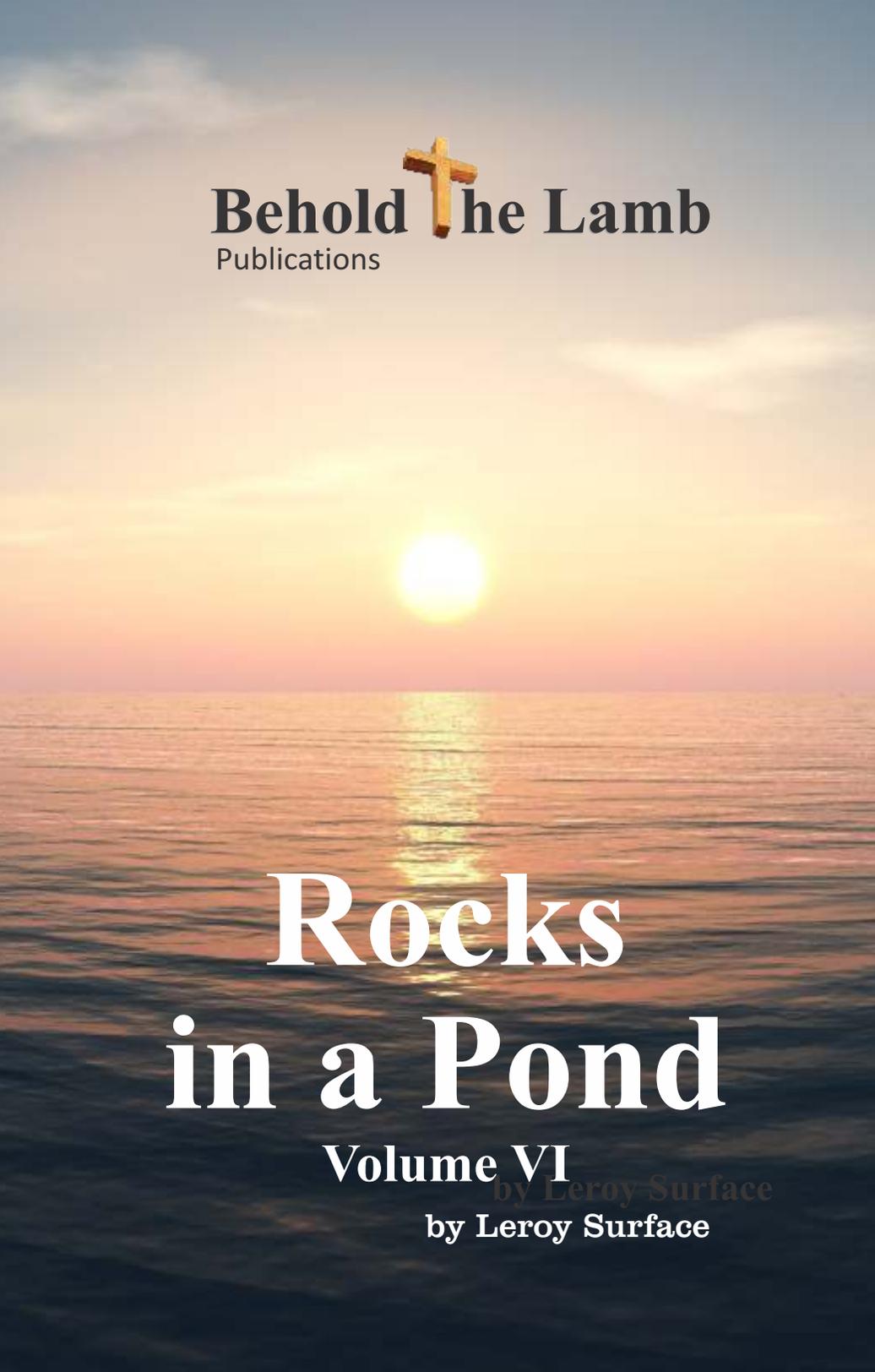




**Behold** **the Lamb**  
Publications



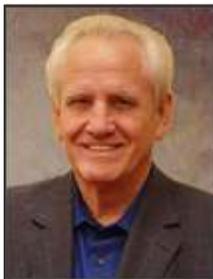
**Rocks**  
**in a Pond**

**Volume VI**

*by Leroy Surface*  
**by Leroy Surface**

At this present time, “Behold the Lamb” books are freely sent into every state in the USA, and into over 150 nations of the world. This is the fulfilment of a promise God gave to me almost thirty years ago, in 1992. Only weeks before, God had revealed to me something I had sought diligently for several years to understand. “What is the truth Jesus said will ‘make you free’ and you will be ‘free indeed’?” I found the answer in Hebrews 9:13-14 as the glorious truth about the blood of Jesus Christ shined into my heart. After many years of seeking sanctification through fasting and praying etc. my heart and nature was instantly cleansed from all sin and unrighteousness.

Some weeks later, while I was praying, I told God, “I am willing to go anywhere to do anything you say, but you will have to finance it.” I had struggled for years to raise the money to remain on several radio stations across the nation, but now, I “refused” to become a “beggar” even preach the gospel. God’s response amazed me. He said, “If you will say what I say, I will put your ministry on television, and it will cost you nothing.” In less than a month, Eldred Thomas, owner of channel 22 in Houston TX contacted me. He had heard of the message



**Leroy Surface**

of the blood and the cross I was preaching, and wanted it on his station, where we continued for eight years free of charge.

Later that same year, 1992, God spoke to me in a dream. He said, “If you will say what I say, one day you will throw a rock into a pond, and its ripples will wash up on the shores of every nation.” From that day, I have



**Keith Surface**

never had to ask for money, because God has abundantly supplied through His people who love the truth and want to be a part in sending it into the nations of the world.

There is something I want to make abundantly clear. These messages are not sent for their entertainment value. Instead, they contain the truth, which revealed into the heart of man, will make them absolutely free from sin, Satan, and the law of religion to serve God in righteousness, peace, and joy. I can put this in your hand, but only God can put it in your heart. Ask God for understanding of what you read, because it is life to those to whom His light shines.

# **“Rocks in a Pond”**

**Volume VI**

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# The Lord Jesus Christ

*“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...”*

Acts 16:31

The term “*Lord Jesus Christ*” is used eighty six times in the New Testament. This is not the name of our Lord, but rather a term which tells us clearly who Jesus is. The Apostle John said, “*Whosoever believeth Jesus is the Christ is born of God*” I John 5:1. Such believing requires a little more depth of knowledge than the average Christian is willing to acquire. Jesus said to some Jews who claimed to believe on Him John 8:30, “*If you continue in my word...ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*” John 8:31-32. It is obvious to the honest observer that Jesus was speaking to them about being made “*free from sin,*” and what they must know in order to receive that freedom. It is a very simple knowledge. It is knowing and believing who Jesus of Nazareth truly is. He said to those “believing Jews,” “*Whosoever committeth sin is the slave to sin*” John 8:34. “*If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed*” John 8:36. “*If you believe not that I am He, you shall die in your sins*” John 8:24. The issue of eternal life or eternal death for these Jews hung on this single issue: Who did they believe Jesus of Nazareth to be?

**Jesus is...The Savior!** I suppose every “believer” believes that Jesus is our “savior.” His name is Jesus, which by definition means “*savior,*” or “*Jehovah saves*” in the Hebrew. The angel Gabriel visited Joseph to inform him that the child in Mary’s womb was the savior the Old Testament prophets of God had spoken of. He was the Son of God and was conceived of the Holy Ghost Matthew 1:20. He said to Joseph, “*She shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins*” Matthew 1:21. Peter said of the name of Jesus,

“...there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” Acts 4:12.

Jesus was His given name, given by God Himself. There were, however, others in that generation, as well as today, who have been given that same name. Certainly the name “Jesus” has no magical powers, yet in my lifetime I have seen many disasters avoided by instantly crying out in that precious name of Jesus. It is not the name itself, but the one behind the name. The apostle Paul acknowledged there are “other Jesus’s,” some of whom were being preached to the Corinthians in that day II Corinthians 11:4. That being understood, how do we know who the true Jesus is?

**Jesus is...The Lord!** The apostle Paul did a comparison between the first man Adam and Jesus of Nazareth, whom he called “the second man.” He said, “*The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is **the Lord from heaven***” I Corinthians 15:47. The angel Gabriel said to the shepherds in the field in the night Jesus was born to Mary, “*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, **which is Christ the Lord***” Luke 2:11. Even in the manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes, He was “*The Lord Jesus Christ.*” His Father was in heaven, and his mother was at his side. Mary was the mother of the Son of God, but she was not, as some say, “the mother of God.” At no time did Jesus claim to be God, even though as the Son of God, He did possess divinity. According to the Apostle Paul, He was the “*express image*” of God’s person Hebrews 1:3, and not “the person of God” Himself. The Son of God was “*made of a woman, made under the law...*” Galatians 4:4, but He pre-existed as “*The Word of God*” who was “*with God, and was God*” John 1:1. John said, “*And **the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth***” John 1:14. Being “*made flesh,*” He that “*was God*” while He was “*with God*” was “*made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death*” Hebrews 2:9. Paul spoke to the Philippians of Christ, “*Who, being in*

*the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men”* Philippians 2:6-7.

When Paul spoke of Jesus as “*The Lord from heaven*” 1 Corinthians 15:47, he was not indicating that Jesus is the Father, nor was he indicating there are two or three God’s in heaven. John spoke specifically to this issue, saying “...*there are three that bear record in heaven, the **Father**, the **Word**, and the **Holy Ghost**: and these three are one*” 1 John 5:7. The Father is “*the person of God.*” Christ is “*the Word of God,*” and the Holy Ghost is “*the Spirit of God.*” Both “*the Word*” and “*the Spirit*” are extensions of the person of God. For all eternity, “*the Word*” John 1:1 is “the divine expression,” and the Holy Ghost is “divine action.” The prophet Isaiah saw Christ-crucified as “*the arm of the LORD,*” saying, “*The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations*” Isaiah 52:10, and “*to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed*” Isaiah 53:1. These speak of the sufferings of Christ on the cross. The apostles saw the Holy Ghost as “*the hand of God.*” In a time of great persecution, they prayed “*grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, **by stretching forth thine hand to heal**; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus*” Acts 4:29-30. “*And **the hand of the Lord was with them**: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord*” Acts 11:21.

*“The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”* Psalms 110:1

Notice that David spoke of “*The LORD (the Father)*” and “*my Lord (God’s Son)*” when he wrote this beautiful psalm which was a prophecy of Jesus, which would be fulfilled only after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Paul referred to this prophecy when he wrote of Jesus, “*But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From*

*henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool*" Hebrews 10:12-13. Jesus is "*David's Lord,*" to whom God said "*Sit thou at my right hand.*" This is He of whom God said, "*...every knee shall bow...and every tongue shall confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord,** to the glory of God the Father*" Philippians 2:10-11. Jesus Christ is "*our Lord.*"

*"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him."* I Corinthians 8:6

**Jesus is...The Christ!** Peter said, "*Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God*" Matthew 16:16. This is the necessary understanding of those who will receive the gospel promise of "freedom from sin." John said, "*Whosoever believeth Jesus is the Christ is born of God*" I John 5:1. This absolute statement is not made about any other doctrine in the bible. A person may miss it in their understanding of the Trinity or the Oneness of God and yet be saved and filled with the Spirit of God. The Apostle John places much emphasis on the subject, however, when he writes, "*Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? **He is antichrist,** that denieth the Father and the Son*" I John 2:22.

The Jews in the generation of Jesus of Nazareth were expecting the appearance of their Messiah (the Christ) in the year Jesus was anointed and began His ministry on earth. They knew the promise of God concerning the Christ; He would "*finish the transgression, make an end of sins, make reconciliation for iniquity, bring in everlasting righteousness, seal up the vision and prophecy, and anoint the most holy*" Daniel 9:24-25. Actually, these were six things which must be accomplished before a period of "*seventy weeks (490 years)*" had passed, and it was one called "*The Messiah, the Prince (The Christ, the Son of God)*" who would come at the beginning of the seventieth week to do these things. If Jesus were "*the Christ,*" He would accomplish all these

things within seven years of the day the Holy Ghost came upon Him and the voice from heaven declared Him to be the Son of God Matthew 3:16-17. If Jesus did not accomplish these six things within seven years, He would be proven not to be "*the Christ*," and His death on the cross would have been in vain. But, He did not die in vain! When Jesus cried with His last breath on the cross, "*It is finished*," everything the prophets had prophesied concerning redemption and reconciliation was fulfilled. The "*transgression*" was finished, "*sin*" had come to its end (nailed to the cross with Christ), "*reconciliation*" was made, "*everlasting righteousness*" was brought in, and "*the visions of the prophets*" were fulfilled, all through the death of the "*holy one*" whom God had anointed at the river Jordan.

The Jews had expected their Messiah to come as a mighty warrior, born of royalty, to drive the Romans out of their land and establish himself as king in Jerusalem to sit on the throne of David. They believed he would be just a man, a descendant of David. Jesus of Nazareth, though descended from David, did not fit their image of the Christ. They had Him crucified and thought it was over. It was obvious to the Jews that sin still abounded, and the Romans still oppressed their land. This was proof to them that Jesus is not "the Christ." John wrote, "*He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power (privilege) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name*" John 1:11-12. We who "*believe on His name*" are the "*privileged people*." Everything He came to do, He did in the heart and nature of those who believe on Him. John wrote, "*And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not*" 1 John 3:5-6. The Jew is still looking for Christ to come. They know that when He comes, He will "*make an end of sins*" and "*bring in everlasting righteousness*." Sadly, the modern church does not understand the gospel of Christ as well as the Jews. Many in the modern church are doing everything possible to

reach the Jews for Jesus, but every time a Jew hears a Christian say, “*We are all sinners, we sin every day,*” the Jew only hears them say, “*Jesus is not the Christ! Jesus is not the Christ!*” Do you profess to believe “*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God?*” Has your heart been washed and made pure by the precious blood of Christ? Do you believe Jesus “*made an end of sins*” when He died on the cross, or do you believe He failed in His mission, and only at his second coming will he be able to accomplish what He could not do the first time?

There are many who believe Jesus was just a man while on earth, who could have sinned, and was tempted to sin. Just as many on the other side of the spectrum believe He was God the Father, Jehovah, the “I AM” of the Old Testament. Either of these positions are equally dangerous. If we see Him to be less than He is, we lose the savior. If we see Him as more than He is, we also have lost the savior. This “*second man,*” Jesus, was not just a man; He was David’s Lord from heaven, sent by God to offer His body and blood, sufficient to take away the sin of the world. He was God’s sacrifice for man, God’s only begotten Son John 3:16, whom God offered to “*take away the sin of the world*” John 1:29.

# Are Christians also Sinners?

The common and almost universal answer to this question in the church of the twenty-first century is “*We are all sinners; we sin every day; we will be sinners as long as we live in this body of flesh.*” Such “believing” has not always been the case, however. In fact, in order to believe “we are all sinners,” we must deny the clear message of the gospel of Christ as given by the apostles in the scriptures (κλν). Consider the words of the Apostle John:

*“And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. **Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.**”* 1 John 3:5-10

It is almost universally believed that John said we who are born of God “do not practice sin.” This is easily proven not to be the case. The Greek word which was translated as “commit” is “*poieo*.” The Strong’s Concordance with its Greek Lexicon has designated the Greek word “*poieo*” as “G4160,” and gives this very simple definition; “*Apparently a prolonged form of an obsolete primary; to make or do (in a very wide application, more or less direct):*” Strong’s Greek Lexicon also instructs us to “**Compare G4238.**”

“G4238” is the designation given by Strong’s Concordance for the Greek word “*prasso*,” which is defined by Strong’s as follows:

G4238 *prassō*: A primary verb; to practice, that is, perform repeatedly or habitually (**thus differing from G4160, which properly refers to a single act**);

Notice in the comparison between “*poieo* (commit)” and “*prasso* (practice),” Strong’s says the Greek word *poieo* “*properly refers to a single act.*” This is the word the apostle John used throughout his epistles concerning whether those who are born of God are also sinners. John did not use the Greek word “*prasso*” even once in his epistles. When he said “*Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin,*” John purposely chose the Greek word which indicated that those who are “*born of God*” do not commit a single act of sin, unless they have been moved away from Christ and fallen from grace. For understanding of this statement consider the sin of adultery. Those who are born of God not only do not practice adultery, but they do not commit adultery at all!

John said those who are born of God “*do not commit sin*” because “*they cannot sin.*” 1 John 3:9. This may seem impossible to many, but what if I said “*A mother cannot take her child’s life.*”? Is that too strong? We understand that she cannot because it is not in her heart to do such a thing. It works the same way when sin does not abide in your heart.

John also tells us, “*If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.*” 1 John 5:16. Rightly dividing the word of truth, it becomes obvious there are sins which are not possible for a child of God to commit. These are called “*sins unto death,*” and no child of God can commit them unless they have “*fallen from grace.*” Galatians 5:4. There are also sins which a child of God may

commit, which are called “*sins not unto death.*” At this point we find it necessary to understand the difference between the two. It is the Apostle Paul who gives such understanding to those who can receive it.

*“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: **neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.**”* 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

There are those prominent ministers in the church who have made the case that an adulterer could be in the act of adultery at the moment Christ returns for His church, and the adulterer would be received “*if his faith is anchored in Christ.*” Everyone who believes such a thing is deceived, according to the Apostle Paul, who also said, “*Let God be true, but every man a liar*” Romans 3:4. The apostle was very explicit when he said they “*shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*” Writing to the Galatian church, Paul gave an even longer list of those who “*shall not inherit the kingdom of God:*”

*“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: **Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.****”* Galatians 5:19-21

Notice the apostle spoke to the Corinthians of ten things a person could be, which would guarantee they would not inherit the kingdom of God. To the Galatians, he spoke of seventeen things a person could do, which would also disqualify them from the kingdom of God. The simple fact is, if a person tells a lie, they

are a “liar;” if they steal, they are a “thief;” and if they commit fornication, they are a “fornicator.” Jesus goes even further in His “Sermon on the Mount.” He said, “*Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, **Thou shalt not commit adultery:** But I say unto you, That **whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery** with her already in his heart*” Matthew 5:27-28. The Apostle John said, “*Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him*” I John 3:15. Both these statements clearly reveal that sin in the heart is the equivalent to sin in our actions.

Saul of Tarsus was famous among the Jews for his hatred of Jesus Christ and his persecution of the church. When he met Jesus, however, and realized that “*Jesus is the Christ,*” he was instantly transformed from hatred to love, and set about to carry this wonderful truth to the entire world. Within a little over three years after his conversion, Saul of Tarsus received the greatest revelation ever given to man; “*The Revelation of Jesus Christ.*” Peter, John, and the other apostles knew Jesus was the Christ. They had been eyewitnesses of His death and resurrection, but could not comprehend the depths of what these things meant. It was Paul who, by revelation of the Spirit, connected the dots between Old Testament prophecies and their fulfillment on the cross of Christ at Calvary. Others knew Jesus had died and raised again. They knew He was “the Christ,” and proven to be “The Son of God” by His resurrection from the dead. Saul of Tarsus, later the apostle Paul, understood why Christ died and rose again.

Paul explained the gospel with these simple words: “**Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin**” Romans 6:6. Jesus Christ died so we could be delivered from sin through our death “*with him.*” If we died for our sins, we would be eternally lost. Christ died for us, so we could die with Him. “*...that the body of sin might be destroyed...*” The “*body of sin*”

speaks of the entire body, and not just a part or portion. The word “*destroyed*” is from the same Greek word used to say “*the last enemy to be destroyed is death*” 1 Corinthians 15:6. When death is destroyed, it is not coming back; so it is when the “*body of sin*” is destroyed. “*...that henceforth we should not serve sin.*” The Greek text says, “*...that from now on we would not be slaves to sin.*” “***For he that is dead (crucified with Christ) is freed from sin***” Romans 6:7. In only two verses, Paul reveals what it means that Christ died for us: We died with Him, and through death with Him, we are “*freed from sin.*”

*“Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* Romans 6:8-11

A believer who knows the truth of the gospel of Christ, and our identity with Him in His sufferings, death, and resurrection, also understands the words of Paul when he says, “*Likewise reckon ye also yourselves....*” When Christ died for us, He did not take our punishment or penalty. He did not “pay our debt.” He suffered and died on the cross as our “proxy,” which means, everything they did to Him, they did to our old man of sin. Paul said, “*He died unto sin once...*” ***Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin....***” Paul continues, “*He liveth unto God ...Likewise reckon you also yourselves....*” Paul makes it clear, this is not only our confession; it is the reality of those who know the truth and trust in Christ. He said we are “***dead indeed,***” which means “*we are in fact dead to sin, but alive unto God through* (in) ***Jesus Christ our Lord.***” The word “*through*” was erroneously translated from the Greek word “en,” and should be understood as “*in.*” Those who have been “*freed from sin*” have

no life apart from Jesus Christ. It is only those who “*abide in Him*” who “*sin not*” I John 3:6, and “*cannot sin*” I John 3:9. John also said, “*And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life*” I John 5:11-12.

Every reality of the Christian walk is contingent upon our abiding in Christ. Regardless of how much we think we know or understand, we must have personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Everything else depends upon that reality!

# Just say what God says!

In the spring of 1962 I was called to preach in a vision from the Lord. In the vision, I was one of the disciples Jesus used to feed the multitude of five thousand with five loaves and two fishes. After we had fed the people and gathered the fragments (I saw this in great detail), Jesus turned, and pointed His finger at me, and said, *“You give them to eat.”* Just as the disciples complained of the “insufficiency” of five loaves and two small fishes to feed so great a multitude, I protested my lack of anything to offer. I had only a high school education, I was bashful and backward, without any eloquence whatsoever, and I often stuttered when I tried to speak. As with the loaves and fishes, Jesus said to me, *“Bring what you have to me.”* As I had seen Him break and bless the loaves and fishes, He said, *“I will break you and I will bless you. Whatsoever I have broken and blessed is sufficient for every need.”*

For the next two years, my ministry was fulfilled as the youth minister at the Assembly of God church of which my brother was the pastor. After two years, in the spring of 1964, I felt the call to leave the “safety” of our local church to preach wherever God would open the door for me to speak. I resisted this call. I told God all the reasons I could not leave my brother’s church. I had four children and my business was growing at a rate which doubled my gross income every year. I told God, *“My business is doing too good. I can’t possibly leave it to preach.”* Oh what a mistake that was. From that day, everything that could go wrong went wrong in my business. I was in the paving and underground business. My haul truck engine blew up. My loader tractor caught fire. My bulldozer broke a crankshaft. My asphalt roller fell twenty feet into a concrete drain ditch and broke into pieces. Contractors I worked for declared bankruptcy and could not pay me. I was ready for a nervous breakdown after three months of such things happening every day. Finally, I came home from

work one day and fell across the bed crying, *“God, I will preach; just give me a place to preach, and I will preach.”* The next day everything went smooth. Maybe things weren’t as bad as I thought. I even said to myself, *“If I don’t tell anyone I’m called to preach, I will not have to preach.”*

Sunday morning I was awakened very early by a phone call from the pastor of a small Full Gospel. I had never met this pastor, but I knew who she was. She said, *“I’m sorry to call you so early, but I need you to preach for me today.”* She said she had been sick and could not be in the service. I told her, *“I’m sorry, but you’ve got the wrong number. You need to call my dad.”* She said, *“Isn’t your name Leroy?”* I said *“Yes, I am Leroy,”* to which she said, *“I thought sure that was the name God spoke to me last night.”* I was trapped! I had told God, *“Just give me a place to preach, and I will preach.”* God blessed greatly in the two services that day. One person was gloriously saved, and many others blessed. The pastor asked me to preach a two week revival, and the ministry to which God called me began. In another vision two years later, God said, *“I have placed you as a watchman unto my people...”*

## **God’s charge to me**

*“I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things...”* I Timothy 5:21

The day I fully surrendered to preach the gospel, God said some things to me which most people thought were very controversial, and even foolish. He gave me this charge just as surely as He gave charge to His apostles in their day. He said, *“Do not study the writings of men, and do not study the doctrines of the church. Study only the scriptures.”* There was no possible way I could understand the far reaching implications of what God spoke. Without exception, everyone I confided in told me, *“Brother Leroy, God did not tell you that.”* They encouraged me to apply for exhorter’s license with the Assembly of God and *“Stay away for those little independent churches.”* They were truly concerned for me, that I was about to *“get into a mess.”* The truth is, I had

a wonderful beginning, but after a very few years, I began to get into some real “messes” and within a dozen years I was completely backslidden.

I was restored by God on March 2, 1980, and He renewed the same charge to me. I argued with God. *“You can’t use me. I have brought shame to your name.”* There were many other excuses I offered as reasons He could not use me. God told me directly, *“You can rebel against the call I have given you, and you can die and go to hell, but you cannot change what I have called you to be and do. Even in hell, you will be one of my watchmen that rebelled against me.”* He knew how to get my attention.

During the decade of the eighties God anointed me with the strongest anointing of a “watchman” I had ever experienced. I received visions of the major church sin scandals before they happened, and preached them on radio stations across the southern states. I still carried much guilt from my backsliding years, and every time I saw another “mighty man of God” fall in a sin scandal I was crushed more and more. I felt I had become like one of “Job’s comforters,” of whom the young man Elihu said, *“...they had found no answer, and yet had condemned Job”* Job 32:3. After the Jimmy Swaggart scandal in February, 1988, I cried for days. I said, *“God, I can’t do this any longer. I am condemning greater men than myself for the same sins I have committed. If you can give me visions of sin scandals before they happen, surely you can give me the answer for the sin problem that is in the heart of man. If you don’t give me the answer, I will close my bible, and never preach again.”* This was not a threat. I simply could not continue to condemn sinners if I did not have an answer to give them. I told God, *“It must be an answer that will work for everyone who believes it, whether it is a Jimmy Swaggart, a Jim Baker, or (myself) a Leroy Surface.”* God must have taken me at my word, because immediately almost all doors of ministry were closed to me. I was a hero to some and a villain to others, but most seemed afraid of a preacher they thought could see future events. I used the time, however, to diligently search the scriptures for the gospel answer for the sin problem.

It was three years later, in the spring of 1991 that God gave me the answer I sought for. I was writing the book *“The Vision and the Provision”* when I came to the scriptures in Hebrews 9:13-14. The apostle made a comparison between the blood of animals offered in the old covenant and the blood of Christ offered in the New Covenant.

***“For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh...”*** Hebrews 9:13

The comparison begins with the blood of bulls and goats, which was the blood the high priest sprinkled behind the veil on the Day of Atonement. Compliance with the Law of Moses and offerings of animal blood could make the outer man clean and pure. Even Saul of Tarsus could say, *“...touching the righteousness which is in the law, (I was) blameless”* Philippians 3:6. Jesus said to the scribes and Pharisees, *“Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity”* Matthew 23:28. They had everything the Law of Moses and the blood of animals could give.

***“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”*** Hebrews 9:14

I looked up the word *“conscience”* in Strong’s Greek Dictionary, and it meant *“moral consciousness.”* I looked up the words *“moral consciousness”* in the American College Dictionary, and it gave the definition as *“the innermost thoughts and feelings of man.”* When I saw this definition, I cried aloud, *“That’s my problem. It’s not anything I am doing, it’s the filthy dreams and imaginations.”* Suddenly, the presence of God filled my office where I was writing. I lifted up my hands and cried aloud, *“Thank you Jesus for shedding your blood to wash me inside, where I could never wash myself.”* Instantly the filth turned off, just like when you turn a water faucet off. The blood of Jesus did for me exactly what He shed it to do. *“Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the*

*gate*” Hebrews 13:12. My heart and mind was washed, and I was sanctified in a moment of time.

Again, I had to face those well-meaning friends who were quick to correct me; *“Brother Leroy, God doesn’t do what you say He did for you.”* Years before, I had been robbed of the power of the gospel by well-meaning friends, but this was something I refused to let them talk me out of. Suddenly, I saw this great truth everywhere I looked in the scriptures (KJV). The Old Testament prophets foretold it; Jesus died on the cross to do it; the eyewitness apostles wrote of it in their epistles, and Paul *“turned the world upside down”* preaching it. Now I understood the words God spoke to me when He called me twenty-seven years before; *“Do not study the writings of men, and do not study the doctrines of the church. Study only the scriptures.”* I may have avoided many pitfalls if I had stayed with the tradition of the churches, but I would have never seen nor understood *“the truth”* that made me free. It is the same *“truth”* which the Apostle Paul called *“the gospel of Christ.”* It is *“the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believeth (it)”* Romans 1:16.

About a year later I was praying, *“God, you know how big you want this ministry to be. I am willing to go anywhere you want me to go, and say anything you want me to say, but you will have to finance it. I will not become a beggar before men to stay in the ministry.”* He said to me, *“If you say what I say, I will put your ministry on television, and it will cost you nothing.”* In less than thirty days, the owner of a Christian television station in Houston Texas, approached me because his eighty year old sister had read my book on the blood of Jesus. He said, *“I want your message on my station,”* and for the next eight years we were on two times a week without charge. In 1992, I had a dream of throwing rocks into a pond and watching the ripples. God spoke to me in the dream and said, *“If you say what I say, one day you will throw a rock into a pond, and the ripples will wash up on the shores of every nation.”* Today, the message God has given me is going into 150 nations of the world. I do not have to beg, and I do not have anything to sell. The gospel is freely given to all who wish

to receive it. The rock we throw is the gospel we preach; ***“Jesus is the Christ, the son of the living God”*** Matthew 16:16, John 11:27. This magazine (Charisma) you are reading is a “pond” we throw the rock into. At present we are receiving over fifteen hundred new contacts each month asking to receive our “Behold the Lamb” publication which goes freely to one and all.

I must make it clear to everyone who reads this. *“What God says”* is clearly written in the scriptures. He will never speak anything doctrinally through a modern day prophet or teacher that is not in the scriptures. I have received dreams and visions from God of things to come for over sixty years, but I had to discover that when He said, *“Say what I say,”* He was speaking of the record He gave of Jesus Christ in the scriptures I John 5:10. Any person who will study a KJV bible along with a Strong’s Greek and Hebrew Dictionary will come to see and understand the same truth, of which Jesus said, *“You shall know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”* You will not find “the truth” in church doctrine, or in the writings of men, but it fills the writings of the scripture God gave in the Holy Bible.

# Visions from the Lord

I was called to preach in a vision from the Lord in 1962. At the end of the vision, Jesus pointed to me and said, *“You give them to eat.”* With these words, He gave me a course to run that would take the rest of my life to finish, if I were faithful. Four years later, in September of 1966, I received a vision from the Lord of the last day and the great white throne judgment, and of people being cast into the lake of fire. At the end of the vision, the Lord spoke to me and said, *“I have set thee to be a watchman to my people,”* and He warned me about failing to warn the people, using the same words he spoke to Ezekiel in the day he was called. From that day, I began to receive the visions of a watchman almost nightly. For all the years since that time, I have been held between two calls upon my life; calls which sometimes compete for my attention. I know my first calling is to teach the church, to “give them to eat,” and that is my preference. There have been times I said in my heart I would not be a watchman any longer, but I found, as Jeremiah also found when going through a similar time of testing, *“...I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay. For I heard the defaming of many, fear on every side”* Jeremiah 20:9-10.

The first prophetic words I heard from the Lord were at a very unlikely setting. I was at a wedding in a Catholic Church in June 21, 1965, over a year before God confirmed the watchman calling. As a very young Pentecostal preacher, I was indignant at the images on the walls, and especially at the “stations of the cross,” which ended with the placing of the body of Jesus in the tomb. I looked in vain for the depiction of the resurrection, and

finding none I wanted to scream out, “Don’t you know He is risen, that He is alive?” Of course I did not, but God had heard my inward scream and saw my indignation. He spoke to me words that shocked me beyond belief. He said, *“In the last days a harlot will arise out of Pentecost that will be more vile in her affections than the Roman Catholic church of the dark ages.”*

It was three years later, in July of 1969, that God gave me a vision to explain the first revelation. I saw *“another spirit”* II Corinthians 11:4 come to the churches, pretending to be the Holy Ghost. I saw many churches receive this “other spirit,” believing it was the Holy Spirit of God, but in every case, those who received it began to exalt themselves, which is the very spirit of Lucifer himself Isaiah 14:12-14. They stood upon pedestals such as the Greek gods were placed upon, and said to the people, “Look to us, we are the ones the spirit came upon; look to us, we are the one the voice spoke to.”

I preached this vision in its fullness to over five hundred people the next night under my revival tent in Atlanta Georgia as I began to sound the warning of the Spirit. Within two years, it became commonplace for preachers to teach the people “how to speak in tongues,” and within a decade teachers arose professing they could teach “how to prophesy,” and “how to” operate all the gifts of the Holy Ghost. Such things had never happened in the first half century of the Pentecostal outpouring of the twentieth century, but everything changed for the full gospel churches about fifty years ago, while at the same time we began to lose our nation to the secular society. There were a few who could remember the realities of the past revivals, who stood firm for the truth, but most of those have died off, leaving only a very few “witnesses” of what is a true move of God’s Spirit.

I received visions of the arising of “super churches,” and their religious “banquet tables” filled with all manner of meats, which

in the visions I was expressly commanded “Do not eat of it!” I received visions of the fabulous mansions which the leaders of these super churches would build for themselves, and I saw a day coming when they would all be burned to ashes, as it was discovered, they were all built of “*wood, hay, and stubble*” 1 Corinthians 3:12-13. A terrible day is coming for the harlot church, as the righteous judgment of God is fulfilled against her.

*“And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For **God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.**”* Revelation 17:16-17

The same “*horns of the beast*” which rend the harlot church will also make war on the Lamb. John wrote, “*These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and **they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful***” Revelation 17:14.

It is to these who are “*called, and chosen, and faithful,*” that I will address the remainder of this message. It was in December of 1987 that I received a very unusual vision from the Lord. I saw what I could only describe as “roving bands of hoodlums,” rioting in the streets at night, stealing, mugging, burning, and raping. The conditions were so bad in the vision, it was not safe for anyone to go about freely. This exact circumstance is coming to pass upon our nation at the same time as the corona virus has made millions of people afraid to gather in crowds for fear of death. In the vision, however, I was able to go about freely, right in the midst of all the destruction. I know this sounds strange, but I was protected in a small one person vehicle which no one could see. It was very much like a “bubble” around me, but it took me safely wherever I went. I was asked the question (in the vision), “How

can you go about so freely in such a dangerous world as this?" I answered, *"Because in Him I live, and move, and have my being. Not in any denomination, not in any organization made by man, but in Jesus Christ I live, and move, and have my being"* Acts 17:28.

Sometime later I received another vision from the Lord which included the little vehicle which I traveled in. The vision began with the voice from heaven saying, *"You will take a journey into the valley of the shadow of death, where men sit in darkness."* Immediately upon hearing that, I was in my "bubble" vehicle, which started down a narrow winding road which seemed to go down into the earth itself. After a time, I came to a deep and wide valley of darkness. The darkness was such that you could see through it, but an incredibly dreary darkness. In this valley was a plantation, which was overseen by cruel taskmasters who carried whips with which they beat the slaves who did the work. As far as I could see across the valley, the slaves were gathering fruit, and carrying great and heavy burdens bound to their heads and backs, under the continual oppression of the taskmasters.

As I neared the half way point through the valley, a great light turned on in the front of the vehicle. It was not as the headlight of a car, but it was a "searchlight" which cast a bright beam to the far extremes of the valley, and it swept back and forth as I moved slowly along. When the light turned on, two things happened. First, the taskmasters dropped their whips, and ran for cover, greatly fearing that the light would expose them. Second, the "slaves" dropped their burdens and began walking from every part of the valley to come to the light.

Each of the visions I have related spoke of things yet to come in the day they were given. All of them have come to their fullness in this generation, and some seem to pinpoint this very year of chaos in America. As I write this, I know the worst is yet to come. The "pit" has been opened, and the locusts are beginning to

swarm Revelation 9:1-11. *“They have a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon”* Revelation 9:11, which by interpretation means *“the destroyer.”* Who can deny that “the destroyer” has been released on the streets of America?

The election of Donald Trump as president of the United States came as an intervention from God. I heard the voice of the Spirit of God early the morning after he was elected, saying *“I will restore thy judges as at the first”* Isaiah 1:26. Only today as I write this, we have received the news that judge Ruth Ginsburg has passed away, leaving another opening on the Supreme Court. If God is merciful, He will give us an honorable and godly person to fill this seat, and we will receive another “intervention” from God. If this does not happen, our nation will quickly descend into the time of the sixth trumpet, in which one third of all living will be slain, *“by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone”* Revelation 9:18, and *“by these plagues”* Revelation 9:20.

Very recently I was awakened from sleep very early in the morning hearing these words from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm: *“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for thou art with me.”* It is well established in scripture that there is a place of safety in Christ during the time of God’s anger against the nations. We have *“the secret place of the most high”* Psalms 91:1-13. To the locusts, God commanded *“...hurt only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads”* Revelation 9:4.

This dark time in America is the direct result of a sin-laden church which does not know the truth. It is in such a time as this Esther 4:14, however, we who have received freedom from sin through the blood of Christ Romans 6:18, 22 must stand up and tell the world what Christ accomplished on the cross I John 3:5. There is no political

answer for America; we must have another outpouring of God's Spirit. It must begin in the churches, but God has never poured His Spirit upon a sinful people. Let repentance begin in the house of God. Let the ministers mourn in the altars of God over the abominations that have come to the house of God Joel 2:17. Let the people present their bodies, "...a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1. This is our "evening sacrifice." I Kings 18:36-38.

God promised to do three things when the evening sacrifice was offered; "I will meet with you ...I will speak to you ...and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by my glory" Exodus 29:42-43. Jesus Christ offered his body as the "morning sacrifice" for our salvation. The "evening sacrifice" is ours to offer. When it is "acceptable to God," He will pour out of His Spirit upon the church, and we will have revival in America. The future of our nation is in our hands.

# The Meek and Lowly Jesus

*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*”

Matthew 11:28-30

Lest we forget, the ways of God are contrary to the ways of a man. Man’s way up is to climb the ladder of success, often using others as stepping-stones to gain advantage. *God’s way up ...is down.* Jesus said, “*whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted*” Matthew 23:12. Call this a “principle of God” if you will, but it is one that has no exceptions. Many in the modern church have never understood those things which God calls “blessed.” Almost universally, our tendency is to see the person with an elevated position in life and possessing much wealth, and say they are “blessed.” Jesus does not agree, however. He began early in His ministry to define for all who can receive it, what it means to be “blessed” when He said...

*“Blessed are the poor in spirit...”* Matthew 5:3. The remainder of this verse says, “*...for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*” I have separated these for the sake of those who can see and understand. This “blessing” is in what the people “are,” and not in what they “possess.” The “poor in spirit” speaks of a “beggar in spirit.” This is certainly not those who beg to receive their sustenance from man, but the one who, regardless of their position in this life, approaches God with the attitude, “If you do not give to me, I have nothing.” They understand, their great need is not for “things” of this world but for Christ Himself.

***“Blessed are they that mourn...”*** Matthew 5:4 According to Isaiah’s prophecy of Messiah, Jesus was both anointed and sent “*to appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, oil of joy for sadness, and the garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness*” Isaiah 61:3. These are not those who are depressed by reason of their circumstances; they are rather those whom God has chosen to be His “*...trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.*” A hundred years after Isaiah wrote these words, when God sent the armies of Babylon to destroy Jerusalem, He first sent an angel with a writer’s inkhorn into the streets of the city to “*set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof*” Ezekiel 9:4. These were those who “*mourn in Zion.*” According to the Hebrew text, God said, “*Write my name on their foreheads.*” When the destroyers came, God commanded them, “*Come not near any man upon whom is the mark...*” Ezekiel 9:6. They who “*mourn in Zion*” are those saints of God who grieve over both the wickedness of the world, and the abominations committed in the house of God Ezekiel 8:5-17.

Jesus continued His introduction to His “Sermon on the Mount” by pronouncing numerous other “blessings.” He said, “*Blessed are the meek...; Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness...; Blessed are the merciful...; Blessed are the pure in heart...; Blessed are the peacemakers...:*” His final two blessings are most hard for most Christians to receive. He said, “*Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven*” Matthew 5:10, and “*Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake*” Matthew 5:11.

For those who can receive it, the blessing is not in what these will receive hereafter, but in what they “are” right now. Those who can “turn the other cheek when slapped” Matthew 5:39, “walk the

extra mile when compelled” Matthew 5:41, and “give their cloak also when sued at law” Matthew 5:40, are an incredibly blessed people, and there are few such among us. The blessing for “doing the right thing” is in “doing the right thing!” The blessing in giving is not in receiving as we have been taught. Jesus said, “*It is more blessed to give than to receive*” Acts 20:35.

I recently read a religious message in which the writer wrote with much emphasis, “*Jesus was not meek and mild.*” I was amazed at how distressed I was over these few words. I wanted for the first time in my life to write the editors of the magazine to protest, but I chose not to do so. Yet, I have not been able to get these words out of my mind. I thought, “**If Jesus was not ‘meek and mild’ He must have been a liar, because He so clearly said, ‘I am meek and lowly in heart’.**” He told us we would “*find rest unto our souls*” if we would take His yoke of meekness and lowliness upon ourselves. It is not a yoke of bondage, as some may think. To be “yoked with Christ” is to be one with Christ, having His heart, His mind, and His nature working in us. It is the “glorious liberty” of the Sons of God Romans 8:21. We are “*freed from sin*” in the death of Jesus Romans 6:7, 18, 22. We are also “*cleansed from all unrighteousness*” 1John 1:9 in His precious blood which He shed for us. We are freed from the need to take our own defense, or to revile again those who first revile us 1 Peter 2:23.

Can we consider for a moment that Jesus was in His flesh everything He preached in His “Sermon on the Mount?” It is easy to confuse “meekness and lowliness” with “weakness.” It is true that Jesus sharply rebuked the scribes and Pharisees as hypocrites less than a week before they gave Him over to the Romans to be crucified. At Calvary, however, He fulfilled the words of the prophet Isaiah; “*He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth*” Isaiah 53:7. Which of these two events best proves the

“strength” of Jesus Christ? The “*meek and lowly*” Jesus could easily put the scribes and Pharisees in their place, but when these same scribes and Pharisees came with the soldiers to take Him away, it required strength from His Father to not call for the twelve legions of angels who stood by to deliver Him Matthew 26:63-54. It requires great strength such is found only in the “*meek and lowly*” Jesus for a child of God to “turn the other cheek,” to “walk the extra mile,” and to “give their cloak also” Matthew 5:39-41. Such is the “blessing” which God has bestowed on His children, that they should “be” such a people. Everything Christ did for us at Calvary through His shed blood and death on the cross is summed up in one verse to the Ephesians; “*That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ*” Ephesians 1:12.

“...if he that cometh preacheth **another Jesus**, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive **another spirit**, which ye have not received, or **another gospel**, which ye have not accepted....”

II Corinthians 11:4

For any to preach that Jesus is not “*meek and lowly*” as He said of Himself, or that Jesus was a “radical reformer” is quite obviously to preach “*another Jesus*.” While seeking to release Jesus, Pilate brought a prisoner named Barabbas, who had been convicted and sentenced to death for insurrection. Standing him beside Jesus, Pilate gave a choice to the Jews; “*Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?*” Matthew 27:17. Consider the choice which was set before them. The name “Bar-abbas” means “son of the father.” Barabbas was a false Christ, and a “radical reformer” who fit the Jews idea of their messiah better than the meek and lowly Jesus, because he had led a popular insurrection against Rome. Pilate thought surely the people would overwhelmingly choose Jesus over this violent man, but it was not to be so. Instead, they cried “*Give us Barabbas!*” Pilate responded, “*What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ,*” to which all the Jews said, “*Let him be*

*crucified*” Matthew 27:17-22. There is very little difference between the events of that day in Pilate’s judgment hall and what is happening today in many churches across America. I call it “the cry for Barabbas.” Wherever “*another Jesus*” is preached, it is “*another spirit*” that finds a place in that church or ministry. The Spirit of antichrist receives a place among the people of God, and many believe he is in fact God II Thessalonians 2:4.

## **The Lowest Common Denominator**

*“Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.”*

John 17:21

Many people believe Jesus prayed for the entire “church world” to come together in unity, regardless of their differences. One of the goals of TBN, as often stated by founders Paul and Jan Crouch, was that the Roman Catholic, the Eastern Orthodox, and the Protestant church would be united as one before the return of Jesus Christ. In order to do this, a “common denominator” must be found which all could agree upon. Every group, whether right or wrong, would sacrifice that which was most precious to them upon the altar of unity if we could agree upon the lowest possible common denominator. After the day of Pentecost, the Jewish leaders would have agreed to unity with the apostles if they would simply ceased to preach in the name of Jesus Christ. Acts 4:18. Such a unity may have seemed wonderful at the time, but it would have been the end of the church!

Jesus prayer was that we all would be one in the Father and in His Son, exactly as Jesus said, “*...as thou Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us.*” This is an individual matter between every believer and our Lord Jesus Christ. Everyone who is one with the Father and with His Son Jesus, will also have

fellowship one with another. On the other hand, should the church at Smyrna Revelation 2:8-10, and the church at Philadelphia Revelation 3:7-10, find a “common denominator” with the church of the Laodiceans? Revelation 3:14-19, or perhaps with the church in Thyatira where Jezebel was a prophetess who seduced the people to commit fornication? Revelation 2:18-22. We cannot accept the lowest common denominator. We serve the one who brings us to the highest and the best. Our “common denominator” is Jesus Christ, who “*loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood...*” Revelation 1:5. The Apostle John said, “*Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the Day of Judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world*” I John 4:17. Only when this scripture is fulfilled will the world believe “*Jesus is the Christ*” I John 5:1, and it is the true God who sent Him into the world.

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