

# STOP

and consider



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Please do not litter. Pass me on to someone  
else, or please put me in your pocket or purse  
until you get to a proper container to  
dispose of me.

**But please . . .**

If you will read and seriously consider what we are endeavoring to attract your attention to, and accept it, it will change your whole life from confusion and hopelessness to happiness, hope and usefulness in the world in which we live.

Let us begin with the Being that has the greatest intellectual capacity in existence, the One that created all things and through the inspiration of Him, prophecy was made that would come to pass down through the ages and is yet coming to pass. He has presented us with a plan that will solve every problem of the human family if we will get our values straight and put them into practice. Not only is His intellect of such great capacity, He has all power in the universe. Why we as the human family in general will not believe it, is a mystery. If we would accept His word, and put it into practice, we would be just one big happy family. But we are prone to look at what man is able to accomplish in the technical, medical fields, and etc. as opposed to what God did in creation.

I would like to present a few examples of what God did before creating His living creatures. It was necessary for Him to create the earth for them to dwell on, plus all essentials such as food, water, air, oxygen, etc.

Let us ponder a few moments on a couple of God's great laws of nature, of which there are thousands. Take for instance the air-oxygen mix, which He gave His creatures to breathe. The mixture is

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approximately 20.8% oxygen and 79.2% air. Our question is, how is this level of air and oxygen mix maintained in our atmosphere? Is it a coincidence, or was it put into effect by the great wisdom and power of God?

Let us consider the law of reproduction. Take an egg for example, when properly fertilized and incubated, it will bring forth the like from which it came. But if brought forth as afore mentioned, and broken, then mankind with all his knowledge and power cannot put it back together so that it will bring forth life. That should tell us something. These examples can be multiplied thousands of times.

If you will, let us take a look at a number of things that were created and prophesied of at the very beginning of recorded history as told in the book of Genesis. Genesis 1:1, *"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (3) And God said, Let there be light: and there was light (4) . . . And God divided the light from the darkness. (5) And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. [The first day.] (7) And God made the firmament, . . . (8) And . . . called the firmament Heaven. [The second day.] (9) And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: . . . (10) And God called the dry land Earth: and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: . . . (11) And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, . . . (13) [The third day.] (16) And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. (19) [The fourth day.] (21) And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: . . . (23) [The fifth day.] (24) And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his*

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*kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: . . . (26) And God said, Let us make man . . . (27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. (29) And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. (30) And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: . . . (31) [The sixth day.]”*

In the garden where God provided for mankind’s abode, and sustenance, He also provided a place of probation. He put in the garden the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and said, “. . . *Thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*” Genesis 2:17. “. . . *She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.*” I Timothy 5:6. God also gave mankind an adversary, first appearing in the form of a serpent, but declared to be the devil. (Revelation 12:9, 20:2.)

Let us ask ourselves a question. Could God have had what He desired in His creation had He not created an intelligent being and given him a choice who he would serve? This He could not have brought about except by giving us an adversary. Revelation 12:9 declares him to be “*that old serpent, called the Devil.*” “*Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, . . . And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, . . .*” Deuteronomy 11:26-28.

Is it not reasonable to think that a great loving God, the Creator of all things, who has gone to such great lengths to show the human race how much He has and does love them, would have them love

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Him in return? The Lord is yet concerned about the welfare of the human race. “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, . . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” II Peter 3:9.

I trust to come back to the subject just touched on, but for now I will point out prophecies made and brought to pass down throughout the ages. Let us refer back to the serpent’s engagement with the woman. Genesis 3:13, “And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? . . . The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. (14) And the Lord *God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, . . .* 4004 B. C. (As I will enter dates in our commentary from time to time, I would like you to know these dates are approximate as historians differ slightly on dates.) (15) And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, *and thou shall bruise his heel.*” But thank God He promised to bruise Satan under our feet if we will obey Him. Genesis 21:12, (1892 B. C.) “*And God said unto Abraham, . . . in Isaac shall thy seed be called.*” Genesis 22:15, (1872 B.C.) “And the angel of the Lord *called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,* (16) And said, . . . (18) . . . *In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*”

Genesis 28:10, (1760 B.C.) “*And Jacob went out from Beer-sheba, . . . (14) . . . And in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.*” Genesis 49:1, (1689 B.C.) “*And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. (10) The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.*”

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Numbers 24:17, (1452 B.C.) *“I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.”*

Psalms 89:3, (1045 B.C.) *“I have made a covenant with my chosen, . . . David my servant, (4) Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations.”*

Isaiah 9:6, (741 B.C.) *“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”*

Micah 5:10, (710 B.C.) *“And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots.”*

Micah 5:2, (710 B.C.) *“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.”*

Matthew 1:18, (5 B.C.) *“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. (19) Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. (20) But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. (21) And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.”*

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Luke 2:3, (6 B.C.) “*And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. (4) And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)* (5) *To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. (7) And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. (8) And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. (9) And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. (10) And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. (11) For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. (12) And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. (13) And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, (14) Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (16) And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. (17) And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.” (Other witnesses— Luke 2:25-32, Simeon. Luke 2:36-38, Anna.)*

Since there is very little recorded about Christ, we would like to direct your attention to Luke 2:42. “. . . When he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. (43) And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. (45) And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. (46) And it came to pass, that after three



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*days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.”*

He next appeared just before He started His ministry, being introduced by his forerunner, John the Baptist. Isaiah 40:3, (712 B.C.) *“The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”* John 1:19, (33 A.D.) *“And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him. Who art thou? (20) And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ. (23) He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias. (26) John answered them, saying, I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; (27) He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe’s latchet I am not worthy to unloose. (29) The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. (30) This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. (32) And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. (33) And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. (34) And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.”*

Jesus after His baptism, fasted forty days and was tempted in the wilderness. He moved zealously into the great work He came here to do, to introduce the great plan of God and the “Truth” in its entirety.

Luke 4:16, (27 A.D.) *“ . . . He [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the*

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*synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. (17) And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, (18) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, (19) To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”*

Matthew 4:17, “. . . Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (18) And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, . . . (19) . . . He saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. (20) And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. (21) And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, . . . and he called them. (22) And they . . . followed him. (23) And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. (24) And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.”

I have endeavored to refer you to a few of the miraculous healings, the casting out of devils, etc., which are recorded many times in God’s Word. Jesus zealously worked at the plan God had in His mind before the world was. (I Peter 1:19-20.) It is the only plan in existence that can be to the good of all mankind if put into practice.

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Matthew 16:13, *“When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying. Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? (14) And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. (15) He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? (16) And Simon Peter answered and said. Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. (17) And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.”*

I would like to direct your attention to some other occurrences that are recorded in the Bible which were witnessed by some people that were living at that time.

Matthew 17:1. *“ . . . Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, (2) And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. (3) And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses [died 1451 B.C.] and Elias [translated 896 B.C.] talking with him. (4) Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here . . . (5) While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. (6) And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.”*

Let us take a look at some of the attributes that God required of His people.

Luke 6:27, *“ . . . I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, (28) Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. (29) And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. (30) Give to*

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*every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. (31) And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. (32) For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. (33) And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? . . . (34) And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. (35) But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. (36) Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. (37) Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.”*

As Jesus moved along, He left us many wonderful promises behind. He also faced many severe trials. Zechariah 13:7, (487 B.C.) “Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, . . . smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: . . . ” Mark 14:27, (33 A.D.) “And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered. (28) But after that I am risen, I will go before you into Galilee.”

As you can see from the prophecy quoted above, and from His own prophecy, He would be smitten, or crucified. Yet in that awful trying time which He was faced with, He never faltered or drew back from the great suffering and shame that He must endure to purchase a plan that would bring about a peace between God and mankind that had not existed since the fall of Adam and Eve. This peace can be had by our choosing.

Let us look at a few things that it cost. First, He had to leave His home in glory, come down to earth, and be incarnated in the flesh.

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He was born to an earthly mother, not in a king's house, but in a manger. This should let us know that from the very beginning of His life here on earth, He was not very popular. Matthew 2:1, “. . . *When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, (2) Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? . . . (3) When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, . . . (4) And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. (5) And they said unto him, In Bethlehem . . . (7) Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. (8) And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; . . . (9) When they had heard the king, they departed; . . . (11) And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: . . . (12) And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. (13) And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. (14) . . . he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: (15) And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. (16) Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, . . . (17) Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, [Jeremiah 31:15, (606 B.C.) . . . In Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping: Rachel weeping for her*

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*children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.] (19) But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, (20) Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: . . . (21) And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. (22) But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: . . . he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: (23) And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.”*

The king of Israel tried to destroy Jesus in His infancy, thinking Him to be an earthly king, when actually the scriptures never gave any indication that His would be an earthly kingdom. The sad fact was, and still is, that multiplied millions are still looking for an earthly kingdom to be set up but we would like to warn you, you are looking for ships that will never come in. In John 18:36, Jesus said, “. . . My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.” Revelation 1:9 (96 A.D.) “I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.” Christ’s kingdom was already set up at that time—a spiritual kingdom.

I will endeavor to call your attention to a few of the rejections He had while He labored to bring about the great plan of salvation. Mark 2:3, “And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four. (5) When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. (6) But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their

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hearts, (7) *Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?* (11) *I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.*” Mark 3:1, “*And he [Jesus] entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. (2) And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him. (3) And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth. (4) And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace. (5) And . . . being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other. (6) And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him. (22) And the scribes . . . said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils.*” Even though Jesus in His labors did many mighty works, such as healing the sick, making the blind to see, the dumb to speak, the lame to walk, the deaf to hear, raising the dead, etc., He felt the need to retire to a place of prayer to pray for added grace to face the awful suffering He was faced with, both mentally and physically. Luke 22:39, “*And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. (40) And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. (41) And he was withdrawn from them about a stone’s cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, (42) Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. (44) And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. (46) And said unto them [His disciples], . . . rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. (47) And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of*

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*the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him. (48) But Jesus said unto him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss? (54) Then took they him, and led him, and brought him into the high priest's house. . . . (63) And the men that held Jesus mocked him, and smote him. (64) And when they had blindfolded him, they struck him on the face, and asked him, saying, Prophecy, who is it that smote thee? (65) And many other things blasphemously spake they against him.” Luke 23:11, “. . . And sent him again to Pilate. (13) And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, (14) Said unto them, Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him: (15) No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him. (17) (For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast) (18) And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas: (19) (Who for a certain sedition made in the city, and for murder, was cast into prison.) (20) Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them. (21) But they cried, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. (22) And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and let him go. (23) And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed. (25) And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will.” Matthew 27:25, “Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children. (27) Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. (28) And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. (29) And when they had*



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*platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! (30) And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. (31) . . . and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him. (35) And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, . . . (45) Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.”* Matthew 27:46, “*And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? (50) Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. (51) And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; (57) When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus’ disciple: (58) He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. (59) And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, (60) And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. (62) Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, (63) Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. (64) Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, . . . (65) Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. (66) So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.”* Matthew 28:1 “*In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. (2) And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for*

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*the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. (3) His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: (4) And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. (5) And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. (6) He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. (7) And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. (8) And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. (9) And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. (10) Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me. (11) Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. (12) And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel they gave large money unto the soldiers, (13) Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. (14) And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. (15) So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day. (16) Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. (17) And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. (18) And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. (19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I*

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*have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.”*

I would like to direct your attention to other appearances He made after His resurrection. Luke 24:13, “*And, behold, two of them [His disciples] went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. (15) And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. (16) But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. (17) And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad? (18) And the one of them . . . answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days? (19) And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: (25) Then he said unto them, . . . (26) Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? (27) And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. (28) And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: . . . (29) . . . they constrained him, . . . And he went in to tarry with them. (30) And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. (31) And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. (33) And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, (34) Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. (36) And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. (38) And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? (39) Behold my hands and my feet,*

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*that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. (41) . . . he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? (42) And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. (43) And he took it, and did eat before them. (44) And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. (46) And [He] said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: (47) And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (48) And ye are witnesses of these things. (49) And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”*

*I Corinthians 15:1, “Moreover, brethren, I [Paul] declare unto you the gospel . . . (2) By which also ye are saved, . . . (3) For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; (4) And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: (5) And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: (6) After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; . . . (7) After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. (8) And last of all he was seen of me [Paul] also, as of one born out of due time.”*

I have endeavored to bring your attention to recordings and prophecies that were made within the last six thousand years. Not only were they prophesied of, but also brought to pass, which should establish in our hearts without any doubt whatsoever, that they are true. But remember, God’s Word teaches us that every person has a never dying soul, and after this fleshly body dies the soul lives on.

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It is returned to God who gave it, to be judged as where it will live in eternity—either in heaven or hell.

The explicit reason Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to this earth was to build and purchase His Church. He wants to live and walk among the lowly, that He might leave us an example that we should follow in His steps. Until the end of time He will be our Saviour if we choose to let Him. Revelation 22:17, “. . . *whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*” But at the judgement He is to be our Judge. Surely He is qualified, being the Son of God, and having suffered the things that He suffered at the hands of His creation. How awful it will be to face Him at the judgement if we have trampled His mercies under our feet.

Let us take a look at the judgement seat. Revelation 20:11, “*And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. (12) And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. (13) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. (14) And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (15) And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*”

I cannot over-emphasize our obligations above our rights. What are our obligations to God, to our neighbor, to society, to our self, to our country, etc.? Certainly there is nothing wrong with us having our rights. As for us, we are all for it, but is it not a fact that our rights end where our fellowman's begins? It has been the cry of the

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people of this nation for many years to be given their rights. But the truth is, as the saying goes, we got our cart ahead of our horse, and it has done more damage to our society in the last fifty years than any other one thing.

If we had been as zealous about teaching our people our obligation to each other and to God, as we have been about crying for our rights, we would be living in quite a different environment today. We don't get our rights by taking to the streets in marches, riots, killings, tearing up businesses, wrecking buildings, committing destruction to both people and property, destroying cities by burying them, etc. If we will live up to our obligations we will love God. Luke 10:27, "*And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.*" If we will accept and carry out the above, we will have no problem exchanging hate for love, pride for humility, stubbornness for submissiveness, grudges or unforgiveness for forgiveness, deceit for honesty, selfishness for generosity, lewdness for virtue, sex perversion for chastity, envy for charity and heresy or lying for truth. If we will do the above we will all have our rights, because we will not infringe on others' rights.

It seems that the practice of our society today is that if they are not being treated like they think they ought to be, they have a right to take steps to annihilate those who are opposed to their way of thinking.

God, in His great wisdom and knowledge, has made a simple plan and made it available to all nations. God, through His prophets, let the human family know. Jeremiah 10:23, (600 B.C.) "*O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.*" God gave us the remedy before He told

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us about the problem. Proverbs 3:5, (1000 B.C.) *“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. (6) In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”* He also lets us know what it would be like in the last days. II Timothy 3:1, (66 A.D.) *“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. (2) For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, (3) Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, (4) Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; (5) Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. (6) For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, (7) Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”*

He also let us know who He will give the truth to. Matthew 11:25 (31 A.D.) *“ . . . I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.”* It seems to us that the above information based on solid truths, even though they seem so simple, should cause us to pause and take inventory as to what life is all about.

Is there a place in this life where we can find the peace spoken of in John? John 14:27, *“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. . . .”* I will testify to you that you can have it if you are willing and obedient to God’s Word.

Let us consider some things we are faced with while in this present world. One of the first things is, we are on a one-way trip through this present world to eternity, a trip of no turning back. The

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way we live here determines where we will be in eternity. Have you considered that you are a living soul? Your body dies, but your soul never dies. (Matthew 25:46, Mark 9:44-48.) Have you considered the time you spend on earth compared to the eternity you will be in? Taking this into consideration, do you not think that this is the most serious question that mankind is faced with while in this present world? The scripture says, Romans 14:11, *“For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. (12) So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”*

Do you know that you must have a new birth (a spiritual birth) to meet the Lord in peace? (John 3:3-5.) And to do this we must meet God on His terms. We cannot bargain with God. Psalm 119:89, *“For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.”* Our part in this is to come to God, in the name of Christ, just as we are, with all sins that have not been forgiven by God. As we humble ourselves before God in prayer, let us remember that we are dealing with an all-knowing God. The very hairs of your head are all numbered. (Matthew 10:30.) He also knows every sin we have committed. You must ask God to forgive you for every sin that you have ever committed, and that His will might be done in the remainder of your life. (I John 1:9.) As you pass from death to life (that is, from spiritual death to spiritual life) you become a new creature. (II Corinthians 5:17.)

To be able to retain that peace spoken of in John 14:27 you need the experience recorded in the following scriptures. John 14:26, *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”* Acts 1:8, *“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon*



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*you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."*

Now to verify the fact that the promise is for us in this day, we refer you to the following scriptures. Acts 2:38-39, *"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."* Revelation 22:17, *"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."* We are living in a time when it is being taught that works are of little value. And true, the Bible does say in Isaiah 64:6, *" . . . our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; . . . "* The Bible also says, in Ephesians 2:8, *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast. (10) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."* The following is Adam Clarke's interpretation of Ephesians 2:10 with which we heartily agree. *"For we are His workmanship. So far is this salvation from being our own work, or granted for our own works' sake, that we are ourselves not only the creatures of God, but our new creation was produced by His power; for we are created in Christ Jesus unto good works. He has saved us that we may show forth the virtues of Him who called us from darkness into His marvelous light. For though we are not saved for our good works, yet we are saved that we may perform good works, to the glory of God and benefit of man which God hath before ordained."* Is it possible that God would tell us things to do or not to do that would be impossible for us to carry out? Matthew 5:48, *"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."*

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Again I refer you to Adam Clarke. “Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean thing? God almighty . . . and, however deep-rooted the disease of sin may be, the grace of the Lord Jesus can cure it, and who will say that He who laid down His life for our souls will not use His power completely to effect that salvation which He has died to procure. But where is the person thus saved? Wherever he is found who loves God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength, and his neighbors as himself; and, for the honor of Christianity and its Author, may we not hope there are many such in the Church of God, not known indeed by a profession of the kind they make, but by surer testimony, that of uniformly holy tempers, piety to God, and goodness, kindness or charity to man.”

John 8:11, “. . . *Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.*” I Peter 1:16, “*Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*” I Peter 2:20, “*For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. (21) For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: (22) Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: (23) Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again: when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:*”

I have not written to ridicule, judge, confuse or to say anything that is contrary to good judgement, but let us slow down and dig in and find out what life is really all about. Certainly Mr. Darwin or Dr. Spock did not have the answers, and we know of no other person or groups of people who have the answers.

But remember, there is a God in heaven who has a plan that will solve every problem of mankind, and it is very simple. We advocate the Holy Bible, the “King James Version.” We, as the whole human

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family, must take God's instructions, and put first things first. John 3:3, ". . . *Except a man be born again, (spiritually) he cannot see the kingdom of God.*" I Corinthians 2:9, "*But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. (10) But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God. (11) For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. (12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. (13) Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. (14) But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*"

You may have graduated from any number of seminaries, and yet not have the Spirit of God, and fail to know the truth. Remember, Paul of the Bible was an educated man, but failed to know the truth until he met Jesus on the road to Damascus. (Acts 9:3-23.)

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