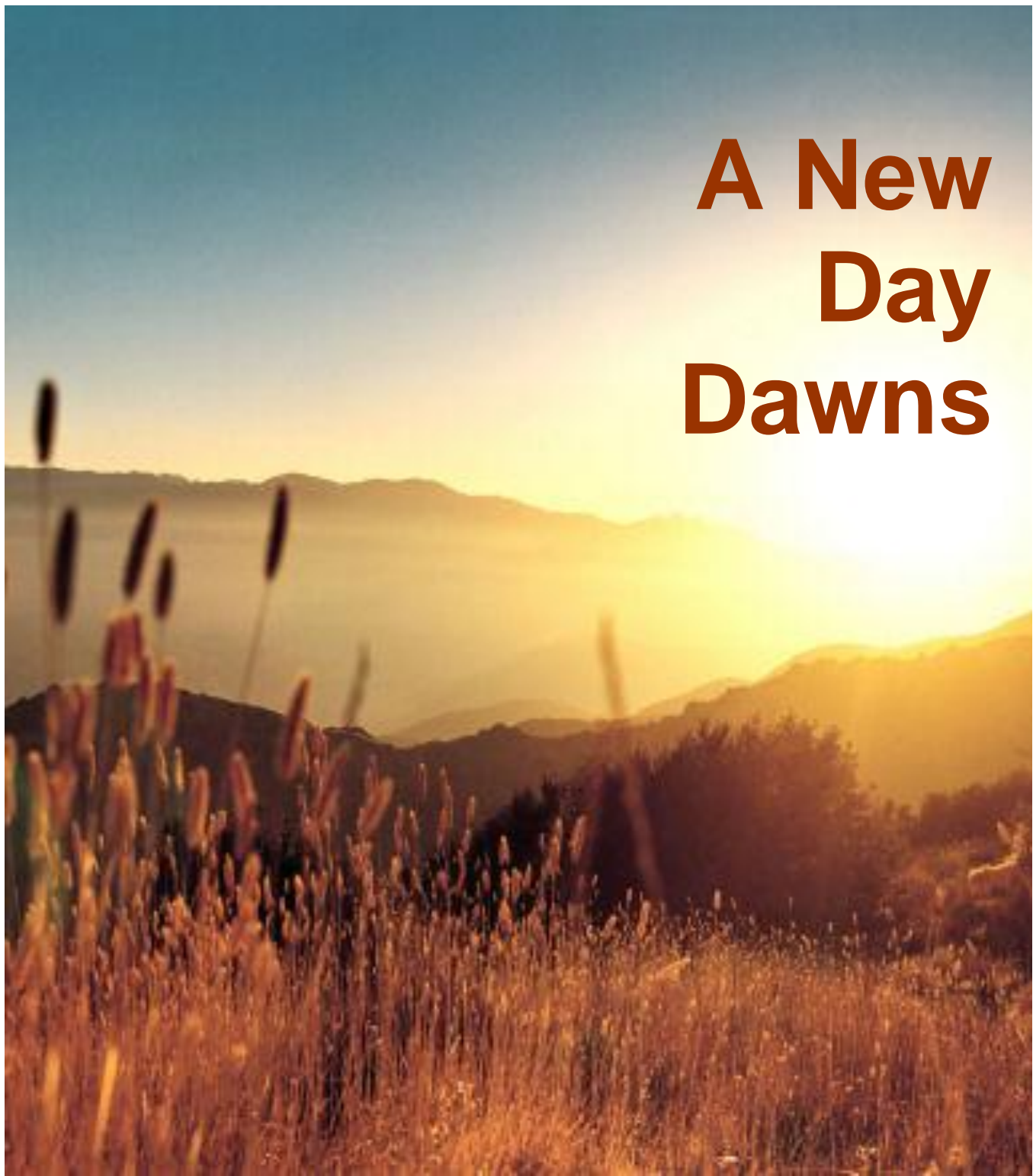


# The Bible Guys

of Yesterday and Today

June 2007

## A New Day Dawns



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*A Holy Nation*

## Arise, shine for thy light is come!

By David M. McNabb

Blessed be the name of the Lord! How majestic is His name!

We had a glorious celebration of the Feast of Firstfruits! Saints joined us from Oklahoma, Indiana, New York and Rhode Island as we gathered to mark one of the Lord's holy Feasts. God truly visited us by His Spirit, and moved in a great way, and we were blessed with wonderful songs and sermons which reminded us to "Glorify God in the Day of our Visitation!"


Now preparations are being made for the Feast of Ingathering which we will celebrate September 27-30. It is a time of great rejoicing, fellowship, and feasting on the Word of the Lord! The Lord has commanded us to keep His feast days, and He always blesses us as we act in obedience to Him. The Feast of Ingathering, also called the Feast of Tabernacles, is a celebration of the day when our Lord shall descend with a shout and we shall be gathered unto Him from the four corners of the earth! What a glorious day that will be! Let us make plans to gather this fall to glorify God and prepare a people for the coming of the Lord!

June 13<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of the day when Ambrose Jessup Tomlinson climbed Burger Mountain in North Carolina and received the revelation of God's Church. That revelation of God's Elect is as true and relevant today as it ever was. God is, even now, raising up a people that is holy and sanctified: a people for His Name. Like the faithful men and women of the Scriptures, Bro. A. J. Tomlinson, and that whole generation with him, died in faith, not having received the promises, but they also saw them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. As we commemorate the "Arise, Shine" of the Church of God, we are reminded of Bro. Tomlinson's vision: God has an elect Church, and that Church will go on unto perfection as new light is revealed!

While there have been many glorious days in the last century, prophecy requires that the glory of the latter-days church exceed that of the early church. The glory of the restored temple was greater than that of the temple commissioned by Solomon. Likewise shall the glory of this "latter house" be greater than that of "the former." The Word of God compares it to the difference between gold and silver, or the sun and the moon. Neither history nor tradition can point to a time when the Gentile people of God ever had a visitation of the power of God that was greater than what is recorded in the pages of the New Testament.

Nevertheless, the name of the Lord *shall be great* among the Gentiles in the day of our visitation. They shall come up with acceptance upon His altar, and He *shall glorify* the house of His glory! Hallelujah!

Dear friends, the time is now for us all to be sober and vigilant; because our adversary the devil is walking about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. But you are of God, little children, and have the power to overcome him by the Spirit: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

As the evil days come upon the children of God, we know that we will have light in our dwellings, and the presence of God in our midst, if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, and hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end. Amen. 

# A new day dawns

By C. Elden McNabb

Oh yes, I know, it happens all the time; every day, actually. We meet friends and ask, "What's new?" To which the other replies, "Oh you know, the same old thing."

We may casually say something such as that, but today's "same old thing" is certainly not what it was fifty years ago. It has gradually been getting darker and darker in America and around the world. Christians have been busy fulfilling the prophecy of Jesus' parable in Matthew 25. They have gone to sleep, spiritually. Oh they are busy: reading Christian and non-Christian fiction stories, and watching movies which are merely fables about Bible stories. There have been a few Bible-based movies which, I believe, were not particularly offensive to God, and some with enough truth to stir some people to have faith in God. However, there has never been one which was altogether true, and some have actually been abominable blasphemy. The Bible, however, is true, with a possible "typo" on rare occasion.

As time and spiritual idleness has progressed, most Christians have accepted the notion the Jesus will not be back soon, if at all, in their life time. But they are always talking about that mythical time when Jesus is to come and take them off to heaven, in accordance with the "Rapture" myth. They are talking in their sleep! This condition began to trouble me in the early 1960s, at which time I realized that this doctrinal error was Christianity's great sleeping pill. Today I challenge you to shake yourself awake, and begin to read the Bible, because God has told us in the Bible what is about to happen, both before Jesus comes and when He comes.

**It is written**, in the day of air travel, "Darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people" (Isaiah 60:1-8). "The darkness [God] called night" (Genesis 1:5), and "They that sleep, sleep in the night" (1 Thess. 5:7), and "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my

path" (Psalm 119:105). And of the Church, God said, "Her candle goeth not out by night" (Prov. 31:18); "Therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober" (1 Thess. 5:6).

It is amazing to me how the shelves of, what I would call, "mis-named *Bible* book stores" have very few real Bibles. Most of the "Bibles" they sell have been revised to say what they want us to believe, instead of us believing what God and His Emissaries actually said. Furthermore, the majority of the stock on the shelves is so-called "Christian Fiction." It is a great tragedy that very few Christians today are actively pursuing the Truth. They hardly have time, because they are consuming the blatant doctrinal errors which they are reading in, admittedly, "fiction" books.

What about you? Have you ever read *all* of any version of the Bible? If you hope to go to the "Marriage Supper of The Lamb," you need to get the light of the Word of God shining into you life. In John 6:63, Jesus told us, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." There is only one place to find those words: in an unabridged, unparaphrased, uncorrupted copy of the Holy Bible. In John 6, Jesus asked his disciples if they were going to leave Him as the rest of the crowd had done. "Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." If you are expecting to "make it through" on a born-again experience alone, you will soon find yourself in dire straits, as the wrath of God begins to be poured out upon Christianity. There will not be any "quick trip" to heaven and back to save us from that trouble, which He has prepared specifically for Christians who would rather have some glittering idolatry than to have Jesus and the "the Feast of Harvest," and "the Feast of Ingathering, which is in the end of the year" (Exodus 23:16). Jesus translated that to mean when all of righteous Christianity is gathered into "one," at the end of the world: the end of the Grace Age (Matt. 13:37-43).

**In 1963, darkness began to settle down in this country** when the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed Christian prayer and Bible reading in the public schools. Only one Christian organization rose up to protest: The Church of God at Jerusalem Acres in Cleveland, Tenn., under the knowledgeable, anointed leadership of the Prophet Grady R. Kent. I rejoice that I was privileged to participate in that unique demonstration at the White House that day in 1963.

For several years now, this country has reaped the fruit of that tragic societal error. For the Psalmist David prophesied, saying, "***The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.***" More and more, the students at our schools, having no god and no moral guidance, have become open and unconstrained adulterers, rapists, and murderers. And the people who control what is allowed to be taught in the public schools seem to believe that the nation is better off with the rampaging hedonism which they have infused into their children, and ours, than when we were under the gentle constraint of the words of our loving and caring Creator.

In the ensuing years since 1963, Christians have, in ignorance, let their spiritual lights go out, and have dozed off. If they do not awake and repent, God's punishment will come upon them, just as surely as it will upon the ungodly. In fact, God will pour out judgment, with great persecution, upon Christianity, before He judges the ungodly (1 Peter 4:17). Paul admonished us that we should "not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober." We are watching world events, but especially the progressive fulfillment of the prophecies which concern this brief space of time preceding the coming of King Jesus (2 Peter 1:19-21).

**Somewhere between the relatively docile 1950s and today**, the "Nation of Islam" decided it was "their time," and they began to take over the world a piece at a time. They go forth worshipping the "god of war," and slaughtering non-Muslims and Muslims alike, as they live and promote "the way" of their god. In so

doing, they are fulfilling the prophecy in the allegory of Ishmael in Genesis 16:11-12. The angel of the LORD said unto Hagar, "Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him." If you have read the Koran, and followed what news has been available, you know that love and mercy are not an issue with those who live and die by the "holy book" of Islam. It appears that God has plans to use the "House of Islam" as one of His tools in the pouring out of His wrath upon the children of disobedience.

Actually, they picked a bad time for their push. They did not start early enough, because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is going to begin to take over the world in the Fall of 2011. That will be a confrontation which we call "no contest." Whatever Islamists are able to gain in the next three or four years will soon be lost to the King of the Kingdom of God on Earth.

The darkness of ignorance, unbelief, and rebellion against God has been steadily increasing in this great country among Christians and non-Christians alike. The American government began to take on the characteristics of a "beast" after September 11, 2001. Even as early as 2000, the push to eliminate any Christian or Biblical public displays had already begun. However, by the Fall of 2008, some in the government of the United States will begin to see the mistake which is being made, in that respect, and they will try to reverse the trend, but it will be too late. In the process, they will make a huge effort to save what Christians they can, before the onslaught of "the Beast" wipes out Christianity altogether. They will thus fulfill that saying in Exodus 12:33, "The Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste."

**A new day is beginning to dawn.** God has begun to accelerate the increase of the enlightenment of Bible truth through the ministry of

His holy apostles and prophets, and has begun to increase the growth of His Church, which will ultimately become The Kingdom of God. He has charged us to make the necessary preparations for the coming of the Bridegroom, and we are moving in obedience to that charge.

We are beginning to see the fulfillment of Isaiah 21:11-12. The Lord said, "He calleth to me out of Seir, 'Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?' The watchmen said, 'The morning cometh, and also the night.'" We have had quite a long night since 1963, but the morning is upon us, and I adjure you by Jesus Christ that you stir yourself, and come together with us, to do what must be done in preparation for the arrival of the Bridegroom. This new time of enlightenment is dependant upon the labors of a group of holy, righteous, and "peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14). There will be no one in the Bride the Lamb's wife who does not fit that criterion.

If I seem to be disturbing your comfortable Christian walk, it is because that is what I am trying to do. This knock on your door is one of love and friendship. It is a call to try to get you to begin to look at what is going on around you, and to begin to "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they that testify" of Jesus Christ and the events which will immediately precede His second coming (John 5:39).

Jesus said, "Many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many." If you do not know of at least three or four false prophets, then you probably have no idea how to recognize one. Do you know what a false prophet sounds like? How would you know if you were to encounter one?

Paul described today's false teachers, saying, "I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine [of Christ] which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive

the hearts of the simple. ... Yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil. And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you." (Rom. 16:17-20).

So those "many prophets" who are among us today promote sectarianism. They do not want us to "come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God." They do not want us to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." What they are earnestly pursuing is their personal carnal welfare. Usually they have lots of money, and they are really good speakers. They love to tickle your ears by telling you all of those good things that you so love to hear, and they are busy deceiving the unsuspecting.

**The darkness of ignorance, unbelief, and rebellion against God has been steadily increasing in this great country among Christians and non-Christians alike.**

Paul was not like that. He labored to make us wise unto that which is good, and to cause us to be simple concerning evil. The Apostles Paul and John both stressed the importance of our knowing and walking according the Oracles of God: the Doctrine of Christ (Heb. 5:11-6:3, and 2 John 1:9). Paul admonished Timothy to "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in so doing thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." Paul was not referring to redemption, but to the way we can assure our being able to endure to the end, and to miss the wrath of God which is soon to be poured out upon wayward Christianity (Zeph. 2:1-3).

**You need to find someone who can teach you the Doctrine of Christ.** I am speaking specifically of the "oracles of God, the doctrine of Christ" which Paul so diligently conveyed

to us in Hebrews Chapters 5 and 6. We will send you a copy upon request, but you will probably still need some tutoring on some of it. God spoke of the Doctrine of Christ in Zechariah 4, saying, “Who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see *the plummet* in the hand of Zerubbabel.” “The Doctrine of Christ” is that measure of uprightness.


In the late 1970s, God inspired me to search out the Doctrine of Christ. I did so, and published that work, and sent it to thousands of ministers and churches in the mid 1980s. At that time there was apparently no interest among those to whom we sent this precious truth. It is my earnest desire that now, in these final days of the Grace Age, all of you will take a serious look at the Doctrine of Christ and let it help you to save yourselves from this crooked and perverse generation. If you do not want to take advantage of the labor which I put into this effort, please do an extensive study of the “Principles of the Doctrine of Christ” for yourself.

The light of truth – the knowledge of the Lord – is beginning to fill the earth in this time of the blowing of the seventh trumpet in fulfillment of Exodus 19:19, Isaiah 11:19, and Habakkuk 2:14, “When the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice. ... For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.”

That glorious light will shine very brightly, but it will not shine for very long. When this cry goes forth, you will not have five or ten years to decide what you will do. You will have only a few months, at best.

The light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ will cease to shine by the Fall of 2010. Long before that, “the Beast” shall make war with the “two witnesses” and with the remnant of the seed of the woman. The prudent Christians shall keep silence in that time, for it is an evil time (Amos 5:13). The Beast, with his mark, shall wear out the saints of the Most High, but the two witnesses shall carry the woman to a place of safety, away from

the face of the serpent, and to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

The seven Angels with the seven last plagues shall soon pour out their vials upon the seat of the Beast, and GREAT DARKNESS shall be upon the seat of the Beast. The morning comes, but swiftly comes the night. Do you have oil in your lamp? 

### ***Make straight the Way of the Lord: Part 1***

## **Worshipping a caricature of God**

*By David M. McNabb*

Caricature is a very popular art form which we see almost daily. The term comes from the Italian word *caricare*, which means to charge or load. In other words, a caricature is a “loaded portrait.”

The key to caricature is to take an obvious trait of a person or thing, and exaggerate it. The result can be either flattering or insulting, but is always unmistakably recognizable as a representation of the subject. It is very common to see celebrities and politicians portrayed in this manner in newspapers and magazines.

No doubt you have seen cartoon caricatures of Jay Leno with an over-exaggerated chin. While Jay Leno’s chin is pronounced, the caricature obviously goes way beyond what would be a true depiction. President Bush is often depicted with large, protruding ears. While this has come to be a common aspect of caricatures of the president, it is clearly an invention: not representing a real image of Mr. Bush.

Some go even further, adding elements based on perception, or for effect. Because of his ideology, Charles Darwin is sometimes drawn with a monkey’s body. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is often drawn to look like a parrot on President Bush’s shoulder, with the artist including the mandatory, exaggerated gap between her front teeth. In each case, the object which the artist is depicting is unmistakable, even at a glance.

It is possible to create an ideological caricature as well. Comic impersonators will zero in on a number of traits, real or perceived, that are characteristic of the subject. The use of exaggerated gestures, creative inflection, and repetition of certain phrases can often produce a comical portrayal of a well-known personage.

Stereotype is another way to create an ideological caricature. While my last name is of Scotch-Irish origin, I am not a drunken, red-headed, kilt-clad riverdancer. While we all know stereotypes to be an exaggeration of certain traits expressed within a particular culture (traits we have no doubt also witnessed as true to some extent), we also know that they are not an accurate description of that culture as a whole. The way a stereotype is created is by observing the actions or characteristics of the more obvious elements of a particular culture, and making a mental image, assuming that said actions or characteristics can be universally applied to all members of that culture.

Ultimately, any caricature can be characterized as a perversion. It is an image warped out of proportion, created either by deliberation or ignorance. They are, in fact, distortions – sometimes gross distortions – of the true.

In this manner, there are likely more caricatures of God than of any other being in history. Believers and unbelievers alike are prone to take a very few particular aspects of God, and distort them, or give them a prominence outside of their proper perspective. It is like the story of the three blind men who tried to describe an elephant: one grabbed the animal by the leg and supposed elephants resembled trees; the second grabbed him by the tail and said the elephant was like a rope; likewise, the third grabbed the snout and deduced that elephants were like snakes. Were any of them wrong? Not exactly, but each failed to see the bigger picture, not realizing the true scope of the beast. To take any one particular scripture regarding the nature of God is equally ill advised.

Is God love? Yes! Is God merci-

ful? Of course He is! He does not delight in the destruction of the wicked, yet He is just and able to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

The wicked desire to emphasize certain aspects of our Lord in an attempt to silence the righteous, but they are ignorant of God. They neither know Him at all, nor they want to know Him. In like manner, the righteous are also apt to emphasize an aspect of God's nature, while forgetting to duly acknowledge the rest of His attributes. This was the indictment of Jesus against the Pharisees in Luke 11:42, "But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

Throughout history, false religions have taken small aspects of God and attributed them individually to a unique deity. Though each religion had their own versions of these gods, we may be most familiar with their Greek or Roman names, or possibly their Norse names. Take for instance the gods of Olympus: there was Aphrodite, the goddess of love; Apollo, the god of the Sun; Ares, the god of war; Artemis, the goddess of the Moon; Athena, the goddess of wisdom; Demeter, the goddess of agriculture; Hades, the god of the dead; Hephaestus, the god of fire; Hera, the goddess of marriage; Hermes, the god of travel; Hestia, the goddess of the hearth; Poseidon, the god of the sea; and, of course, Zeus, the king of the gods, the god of thunder and lightning.

Whereas, even the Greek gods' king was limited in power, the God of scripture, the true and living God, Jehovah Elohim is the Almighty God! The scriptures show the greatness of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: God is love (1 John 4:8); God makes the Sun to rule by day, and the Moon to rule by night (Psa. 136:8-9); the Lord is a man of war (Ex. 15:3); it is the Lord that gives wisdom (Pro. 2:6); God sends the rain and makes the crops grow (Psa. 104:10-16); He has the



### **NAHUM'S CHARIOTS RIDE IN OKLAHOMA**


*Although it was seen by Nahum and Habakkuk, it will be Joel behind the wheel. Here Pastor Joel McNabb and Shawn Moore are seen lettering out the Tulsa pastor's "Chariot of Salvation."*

power to raise the dead (Rom. 8:11); He is a consuming fire (Heb. 12:29); God invented, defined and honors marriage (Gen. 2:18-25); He determines the fate of our journey (Gen. 24:21,56); He causes the governors of His people to be as a hearth (Zech. 12:6); He rules the raging sea (Psa. 89:9); and from His great throne proceed lightnings and thunderings (Rev. 4:5). All of the gods of Mount Olympus together do not equal the God of gods! He is great and greatly to be praised.

God is all and in all. He is not like the Pharisees who focused on obeying the letter of the law, while sometimes failing to heed the spirit of the law. Nor is He like the many deities fabricated by man, whose scope and power are limited in every way through human imaginations. He leaves no stone unturned. He is both loving *and* vengeful. He is both merciful *and* just. He is both full of compassion *and* full of wrath. He gives His people the power to get wealth *and* remembers to visit the poor in their affliction.

It is perverse to limit our emphasis of God to any one particular truth. The word of the Lord says that the mouth speaks from the abundance of the heart. For us to truly know God,

and understand who He is and what His will is for mankind in general, and for us in particular, we must get a complete picture. This picture He Himself has painted in the pages of His holy word: not on just one particular page, but upon all of them – from Genesis to Revelation and everything in between!

Let us set our hearts to worship God as He is, in the way He desires to be worshipped. Let us not compromise His greatness through a caricature of our own inadequate understanding. Let us worship Him in spirit *and* in truth. Let us walk after the Lord our God, *and* fear Him, *and* keep His commandments, *and* obey His voice, *and* serve him, *and* cleave unto him. "For the Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment. ... He is thy praise, and he is thy God, that hath done for thee these great and terrible things, which thine eyes have seen" (Deut. 10:17-21). 

# Knowing how to obey God

By Paul Higgins

“If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase... And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid... And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.” (Leviticus 26:3-13).

God’s chosen people were given this simple arrangement to follow. Obey the statutes and commandments I have given you, and I will take care of everything else. What a tremendous promise, if only they could have kept up their end of the bargain. Throughout the reign of the kings of Israel and Judah, only a few seemed to be able to walk the line. In fact, it appears that the greatest downfall of the kingdom, over time, was idol worship: the breaking of God’s *first* commandment.

King after king is said to have done what was evil in the sight of the Lord, with only a handful actually following the will of God. Yet, even those who did what was right in the sight of the Lord seemed to stop short of complete obedience to God. Time after time the high places (groves and altars for idol worship) are allowed to remain, and the strength of the nation is restricted. The root of this problem can be seen in 2 Chronicles 15, when the Spirit of God comes upon the prophet Azariah to meet with Asa, king of Judah.

In verse 3, Azariah says to King Asa, “Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, *and without a teaching priest*, and without law.” Up until this time, Asa had done all he knew to obey God. The priesthood existed in the land of Judah, but it had become stale, concerned only with ritual. Not until a *teaching priesthood* existed, one that could instruct the people in the ways of the Lord, did they fully understand what it meant to obey God. It wasn’t

until after Asa heard the words of the prophet that he “took courage” and completed the task.

Asa then renewed the altar of the Lord, gathered the people in Jerusalem, and offered great sacrifices to God. The land of Judah “entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul” (2 Chron. 15:12). Asa became a king who “took away the altars of the strange gods, *and* the high places, *and* brake down the images, *and* cut down the groves;” even going as far as removing his own mother from being queen because she “made an idol in a grove” (verse 16). Asa did not stop short with removing the altars, or even with cutting down the groves, but completed the task of cleansing the entire kingdom of wickedness. Once the king began walking in obedience to God, and the nation of Judah with him, their land was blessed with “no more war” (verse 19) for the next 20 years of Asa’s reign.

By honoring God and taking steps to sanctify our lives, our faith increases. We have all heard “...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Studying the word of God, and learning more of His will for our lives, increases our faith in Him. God honors our efforts, and will draw nearer to those who draw near to Him. What if, however, the picture of God we are given has been distorted? What about those who are being misguided by the very people they trust to be their teaching priesthood?

In Paul’s letter to the Galatians he says, “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel” (Gal. 1:6). He goes onto say that they have been deceived, not by another gospel entirely, but by a perversion of the gospel of Christ. The Galatians had allowed the pure doctrine that had been given to them by Paul to be distorted by those who either seek their own gratification or are themselves misguided. Paul chastised the Galatians for allowing the gospel to be compromised: for losing track of their roots.

He tells them “If any man preach

any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed” (Gal. 1:9). He went on to tell them in verses 11-12, “...the gospel which was preached of me is not after man” but was received “by the revelation of Jesus Christ.” We are commanded, as Paul says here, to follow Christ’s gospel *exactly*. The pure doctrine of Christ is a powerful thing, and any man that taints or distorts it seals his own fate.

John describes those who compromise the gospel of Christ as “many antichrists” (1 John 2:18). Saying that these men “went out from us, but they were not of us” (verse 19). Those that twist the doctrine and gospel of Christ appear to be men of God, but are merely seducers of men, and antichrists “made manifest.” All too often, the very people we trust to guide us to Christ are the ones leading us astray. So how do we know when we are being led to righteousness and when we are being led to wickedness?

John goes on to tell us “...ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know *ALL* things” (1 John 2:20). Christ Himself said in Matt. 24:24, “if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.” We are told that Satan will try to pervert Christ’s gospel, and deceive God’s very own chosen people. John does not tell us that we might have an *idea* of *some* of what we need. He tells us that, as long as we listen to the Holy Spirit and allow it to guide our thoughts, that we will *KNOW ALL THINGS*.

It is only by *listening to the Spirit* that we can know absolute truth; only through absolute truth can we *know God’s will*; and only by knowing God’s will can we truly *obey Him and be found holy and acceptable in His sight*. We can never be afraid to take a step in faith, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts *and* our actions. It is only through the Spirit that we receive affirmation of God’s will, and we cannot be afraid to boldly act on its guidance. As we strive to sanctify ourselves for our Heavenly Father, we must trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit so that “...we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming” (1Jn. 1:28).

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