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**“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than an two-edged sword”… Hebrews 4:12**

**APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER**

***CLEAVER OF TRUTH MINISTRY***

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**Dear Friends and Family,**

 **Due to the fact that Rodney and I have other obligations that are taking a lot of our time we will not be publishing the news Letter in May, but we will be doing a May-June newsletter in June. Then every two months. We regret having to do this but we are getting o-l-d-e-r and s-l-o-w-e-r, so we have to be more realistic about what we are able to do without stressing ourselves.**

 **We have enjoyed doing this since 2010 and we don’t intend to stop now!**

 **May God bless each one of you and thanks for reading our newsletters.**

**Message this month: I Trouble**

**The Folded Napkin**

**I try not to be biased, but I had my doubts about hiring Stevie. His placement counselor assured me that he would be a good, reliable busboy. But I had never had a mentally handicapped employee and wasn't sure I wanted one. I wasn't sure how my customers would react to Stevie.**

 **He was short, a little dumpy with the smooth facial features and thick-tongued speech of Downs Syndrome. I wasn't worried about most of my trucker customers because truckers don't generally care who buses tables as long as the meatloaf platter is good and the pies are homemade.**

 **The four-wheeler drivers were the ones who concerned me; the mouthy college kids traveling to school; the yuppie snobs who secretly polish their silverware with their napkins for fear of catching some dreaded "truck stop germ" the pairs of white-shirted business men on expense accounts who think every truck stop waitress wants to be flirted with. I knew those people would be uncomfortable around Stevie so I closely watched him for the first few weeks.**

 **I shouldn't have worried. After the first week, Stevie had my staff wrapped around his stubby little finger, and within a month my truck regulars had adopted him as their official truck stop mascot.**

 **After that, I really didn't care what the rest of the customers thought of him. He was like a 21-year-old in blue jeans and Nikes, eager to laugh and eager to please, but fierce in his attention to his duties. Every salt and pepper shaker was exactly in its place, not a bread crumb or coffee spill was visible when Stevie got done with the table. Our only problem was persuading him to wait to clean a table until after the customers were finished. He would hover in the background, shifting his weight from one foot to the other, scanning the dining room until a table was empty. Then he would scurry to the empty table and carefully bus dishes and glasses onto his cart and meticulously wipe the table up with a practiced flourish of his rag.**

 **If he thought a customer was watching, his brow would pucker with added concentration. He took pride in doing his job exactly right, and you had to love how hard he tried to please each and every person he met.**

**Over time, we learned that he lived with his mother, a widow who was disabled after repeated surgeries for cancer. They lived on their Social Security benefits in public housing two miles from the truck stop. Their social worker, who stopped to check on him every so often, admitted they had fallen between the cracks. Money was tight, and what I paid him was probably the difference between them being able to live together and Stevie being sent to a group home. That's why the restaurant was a gloomy place that morning last August, the first morning in three years that Stevie missed work.**

**He was at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester getting a new valve or something put in his heart. His social worker said that people with Downs Syndrome often have heart problems at an early age so this wasn't unexpected, and there was a good chance he would come through the surgery in good shape and be back at work in a few months.**

 **A ripple of excitement ran through the staff later that morning when word came that he was out of surgery, in recovery, and doing fine.**

 **Frannie, the head waitress, let out a war hoop and did a little dance in the aisle when she heard the good news.**

**Belle Ringer, one of our regular trucker customers, stared at the sight of this 50-year-old grandmother of four doing a victory shimmy beside his table.**

 **Frannie blushed, smoothed her apron and shot Belle Ringer a withering look.**

 **He grinned. "OK, Frannie, what was that all about?" he asked.**

 **"We just got word that Stevie is out of surgery and going to be okay."**

 **"I was wondering where he was. I had a new joke to tell him. What was the surgery about?"**

 **Frannie quickly told Belle Ringer and the other two drivers sitting at his booth about Stevie's surgery, then sighed: "Yeah, I'm glad he is going to be OK," she said. "But I don't know how he and his Mom are going to handle all the bills. From what I hear, they're barely getting by as it is." Belle Ringer nodded thoughtfully, and Frannie hurried off to wait on the rest of her tables. Since I hadn't had time to round up a busboy to replace Stevie and really didn't want to replace him, the girls were busing their own tables that day until we decided what to do.**

 **After the morning rush, Frannie walked into my office. She had a couple of paper napkins in her hand and a funny look on her face.**

**"What's up?" I asked.**

 **"I didn't get that table where Belle Ringer and his friends were sitting cleared off after they left, and Pony Pete and Tony Tipper were sitting there when I got back to clean it off," she said. "This was folded and tucked under a coffee cup."**

 **She handed the napkin to me, and three $20 bills fell onto my desk when I opened it. On the outside, in big, bold letters, was printed "Something For Stevie".**

 **"Pony Pete asked me what that was all about," she said, "so I told him about Stevie and his Mom and everything, and Pete looked at Tony and Tony looked at Pete, and they ended up giving me this." She handed me another paper napkin that had "Something For Stevie" scrawled on its outside. Two $50 bills were tucked within its folds. Frannie looked at me with wet, shiny eyes, shook her head and said simply: "truckers."**

**That was three months ago. Today is New Years day , the first day Stevie is supposed to be back to work.**

 **His placement worker said he's been counting the days until the doctor said he could work, and it didn't matter at all that it was a holiday. He called 10 times in the past week, making sure we knew he was coming, fearful that we had forgotten him or that his job was in jeopardy. I arranged to have his mother bring him to work. I then met them in the parking lot and invited them both to celebrate his day back.**

 **Stevie was thinner and paler, but couldn't stop grinning as he pushed through the doors and headed for the back room where his apron and busing cart were waiting.**

 **"Hold up there, Stevie, not so fast," I said. I took him and his mother by their arms. "Work can wait for a minute. To celebrate you coming back, breakfast for you and your mother is on me!" I led them toward a large corner booth at the rear of the room.**

 **I could feel and hear the rest of the staff following behind as we marched through the dining room. Glancing over my shoulder, I saw booth after booth of grinning truckers empty and join the procession. We stopped in front of the big table. Its surface was covered with coffee cups, saucers and dinner plates, all sitting slightly crooked on dozens of folded paper napkins. "First thing you have to do, Stevie, is clean up this mess," I said. I tried to sound stern.**

 **Stevie looked at me, and then at his mother, then pulled out one of the napkins. It had "Something for Stevie" printed on the outside. As he picked it up, two $10 bills fell onto the table.**

 **Stevie stared at the money, then at all the napkins peeking from beneath the tableware, each with his name printed or scrawled on it. I turned to his mother. "There's more than $10,000 in cash and checks on that table, all from truckers and trucking companies that heard about your problems. "Happy New Year!"**

**Well, it got real noisy about that time, with everybody hollering and shouting, and there were a few tears, as well.**

 **But you know what's funny? While everybody else was busy shaking hands and hugging each other, Stevie, with a big, big smile on his face, was busy clearing all the cups and dishes from the table.**

**Best worker I ever hired! Author unknown**

**DECODING THE BOOK OF DANIEL AND**

**REVELATION (con’t)**

**REVELATION CHAPTER NINE**

 **There are prophesies which have already came to pass which require a good knowledge of history to understand and some will be understood as they unfold or happen. Some are past and some are in the future. We know there will be terrible events come upon those who know not God.**

 **“And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; *but ONLY those men which HAVE NOT the seal of God in their foreheads.”*Rev 9:1-4**

**Note: We need not be worried about what is being described here; what we need to be concerned about is making our calling and election sure. Are we being sealed? We are sealed by studying for truth in God’s word and putting it into practice in our lives and obeying our Lord.**

 **“And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.**

**And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.**

**And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.**

**One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter. And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.**

**And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.**

**By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.**

**And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts. Rev 9:5-21**

**This is a continuation of chapter eight. When it was originally written it was not divided into chapters. (For more information on Revelation 9 go to truthtriumphantministries.org, click on sermons and lectures, scroll down and click on the book of Revelation and scroll down to the chapter you want at the bottom of the page)**

**BASEBALL**

 **Bob and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord’s team was playing Satan’s team. The Lord’s team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the 9th inning with two outs. They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate whose name was Love. Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single because Love never fails.**

 **The next batter was named Faith, who also got a single because Faith works with Love. The next batter up was named Godly Wisdom. Satan wound up and threw the first pitch. Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass: Ball one. Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked because Godly Wisdom never swings at what Satan throws.**

 **The bases were loaded. The Lord then turned to Bob and told him He was now going to bring in His star player. Up to the plate stepped Grace. Bob said, “He sure doesn’t look like much!” Satan’s whole team relaxed when they saw Grace.**

 **Thinking he had won the game, Satan wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen. But Satan was not worried; his center fielder let very few get by. He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing on the ground; then it continued over the fence for a home run!**

 **The Lord’s team won. The Lord then asked Bob if he knew why Love, Faith, and Godly Wisdom could get on base but could not win the game? Bob answered that he did not know why. The Lord explained, “if your love, faith and wisdom had won the game, you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, faith and wisdom will get you on base….but only My Grace can get you home. My Grace is the one thing Satan cannot steal.” (author unknown)**

**NOTABLE NEWS**

**OVER A MILLION CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SIX ARE CURRENTLY ON PSYCHIATRIC DRUGS IN AMERICA (**[**Natural News**](https://www.naturalnews.com/)**)**

 **Psychiatric drug use is on the rise in the U.S., with**[**one out of every six Americans**](https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/1-in-6-americans-takes-a-psychiatric-drug/)**now taking some type of medication in this category. This is highly concerning given the scary side effects and poor effectiveness of many of these drugs, but there is one particularly disturbing aspect of this trend that seems to get glossed over, and that is the extraordinary number of children who are taking such drugs.**

 **Mental health watchdog group**[**Citizens Commission on Human Rights**](https://www.newswire.com/news/more-than-a-million-children-under-the-age-of-6-are-on-psychiatric-19871841)**is drawing attention to the concerning fact that more than a million kids younger than six in our nation are currently taking psychiatric drugs.**

**While around half of these children are four to five years old, an incredible 274,804 of them are younger than a year old. That’s right: babies are being given psychiatric drugs. The number rises for toddlers aged two to three, with 370,778 kids in this category taking psychiatric drugs overall.**

[**Data from IMS Health**](https://www.cchrint.org/psychiatric-drugs/children-on-psychiatric-drugs/)**shows that the situation only gets worse as kids get older, with 4,130,340 kids aged 6 to 12 taking some type of psychiatric drug.**

**You might be forgiven for assuming that most of these statistics are made up by kids taking ADHD drugs given how common that approach seems to be nowadays, but it really only accounts for a small portion of it, with 1,422 of those younger than a year old and just over 181,000 of those aged four to five taking ADHD drugs.**

**Antidepressants and antipsychotics put forth some surprising figures, but the biggest category of psychotic drugs given to children appears to be**[**anti-anxiety drugs**](http://science.naturalnews.com/anxiety_disorders.html)**. Just over 227,132 babies under one and nearly 248,000 of those aged four to five take these medications.**

 **These numbers are even more shocking when you consider the fact that experts believe these estimates are far too low and the real numbers are actually much higher, due in part to the tendency for some doctors to hand out**[**psychiatric medications for “off-label” uses**](http://www.wakingtimes.com/2015/08/13/hundreds-of-thousands-of-babies-on-antidepressants-psychotropic-drugs/)**. This risky practice entails giving out a drug to treat**

 **something that it is not indicated for, and the long-term effects of such an approach are completely unknown.**

 **Safer alternatives to giving kids mind-altering meds**

**When adults choose to take psychiatric medication, it may be ill-advised in many cases, but it is still their choice to make. Children, on the other hand, lack the cognition to fully understand the lifelong impact of such a choice, and this essentially amounts to forced medication. We already know that many doctors have a financial incentive to get young people to start taking these drugs, but why are their parents so willing to get on board? Many of them are also taking psychiatric medications, of course. In fact, it has practically become a way of life in our nation and many people think of these meds as harmless.**

 **The side effects of these drugs are nothing to scoff at, however, with antianxiety, antidepressant and antipsychotic drugs linked to heart attacks, psychosis, suicidal ideation, diabetes, stroke, mania and sudden death. As if that weren’t bad enough, there’s also the fact that many of the high-profile public shootings in recent years were**[**perpetrated by young people on such drugs**](http://www.psychdrugshooters.com/)**, so not only do kids have the risk of dying when they take these meds, but they could also take out a whole classroom or movie theater with them.**

[**Psychiatric medications**](http://www.psychiatry.news/)**affect a child’s brain chemistry and could impact their development in irreversible ways, so it’s important for doctors and parents alike to reserve them as an absolute last resort. Some degree of anxiety is normal in children as they start to understand the way the world works. Life is full of ups and downs, and children who learn coping strategies when they’re young will have a valuable skill that can serve them well throughout their lifetime. There are lots of good coping mechanisms that can help children with depression, anxiety, and those who have been labeled with ADHD, including, art therapy, breathing exercises,**[**and physical exercise**](https://www.naturalnews.com/031420_exercise_depression.html)**, to name just a few.**

**Sources include:**[**Newswire.com**](https://www.newswire.com/news/more-than-a-million-children-under-the-age-of-6-are-on-psychiatric-19871841)**,**[**CCHRInt.org**](https://www.cchrint.org/psychiatric-drugs/children-on-psychiatric-drugs/)

[**WakingTimes.com**](http://www.wakingtimes.com/2015/08/13/hundreds-of-thousands-of-babies-on-antidepressants-psychotropic-drugs/)

**HEALTH NUGGET**

**NATURAL COUGH REMEDY**

**(Natural News By Sherice)**

 **Carrots are one of the healthiest vegetables – and they’re a great source of vitamin A & carotene which are important for the health of your eyes. Carrot is rich in alkaline elements which purify and revitalize the blood. They nourish the entire system and help in the maintenance of acid-alkaline balance in the body. The carrot also has a reputation as a vegetable that helps to maintain good eyesight.**

 **Eating carrots is also good for allergies, anemia, rheumatism, tonic for the nervous system. Carrot is good for diarrhea, constipation , intestinal inflammation,**[**cleansing**](https://www.naturalnewsblogs.com/homemade-syrup-cures-cough-ejects-phlegm-lungs-children-adults/)**the blood , an immune system tonic.**

**CARROT NUTRITION VALUE**

 **Moreover, they are also abundant in vitamins B, C, and K, and various types of minerals: iron, potassium, manganese, magnesium, calcium, and phosphorus.**

**Some other health benefits of carrots include:**

**Boosts immunity and prevents heart disease
Lowers cholesterol levels, prevents cancer, prevents acne, excellent for skin health, rich in calcium, stimulates digestion, body detox agent.**

**Homemade Syrup**[**Recipe**](https://www.naturalnewsblogs.com/homemade-syrup-cures-cough-ejects-phlegm-lungs-children-adults/)**That Cures Cough And Removes Phlegm From The Lungs**

**Ingredients:**

**1 lb 3 oz carrots
3-4 tablespoons of honey
2 teaspoon of**[**freshly**](https://www.naturalnewsblogs.com/homemade-syrup-cures-cough-ejects-phlegm-lungs-children-adults/)**chopped ginger**

**Instructions:**

**Cut the carrots into small pieces and place into a small saucepan and add water until they are completely covered. Cook over medium heat. Once it’s boiling, add the ginger and boil until the carrots are soft. Strain through a fine mesh strainer over a large bowl, do not throw away the water. Blend the carrots and ginger until smooth.
When the water is Add water to the mashed carrots and blend again until smooth.How to consume?**

 **You need to take 3-4 spoons of this mixture everyday and after 1-2 days it will help you get rid of your cough, and it will help remove phlegm for your lungs.**

**FROM KATIE’S COOKBOOKS**

**BOLANI**   **(Makes 8)**

**Dough Ingredients:
3 ½ c unbleached flour (use half whole wheat flour)
1 c water room temperature
1 tsp salt**

**Filling Ingredients:
2 medium potatoes**

**1/2 c chopped cilantro
1/2 c chopped scallions (white *and* green parts) or leeks or onions
2 tbsp. olive oil
1 ½ tsp salt
1 tsp black pepper (optional)**

**For frying:
1/4 c olive oil**

**Yogurt Sauce:
1 c plain yogurt (can use vegan sour cream)
2 tbsp water
1 garlic clove, minced
1 tsp dried dill
1/4 tsp coriander
1/2 tsp salt**

**Directions:**

**DOUGH:
Mix flour and salt together. Gradually (while mixing) add in water and oil until dough forms a ball. If the dough is too dry, add more water one tablespoon at a time.. Knead dough for 10 minutes. Place dough in lightly oiled bowl, cover with a cloth, and let rest for one hour.**

**FILLING:
 boil potatoes for about 20 minutes or until done, drain them and let sit for 5-10 minutes.. Peel and quarter the potatoes. Mash with 2 tbsp olive oil, salt, and pepper. Try to get this as smooth as possible, but keep in mind having some lumps is ok.
 Saute onions or scallions and add in cilantro add in the mashed potatoes.**

**ASSEMBLING AND COOKING THE BOLANI:
 Take a portion of the dough (about the size of a small apple) and roll it into a smooth ball.
 Spread some flour onto your surface, and roll the ball with a rolling pin. The dough should be as thin as a tortilla and have a 10-12 inch diameter. The thinner, the better!**

 **Spread a little more than 1/4 c of the filling on one half of the dough, leaving about 1/4 inch border around the rim.
 Fold the dough in half over the filling and press to seal. If necessary, continue pressing and flattening the bolani to remove any excess air inside the pocket.
Heat 1/4 c olive oil in a pan. The oil should be hot enough that the bolani sizzles when placed in the pan. Brown the bolani, two at a time, until golden and crispy on both sides. This will only take a couple minutes on each side. Place cooked bolani on a paper towel or plate as they finish. Add more oil to your pan as needed while you cook the rest.
 Serve warm with a simple yogurt sauce of plain yogurt, garlic, dill, coriander, and salt.**

**I guess we will be seeing you again in June.**

**Until then God bless you all.**

**Remember God loves you and so do we!**

**Katie and Rodney**

**I TROUBLE**

 **In my studies of the Bible I have noticed several people with I trouble. Lucifer said, *‘I’* will ascend into heaven, *‘I’* will exalt my throne above the stars of God*: ‘I’* will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north *‘I’* will ascend above the heights of the clouds*; ‘I’* will be like the most High.” Isa. 14: 13, 14**

 **King Nebuchadnezzar said, “The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that ‘*I’* have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of *‘MY’*power, and for the honour of *‘MY’*majesty? ” Daniel 4: 30**

 **There was *‘I’* trouble among the disciples, Jesus said to them, “Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men. But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying. Then there arose a reasoning among them, *‘which of them should be greatest’.* And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him, And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for *he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.”***

 **James and John’s mother went to Jesus and requested that when Jesus came into His kingdom that her two sons be on His left and His right., “But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.**

 **And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father. And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:” Matt. 20: 22-27**

 **There are people in professional sports which pray before a game for the Lord to help their team win the game. These people have *’I’* trouble because competition is against the principles of righteous living.**

 **The me first attitude is not Christian!!! Selfishness is Satanic. Scripture says, “If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing and let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:” Philippians 2: 1-5**

 **Grown men have actually had fights over their children’s little league ball games.**

 **We all need to compete with ourselves. We may do this by setting goals. Everything we do should be done with precision. We can strive to be a better carpenter, mechanic, teacher or plumber than we were before. We all need to strive to be better Christians than before.**

 **The apostle Paul said, “Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. *I* therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight *I*, not as one that beateth the air: But *I* keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when *I* have preached to others, ‘I’myself should be a castaway.” 1 Corinthians 9: 24-27**

 **Did you notice, Paul was afraid of having *‘I’* trouble?**

**I believe that every sin that has ever been committed is because of the ‘me first’ attitude. The Ten Commandments are a wall of protection from  *‘I’* trouble.**

 **It is impossible to be selfish and keep the Ten Commandments. They are God’s character in written form and will be our character when we become Christ -like.**

**Our goal in life should be to become selfless. Jesus was the most selfless person to live on this earth and was our example in all things.**

 **Dwight L. Moody once said, the world is yet to see what God can do through a man who is totally dedicated. To be totally dedicated is to totally selfless.**

 **God has a work for selfless people and that is to inspire and encourage others to become selfless like He is. Our world today is permeated with selfishness. Every war which has ever been fought and every pain anyone has suffered has been because of someone’s sin.**

 **You may think, I am just one person, what can I do about the sin problem in the world? We all have a sphere of influence, family, friends and neighbors. If every person who called himself Christian would become totally selfless, what an influence they could have on their peers!**

 **All whose hearts are longing for truth would soon be reached and the world would be ready for Jesus to come. God has always had His faithful few; the Noah’s, Enoch’s, Daniels, Josephs, Peters and Pauls and He has His faithful representatives on earth today.**

 **In the fourteenth chapter of the book of Revelation there is a special message calling God’s people out of Babylon. It is called the three angels message because the message has three parts.**

 **The first angel says, “with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment *IS* come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.” Revelation 14: 7**

 **The second angel says, “Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication”. Revelation 14: 8**

 **The third angel says, “And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.” Revelation 14: 9- 11**

 **The angels in heaven would gladly come here and finish the work of saving souls but they cannot. Jesus is the only Savior. God uses angels to inspire people to live and work for Him. The angels are constantly warring against evil angels who would completely devastate the earth if they weren’t held in check but the work for lost souls must be done by people.**

 **One of the definitions of an angel is a messenger. When we become totally selfless we may become one of those angel messengers.**

 **These three angel’s messages are the last warning to get God’s people on earth ready for His coming. The first message is telling us that the judgment has begun.**

 **The second message is telling us that Babylon is fallen but who or what is Babylon but a false system of worship that most of Christendom is a part of because we are warned not to accept it’s mark in the third angels message.**

 **We are told in the seventh chapter of Daniel that a beast is a king or kingdom. The Bible and history tells us that there have been only four kingdoms that have ruled the entire known world. The last of the four is the beast power that we need to be concerned about and the forth kingdom to rule the world is none other than Rome. This beast power is alive and well today and it is the Vatican, The Roman Catholic church which has planted it’s venomous false doctrines in Protestantism.**

 **Revelation 18: 1-5 “And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.**

 **There are going to be 144,000 selfless people to take these three angels messages to the world. Some think that the Jews will be the 144,000 but not so unless they have accepted Jesus as their savior. The Jews are not God’s chosen people today, they once were but when they had Jesus crucified they said, “Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.” Matthew 27:25**

 **If you are a Christian you are a spiritual Jew. “And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.” Galatians 3: 29**

 **If we are fortunate enough to live until Jesus comes and we are totally selfless we will be one of the 144,000.**

 **“And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.” Revelation 14: 1**

 **And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. Revelation 14:3**

 **Strive to be one of these selfless persons.**

 **Rodney Armstrong**