it feels good, loving when it doesn't -- expresses the love of God and His faithful servants. The Holy Spirit, our companion and comforter empowers us to love even when it carries a heavy cost. Love, even at the most difficult times -- realizing that sacrificial love is the very nature of God!

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The Occult in America

Special Issue of The Trumpet

"The Occult in America"

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The Occult & Witchcraft

Pastor Scott Corbin

Like so many children in America, I was raised thinking that Halloween was a fun holiday, with costumes, jack-o-lanterns, and trick-or-treating. Though the things we did to observe Halloween seemed harmless enough at the time, as I later learned the true meaning and background of the holiday, I realized that I could not claim to be a Christian but also enjoy dabbling in the world of the occult. That may seem like a strong statement, but it is an accurate description of what we do when we observe Halloween. It was when I was about 25 years old that I listened to a tape from an alleged former Satanist who was warning Christians about Halloween. I could not get that out of my mind, even though I was not even where I needed to be in my relationship with the Lord. So I began to research it further, the true meaning and history of Halloween. What I found is that what I had considered innocent fun as a child, teenager, and young adult, had no place in the life of a believer in Christ. I found out that the things in the world of the occult and the things done to observe Halloween, were all things that were an attack on what God has said and on the atoning work of Jesus Christ. Twenty years ago, I began a Christian website and in the fall of that year, I posted a short article about what I had learned about Halloween. It was written for people who were in the same place I was years earlier, observing a holiday in ignorance. However, I was shocked when I began receiving emails from people directly and deliberately involved in witchcraft. They tried to correct me on a few things, but basically they said that the information in the article was correct, and that I was right to say that the holiday had no place in the life of a Christian. It was indeed "their" holiday, they said. That's why I find it so interesting today when Christians try to defend Halloween, when the very ones who invented it say otherwise. Yes, the Roman Catholic institution tried to "Christianize" it and incorporate it into "church" teachings and observances, as the Catholic church is known to do in order to swell their ranks, but we must look at the facts rather than at traditions. In the years following, I have tried to learn a little more each year about not just Halloween, but the occult in general. Each fall, we take the Wednesday night services at our church and teach on the occult, in an effort to inform and warn Christians about these dangers. And this may surprise some, but we also teach on how occult and pagan beliefs have crept into the church, not just in Catholicism or with trunk-or-treat and things of that nature in Protestant churches, but with un-Biblical doctrines that are taught throughout the year that have roots and ties to the dark side of the spirit world. For example, one Charismatic preacher said years ago on television, as he was teaching (based on the false Word of Faith doctrine) that we can have what we want if we say it, that some might protest and say "well that sounds like witchcraft". His reply was, "well it is, if you're a witch!" Well I'm sorry preacher, but you are wrong to teach that and claim it to be Biblical as long as we attach the Name of Jesus to it and take some Scriptures out of context to try and support it. A Christian doesn't need to borrow from the world of the occult in order to have blessings!! It's all around you...occultism and paganism, that is. A few weeks ago in one of the Wednesday night services, I brought up many common superstitions that people believe. There is not space to go into detail here, but I just respectfully remind the reader that everything in our lives should be brought into focus in light of God's Word. Sometimes that means traditions have to go, in favor of loving and serving a Holy God with all of our heart and being, and adhering to His Word with our theology and faith.

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*"Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."
1Thessalonians 5:22*

But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. 1 Corinthians 10:20

When a man who is honestly mistaken hears the truth...
he will either quit being mistaken or cease to be honest.



A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: 2 Timothy 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

Additional passages for Today: 1 Thessalonians 4:7; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 Peter 2:21

Thought for Today: God has called you! Are you listening to Him and answering His call?

Story for Today: Hope pushed back from the dining room table. Today was the day that she would be expected to recite her piece for the group of ladies in her mom's Bible study group. Hope really didn't enjoy speaking in front of people. She would rather just stay in the background and not have everybody look at her. She didn't mind attending the Bible study, but, she really didn't enjoy speaking out. She really didn't have much to share. Hope had grown up in a quiet town. Her home was fairly normal and she didn't have much really to contribute. Hope had attended church since she was born, and didn't know any other way of life. Oh, she was no angel. She could throw a temper tantrum with the best of them when others weren't looking. However, temper tantrums were not allowed and neither was swearing, or listening to any music that had a bad message. Some days life just seemed to drag and it seemed like she couldn't do anything. Oh, she didn't want to do anything too bad, maybe just have a little more fun. Nobody that knew Hope would have ever guessed she felt this way, and that was what kept her quiet, for now! Just then, Hope heard a shout and instead of going into the living room, she was pushed back by screaming kids. Sidney and her 4 year old friends came rushing into the room each scrambling to get up into the chair before the other to grab the cookies that were sitting so prettily on the table. Just as Hope turned to help them, she heard her name being called. She turned to find one of the mom's looking at her with a funny expression on her face. Felicity was a young mom of only 19. She was good with her four year old daughter Simone. She took extra care to teach her proper manners and to live a life of meekness and love for others. Hope sensed that Felicity wasn't happy but couldn't fathom why. It was as if Felicity could see right into her soul and that she was upset by what she was seeing. Hope quickly handed out the cookies and left the room. The pained expression on Felicity's face didn't leave when Hope left. It remained fixed in place as she spoke quietly to her daughter about the importance of putting others first and how greed was a sin and that we shouldn't allow it, even in the most innocent ways to be practiced in their lives. Then she began to pray in earnest for her daughter and for Hope. If Hope could have heard the words said on her behalf that day, she would have been shocked. But, Hope didn't hear, she had left the room and was trying to find a place to hide out to avoid the plans that her Mom had for her. How easy it is to ignore the calling of God. How easy it is to allow sin into our lives that blocks the voice of the Holy Spirit as He guides us. When the time came in the Bible Study for Hope to share that night, there was no Hope to be found. As her Mom sought to find her, Felicity began to share her story. It started out much like that of Hope's. She too had been raised in a godly home. She had hidden her feelings and led everybody to believe that she too was walking on the narrow path while her heart was hardening to the things of God. But, her story changed one day after she had made some poor choices. She had run away with her friend at 14 expecting to find some fun times, only to find a lot of hurt and memories that she chose to put behind her each and every day. To make a long story short, Felicity shared that she was at the end of her rope when she was found by a nice lady that took the pregnant 15 year old into her home and shared the true meaning of answering the call of the Lord. It was through the last months of her pregnancy that she saw what she had been missing. She heard from the Lord that night and answered the call. She knew that she no longer wished to have what she used to think was fun. She knew that she wanted to please God with the way she lived. As Felicity shared her story, tears streamed down her face as she thought of the 15 year old Hope and the sadness she saw in her eyes. She continued to pray silently for her that she would see the truth and hear the voice of God before she made the choice to harden her heart so much that she never heard him call again. Felicity realized that it wasn't just a call to say a prayer and have her name written down in the church roll call book. She knew the call from God was to live a changed life, it was to live Holy as he called her to. It meant that she would chose to raise her daughter, teaching her the laws of the Lord and spending much time in fervent prayer for her.

Questions for Today: How about you? Have you heard the call? Do you live daily to bring honor to the Lord, spending time in things that would please Him, or do you live to please yourself? How does your life reflect His Holy calling on your life?



A Walk On The Dark Side

Evangelist Jeff Strite

In I Samuel 28 we have the unusual story of King Saul consulting a psychic. And what's so unusual about it is that - not too long before consulting her - he had decreed that all those who practiced divination should be put to death. In making that decree, King Saul had merely followed the command of God in Leviticus 20:27 You see - God has always hated the occult. Over and over again, God condemns the practices of...fortune-telling, palm reading, horoscopes, etc. Divination (appealing to the spirit world by Ouija boards, tea leaves and the like) and consulting the dead (séances and visiting mediums or "channelers") In Deuteronomy 18:10-12 God declares: "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee." Even in the New Testament God tells us He hasn't changed His mind, "...sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." Revelation 21:8 . Ben Alexander was one of the best known ex-spiritualists. He had engaged in many of the black arts when he was younger, but when he became a Christian he would go about giving lectures on the dangers of Christians dabbling in these things. One of his most famous sayings was "The spirit world IS real!" He'd seen it, he'd experienced it, and he knew that it wasn't ALL smoke and mirrors, but the Spirit world had nothing to do with talking with the dead. It had everything to do with demonic activity. Part of the reason King Saul was condemned was because he consulted a medium. The Witch at Endor had never talked to the dead before - and she couldn't have done so anyway because the Bible repeatedly tells us that once a person dies... they don't come back. There's no floating around visiting with the ones they've left behind Jesus told the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus in Luke 16:19-31. Both of these men die. Lazarus was escorted to Paradise and the rich man to hell. As you may remember, hell was such a terrible place that the rich man called out begging Father Abraham to send Lazarus to his five brothers who were living. To warn them not to come there! And Abraham denies his request telling him that between them was a great gulf, so that those who want to go from paradise to hell CANNOT, nor can anyone cross over out of hell. The dead are not allowed to return. In fact In Isaiah 8:19 God says "And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?" Don't do that! God says But now, why should God be so upset about this? What's the problem with using a Ouija boards for a party? Why would God be upset with horoscopes and palm readings? Where's the harm? Well, first (and most important) God says He hates that kind of thing. In Deut. 18:12 He says: "For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee." And that not only would He cut those who practiced these things off from Israel, but that in the final judgment, these folks will go to hell (Revelation 21:8). That's enough to keep me from doing that. But why is it such a bad habit to fall into? Well, the problem with Ouija boards, divination, horoscopes and the like is that Satan can use them to gain control your affections and to manipulate your decisions. My dad went to visit a fortune teller before I was born. The lady told dad that he'd 1.live near water (he bought a resort on Silver Lake), 2.that he and mom would have 4 children - two girls and two boys (they did) 3.and then she told him WHEN he would die (a prediction that often comes up when dealing with the occult) Until the day she predicted his death, dad always kept that date in his mind. It dominated his thinking. And it shaped his view of himself and of his future. You see... that's one of the dangers of the occult... it makes predictions. And those predictions tend to shape your view of yourself and your future But God says He is a jealous God HE wants to be the master of your life. Jesus said you can't serve two masters - you'll either love the one and hate the other or vise versa. You'll either look to God for your answers to the future... or you'll look to the occult. God tells us He won't share you in this matter! That's what happened with King Saul. He had always tried to serve two masters. He tried serving God, but when things got a little uncomfortable and he felt threatened, he'd leave God on the shelf and try something else. Now, this incident in I Samuel 28 was the first time he'd appealed to the occult... but his attitude had always been bent this way. In fact, when King Saul disobeyed God the last time God told him rebellion was as the sin of witchcraft (I Samuel 15:23). At its heart - both rebellion and witchcraft are rejections of God's authority in our lives. So, one of the big reasons God hates the occult is that those who accept it reject Him

Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him. And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee. Deuteronomy 13:4-5



Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16



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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Kelly & Carolyn Ralph
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Bruce Taylor
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Joni Varble & family
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America & our leaders
Israel
James & Teresa Daugherty
Myrtle Douglas
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Wayne & Nora Carter
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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.

A Time To Give...

To every thing there is a season, and a time...Ecc 3:1

Is this newsletter a blessing to you? Please prayerfully consider sending a love gift today to help us cover the cost of this outreach.

Announcement

Evangelist Michael Parks will be preaching at
Voice of the LORD Tabernacle
Sunday Morning October 23rd @ 11 AM



VOTL Tabernacle
216 Hill St. Livermore, KY

Services

Sunday Morning Service 11 AM

Everyone Welcome

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