

A  
Ministry  
of:

**CORNERSTONE  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

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**A MUCH NEEDED CHALLENGE!**

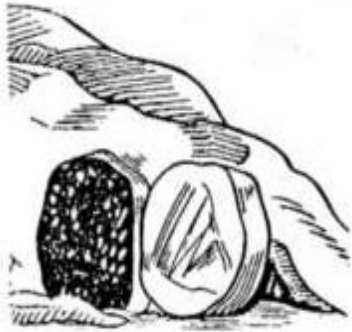
**March 2012**

C. H. Spurgeon said, *“The devil has seldom done a cleverer thing than hinting to the Church that part of their mission is to provide entertainment for the people, with a view to winning them. Providing amusement for the people is nowhere spoken of in the Scriptures as a function of the Church. The need is Biblical doctrine, so understood and felt that it sets men afire.”* We seldom see someone really on fire for God these days. I am afraid that if many believers saw such a one, they would declare that he was a fanatic. The truth is that most Christians are pretty comfortable and they don’t want anyone to wake them up spiritually or challenge them to a holy walk with God. I am reminded of a radio personality many years ago who always came on the air saying, *“Is everybody happy?”* I think it is pretty obvious that with few exceptions, God’s people are interested in being happy, not holy. Not only do we have to get up programs which are amusing, but if you want a hearing from a good many, you had better sprinkle your sermon with plenty of jokes and witty sayings. Now, I know all this will be viewed as very negative and a little morbid! But I think it must grieve the heart of God to hear jokes on serious Biblical subjects; even on the Bible itself. A.W. Tozer said in his earlier days Christians believed that the amusements of this world were not for believers; *“So, it was understood that when you got converted and got filled with the Spirit you gave up the world’s amusements. Then, there was a slow change, and in the name of fundamental Christianity, one by one, we met those amusements at the door and sprinkled them with holy water... We must have a new reformation. There must come a violent break with that irresponsible, amusement-mad, paganized, pseudo-religion which passes today for the faith of Christ and which is being spread all over the world by unspiritual men...”* I read a couple of years ago of a faithful Russian pastor who had been in the underground church. He said the West (America) must stop sending them such spiritually weak and superficial men for we are spoiling their people and the truth for which many of their brethren have died. While it will bring the wrath of some upon you, what we need to do is to tell the carnal babies which predominate in our churches (and pulpits), that it is time to grow up. A word for Pastors; did you ever stop to think that while you are supplying sweetened pabulum for all the babies, that you are stunting the growth of those who may have a little maturity and desire for spiritual things? Here’s a question for you: *“What are you trying to accomplish with the people of God? Was your call to the ministry a call to keep everybody happy; entertain believers until Jesus comes? Were you called to be an entertainer or a holy man of God; like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Paul? Do you think God is pleased with shallow, carnal ministries which cater to the old nature of believers?”* We have lost the concept of the majesty and holiness of God. Vance Havner said we ought to view God and the things of God with awe: *“But what you see in the average fundamental church today is not awe, it is just awful.”* Tozer said, *“We do not have the art of worship and we are not producing saints.”* Without a doubt, it is time for a revival, but I wonder if anyone knows what that is all about. **“If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways...”** To the Laodicean Church Jesus said, **“Repent!”** (Reprint – November 1998 *Challenge*)

## CORNERSTONE NEWS

# EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

SUN. APR. 8<sup>TH</sup> – 6:30am



“CHRIST IS RISEN”

SPECIAL MUSIC

FULL BREAKFAST  
(Those attending Sunrise)

ALL WELCOME

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30

CHURCH SERVICE – 10:45

EVENING SERVICE - 6:30

*“If a man die, shall he live again?”*

\* \* \* \* \*

## MOTHER - DAUGHTER LUNCHEON

SAT., MAY 5, 2012 - 12:00



GREAT FOOD

GOOD FELLOWSHIP

SPECIAL MUSIC

DEVOTIONAL

ALL LADIES AND GIRLS INVITED

Reservations call 617-489-2498

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## YOUTH CORNER

### THANK GOD THE BIBLE DOESN'T SAY “NOT ANY”

In I Corinthians 1:26 it says: “**For you see your calling, Brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.**” Most “wise men” are too smart to believe God. But thank God there have been some brilliant men who humbled themselves and believed God and His Word. One such person was Daniel Webster. He said: “I believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the will and Word of God. I believe Jesus Christ to be the Son of God. The miracles which He wrought establish in my mind His personal authority and render it proper for me to believe whatever He asserts. I believe therefore, all His declarations, as well as when He declares Himself to be the Son of God as when He declares any other proposition. And I believe there is no other way of salvation than through the merits of His atonement.” Yes, thank God the Bible doesn't say, “Not any wise men...” The truly wise man will believe God. But it takes humility! That is not found in those who think they are somebody. God admonishes the would-be wise man: “**For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.**” ~I Corinthians 1:19.

### I LOOKED

I looked upon a farm one day,  
That once I used to own;  
The barn had fallen to the ground  
The fields were overgrown.

The house in which my children grew,  
Where new had lived for years –  
I turned to see it broken down,  
And brushed aside the tears.

I looked upon my soul one day,  
To find it too had grown  
With thorns and nettles everywhere,  
The seeds neglect had sown.

The years had passed while I had cared  
For things of lesser worth:  
The things of Heaven I let go  
While minding things on earth.

### TRUTH ABOUT BIBLE VERSIONS

**All Bibles are not the inspired Word of God! Pastor Starr's book :“Is Your Bible Really The Word Of God?” will help you understand the truth. \$3.00 each plus 1.50 postage. Three for \$9.00 pp. (U.S.)**

## NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

### **OBAMA: ROE VS. WADE INSURES OUR DAUGHTERS HAVE SAME CHANCE AS OUR SONS.**

In a statement on the 39th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, President Obama said it was a chance to recognize the “fundamental constitutional right” to abortion and “continue our efforts to ensure that our daughters have the same rights, freedoms and opportunities as our sons to fulfill their dreams,” CNSNews.com [reports](#). Obama added: “We must remember that this Supreme Court decision not only protects a woman’s health and reproductive freedom, but also affirms a broader principle: that government should not intrude on family matters.” On Friday, the Obama administration finalized regulations that would require every health insurance provider to cover all contraceptive drugs, including those that cause abortions. –*Religion Today* (1/24/12). Ed. Should anyone have the right to murder, for abortion is taking a human life! Furthermore, if the government has no right to “intrude on family matters,” how come the U.S. government financially supports Planned Parenthood clinics around the world? (See the article on Planned Parenthood on our website: News You Should Know About – March 2012).

### **COURT DENIES CHURCHES EXEMPTION.**

A court in Hawaii has refused to exempt churches from being forced to allow their property to be used for civil union ceremonies. The Emmanuel Temple and the International Outreach Center... requested a restraining order to block a law that permits same-sex couples to enter civil unions. It exempts clergy from performing the ceremonies which are the equivalent of marriage, but there is no provision to protect church property. They agreed they would face civil penalties and fines if they refused to rent their property for same-sex civil unions, but U.S. District judge Michael Seabright denied the request. Matt Barber of Liberty Council Action tells *OneNewsNow* that creates a clear conflict between government and the free exercise of religion. “There is no exemption for religious institutions, for churches, houses of worship from being subject to fines and to sanctions as provided in the legislation for refusing to allow their houses of worship to be desecrated through the use of a so called ‘civil union ceremony,’” he explains. Ed. This indeed sets a very bad precedent if allowed to stand, for it will then be carried over to other states. One could readily see how the homosexual crowd could possibly close any particular church by encouraging any of their number who desire this civil union, to apply to that church. The fines and the sanctions could be overwhelming.

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### **‘FATHER, SON’ OUT OF BIBLE TRANSLATIONS.**

A decision by three major Christian organizations to remove the words “Father” and “Son” from new Arabic Bible versions because the terms are “offensive to Muslims” is stirring a controversy among critics, according to [Yahoo! News](#). Wycliffe Bible Translators, Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) and Frontiers are coming under fire for various translations in which “Father” and “Son” are replaced with the Arabic equivalents of “Lord” and “Messiah,” or in which “Father” is replaced with “Allah.” The organizations argue that in certain cultures, the literal translation could “communicate an incorrect meaning,” but many church leaders in Arab countries, as well as experts in Christian-Muslim relations, say such a change is unnecessary. “This translation is an ‘all-American idea’ with absolutely no respect for the sacredness of Scripture, or even of the growing Turkish church,” said Turkish church leader Rev. Fikret Böcek. “We do not have the right as human beings to do that kind of manipulation to the text,” said Dr. Paul M. Elliott of Teaching The Word Ministries. –*Religion Today* (1/31/12). Ed. This is ridiculous – changing the Word of God to please Muslims. They have no respect for the Word of God! I can’t believe such blatant decimating of the Scriptures is the work of any saved person!

### **AIR FORCE REMOVES ‘GOD’ FROM LOGO.**

A group of Republican lawmakers is protesting the removal of a reference to God in the patch logo for the Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office (RCO), [The Hill reports](#). The patch included a line in Latin -- common for military patches -- that translated to “Doing God’s Work with Other People’s Money.” However, after the Military Association of Atheists and Freethinkers complained, the Air Force replaced the line several weeks ago with the Latin for “Doing Miracles with Other People’s Money.” Thirty-five legislators, led by Rep. Randy Forbes (R-Va.), wrote a letter to Air Force Secretary Michael Donley and Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz, urging them to restore the original logo. “It is most egregious,” Forbes said. “The Air Force is taking the tone that you can’t even use the word ‘God.’ ... It is a very dangerous course to take.” –*Religion Today* (2/9/12). Ed. What would the founding fathers of this country think of this pandering to atheists (and homosexuals and other special interest groups)? These radicals are allowed to express their beliefs and even force them on others but, those who believe in God, especially Christians, are not to have any public expression. We are allowing “fools” to dictate our policies. **“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God...” ~Psalm 14:1.**

## HE'S ONLY BROKEN ON ONE SIDE

Sam Jones, the famous American evangelist, held a campaign for the cowboys of Texas. They wanted to take up a love offering for him, but they had so little money, they let him go home without an honorarium. Weeks later he received a telegram from the cowboys stating they were sending him a love offering: a car load of broncos. But what could Sam Jones do with a carload of wild horses? He thought of an idea. He'd hold an auction, sell them and pocket the money. He kept the finest animal for his son. Calling one of the cowboys he asked how much he would charge to break the bronco. "Fifteen dollars," was the reply. "Take him, and break him," said Sam. Two weeks later the cowboy came back with the bronco. "Is he broken?" asked Sam. "Yes, Sir." Sam said, "Can my son ride him?" "Yes, Sir." So, Sam gave him the fifteen dollars. He thought he'd try out the horse. As he approached the animal, the cowboy came running up. "What's wrong?" said Sam. "Why, Sir," said the cowboy, "he has only been broken on one side and you are mounting from, the wrong side." Agreement was made to break him from the other side also for another \$15. Two weeks later the cowboy brought the horse again. "Is he broken now on both sides," said Sam. "Yes, Sir, both sides." "Here is your fifteen dollars." Do you know the trouble with the average Christian? He is only broken on one side! He's like Ephraim: **"Ephraim is a cake not turned."** Half- baked! Many a Christian is like that - he wants his own way; he has never been completely broken! He will do this, but he will not do that. He will go here but he will not go there. He will work on the foreign field but he will not work on the home field, God cannot depend upon him. He has never really been broken. He still wants to have his own way - Oswald Smith.

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## FIGHTING OLD BATTLES

The great preacher, Henry Ward Beecher told about his little house dog that followed him as he went on a walk in the country. At a certain place on the road alongside a stone wall, the dog spotted a chipmunk. The dog barked and chased the chipmunk. After a little chase, the chipmunk darted through a hole in the wall. The dog stood there barking in the hole where his little prey had disappeared. The next day, Mr. Beecher and the dog went for the same stroll. The dog remembered, and although there was no chipmunk, the dog went and barked in the hole. Each day for a week, the same performance continued though there was no chipmunk. Mr. Beecher thought he would see how long this would go on. After six weeks, the dog still barked into that hole. It sort of reminds you of many folks, including not a few Christians, who spend a good deal of their time barking at old "holes." They have some old pet grievance, some perceived wrong done them, and they never seem to be able to put it aside and go on. Some are fighting old battles that weren't worth the time in the first place. Let's not get caught up in some old "bark" that's not worth the effort. God says, **"...forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before..."** ~*Philippians 3:13*. We need to keep our eyes on the goal and **"fight the good fight of faith"** today. There are plenty of battles that need to be fought for God and His glory, let's concentrate on these and forget the old battles where nothing is accomplished for God. -Adapted