

The Faith Watch

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HELL IS...

There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes ... (Lk. 16:19-23a)

The account of these two men is spoken by our Lord Jesus Christ in the book of Luke. It gives us more than a dramatic account of their differing stations in life. It provides startling details concerning the afterlife. The facts about hell in this account are most revealing and sobering. Given the importance of one's eternal destiny it is vital that these truths be presented with compassion, earnestness and crystal clarity. As the realm called hell is described below, there will be no supposition. All points will be taken directly from the account of Christ in this chapter with the prayer that someone reading this will see the

danger in unbelief and turn to Christ for the saving of their soul. Please reader, read carefully.

(Hell is ...)

Tormented by consciousness - unable to die.

Death according to the Bible is merely a separation, a proceeding to the next level. When a person passes from this life we who are left behind deal only with the body. Morticians prepare it for the funeral at which time we view it and remember the one who resided therein. The soul of the individual has separated from the earthly house and lives on elsewhere.

The rich man of Luke sixteen found himself in hell fully conscious. He possessed all of the faculties associated with earthly consciousness. He saw...*He seeth Abraham* (v23). He spoke...*And he cried and said* (v24). He heard...*But Abraham said* (v24). Just as sure as heaven is a paradise to be fully experienced by the saved, hell is fully experienced by the unsaved who are awake, conscious and cannot escape it.

Imagine the sense of futility the rich man felt when he realized that his fate was sealed. He found himself a prisoner, helpless and hopeless in the realm reserved for those without Jesus Christ as personal Savior. He is captive, tormented, beside himself with terror, and

there is no rest from it. Here on earth there are measures that can be taken to alleviate suffering. We can administer pain killers or sedatives to induce sleep or we can even produce a comatose state to help the victim through desperate hours. But in hell there is no respite, no comfort, no relief, no sleep and no peace, only constant awareness of where the individual is, what the conditions are and the desperate truth that there is absolutely nothing that can be done about it.

One of the most damaging lies believed today is that God would not allow such a place as hell to exist, and that He would never allow anyone to go there. Let me assure you that it is well populated right now with millions who cannot ever really die.

A. W. Tozer - "The vague and tenuous hope that God is too kind to punish the ungodly has become a deadly opiate for the consciences of millions.

(Hell is ...)

Tormented by flame - unable to find relief.

The first thing we read of the rich man when he arrives in hell is a request for water. Listen to him carefully, *"I am tormented in this flame "* (v24). He is in an environment beyond his control. The heat and the fire torment him. This is the first thing to arrest his attention ... the flame! His request for water is denied. There is no relief in hell. There is no mercy, for the day of mercy is over. All the while he lived, the rich man had opportunity to go to the Lord for saving mercy. God's patience waited for him through all those careless years of liv-

ing sumptuously every day, but this man had no time for God. He was busy tending to himself. He fed whatever appetites presented themselves. Why should he worry? He had more than anyone could want. He had never known want. But here in this place want is all he knows. He will never find relief. He will never know a moment's comfort. He is tormented in hellfire.

Here on earth people poke fun at hell and speak casually about it, but no one in hell thinks it funny. The torment of hell is seen in other biblical passages. Christ called it a furnace of fire where the fire is not quenched. He repeatedly used the term "hellfire" in His teachings in the gospels. He said it was a place of "weeping" and "wailing" and "gnashing of teeth". The fact that Jesus Christ spoke more about hell than He did of heaven should tell us that He thought it imperative to warn us not to go there.

I knew a man who consistently made light of hell. As I would repeatedly witness to him and encourage him to be saved through Christ he would dismiss it by saying, "I have to go to hell to stoke the fire to keep you all warm in heaven." Over and over we had this very exchange. Some time ago I was called to his bedside in the hospital where he lie. He was unable to communicate and was not aware of his surroundings. His eyes were closed, and he was close to death. I stood by the bed and thought of all the foolish jesting he had done and how close he was now to that very fate. A few days later I preached his funeral with a broken heart. He went to a flaming hell having rejected the gospel of salvation. He is tormented in the flame along with the rich man of Luke sixteen. I'm sure that he thinks the offer of salvation through Jesus Christ looks good

now, but it is too late. The day of grace is over for him. He is tormented in the flame, unable to find relief.

D. L. Moody - "When we preach on hell, we might at least do it with tears in our eyes.

(Hell is...)

Tormented by memory - unable to forget.

The ability to remember is obviously with the damned. In fact, it will undoubtedly be heightened by the distress of that place and the indescribable and constant regret experienced by those residing there. Listen to Abraham speak to the rich man, *"Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented"* (v25). Imagine suffering in that place with the memory of a misspent life. The wasted years on frivolity will be torturous! Plenty of time to think about the waste of years to no lasting profit, like the man I read about recently who, as the time of his death was approaching said, "I have spent my life in the laborious doing of nothing." Think of the memories of wickedness. Sin will be hated in hell. Wickedness that once seemed so dear and so natural will be shameful in hell because of the damnation it has gendered. *(The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God Ps. 19:7)*. The memory of such things will be painful beyond imagination. Imagine having memories of opportunities to be saved. Some in hell went to church and heard of the gift of life through Christ. They walked away unmoved and unsaved. Some were spoken to by a friend concerning the

Savior but would have none of it. Some may even read this article and put it down without seeking salvation. In hell they will remember!

My wife and I were in a restaurant about a year ago where I left a tract entitled "YOUR FIRST SIX DAYS IN HELL" in the booth as we left. Admittedly it is a disturbing pamphlet descriptive of one's first days there. It pulls no punches. A few days later I received a phone call from a very angry young lady who had found the pamphlet. She wanted to know who I thought I was to distribute such shocking material and how dare I accuse her of being unrighteous and condemned. She was indignant and unkind at first, but as the conversation continued she mellowed as I spoke of the love of God Who sent His only begotten Son into the world to be the Savior of those who would receive Him. I spoke distinctly of her need of Christ and His desire to live in her heart. As the conversation ended I urged her to read the tract again as to how to escape hellfire and to call me again to talk of this further. I never heard from her again. If she leaves this life unsaved she will lift up her eyes in hell being in torments from the flames and remember that pamphlet and the offer over the phone of salvation! Think of it! Tortured by memory, unable to forget, willing to give anything to change destiny, yet, damnation is fixed ... it is too late. They all remember!

John Hannah - "No one who is ever in hell will be able to say to God, 'You put me here, 'and no one who is in heaven will ever be able to say, 'I put myself here.

(Hell is ...)

Tormented by confinement - unable to leave.

In such a torture chamber each minute seems a lifetime, each hour an eternity! Unable to die - Unable to find relief - Unable to forget - Unable to leave! Each inhabitant is truly a prisoner. Listen again to Abraham speaking to the rich man, "*And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.*" (v26). Those in hell are truly held there in tortured confinement.

Because Christ is relating this account of the rich man and Lazarus in the past tense it had to occur some time before Jesus told it, probably between the Testaments. That would place the events somewhere around two thousand years ago. The condemned man Jesus spoke of is still captive in hell today and still without relief. Be not deceived, there is no second chance for reprieve after leaving this life. The belief in purgatory and eventual release from that place of suffering is a manmade myth. It is never mentioned in the Bible. Also, the concept of the designation of sins into mortal and venial categories is a damning human invention! That system says that only mortal sins damn the soul while venial sins are of lesser consequence and can be eradicated after death. This may lend some temporal comfort to the sinner who thinks he's not too bad after all, but ALL sin condemns to hell unless remitted in Christ while the sinner is yet alive, and all who are deceived by false beliefs will one day be tortured by the memory of what they were taught and how it kept them from

finding the truth and eternal life. Hell has no second chance.

C. H. Spurgeon - " What woe it would be to be only an hour in hell! Oh, how you would wish then that you had sought the Savior! But, alas, there is no such thing as an hour in hell. Once lost, you are lost forever! Therefore, seek the Lord now. "

We must receive Christ into our hearts and lives as our Lord and Savior. In the first chapter of John we read, speaking of the Lord Jesus, "*He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.*" (Jn. 1:10- 12).

The moment we open our hearts to Christ and place our complete trust in Him - and Him alone - as our Savior, God promises to forgive our sins, save our soul and reserve for us a home in heaven. Then, on the authority of the Word of God, we can know where we will spend eternity. "*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life.*" (1 Jn. 5:13). And Jesus promises, "*He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*" (Jn. 5:24).

Now, are you willing to settle the matter of your eternal destiny? Will you do it? You can, right this moment.

"Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that you died for me upon the cross and rose again from the dead. I repent of my sins and receive you as my personal Lord and Savior. I ask you to come into my heart, forgive me of my sins and save my soul. Amen."

If you have received salvation through Christ I would like to rejoice with you. Please write to me at the address below so that I might pray for you and send you some literature to help you start your new life.

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No New Thing Under The Sun

Rick Crawford

The number one hot-button issue of today is global warming and environmental change. One would have to be living alone on a deserted island in order to escape the effects of legislation and political correctness related to it. Sadly, America is about to embark on an economy-killing course of legislation that is based on half-truths and dubious science at best. There is not space here to refute environmentalism. If one were to take the time to research the subject honestly rather than listen exclusively to the hype of the major media, he would find that there is no global warming, the ice caps are not melting, nor are any other environmental catastrophes brewing. Nor is there by any means consensus on the subject. At last count there were over 17000 sci-

entists who have signed a petition protesting the global warming concept. Yet they can find no professional journals that will publish their articles.

Al Gore recently stated that the 'debate is over'. There has never been a debate. Steven J. Milloy has issued Al Gore a standing invitation to debate the subject on scientific fact alone. Yet Gore refuses to even return calls. Mr. Milloy holds a B.A. in Natural Sciences from the Johns Hopkins University, a Master of Health Sciences in Biostatistics from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, a Juris Doctorate from the University of Baltimore, and a Master of Laws from the Georgetown University Law Center. He also has a \$125,000 prize awaiting anyone who can demonstrate conclusive scientific proof of global warming. Not surprisingly there has not been a single inquiry for what should be 'easy money'. This simply underscores the fact that the concept is more of a religious than scientific one. A perusal of recent headlines demonstrates this:

Study: Canadian Beer Drinkers Threaten Planet - Fox News 11/30/07. (No thought for the ravages of alcohol; many beer drinkers have refrigerators dedicated to the purpose, thus using unnecessary energy.)

Mankind 'Shortening The Universe's Life' - UK Telegraph 11/21/07. (Since man is a part of the energy of the universe our increasing knowledge of the workings of the cosmos is offending it and corrupting it and therefore hastening its end.)

The Earth Fights Back - Guardian Unlimited 8/7/07. (Global warming is caus-

ing earthquakes & volcanoes as the earth responds to our abuse of it.)

Since 1962, when the US Supreme Court outlawed prayer in public school (Engel v. Vitale), this nation, and by its example, the world as a whole, has been on a relentless march away from the God of the Bible. Man being made in the image of God was made to worship God. However, once He has been flatly rejected, man must therefore look elsewhere for an object of reverence. Nature seems to be that which all nations can agree upon as worthy of common devotion. Al Gore believes that saving the Earth can only be accomplished through a "new spirituality" common to all religions and "requires reuniting science and religion". Thomas Berry of Fordham University calls man's ecological responsibility "preeminently a religious and spiritual task". The 1990 Global Forum held in Moscow, called for "a global council of spiritual leaders" and the "creation of an inter-faith prayer.. a new spiritual and ethical basis for human activities on Earth." Carl Sagan, the astronomer best known for the Cosmos series on PBS, declared that "any efforts to safeguard and cherish the environment need to be infused with a vision of the sacred." An avowed atheist, Sagan also stated, "If we must worship a power greater than ourselves, does it not make sense to revere the Sun and stars?"

King Solomon, under the inspiration of God, observed:

The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun. Ecclesiastes 1:9

This affinity for nature worship is not new. Old Testament Israel dealt with a surprisingly similar situation. In their case it was the worship of Baal, an ancient Canaanite and Mesopotamian deity believed to be the "giver of life". Mankind was therefore dependant upon him for providing what was necessary to sustain the farms, flocks and herds. The land of Canaan was devoted to the worship of Baal and the Canaanites believed that Baal was in absolute control over nature and over people. Baal was the principal deity of the land. It was he who was in charge of the rain and the weather, and man's very survival was dependent upon Baal's provision.

It is revealing to compare this with the modern concept of Gaia (Greek for 'earth mother'). The Gaia hypothesis proposes that living and nonliving parts of the earth are to be viewed as a complex interacting system that can be thought of as a single organism. It theorizes that all living things have a regulatory effect on the Earth's environment and therefore promotes life overall. This notion was originated in 1965 with Dr. James Lovelock, while working for NASA on methods of detecting life on Mars. Lovelock, author of 'The Ages of Gaia', was the featured speaker at the 1988 Forum in Oxford, England. He told the audience: "*On Earth, she [Gaia] is the source of life everlasting and is alive now; she gave birth to humankind and we are a part of her.*"

Whether the term is Baal or Gaia, the underlying power is the same. These are the mechanizations of Satan to bring in his agenda willingly aided by wicked men and women blinded by lust for wealth and power while many others are duped into thinking that world unification will bring peace and safety. Envi-

ronmentalism falsely gives them that hope. It will only play into the hands of the antichrist.

Israel tried to play both ends. They wanted to worship Baal but still hang on to the trappings of service to Jehovah. God gave them multiple warnings about their nature worship and sent prophet after prophet to warn them. Finally, after many years, God's patience and longsuffering reached an end. Destruction and slavery fell upon His chosen nation for their idolatry. Can America expect less as it rushes headlong into the same error?

What does God have to say on the issue of climate change? Surely Scripture would give us some guidelines on dealing with such a catastrophe were it to occur. This will come as a surprise to many but such a concept is nowhere found in the Bible. Speaking to Adam and Eve:

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. Ge 1:28

Notice in the creation account of Genesis 1 that God created the inferior things first. Each successive act of creation involved more and more complexity. We therefore have the earth itself on the lowest end with man on the highest. Interestingly the Hebrew word translated 'subdue' literally means 'to tread down; to disregard; to conquer, subjugate, violate; bring into bondage, force, keep under, subdue, bring into subjection'. Strong words sure to raise the ire

of any environmentalist.

We need not fear what will happen to the earth. The Bible lays out the details of the end times. It will not be destroyed by climate change, an asteroid or nuclear war. It will remain as it has for the last 6000 years until the Lord returns to establish His 1000 year kingdom.

*For by him (Jesus) were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, **and by him all things consist.** Colossians 1:16-17*

*Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and **upholding all things by the word of his power**, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Hebrews 1:3*

The disturbing trend of late is that 'evangelicals' are embracing this notion. Chung Hyun Kyung, a South Korean Presbyterian: "*For many Asians, we see god in the wind, in the fire, in the tree, in the ocean. We are living with god, it is just energy ... it is in the sun, in the ocean, it is from the ground and it is from the trees*" (Sounds eerily similar to Yoda in Star Wars). Norman Vincent Peale said, "*God is energy. As you breathe God in, as you visualize His energy, you will be reenergized!*" Not to be outdone the National Association of Evangelicals issued a statement explicitly throwing its weight behind the growing "creation care" movement, which asserts that

Christians are stewards of God's creation. Even closer to home, the Southern Baptist Convention, not willing to be seen as the odd one out, issued a very similar statement. It would seem that even those who recognize the issue for what it is do not want to be seen as some sort of fringe element.

Mankind is **not** a steward of the earth, as they would have us believe. A steward by definition is subject to the one he serves. Yet the book of Genesis clearly places man superior to creation. We cannot afford to be like the Israelites of Elijah's day, holding to the worship of God on one hand, yet afraid to oppose the world's system on the other. A true Christian has a choice before him.

How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. 1 Kings 18:21

We the 10, 11 and 12 year old Sunday School Class are starting a one year project. It is our understanding our missions budget is in need of additional funds. In the spirit of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) we are asking for your help.

1. Pray for us that we will be successful in our monthly missions commitment.
2. Pray to God for what He would have you to do.
3. Would you give a donation every time you come to church?
4. We will be having a loose change drive every Wednesday night by a student passing a basket. Please donate.

Confessions For The Holiday

Ben Stein was trained as a lawyer and served as a speechwriter for President Nixon. He is the author of 16 books and writes editorials and columns for a number of publications. He is probably best known for his role in the movie 'Ferris Bueller's Day Off' as the dull teacher. He also is the host of the game show 'Win Ben Stein's Money' on Comedy Central as well as appearing in several TV commercials.

The following was written by Mr. Stein and recited by him on CBS Sunday Morning Commentary, Sunday, 12/18/05.

“Herewith at this happy time of year, a few confessions from my beating heart:

I am a Jew, and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish. And it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautiful lit up, bejeweled trees Christmas trees. I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are: Christmas trees. It doesn't bother me a bit when people say, "Merry Christmas" to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year. It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display at a key intersection near my beach house in Malibu.

If people want a creche, it's just as fine with me as is the Menorah a few hundred yards away.

I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe

in God are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period.

I have no idea where the concept came from that America is an explicitly atheist country. I can't find it in the Constitution, and I don't like it being shoved down my throat.

Or maybe I can put it another way: where did the idea come from that we should worship Nick and Jessica and we aren't allowed to worship God as we understand Him?

I guess that's a sign that I'm getting old, too.

But there are a lot of us who are wondering where Nick and Jessica came from and where the America we knew went to.”

Submitted by Cherie Derrick

Here is just a little note to let you know how much I love my Sunday school class and what they have done for me. I first of all would like to thank Pastor for allowing me the opportunity to teach. Second of all, I would like to thank the parents for lending me your children every Sunday morning. Thirdly I would like to thank the kids for coming to class with eager hearts and warm smiles. I teach ages 3-5 which is a challenging age group to teach. The 5 year olds get bored when you have to slow things down a bit for the 3 year olds. Now a while ago the devil put a doubt in my heart whether or not I was doing any good. I had often wondered if the kids were even listening to me or was I just a glorified babysitter. All of the sudden it hit me; I have been called to teach the very first kids out of the nursery. Now for those of you who probably

have said the same things I said, they do listen. They do understand. I have the chance to make or break their faith. If I don't instill in the heads and hearts that Jesus died for them, then what business do I have being their teacher? After all did Jesus not say to suffer the little children and forbid them not to come into the kingdom? (Mt. 19:14) So let me tell you after seeing some of the little ones that I have taught over the years come to know Christ as Lord of their lives, accept the gift of eternal life, and join the church in believers baptism, it puts a joy in my heart and a smile on my face to know that I am making a difference. So in conclusion I would ask that you pray for me that Satan will stay out of my mind and stop making me doubt what I have been called to do. These children are the future of this church.

Sara Shipp

Kid Test

Submitted by Bette Salmonson

Before deciding to have kids, couples should take the following tests to see if they're really ready!

Mess Test: Smear peanut butter on the sofa and curtains; leave it. Place a fish stick behind the couch; leave it there for the duration of the summer.

Toy Test: Spread about 50 toys throughout the house. Take off shoes and turn off lights. Walk from room to room, without screaming (because screaming would wake a sleeping child).

Dressing Test: Find a live octopus; stuff it into a small net bag, making sure all arms go in and stay in.

Feeding Test: Fill a large plastic milk jug half full with water. Suspend the jug from the ceiling with a cord; start the jug swinging. Carefully insert spoonfuls of soggy cereal into the jug's opening while pretending that the spoon is an airplane. When all of the cereal is in the jug, dump the contents onto the floor.

Sleep Test: Fill a small cloth bag with 12 pounds of sand; soak thoroughly in water. At 6PM pick up the bag and begin to waltz, while humming, until 9 PM. Lay the bag down and set the alarm for 10 PM; get up, pick up bag and sing every song you know until 4AM. Lay bag down; set alarm for 5 AM; get up and go to work. Repeat for three to five years, increasing amount of sand regularly.

Automobile Test: Buy a station wagon or van. Put a chocolate ice cream cone in the glove box and leave it there. Take a dime and shove it into the CD player. Take a package of chocolate chip cookies and mash them into the back seat. Run a rake along the outside (both sides) of the vehicle.

Physical Test (Women): Attach a large bean bag to the front of your clothes. Leave there for nine months. Remove beans and try not to notice the closet full of clothes you may or may not ever wear again.

Physical Test (Men): Go to a drug-store. Set your wallet on the counter and tell the clerk to help himself. Now go to the grocery store and arrange for your paycheck to be directly deposited into the store's account. Buy yourself a newspaper, go home and read it quietly (for the last time).

Advice Test: Find a couple who has a small child. Lecture both parents on how they can - and should - improve on their discipline and patience. Give them

advice on everything from toilet training to table manners to getting rid of the security blanket. Emphasize that they should never, under any circumstances, allow their child to run wild. It will be the last time you will have all the answers.

Teen Corner

Matt & Christy Fox

"Mission Minded" These past few weeks the teen group has been concentrating on what it means to be mission minded. We have been exploring the meaning of missions: Who is called to be a missionary? How are they called? What is the mission of missions? We have explored the various times the great commission was given in the New Testament and to whom it was given. It is through this study that we hope to cement in our minds that God intends ALL Christians to preach his word. It seems that most Christians who are confronted with a witnessing opportunity tend to think, "If I could only get this person to come to church, they might get saved!", when what should be coming to mind is a verse like Mark 16:15, "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." I wonder how many souls might have been won to Christ, how many sinners might have escaped hell, if only the Christians around them had come into battle fully prepared to spread the gospel!

It is through studies like this that we hope to guide and direct the teen group to more fully embrace what God would have them do in their lives. So often teens are taught with the attitude that we can only give them the information

and that they will eventually just decide for themselves which direction to take. It is our hope that at Faith Baptist Church we can inspire our teens to see what God has to offer and give the nudges and pushes that are so often needed to "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

We also hope to put the importance of a Bible reading and memorization program into our young teen's lives. We believe that memorizing verses is key to ensuring Christians won't stray too far from the word as they grow. Psalm 119:11 teaches us that memorizing scripture is instrumental in avoiding sin in one's life. We should never underestimate the power of scripture in our daily lives. Sin can be easily avoided if armed with the correct scripture. It is our belief that scripture reading and memorization will help prevent our young Christians from becoming another statistic. Too many Christian who are saved at a young age end up going out and experiencing what the world has to offer, when they could have been living a life of service for our Lord.

We hope that you will pray with us as we begin our service in the teen group, and we hope that we will be able to serve faithfully and that we might be able to show through our example that lifelong service to Jesus is something to be proud of, and something to aspire to.

Every Watch we will be printing a list of memory verses that the teens will be working on, feel free to memorize with us.

Psalms 119:9,10,11 "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart

have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

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

II Timothy 4:2 " Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

Heritage Class

Have you heard us on Wednesday evening? We are the Heritage Kids. Sometimes you hear us singing, sometimes our footsteps accompany Pastor's teachings. We are hard to ignore.

The Heritage Kids are separated by age into three classes and it is my blessing to work with the 9 to 12 year olds. Most nights I arrive with a lesson plan in mind, worksheets printed and goals well laid out. As a matter of fact I have arrived with the same lesson plan for the past month and we have yet to get around to it. It remains my fallback plan.

We started two months ago to review on Wednesday evening the Pastor's sermon from Sunday evening. Initially I planned to spend 10 to 15 minutes reviewing before we went on to the prepared lesson and we may yet accomplish that. For now we spend the evening reviewing the sermon, reading the Bible verses and trying to apply them to our daily lives.

It has been pointed out to me that we do tend to chase the occasional rabbit,

thank you very much. I am working on that. At times I find I am not as prepared as I should be, as their questions frequently send me searching my Bible for answers. I am also working on that.

It is my goal for these young people that through study and conversation they would find their strength in the Word of God and that it would be their daily foundation.

Thank you for the opportunity to spend the evening with this oh so challenging and entertaining group. Please pray for me that I may be worthy of their trust and that I may lead them in the paths the Lord would have us to take.

Ella Crawford



I teach Wednesday night Heritage Kids ages 6-9. I taught this same class a few years ago. My job situation changed and I had to give up teaching. When Ben and Rubie moved to Texas, Pastor had to move a few teachers around and he offered me the chance to teach again. The kids are very eager and when I ask a question every hand in the room goes up. They are also very smart. I am continually amazed at the things they know. They know more about Jesus and the Bible than most of the people I come in contact with every day.

We are beginning to study about how God always keeps His promises. He promised to send Zacharias a son, John, who would prepare the way for Jesus, who is God's promised Son. We should thank God daily for the promises He always keeps.

I would like to finish by telling everyone how fortunate I feel to have a very small part in the spiritual growth of "our kids".

Barb Rundall

In Light of the Biblical Doctrine of Hell, If I Were the Devil:

1. I would have some religious groups teach that hell is really the grave. This would eliminate the horror and the fire of hell and cause much confusion.
2. I would convince people that hell is really on earth in the form of bad luck or misfortune in life. It would all be about the here and now.
3. I would have preachers avoid the subject altogether as being too controversial and bad for church growth. They would preach only positive sermons. Making people comfortable would be the goal.
4. I would reinvent God as Someone Who loves people too much to ever allow a flaming hell to be a reality. There would be nothing to fear from Him and only Heaven forever to all.
5. I would engross people in the things of this life. The material and social and sensual things would dominate to such an extent that eternal things would seldom come to mind.
6. Finally, I would convince even the religious world that there is no need of a "new birth" to be "saved." Just believe in the god of your understanding and do your best in life. It will all work out in the end.

Thereby hell would be abundantly populated.

Psalm 9:17 - The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God

SOMETIME, SOMEWHERE

Unanswered yet? the prayer
your lips have pleaded
In agony of heart these many
years.
Does faith begin to fail? Is
hope departing?
And think you all in vain those
falling tears?
Say not the Father hath not
heard your prayer;
You shall have your desire
sometime, somewhere.
Unanswered yet? though when
you first presented
This one petition at the
Father's throne
It seems you could not wait the
time of asking
So urgent was your heart to
make it known.
Though years have passed
since then, do not despair;
The Lord will answer you
sometime, somewhere.
Unanswered yet? nay, do not
say ungranted.
Perhaps your part is not yet
wholly done.
The work began when first
your prayer was uttered
And God will finish what He
has begun.
If you will keep the incense
burning there
His glory you shall see
sometime, somewhere.
Unanswered yet, faith cannot
be unanswered.
Her feet are firmly planted on
the Rock;
Amid the wildest storm, she
stands undaunted;

Nor quails before the loudest
thundershock.
She knows Omnipotence has
heard her prayer
And cries, "It shall be done
sometime, somewhere!"

WHAT IS IT???

When asked this riddle, 80% of kinder-
garten students got the answer, com-
pared to 17% of Stanford University
seniors.

What is greater than God
More evil than the devil
The poor have it
The rich need it
And if you eat it, you'll die?

HINT: The answer is ONE WORD and
seven letters long.



Burnetta's Babbles

It is time once again for another article from Burnetta. I was going to write an article on another word with the letter "I" in the middle, but the LORD change it on me. Instead I am going to write an article on peace. During this time of year, we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. I just love this time of the year. There is a song for this time of the year. It is that of Peace on Earth good will toward men. I have had the privilege to have been saved for almost 21 years now and up until November 4th I had never really been able to say that I had the peace that passeth all understanding. I have the true peace that comes to those who love the Lord whole heartedly, and have completely surrendered all. The night of November 4th during the service, I had been wrestling with the Devil over a few things, and it was like a ton of bricks had hit me in the head when Bro. Nelson preached "Who is your Master?" Now Bro. Nelson had four questions that night.

- 1. Who is our Master?**
- 2. What is our method to find our master?**
- 3. What is your manifestation?**
- 4. What is your movement?**

The answer to the first question is completely in your hands. The method as to how to find your master is in prayer.

Colossians 4:2 "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving, "

The manifestation should be His words.

Colossians 4:3-4 "Withal praying

also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak "

The last question has the answer of that it is of wisdom.

Colossians 4:5 "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. "

I can honestly stand before you today and tell with my whole heart that I truly have surrendered all to Him and that the peace that I have within me is overflowing outwardly.

I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ anymore. No matter what may come my way, I know that without a shadow of a doubt that I am in the center of His will and that if I but only listen and be a doer of His will, I will have peace and sweet rest as I yield Him my body and soul.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have peace and joy and all the blessings that have been promised those who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit?

Romans 8:6 "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

I can tell you from my own experience, that the peace that I have lies not in this world but in Heaven. The peace that the Lord offers is way better than any peace this world can offer. Once you get a taste of His peace, you will want more and more of it. I know that I do. You just get a joy in your soul you

can't help but share with others. Why just the other day I had a fellow co-worker ask me this question. Now to set the background for the question, let me tell what I was wearing. I had on a t-shirt that said this, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." and a hat that said on the front, "Proud to be an elephant." On the back it said, "Vote Republican" Now we all know that with the upcoming Presidential election, that probably wasn't exactly what I should have been wearing, but ya'll know me. This co-worker asked me if I had a death wish. I informed him that my death had been signed, sealed, and delivered so bring it on. I then explained to him that he too could have the peace that I have and can have the joy that only comes to those who know and follow the Lord's will. He also said to me, "I wish I was that happy." I told him he could be, that the blood of Jesus covered it all. I then had the opportunity to witness to him and explain that Christ came not to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. Of course, wouldn't you know it; he didn't want to hear that.

Now I am not telling you all this to point any fingers at myself nor to say how wonderful I am, but to point to Christ and give the glory to Him where it belongs. So, ask yourself this simple question,. Do you have this peace? If not, I wouldn't waste another minute in the so called peace the world offers. The peace which passeth all understanding. God's peace.

John 14:2 7 "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid." "



If Jesus were to do His same ministry on earth today, He would be wanted by....

the FDA for turning water into wine without a license ...

the EPA for killing fig trees ...

the AMA for practicing medicine without a license ...

the Dept. of Health for asking people to open graves, for raising the dead and for feeding 5,000 people in the wilderness...

the NEA for teaching without a certificate ...

OSHA for walking on water without a life-jacket and for flying without an airplane ...

the SPCA for driving hogs into the sea ...

the NATIONAL BOARD of PSYCHIATRISTS for giving advice on how to live a guilt-free life ...

the INTER-FAITH MOVEMENT for condemning all other religions ...

and by the ZONING DEPT. for building mansions without a permit.



FAITH BAPTIST WATCH

520 12th St

Moline, IL 61265



*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves:
it is the gift of God: Not of works lest any man should boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9