

RELIGION

Alternatives

Listen And Hear! Look And See! Act!

BY M. ISAACS

The lack of understanding of the principle of obedience; the principle of prayer, the principle of God's Judgment, has left the Christian population (in most cases) dull, plodding, brain-washed, spiritually luke-warm; ignorant of the plans of God for mankind, willing to follow "sound-good" theories and doctrines infused with worldly principles. These Christians have become believing robots, rather than people who study the Word of God and apply the Word to their daily living regime. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." This is a statement of principle for living that does not change. Support of sins committed by others, whether through ignorance, through silence in the name of peace, through fear of rejection, through laziness and apathy, through fear of monetary decreases, and etc., will bring punishment to the supporter of these sins. God judges motives also. He will not/cannot withhold punishment because He hath said "Ye shall reap what ye sow." God will forgive, but punishment will still come. "The prayers of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." James 5:15. A sinful person is indeed sick and needs healing, but healing does not make null and void the reaping of what we have sown. Every Christian must bear the consequences in this life of her/his actions...so...it behooves each confessed Christian to take charge of her/his own beliefs, not being led by the ideas, interpretations, admonishments and ministering of other men; but she/he must study the manufacturers guide (the Bible) for themselves, that they may adhere to the unchanging principles of god, knowing the truth for themselves 2 Tim. 2:15.

"For the time of judgment must begin at the house of God; and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore, let them that suffer according to the Will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator." 1 Peter 4:17-19. All men have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God; therefore trials and tribulations will come in this world to the believer. If ye think not to suffer in this world, then ye be fools; for Jesus, The Anointed, suffered for the sins of the whole world,

believers shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the Way of Truth shall be evil spoken of, and through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you; whose judgment now of a long lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not." 2 Peter 2:1-3. These false teachers, preachers, pastors and laity shall buy and sell the Christian who has not studied the Word of God for themselves. These Wolves among us shall not go into the kingdom of God, neither will they suffer others to go in; "having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls; (having) having a heart they have exercised with covetous practices, cursed children. These (people) are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever." 2 Peter 2:14, 2 Peter 2:17-19: "For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who lived in error, while they promise them Liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption; for of whom a man is overcome of the same is he Brought Into Bondage." "For, for this cause was the Gospel preached also to them that are dead (in sin), the they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit. 1 Peter 4:6.

The end is near at hand and God, the Anointed, has left nothing to chance, but placed a map before all who believe in Him, with the route clearly marked; 1 Peter 5:2-3 says "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock." vs 5-6, "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility; for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." vs 8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he devour."

Look and see that you may "abstain from all appearances of evil" 1 Thess 5:22. Listen with your ears, and hear with your heart, the preacher who is alleged to be called of God. Hear, but you are not required to always agree with all doctrine or

that men might have a right to life everlasting. "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trail which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's suffering; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." 1 Peter 4:12-13; 1 Peter 4:16.

It seems murder, evil lusts, drunkenness, idol worship, unspeakable sex crimes, child abuse, wife bashing, drugs and gangs are increasing to the point of no return, attempting to slay all hope; but...we who study the Word of God have a mandate to "Lay aside all malice and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking." "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that we may grow thereby. 1 Peter 2:1. "But there were false prophets among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. Many

statements; but are admonished to "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." "Warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the spirit. Despise not prophesyings, 1 Thess. 5:14-21. "But the end of all things is at hand; be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have Fervent Charity (love) among yourselves; for charity (love) shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another, without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same (gift) one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; If any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ; to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever 1 Peter 4:7-11. Amen.

FGBMFI Regional Convention Scheduled

Members of the Oregon and southern Washington Chapters of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International have combined efforts to sponsor the 31st Annual Northwest Regional Convention to be held May 19th through May 21st. The three-day event, which is open to the public, will be held at the Holiday Inn and Trade Center located at 8439 NE Columbia Blvd. just off I-205.

This year's theme centers around Scripture (Acts 1:8), "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you..." and will include presentations, testimonies, teachings, ministry, and music, praise and sharing.

Eight speakers are scheduled to make presentations and give testimonies. Included

are Carol and Leonard Riebold from Missouri, Dr. James Maloney from Texas and Sara Paulson, who was Miss Oregon 1992-93. A special breakfast at 8:30am on Friday morning, May 20, will honor pastors and other clergy. There will be separate luncheons for women and men at Friday noon, May 20. The Convention will close Saturday night with a Victory Banquet featuring Richard Shakarian, who upon the death of his father and founder of the Fellowship 40 years ago, has assumed world-wide leadership of the Fellowship.

The Convention is open to the public. While there is a charge for the meals, there is no charge to attend any of the sessions. For additional information, contact the Registrar at 503-292-2161.

Apartheid Leaves Mandela Tremendous Problems

Johannesburg, South Africa (NBNS) - The system of apartheid was good to the minority white population in South Africa. It gave them power and the highest standard of living on the African continent. But apartheid's legacy confronts incoming President Nelson Mandela with a myriad problems because the system was based on the super oppression of blacks. The result: about half of all blacks do not have jobs, the vast majority of young people do not have high school educations and black family structure has been significantly damaged in urban areas. Further, apartheid's divide and rule tactics have helped created divisions and animosities among various tribal groups. The Zulus, for example, are expected to be a source of violence and disruption. Another source of violence will be right wing whites who now want an independent "white only" homeland in South Africa. There will also be the question of expectations. Many blacks expect a betterment in their standard of living. But that is not likely to happen given the host of problems Mandela will face.

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Pastor, Rev. James C. E. Faulkner

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Elder Tom Moore, Pastor



Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
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Rev. and Mrs. G.L. Black I