

# BITS & PIECES

## CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

### ROLLAND C. STARR, PASTOR

WWW.CORNERSTONEBAPTISTMETROBOSTON.ORG

FEBRUARY 2010

#### WHEN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND

In the second part of Pilgrim's Progress Prudence questions Matthew about the Bible: "Prudence, what do you think about the Bible? Matthew: It is the Holy Word of God. Prudence: Is there nothing written therein but what you understand? Matthew: Yes, a great deal. Prudence: What do you do with certain places therein that you do not understand? Matthew: I think that God is wiser than I. I pray also that He will please to let me know all therein that He knows will be for my good." The above dialog contains a world of sense and Bunyan was not unmindful of it in his own preaching. -McCartney's Illustrations. Nobody knows it all! The sad thing is many do not live up to what they do understand.

#### WALKING BY SIGHT, NOT BY FAITH

We who know the Lord as our Savior don't seem to have much difficulty in trusting God with our eternal souls. But living here below, we often find it hard to **'Walk by faith and not by sight.'** We want to go where we can see, attempt what we are capable of, and work only according to our resources. All of this is contrary to faith and the Word of God, but it shows how weak and earthbound most of us are. C. H. Spurgeon hit the nail on the head: "*The common policy of our churches is that of great prudence. We do not, as a rule, attempt anything beyond our own strength. Thus we limit God and deprive ourselves of His eternal power and resources.*" -Copied. I think this is all too true. The Bible says. **"Power belongeth unto God."** It is His power or ours. If it is ours - **"The flesh profiteth nothing."**

#### CHRIST ALONE!

One who evidently knew something of the grace of God and the **"renewing of the mind"** (Romans 12:2) through the power of the Holy Spirit wrote the following:

The world I thought belonged to me - goods, gold, people land and sea - where'er I walked beneath  
God's sky, in those days, my word was 'I.'

Years passed. There flashed my pathway near, the fragment of a vision clear; my former word no  
longer sufficed and what I said was 'I and Christ.'

But O, the more I looked on Him, His glory grew, while mine waxed dim; I shrank so small, He  
towered so high, all I dare say was 'Christ and I.'

Years more, the vision held its place, and looked me steady in the face; I speak now in a humbler tone,  
and what I say is, 'Christ Alone!'

#### FRUIT OF COVETOUSNESS

Covetousness enticed Lot into Sodom...Caused destruction of Achan and his house...It was the curse of Balaam...It left Gehazi a leper...It sent the Rich Young Ruler away (no doubt to a Christless eternity)...It led Judas to betray the Lord...It brought death to Ananias and Sapphira. What havoc it has wrought, even among saints of God! Jesus said, **"Beware of covetousness..."** ~Luke 12:15.