

THE WAY OF HOLINESS

A Christian Newsletter encouraging women to be strengthened through Holiness to face these End Times.

Isaiah 35:8-9

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Be Ye Holy; For I Am Holy

1 Peter 1:16

There is power and strength in Holiness. Holiness grows through discernment and yielding to the Holy Spirit. Information plays an essential part in spiritual discernment. Holiness strengthens ones relationship with the Lord, gives power in prayer and enhances receiving clear direction from the Holy Spirit. In these End Times it is getting more and more difficult to recognize the devil and his traps. To be informed is to be forearmed. Holiness depends upon separation from all that is not of God, which requires making sacrifices great and small. []

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A Virtuous Woman: "... her price is far above rubies." Proverbs 31:10

The above verse is very familiar to Bible believing Christian women. But how does one achieve becoming the "virtuous woman" spoken of in Proverbs 31:10-31? A virtuous woman is one who is acutely aware of her "conversation" i.e., her life-style, (*behavior*), (1 Peter 1:15). She must be aware of not only how her behavior impacts her family, but also her Christian witness. She is blessed to have been provided at Salvation with all

"And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it ; but the redeemed shall walk there:"

Isaiah 35:8 -9

that is necessary for life and holiness through the Holy Spirit. However, such tools will be helpful only if she examines how to implement them regarding not only outright sin, but behavior, dress, attitude, and all those little foxes that can spoil the vine of holiness. Personal holiness can be undercut by focusing on the poor behavior of others. Self-assessment can be blurred

by excusing oneself in comparison to others behavior. This is not acceptable to the Lord as recorded in His famous statement of taking the plank out of one's own eye first (Matt. 7:3). It appears that the days ahead will require from women much spiritual strength and endurance. They will have to be prepared to give wifely support for difficult spiritual decisions that may be required of husbands, as well as answer strange new questions from children. A woman who is strengthened through holiness will surely be a ruby of great price to all. []

Zachariah Tells of Holiness During the Millennium Age

It is interesting to find information regarding the Millennium, not only woven through the books of the Prophets, but so often located in their end chapters. In the last chapter of the book of Zachariah is found this delightful refer-

ence to the Holiness that will be part of Millennial living. Zachariah 14:20,21a: *"In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yea, every*

pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of Hosts". Yes, the Lord loves Holiness! The Millennium Age follows the Second coming of the Lord when He will rule supremely over all on earth for 1000 years. Rev 20:6 []



Navigating Terminology

In today's world, words don't always carry their intended meaning. Often they are twisted to mean something very different. The term *salvation*, as used in a spiritual sense, has as many definitions as there are faith groups. For instance, when President Obama refers to his salvation, he refers to "collective salvation", a foundational tenet of Marxism and "Christian" Liberation Theology. He has referred to his belief in collective salvation publicly on a number of occasions. Those who claim that collective salvation is the only way to save the world, do not believe in individual redemption. They believe all must be saved collectively through working for social justice, i.e., promoting socialism. []

The Bottom Line: On the Religion of Islam

The (Un)Holy Qur'an

The **Qur'an** (Koran) is a compilation of the verbal revelations given to the Holy Prophet Muhammad over a period of twenty two years by Allah, the moon god of the Arabic tribes, some 600 years after the death of Christ. The language of the Qur'an is Arabic. Below are three Surahs or Qur'an verses, which are English translations found on Yusuf Ali's Muslim website: www.alislam.org. The verses chosen are to show that Allah of the Qur'an and the Almighty God of the Holy Bible are *not* the same God. A Surah is a verse from the Qur'an, located by number and title. If one were to ask how Allah created man, the Qur'an answers:

Surah 96. Al-'Alaq (The Clot) 1. Proclaim (or read!) in the name of thy Lord and Cherisher, Who created— 2. Created man, out of a (mere) clot of

congealed blood..

The Bible of Christianity tells us that God created man from the dust of the earth, Genesis 2:7.

If one were to ask, does Allah has a son, the Qur'an answers: *Surah 112. Al-Ikhlās (The Unity, Sincerity, Oneness Of Allah). 1. Say: He is Allah, the One and Only; 2. Allah, the Eternal, Absolute; 3. He begetteth not, nor is He begotten; 4. And there is none like unto Him.*



The Bible tells us that the God of Christianity does have a begotten Son, whose name is Jesus Christ. This alone negates any possibility of Allah and Jehovah being one and the same God. Statements issued by Presidents, newscasters, uninformed professing Christians, and misled ecumenists looking to establish an interfaith religion, declaring that we really all worship the same God are speaking blasphemy. By denying

a son, Allah himself declares that he is not the same god as the God of true Christians. When asked what Allah thinks of unbelievers, the Qur'an replies:

Surah 98. Al-Bayyina (The Clear Proof, Evidence)

6. Those who reject (Truth), among the People of the Book (Christian and Jews) and among the Polytheists, will be in Hell-Fire, to dwell therein (for aye). They are the worst of creatures.

Though Christians also speak of unbelievers as sending themselves to Hell-Fire by rejecting the finished redemptive work of Jesus, God still loves the unbelievers, for they are His creation, and He wishes that none should perish. 2 Peter 3:9. Holiness requires acknowledging no other God as creator or Almighty, but God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. []

Halloween

Watch Out For Wicca & Witches!

This is the time of year when witches turn up at their dental offices to have new porcelain, removable fangs made or repaired (*personally observed*). Coven practices often require them to be worn by their leaders. Don't know any witches personally? Check the web for your town Ex. <http://witches.meetup.com/members/us/ct/stratford/> and you may find that your bank teller, hairdresser or dentist

is, in fact, a practicing witch. Witches, too, need to post their activities. Wicca is the religion of witches. Wiccan organizations qualify for federal tax exempt status. A study done in 2008 estimates 480,000 Wiccan adults live in the U.S. Of course, not all have come forward to be counted. It is thought that Wicca may stand 10th in order of largest religions in the country. On line, witches can

"meet up" with covens in their area. Right now, Stratford, CT, has 4 covens (where groups of local witches gather to practice their craft) and has a list of 485 named women on a waiting list to join a meet up group. Trumbull, CT, has 12 Goddess covens with 383 on their waiting list. Witches make no secret of their identity. Local Wiccan shops sell ritual daggers, crystals, potions, etc. Pray for them. []

Holiness Requires Meeting God's Commands

God commands us to pray, "For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;" 1 Timothy 2:2,3

Obama Czar Has Socialist Ties

According to a report by Bret Baier, Fox New.com, 1/12/09, Global Warming Czar, Carol Browner, an appointee of President Obama was, until her appointment, was listed as one of 14 leaders of a socialist group, Socialists International. This organization advocates global governance. Though Ms. Browner's name had been removed from the group's list as of her appointment, the included photo is of her speaking, in Greece, on June 30, 2008, to the congress of Socialist International. This organization is dedicated to eradicating the sovereignty of the United States. Global governance demands that nations must forgo their national independence and be totally subject to International Law.

Socialist International is an umbrella group for many of the world's social democratic parties. It is a "worldwide organization of 140 socialist, social democratic and labor parties. The SI has the distinction of being the largest political organization in the world."

(<http://www.dsusa.org/about/index.html>) The term democratic can sound very acceptable to Americans, because it is so often forgotten that the U.S. is a republic, with a democratic form of government. Democratic governments vote for their leaders, but the people are not allowed the same representation as in a republic. Being a republic is what gives America its great freedoms. Government will not be perfected until Jesus rules and

reigns on earth during His Millennial Kingdom. Human government will always fail, as Jesus has shown us time and again. Unfortunately, President Obama has appointed to high places, many like minded people. Even when some of these appointees leave their posts, they continue working toward their socialist/communitic goals. []



CAROL BROWNER SPEAKING AT SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL MEETING. PHOTO: FOX NEWS, JUNE 2008.

* Please pray for this appointed leader of our country, that she might be saved to eternal life and from the ungodliness of socialism.

Each month a different leader will be presented for prayer.

Paying Attention to Symbols Is Important



In the picture of Carol Browner, above, is a symbol of her beliefs, displayed on the lectern. The hand holding the rose is a popular symbol for parties associated with socialism and communism since the late 20th Century. The

red color is said to be a sign for the struggle against material poverty and the flower for the struggle against spiritual poverty. Socialism puts forth these grand themes but they are deceptive and do not reflect their real agenda. Every organization of faith, sports team, music, etc., proudly displays a symbol of its unique identity and unity. Many young people like to display the symbols of the groups to which they belong. Knowing what symbols represent can serve Christians as a protective tool of discernment. Mothers who wish to identify symbols may find this Christian website helpful:

Kjos Ministries,
<http://www.crossroad.to/Books/symbols1.html>

Christians need to separate their beliefs from unbelievers by avoiding the use of unholy symbols. The red fiery dragon on a tee shirt may seem innocent enough, but it really is a symbol of Satan, God's enemy. Many pieces of jewelry, clothing and artifacts, etc., bare the symbol of the serpent, dhism, celtic and other non-images. At one time, the yin/yang symbol was fashionable. Not only does it represent dualism, light and dark, sin and goodness, as one, but also the belief of Taoism that "all is one", "all is god". Such symbols are not representative of the Christian faith, nor are they pleasing to God. Since many are not aware of the meaning of symbols, it is not appropriate to criticize Christians wearing them, rather we should make them aware, in love, of the meaning. []



Bud-crosses Christian time,



Navigating Apostasy

Apostasy is act of calling God a liar by teaching a different gospel yet claiming to be teaching Christianity. One good example of this is the ever popular Arnold Murray of the Shepherd's Chapel. It is not easy to spot apostasy. It takes really looking behind the scenes, not just listening to a radio broadcast. It can all sound so good. The Shepherd's Chapel denies the doctrine of the Trinity which is a denial of the true and living God. Murray teaches that the English, Canadians and Americans are descended from the 10 tribes of Israel. He also denies the existence of an eternal Hell, the Rapture and more. Yet, he is followed on over 200 radio stations.

[]

Watching Our Words

“Be kind one to another, tender-hearted...” Eph 4:32.

Words can be so unkind, even abusive. Millions of people are torn apart by someone’s verbal abuse towards them. Verbal abuse is a learned behavior and most abusers are not even aware of the damage they are doing. The wounds caused another can be equal to a physical beating. No one has the right to diminish the worth of another through discounting comments, hurtful, pointed jokes, or other attacking techniques. Hidden, denied attacks and subtle anger is still that and very sinful. Jesus implores, if not commands, us to be kind one to one another. Frequent ridicule alone can diminish a person’s spirit to the point of causing depression and physical pain. Not only should one watch their own words, but women especially should note words coming towards them and if they are abusive even in subtle ways, they should not put up with it for their own spiritual and physical health. If pleas do not stop the abuser, their actions should not be ignored. The Lord sees the tears of Christian women, and will present help through Pastoral counseling, the Holy Spirit, and the Word. There are a few Christian websites that may help. []

Amos Today: Did God Really Call the Women of Bashan, Cows?

Yes, actually he did! In the Book of Amos, God is really pretty fed up with the people of Israel. Seldom do we see Him so angry and even sarcastic, but He is justified.

Amos 4:1, 2 reads, “*Hear this word ye kine (female cows) of [the] mountain of Samaria, (ultimate place of idolatry, i.e., mixed worship of God and false gods), which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to their masters (lords, husbands), Bring and let us drink (bring me a drink). The Lord hath sworn by His Holiness, that lo, the days shall come upon you, that He will take you away with hooks, and your posterity with fishhooks*” (a foreign army). In a general sense, “kine” likely could refer to the men and women. However, it does seem to lend itself more to the women, which is strongly supported by the underlying Hebrew of Amos 4:3, where “cow” is translated from **ishsha**, which literally means “woman”.

(Please continue above)

Notes on Bashan

Bashan, which means *fruitful*, is a district on the east of Jordan and today the area is known as the Golan Heights. The Golan Heights belonged to the country of Syria until 1967. During the Six Day War, Israel took back this land.. Syria insists on the return of the Golan Heights before any peace process can take place. Bashan has a rich history told of throughout the OT. It’s fine cattle and strong oaks are often used by God as similes. The Romans used this fertile area to grow grain. In the patriarch Abraham’s day, Bashan’s inhabitants were giant-like people called Rephaim (Genesis 14:5). In order for the Israelites to occupy Canaan, they had to conquer Og the King of Bashan. We read in the OT, of Bashan’s superior cattle, its fertile pastures (Ezekiel 39:18; Psalms 22:12), it’s forests of giant oaks, (Isaiah 2:13; Ezekiel 27:6; Zechariah 11:2), the beauty of its plains (Amos 4:1; Jeremiah 50:19), and the rugged majesty of its mountains (Psalm 68:15. []

“And ye shall go out at the breaches, every cow, (ishisah=woman) at that which is before her and ye shall cast them into the palace, saith the LORD”, meaning that in the day of Ba-

shan’s destruction, the women will crawl through the broken walls of their palaces or homes, trying to escape, but all will be

burnt up. The women of Bashan spent their lives stretched out on beds of ivory, drinking heavily, spending all their time eating, listening to music, constantly primping their appearances, and ruling over their husbands. Sounds exactly like many women of today. The actual cows of Bashan were famous for their size and highly prized by Israel. Untroubled, lazy and content, they grazed in the very fertile valley of Bashan. God may not be so much dwelling on the actual weight of the women, but as it relates to their laziness and self-centeredness. God’s reaction to their attitude of ease and complacency is, “*I abhor the pride of Jacob (people of*

Israel) and hate his palaces”, God hated their indifference toward Him and their love for material comfort at the expense of the poor, which they oppressed. God vowed to disturb all this by demolishing Bashan by bringing a violent foreign army against it. God can do the same to us today, and He would be justified. When End Time prophetic warnings are discussed today, people tend to say: “Well, what can I do about it?” God tells us here, very specifically what can be done. Don’t act like “the cows”. Women can play a big part in pleasing, not aggravating God, by being Proverbs 31 women instead. Many Christian women are virtuous women after God’s own heart. They are industrious, kind to the poor, sacrificially caring for their families, respectful of their husbands, committed to their Christian walk, etc. Isn’t it interesting that women’s behavior can so effect what woes God might bring upon a society? The good news is that the story of the “cows of Bashan” can be passed on to daughters to encourage them to avoid self-centeredness, laziness, to respect their husbands and to become virtuous women. []



“And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea.” Revelation 16:3

This year’s oil spills should remind us of what God has planned for the future for those who will be alive during the seven years of the Tribulation era-- the years of God’s great wrath. The pictures of the oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico clearly showed the oil to be dark red in color, the color of the blood of a dead man, (see Rev. 16: 3 above). Let’s be reminded that God can, in fact, cause every living soul to die in the sea. Thus far, He has been merciful -- patiently waiting for mankind to repent of his disregard for God Himself and all He represents. Praise God that saved Bible-believing Christians will not be present during the Tribulation. They will already have been caught up in the air to meet the Lord before the happening of this seven years of worldwide horrors. (1 Thess 4:17, 1 Cor 15:52). In Romans

5:9, the Bible tells us, *“Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!”* And Rev. 3:10 promises, *“Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation (tribulation) which will come upon the world to try them that dwell on the earth..”* Also remember, *“For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him..”* (1 Thess, 5:9,10).

To the unrighteous, God says, *“Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD’s wrath”* (Zephaniah 1:18). They are also told, *“But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God”* (Romans 2:5). Yes, it is probable that God shows us many reminders each day of what His word has

Typical dark red color of oil spill (Mississippi) ¹



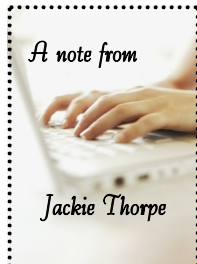
prophesied. Christians are very aware of God’s hand upon their lives in even some of the smallest circumstances. But as far as being aware of signs of the times, God says, *“The crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming, but my people know not the judgment of the Lord”* (Jer. 8:7). To be discerning of the times, one needs to see God’s hand in everything.

Man overboard rescued from China Oil Spill ²



Oil spill photos- ¹ cbc.com, 2010 ² abcnews.com, 2010

Having spent a period of time in my life as a back-slidden Christian, I am thankful to those who taught me the “way of holiness” and got



A note from

Jackie Thorpe

me back on the path of righteousness. It is my heart’s desire, that this monthly newsletter will bless other women to be strengthened in their walk with God through the information, warnings, and encouragement offered. I praise God and thank Pastor Bob for this humbling

experience and pray that I might do my part in contributing to our church covenant’s goal which requests that, “We promise to walk together daily in Christian love and compassion; to strive for the advancement of holiness in this assembly and knowledge of

God’s Word, the Holy Bible and to promote its testimony before the world;...” ³
Your sister in Christ,
Jackie Thorpe

³ Long Hill Baptist Church Covenant

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Services:
Sunday School (all ages) 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 P.M.
Saturday Evening Prayer 7:00 P.M.

Statement of Faith can be found at
LHBaptist.com

THE WAY OF HOLINESS

Isaiah 35:8-9

*A Christian Newsletter encouraging women to be made
strong through holiness in these End Times.*

HOW CAN I BE SURE OF HEAVEN?

By Pastor Bob Hammond



How can I be sure of Heaven ?

1. Acknowledge to God that you have sinned against Him. The Bible says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23).
2. Realize that our sin separates us from God. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)
3. Understand that Christ died on the cross and paid for all our sins. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.." (Ephesians 2:8-9).

4. The Bible teaches that, in order to receive forgiveness of sins, we must repent and place our faith in Christ.

To repent is simply to make a conscious decision to turn away from sin and to turn toward Christ. The Bible says that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16). God promises eternal life to those who trust in Jesus Christ alone.

Have you made a decision to receive Christ?
Please let Pastor Bob know today.



Long Hill Baptist Church
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