

A Mixed-Up World

By Frank Jamerson

Human wisdom has rejected the Bible as the word of God and has decided that man evolved from lower animals, therefore they do not want to kill animals, but many of the same people have no respect for human life, therefore advocate unrestricted abortion. It is really a mixed up world!

Some do not want to wear any article of clothing made of fur, or any other kind of animal products, use animals for research or eat meat. According to the doctrine of reincarnation, they may be harming a relative!

What does the Bible say about this? First, if it is a sin to wear animal skins, then God sinned in the garden of Eden, when he "made tunics of skin" and clothed Adam and Eve (**Gen. 3:21**). When Noah came out of the ark, God said "Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. But you shall not eat flesh with the life, that is, the blood" (**Gen. 9:2,3**). God did not know that it was "cruelty to animals" to eat meat. Paul said that one doctrine of those who departed from the truth would be "commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer" (**1 Tim. 4:4,5**).

John Clayton commented: "Is nature cruel? Do animals possess a sense of self that makes death a personal tragedy? The evidence suggests that the answer is No! The fact that males will frequently kill their own offspring and that many forms of life will eat a member of their group that has died suggests that there are other forces at work. Predation (preying on other animals) is not a wanton and cruel act..."

"If we recognize that living things are not unevolved men but products of a design which ensures survival of the species and are programmed to fit the design, we will be better equipped to manage our world and also will be able to understand acts in nature that many interpret as blatant unwarranted cruelty" (Does God Exist? Sept/Oct, 1990).

The theory of evolution and the Eastern religion's doctrine of reincarnation have influenced us more than most may realize. When men reject God's revelation, they get values confused and even reversed. In short, if vegetarianism is mandatory, the Bible is false!



Classes This Week

Sun 5:15 PM Kid's Class at the Building	Sun Evening College Devo and Singing at Phillip Box's	Monday 12 Noon Campus Study - Foy Cafeteria	Monday 7 PM Men's Class at the Rouse's	Tuesday 7 PM Bible Reading at Hannah Alexander's	Wed. 12 Noon Ladies Class at the Dembowski's	Thursday 12:30 PM Campus Study - Foy Cafeteria	Thursday 7 PM Revelation Study at Caleb George's
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Sick

Richard Wood (Melanie Smith's Uncle)	Lori Holloway	Mike Reed (Friend of Long's)	Sandlyn Fultz (Davis Fultz's Sister)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Carrie Chavers (Friend of Sharon Bailey)	Bill Rhodes (Toni Herd's Uncle)	Philip Locke (Jeremiah Johnson's Uncle)
Josie Keith (Friend of Heath Fowler)	Grandparents of Mary Ann Roberts	Easton Alexander (Phillip Box's cousin's baby)	Jerry Sandlin (Megan Lee's Grandfather)
Gaylord Huffman (Jennifer Daniel's Grandfather)	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Erlene Davis (Walker Davis' mother)	Mary Smith (Nathan Smith's Grandmother)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Dave Brown (Friend of the Lanier's)	Dale Herd (William Herd's brother)	Larry Alexander (Friend of Phillip Box)
Marty and Aubrey Meeks, Russell Dickerson (Toni Herd's Nephews)	Stacey Harrell (Marcus Harrell's Dad)	Ann Robinson (Sharon Bailey's Mom)	Debra Lowe (Toni Herd's Friend)

October Birthdays

- 2 - Suzanne Nichols
- 6 - Jessica Anderson
- 8 - Heath Fowler
- 9 - William Edwards
- 11 - Mason Chandler
- 12 - Stacy Norman
- 14 - Grant Smith
- 20 - Evan Pender
- 20 - Olivia Hillard
- 20 - Keith Bailey
- 21 - Scott Shields
- 22 - Chris Davis
- 22 - Hunter Crawford
- 22 - Meredith Bragwell
- 22 - Christopher White
- 24 - Sarabeth + Suzanna Roberts
- 25 - Josh Sutton
- 26 - Sara Sutton
- 26 - Palmer Daniels
- 26 - Mel Ambrose
- 28 - Anne Morton
- 29 - Matt Hall
- 29 - Belle Johnson
- 31 - Kitty Tam

News and Notes

- Let us remember Matthew Johnson, David Golden and Tim Morton in our prayers as they are deployed overseas.
- Bill Hall will be teaching on Wed., Nov 2 on selecting elders.
- I will be conducting a weekly class on first principle lessons at my house on Thursdays at 7 PM. Anyone is welcomed at any class! The resurrection of Christ is our current study.
- Remember to tell others about our website at www.aubeacon.com!
- Audio CD's will be available after each service. Distribute these freely.

The Auburn Beacon



Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (**Matthew 5:16**)

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Jesus and the Written Word

By Larry Rouse



Thoughts to Ponder

There is no neutral ground in the universe: every square inch, every split second, is claimed by God and counterclaimed by Satan.

Do You Have a Bible Question?
Call (334) 734-2133 or E-mail: LarryRouse@aubeacon.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

Bible Class9:30 AM
Worship10:20 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday
Bible Classes.....7:00 PM
Ask about our home Bible Study Groups!

Larry Rouse
Evangelist and Editor

Years ago a startling survey was brought to my attention. In 1987 Jeffery Hadden surveyed 10,000 American clergy with a simple question: "Do you believe that the Scriptures are the inspired and inerrant Word of God in faith, history and secular matters?" Of these men who fill the pulpits of these "mainline" denominations every week, the vast majority of these preachers answered, "No." They did not trust the Bible as a reliable guide from God! Here are the numbers of the clergy who rejected the written Word:

95% of Episcopalians,

87% of Methodists,

82% of Presbyterians,

77% of American Lutherans

67% of American Baptists

What if Jesus had taken that survey? How would the Lord of heaven and earth have answered these questions? We do not need to guess because Jesus often and clearly addressed these issues during His ministry.

The real question for both our modern day clergy and those who hear them in the pews is this, "Do you believe in the Jesus that is found in the Bible?" Paul warned that in both his day as well as in ours there will be those that "preach another Jesus" (**2 Cor 11:4**).

Jesus recognized the written word of His day, the Old Testament, as a powerful witness to all that He did. After His resurrection from the dead Jesus spoke of the complete accuracy of the many prophecies concerning Him. "Then He said to them, these are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with

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you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.” (Luke 24:44)

The confidence Jesus had in the accuracy of the written word was absolute. In answering a challenge Jesus said, “Is it not written in your law, ‘I said, “You are gods”?’ “If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken),” (John 10:34-35) Jesus plainly affirmed that if it was “written” in the scriptures, then it was true. Nothing in heaven or on earth could break the force or the truth found in God’s written word.

Jesus placed complete trust in the written word in His personal life. When He faced the full force of Satan’s temptations in the wilderness, Jesus firmly stood behind the word of God. In three temptations of Satan, Jesus replied each time with these words “It is written” (Matthew 4:4, 7, 10).

When men questioned Him about God’s will there was one place that Jesus expected all men to go and find the only answer they would need. He was amazed when men showed little knowledge of the written word and would give stern rebukes to those who should have known better. “Jesus answered and said to them, Are you not therefore mistaken, because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God?” (Mark 12:24-27)

What about the written New Testament? Since it was not written during Jesus’ life, then how could He have any answers regarding it? Let there be no doubt that Je-

sus personally affirmed that the future work of His apostles and prophets would be without error. Jesus plainly told His apostles not only about His leaving this world, but also of the future work of the Holy Spirit through these men. “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into **all truth**; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” (John 16:12-13)

Jesus knew that this work would be written and preserved for all future generations. “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.” (Matthew 24:35) The delivery, the preserving and the spread of this word was to be personally overseen and assured by Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. The apostle Paul later boldly affirmed, “how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets. (Ephesians 3:3-5)

The real question for both our modern day clergy and those who hear them in the pews is this, “Do you believe in the Jesus that is found in the Bible?” Paul warned that in both his day as well as in ours there will be those that “preach another Jesus” (2 Cor 11:4). Which one will you follow? Only one speaks with power, has the ability to forgive sins, and holds the power to raise each of us from the dead to eternal life. Will you choose the Biblical Jesus?



Check Your Attitude

By Franklin T. Puckett

It was dissatisfaction with the limitations of God's word and the desire to gain prestige in the world that led to digression in the ranks of the restoration movement. Dissatisfaction with the simplicity of the gospel and a desire for recognition, publicity, and prestige, always leads to disastrous results.

Solomon declared that as a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Prov. 23:7) A man's conduct is determined by the condition of his heart. If his conduct is wrong, it is because his heart is wrong. Simon the sorcerer sinned for his heart was not right in the sight of God. (Acts 8:18-23) Out of the heart proceed the sins of a man's life. (Matt. 15:19) From the heart comes obedience to the divine pattern of the gospel. (Rom. 6:17,18) Hence, the necessity of keep "thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life." (Prov. 4:23)

A man's attitude of heart toward the truth determines his relationship to God. Paul speaks of those who are deceived by the man of sin as perishing "because they receive not the love of the truth that they might be saved." (2 Thess. 2:10) One must love the truth in order to be saved. Jesus declared that the truth by which one is sanctified or set apart unto God is the word of God. (John 17:17) If one loves the truth, he will believe and obey it. In it he will walk and by it his life will be ordered. A life so ordered is pleasing and acceptable to God.

It is Satan's purpose to keep or remove the word of God from the heart lest one "should believe and be saved." (Luke 8:12) In order to do this he must bar or destroy one's love of the truth. This he proposes to do with the trials, cares, riches, and the pleasures of this life. Every temptation to succumb to the trials and cares of this world, or to exalt and enthrone its riches and pleasures, is an effort on the part of Satan to destroy one's life through developing a wrong attitude of heart toward the word of God. If

earthly cares, temporal riches, worldly pleasures, and human wisdom can be enthroned, God will be dethroned. A wrong attitude toward God and His word has been developed and a wrong life will be the sure result.

Every departure from God has resulted from the development of a wrong attitude toward Him and His word. It was Israel's unholy desire to be like the nations round about that led her to become dissatisfied with God's arrangement and demand a king who ultimately led her into complete apostasy. It was the unrighteous desire for preeminence and ecclesiastical power that led away from the simplicity of the New Testament pattern of church government and to the development of the Roman Catholic hierarchy. It was dissatisfaction with the limitations of God's word and the desire to gain prestige in the world that led to digression in the ranks of the restoration movement. Dissatisfaction with the simplicity of the gospel and a desire for recognition, publicity, and prestige, always leads to disastrous results.

Since it has happened before, it can happen again. Let us examine our hearts and search our souls to see if there be any vain purpose or unrighteous motives found there. What about our attitude? Are we satisfied with God and do we love His truth? Are we content to stay within the bounds of Christ's teachings? (2 John 9) Do we will to do His will? (John 7:17) May we be able to answer in the affirmative at all times. If we keep our hearts right in the sight of God, we shall never err from His way.

