



The PARAKLETE

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SATAN AND LGBTQ+

Today many are confused by all the language about “sexual identification.” Satan uses confusion and blurring the line between truth and lie in an attempt at defeating Christians and making the Bible seem obsolete. He uses the TV, internet, newspapers, and Hollywood to blur truth in the area of sexuality.

If you have seen the letters and symbol LGBTQ+ you might wonder what that means. It stands for some of the over 50 so-called sexual identities, specifically lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (unlimited), self-questioning and the “+” stands for even more.

Joseph Goebbels the Nazi Propaganda Minister is famous for the quote, “If you tell a big enough lie and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it.” The sad thing is that he was right. He even added, “Keep on at the risk of looking ridiculous.” We see that working today in the area of sexual identity. Even some confessing Christians are buying into the lie that redefining “sexual identity” defines who we really are.

I want to address Satan’s use of confusion, not sexuality per se. However, I want to address confusion only as it relates to sexuality. He has used confusion concerning what the Bible actually says about many other subjects as well but he is having a field day with it as it relates to sex.

Confusion in one’s mind about who they are can be devastating. Those who can’t control their sexual appetite can become confused about who they are as a person. God is not the author of confusion.

In the beginning Scripture states **“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them,”** Genesis 1:27. He did not create Adam and Steve, or Amanda and Eve but Adam and Eve.

He made both genders in His image. He Himself is neither male nor female but uses those terms to address us. Two males or two females cannot produce life. Only a male and female combination will continue a growing civilization.

Looking at the LGBTQ+ from a biblical perspective it flies in the face of biblical truth. It also is



insulting to the logical mind knowing that there are only two genders.

Christians have no right to mistreat those who practice or support the LGBTQ+ lie, as

we are not to treat anyone with disdain. All persons are free to make their own choices, even very bad choices. It is my personal opinion, based on Scripture, that something is wrong in the mind of someone who identifies with one of the LGBTQ “identities.” Perhaps something was wrong in their earlier life. Regardless of my opinion, identifying as something other than your anatomical self is wrong. Do they have the freedom to do so? Yes. Do I, as a Christian, have to address them as something they think they are? Absolutely not!

When did the idea that those practicing or supporting “gender identity” have a right to express their view and Christians do not have the same right? The idea was hatched in the mind of Satan and is propagated by those who have bought it. Remember the idea that to tell a lie and “Keep on at the risk of looking ridiculous.” Remember when such an idea sounded ridiculous? The bad thing is that to many it no longer does and that’s sad.

What is Satan’s purpose? Confusion and error comes when we forget the importance of God’s Word as unwavering and is our guide to life. J.I. Packer said “Our business is to present the Christian faith clothed in modern terms, not to propagate modern thought clothed in Christian terms...confusion here is fatal.”

The Word of God is being watered down, in order to cater to the taste of the carnal mind. This only leads further into the wilderness of doubt and confusion. Confusion comes from ignoring the simple truth that God is far more interested in building our character than anything else. Confusion about what we are may lead some into a life that they will not be able to explain away to God. Do we have the freedom to be wrong? Yes, but the consequences can’t be avoided.

We are to **“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion**

SATAN AND LGBTQ+

looking for someone to devour. Resist him standing firm in the faith, because you know that your bothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings,” 1 Peter 5:8-9. As it pertains to our subject if we changed the last word from “sufferings” to “confusion” and it would still be true.

I can't help but think that those who are engaged in this confusion know it's a lie. But love for darkness rather than light (John 3:19) is why they promote it. I have lived long enough to know there are haters of the Bible, the Church, and of Christ, and they love to mock all three. This “gender thing” is just another way to do that.

Our response should be to (1) Love the truth as recorded in the Scriptures. (2) Love those who endorse this sin with the love described in 1 Cor. 13, without approving of the sin. (3) Have no fear of speaking the truth in love. Wrong is wrong regardless of how many think otherwise and even if it has fooled a loved one. (4) Realize that a mind that has been influenced by perversion still needs to be treated with respect for them...not the sin.

Being repulsed is natural as a Christian's first reaction to this sexual identity lie. It even causes a feeling of disgust or nausea. However, we can't judge a person but we certainly can and should judge the act. In fact, the acts have been judged.

God has judged those who have rejected the Word of God. *“Because of this God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relationships for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversions,”* Romans 2:26-27

Those who practice sexual deviancy will not inherit the Kingdom of God, 1 Cor. 6:9ff. Jude 7 speaks of those doomed and states *“In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.”*

All of this is written to encourage us not to believe the lie about sexual identity regardless of how often it is promoted and approved in print, on our TV screen, or laws written to accept it as normal. It is not normal and Satan's desire is to confuse mankind. It is sad that many have bought into it. Stand for the true...we win in the end.

DENNY'S SCHEDULE FOR OCT. - NOV.

Gallipolis, OH 740/446-6929

Sept.15-17 - Revival, McArthur Church of Christ, McArthur, OH, Scott Leach/Larry Boggs, Evangelists

Oct. 12-13 – National Prayer Clinic, Grundy, VA, Jerry Bliffen, Director

Oct. 16 – Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar, Laurel Chapel, London, KY, Derek Baker, Evangelist.

Oct. 23 – Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar, Monroeville, PA, Dave Provance, Evangelist

DANNY'S SCHEDULE FOR OCT. - NOV.

Huntington, WV 304/633-5908 (c) 304/736/2677

Oct. 16 – Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar, Laurel Chapel, London, KY, Derek Baker, Evangelist.

Oct. 23 – Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar, Monroeville, PA, Dave Provance, Evangelist

HE WENT TO THE CROSS FOR YOU

He went to the cross for you.

He stayed on the cross for you

He stayed on the cross for me too

He could have called down the heavenly host

And done none of this you see.

But thankful I am, yes thankful I say

That He did it for you and for me.

What the Lord has done for me

Is nothing short of a miracle you see

For in my eyes you see

I'm not the man I used to be.

Terry Kreiner

West Mifflin, PA

AMERICA, THE LAND I LOVE

My friend Don Kibler sent me these six conundrums of socialism in the United States of America.

1. America is capitalist and greedy – yet half the population is subsidized.
2. Half of the population is subsidized – yet they think they are victims.
3. They think they are victims – yet their representatives run the government.
4. Their representatives run the government – yet the poor keep getting poorer.
5. The poor keep getting poorer – yet they have things that people in other countries only dream about.
6. They have things that people in other countries only dream about – yet they want America to be more like those other countries. GO FIGURE

“The hinge of history is on the door of a Bethlehem stable.: - R. W. Cockman

- .DOTS AND DASHES FROM DANNY. -
Something lighthearted:

Late one night, a preacher was driving on a country road and had a wreck. A farmer stopped and said, "Sir, are you okay?" The preacher said, "Yes, I had the Lord riding with me." The farmer said, "Well, you better let Him ride with me, because you're gonna kill Him."

JUST A SIMPLE REMINDER:

Years ago I attended a revival at a local congregation and the visiting minister was Dean Mills. He began the message by reading *II Peter 1: 12 – 13* "*which said, Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them and have been established in the truth which is present with you. 13 I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder*". He read this and commented that he was not going to apologize for preaching something that he had preached on before, or something they had heard before. I don't know about you but sometimes a good reminder is something I need, especially for my spiritual wellbeing. The subject that I need to be reminded of is the fact that "**GOD IS AWESOME.**" We sing about this as we ponder the lyrics "Our God Is An Awesome God He Reigns From Heaven Above With Wisdom Power And Love our God is an Awesome God." But I have to wonder as we sing this do we really concentrate on the awesomeness of God. Let's be reminded of three aspects of God that I am afraid we take for granted way too much. Look at nature and the beauty of it. No matter the season we are given beauty and an awesome God created it. God created the universe and everything in it. *Psalms 19:1* "*The heavens tell of the glory of God; And their expanse declares the work of His hands*". God has made a beautiful universe. Make sure you stop often and appreciate the creation.

GOD IS OMNIPRESENT:

No, God isn't just down at the church house and we have access to Him only on Sunday morning. God is always present no matter the time or space. God is always with us! What a blessing! May we be reminded that God is with us in corporate worship, He is present at work, at family functions, on vacation, at even at those unpopular doctor appointments. He is there at the birth of children as

well as being with us at the time of the death of a loved one. No matter the time or place, God is there.

GOD IS OMNISCIENT

God knows everything, *1 John 3:20* "*that if our heart condemns us, that God is greater than our heart, and He knows all things.*" He knows not only the minutest details of our lives but those of everything around us, for He mentions even knowing when a sparrow falls or when we lose a single hair, (*Matthew 10: 29 – 30*). Not only does God know everything in the present He know everything that will happen in the future. He also knows our very thoughts, even before we speak them (*Psalms 139:4*). He knows our hearts from afar; He even saw us in the womb (*Psalms 139:1-3, 15-16*). God knows when we are sitting down and when we are standing up. With someone like that in our life we have to find comfort and security. How wonderful to know we have an all knowing Father by our side, always. Praise God for His knowledge.

GOD IS OMNIPOTENT

God has all power. He has all power over all things at all times and in all ways. God has the power to do everything. There is no plan that God has that can be set aside. There is no place where God's power can be seen more clearly than in creation. God spoke and things happened. That was not a onetime occurrence. The Father is still in control of the universe even after all these years. I stand in amazement each morning knowing that God has worked His plan and another day has been granted to us.

God has shown His power many times in my life. I am so sorry I forget often to thank Him for His power and how He uses it to make my life better and more meaningful. May we be reminded that God is totally in charge. Oh, there are some that think they are in charge or that some group is in charge but in all reality God has power over everything. Again, what a blessing to know God is the one with total control.

May we be reminded that God shows His power to make us very aware that we are not alone. It is also present to let us know that life is not all about us.

Danny Evans is an associate and trustee of Barnabas Ministries

TEMPTATION, A WAY OF ESCAPE

TEXT: 1 Cor. 10:1-12

INTRO: A lady illegally parked her car and left a note on the windshield that read "I have circled this block ten times looking for a parking place, so forgive us our trespasses." When she returned she found a ticket and a note that read, "I have worked this beat for twenty years and I have never shirked my duties, so lead us not into temptation."

We all have been tempted and God has never told us not to be tempted, but rather not to give into it. The Apostle Paul in our text is telling the early church of Moses and the Israelites making the journey through the wilderness and how God was not pleased with them. He warns them of the dangers of neglecting their spiritual lives and encouraged them in the matter of temptation. We can learn from it. We must "take heed" in regard to temptation, as the writer of Hebrews tells us. Here is the advice given in our text.

- I. **RECOGNIZE WE ARE NOT UNIQUE**
 - A. **WE ARE ALL SUSCEPTIBLE**
 1. "I don't want you to be ignorant" v 1
 2. We may have different temptation, but...
 3. Bible characters are not super-human
 4. We all have cravings, lusts, are boastful, etc., 1 John 2:15-16
 5. Preachers, elders, deacons, teachers, mothers, fathers, grandparents, children, in this are "all" means "all."
 - B. **SO WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?**
 1. So this: Don't give up because it is common
 2. Just know that you are not alone
 3. 1 Peter 4:12 tells us "...do not be surprised at the painful trials you are suffering as though something strange has happened."
 4. Temptation is not a sin...don't surrender
 - C. **SO HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO FIGHT IT?**
 1. For as long as you have skin (flesh)
 2. Why? Like gold, we too are tried in fire
 3. A soldier is made ready by drilling
 4. All metal must be forged...heat, heat, heat
 5. So must our faith be tested
- II. **TESTING IS GIVEN BY PERMISSION**
 - A. **SATAN HAS TO GET PERMISSION**
 1. Job 1:8 God: "*Have you considered Job?*" Devil: "*Have you not put a hedge...?*" God: "*Very well*"...you may...but no harm him the man"
 2. No matter the temptation...Satan CAN NOT, I repeat, CAN NOT harm us, he can only tempt us.
 3. We are not tempted beyond what we can endure, verse 13.
 - B. **THE DEVIL WANTS TO PROVE US UNWORTHY**
 1. He's the "accuser of the brotherhood"
 2. He desires to "sift us like wheat"
 3. He provokes as he did David 1 Chron. 21:1
- III. **A WAY OF ESCAPE**
 - A. He will "deliver us from evil" if it's our prayer
 1. 2 Peter 2:9 "...the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials..."
 2. 1 Thess. 5:23-24 tells us He is faithful
 - B. **YOU MUST RESIST**
 1. Resist and the Devil will flee, James 4:7
 2. We overcome evil with good, Rom. 12:21
 3. Know the rules...don't put yourself in a place where temptation hangs out, bars, strip clubs, etc.

CONCLUSION - All are tempted, God knows we can resist it and escape. The sad thing is many do not want to escape temptations but to yield...because we are drawn by our own lust. Don't blame God.

POSITIVE BELIEVING

If you believe you can, you can
If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you want to win but think you can't you won't
If you think you'll lose, you've lost
For out in the world we find that success begins with a fellow's will;
It's all in the mind.

Life's battles don't always go to the stronger or faster man;
but sooner or later the man who wins
Is the one who thinks he can.

Are there limitations in any person? To be sure there are. Some misread Phil. 4:13, which states in part: "***I can do all things through Christ.***" In fact we can't. Paul was referring to the ability in Christ to endure many hardships.

However, many times it is not the dog in the fight, but the fight in the dog. I don't know who authored the "Positive Believing" remarks above but there is much truth in the power of a positive attitude regarding our challenges in life.

KNOW WHO YOU ARE TALKING TO

Young people sometimes forget that we older people had a career before we retired. Charley, a new retiree-greeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a very good worker, tidy, clean-shaven, sharp-minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies.

One day the boss called him into his office for a talk. "Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang-up job when you finally get here, but your being late so often is quite bothersome." "Yes, I know boss, and I'm sorry and am working on it." The boss said, "Well good you are a team player. That's what I like to hear." Charley replied: "Yes sir, I understand your concern and I will try harder."

Seeming a little puzzled, the manager went on to comment, "I know you're from the Air Force. What did they say to you when you showed up in the morning late so often?" The old man looked down at the floor, smiled, he chuckled quietly, and then said with a grin, "Usually, they saluted me and said "Can I get your coffee sir?"

THOUGHTS ABOUT GOVERNMENT (FROM PEOPLE WHO OUGHT TO KNOW)

"A liberal is someone who feels a great debt to his fellow man, which debt he proposes to pay off with your money." G. Gordon Liddy

"Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to a teenage boy."

P.J. O'Rourke, Civil Libertarian

"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving regulate it. And if it stopes moving, subsidize it." Ronald Reagan

"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts." Will Rogers.

My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. So I had to put my foot down.

BARN-a-book (a Barnabas Ministries study series)

A series of studies in encouragement by Denny Coburn **Study Number One Hundred Eighteen – The Whole Person**

The rapid increase in knowledge is mind boggling. The progress made in chemistry, electronics, and medical field all of which has made it possible for space exploration that was unthinkable even in our childhood. We have split the atom, developed chemotherapy, put miniature cameras into our system to spy on our insides, put more data on a chip as small as a cornflake than there are cornflakes, gone to the moon and now even the wealthy, have taken a joy ride in space. With all of these advancements there is still one area in which we are lagging far behind in addressing and solving, the problem of maladjusted human behavior.

All “wrong” human behavior is not due to maladjustment, often it is just sin. However, there are many, way too many, who have personal problems that we have labeled but have not address as in a real meaningful way and have not cured. We have advanced in knowledge but addressing human nature from a single or perhaps from two areas rather than the triune nature of mankind, we have come up empty.

I must admit that few people are qualified to address all three natures, but there are a few. I am not one of them. However, I want to address the one area most neglected and that is the area I am most qualified to address. Let me explain. When taking a college course titled “The Elements of Logic” I was introduced to what is called a “Venn diagram.” Picture three circles that overlap and that all three overlap in one area. If one circle were to be labeled “red apples,” another labeled “sweet apples” and the third circle “Bob’s apples.” These circles each would represent only one thing about apples. But where all three overlap it would mean that Bob’s red apples are sweet. Some of his apples may not be sweet, and some may not be red, and some belong to Bob. But apples in the overlapping area are all three, Bob’s red sweet apples.

Like the apples in the diagram we must explore the triune nature of the individual. We human beings are made in the image of God are triune. We have a body, a soul and a spirit and each act on, one has an influence on the other two. The writer of Psalm 139:14 has stated, in praise to God, ***“I will praise you; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are your works; and that my soul knows right well.”*** The Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica, ***“May your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of the Lord,”*** 1 Thess. 5:23. The “Veen diagram for human being is: body (physical), emotion (soul), and spiritual (the real you). People often try to shield the latter, or hide it from others as it is too “personal.”

A mother who is depressed, a teen bewildered, or a deviate father may all need to be better adjusted and all three for different reasons and causes. However, if in each case only one area of their life is addressed, or investigated, then their difficulties can’t be properly evaluated. To poke a pill down someone’s throat in an attempt to fix a physical problem when the cause may be emotion or spiritual is not a loving thing to do. We certainly do have physical problems that affect our emotion and spirit, but that is not all we are. I’m sure most of us are aware that our emotional condition may have a major effect on our bodily behavior as well as our spiritual response.

Whether one is a psychologist, psychiatrist, minister, secular counselor or simply a concerned friend, they can only and should only address the area in which they have some expertise and then refer. If one is overworked, has had a loss of sleep, or has not taken care of the body then it seems obvious that rest, sleep and hunger should be taken care of first. If the problem persists then we should refer. If you know a Christian friend has been involved in some sin and the stress of trying to keep his feet in two worlds, then his spiritual life should be addressed. I recall one man who had become involved in a sin that causes both a spiritual and emotional trauma. We are, as the Psalmist stated ***“fearfully and wonderfully made.”***

There was a time in our history that nearly all counselling was done by preachers of the Gospel. The sad thing is that in recent years preachers are referring all counselling to the secular world. Do I need to remind preachers that Psychiatrist is from the Greek “psyche” meaning soul, the area in which we preachers should have working

knowledge. Today every talk show host is a pretend analyst, psychiatrist, counselor, and healer.

It is my personal opinion, based on follow-up counseling, after a person has been treated by some secular counselors harm can and has been done to the wholeness of that person. In most cases they have dealt with only the function of the brain (emotion) and its relation the body (physical) neglecting the most valuable soul. Pills may treat some problems but certainly not all.

While it is true that we preachers/counselors are not trained, in most cases, to deal with a psychical problems it may equally be stated that those trained in that field seldom address spiritual issues. They usually do not address the subject of sin that may affect their thoughts and behavior. In fact many states make it a point that to be licensed by those states they must be schooled not to discuss “religious matters” meaning spiritual matters. For example the sin of unforgiving heart has many negative effects upon a person’s thought and behavior. The same is true of hatred, anger, lying and stealing. These are problems of the soul and should be addressed as such.

In my final years as a located preacher I did much counseling for that was the area of my Master’s Degree. I purchased a book at the drug store that listed most drugs on the market and their side-effects. I asked those who sought help from a physician or secular counselor what medication they were on and then checked the book to see what unwanted effects they were having on them so I would not be counseling drug related affects. We are to **“live by faith, not by sight,”** 2 Cor. 5:7 and a life lived for only the physical is a life out of balance and the secular world does not agree with that. Therefore, the world can address and relieve some problems, but good solid biblical help is essential for the whole person.

A person can be the master of what one does, but never of what one feels and being out of tune spiritually has side-effects as well as a pill. Robert Frost once stated “The best way out is always through” and this is often the only answer to spiritual problems. This is my point, we are spiritual beings and not only physical and emotional beings. God is a trinity and Genesis 1:26 states in part **“God said, Let us make man in our image, in our likeness...”** While Jehovah’s Witnesses say no man has a soul, the Bible disagrees.

Counseling without the Bible is like cutting a watermelon with a willow limb, it won’t go deep enough. **“For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and the attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and lay bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account,”** Hebrews 4:12-13.

When matters of life cause us to “malfunction” we need all the help we can get. The physician is schooled in the operations of the body. The psychiatrist is schooled in the emotion (thoughts) of man. But we must remember that **“The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them because they are spiritually discerned,”** 1 Cor. 2:14. This refers to everyone, doctors and psychiatrists as well.

When life becomes anything less than a joy, we must minister to the body, soul, and spirit of man. We can have joy in the midst of difficulty which the world knows nothing about. Why does Psalm 23 being read to a suffering soul have a calming effect? Because it ministers to the soul of man which rules the body and spirit...or at least it should.



LEARNING with Larry

Wayne Smith was a big part of WWI for many years. We all loved him for his peaching, storytelling, jokes but most for his contagious laugh. I loved to imitate his laugh, it made everyone smile. He caught me imitating his laugh and just gave me a big smile. They say that imitation is the most sincere form of flattery.

Our English word for imitate comes from the Greek word MIMEMAN from which we derive "mimic." "Imitator" in the Greek is MIMETES and is used in Ephesians 5:1-2, "*Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*" Our God is certainly the one in our life worthy to be imitated for He is the One who gave us life and who is our life.

Growing up we will imitate those we admire the most and of course at first it's our parents, then as we get older we may imitate our sports heroes, mine was the Cincinnati Reds of the 1970's. I knew how to imitate their batting swings and I knew all their stats. Now as a Christian Jesus Christ is the only one I desire to be like because I know what He has done to set me free from sin and who gave me eternal life through His sacrifice on the cross. Now I can say like Paul in Galatians 2:20 "*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*" Imitation is easy when the one you imitate lives inside you! Until next time may God bless your life. - Larry Boggs

Larry is a Barnabas Trustee and Evangelist at three different congregations, two in the a.m. one in the p.m.

AN OLD QUESTION

"Can I be a Christian without attending worship services?" It may be possible if: I can be a student and not go to school, a soldier who won't join the army, an author without writing a book, a parent with no children, a ball player without a team, a teacher with no students. Get the picture?

OLD AGE

Old age is a privilege.

You cannot buy it.

You cannot sell it.

You cannot earn it.

You cannot inherit it.

You cannot merit it.

So if you are fortunate enough to have it,

For heaven's sake enjoy it.

And don't complain about it.

Remember, if you were not old, you would be dead.

Edna Long

THE FICTIONARY DICTIONARY

VITAMIN – What you do when friends drop by for a visit. Mary: "Bill, it's Tom, and Helen at the door." Bill: "Well vitamin."

HATCHET - What hen's do with a chicken egg. "She's setting on it right now and in time she'll hatchet."

SUDAFED – What she did to the government. "Sally sudafed in court over her excessive tax burden."

WEIRDO – What you need to make a weird loaf of bread. "I'd make you a crazy looking loaf of bread if I had some weirdo."

MINI THOUGHTS

If God is your Copilot, swap seats.

~

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

~

Don't wait for six strong men to carry you to church.

~

Be ye fishers of men, you catch them God will clean them.

THE WEAVER

My life is but at weaving between my Lord and me,

I can't choose the colors He works steadily.

Oft times He weaves sorrow, and I in foolish pride,
forgetting He sees the upper and I, underside.

Not until the loom is silent and the shuttles cease to fly,
Shall God unroll the canvas and explain the reason why.
The dark threads are as needful in the Weaver's skilled
hand,

As the threads of gold and silver in the pattern He has
planned.

-Grant Colfax Tuller

OPPORTUNITIES

Sept. 3-5 – Winning at Winchester, Winchester, VA, Contact: ccmv4thebible@gmail.com

Oct. 12-14 – National Prayer Clinic, Grundy, VA, Jerry Bliffen, Director

Oct. 16 – Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar (PRES) – Laurel Chapel, London, KY, Derek Baker, Evangelist.

Oct. 23 – Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar (PRES) – Monroeville Church of Christ, Monroeville, PA – Dave Provance, Evangelist

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

A farmer went to the city one weekend. He came home and told his wife about his experience at a city church.

“Martha, they sang ‘praise songs’ in those city churches instead of ‘hymns’.”

“What’s the difference?” she asked.

“Well, ‘praise songs’ are alright but they are different. If I should say to you ‘Martha, the cows are in the corn’ that would be a hymn.

But if I say, ‘Martha, Martha, Martha, the cows, the cows, the black cows, the brown cows, the white cows, the black, brown and white cows are in the corn, the corn, the corn, corn, corn,’ well that would be a praise song.”

HE'S COMING AGAIN

The following has been reworded slightly to match biblical truth, not to gainsay the writer of the original because I don't know who the author was. There are 300 reference to the first coming of Christ and 500 references to the second coming.

The first coming is a matter of history.

The second coming is a matter of prophecy.

The first coming was to redeem souls.

The second coming will be to claim those souls.

The first coming was to gather individuals.

The second coming will be to gather the saints.

The first coming was to convert.

The second coming will be to crown.

The first coming was as an earthly resident.

The second coming will be as a heavenly ruler.

“Therefore be ready, for in an hour that you think not the Son of Man comes.”

“If you have made mistakes, there is always another chance for you. You may have a fresh start any moment you choose, for this thing called ‘failure’ is not the falling down, but the staying down.”

-Mary Pickford, silent movie actress

THE CLOCK

The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop at the late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad indeed, to lose one's health is more. To lose one's soul is such a loss that no one can restore.

-Author unknown

IS IT STILL ON FILE?

If an unkind word appears, file the thing away.

If some novelty it jeers, file the thing away.

If some clever little bit of a sharp and pointed wit,

Carry sting with it, file the thing away.

If some bit of gossip comes, file the thing away.

Scandalously spicy crumb, file thing away.

If suspicion comes to you, that your neighbor's not true, let me tell you what to do...file the thing away.

Do this for a little while, then go and burn the file.

-Again, author unknown

LAUGH LINES

I'm proud to announce my dream of becoming a criminal lawyer is halfway completed!
Just working on the lawyer part now.

~

You can tell which inmates were involved in organized crime because their cells are much neater than the others.

~

Do you know you have the right to remain silent even when you are not being arresster?

HUMOR, JUST A LITTLE

In the old west a coffin maker was on his way to deliver a wooden coffin. His wagon broke down, so he put the coffin on his head and began to make the remainder of the trip on foot.

A officer of the law saw this and rode up to him and asked what he was doing with the coffin on his head. “Hey, why are you carrying that coffin and where are you going.

The man replied, “I do not like where they buried me so I am relocating.” – The officer fainted.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

What **BARNABAS MINISTRIES** believes

BIBLE: The only inspired record of God's revelation to us

SIN: The only thing standing between God and man

JESUS CHRIST: The only perfect One who paid for sin

THE GOSPEL: The only record of Jesus' life

SALVATION: The only hope of man

FAITH: is only “saving faith” if it includes repentance, confession of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and being baptized for the remission of sin.