

**BITS & PIECES**  
**CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**ROLLAND C. STARR, PASTOR**  
**WWW.CORNERSTONEBAPTISTMETROBOSTON.ORG**

**OCTOBER 2009**

**NO SIN IN VOCABULARY**

I copied a Reuters News Service article many years ago with that title. A poll in France said that “more than 90% of the population no longer believed in sin.” It said that “only 4% of French adults accepted the word ‘sin’ in their vocabulary.” While 57% were willing to admit to errors, 69% said they never went to confession. Now I want to say that Americans are certainly moving in the same direction. A belief in judgment for sin is not very common; at least I do not find it so. There is little wonder about that with all the self-assuring psychiatry and “self esteem gospel” that is being preached these days. Be assured God’s Word still says: **“It is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgment..”**~*Hebrews 9:27.*

**YOU BUILT TOO LOW!**

A mother bird sat on a low hanging bush and was crying out desperately. A naturalist who was in the area, hearing her anguished cry of distress went to see what was going on. He saw a big black snake taking the last of her babies out of the nest. He said to the bird, “Mother, you built your nest too low.” There is a lesson there for many a Christian. We are living in a day when many Christians are building too low; building in the flesh instead of the Spirit. If that’s what you’re doing, you’ll be sorry someday. **“Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap..”**

**SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

Doctor Bonar once remarked that he could tell when a Christian was growing. In proportion to his growth in grace, he would elevate His Master, talk less of what he was doing, and become smaller and smaller in his own esteem, until, like the morning star, he faded away before the rising sun. We need to say with John the Baptist: **“He must increase but I must decrease.”**

**IT’S ON THE INSIDE**

One day the proprietor of a store was doing his best to clean the large plate glass window in the front of the store. But no matter how hard he rubbed, no matter how much cleanser he used, the spot remained. After working at it for some time, he finally discovered the problem - the spot was on the inside. That is the trouble with all of us - We have an old nature, the problem is inside. God says, **“The heart is deceitful, above all things, who can know it.”** ~*Jeremiah 17:9.* After being saved and struggling to keep the law, the Apostle Paul discovered he still had an old nature inside. “He cried, **“I know that in me, that is in my flesh dwelleth no good thing.”** ~*Romans 7:18.* But thanks be to God, He has given us a new nature and the Holy Spirit. **“Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”** ~*Galatians 5:16.*