

BITS & PIECES

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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WHAT IS REQUIRED!

After the Duke of Wellington's successful battles with the French, the French officers were brought to his tent. The officers declared to the Duke that they were not ashamed to be beaten by "the greatest general in Europe." Wellington heard them with the utmost composure and then calmly said, "Gentlemen, your swords," a symbol of absolute surrender. This is what the Lord Jesus Christ demands and expects from His servants. Someone has said that Jesus is much lauded these days, but He is not submitted to as Lord! The Bible says, "**Jesus Christ is Lord.**" Where do you stand in this matter? You may honor Him somewhat, give Him lip service, but is He truly your Lord?

HOW MANY HAVE YOU RESCUED?

Evangelist Wilbur Chapman said that in 1913 there was a great street demonstration in New York city. Twelve thousand men women and children marched through the streets. In addition there were three large sightseeing cars packed with dignitaries and others. On the side of one of the cars there was this writing: "These people have all been saved from burning buildings by firemen of New York City." Then, after the sightseeing cars, marched the firemen who had rescued them. About 100,000 cheering people lined the streets to see them. I couldn't help but think: How many have you and I rescued from the fires of hell? Some professing Christians are not even working at it. Souls are going to a fiery hell, and we just let them go. God says, "**Awake unto righteousness and sin not, for some have not the knowledge of God; I speak this to your shame.**" ~*I Corinthians 15:34*. It is a sin not to give the Gospel to lost souls!

BEWARE PREACHERS WHO MINIMIZE SIN

C. H. Spurgeon said, "When a man gets to cutting down sin, paring down depravity, and making little of future punishment, let him no longer preach to you... As for me, I believe in the colossal: a need as deep as hell, and grace as high as heaven." Among the general population very few believe in a real hell and eternal punishment for sin. What I find more pathetic, is those who profess to be Bible believers, Yes, even fundamentalists who say they believe in hell, etc. but they do not preach it (at least with any regularity). Are we not commanded to "**Preach the whole counsel of God.**"? After all, what did Christ die to save us from? There are sins of omission as well as sins of commission!

EUPHEMISMS

An euphemism is using a word that is less offensive than the original. Many years ago, the well-known preacher, W. E. Sangster attended a meeting of ministers, medical doctors and psychiatrists where the goal was to find ways they could work together. In the discussions there were many references to pre-marital and extra-marital sexual relationships. One old Gospel preacher seemed a little confused. Finally, at one such reference, Dr. Sangster spoke out: "Sir, do you mean fornication and adultery?" We have plenty of euphemisms around today. For example: homosexuals are gay (they don't look it); an unborn child is called a fetus; pro-choice means it is all right to kill an unborn child (now some are advocating killing them after they are born); euthanasia is the right to take someone's life (murder); etc. Something to think about: "**For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he pondereth all his goings.**" ~*Proverbs 5:21*