

# The Sword AND Staff

*"Preach the Word." (II Timothy 4:2)*

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*"Feed the Flock." (I Peter 5:2)*

## Lessons in Happiness from the Garden of Eden

By JAMES E. GIBBONS  
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THE BOOK OF GENESIS not only is the first book, but it is a key book of the Bible. It is the book of beginnings. Here we see the beginning of the creation and the climax of it in man (among many other things). After creation was completed, God beheld it all and called it "very good," including man (Genesis 1:31).

But man was especially favored. God had everything prepared for him when he arrived on the scene. Man was even made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26, 27). Then the cream of this special favor is seen in the special provision of the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:8, 9, 15). Eden means "garden of delights." Man was here in his original innocence, and everything seems to have been conducive to his pleasure and enjoyment.

Since this was the "garden of delights," man was intended to be happy here, and certainly was for a time. Inasmuch as that is true, we can find many lessons in happiness from the Garden of Eden (and since this antedated sin and man's fall). And, furthermore, since happiness seems to be such an illusive thing in our modern world, it is well that we stop now and consider these lessons.

### I. UNBROKEN COMMUNION WITH GOD IS NECESSARY FOR TRUE HAPPINESS.

In this Paradise on earth, Adam and Eve were in a state of constant communion with their benevolent Creator. Not only did God know them, they knew God, they listened to His voice, and all was well. In such a context, happiness was their fortunate lot. This was the case until sin severed them from God and removed them from their Garden Home (Genesis 3). Thereafter the situation became a confused one. Paul observed: "For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." (Romans 8:22)

But the lesson in happiness has been established, and the New Testament bears this out too. May we learn it. A man right with God is a happy man. The "beatitudes" witness to this. Jesus said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6). Of course "blessed" means to be happy and fortunate, even to the point of being envied. And this happiness does not come by seeking after it. It comes as a by-product of seeking after righteousness—being right with God. Paul speaks of this blessedness which comes by knowing God and casting all of our cares upon Him (Philippians 4:6, 7). John relates that in fellowship with God and his Son Jesus Christ our "joy may be full" (I John 1:3, 4).

Even the Old Testament offers a little insight into this happiness. The first Psalm shows that the restrained life in communion with God



is a happy one. The Psalmist in verse one first shows that this man is happy because he abstains from doing certain things, then we read: "But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." The Proverbs tell us that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10), then it tells us in 3:13, "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding." Truly the fear of God is like medicine for the soul, bringing wisdom and happiness.

We ran across the following information in a national magazine. "A Gallup Poll showed most Europeans believe in heaven but not in hell. In Sweden, the least orthodox nation, only 60 per cent believed in God. Other conclusions: morals, honesty, happiness, and peace of mind are all on the wane." This vindicates and illustrates what we are saying. There is a definite relationship between belief in God, morals, and hap-

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### PROVERBS of TODAY

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*A problem is created which could develop into hypocrisy when we grow faster in knowledge than we do in grace.*

"In the first century church Christians came together for fellowship and went out to preach to the world, but today they come together for preaching and go out to fellowship the world."

*A preacher will succeed only to the extent he preaches—publicly, privately, and by example.*

"When a little bird tells you something, don't repeat it until you find out whether or not the bird was a little cuckoo."

*When a people cease preaching a subject, they soon cease practicing it, and when they cease practicing it, they have ceased believing it.*

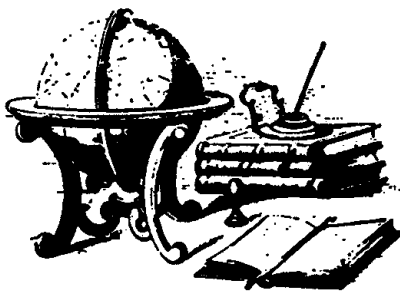
"Let us be bold for RIGHT in a day of WRONG."

*You may give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.*

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## EDITORIAL

## COMMENTS...

### ARE YOU A TRADITIONALIST?

ARE YOU A TRADITIONALIST? That can be a good thing, and it can be bad. It depends on what one has in mind when that term is used in connection with religion.

The word TRADITION signifies that which has been given over and handed down. It is used in a BAD sense (Matthew 15:1-9; Mark 7:1-13; Colossians 2:8) and in a GOOD sense (I Corinthians 11:2; II Thess. 2:15; 3:6) in the New Testament Scriptures. The origin of the tradition determines whether it is good or bad (and its origin determines its content). The TRADITIONS OF MEN are sharply denounced by our Lord (Mark 7:1-13), and the apostle Paul solemnly warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Colossians 2:8). But this same Paul heartily commended those who would keep the TRADITIONS OF THE LORD by saying, "Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances (traditions), as I delivered them to you" (I Corinthians 11:2). For those who would not observe the TRADITION OF THE LORD, Paul had this to say, "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received from us" (II Thess. 3:6).

Traditionalism in religion, having reference to the traditions of men, is indeed a bad thing. The tendency of human traditions is always to replace the commandments and traditions of the Lord. Jesus accused the Pharisees of "making the word of God of none effect" by their traditions. Before this he had declared, "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Mark 7:7). Traditionalism suggests a stagnant condition. There is no searching of the Scriptures and, consequently, no searching of hearts in relation to the Scriptures. The status quo is accepted without question, and without really knowing why one believes what he believes (if it can be called believing). Even if one has embraced the truth of God, and he does not know why, he borders being a traditionalist in the bad sense. At best he is a secondhand Christian.

Most of modern day Christendom is caught in the musty cobwebs of human traditionalism. These traditions are embodied in man-made creeds, canonized over the years by fossilized denominations, or in just a mere ignorance of why one is what he is religiously. "Ask the minister, and he will tell you what our church believes," one responds. Then when men today begin to cast off the traditions of men (in a measure), many go even further and cast off the possibility of embracing the full traditions of the Lord by their liberal Biblical scholarship. This is to be seen on a large scale.

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# SYSTEMATIC

## *Scriptural Studies*

### THE DIGNITY OF MAN

#### Introduction:

1. The Bible teaches man's true dignity, as created in God's own image and the restored dignity found in Christ.
2. We are living in an age when this dignity has been replaced by earthly pride and an animal and fleshly sophistication.
3. The true dignity of man is destroyed in human philosophy and the commonly accepted theory of Evolution which makes man an animal among animals.
4. Communism is the ultimate climax of this human philosophy depriving man of personal liberty and choice, making him an economic animal in the hands of a materialistic totalitarian state.
5. So, in this age when it is taught that man is merely a high class animal (and he has been living like an animal by the law of the jungle), it behooves us to consider man's true dignity and worth.

#### I. THE DIGNITY OF MAN IN THE BEGINNING.

##### A. Man's Physical Dignity.

1. Evolution pictures the first "true" man as a stooped and haggard ape-like creature, the climax of millions of years in his upward climb from the swamp.
2. The Bible presents the first man Adam as a prince-of-a-man, who was to replenish the earth after his kind.
3. He really had to be some man to live to be 930 years of age (Genesis 5:5), and Methuselah lived to be 969 (Genesis 5:27).
4. Man had just been created and was strong and vigorous, no doubt all of the diseases not having spread into the world.

##### B. Man Made in the Very Image of God (Genesis 1:26).

1. Man is not just an animal—he is a dual personality, flesh and spirit (Genesis 2:7; I Cor. 6:20; II Cor. 7:1).
2. The image that we are created after is the spirit, not the body (John 4:24; Luke 24:39).
3. The body could die, but the spirit would never come to an end because it is after God's own image (Matthew 25:46).
4. Man is also after God's image by being created an intelligent being, no doubt: thus, making him a responsible, free-moral agent before God.
5. Man is after God's image in that he was created sinless and holy.

##### C. Man's Place in Creation and the Order of Creation.

1. Man's place in the order of creation suggests his dignity—everything was ready for man when he arrived.

- (1) Light made the first day (Genesis 1:3-5).
  - (2) Separated the chaos and made the firmament (Genesis 1:6-8).
  - (3) Made the dry land with the plant life (Genesis 1:9-13).
  - (4) The sun, the moon and the stars appear (Genesis 1:14-19).
  - (5) Made the fish (water creatures) and fowl (Genesis 1:20-23).
  - (6) Made the land animals, then MAN (Genesis 1:24-31).
2. We don't know the date of the creation of the earth in the timeless, remote past (Genesis 1:1, 2).
  3. But man was the summit of all of God's creation, not evolution, and everything was ready for him when he arrived on the scene, showing special consideration for man.

#### D. Man Given Dominion Over All the Earthly Creation.

1. He was to have dominion over all the animal and vegetable kingdom—subdue it (Genesis 1:26-31; Psalms 8:5-8).
2. Adam named the animals God had created (Genesis 2:19, 20).
3. A special arrangement was made for the first family in the beautiful Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:8-15).

### II. THE DIGNITY OF MAN RESTORED IN CHRIST.

#### A. We Are Citizens of a Heavenly Kingdom.

1. One has to be born of the water and the Spirit to enter this kingdom (Matthew 3:2; John 3:3, 5).
2. Christians are now in this kingdom and fellow citizens (Colossians 1:13; Ephesians 2:19; I Peter 2:9; I John 5:19).
3. It is a kingdom that cannot be moved (Hebrews 12:22, 23, 28; Matthew 16:18, 19).
4. Because we are in this kingdom, we will go to heaven to live forever (I Cor. 15:24).
5. It is such a great dignity that the least in the kingdom is greater than John the Baptist (Matthew 11:11).

#### B. We Are Children of God.

1. All have the wonderful privilege to become children of God (John 1:12; I John 3:1).
2. We are children of God through faith, being obedient in baptism (Galatians 3:26, 27).
3. Because we are children, God is our Father and we are heirs with Christ (Galatians 4:6, 7; Romans 8:14-18).
4. Think of that: a son of God! "A CHILD of the KING!"

#### C. God Takes His Personal Abode in Man.

1. When a man repents and is baptized, the Holy Spirit comes into his life to live (Acts 2:38; 5:32).
2. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 6:19, 20).
3. We are the temple of the living God and He dwells in us (II Corinthians 6:14-7:1).
4. He dwells in our hearts in proportion to our faith (Ephesians 3:16, 17).
5. Have you ever thought of what a great dignity it is to have the Supreme Being of the Universe actually living within you?!!!

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# Lessons in . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

piness. One may think he is happy in sin, but we only "enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season" (Hebrews 11:25). Then we will be unpleasantly awakened to find that we reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7), and the end of sin is death. Yes, "indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile" (Romans 2:8b,9).

REMEMBER: "For to be carnally minded is death: but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6). Unbroken communion with God is necessary for true happiness.

## II. EMPLOYMENT IS A PREREQUISITE TO HAPPINESS.

Man was created, "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it" (Genesis 2:15). The "garden of delights" was not a place of lazy leisure, but one of work. Man was made, then put to work. Work is not part of the curse of sin later placed on man—just the aggravating conditions surrounding it involve the curse (Genesis 3:17-19). The Lord has so constituted us, it seems, that we are not really happy unless we are active doing something (at least normal people are not). Much enjoyment is to be found in employment.

The Proverbs frown upon laziness and condemn it as sin. Listen to Proverbs 6:6, "Go to the ant, thou slug-gard; consider her ways, and be wise," then read on through verse 11. These several references will show the sentiment of the Proverbs, 10:4; 12:27; 13:4; 18:9; 20:4,13; 24:30-34. Then Proverbs 31:10-31 describe the virtuous woman. Many works are ascribed to her, and it says she "worketh willingly with her hands." She is praised because she "looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness."

The New Testament has much to say about work. While among the Thessalonians Paul worked very hard to support himself. Why? He could have demanded support, for this was God's will. But, no, he wanted to set them an example of what every Christian ought to do (II Thessalonians 3:8,9). Christianity does not thrive on the bread of idleness, whether in the shop

or in the church. "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread" (II Thessalonians 3:10-12). Truly, an idle mind is the devil's workshop. Most trouble in the church and elsewhere is produced by those who produce nothing else. (Also in reference to work, examine Ephesians 4:28 and Romans 12:11).

Yes, Christianity looks upon all honest employment as honorable, regardless how menial it may be. It is a dignified thing to be an honest man

and throw your heart into your work, as unto the Lord. The Lord has so constituted us that we are not really happy unless we are busy. In this age of Hippies and slackers let us remember this lesson.

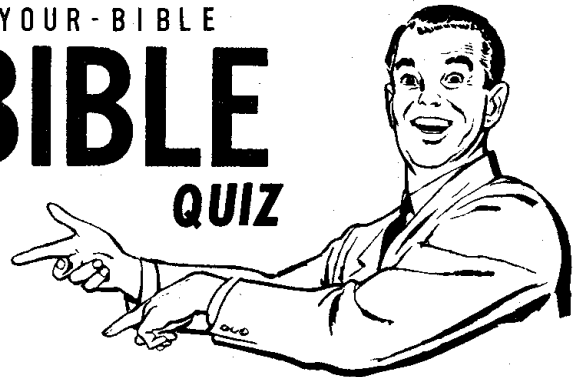
## III. COMPANIONSHIP ADDS TO HAPPINESS.

Listen: "And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Genesis 2:18). "And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man" (Genesis 2:21, 22).

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KNOW-YOUR-BIBLE

# BIBLE QUIZ



1. The life of Moses can be separated into what three evenly divided periods of time?
2. What seems to be the basic difference between a priest and a prophet (in the O. T.)?
3. What three books of prophecy were written after the return of the Jews from Captivity?
4. How long was Jesus on the cross before he died?
5. Who were the "official" eyewitnesses of Jesus Christ and his resurrection?
6. What verse might we call the "key" verse to the book of Acts?
7. Who was the first person besides the apostles to perform miracles in the early church?
8. What was the name of the man whom Paul called the "beloved physician"?
9. What two books might we call the "twin" epistles of the apostle Paul?
10. What did Paul say was the first commandment with promise?

(Answers found elsewhere in this issue)

# GREAT QUESTIONS

By HERBERT STROBRIDGE

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THERE ARE many questions that seem to be great that come before the minds of young people as well as older ones. What do I want to be in life? What kind of a man or woman do I want to marry for a life companion? What part of the country do I want to settle in? By faith Abraham accepted the call of God and staggered at nothing. In pleasure or in sacrifice it was to the glory of God. We can see what Abraham means by faith.

Noah, are you going to obey God? Noah could have said, this is nonsense, why build a big boat out here on dry land. Faith was actualized by doing what God required of him to do.

The life of Saul of Tarsus was filled with big plans and great things to be done for God. These of course were Saul's plans and not God's. Saul persecuted the church even obtaining credentials to bind and persecute all Christians whom he met. Then we will notice at the height of doing his own will, God steps into the picture (Acts 9:1-9). "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" And Saul said, "Who art thou, Lord?" The Lord said, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest." "And he trembling and astonished said, Lord what wilt thou have me to do?" Acts 9:4-6. Here Saul admits he has not been doing the will of God.

Alexander, a great ruler, when he had so completely subdued all nations about him, wept, because there were no more to conquer. Then Alexander at last set fire to a city, and died in a scene of debauchery. The world has nothing to offer.

Hannibal, who filled three bushels with the gold rings taken from the slaughtered knights, died at last of poison administered by his own hand.

Caesar, having conquered eight hundred cities, and dyed his garments with the blood of one million of his foes, was stabbed by his best friends in the very place which had been the scene of his greatest triumph.

And Napoleon, a great man of mighty works, died in banishment, conquered and a captive. Mighty works of the flesh will fail then. Be not led of the flesh, but of the Holy Spirit.

Let us consider the Great Question that has come up in the life of these Bible characters (to follow). Under the Christian dispensation faith comes into actual existence in obedience to the commands of Christ.

**First, The Great Question that Came into the Mind of the Rich Young Ruler (Mark 10:17-20).**

Lord, I have kept all of these commandments from my youth. Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? Often times we may feel we have done all to serve Christ, but we may be in the same boat as this man we have just mentioned. One thing thou lackest. Pride has kept us from yielding self completely to Christ. This rich young ruler was guilty of what we read in first Timothy 6:10, "For the love of money is the root of all evil." Go sell what thou hast and give to the poor.

A Christian has already divided his goods with the Lord. At this time of the year when income tax returns are filled out and sent in, how many people's consciences are bothering them? Did you say you put between 6 and 8 hundred dollars in the offering plate last year? Would 10% of your income figure out to be between 6 and 8 hundred dollars? *Have I ROBBED God?* One thing thou lackest!

A fellow was displaying his faithfulness to God by displaying a long string of bars down his suit coat lapel. Possibly there were enough bars to represent eighteen years. Did he go home after Bible school some times? Yes. Did he attend the midweek prayer service? Well he had his store problem and books to go over at night, you know. Have I robbed God and the saints of these precious moments together?

Have you answered the Great Question in life by doing all the Lord commands you to do?

**Secondly, The Great Question that Came into the mind of Saul of Tarsus.**

Saul had used great zeal in working against Christ and the Christians until he knew the Lord. Saul has had a change and now says, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Acts 9:6. It was a life of pride, but now Saul humbles himself. Saul in his honesty was chosen for a great work, in taking the Gospel to the Gentiles. Suppose Saul had said no like many do today at the call of God.

About a year and a half ago two ministers knocked at a door to invite a party to church and at the same time met the in-laws of the family. The in-law was wobbling as if trying to hold up the door and the side of the house, while trying to tell us there was no God (needless to say the in-law was under the influence of liquor). A few days later we were gathering at the church building for the midweek service, and this man we had invited to church was sitting on the church steps. Immediately he told us of his sister being in the hospital and not expected to live through the night. Also his brother-in-law wanted us to come to his house after church, because he had something to talk to us about—and it was bothering him.

Immediately after church we stopped at his house, offering our help. This man was now ready to talk and be reasoned with. We talked about the Scriptures and the plan of salvation. Here is the promise he made before God that night: "If God will just spare my wife's life that she can get well and come home I will give my life to the Lord and be faithful to Him." We knelt on the floor, had

(Continued Next Page)

## WHAT NEXT?

HILLSVILLE — A Christian dance for teen-agers was held Monday night by the Grover King Post No. 1115, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at the post home.

—From ROANOKE (Va.) TIMES

**GREAT QUESTIONS...**  
(Continued from Page 5)

prayer and departed, leaving him sobbing and weeping.

The next afternoon his wife was dismissed from the hospital. Yes, needless to tell you any further, this man failed to live up to his promise he made before God the night before. Just this week (at the time of writing) six men carried the remains of his body to its resting place out on the hillside. Died without Christ. No hope. Lost for eternity. Lord, what will thou have me to do?

**Thirdly, The Great Question the Philippian Jailer Asked.** Acts 16:30. "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul began preaching to him what he must do to be saved and his household. The Philippian jailer did not remain in a depressed condition but obeyed the Lord in baptism, he and his household.

There was an old lady who lived in an upstairs apartment. Her income was very meager. She had scarcely enough to eat. The rent came due and there was nothing to pay with. She was afraid the sheriff would set her things out in the street and sell them for the debts. When the Christians learned of her condition, they went to her need, paid the rent even in advance. They also gave the lady a check to buy food along with the receipt of her debts paid in full. This lady proved to be very unthankful, and when the Christians came back to visit and help her, they found the door shut and locked.

Just think, the Lord has paid your debts that you rightly owe. He has given you a receipt paid in full. The Gospel of the New Testament is your receipt—the plan of salvation. YOUR debt has been paid in full, but now when Jesus knocks at your door, do you leave it shut? The Great Question is, "What must I do to be saved?"

The song goes: "His power can make you what you ought to be." It will too! If you will let it! □

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The last two years, 1967-68, of THE SWORD AND STAFF are being prepared in a bound book. These issues are full of valuable and usable material. You may place your orders now. Price, \$3.25.

**EDITORIAL COMMENTS (Continued from Page 2) . . .**

Furthermore, it is one thing to claim to be the undenominational church of the New Testament, but very much another to back it up in reality. We get the impression that many who profess to be the church of the New Testament order really have no concept of the said church—not that we know everything (far from it!), but speak from sad experience and much observation. When it comes to the simple pattern and function of the church, its consecration and devotion—yes, and holy living, we are made to ask: IS THIS THE CHURCH OF CHRIST?

Beloved, are you a traditionalist? Do you know (Scripturally) why you do what you do religiously, or why you believe what you are supposed to believe? Are we in the rut of blindly following human tradition? or even following blindly (without searching it out) divine tradition?

Let us humbly and fully surrender ourselves to search out anew the true tradition of God that we may know it, embrace it, enjoy it, and earnestly contend for it. □

**ANSWERS TO "KNOW-YOUR-BIBLE"  
BIBLE QUIZ**

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|--|--|
| 1. <i>First forty years in Egypt, Acts 7:22, 23; forty years in the wilderness exile, Acts 7:29, 30; last forty years, including the wilderness wanderings, Acts 7:36.</i> | 3. <i>Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.</i>  |
| 2. <i>A priest represented man before God, and a prophet represented God before man.</i>   | 4. <i>Six hours, Mark 15:25, 34-37.</i>  |
|  | 5. <i>The apostles, Acts 1:8, 21, 22; 2:14, 32; 3:15; 4:33; 5:29, 32.</i>          |
|  | 6. <i>Acts 1:8, 7. Stephen, Acts 6:6, 8.</i>                                       |
|  | 8. <i>Luke, Colossians 4:14. 9. Ephesians and Colossians. 10. Ephesians 6:1-3.</i> |

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**SYSTEMATIC SCRIPTURAL STUDIES**  
(Continued from Page 3)

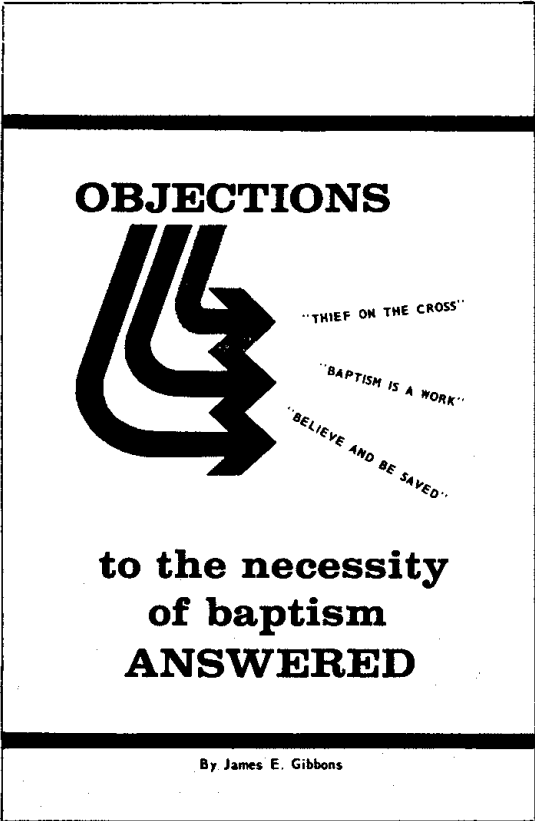
**D. Further Dignities in Relation to the Prophets, the Angels, and Christ.**

1. Prophets delightfully desired to know what this was to be all about (I Peter 1:10, 11; Hebrews 11:13-16).
2. Angels desire to look into the matter, but don't have the privilege to preach the gospel (I Peter 1:12; Heb. 1:13, 14; Matthew 18:10; II Corinthians 4:7).
3. Christ said his followers would do greater works than he (John 14:12; John 3:34; John 13:16; Matthew 28:19, 20).

**Thoughts:**

1. Beloved, the value and dignity the Lord has placed upon us should humble us; make us be thankful!
2. The dignity that the Lord has placed upon us should create self-respect—don't waste your life!
3. The dignity that was man's in the beginning and the dignity restored in Christ should make all of us want to be saved.
4. As Paul said, it should make us want to be pure and seek to perfect our holiness.

# New Usuable Tract-Booklet Selling



THIS may be just what you can make good use of. We have just finished printing what we believe to be a very valuable and usable tract-booklet (8 pages, size 5½ by 8½ inches) titled, "Objections to the Necessity of Baptism Answered." We believe it satisfactorily and completely answers the primary arguments against baptism, i. e., the "thief on the cross," "baptism is a work," and "believe and be saved." This tract is ideal to place in the hands of the denomi-  
nationalist who is sincere and respects the Bible as the inspired Word of God. It sells for 5¢ a copy. Why not send for a free

sample copy? or why not order a good supply right now? You can use this tract to good advantage.

NOTE: Since printing this tract-booklet, we have come to the conclusion that our selling price should have been 10¢ instead of 5¢; especially since mailing several orders. But we are sticking by the 5¢ a copy offer for now. Order a good supply at this low price. —J. E. G.

## LESSONS IN HAPPINESS . . . (Continued from Page 4)

The Lord God said that it was not good for man to be alone. The implication is that man realizes his greatest happiness in relationship to others. Marriage is the highest form of this in our earthly connections. How a Christian then needs to marry only another Christian if he really wants to be happy (as well as pleasing to the Lord). Marriage can be a little heaven on earth, or hell.

Christianity has to do with man's relationship to God and man's relationship to man. The essence of both relationships is LOVE (I John 4:20). And, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love" (I John 4:18). Love is outflowing, and this produces happiness as we get our minds off of SELF. Jesus

said, "It is more BLESSED to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35b).

The opposite of love is selfishness. A preacher once considered preaching a sermon on "egocentric sins," but decided not to because he discovered that all sins are of this nature. Think about it, and you will probably conclude that all sins have their roots in selfishness (SELF). And, it has been said that a man wrapped up in himself makes a mighty small package. People who merely live for themselves usually fail to enjoy themselves. It is not good for man to be alone indefinitely. Companionship adds to happiness.

## IV. THE GARDEN OF EDEN EXPERIENCE PROVES THAT ENVIRONMENT IS CONDUCTIVE TO HAPPINESS, BUT DOES NOT ALWAYS BRING HAPPINESS.

Surely in such a beautiful setting as the Garden of Eden one would be

happy, but this is not always the case. Adam and Eve soon experienced the loss of perfect happiness—they sinned! (Genesis 3:6-10). If man is not in communion with God, happiness becomes a fleeting thing. The mansion on the hill top, and everything that one could desire does not necessarily bring happiness—sometimes these people are the most miserable; especially if God is left out of the picture.

However, if a person is in communion with God, he can find happiness in the most wretched of places. Paul, writing from the prisons of Rome, admonished the Philippians, "Rejoice in the Lord alway and again I say Rejoice" (Philippians 4:4). He continues in verse 11b, "...for I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." If the inner man is right the outer man can adapt to external circumstances which are far from ideal. A hovel may become a sanctuary of heaven.

We hope that our calling your attention to the book of beginnings will begin to help you find true happiness. There is much truth in these lessons from the Garden of Eden. You have everything to gain by learning these lessons. May God be praised as we let the peace of God rule in our hearts (Colossians 3:15). □

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## ...AND WHAT DO YOU SAY?

The VAIN man says: Win gold and wear it.

The MISER says: Win gold and spare it.

The USURER says: Win gold and lend it.

The PRODIGAL says: Win gold and waste it.

The SPENDTHRIFT says: Win gold and spend it.

The THRIFTY man says: Win gold and save it.

The WISE man says: Win gold and use it (for the kingdom of God and the betterment of mankind).

—Selected.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# New Song

## -Try It!

We have recently come out with this new song that you find on this page, and orders have been received from Florida to Alaska. Perhaps you have wanted a song that had a little more "teeth" in it about the Lord's church. This song is an attempt in that direction. The words are by the editor of *The Sword and Staff*. The music is the familiar "Battle Hymn of the Republic" (This is nothing new. Examine your hymnbook, and you will find that a good percentage of the music of the songs has come from some other composition). We have a copy-right on this new song.

We invite you to try "His Church is Marching On." Sing it with zest and see if it doesn't catch on fast. This song is available on sheets to fit the standard size hymnbook. Glue is built into the back of this sheet of music. Just thoroughly dampen it, and stick it into the front or the back of your hymnbook. It will be there to use as long as your hymnbook lasts.

The song sells for 5¢ a copy. Why not order a supply for your hymnbooks today? A convenient "clip out" order blank is found at the bottom of this page.

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## HIS CHURCH IS MARCHING ON

James E. Gibbons

(Battle Hymn of the Republic)

William Steffe

1. My ears have heard the sto-ry of the Christ up-on the cross, How he  
2. I have read it on the pag-es of the Ho - ly Word of God that the  
3. The church that Je-sus start-ed has en-dured the test of time; For the  
gave him-self so free-ly for the church at such a cost; How with power the  
church that Je-sus pur-chased un-der foot of man was trod; For the one-ness  
gates of hell can-not pre-vail a-against this church di-vine, And the child-ren  
church was start-ed on the day of Pen-te-cost; His church is march-ing on.  
of the pat-tern in the eyes of men is odd; His church is march-ing on.  
of this king-dom will some day the sun out-shine; His church is march-ing on.

**CHORUS**

1. Praise the Lord, O hal-le-lu-jah! Praise the Lord, O hal-le-lu-jah! His church is march-ing on.  
2. Praise the Lord, O hal-le-lu-jah! Praise the Lord, O hal-le-lu-jah! His church is march-ing on.

Copyright, James E. Gibbons, 1968

### CLIP AND MAIL

Please send ..... copies of the song **HIS CHURCH IS MARCHING ON** at 5¢ a copy.

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Address.....  
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