



**CLEAVER OF TRUTH
MINISTRY**
2558 Clem Lowell Rd
Carrollton, GA 30116
PH (770) 854-6658
truthlinks1@hotmail.com

December 2013 Newsletter

Dear Family and Friends,

It is hard to believe that another year is about to become history! It seems the older you get the faster the years come; only to fade away too soon. When we come to the realization that our life also is passing quickly, it is time to examine ourselves to see if we are really using our precious time wisely. None of it can be "done over" so we have to get it right the first time! Let's make the right choices and include God in our life now, if we haven't done so already, while there is still time!

Our Message this month: The Gospel

GRANDPA'S WARNING

An elderly gentleman lived alone on his farm. He had lived there all of his life. His home was dear to him. There was nothing special, or fancy about it, except that it was his. Each room, each wall, each window carried memories that were precious to him.

From that old homestead he had watched the seasons come and go year after year. It was a secure place. Wind storms had swept through the town, but his home was safe. Tornadoes had touched nearby farms, but somehow his house escaped. Drought had dried up water supplies at times through the years, but still, with his will, he had always managed. He had become familiar with the quirks of nature and was not afraid of her. Floods had come and gone, but through the decades none had ever reached to the top of the first doorstep.

One spring the rains were heavier than usual. The river rose. Grandpa kept an eye on it, wondering where it would peak this year. He had watched this scene many times through the years. As it deepened, he may have worried a little over the crops in the lower field hoping he wouldn't lose them.

As he looked out over the fields and across the river, he could see neighbors leaving their homes. Too bad, he thought. It's too bad that people build so low that their homes get ruined with every little flood.

Turning on his radio, he heard the warnings for all people living in his area to evacuate. Unconcerned, he turned it off and went on with his chores.

A knock came at the door. Opening it he found his granddaughter.

"Grandpa," she said excitedly, "there's going to be a big flood, and we have come to get you! Come, get in the car with us, hurry."

Grandpa chuckled as he looked into the big eyes full of wonder.

"Listen, sweetheart," he said, "don't you worry about your old Gramps, he's going to be just fine. No flood ever bothered this old house, and it ain't going to this time, either."

The little girl hesitated, then turned and left.

"Mommy, he doesn't want to come," she reported.

"I was afraid of that," Mother sighed. "Well, I'll go see if I can change his mind."

Soon she was back at the car. "It's no use, he just won't come. He's sure nothing will ever happen to the old home place." With an anxious heart she drove away.

The river continued to rise. Warnings by radio to evacuate increased in intensity, but Grandpa was sure the water would never get deep enough to endanger him.

Mother reported Grandpa's decision to the officials asking them to help if the water got too deep.

Soberly shaking their heads they said, "We'll see what we can do, Ma'am, but with an angry river like that, we can't promise anything."

As the water deepened, a small boat was dispatched to search for stranded people. Valiantly, the men struggled against the wind and rain. The angry water sucked and swirled and threatened to toss them out and wash them downstream with the logs and debris they were tensely dodging. Finally, they reached the tiny island on which Grandpa's house now stood.

Instead of the grateful thanks they expected, an irritated voice answered their knock.

"Can't you leave me alone?" he challenged. "I'll stay here as long as I wish. Haven't you ever seen a flood before? This river's been like this before, and I'm perfectly safe. Now, be gone."

The bewildered men finally left. Grandpa had just refused his last chance at rescue.

That night brought a record-breaking flood. The morning light revealed the tragedy of Grandpa's decision. The house was gone. Only the foundations remained after the waters went down.

Friend, do you want to be rescued? Do you see the danger and feel the need?

Today, every person is going to be rescued or destroyed but it is not up to chance. Like Grandpa, each of us has

been warned in time and has been provided a chance to escape.

Four thousand years ago, millions of people were in need of a rescue. A ship was needed to take them to safety. God provided the ship through the hard work of Noah and his family, but a strange thing happened. No one would board the ship. What was the problem? They didn't know they were in danger.

Like Grandpa, they refused to believe that they needed to be rescued. Warning after warning came, but the warnings were scoffed at. Thus only eight people boarded that ship and were saved. Genesis 6 through 9 tells of that sad account.

Jesus said, "As the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matthew 24:37).

Soon there will be the greatest rescue of all ages.

Are you ready for it?

You can be, but first, you must go to Calvary and receive a cleansed heart, a changed heart. A heart that daily surrenders to Jesus so that the word pardon can be written by your name with the blood of the Lord Jesus. May God bless you as you seek to be one of those who accept this last glorious rescue.

HEALTH NUGGET



A SIMPLE PINEAPPLE

The pineapple is a member of the bromeliad family. It is extremely rare that bromeliads produce edible fruit. The pineapple is the only available edible bromeliad today.

It is a multiple fruit. One pineapple is actually made up of dozens of individual flowerets that grow together to form the entire fruit. Each scale on a pineapple is evidence of a separate flower.

Pineapples stop ripening the minute they are picked.

No special way of storing them will help ripen them further.

Color is relatively unimportant in determining ripeness.

Choose your pineapple by smell. If it smells fresh, tropical and sweet, it will be a good fruit.

The more scales on the pineapple, the sweeter and juicier the taste.

After you cut off the top, you can plant it. It should grow much like a sweet potato will.

This delicious fruit is not only sweet and tropical; it also offers many benefits to our health.

Pineapple is a remarkable fruit. We find it enjoyable because of its lush, sweet and exotic flavor, but it may also be one of the most healthful foods available today.

If we take a more detailed look at it, we will find that pineapple is valuable for easing indigestion, arthritis or sinusitis.

The juice has an anthelmintic effect; it helps get rid of intestinal worms.

Let's look at how pineapple affects other conditions. Pineapple is high in manganese, a mineral that is critical to development of strong bones and connective tissue. A cup of fresh pineapple will give you nearly 75% of the recommended daily amount.

It is particularly helpful to older adults, whose bones tend to become brittle with age.

Bromelain, a proteolytic enzyme, is the key to pineapple's value.

Proteolytic means "breaks down protein", which is why pineapple is known to be a digestive aid. It helps the body digest proteins more efficiently. Bromelain is also considered an effective anti-inflammatory.

Regular ingestion of at least one half cup of fresh pineapple daily is purported to relieve painful joints common to osteoarthritis. It also produces mild pain relief.

In Germany, bromelain is approved as a post-injury medication because it is thought to reduce inflammation and swelling.

Orange juice is a popular liquid for those suffering from a cold because it is high in Vitamin C. Fresh pineapple is not only high in this vitamin, but because of the Bromelain, it has the ability to reduce mucous in the throat.

If you have a cold with a productive cough, add pineapple to your diet. It is commonly used in Europe as a post-operative measure to cut mucous after certain sinus and throat operations.

Those individuals who eat fresh pineapple daily report fewer sinus problems related to allergies. In and of itself, pineapple has a very low risk for allergies.

Pineapple is also known to discourage blood clot development. This makes it a valuable dietary addition for frequent fliers and others who may be at risk for blood clots.

An old folk remedy for morning sickness is fresh pineapple juice. It really works!

Fresh juice and some nuts first thing in the morning often make a difference.

It's also good for a healthier mouth. The fresh juice discourages plaque growth.

(Thanks to Lola Young for submitting this article)

DWIGHT LYMAN MOODY (continued)

Two of the century's most productive missionaries, C.T. Studd and Dr. W.T. Grenfell, were saved and called to the field through the instrumentality of D.L. Moody. Studd gave away an inheritance to take the Gospel to China, India and Africa, while Grenfell decided against a lucrative medical practice to become a missionary to Labrador. In his autobiography, Grenfell said that he had been converted through Moody's common sense. After a young minister turned the opening prayer into an "oratorical effort," young Grenfell grew bored and restless and decided to sneak out. Moody spotted him and interrupted the prayer with, "Let us sing a hymn while our brother finishes his prayer." Delighted at the remark, the Cambridge student dashed back to his seat and was soundly converted at the sermon's close.

In the very midst of one discourse, and the height of its interest, two or three quickly succeeding shrieks came from the center of the audience. Mr. Moody stopped as if at a signal, and, with Sheridan-like promptness, said: "We'll stand and sing, 'Rock of ages, Cleft for Me,' and the ushers will please help that friend out of the hall. She's hysterical." There were no more 'hysterical' demonstrations during the evening, and the congregation scarcely realized that there had been any interruption in the service." **1 Corinthians 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.**

In 1867 Mrs. Moody was suffering from asthma and her doctor recommended a sea voyage and change of location to help her. This was a good excuse for Moody and so he planned his first trip to Great Britain.

At that time he was unknown in England except to a few who had visited America. Among these were Fountain J. Hartly, secretary on the London Sunday-school Union, who invited Mr. Moody to speak at an anniversary meeting in Exeter Hall. It was customary for a speaker on such an occasion to be connected with a resolution, as its mover or seconder, in order to give him a right to the floor. Mr. Moody was therefore assigned to move a vote of thanks to the chairman of the evening, who in this instance was the well-known Earl of Shaftesbury.

"Towards the end of the meeting," says Dr. Henry Clay Trumbull in relating this incident, of which he was a witness, "the chairman yielded his chair to the vice-chairman, in order that such a resolution could be offered. The vice-chairman announced that they were glad to welcome their 'American cousin, the Rev. Mr. Moody, of Chicago,' who would now 'move a vote of thanks to the noble Earl' who had presided on this occasion. With refreshing frankness and an utter disregard for conventionalities and mere compliments, Mr. Moody burst upon the audience with the bold announcement:

"The chairman has made two mistakes. To begin with, I'm not the 'Reverend' Mr. Moody at all. I'm PLAIN DWIGHT L. MOODY, a Sabbath-school worker, and I'm not your 'American cousin'! By the grace of God I'm your BROTHER, who is interested with you in our Father's work for His children.

And now, about this vote of thanks to 'the noble Earl' for being our chairman this evening: I don't see why we should

thank him, any more than he should thank us. When at one time they offered to thank our Mr. Lincoln for presiding over a meeting in Illinois, he stopped it. He said, "I've tried to do my duty, and they'd tried to do theirs. I think it was an even thing all around."

That opening fairly took the breath away from Mr. Moody's hearers. Such talk could not be gauged by any standard. Its novelty was delightful, and Mr. Moody carried his English hearers from that time on." ***

FROM KATIE'S COOKBOOKS

BIBLE BREAD FROM EZEKIEL 4:9

8 cup wheat flour
4 cup barley flour
2 cup soy bean flour
1 cup lentils, cooked and mashed
1/2 cup millet flour
1/4 cup rye flour
1 1/2 cup warm water
1 tbsp. salt
5 tbsp. olive oil
2 pkg. yeast, dissolved in 1/2 cup warm water
1 tbsp. honey

Dissolve the yeast in warm water and let it sit for 10 minutes.

Mix the other dry ingredients in separate bowl. Blend lentils, oil and small amount of water; place in large mixing bowl with remaining water. Stir in 2 cups of mixed flour. Add yeast mixture.

Stir in remaining salt and flour. Knead on floured surface, then place in oiled bowl. Let rise until double in bulk.

Knead again; shape and place in greased loaf pans. Let rise.

Bake at 375 degrees approximately 1 hour. Makes 4 loaves.

We'll see you again next year.....January 1914

Remember God loves you and so do we!

Katie and Rodney Armstrong

A BETTER MARRIAGE (continued)

I tried God's way, died to self, filtered through Jesus what to say, surrendered to be led and did His will. My husband became priest of our home as a result. Letting God cleanse my heart, my words and my responses was the way to a better marriage. Do you long for a better marriage? Try God's way.

The grace of Christ working in me, changed my thoughts, feelings, and my responses. My thoughts and feelings greatly influenced my responses. For example, instead of thinking hopeless thoughts or getting angry, God led me to put my energies into crying out to and counseling with Jesus, "What wilt thou have me to do?" Acts 9:6. As I did my part, Jesus faithfully instructed me what to say or not to say in the moment and thus our marriage improved. My joy was not dependent upon my spouse changing any more. My joy was that God was working a change in me.

God asked me to confess my wrong, to apologize for my 5% wrong in an argument. I argued with God this was unfair, he needed to apologize to me!

"Follow Me sally, Trust this is in your best interest. It doesn't matter if it appears to give your spouse an advantage, all I ask of you is to follow Me, to give Me your heart."

I did God's will and my husband drew closer to Jesus because I changed. As a result he apologized in time for his wrong, truly a miracle at that time. God knows what's best to get their heart. As I trusted to follow God our marriage improved that day. I repeated this experience with greater confidence in Jesus each opportunity.

In the next few weeks, God taught me how to have a real positive, **intercessory prayer** for my husband. This had a profound, powerful and positive influence in our marriage. He suggested that I commit 15 minutes in prayer, daily for him. Jesus taught me how to pray for my husband as he can be in Jesus. It was quite a new exercise of my thinking. Instead of rehearsing his faults to God in prayer which awakened a "pity party" I saw him as he would be when he surrendered to God; I saw him leading out cheerfully in family worship. These thoughts engendered love, respect and positive emotions towards my spouse. I went away from prayer hopeful, not heavier burdened as before.

In doing intercessory prayer my emotions were changed. Hope replaced despair, love replaced anger and God led responses replaced humanistic responses. I became content to lead out in worship, no longer resenting or longing for release from it. Many a miracle had God wrought out in me.

I became sensitive to my words and expressions. God led me to avoid saying, "you always," "you never," and untrue or exaggerated illustrations of his wrongs. Self must die and I would choose to live for Jesus instead. I had to learn to condense my talk while my spouse had to learn to say more. Inclinations, habits and cultivated tendencies did not need to be heeded in conflicts or disagreements, rather just obey the voice of God. Communing with God before my spouse was vitally important. This can make or break a marriage. The blessings of obedience to God was that our communications improved drastically. Conflicts would arise at times, but I had God to lead me through them, eventually to a solution. A better marriage came in due time but **peace came in the moment of following Jesus**. There was a joy in having power to do the right over the wrong.

When I would yield to and follow the flesh or my inclination the fruit was a lot of hurt and emotional heartache. Going my way is always a curse. I hurt, my husband hurt, and the abyss between us widened. Choosing to serve God and right, and dying to self are the best things we can do for our marriages.

Miracles were wrought in my husband as well. As I put my needs of a priest before Jesus, God laid the conviction upon my husband's heart and he became restless, irritable and troubled. Not until my spouse decided to follow Jesus and do His will, did he find peace. He struggled with his struggles but at last surrendered to Jesus' call to his heart. Jesus empowered him to face thoughts and feelings of inadequacy. My husband took up his priestly duties to be priest and has never laid them down since. Jesus can change your marriage too! Are you willing to daily die to self?

Once I learned the power of intercessory prayer I took many problems to Jesus. I became very comfortable in placing my problems at the feet of Jesus and letting Him present these things to my spouse's heart. God did a much better job. I never liked conflicts anyway and this way I didn't have to face them anymore! Or did I? About the time one is comfortable with a method God uses, He changes the program to keep us dependent on Him and not on a 'method'. It was not the 'method' that transformed our marriage but it was 'Christ' directing the method. There is a time to be quiet and there is a time to speak and to challenge.

God wanted to teach both my husband and me how to filter our thoughts through Him before we spoke to each other. In this way we could resolve any difficulty or misunderstandings in the marriage. It's great to resolve issues and be free to love one another freely.

We established time each day to allow each other to share our concerns. One would air a concern about the other and present a solution to the problem. The other

learned to listen and really hear what the other was trying to say. Self had to die in both of us to bring new life into our marriage. Changes were made on both sides. God became very real, truly a present help in trouble. Each of us learned to express things delicately, honestly and give space and time when that was necessary. All in all we learned the art of communication, led of God. Communing with God before communing with your spouse is an excellent discipline to a better marriage. It was well worth the effort to speak or be quiet, to express oneself honestly, to really listen and to die to self. Today our marriage is far better, far higher than I ever dreamed or imagined possible. The freedom we experience between husband and wife is heaven born and lovely. This freedom to love and be loved is available to you, to anyone that seeks God and learns to cooperate. A better marriage, better communication in the marriage, a sweeter atmosphere in the home is available to all who will seek God and let Him lead you and be your Lord in this life. (Sally & Jim Hohnberger, A Voice from the Wilderness, Restoration International, Inc.) ***

**Watch your thoughts; They become your words.
Watch your words, They become your actions.
Watch your actions; They become your habits.
Watch your habits, They become your character.
Watch your character, It becomes your destiny**

NOTABLE NEWS

CHINESE CHICKEN PROCESSORS ARE CLEARED TO SHIP TO U.S.

(By Stephanie Strom, NY Times 8/30/13)

The USDA on Aug 23, approved four Chinese poultry processors to begin shipping a limited amount of meat to the United States, a move that is likely to add to the debate over food imports. Initially, the companies will be allowed to export only cooked poultry products from birds raised in the U.S. and Canada. But critics predicted that the government would eventually expand the rules, so that chickens and turkeys bred in China could end up in the American market. "This is the first step towards allowing China to export its own domestic chickens to the U.S.," said Tony Corbo, the senior lobbyist for Food and Water Watch, an advocacy group that works to promote food safety.

The USDA's decision follows years of wrangling over the issue that comes as Americans are increasingly focused on the origin of their food. In recent years imports have been the source of contamination, prompting broader worries about food safety. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) just released an analysis of

imported spices, showing high levels of salmonella in coriander, oregano, sesame seeds, and curry powder.

China does not have the best track record for food safety, and its chicken products in particular have raised questions. The country has had frequent outbreaks of deadly avian influenza which it sometimes has been slow to report. Recently, an FDA investigation tied the deaths of more than 500 dogs and a handful of cats to chicken jerky treats that came from China. The treats which were eventually recalled, additionally were blamed for sickening more than 2, 500 animals.

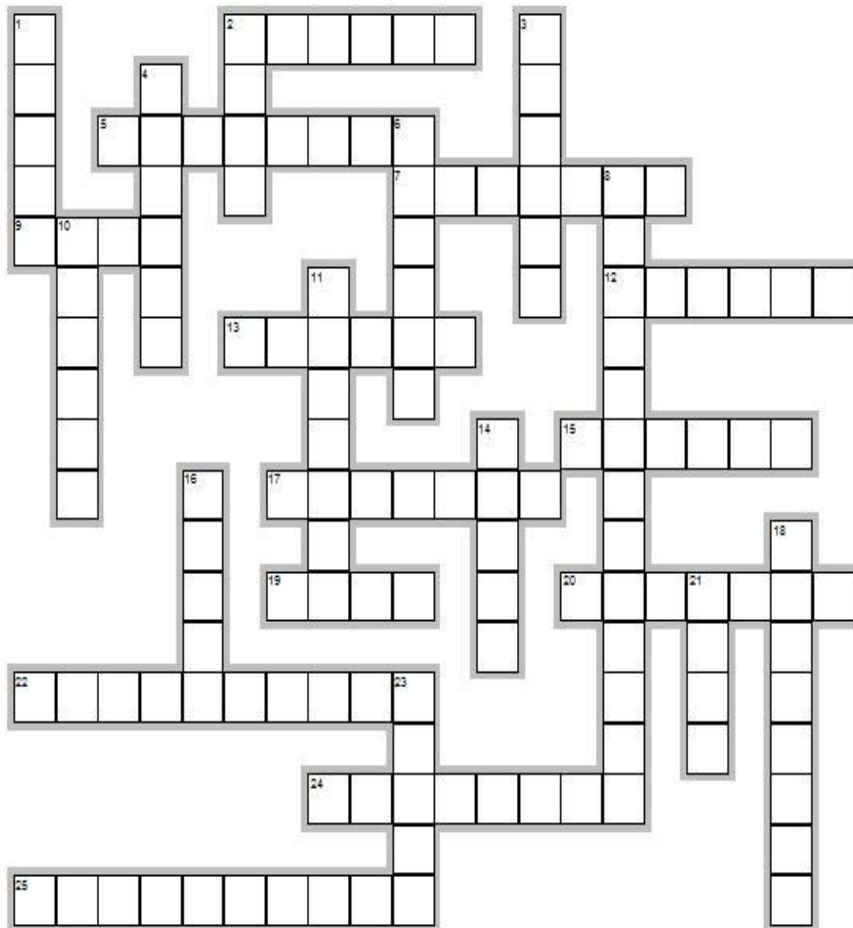
The proposed sale of Smithfield Foods to Shuanghui International, a major Chinese food processor has added to the industry scrutiny. In July, senators from both parties questioned Larry Pope, the chief executive of Smithfield, about the implications of his company's deal for food safety and U.S. employment. Pope responded that the deal was intended to address the rising demand for meat in China and that American workers would be employed in that effort. "This means increased capacity for U.S. producers, more jobs in processing, and more exports for the U.S. economy," Pope said. "At the same time we will continue to supply our same high-quality renowned products to U.S. consumers."

The poultry trade between the U.S. and China has been contentious for years. Under the Bush administration, the USDA moved to allow imports of chicken from China, which has banned imports of American beef since 2003 over worries about BSE. In response, Congress blocked Chinese chicken exports. China retaliated by slapping huge tariffs on American chicken. The fight ended up at the World Trade Organization, which ruled that the tariffs were too high. After that, the USDA then audited Chinese processing plants, giving its approval for them to process raw birds from the U.S. and Canada.

Under the new rules, the Chinese facilities will verify that cooked products exported to the U.S. came from American or Canadian birds so no USDA inspector will be present in the plants. And because the poultry will be processed, it will not require country-of-origin labeling. Nor will consumers eating chicken noodle soup from a can or chicken nuggets in a fast-food restaurant know if the chicken came from Chinese processing plants. "We certainly don't look forward to any more imports, but we also realize free trade is a two-way street," said Tom Super, spokesman for the National Chicken Council, which represents big chicken processors in the U.S. "We're hoping the Chinese will look a little more favorably on our chicken products and on other U.S. ag imports." (Thursday, September 12, 2013 'Western AG Reporter') (Thanks to Pat Cain for submitting this article)

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

THE APOSTLE PAUL



15. Paul's hometown Acts 9:11
17. Paul, before conversion, attended the stoning of this man Acts 7:58
19. Paul was here when he was warned not to go to Jerusalem Acts 21:3,4
20. Man who placed his hands on Paul's eyes Acts 9:7
22. Paul found 12 disciples in Ephesus who had not heard of the _____. Acts 19:2
24. He presented Paul to the Disciples the first time Acts 9:27
25. Event that loosened Paul and Silas's prison chains Acts 16:26

DOWN

1. Paul left him in Crete to straighten out what was unfinished Titus 1:4,5
2. What man did Paul say was the pattern of one to come Romans 5:14
3. The Centurion who took Paul as a prisoner to Rome Acts 27:1
4. Roman ruler who refused to hear the complaint of Jewish leaders against Paul Acts 18, 14-16
6. What fell from Paul's eyes when his vision was restored Acts 9:18
8. Paul called this group his "glory and joy." 1 Thess. 2:20
10. Paul was accompanied by Priscilla and this person from Corinth to Syria Acts

18:18

11. Believer who was circumcised by Paul Acts 16:1,3
14. This Roman ruler sent for Paul so that he could hear about Paul's faith in Christ Acts 24:24
16. The voice Paul heard in his vision came from _____. Acts 9:5
18. After Paul's sight was restored, he was _____. Acts 22:16
21. Paul's conversion is told in this chapter of Acts. Acts 9:3-6
23. Number of days Paul was blind after seeing the vision Acts 9:9

ACROSS

2. City Paul visited that had an idol to the 'unknown god' Acts 17:22,23
5. Where Paul was headed when struck by the bright light Acts 9:2,3
7. The congregation in this city was made sorrowful by one of Paul's letters 2 Corinthians 1:23,24; 2:3,4
9. Paul's first name before he converted to Christianity Acts 9:4
12. Sorcerer struck by blindness at Paul's command Acts 13:8-11
13. Paul stopped the Philippian _____ from killing himself Acts 16:23,27,28

THE GOSPEL



Jesus is the gospel in verity. Follow in His steps and if lived out in your life, you will be the gospel. To know the gospel truth on any doctrine, study what Jesus did or said about it.

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 14:6

“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:” John 11:25

“I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.” John 10:14

“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.” John 10:9

“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” John 9:5

Taking the gospel to the world is more than preaching. It is more than listening to sermons. It is about living.

Have you heard the saying, what you do speaks louder than what you say?

The greatest sermon ever preached is one that is lived!

The biggest problem with Christianity, in my opinion, is that many of those that claim to be Christians do not make Christianity practical.

Webster says, the gospel is “something accepted or promoted as infallible truth or as a guiding principle or doctrine <took her words as *gospel*>”

I cannot go along with this definition and it is the best one I have found. It makes every religion or doctrine the gospel.

It is not something accepted or promoted as truth, **it is the infallible truth!**

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 14:6

A Christians goal is to go where the Father is, (heaven) and the only way is through Jesus.

He also said, “Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” Mark 8:34 last part

If we are following someone, we are following closely behind them, walking in their footsteps.

“Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” Matthew 16:24

Now let us analyze these scripture verses:

Jesus is the way, (path) He said He is the only way or path to the Father. **He is the truth.**

He said to deny self. When self is denied, self is no longer in control. When self is not in control, Jesus is leading the way and He is in control.

He said take up your cross. The cross is the burden we must bear in following Jesus.

When we take up our cross, Jesus makes our burden light and gives us rest.

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Matthew 11: 28-30

“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the **power of Christ** may rest upon me. “2 Corinthians 12:9

Grace is unmerited favor un-deserved by us. It is also **power to obey.**

When the power of Christ rests upon us we are ready to make the gospel practical.

“man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.” Deuteronomy 8:3 last part.

It is said that the first four books of the New Testament are the gospels. Some denominations call themselves New Testament Churches and will not recognize the Old Testament.

Deuteronomy 8:3 says we are to live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Is not the Old Testament the word of God?

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” 2 Timothy 3: 16, 17

If the truth (the gospel) is mixed with error it is not the gospel. If any of the gospel is missing it is not the complete gospel and if we only have partial gospel or truth we will not have enough truth, evidence or information to make an intelligent decision to serve Christ.

Let me explain with an example: “Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary” Psalms 77:13

If God’s way, or the way to God is in the sanctuary, we need to study or examine the sanctuary.

There are two sanctuaries, the original, in heaven where God dwells and the one God instructed Moses to build made from a pattern of the heavenly sanctuary where God dwells.

When we study the services the priests preformed in the earthly sanctuary we discover truth has been left out of the gospel most churches preach.

When animal sacrifices were made in the courtyard of the sanctuary, the blood was applied daily on the horns of the altar in the courtyard and on the curtain (or veil) in the first compartment (The Holy Place).

Once a year on the Day of Atonement (the Judgment Day) the blood was applied on the mercy seat in the Most Holy Place, which represents God’s throne in Heaven.

“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and **without shedding of blood is no remission.** It was therefore **necessary** that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: “ Hebrews 9: 22-24

Remember Psalms 77:13 says, “thy way is in the sanctuary”?

Most churches teach that the atonement was finished at the cross, but the priest’s work in the sanctuary was not finished at the sacrifice of the lambs. It was just the beginning of the atonement. The blood must be applied daily in the holy place and once a year in the Most Holy place on the mercy seat where God dwells.

Jesus is today before God pleading His blood (applying it) for us. The blood must not only be shed, it must be taken before God and applied to obtain His mercy.

What happened in the earthly sanctuary was an object lesson to demonstrate what is in reality *taking place in heaven where God is.*

Jesus is **the Lamb** slain from the foundation of the world and He is also **the Great High Priest, (our advocate)** presenting His blood before the Father for us.

“Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.” Hebrews 4:14

Jesus is finishing the atonement in heaven before the Father now and when He has presented every case the judgment will be finished; the gospel will have gone to all the world, every case will have been decided, every decision will have been made, our work will be finished and Jesus will come!

I invite you to let Jesus finish His work in your heart so you can preach the infallible gospel with your life and be a light to those in your realm of influence.

I assure you that there will be no pleasure or joy that will compare with the joy and peace you will receive by taking up your cross and following Him.

Your burden will become light and you will receive great peace and power to live a righteous life and be a great influence for good everywhere you go.

