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"The Occult in America"

Teaching dealing with the occult, witchcraft and Halloween.

Includes...

Special Issue of The Trumpet newsletter

Sermon on CD - They Shall Judge It According To My Word

2 Part Radio Special on CD - "The Occult in America"

available free upon request

"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."

1 Thessalonians 5:22

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

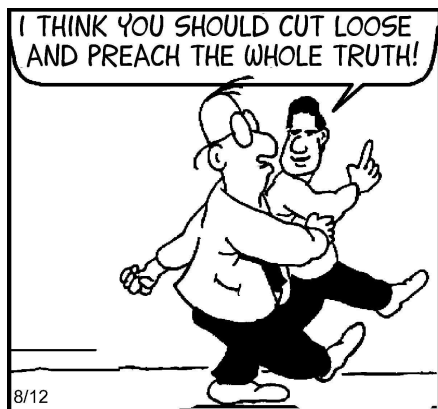
JUST AS I AM



"Just as I am," was always the invitation song whenever I went to church as a child. I went to both Baptist and Methodist churches and that was the song that was played at the end of EVERY service. I think it is important because a lot of people hold back going to church. They want to wait until they are free from addiction or they change the way they're living before they go. But God is ready to accept someone just as they are and where they are in their life. It's a good song. Charlotte Elliott became ill and confined to her home in her 30s. Some years later she told her Dr she wanted to clean up her life before becoming a Christian. Dr. Malan answered, "Come just as you are." She gave her life to Christ that day. At age 45, she wrote "Just As I Am," in 1834...it was published in 1849. It has been translated into many languages all over the world. Tens of thousands of people have committed their lives to Christ during the playing of this hymn.

It is one of my favorites and was played when I went to the alter and accepted Jesus at age 12.

Holly Johnson

Web address - <http://toons.baptist1.com>

Cousin Leroy

The owner of the local drug store walks in to find ole Leroy leaning heavily against a wall. The owner asks the clerk "What's up with Leroy?"

The clerk replies, "Well, he came in here this morning to get something for his cough. I couldn't find the cough syrup, so I gave him an entire bottle of laxative." The owner screams, "You idiot! You can't treat a cough with a bottle of laxatives!"

The clerk calmly replies, "Sure you can! Look at him; he's afraid to cough."

The Explorer

An explorer in the deepest Amazon suddenly finds himself surrounded by a bloodthirsty group of natives. Upon surveying his situation, he says quietly to himself, "I'm toast." Then suddenly from out of nowhere a voice booms out: "No, you are NOT toast. Pick up that stone in front of you and bash the head of the chief."

So the explorer picks up the stone and proceeds to bash in the head of the chief. He is breathing heavily while standing above the sprawled out-chief. Surrounding him are the 100 native warriors with a look of shock on their faces.

The voice booms out again: "Okay...NOW you're toast!"

The Preacher And The Dog

A preacher was walking down the street when he came upon a group of about a dozen boys, all of them between 10 and 12 years of age. The group surrounded a dog. Concerned that the boys were hurting the dog, he went over and asked "What are you doing with that dog?"

One of the boys replied, "This dog is just an old neighborhood stray. We all want him, but only one of us can take him home. So we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to keep the dog."

Of course, the reverend was taken aback. "You boys shouldn't be having a contest telling lies!" he exclaimed. He then launched into a ten minute sermon against lying, beginning, "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie," and ending with, "Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie."

There was dead silence for about a minute. Just as the preacher was beginning to think he'd gotten through to them, the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "All right, give him the dog."

The Dentist

Dentist - "Try to relax. I'll pull your aching tooth in five minutes."

Patient - "How much will this cost?"

Dentist - "It'll be \$2,000."

Patient - "That much for just five minutes work?"

Dentist - "Well if you prefer, I can pull it out very very slowly."



A Graveside Prayer

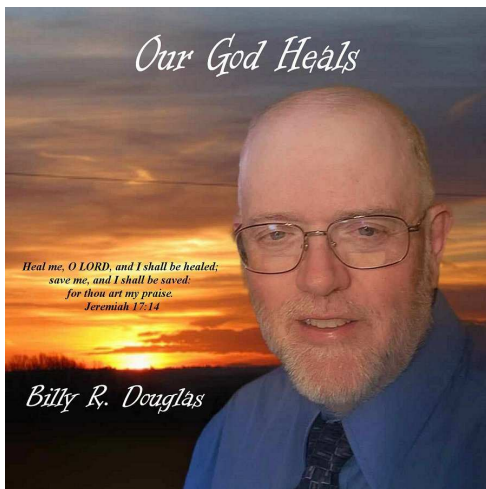
Pastor Billy R Douglas

I want to share the following poem with you this month. I had been to visit the grave of my sweet wife. After returning home as I was sitting in my chair with tears in my eyes the LORD gave me these words. They were such a blessing and comfort to me and I pray that they will touch your heart as well...

I knelt beside your grave today and took a moment there to pray.
 I prayed oh God what will I do without her here to hold on to?
 Without her touch and tender smile how can I walk another mile?
 This heavy load I cannot bear without her here for me to share.
 And then a voice said, "Son don't grieve I'm with you now I'll never leave.
 Just lean on me and hold my hand until you reach that promised land.
 And until then I'll keep you near I'll be with you and dry each tear."

written by Billy R Douglas

The NEW music project is in and ready to ship!! This project is unlike any other that we have ever done. It was completely unplanned by me, but was without a doubt ordained of the LORD. The title song is one that the LORD gave to me on one of my darkest days. A song of praise birthed in a season of pain. The name of the song is, "Our God Heals"! There is another song on the CD that I wrote entitled "Holding On To Jesus"! Several times during the past few months whenever someone would ask me how was I doing since the loss of my wife? My answer to them was "I'm holding on to Jesus and He's holding on to me!" No matter what you are going through...no matter what you are facing...HOLD ON TO JESUS!! Until next time please pray for me, I am praying for you! Pastor Billy R. Douglas



"Our God Heals"

01. Our God Heals
02. There Is A Record Book
03. I Don't Need To Understand
04. I Will Praise The Name Of Jesus
05. He Has
06. Holding On To Jesus
07. Steal Away And Pray
08. Take Your Burden To The LORD
09. I Won't Have To Cross Jordan Alone
10. Don't Make It Too Easy

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**A Word to the Wise – A Father's Inheritance of Instruction - Prov. 4:1-19**

Pastor Steven Huston

"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."
Proverbs 4:7

As we've discussed before, Solomon's wisdom is of divine origin, yet his father, King David, fed into his son a desire for the things of God. As a good father leaves an inheritance for his children to use, increase, and pass on to their children, David gave royal, yet tender, instruction to his son. Dear Reader, such precious, royal, and godly teaching is also available to you and your children; following such instruction will make you wise and lead to life, while rejecting it or haphazardly passing it on only leads to foolishness and death. Solomon's royal instruction came from an earthly throne, but points to the Heavenly throne; learn from: "the odes of praise and prayer, (Psalms)" historical orations of battle motivated by God's glory (one example, David and Goliath – I Sam. 17), and the most sober of all lessons found in I Chron. 28 – "...know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever." The "Inheritance of Wisdom's Instruction" must not be squandered; it must be used so that we will grow in our understanding and faith as we work it out in our lives. THEN, we are able to pass on to our children a greater and living inheritance with unction and urgency. In this way Adam Clarke's words are realized: "Teaching by precept is good; teaching by example is better; but teaching both by precept and example is best of all." A parent's job is to instruct and a child's job is to learn; be sure to teach, while urging your child to learn; have that expectation, doling out discipline as needed for the desired results.

Don't be fooled; although outward results of obedience are a present comfort and may impress the world around us, our goal is to capture and train the heart of our children to love of God and a desire for wisdom. Doing good can come from worldly or sinful motives, so we must prayerfully move our children (and sometimes ourselves) to a sincere love of it. So, start young, training in their tender years. It's vital to train in virtue, ready them in righteousness, and to develop a daily habit of holiness in their lives. Remind them that this is their LIVING INHERITANCE, meant for their use now in order to have a better life here and a blessed hereafter. Let them know that 2 John 1:4 is your greatest desire: "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth..." If we fail in giving "A Father's Instruction of Wisdom's Inheritance," then we ought not to be surprised if we find our children walking in wickedness' wayward path. (v 14-29) One commentator interprets it this way: "They commit sin without scruple; they deliver themselves up to it without remorse; they fall without grief, and continue in it without repentance."

Help them to avoid that path of wickedness at all costs. Urge them to listen to your Biblical teaching diligently. (v 1-4) Be constant in putting before them Wisdom's great worth and varied benefits. (v 5-9) Lay before them Wisdom's walk and the dangers of wandering from her path. (v 10-13) Urge them to not lust after or even try wickedness' wayward way. (v 14-19).

I close with Ralph Wardlaw's exhortation to Christian parents: "[L]et no infatuated wish to get your children forward in the world – to put them in the way of wealth or honour – to introduce them to what is reckoned genteel society and good connexions, or any earthly consideration whatever, tempt you to neglect their souls or to expose them to jeopardy. Proceed on the principle, that you are making the best provision for their temporal happiness by securing, in the first instance, that which is eternal. If you do otherwise, you may rue it with tears of bitterness in the latter end."

**Not just An old path, but THE Good Way**

Pastor Steven Huston

“Look unto me, and be ye saved...” Isa. 45:22

America and hubris seem to walk hand in hand. From bumper stickers reading Amer-I-CAN to songs like Lee Greenwood's God Bless the USA (I'm Proud to be an American), pride seems to be engrained in our national spirit. I do recognize that there is a sense in which, perhaps, such national pride and self-sufficiency MAY not be out of place, but still, I wonder.

Even if the above is okay, we need to come to the realization that politics, getting back to the 3 Rs of education, and a renewal of FCC regulations will not save us or “Make America Great Again.” We must find repentance, not a reprieve. Rather, America must humble herself and follow God's instruction to Israel through the prophet Isaiah; “LOOK UNTO ME, AND BE YE SAVED, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.” (45:22) Might that be our prayer.

An illustration I read recently may help the reader to better understand what I am trying to say: A man once dreamed that he was in a deep pit, sinking fast in the mire—feet, knees, body, neck, gone down beneath the surface— when he heard a voice, “Look up.” Looking up, he saw a star; and, while gazing at it, he began to rise. Then, congratulating himself on his escape, he turned his eyes from the star to himself, and immediately he began to sink again. Regardless of all his own efforts to rise only sank him deeper; when almost gone he again heard the voice, “Look up.” Then once more gazing at the heavenly star, he began to rise higher and higher, till he was almost free; then, turning to help himself, and to remove the mire clinging to him, he forgot to look up, and again he sank. Once more the voice came, “Look up; for only while you look you rise.” And looking steadfastly, he rose from the mire, and was saved.

With social unrest, government corruption, economic instability, moral depravity, Covid's suspensions of the Constitution, forced injections, and the increasing war against our Bill of Rights and Christianity, many wonder, “Is America doomed?” “Have we crossed the Rubicon?”

In response to these American woes, many secular singers and writers either warn that certain areas of America won't put up with the Left's shenanigans or point to the “Good ol' days,” directing their listeners to push back and strive for their reattainment. Some will give a hat-tip to God while singing profanities and I join James in thinking, “Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?” At best it's a band-aid, not a solution.

The problem is, we ought not to be content with the “Good ol' days,” but rather, we must seek “THE Good Way” that God laid down for us to walk in. It's only there we will find real freedom and contentment.

Instead of looking within – to our own understanding – for national salvation or renewal, pulling ourselves up by our own bootstraps, we must humble ourselves, pray, repent, and seek God's face. Rather than looking around to politics, “science,” better laws, or stepping back the degeneracy and depravity that passes for morality today in an attempt to regain the safety, peace, and contentment of yesteryear, we must look to the Word of God, turning our feet back into His path and treasuring it, keeping it, once more. It's not enough to live in a reprieve where things seem to be getting better; we must look unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.

Jeremiah 6:16 admonishes, “...Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.” I pray America's response is better than Israel's – “But they said, We will not walk therein.”



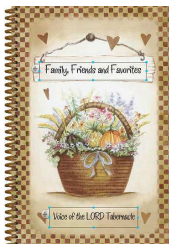
Reesie's Recipes



Cheesy Baked Goulash

- 1 pound ground beef
- 2/3 cup chopped onion
- Ground black pepper, to taste
- 1 cup dry elbow macaroni pasta
- 1 15-ounce can tomato sauce
- 1 15-ounce can stewed tomatoes, diced
- 1 tsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup shredded Mozzarella cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and set a pot of water on to boil for the pasta. In a large skillet over medium-heat, add the beef and chopped onions, add black pepper. Cook until beef is browned and onions are tender. Drain any grease, if needed. When the water is boiling for the pasta, add the macaroni and cook until just before al dente, then drain and set aside. It will cook more in the oven. Meanwhile, add the tomato sauce, stewed tomatoes, soy sauce, sugar, and chili powder to the ground beef and stir. Next add the cheddar cheese and mix. Stir in the cooked macaroni until combined. Pour into a 2-quart casserole dish sprayed with oil. Top with the Mozzarella cheese and bake for 30 minutes. Let rest about 5 minutes.



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Reesie's Homemade Vegetable Soup

- 3 cans vegetable medley (Wal-Mart brand)
- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 1 can pork and beans
- 1 can petite diced tomatoes
- 1 lb elbow macaroni
- 64oz bottle tomato juice
- 1 lb ground beef
- 3 or 4 slices onion, finely chopped
- Salt and pepper

Brown ground beef in skillet with salt, pepper and chopped onion. Do not drain ground beef. Put macaroni on to boil in a smaller pan, add some salt to the water. In a large soup pan put first four ingredients, undrained. Add cooked ground beef to soup pan, do not drain ground beef. When macaroni is tender drain the water off add it to the soup pot. I always ladle out some of the soup mixture into the smaller pan that I used for the macaroni to make room for the tomato juice. Add tomato juice, some to the small pan and the rest to the big pan. Continue to cook until good and hot.

CHEESECAKE CRESCENT ROLLS

- 2 cans of Pillsbury Crescent rolls
- 2 (8oz) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- Cinnamon
- sugar

Unroll and spread 1 of the cans of crescent rolls on the bottom of a 9 x 13 baking dish. Combine softened cream cheese, 1 cup sugar, and vanilla. Spread over crescent roll layer. Unroll and layer remaining crescent rolls over cream cheese layer. Melt your butter and spread over top of crescent rolls. Sprinkle generously with cinnamon and sugar. Bake for 20-30 minutes in 350 degree oven until bubbly and slightly browned. Let cool a bit, slice and eat



VANITY of VANITIES

A Shared Fate

Brother Tyler Willis

"I myself perceived also that one event happeneth to them all. Then said I in my heart, As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me; and why was I then more wise? Then I said in my heart, that this also is vanity." - Ecclesiastes 2:14b-15

Despite what one may think - I am not special. I am not an outlier, nor one who is immune to the afflictions of humanity. To really throw you for a loop - YOU are not special either. You also are not an outlier, nor are you immune to the afflictions of humanity. There's an old saying that goes as such - "everyone is the hero of their own story", meaning that everyone idolizes themselves and would consider themselves to be in the right in a majority of situations. Everyone perceives themselves to be immune to their humanity. We like to forget that one day we will die and that will be the end of our story. We like to think that perhaps something about our story will end differently - maybe if I just ignore the inevitable it will not come to pass! If I don't consider my mortality, or if I work myself to the bone storing up treasures on earth, I will not die. This is a discouraging opening to this month's article, but it's important to recognize that you are not an exception to the rule, and death will arrive all the same.

This is the realization of the Preacher. At this point in the chapter he has considered himself greater than anyone else around because he has wisdom that other men cannot possess and because of this he is an exception to the rules. But then we pick up with the end of verse 14 and he realizes that despite his great wisdom, "one event happeneth to them all" - death arrives all the same. The Preacher rebels against this idea and mourns the reality of it! He says "As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me" - if we were to translate the Hebrew text word for word then the Preacher actually cries out "As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth to me, even to me!" and he asks himself what the point of all of his wisdom was when in the end he will die just like the fool dies.

You see, the fact of the matter is that we spend so much time worrying about things that ultimately will be stripped away from us when the same fate happens to us all. The rich and the poor; the wise and the unwise; the king and the citizen; the CEO and the part-time employee; the popular and the unpopular - all will suffer the same fate and will be equal in death. We will all die the same death, and we will all gain nothing from our efforts on earth. Yet there is one thing that separates us all - while this is not the intention of the Preacher, it is an application we find within his teachings. The saved and the unsaved - both will die, yet the saved, who have professed Christ as Lord, will abide with God for eternity and the unsaved, those who have rejected Him, will not. The efforts of our lives, when solely placed upon the temporary vapor that is life, are vanity - the vanity of vanities - yet when we place our sight upon eternity, we can find true purpose within life. We are united through a shared fate, yet there is a separation to be found within where you spend eternity - where will you be found?



Lucifer Rising

Brother Richard Evans

The significance of Halloween today isn't so much of whether or not it was a day of mass human sacrifice by the Druids, derived from the sacrifices to Moloch, even though it certainly was. What we must understand about Halloween in modern times is that it's a mass magical operation to promote the works of darkness and to desensitize people to witchcraft and the occult. To understand that, we must understand how an occult magic operation works. The late 20th century customs of Halloween especially in the United States may as well have been composed and directed by Aleister Crowley. Crowley wrote satanic rituals in the form of dramatic plays. The actors would take on the the character of a god or goddess, or demons that the magician would invoke. It's really very simple.

By acting like the thing, you become the thing. Crowley combined masquerade with Kabbalist invocations of demonic personality traits. He embedded them in dramatic scripts and in song lyrics. It doesn't even matter if a participant is aware they're to become possessed, they only need to be persuaded to act out and hear the words. This in fact is the how behavioral engineering has been done through the Hollywood movies, television shows and music industry. Halloween has become a multi-billion dollar industry. Though it's roots and history go back some 200 years before Christ Halloween as we know it in America didn't exist until around 1950. But it seems as though the big push can be traced back to the year of 1966 with what the 1966 Madison Avenue marketing blitz called "The Year of the Monster" which glamorized Halloween as a 'lifestyle'.

The blitz included a plethora of gory toys, the glamorizing of witchcraft and the occult through television with shows and movies, including prime time sitcoms like "The Adams Family", "The Munsters" and "Bewitched". This push was backed by interests which we now identify as 'Illuminati' and Satanic. I lived through it, so I have no doubt about it. American children used to be protected by laws which no longer exist. They were protected by families and normal society. Before television it wasn't so easy for self avowed witches to get inside their heads. The Illuminati recognized Halloween as the opportunity to do that. Anton La Vey (Howard Levey) started the Church of Satan in 1966. This wasn't coincidental. La Vey's cult photos were on display in the major magazines. La Vey thus was promoting the occult, gothic, Halloween image as a lifestyle. Halloween for Satanists today is a celebration of 'Lucifer Rising'. And that is exactly what they see with the "rising" popularity of the occult, witchcraft and magic with each passing year in America and around the world. Halloween is religious indoctrination and formation into Druid paganism, witchcraft, and Satanism. I was initiated into Halloween in 1959. I as a little boy. My grandmother let me choose a costume at the Five and Dime. I went straight for a latex red devil mask that came with shiny red rayon cape. When I wore the mask, I felt transformed into something more powerful than myself.

After Halloween night, my grandmother took it away because I persisted in wearing it. Neighbors were beginning to talk. Years later I learned in an anthropology course that masks, chants and dancing are used to invoke spirits. "The person wearing the mask feels internally transformed and takes on temporarily the qualities of the god or demon represented by the mask". The Satanic Bible ranks Halloween as one of the two most important festivals on the Satanic calendar...that alone should be enough to cause someone to pause and reconsider participating in this "celebration"

"And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people. Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God." Leviticus 20:6-7



Celebration of Evil

Pastor Jamie Morgan

Many Christians celebrate Halloween. Some churches and pastors even do. I recently saw a church advertising they were having a Zombie Run. Seriously? God's House? This pastor does not celebrate Halloween and neither does her church. In a spirit of full disclosure, when I was a brand-new believer, I allowed my son to go trick-or-treating. Part of the reason was because my husband was not yet saved and insisted we do. The other part was because I didn't see the harm in it. After all, many Christians I respected did it, so as a new Christian I justified that it must be OK. Right? Wrong! As I grew closer to the Lord and gained more knowledge of His Word, I began to feel convicted about Halloween. I had thoughts like: God is a God of life, but Halloween focuses on death. Should I celebrate a holiday where people decorate their front yards with tombstones? The Scriptures tell us to put away deeds of darkness (Rom.13:12) and that light has nothing in common with darkness (2 Cor. 6:14). Is celebrating a dark holiday something a child of the light should be doing? I had been delivered from fear and panic attacks and knew that fear comes from the enemy. Should I participate in a holiday that has fear as its very foundation? Witchcraft is clearly detestable to the Lord (Deut 18:10-13).

Shouldn't something that glorifies witchcraft (just take a walk through the Halloween store) be detestable to me as well?" Halloween is a sacred, high holiday for Wiccans (the official religion of witchcraft). Is this a holiday Christians should celebrate alongside Wiccans? Is it cute when we dress our kids like the devil (or witches, ghouls, scary characters, etc.)? Isn't it, well, demonic? What if my child dresses in a wholesome fireman costume? Romans 16:19 says that we need to be wise to what is good and innocent of evil. If I let him participate in Halloween, even while dressed as a fireman, aren't I sending him a mixed message by allowing him to participate in a celebration of evil? The Lord said in 2 Cor. 6:17, "Come out from them and be separate ... Touch no unclean thing ..."

Doesn't God want His children to be set apart from the world and from sin and evil? Aren't we supposed to be peculiar people? My extended family thinks it's ridiculous that we not allow our son to dress up for Halloween. Should their opinions matter to me more than God's? Shouldn't pleasing God be my utmost concern? If there is even a question in my heart and mind that it might be wrong, shouldn't that be my first clue? Why would I continue to do so with even a lingering thought that it is wrong? Does Halloween bring glory to God? No! It glorifies the devil! Nuff said. So as a new believer, saved only two years, I responded to the conviction of the Holy Spirit, repented of displeasing the Lord and put a stop to Halloween. And as a pastor, after observing firsthand the amount of destruction that the enemy brings into peoples' lives when they give him a foothold, I am even more convinced I made the right decision to close the door to the enemy and on this evil holiday. Setting aside a day to celebrate evil, darkness, witchcraft, fear, death and the demonic brings disdain to God. Period. A Christian celebrating Halloween would be like a Satan worshiper putting up a nativity scene at Christmas while singing, "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" The two just don't go together. Jesus has nothing in common with Satan (2 Cor. 6:14), and neither should we. So stop justifying why it is fine to celebrate this demonic, worldly, evil holiday. There are no muddled lines or gray areas about it. A committed follower of Jesus Christ should not celebrate Halloween.

Pastor Jamie Morgan - Life Church AOG Williamstown, NJ

"Behold Israel after the flesh: are not they which eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar? What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? 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. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils." 1 Corinthians 10:18-21



Carry Me To Jesus

by Pastor Billy R. Douglas

Sermon on CD Available free upon request



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A Word for TODAY!



By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Additional passages for Today: Romans 8:1-18; 2 Corinthians 4:17

Thought for Today: Choosing to do right today may hurt for a while; choosing to continue to walk righteously will give eternal victory.

Story for Today: Molly struggled with what she would do as she secluded herself inside the girl's restroom stall. Only two hours into her day and already she was being put to the test. Knowing what was right and doing it were two completely different things and Molly continued to make herself sick as she wavered, being strong, doing right, and then giving in and doing what she knew was wrong all to keep the relationship she desired. Why couldn't life be easier? Why couldn't her friends just want to do good things instead of pulling her into the bad? Sometimes it seemed like it was just a little thing that wouldn't make much difference at all, like discussing a question they were struggling with in one of their classes. No harm in that, until she realized they hadn't read the course materials and were just getting answers to the review questions. Other times she would receive a note in her locker saying to meet them in the restroom at a certain time and they would come with questions written on their hands for a test they were taking.

Molly was sick of being used. They said they weren't using her. They said they were grateful for her. They praised her for her intelligence and how she could pass their tests without even being in their class. Molly attended church and she came from a Christian home where family devotions were done daily. She knew better and always said she would do better. She prayed and asked God to help her. And she knew there were times that God had kept her friends from being able to follow through on some of their cheating ways. And sometimes He had given her the courage to stand for the truth and tell them she wouldn't participate. This always came with petty squabbles about how she wasn't being fair and how they needed her. It seemed more often than not that Molly gave in the next time and it seemed that each time the next scheme was much worse than what she had refused to participate in but they had always demanded that she give them her word that she would help them. And now, here she sat, knowing what was right. Praying God would provide that way of escape and bring her to a place in her walk with him where she would not only know what was right but would choose to do it no matter if it meant she lost every single friend she thought she had. She prayed asking God to forgive her past failings and that He would give her courage and strength to do right and walk in His ways. As she prayed, the scripture she read this morning came to mind. Romans 8:5-6 "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Molly remembered the day she had chosen to let God wash away her sins with the blood of Jesus making her clean. She longed for that cleansing to continue in her from this moment forward. She did not desire to be carnally minded caring what her friends wanted her to do. She would choose Christ. She would be spiritually minded and have life and peace that comes to those who walk the righteous path.

Questions for Today: How about you, what temptations do you struggle with? Will you choose to live spiritually despite the persecution? With Jesus as our example and His Holy Spirit as our guide, we can live each day in victory.

Prayer for Today: Dear Heavenly Father, please forgive us. Help us to kill the carnality that desires to remain in us. Please fill us with Your Holy Spirit and give us life and peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

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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 too late! Please write or call us if you have made the decision to accept Jesus.



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