



## Our Prayer List

- ◆ James Ray Adams
- ◆ Sarah Adams
- ◆ Dawn Copes
- ◆ Bill Cyrus
- ◆ Dottie Daniels
- ◆ Jackie Eubank
- ◆ Tom & LaVonne Haines
- ◆ Keith Hodges
- ◆ Beulah Keppler
- ◆ Bob Meiers
- ◆ Gaylin Miller
- ◆ Mike Miller
- ◆ Janice Ortman
- ◆ Hallie & Don Phillips
- ◆ Jewel Price
- ◆ Carol Waterman
- ◆ Katie Wood
- ◆ Tim Windhorst
- ◆ Shirley Young
- ◆ Geco "Hannah's Aunt"

Health

## Encouragement

- ◆ Don Craig
- ◆ Aaron Miller
- ◆ Matt Wood

Order of Service

### Morning

Song Leader	Bob Whitaker
Prayer	Doug Cyrus
Table	Don Craig
Assist	Eric Whitaker
Assist	Charlie Bryson
Assist	Bob Calvert
Lesson	Shawn Daniels
Prayer	David Craig

### Evening

Song Leader	Doug Cyrus
Prayer	Don Craig
Lesson	David Craig
Prayer	Charlie Bryson

From Ogden Biblical Recourses  
Thought for the Day, www.aogden.com

## The fellow who has the right to boast doesn't have to.



## This Morning Sermon

### "Light of the World"

**(Matt 5:14-16)** "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

## Memory Verse

Let us work on expanding our knowledge and memory of the scriptures.

**(John 8:12)** "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Is pride as dangerous to us as it was to Herod? David tells us, "The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts." (Ps 10:4) Why is this true? What does it mean to have pride? It means that we think of ourselves as self-reliant, self-sufficient, and self-righteous. What happens if someone thinks that they have all they need? They won't search after what they really do need. This stands true, even when God and salvation to their soul is in question. How dangerous this is!

Solomon also says, "When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom." (Prov 11:2) When we are full of self-pride, we suffer from delusions of grandeur. When it comes time for ourselves to be put to the test, we often fail. Imagine for a moment the shame that Peter felt. (Matt 26:33-35) Peter boasted and told Jesus that he would never deny him. Jesus knew that pride goeth before destruction. He knew what Peter was going to do. Then in Matt 26:74, we see that Peter did deny Christ just like he said he would. Peter spoke because of pride. He felt that he would stand when Jesus said no one would. Jesus may have hurt his ego a bit. Peter's shame was great when he looked at his Lord while his Lord was in chains, and he himself was rejecting him. (Luke 22:61)

How shameful is it when we brag

and boast at what we can do, and then fail at those things. It's better and will make our lives happier if we don't boast. Our work will speak for itself.

Giving God the glory must be first always in our minds. There is nothing that we do that hasn't come from God. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." (James 1:17) Anything that we have the ability to do is from our Father. We must be able to give him glory for those things.

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We as God's creation must know our place. Jesus says, "Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Matt 18:4) Being humble means knowing your place. We are creation, and God is the Creator. If you ever ask a little child where their favorite toy comes from, they will tell you right off, "My mommy and daddy gave it to me." They have no pride. They know that without mommy and daddy or grandparents, that they would have nothing. They may not understand what it takes for mommy and daddy to give those things to them, but they know that mommy and daddy gave it. That's the same attitude that we need to have to God. Thank God for all that we have! Thank God for the abilities that we have!

him, not as sin corrupted him. And it should be the aim of the race of man today to retain the innocence and perfection of the first man in Eden.

Likewise in the beginning of that time which in the New Testament is called the dispensation of grace, God also created "one new man"--the church (Eph. 2:16.) The New Testament contains the perfect description of the perfect church. Under the direct supervision of the Holy Spirit in the apostles the church maintained organic and doctrinal perfection during the period of inspiration. But after the decease of the apostles, and the cessation of revelation, the divine order was corrupted. The church declined; departure and apostasy followed. Paul very definitely foretold the apostasy when writing to the Thessalonians, of the day of Christ. He said: "That day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?" (2 Thess. 2:3-5.)

It is generally agreed that in the rise of the papacy and the arrogant power of the pope, the forecast of Paul finds specific fulfillment. The pope "sits in the temple of God" at Rome. He "shows himself that he is God" in the audacious claim of infallibility. He "exalts himself above God" in the claim of power to alter or set aside the laws of God. He "opposes God" in the very position occupied and in every encyclical pronounced.

Ecclesiastical historians agree that Boniface III was the first pope, and it was in the six-hundredth year of our Lord that

the "crown of infallibility" was placed upon his human head. One thousand years of apostasy followed. During this period, four hundred years of which (from the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries) were called "the Dark Ages," the midnight of the world, total darkness prevailed. Apostasy was complete. Ignorance and tyranny of popery reigned. The church of the New Testament, as a visible organization, was

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lost--utterly lost from view--and the abomination of Roman Catholicism deluged the earth. But time and conditions brought forth noble spirits, who, guided by Providence, fought their way through superstition and persecution. The first of these, Huss, Wickliffe, and Savonarola, gave their lives in martyrdom to the cause of freedom and enlightenment against mental and spiritual blindness. But from the embers of their burning bodies flashed the torch of reformation, which, under the leadership of Martin Luther, was flung into all the continents of the earth.

Here we pause, to take up the history of reformation and restoration in our next.

POSTSCRIPT: Commenting on the third paragraph of page 63. This "man of sin" passage is regarded as predictive of the worship of the Roman pontiff--the pope; but it is also regarded as descriptive of the worship of the Roman monarch--the Emperor. The existing conditions portending the siege and destruction of Jerusalem, the impending Neroic period with its resultant persecutions, and the eventual triumph of the church over the imperial persecutor, tends toward the latter view; and it has consistency with Rom. 16:20 "the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly," the prisoner apostle's reference to the Roman persecutor, and is in harmony with similar apocalyptic descriptions in Revelation.

FEW

## WORDS FROM THE PAST

"The Church Lost and Found--No. 1"

By: Foy E. Wallace Jr.

"And upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."--(Matt. 16:18.)

The announcement of Christ to the disciples that he would build his church and the accompanying declaration that the "gates of hell shall not prevail against it" has been thought by some to teach the perpetuity of the church that the church has existed organically and visibly in every age and generation since its establishment. A mere reference to the well-known facts of history is a sufficient refutation of such unwarranted construction of Matt. 16:18.



"it" in the passage, therefore, is not the perpetuity of the church, but the building of it. That, indeed, was the subject of the conversation. So the phrase "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" does not teach nor imply the visible presence of the church through all the ages, but is only the prediction of the death and resurrection of Christ and the consequent establishment of his church.

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In the beginning of the race of man on the earth, God our Maker created a perfect man. Adam was God's model, God's design. He was perfect physically, mentally, morally. But he was created a volitional being, endowed with the powers of action and choice--a free moral agent. He broke through the restrictions of divine law, and death, both physical and spiritual, was the result. Centuries of degeneration have intervened, but we can mentally span the space of time, and view the first man--man as he was, not as he is--man as God created

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## Doing GOOD to Those Lost in Sin

By: Al Diestelkamp

Not all preaching is done in pulpits. In fact, since it is so difficult to get people to come to our assemblies or Bible classes, perhaps the most effective "preaching" takes place when one shares his or her faith with someone else.

The "live, and let live" philosophy so prevalent in our time makes it more difficult to confront those lost in sin. They don't think it's any of our business to teach them what they need to do to be saved. They don't perceive our concern for them

as "doing good" to them.

It's easy for us to see that if their physical lives were in jeopardy, that we would be remiss not to warn them about it, but for some reason we hesitate when it comes to their eternal safety. Whether they realize it, or not, the most good we can do for "all men" is to direct them to the gospel of Christ, which is found only in God's word--the Bible.

Jesus said His purpose in coming to earth was to "seek and to save that which is

lost" (Lk. 19:10). As disciples and followers of Jesus, this also should be our "mission" in life. He told His disciples that He would make them "fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19).

Jesus gave what we call the "great commission" to His apostles just before His ascension. He said "All authority is given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore and make disciples of all the nations..." (Matt. 28:18-19). Lest we think that this commission was given exclusively to the few men who heard it on that occasion, Jesus went on to say, "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..." (v.20). That makes this commission applicable to all of us who have been "baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

It is quite clear that the gospel is not always received well by those who hear it. Christians in the first century, when faced with extreme persecution for their faith, "went everywhere preaching the word" (Ac.8:4). I doubt that this aggressive evangelism was viewed by others as "good," but indeed it was.

The apostle Peter describes us as "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people" (1 Pet. 2:9). This description is not to inflate our egos, but is our divine calling to "proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light." In order to be effective proclaimers of Christ, Peter goes on to beg us to have honorable conduct so that when those in the world think we are evildoers, they may by our "good works which they observe, glorify God" in the end (vs. 11-12).

This same message was conveyed by the apostle Paul as he urged us to "become blameless and harmless children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you

shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life..." (Phil. 2:15-16).

In teaching His disciples of the urgency of their mission, Jesus, in the parable of the great supper said: "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled" (Lk. 14:23). Though we cannot actually "compel" people to obey the gospel, we must convey the message as compelling as it really is.

We must resist any temptation to make the gospel more attractive to men by appealing to the carnal man. We do people no favor by withholding truth from them, even though it may be unpleasant to them. The apostle Paul's effort to "become all things to all men" (1 Cor. 9:19-23) did not include compromise of truth. No matter how "acceptable" sin or false doctrine becomes in the world, we still have an obligation to "contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3).

Who will do good to the lost? Solomon, in his wisdom, wrote: "He who wins souls is wise" (Prov. 11:30). Think about it! If we don't take the gospel to the lost, who will? Like the prophet Isaiah, our response to this calling should be, "Here am I! Send me" (Isa. 6:8).

AD

Article taken from  
 "www.thinkonthesethings.com"

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## CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

### Announcements

#### Birthdays this month:

Bob Whitaker	5
Bea Brown	8
Caleb Whitaker	16
Doug Cyrus	18
Cora Shake	22
Heidi Cyrus	28

#### Anniversaries this month:

No anniversaries listed

Tell an out-of-town friend to sign up for an e-Bulletin, and they can have an e-Bulletin delivered to their email inbox every week!



Check out our new online bulletin board for the congregation. On this bulletin board you can make announcements, ask for prayers, and discuss questions. You can find the bulletin board at:

[www.panachurch.com/bb](http://www.panachurch.com/bb)



**Hickory Estates Singing Night will be held on January 29, 2008 at 6:30 pm.**

**READ AND STUDY YOUR BIBLE DAILY!**

"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels"

(Prov 1:5)

