



The CORNERSTONE Challenge

A
Ministry
of:

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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WORLDLY CHRISTIANS.

November 2001

THE NATURE OF GOD'S CHILD

A Christian is one who has been "Born Again." He has repented (changed his mind) about his sin and received Christ as his Savior. Such a person has actually received the life of God and the Holy Spirit dwells within him. Now, when that happens, one simply cannot be the same. He has been converted - turned around! He doesn't want to be the same! God says, **"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away: behold all things are become new."** ~II Corinthians 5:17. I am afraid that many "worldly Christians" simply are not Christians at all. They have made some sort of "profession," but there are no holy desires and life is basically unchanged. If you are in such a condition, I urge you to consider the terrible fate that awaits you unless you sincerely repent of your sin and believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins. You may put up some kind of front, you may fool the preacher, your parents and others BUT YOU CANNOT FOOL GOD. **"All things are naked and open unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."** ~Hebrews 4:13. I urge you to sit down right now and take stock; are you truly saved? **"Examine yourselves to see whether ye be in the faith..."**

SICK CHRISTIANS

More than a few Christians ask, what is wrong with dancing, the theater, necking, worldly dress, TV, etc. The list is almost endless. We wonder why they cannot see it (if they are saved). They are of the world. **"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world..."** ~I John 2:15. They retard spiritual growth; they produce decay and death. I read of a mother who was scraping and peeling vegetables for a salad. Her teenage daughter asked if she could attend a movie - all of her friends were going. As she pleaded, her mother began putting dirty peelings into the salad. The girl exclaimed: "Mother, you are putting garbage into the salad." Her mother replied: "I know, but I thought if you didn't mind garbage in your mind, you wouldn't mind a little in your stomach." God says, **"Flee youthful lusts."** A worldly Christian is sick; there is something wrong with him. Dr. Ironside wrote: "No Christian who is walking with God is troubled much about worldly pleasures. In the first place, the world doesn't want him around." One night while preaching, Gypsy Smith began prancing around on the platform. He said, "'My friends, I can dance as well as any of you, but since the day I was converted nobody has ever asked me to dance or to the theater.'" Why hadn't anyone invited him? Because everybody knew he was out and out for God!

THE REMEDY

The trouble with cold, carnal, worldly believers is heart trouble. The clock on the wall where Thomas Beecher pastored always had the wrong time. One day he placed a sign alongside it saying: "Don't blame my hands! Something is wrong inside." Worldly Christian, you have a very serious heart condition and I implore you to immediately turn to the Great Physician acknowledging that you have sinned against a loving God. **"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."** ~I John 1:9. You must put Christ first in your life...read the Word and pray every day... Your new life needs proper food. It is also God's will that you be faithful in a truly Fundamental Baptist Church; a true Bible believing Church. (From a tract, "Worldly Christians," by Pastor Starr).

YOUTH CORNER

WHEN KIPLING ADMITTED BEING A FOOL!

He wrote, “The other sight of the evening was a horror. The little tragedy played itself out at a neighboring table where two very young men and two very young women were sitting. It did not strike me until far into the evening that the pimply young reprobates were making the girls drunk. They gave them red wine, and then white, and the voices rose slightly with the maidens’ cheek flushes. I watched, and the youths’ speech thickened and their eyeballs grew watery. It was sickening to see, because I knew what was going to happen. They got indubitably drunk – there in that lovely music hall, surrounded by the best of Buffalo society. One could do nothing but invoke the judgment of Heaven on the two boys, themselves half sick with liquor. At the close of the performance, the quieter maiden laughed vacantly and protested she couldn’t keep her feet. The four linked arms and staggering, flickered out into the street, drunk. They disappeared down a side avenue but I could hear their laughter long after they were out of sight. They were all children of 16 or 17 years. Then, recanting previous opinions, I became a prohibitionist. Better it is that a man should go without his beer in public places and content himself with swearing at the narrow-mindedness of the majority; better to buy lager furtively at back doors than to bring temptation to the lips of young fools such as the four I have seen. I understand now why preachers rage against drink. I have said, ‘There is no harm in it, taken moderately,’ and yet my own demand for beer helped directly to send those two girls to – God alone knows what end. It is not good that we should let liquor lie before the eyes of children, and I have been a fool in writing to the contrary.” ~*Sword of the Lord*.

Young people, do not be deceived – alcoholic beverages of any kind are wrong and a grave danger to your body and your soul. God says, “**Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.**” ~*Proverbs 23:30*. Back in Bible days, they didn’t manufacture booze like today, but they knew when grape juice became alcoholic. Kipling was not a Christian; he was a man of the world and he obviously knew why those young men were getting those girls drunk! God says, “**Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink...**” ~*Habakkuk 2:15*. Never mind if others make fun of you, call you “chicken”, etc. It has often been said, *The worldly crowd can laugh you into hell, but they can’t laugh you out!*”

**WINE IS A MOCKER, STRONG DRINK IS RAGING: AND WHOSOEVER IS DECEIVED THEREBY IS NOT WISE.
PROVERBS 20:1**

TALE OF A ROOSTER, by : Dorothy Faubion

A deferential rooster
With a gentle modest crow
Said: “Why disturb the barnyard every dawn?
I hate to make them mumble
And cluck and fuss and grumble
My popularity will soon be gone!”



So the hens forgot to rummage
Early-at-it for their worms
And lazied on their job of laying eggs.
The cows and horses even
Though at first it seemed like heaven
Began to wear a stiffness in their legs.

The pigs forgot to scamper
And the lazy little colts
Were late in getting out to take a run.
The early worm, believe me,
Said: “I think my eyes deceive me-
There’s not one bird out digging in the sun!”

The rooster saw the error
Of his kindly meant mistake.
“The farm folk seem to miss their old routine!
A little freedom’s jolly
But too much is simply folly - !”
So NOW he crows and keeps his world serene!

The sequel might be: The tale of a preacher” --- A diplomatic preacher.....

DO THE HEATHEN GO TO HELL?

Charles Stanley said in a message: “Would God send somebody to hell because they did not receive Jesus Christ whom they never heard about? And my answer is: No, he would not.” ~*Calvary Contender*. This shows either a total lack of understanding or a deliberate effort to get around a doctrine that is becoming more and more unpopular.

Jesus saith to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me. ~*John 14:6*

SAYING BY THE STUFF

“As his part be that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.” ~1 Samuel 30:24. In these words of David we have a great principle. David had gone forth into battle with four hundred soldiers to deliver Ziklag from the Amalekites. Two hundred of his army who were “so faint” that they could not follow David were left behind to remain “by the stuff.” After David returned with a great deal of spoil, these two hundred went to meet him. It was then the four hundred who fought in the battle objected to these two hundred receiving any of the spoil. But David rebuked these selfish soldiers: **“As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff.”** Their work of guarding “the stuff” was just as important as the fighting. Some must keep the line of communication open, while others fight. The principle applies today...Thousands of God’s children must spend the day in bed, or in a wheelchair preventing them from going into the battle. Your business is to stay “by the stuff.” Are you one of God’s army who cannot go forth to battle but must remain home to pray? This is indispensably important for without it others who fight would be defeated. When the King returns, the reward of God’s patient sufferers at home will be the same as others who went “down to the battle.” Don’t complain because you are laid aside - use it as an opportunity for this important part of Christian service. Keep the home fires burning! - M. R. DeHaan in *Sword of the Lord*

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ABOUT CASTING YOUR NET

“Did you ever notice,” said the little old lady, to the troubled face that was before her, “that when the Lord told the discouraged fishermen to cast their nets again, it was right in the same place where they had been all night and caught nothing? We think if we could only get off to some new place when we get discouraged, doing the Lord’s work there would be easier. If we could be somewhere else, do something else, it would make all the difference. But the plain truth is, for the vast majority of us, God’s will is the same old net in the same old place.” The Lord says in I Corinthians 7:20: **“Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he is called.”** That simply means that unless truly called of God, we are to stay in the same old town, same old job (unless the job is one a Christian should not have). Oh, how many I have seen of this type, often sincere, but mistaken as to their goals and purposes. For the vast majority of believers God says, **“Go home to thy friends and tell them what great things the Lord hath done for thee.”** But that is not usually an easy place – often a very hard place and we would like to go somewhere else. I remember reading of Abraham Lincoln and the advice he gave to his brother-in-law who was not doing too well as a farmer in Illinois. He was going to move to Missouri, about 100 miles away. Lincoln said, “What good will that do? Is the weather better in Missouri? Is the ground any different there? The truth is, if you can’t make a good farmer in Illinois, you won’t do well in Missouri either.”