



## OUR GREATEST ENEMY!

September 2016

It seems to me that greatest enemy of the child of God is not the devil; it is not the world. Our greatest enemy is SELF! Now, this foe takes many different forms and sad to say many believers do not seem to recognize the danger. One of the more subtle ways of the old nature is SELF SATISFACTION. Perhaps we have made some progress in the Christian life, but we have settled upon the notion that we are all that we need to be, and that we are doing all that can be done. There is no stretching out for more or better things. The widow of the great artist Opie said of him: "I never saw him satisfied with one of his productions, and often, very often, have I seen him enter my sitting-room, and throwing himself in an agony of despondence on the sofa, exclaim, 'I never, never shall be a painter as long as I live!'" Now, that was a noble form of despair which is totally unknown to the *average* would-be painters or artists. Beloved Christian, I challenge you to ask God to help you come to grips with that kind of attitude and dedication to the Lord Jesus Christ and His work! And never waver from it until you are perfectly holy (which of course you never will be in this life) and you have accomplished all that He has for you to do. There is always more ground to be possessed even as Joshua challenged the Israelites of his day.

One problem of the Church is that many believers are content to be *average* and not a few do not mind being a little below *average*. You attend church a little, give a little, witness a little (maybe), pray a little and so on. God is looking for, and the lateness of the hour demands, that every Christian be completely sold out to God. *Average* Christians never did get the job done and they never will! Over and over again we read in God's Word that He expects us to be sold out, totally committed, completely surrendered to Christ. The Apostle Paul was no *average* Christian. Listen to the words he penned under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit: "**Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**" ~*Philippians 3:13,14*. That doesn't sound like *average*. That doesn't sound like very many Christians in our day. Too many are living in the past, remembering their former days of spiritual growth or victory; but they have had little or nothing for some time now. Not many are reaching forth...straining to accomplish more in the name of and for Jesus Christ. Never have so many lived for ease and pleasure as the present generation in America. And many Christians have caught this deadly virus. There is a good deal of talk about revival, but where do we see people who are willing to pay the price of revival. Where are those who will empty themselves of SELF that they might be filled with the Holy Spirit? How many Christians do you know of whom you can say, "I believe he is filled with the Holy Spirit?" Child of God, Jesus is calling and He is saying, "**Take up your cross and follow Me.**" Will you take up the challenge; obey His command? Will you give up SELF; surrender to Jesus who went to Calvary for you? Will you say, "**Here am I Lord, send me.**"

**FRIEND DAY!**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 11<sup>TH</sup>**

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30

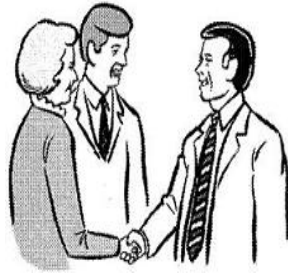
CHURCH SERVICE - 10:45

DINNER UNDER TENT

*Free, those attending above.*

SINGSPIRATION - 1:30

EVENING SERVICE - 6:00



**Your Friends Need Christ - Invite Them!**

**GIFT FOR EACH VISITOR AT S.S. & CHURCH!**

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**BOOKS AND BOOKLETS:**

- Charlie Coulson The Drummer Boy - Salvation... \$1.00
- The Gift: Testimony Catholic priest Charles Chiniquy. 2.00
- Is Your Bible... Word of God? - Bible Versions.... 3.00
- Charismatic Movement: Is It Of God? -Needed..... 1.50
- New Evangelicalism/Deadliest Ism-Important info..1.50
- What The Bible Says About Separation..... 1.50
- Cornerstone Clippings - Items from Challenges..... 2.00
- Creation vs. Evolution - Young People need this... 1.00
- The (New) Evangelical Experiment..... 3.00
- God's Word To Roman Catholics.....1.00
- What In the World Is God Doing? (Dispensations)..1.00
- Rightly Dividing the Word (Bible Interpretation).. 2.00
- Revelation of Jesus Christ. (An overview with..... 2.00  
keys to understanding this great prophecy)

*All but the first two books are by Pastor Starr.*

**SPECIAL:** One each for \$18.00 pp. Ten to nineteen of any one book - 25% off. 20+ of one book - 33% off. Postage: 15%, \$1.50 min. (outside US: 20%, \$2.50 min.) (US \$ only)

**A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST ON GOING TO HEAVEN!** Some years ago, J. Michael Miller, was a priest in Houston and professor at the Catholic University of St, Thomas. Writing in the Roman Catholic publication *Our Sunday Visitor*, he said he was “shocked” at the reading of Memorial card at a Catholic funeral in which the deceased was listed as “having entered into his glory.” Miller said that was impossible because the Catholic Church teaches prayers for the dead, that they may be “forgiven their sins while passing through Purgatory.” He is absolutely right, for that is basic Roman Catholic doctrine. No one can go directly to Heaven, according to that false system. The Bible teaches that if one is truly born again by repenting of his sins and trusting Christ as his Savior, not the church, then **“Absent from the body is present with the Lord.”**

**PROCRASTINATION IS DANGEROUS - IF NOT DEADLY!** A true story is told that happened quite a few years ago. A young mechanic said to the Pastor after an evangelistic meeting, “I would like to be saved but I have decided to wait until after the fair.” He said that he and three friends had made plans to spend a week in Glasgow, and if he was converted right then, it might spoil his plans. He said that he would return later and trust Christ as his Savior. On Friday of the following week he was accidentally drowned and his body was laid in the grave. But where was his soul? God’s Word says, **“Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.”** ~Proverbs 27:1. No matter what your age – young or old – the best time to trust Christ to be your Savior is right now. Do not delay! There will never be a better time. I have often said, “there is nothing worth going to hell over!”

**SOMETHINGS TO THINK ABOUT.** Some Christians are all head and no heart; then, there are some who are all heart and no head. It takes less time to do a thing right than it does to explain why you did it wrong. There are many things we can do after we pray, but there is nothing we can do before we pray. It is well to remember: God is going to have the last word! Difficult experiences of life can make you bitter or they can make you better. Those who are eager to give you a piece of their mind are usually the ones who can least afford it. An ounce of heart knowledge is worth a ton of head knowledge.

## NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY HAS HINDU CHAPLAIN.** Georgetown, a Jesuit university, is now the first academic institution in the United States with a Hindu chaplain, Brahmachari Vrajvihari Sharan, who led the first Hindu worship service on campus on Sunday. Sharan began the morning service by asking worshippers, about 40 college students, to still their minds. “Close all the tabs that are open, just as you would do to a Firefox window,” he said, according to [The Washington Post](#). The first Hindu priest to serve in the role of chaplain at any university in the United States, Sharan was wearing a traditional white garb as he chanted Sanskrit mantras and played the harmonium as he led the service on campus in Washington, D.C. “All of us students, we’re religious and Hindu, but we wouldn’t have been able to do what Brahmachari-ji (names are suffixed with “ji” in India to show respect),” Neharika Khandavalli, a senior at the university, was quoted as saying. Sharan, who is 31 years old, was trained as a priest at ashrams in India, completed his PhD in Sanskrit at the University of Edinburgh and taught at universities in Wales and London. Georgetown is now seeking a graduate assistant to support the Hindu chaplain. “The Hindu Life Graduate Assistant is expected to support the new Hindu Chaplain with development and implementation of Hindu Life programming through the Office of Campus Ministry.” “Part of our mission and our ethos is our desire to form the whole person,” the Rev. Greg Schenden, a Catholic chaplain at the university, was quoted as saying. The university also has a rabbi and an imam as chaplains. Ed. Talk about confusion! -*Christian Post* (8/31/16)

**POPE FRANCIS ON GLOBAL WARMING!** Pope Francis believes the environment is so important that during a message Thursday for the church’s World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation he proposed caring for the environment be added to the traditional seven works of mercy that Christians are called to perform. Francis instituted the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation last year in a bid to highlight his ecological concerns. According to The Associated Press, officials said the call was the logical extension of Francis’ landmark and controversial ecological encyclical issued last year. In it, the world’s first Latin American pope called for a revolution to correct what he said was a “structurally perverse” economic system in which the rich have exploited the poor and turned the Earth into an “immense pile of filth.”

This year, the Sept. 1 day of prayer for the planet falls during Francis’ Holy Year of Mercy, a yearlong focus on the church’s merciful side. Throughout the year, the faithful have been urged to practice the seven corporal and seven spiritual works of mercy, which were first outlined in the Gospel and have been articulated over centuries by philosophers and theologians. In addition to the corporal acts of mercy, the spiritual ones include counseling the doubtful, instructing the ignorant and praying to God for the living and dead. In the message, Francis said the faithful should use the holy year to ask forgiveness for the “sins” against the environment that have been committed by the “irresponsible, selfish” and profit-motivated economic and political system. -*NewsMax* (9/1/16 ). -Ed. If there is global warming, it is not man-made and cannot be fixed by man. I personally believe that it is just another liberal boondoggle. Did you notice at the end of his message – basically condemning capitalism and promoting socialism?

**UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO REJECTS SPEECH CENSORSHIP** - In a letter to the incoming Class of 2020, the University of Chicago’s Dean of Students rejects the growing practice of “trigger warnings” and “safe spaces” which focus on providing an “offense free” environment rather than freedom of inquiry and speech. Following is an excerpt from the letter: “Once here you will discover that one of the University of Chicago’s defining characteristics is our commitment to freedom of inquiry and expression. ... Members of our community are encouraged to speak, write, listen, challenge and learn, without fear of censorship. ... You will find that we expect members of our community to be engaged in rigorous debate, discussion, and even disagreement. At times this may challenge you and even cause discomfort. Our commitment to academic freedom means that we do not support so-called ‘trigger warnings,’ we do not cancel invited speakers because their topics might prove controversial, and we do not condone the creation of intellectual ‘safe spaces’ where individuals can retreat from ideas and perspectives at odds with their own” (cited from “University of Chicago,” *Newsmax.com*, Aug. 25, 2016). According to *Forbes* magazine, the University of Chicago is #20 among America’s top colleges and #13 among research universities. Nearly 90 Nobel Prize winners are affiliated with the school. -*FBIS* (9/2/16)

Ed. This is very unusual since the “political correct” position is that everyone agree on everything!

## THE LOVE OF PLEASURE

This was written some years ago by Dr. T.T. Shields, longtime Pastor of Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto: "It is a fact that vast numbers of professed Christians are now being carried away by an ever-growing love of pleasure which, like a mighty tide, is sweeping over the world. The great question that faces us is this: What is the truly Christian attitude toward these things?... The passion for pleasure, for society, for worldly amusements, has made barren churches as it has childless homes! 'It is only an innocent pleasure,' you say... It is the simple standard of the New Testament. If there be any pleasure upon which my heart is so set that it is of more interest to me than the interests of a soul for whom Christ died, I am unworthy of my office and I ought immediately to resign that pleasure or resign my office. If there be a deacon in this church who thinks more of an evening at the theater, of the diversion of a game of cards, or the pleasures of a dance, than the interest of a soul for whom Christ died, he is unworthy of his office, and he ought to immediately resign either the pleasure or the office. The same is true of Sunday School teachers or officers, and also every member of the church. There is but one course compatible with love and loyalty to Christ, and that is to resolve by His grace, and by the might of His Spirit in the inner man, we will put Him always and everywhere first; that we will live to realize the purpose of the cross in our own lives; that we will lose our lives for Christ's sake that we may find them." - *Baptist Vision*

**Cornerstone Baptist Church**

**54 Brighton Street**

**P.O. Box 438**

**Belmont, MA 02478**

[www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobooston.org](http://www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobooston.org)

## 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.