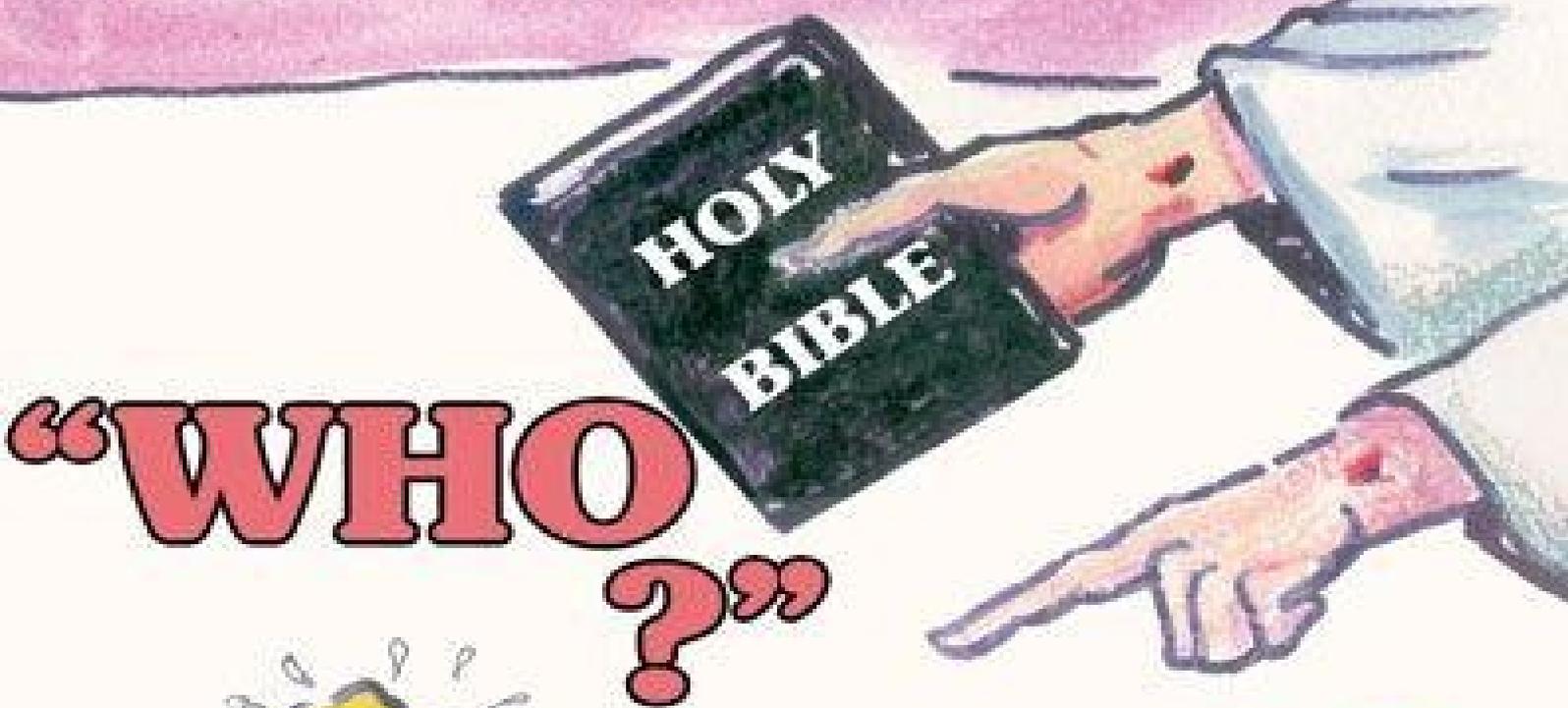


THE GOD-CALLED PREACHER

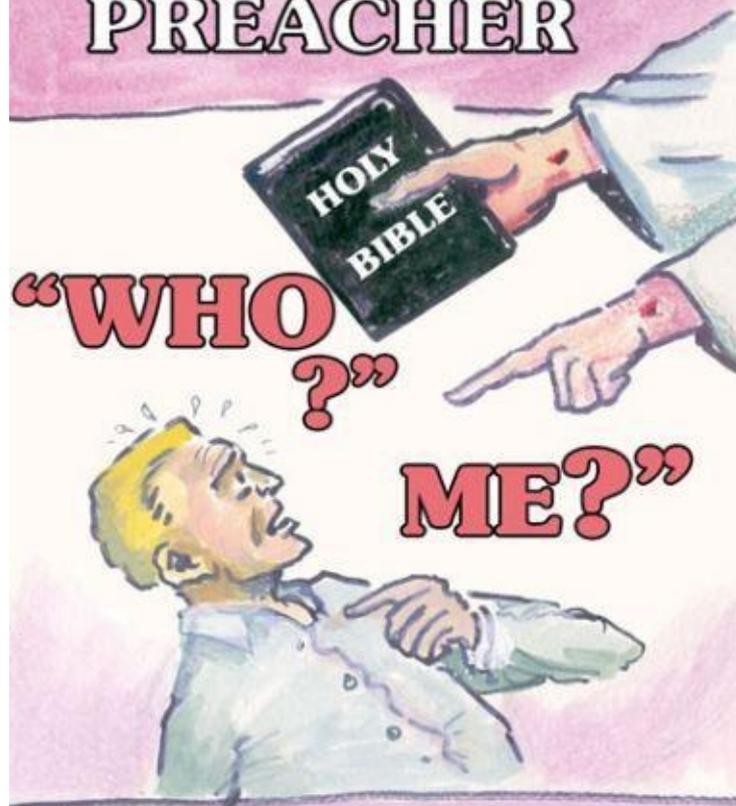


**“WHO
?”**

“MIE?”

DR. PETER S. RUCKMAN

THE GOD-CALLED PREACHER



**“WHO
?”**

ME?”

DR. PETER S. RUCKMAN

The God-Called Preacher

Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

President, Pensacola Bible Institute

B.A., B.D., M.A., Th.M., Ph.D.

COPYRIGHT © 2005 by Peter S. Ruckman

All Rights Reserved

(PRINT) ISBN 1-58026-231-7

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The Scripture quotations found herein are from the text of the Authorized *King James* Version of the Bible. Any deviations therefrom are not intentional.

BB BOOKSTORE

P.O. Box 7135 Pensacola, FL 32534

www.kjv1611.org

[Other works available on Kindle](#)

Table of Contents

Introduction

1. Problems in the Various Professions

2. “Faithfulness vs. Success”

3. The World, the Flesh, and the Devil

4. “If Ye Live After the Flesh, Ye Shall Die”

5. His Majesty, the Devil

6. A Brief Survey of Some Major Ministries

7. The God-Called Preacher and the Book

8. The Real “Serious Student” of the Bible

9. The Sins of Most Saved Ministers

10. Some Brief Notes on “Counseling”

11. The “Other” Causes for Divorces

12. A Condensed Summary of Modern Counseling

13. Wise Advice From a Veteran

INTRODUCTION

The book you are about to read is a “synopsis” of a course which we teach at the Pensacola Bible Institute. We have taught, basically, for more than thirty-nine years, what you are about to read. This course was called “The Preacher and His Problems.” By the grace of God He used this material to place fifty full-time pastors “on the field” in America, a dozen associate pastors, eight full-time church evangelists, four full-time street preachers, *five authors of books*, and sixty-two married young men (with families) on *thirty-two foreign mission fields* preaching in *eighteen different languages* (Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Russian, Greek, Italian, Ilonggo, Tagalog, Chinese, Vietnamese, Chichewa, Bemba, Cambodian, Arabic, Mongolian, Romanian, and Telugu).

Every preacher mentioned was taught Greek and Hebrew, Manuscript Evidence, Church History, and Advanced Theology. Every one of them came out believing every word in a *King James Bible* and came out with the courage to preach on the street. All of them were active, soulwinning personal workers.

These were my own students who took this course. I was their teacher, and this is the material I taught them. Take it or leave it.

This was the “tree” that produced the *fruit* listed above. Right or wrong, taught by a “more-than-once married” preacher, THIS is what my teaching *produced*. While scores of my “ministerial brethren” spent days and months talking about “Ruckman” not being a real pastor and not pastoring a “real” local church and “not being qualified for the ministry,” *THIS is what came out*. If you had the grown adult men and women who have been saved through the ministries of Weldon Jones (Mexico), Demopoulos, Higgins, and Rue (the Ukraine), Bailey (Greece), Miller (Scotland), Cooper (Spain), Wheat (Australia), Rose (New Zealand), Bill Haag (international), Vournas (the Philippines), Trosclair (Germany), et al., they could occupy every seat in the auditoriums of Bob Jones University or Pensacola Christian College.

These young men were raised on one course called “The Local Church” and another course called “The Preacher and His Problems.” They were taught to preach on the street outdoors, in public. They were taught to *ridicule the scholarship* of Westcott, Eugene Nida, Hort, Nestle, Aland Metzger, Farstad, Palmer, Fee, Custer, James White, Harold Willmington, Spiros Zodhiates, Dr. A. T. Robertson, Kenneth Wuest, Trench, Vincent, and Thayer. They were taught to do personal work face-to-face with anyone, anytime, anywhere. They were taught that the most important thing in their lives was *not* going to be “planting” churches, exercising pastoral authority, “secondary separation,” getting record attendances, building educational monuments, attacking false cults, or getting large incomes or enrollments; but it would be THEIR PERSONAL FELLOWSHIP WITH AND RELATIONSHIP TO JESUS CHRIST.

Offerings, soulwinning, separated living, fund-raising programs, publicity, and even Bible study and preaching, were to be SECONDARY to this main thing. They were taught if their personal, daily relationship with Jesus Christ was right then everything else would fall into its proper place, at its proper time, for God’s directive will. We taught them that

“nothing is settled RIGHT until it is settled with God,” and if it is settled *with Him* then it doesn’t make a “flip” what any Christian thinks about it or says about it or does about it: *that includes all pastors and evangelists.*

This is the “attitude” with which this book was written. The material in it is derived from that “stance” or “posture,” so if it seems a little too strong as a textbook for young men called to preach, don’t pass it on to them. Let the weak-kneed, panty-waist, sissy-britches “exciting campuses” “catch the spirit” and continue to turn out million dollar “lady fingers” (American—circa 1920s—firecrackers you could let “go off” in your fingers).

We hope you enjoy this twentieth- and twenty-first century “slant” on modern American pastoral work, missionary work, and evangelism. You will find in it the advice of veterans and greenhorns, rookies and old “war horses,” tenderfeet and “old timers.” Along with it is a mass of material that is never taught to any young preacher in any class on preaching or pastoring; for example, the methods for studying the main divisions of the Bible, the importance of the *WORDS* of the Holy Scripture (instead of the contemporary counterfeit “preserved *Word* of God”), specific church problems, specific temptations and what to do about them, counseling according to the Scriptures, Satan’s counterfeit churches, apostles, and Bibles, and “thumbnail” sketches of *five different ministries*: the pastorate, evangelism, Bible teacher, rescue mission worker, and foreign missionary.

“And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it” (Col. 4:17).

Chapter 1

Problems in the Various Professions

The “call to the ministry” which we discussed in *The Local Church* (Bible Baptist Bookstore, 1989) is more than just the call to witness. *Every* child of God is “called to preach” in that sense (see Acts 8:3–4 and Psa. 107:2). What we are talking about here is God putting a man “**INTO the ministry**” as described in Acts 9:15–16; 1 Timothy 1:1–16; and Romans 15:15–19.

Even when in what anyone would call “a full-time ministry,” the Apostle Paul did some “work” for his income (see Acts 16:1–3; 2 Thess. 3:8). Since we discuss these matters, in detail, in our classes on “Preparation and Delivery of Sermons” (first year), we will not review them. To put it briefly and clearly, when God puts a man “**INTO the ministry**,” He has assigned him a lifelong job, which means that for the rest of his life he is to devote his main efforts to *two* things: 1. Studying and searching every branch of knowledge, religion, history, and news events *to find THE TRUTH in it*, according to one standard: *the Holy Bible*. 2. To proclaim those truths (or that truth) anyway that he can as long as he lives. He is to be obsessed with learning and teaching **WHAT IS SO AND WHAT IS NOT SO**. Colossians 2:3 tells him where he will find out about these things.

That is to be his life labor (1 Cor. 9:19–27), and any other occupation is more of a “hobby” or a “necessity.” It is not his “**CALLING**.” His “calling” is a little like that of an Old Testament Levite: he is given to God and segregated from *earthly* connections (see Num. 3:13, 45) to serve God twenty-four hours a day.

As a “priest,” his “**HIGH Priest**” is the “Holy Apostle” of his calling (see Heb. 3:1). Although all Christians are “priests” (like all Levites were priests; see 1 Pet. 2:9), the God-called minister is in the “family” of Aaron, so he is connected directly (Num. 8:19) with the ministry **IN** the tabernacle (see comments by Paul in 1 Cor. 9:13). It is true he offers no physical sacrifice of blood like the black-robed, African, Baalite priest of Roman Catholicism (cf. Heb. 13:15–16 and 1 Pet. 2:5); but as a Levitical “**scribe**” (Ezra 7:1–6), he is entrusted with the *WORDS of God* (Mal. 2:4–8) and is responsible for delivering them (*teaching them*; see Ezra 7:10) to the “congregation.”

This calling has many problems connected with it. So first of all we should examine the problems that are unique to this calling and compare them with other “callings” where the problems are “uniform”—that is, those “callings” all have similar problems.

No matter what “calling” a man has (that of a minister, soldier, sailor, merchant, banker, construction man, artist, musician, doctor, lawyer, engineer, accountant, et al.), certain problems will always be there. Among these will be: 1. Health problems. 2. Money and taxes. 3. Family and relative problems. 4. Sin and temptation problems. 5. Dying.

Becoming a minister will not automatically “exempt” you from these problems, but there are four “areas” where the ministry differs from any other occupation—sometimes

radically. We will discuss these one at a time.

Problems unique to the ministerial calling.

1. *Demands on correct (moral) living.*

There are many professions, including congressmen, senators, governors, bankers, brokers, and presidents that do NOT demand correct living in order to be “successful.” You can be a sex pervert holding down nearly any job in America, today, due to news media backing; your *morals* have no effect on your *job*. You can be a fornicating, whoremongering adulterer and be President of the United States at the same time and be worshipped by the news media. The Army and Navy are filled with cursing, whoremongering officers and sometimes chronic alcoholics; sinless perfection is not demanded.

Now, although *sinless perfection* is not demanded of a minister, he will be expected to avoid smoking, drinking, gambling, cursing, wife-beating, lying, stealing, laziness, gluttony, etc.; *unless, of course he is a CATHOLIC*. Catholic priests, guilty of sex perversion, are simply moved from one diocese to another (usually in another country); they do not go to jail except on rare occasions. Any priest can play Bingo and smoke at the table, and thousands of Catholic priests drink intoxicating liquor *daily* as well as on Sunday morning.

But I am speaking here of a *God-called minister*; not a *time-serving Baalite* who made two commands out of commandment number ten (Exod. 20:4, 17) so he could practice *idolatry* without worrying about commandment number 2. (All Catholic catechisms give the *second* commandment as “**Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.**”)

People will overlook a thousand flaws in a doctor, lawyer, social welfare worker, senator, mayor, rock star, movie star, athletic star, newscaster, or even bank robber that they will NOT overlook when a man shows up carrying a *Bible* and is preaching *its contents*.

A high ethical standard, with moral living, is required of a so-called “man of God.”

2. *Undue criticism* (“gnat straining”) over *small mistakes*. Matters will become mountains that were nothing but “molehills” when you begin to minister to the public. There will be “tempests in teacups,” so just get ready for it. You will be criticized for being too young or too old, too fat or too skinny, too rude or not tough enough; you will be criticized for your car, your clothes, your wife, your children, and even your diet. The nearest “profession” to this business would be someone in *bootcamp at Camp Pendleton or Paris Island*.

People will find holes in your character that you never knew existed. They will all do it for the same reason. They all want to justify *themselves* for their own sins, so they magnify *yours* and, many times, INVENT them.

3. *Spiritual pressures.*

In regard to these matters, no other profession on earth will feel this pressure like a God-called preacher will feel it. There are NO spiritual pressures on any man in any other

work other than fleshy temptations to cheat, fornicate, lie, connive, plot, compromise, etc.; and these will not be *Satanic* in that their source is FLESH. Spiritual pressure comes from the *spirit world* (see Eph. 6:10–13; Luke 22:31–32; Job 1–2; and 1 Chron. 21:1). Satan’s sin was SPIRITUAL, not FLESHY (see Isa. 14:13–14); it had to do with jealousy, pride, and lust for power and worship. It is true that he will USE the flesh (James 1:13–14) to get a man to sin, but Satan has much more in mind in getting a sinner to sin than merely to ruin him physically, financially, socially, or intellectually. *He has the destruction of the Bible and a Lake of Fire in his mind* (Rev. 20:14; Matt. 25:41).

Satan is in a full-time ministry of his own; it is not characterized by discos, pool halls, whorehouses, gaming tables, strippers, belly dancers, rock music, sex perversion, and the drug traffic. THAT IS FLESH.

It is true that the Devil and his “**principalities and powers**” *encourage* all of these immoral and evil things, but that is not his main “arena.” His main arena is *Bible translation committees*, Oriental religions, Christian *Seminaries* and *Universities*, Christians in local churches, false Bible teachings, perversion of Biblical doctrines (*especially anything to do with salvation or Israel*), and above all, any ministry where souls are actually being saved by the New Birth and Christians are being strengthened for combat AGAINST HIM (Eph. 6:10–13; 2 Tim. 2:3–4).

Thus, there will be constant *Satanic pressure* yearly, and sometimes weekly and daily, to stop tract distribution, silence street preachers, censor preaching material, compromise the message, cooperate with enemies of the Bible, “kowtow” to rich people and influential politicians, refuse to deal with issues that will “stir up trouble” or “split a church,” preach one-third of what you are called to preach (see Balaam’s case in *The Unknown Bible* where the entire Scofield Board of Editors put this into practice), *correct the Bible with your education* (as the entire Scofield Board of Editors did on Gen. 1:16, 6:2, and Rom. 8:1), and adopt “modern terminology” in order to increase membership and enrollments (“impact,” “in these areas,” “possibility thinking,” “renewals and rethinking,” “I’m excited about this or that,” “meaningful relationships,” “paradigm shifts,” “Biblical principles,” “sharing,” etc., etc.).

This is Satan’s “ball field.”

The average unsaved doctor, lawyer, banker, farmer, construction worker, crane operator, politician, or “white-collar worker” would never even suspect such things were genuine THREATS to his “calling.”

4. *Dedication required instead of SUCCESS.*

We will talk about this in a greatly more detailed manner than the first three items. For a similar profession, again, one would have to spend some time in a “crack” military outfit—an “elite” unit of *volunteers*. In nearly every profession on earth, a man or woman is judged by how much *money* they make or store up, how many people they have to boss around, how big of a plant or business they set up or control, how they got their kids through college, how much they have to show physically for their life work, how the news media bragged about them and held them up as role models for others, how high they climbed in their trade’s “hierarchy,” how much the world honored them because they

were worldly and dedicated to making the world a “better place to live in.”

Now here is THE BOOK that totally condemns those kinds of “success.”

“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, BUT IS OF THE WORLD. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever” (1 John 2:16–17).

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the FRIENDSHIP OF THE WORLD IS ENMITY WITH GOD? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God” (James 4:4).

“And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for THAT WHICH IS HIGHLY ESTEEMED AMONG MEN IS ABOMINATION IN THE SIGHT OF GOD” (Luke 16:15).

“But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, BUT THOSE THAT BE OF MEN” (Matt. 16:23).

“I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.... I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they ARE NOT OF THE WORLD, EVEN AS I AM NOT OF THE WORLD.... They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world” (John 17:9,14,16).

This means that those who do “succeed,” according to ALL worldly standards and outlets (historians, biographers, autobiographers, TV, radio, magazines, daily newspapers, and all middle school and high school curriculums) are chosen by **“the god of this world”** (2 Cor. 4:4) for that honor (Luke 16:15); and not ONE of them would be aware of it any more than the masses that they deceived. A-1 examples would be Nelson Mandela, Bishop Tutu, Princess Di, Pope Paul VI, Elvis Presley, Mother Teresa, Madonna, Rock Hudson, the Beatles, Pope John XXIII, Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx, FDR, JFK, Michael L. King Jr., Marilyn Monroe, Winston Churchill, Mohammed, Abraham Lincoln, Mahatma Gandhi, Pope John Paul II, and Albert Einstein.

“Also-rans” would be Henry Ford, the Vanderbilts, Charlie Darwin, Pope Pius XII, Hillary Clinton, Janet Reno, Willie Clinton, Dr. Spock, William Randolph Hearst, the Luce family, Bill Gates, Howard Hughes, J. Paul Getty, J. D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, Fulton Sheen, Cardinal Spellman, Katherine Hepburn, Frank Sinatra, Michael Jordan, and John Wayne.

Not one single major news outlet in Europe or America has ever held up before the public such men as the *following* as “role models” for ANYONE.

Beauchamp Vick, John Wesley, Billy Sunday, Gen. William Booth, William Carey, Maze Jackson, Oliver Green, George Whitefield, Bob Jones Sr., Sam Jones, Dwight Moody, Jonathan Goforth, C. T. Studd, John Paton, Harold Sightler, Dr. DeHaan, Mel Trotter, J. Frank Norris, “Pappy” Reveal, Charles Spurgeon, Adoniram Judson, Francis Asbury, Peter Cartwright, or Charles G. Finney.

Do you know *why* dope-headed, fornicating Communists (Marx, Martin Luther King Jr., Elvis Presley, Willie Clinton, Mandela, et al.) get the world's applause, while the list I just wrote doesn't even get a "passing notice"? *Because every man I listed was a Bible-believing, Bible-PREACHING minister.* "The god of this world" doesn't want any man even like them to appear on *any* list but his own -- list. (I forebear to give you the "original autograph" from the US infantry of 1940–1945.)

How does one explain this peculiar phenomenon?

Every man I listed didn't *smoke* (or he quit smoking when he began to preach). Not *one man* in the list ever *killed* a man or *arrested* a man or *persecuted* a man for his religious convictions. Not one man in the list ever committed adultery, rape, armed assault, or a robbery. Not one man dealt with the drug traffic or liquor traffic in any form after he was saved. Not *one man* in the list was a sex pervert, and *every man in the list* produced anywhere from fifty to 500,000 converts who paid their bills, were true to their wives, *worked for a living*, and didn't curse or tell dirty jokes or fool with pornography or any "anti-American" activity of any kind.

Could you say as much for the followers and devotees (and worshippers) of the Beatles, M. L. King Jr., Nelson Mandela, Bill Clinton, and the Roman Catholic priesthood?

What is required of a God-called minister, on any continent on earth, is *faithfulness* and *committal*. "Success" is not even mentioned as a by-product, although it often can accompany such dedication. Faithfulness is not "desired"; it's *REQUIRED*.

Here are the verses:

"He that is faithful in that which is least is FAITHFUL also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much" (Luke 16:10).

"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found FAITHFUL" (1 Cor. 4:2).

"As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a FAITHFUL minister of Christ" (Col. 1:7).

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to FAITHFUL men, who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2:2).

"And Moses verily was FAITHFUL in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after" (Heb. 3:5).

"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou FAITHFUL unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).

"And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me FAITHFUL, putting me into the ministry" (1 Tim. 1:12).

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matt. 22:37).

"He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that

loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me” (Matt. 10:37).

There are many, many other such passages.

So here we will “park” for a while, till the reader fully understands what is involved in spotting a REAL, genuine, “God-called” preacher, not merely a “pro” involved in building a “career” for himself.

Chapter 2

“Faithfulness vs. Success”

Many, many years ago (about 1950), Bob Jones Sr. used to say that the thing that was destroying the ministers in America was “careerism.” They got this idea from the news media and Hollywood where you “build yourself a career” instead of “answering a *call*” (Rom. 1:1–2; 1 Sam. 3).

Prayer meetings become “business meetings,” *lost souls* become “prospects,” and “goals” were set to “reach.” The idea was to make a “splash,” via publicity, so that people would begin to look at you as a “celebrity.” When Hearst publications said “puff him,” in regards to Billy Graham (in the late 1940s), it meant “give him a eulogistic build up”—“good press,” like you always give to all Popes. So they “puffed him” (1 Cor. 8:1). Billy made the headlines; *contrary to the direct statement of the Lord Jesus Christ in Mark 6:4*, he *WAS honored* **“in his own country and among his own kin.”**

(You are to assume that *Jesus Christ* made an extravagant statement without considering *the facts*. He must have done it again in Luke 4:24 like Paul did in 2 Tim. 3:7,12.)

Now in order to drive home the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (John 17:17, 16:13), look at whom the Bible said was to be YOUR “role model” as a minister:

“Be ye followers of ME, even as I also am of Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1).

“Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in ME first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting” (1 Tim. 1:16).

“Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in ME, do: and the God of peace shall be with you” (Phil. 4:9).

“Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

“Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.

“Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

“In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

“In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

“Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon ME daily, the care of all the churches” (2 Cor. 11:23–28).

Where would you find any Pope (or Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, Benny Hinn, Hagin, Copeland, Gorman, Swaggart, Kuhlman, Kilpatrick, Hill, Tilton, Schuller, or Jerry

Falwell) in THOSE passages?

Where would you find ANY member of ANY *Bible revision committee* since 1880 in those passages? Do they fit your *pastor*? He is “qualified,” is he?

Have you any idea about the width of the “credibility gap” there is between *Biblical Christianity* and *American Christianity*?

The “**apostle of the Gentiles**” told you not only to FOLLOW HIM (1 Cor. 11:1) but to SAY what he said and to DO what he did.

“**Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you**” (Phil. 4:9).

Find *one* government dignitary or *one* leading religious leader of Paul’s day who would publicly recommend him or honor him in any way, shape, or form. You can’t find *one*. Bob Jones Sr. used to say “the amount of publicity that any man gets is directly proportional to the extent to which he can be CONTROLLED.”

That would mean that the most “controlled” worldlings “**the god of this world**” ever controlled (of the world, by the world, and for the world, according to all major news outlets) were *JFK, Winston Churchill, Pope John II, Billy Graham, Abraham Lincoln, Willie Clinton, Mohammed, and M. L. King Jr.*

No one could control the speech, movements, alliances, fellowships, companions, teachings, or examples of Dwight Moody, George Whitefield, John Wesley, Martin Luther, J. Frank Norris, Sam Jones, Mordecai Ham, W. B. Riley, Jack Chick, or Harvey Springer. They never took their orders from any magazine, any “angel” (*Mohammed and Joe Smith*), newspaper, radio broadcast, psychiatrist, psychologist, or faculty of any College, University or Seminary in their day. *They operated under God, the Book, and prayer.*

Now, for a moment, look at the “**great...cloud of witnesses**” that is around you as you step into the “arena of faith.” Every one of them is going to “**stand before the judgment seat of Christ**” (Rom. 14:10—not “of God” as in the corrupt ASV, NASV, and NIV), and their ministries are going to be tried by FIRE to see “**what sort**” they were. *Volume* is not even going to be mentioned. It is motive, intent, and *quality* that are going to be tested (1 Cor. 3:13).

How will Harlan Popov and Richard Wurmbbrand make out?

Well, neither had a large *bus ministry*; neither one enrolled 100 young people in a *College*; neither one “ran 2,000” in *Sunday School*. Neither one ever put on a *chorale display* or a Christmas or Easter *pageant*, and neither of them ever *advertised* his church or his school in any periodical on earth.

Do you think they will receive the adulations and congratulations at the Judgment Seat of Christ (1 Cor. 4:5) that Jack Hyles, Billy Graham, Jerry Falwell, Shelton Smith, and Dallas Billington will receive? This time THINK instead of *talking*.

Up shows *Allen Francis Gardiner*, who starved to death on Picton Island trying to reach the natives, and here is *Nate Saint* who got killed by the Auca Indians before he could give them a Gospel witness. Do you think they will be on the “*sidelines*” while the

Body of Christ applauds the faculties of Tennessee Temple and Baptist Bible College?

Do you see where we are headed?

Who led *Charles Haddon Spurgeon* to Christ? Why don't you know?

What preacher had the greatest effect on the ministry of *Bob Jones Sr.*? You don't even know his name or *denomination*.

Who actually led *Billy Graham* to Jesus Christ? Was it a Christian celebrity or a "monument builder"?

Think. "**Who hath despised the day of small things?**" (Zech. 4:10).

The preacher that led me to Christ had no College education and *never attended a Christian school or Bible institute* before he passed my way. He was a Florida "cracker." He "**begat**" me "**through the gospel**" (1 Cor. 4:15) exactly as Paul begat his converts (much to the chagrin of all TULIP Calvinists)!

Adoniram Judson preached eight years in Burma before getting a "profession of faith" out of anyone. He couldn't have made Shelton Smith's column ("With the Evangelists") in one issue of the *Sword of the Lord*. Alongside Shelton Smith, Judson was a flop. He never held a "Sword Conference" or "Fundamentalist Congress" or "Pastors' School" anywhere on earth; he buried two wives and was himself *buried at sea*.

Do you get the message yet? All right, here it is. The greatest FAILURE in church history, *according to all modern standards of successful ministers*, was the *Apostle Paul*. Consider the apostle who told you to follow *him* and adopt *his* speech and customs:

1. He never *pastored* a church in a lifetime.
2. He never *published* any Sunday School records or record "attendances" in any church he ever founded.
3. He never owned any *property*, had any *buses*, any parking lot, any school for young people, any orphans' homes, or any Daily Vacation Bible School (DVBS).
4. He rejected attempts by others to *advertise his meetings*.
5. He had no *insurance* of any kind, no Social Security, no Medicare, and made no *investments* in stocks, bonds, *real estate*, savings accounts, or loans.
6. He had no *wife*, no *children* or *grandchildren*, and never had a "money man" to back up anything he did (see McKenzie and Bob Jones Sr., Anderson and Hyles, Coberly and the Hortons, etc.).
7. He never owned a *house* or a *piece of land*, and he died after being stripped of everything but a cloak and some manuscripts (2 Tim. 4:13). He was buried in an *unmarked* grave with no funeral services taking place.

Does that sound like JFK, FDR, or M. L. King Jr.? Well, who "made the world a better place to live in"?

You're a "Pauline" Christian, are you? A "Berean" who "searches the Scripture"? Well, why is it that *your* life and ministry bear no more resemblance to Paul's than they do to that of Henry Martyn, David Brainerd, John Elliott, Shelton Jackson, A. B. Earle,

Robert Morrison, Billy Bray, or John Geddie?

Wanna see where some of the “big boys” came from? I will tell you. Most of them were never raised in a city with more than 10,000 people in it, and some of them had a “neighborhood” of less than 500 people.

Bob Jones Sr.—*Brannon’s Stand* near Skipperville, Alabama.

Jack Hyles—*Italy*, Texas.

Lee Roberson—*English*, Indiana.

John Rice—*Gainesville*, Texas (*before* World War I).

Beauchamp Vick—*Russellville*, Texas.

Mel Trotter—*Orangeville*, Illinois (wanna find it on a map?).

Lester Roloff—*Dawson*, Texas (*before* World War II).

George Truett—*Hayesville*, North Carolina.

Sam Jones—*Oak Bowery*, Alabama (population 200 before 1890).

Dallas Billington—*Kirskey*, Kentucky (*before* World War I).

Adoniram Judson—*Malden*, Massachusetts (*before* the Civil War).

Country boys: hayseeds, “rubes,” *briar hoppers*, ridge runners, tarheels, “rebels.” They were raised *out in the country* where a young man has time to THINK; a city boy will “git runned over” if he stops to think about *anything* except traffic, street crossings, stop lights, and women drivers.

The man who led Charles Spurgeon to the Lord was a Methodist layman preaching in a storefront mission in downtown London. The preacher who affected Bob Jones Sr.’s attitude toward preaching and “sermonizing” was an obscure, backwoods, Free-will Baptist preacher in southeast Alabama named *Simon Peter Richardson*. The man who led Billy Graham to the Lord was a layman—during a revival conducted by Mordecai Ham, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Someone was “faithful.” Those “someones” will have a share of the victories that came from the ministries of the “Soldiers of the Cross.” You know your Bible well enough to know that the “reaper” is only ONE worker in the field: “other men enter into the labor” (John 4:36–38). There must be tillers, plowers, “stumpers,” planters, waterers, weed pickers, “varmint” shooters, insecticide sprayers, and fertilizers to produce crops. No great evangelist or pastor ever did a large, impressive, spiritual work without the money, help, and laborers (and prayers) of scores and scores of Christians.

It is impossible in America, *in this century*, to build any large school or church without the aid of a Christian MILLIONAIRE. Wealthy Christians must turn over hundreds of thousands of dollars to churches and schools *that will never give a dime of it to foreign missionaries*. The money that has gone into Crown College, Hyles Anderson, Bob Jones, Tennessee Temple, Pensacola Christian College, Liberty University, etc., could pay all of the expenses for *1,000 foreign missionary families* for thirty years on the field at an income of \$4,000 a month.

It isn't going to happen.

Now I know of no better way to illustrate “faithfulness,” as opposed to “success,” than two *military operations* with which I was familiar (1930–1940) long before I became a Christian. It is no wonder therefore, to me, that the military figure keeps popping up in the Pauline epistles (1 Cor. 9:7; Eph. 6:11–17; 2 Tim. 2:4, 4:7; Heb. 2:10).

These two *military operations* are called “A Listening Post” and a “Rear Guard Action” (or “Delaying Action”). What these operations amount to in plain, clear-cut, crude, bloody reality is DEATH.

The first term was used in World War I. It referred to the unsavory job of *one man* going out into “no man’s land,” *between the trenches, at night*, and then lying in a shell hole and waiting for a *night attack* from the other side. He could be relieved (and should be relieved) once every two hours. (That is to keep him from sweating to death and going crazy under the strain.) If you want a detailed description of it, be sure and obtain Erich Maria Remarque’s classic work *All Quiet on the Western Front* (1928), in chapter 9.

The idea is that your buddies have to be *alerted* if an attack is on the way. This can be done by means of a “Very pistol” which shoots out a flare as a warning. The “listening post” shoots it when he hears or sees the enemy troops moving over and through HIS POSITION. The trick then is to keep from getting shot, since anyone within thirty yards can *see* the flare go up. While you wait for an attack (which may or may not come), you simply live “on edge,” hearing multiple sounds and sometimes voices, and you cannot lose the sensation that somewhere in the darkness the muzzle of a rifle is traversing back and forth over your shell hole.

In this unenviable situation it is clear that you are a one-man SACRIFICE, if necessary, to save more lives of your buddies than would be saved otherwise. *It is volunteer work for a martyr.* THAT is the ministry. In World War II, if such a dirty duty arose the Sergeant would say, “I want three volunteers; you, you, and YOU!” In Vietnam, you wouldn’t dare pick out a *black man*, or he would holler: “*Discrimination!* You picked me because of my color!” (This probably wouldn’t happen in a Marine battalion, but a “draft” army of blacks is “somethin’ else.”)

But the “rear guard” action is the classic. In this one, a body of your troops are beating a hasty retreat off the field of battle or out of an X ambush or something else. It is decided that someone must “hold off” the counter-attacking enemy so that SOME of the troops can get away to “fight again another day.” The question is: “Who *gets* this lovely job?” Well, if a *division* is retreating, like in Korea or the Snow Eifel (Germany, 1944), a *battalion* or *regiment* is the winner of the “lucky ticket.” The idea is simple. Suppose all of them *do* get slaughtered? Better to sacrifice a *squad* to save a platoon, right? Better to sacrifice a *platoon* than lose a company, right? Well, it certainly is better to lose a *battalion* than a regiment, and better a *regiment* than a division, right? Sure. *It’s simple arithmetic.*

No one has “success” in mind; what they have in mind is *slaughter*.

Stephen (Acts 7), James (Acts 12), Paul (2 Tim. 2).

No man given such orders, for such a maneuver, is required to whip the enemy and

drive him back, especially when the enemy outnumbers him anywhere from two to one to five to one. What you are expected to do is FIGHT to the finish and then drop “on the line,” giving *your comrades* time to get back to their camps and eventually *their* homes. *You are required to OBEY ORDERS!*

“**And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?**” (Luke 6:46).

“**A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?**” (Mal. 1:6).

If you want to see this demonstrated, read the account that I recorded in *Ruckman’s Battlefield Notes* (Bible Baptist Bookstore, 2003, pp. 25–26), dealing with the peninsular war between the French and the English in Spain (1811). “Die HARD, 57th, die HARD!”

Don’t consider *victory* or *success*. That is modern “Fundamentalism.” Consider your *orders*. Be faithful to your outfit and your *commander*:

“**Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and the LORD do that which seemeth him good**” (2 Sam. 10:12).

Strike till the hand cleaves to the hilt (2 Sam. 23:10). Play the man! “**QUIT YOU LIKE MEN!**” (1 Sam. 4:9).

You were not told to “succeed.” *You were told to FIGHT* (2 Tim. 2:1–4).

And this brings up the subject, “Fight WHAT?” or “Fight WHOM?”

Fundamentalists have been accused of killing their own wounded. That is *not* a damaging accusation, unless you are a weak-kneed girl scout who hasn’t been “blooded” in any action. Killing your own wounded (or someone else’s wounded) is often not only *desirable* for THEM, but it is the *right thing to do under some circumstances*. Take two cases: one in Ruckman’s *Battlefield Notes* (p. 66) and one in Erich Remarque’s notes (*All Quiet on the Western Front*, pp. 71–72, Random House Ballantine Pub., 1996).

It is more than obvious that New Testament warfare is not with “carnal weapons.” That is, it is NEVER to be associated with any Moslem religion or any follower of Islam. *That* religion rejected 80 percent of the New Testament at one reading. “**The weapons of our warfare**” (see 2 Cor. 10:4) are *prayer and preaching*. The word we have is “**sharper than ANY two-edged sword,**” and faith comes by hearing it (Rom. 10:17). *No Moslem can tolerate it to be preached ANYWHERE*, for it simply makes a fool out of him for idolizing a fornicating military dictator instead of a *living Saviour*. Allah’s “prophet” couldn’t prophesy your future or *his* future or the future of his own nation or any other nation. As a “prophet” Mohammed was a *tragic joke*.

So before discussing our “armory” and equipment (T.E.), let us examine the *three enemies* that we will have to face as preachers. These *three enemies* will be lifelong enemies, as we are engaged in a warfare that would make the French-English “One Hundred Years War” look like Israel’s “six day” battle.

Chapter 3

The World, the Flesh, And the Devil

In the mythological, magical, fairy-tale atmosphere of higher Christian education—especially the Bible translators, *revisers*, and *booksellers*—no such a being as Satan exists: *he is nonexistent*. Every corrector of the *King James* English text of the Protestant Reformation since 1700 has *pretended* that all the textual corruptions, textual “glosses,” and textual changes, he and others make, were done independently of ANY “**unclean spirit**” (Mark 5:2–12), “**deaf and dumb spirit**” (Mark 9:25), seducing spirit (1 Tim. 4:1–4), or “**lying spirit**” (1 Kings 22:22). Such things should never be connected with ANY man when he is busy trying to *get rid of the English text from 1611*; at least not according to any committee since 1800.

No young man that God ever called to preach, in America, since 1700, could have failed to notice this peculiar thing about the 220 mistranslations that showed up since 1880. *Satan* and *unclean spirits* are as standard, as orthodox, as common, and as often mentioned in *any* translation of *any* Bible as angels, cherubim, miraculous healings, visions, and apostasy. If God had placed in any American minister’s hand the first Bible ever published on this continent, he would have found in its preface a WARNING against the “**man of sin**” and *two* types of professing Christians who would attack their “*Authorized*” *Version*: straight-laced, five-point “TULIP” Calvinists and *Roman Catholics*.

They are mentioned negatively as enemies of the truth. No such preface occurs in *one* edition of *any* contemporary corruption of the Holy Bible (*NKJV, RV, RSV, NRSV, ASV, CEV, NASV, NEB, NWT, NIV, etc.*).

Modern Bible translators *never accuse SATAN of having anything to do with any translation*, not even with those they disagree. “Satan,” in modern Christian education, is a mythological nonentity who wouldn’t even be *interested* in the “Word of God” or the “word of God” or the “words of God” or “**the scripture of truth**” (Dan. 10:21) or “**the holy scriptures**” (Rom. 1:2). But in the Bible—any version of any translation in *any* edition of *any* language—the *main occupation* of Satan is always dealing with what God SAID (see Gen. 3:1). You couldn’t miss it.

“Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

“And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.

“Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

“He that is of God heareth GOD’S WORDS: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God” (John 8:43–47).

“And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up.... And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh AWAY THE WORD that was sown in their hearts” (Mark 4:4,15).

“And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, BUT BY EVERY WORD of God...For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee” (Luke 4:4,10).

You couldn’t miss that unless you had attended a *Christian University or Seminary* or “pow-wowwed” with five-point Calvinists from Princeton, Westminster, Grace Seminary, Dallas Seminary, Bob Jones University, or Roman Catholics: the authors of Vaticanus and Sinaiticus and the *Apocrypha*, the Jesuit Rheims translators of 1582, and the extreme pro-Catholic editor of the ASV of 1901, Phillip Schaff.

The AV warned you about all of them in 1611.

So when the God-called preacher joins “the ranks” of the “Wehrmacht Des Herrn” (“The army of the Lord”), he comes face to face with the AUTHOR of sin, death, and damnation.

“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil” (Heb. 2:14).

“And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received NOT THE LOVE OF THE TRUTH, that they might be saved.

“And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE A LIE:

“That they all might be damned who BELIEVED NOT THE TRUTH, but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (2 Thess. 2:10–12).

And the **“god of THIS WORLD”**—see the list of your three enemies above—is first and *primarily* interested in taking the WORDS of God out of your HEART (Mark 4:15), out of your MIND (Psa. 1:2), out of your MOUTH (John 6:63; 1 Pet. 4:11), out of your PULPIT (Amos 7:10–13), and out of your LIBRARY (2 Chron. 34:15), and then your NATION.

Is that clear?

Never mind your *debts* just yet; never mind you or your *family* just yet; never mind your *income* or your connections just yet; never mind your “image” or your reputation or your *education* just yet. Get ONE THING RIGHT at the start. You have been drafted (Jer. 1:4–10), or you have volunteered (Acts 9:6) to join an ARMY (Exod. 12:51; James 5:4); in an ARMY, *a soldier has to have a WEAPON* if he is going to FIGHT (Eph. 6:10–17). Therefore the *first thing* Satan will do with you after you have been called to preach is *disarm* you; he will accomplish this in some circle of *higher Christian education*. He has

been doing this for 124 years in England and America.

Count on it; *bet on it*. Satan is an old “bounty hunter.” He has been at it for centuries. He won’t fail to disarm you if he can. He disarmed your first parents by giving them KNOWLEDGE and WISDOM (Gen. 3:5). That was the *means* by which the inhabitants of five continents rejected the New Testament Gospel between A.D. 33 and A.D. 2005.

“For after that in the wisdom of God the world BY WISDOM knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe” (1 Cor. 1:21).

All right, here are the enemy’s “dispositions”: *THE WORLD*.

Read the following verses and read them carefully. Make sure that you read them out of a *King James Authorized Version*, for in every New Testament book I am about to quote, SOME truth has been either *omitted* or *perverted* or *overlooked* or *destroyed* by every corrupt English translation since 1880.

This is what the “preacher” is to know about “the world” in which he is going to have to minister. No minister’s “education” can begin properly until he fully understands what he is IN and what he is “up against.” *It is 100 percent NEGATIVE*, like Eve’s “seminary” (Gen. 3:6).

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

“And be not CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (Rom. 12:1–2).

“In whom the GOD OF THIS WORLD hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them” (2 Cor. 4:4).

“Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this PRESENT EVIL WORLD, according to the will of God and our Father” (Gal. 1:4).

“For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved THIS PRESENT WORLD, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia” (2 Tim. 4:10).

“I pray for them: I PRAY NOT FOR THE WORLD, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine” (John 17:9).

“I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I AM NOT OF THE WORLD” (John 17:14).

“And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not;

“And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of THIS WORLD PASSETH AWAY” (1 Cor. 7:30–31).

“Understandeth thou what thou readest?”

Any evangelist, missionary, pastor, or preacher who doesn’t take the Biblical position *against the world system*, in which he will live, minister, and die, is a TRAITOR to his

calling.

Is *that* clear? Do you understand *that*?

Not one major Christian celebrity in America out of ten does, at least he doesn't ACT or SPEAK according to *that* Biblical information.

“Love NOT THE WORLD, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is NOT in him” (1 John 2:15).

“Who is he that OVERCOMETH THE WORLD, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?” (1 John 5:5).

“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4).

“Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world” (1 Cor. 5:10).

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself UNSPOTTED FROM THE WORLD” (James 1:27).

“Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world” (1 Pet. 5:9).

The **“world”** spoken of in those passages is not the “earth” as in nature, people, animals, or topography. This **“world”** is the “*kosmos*”—the *world system*, which is totally controlled from top to bottom by the greatest higher critic of the *King James Bible* who ever appeared in the universe. You don't have to guess *who* it is unless you are on a Bible revision committee or were on one since 1880.

For the benefit of every Christian—not just some young man called to preach—I am reproducing here what I consider to be the best definition and explanation of the word **“world”** as found in the above Biblical quotations. This is a masterpiece of Scriptural truth and brevity that is so true and so powerful that no daily newspaper, TV channel, news “weekly” (*Time, Life, U.S. News and World Report, People*, etc.) would dare print it with the verses that explain it, for it runs 180 degrees opposite to everything taught in every public school from kindergarten to post-grad.

“Kosmos.” *Summary*: “In the sense of the present world system, the ethically bad sense of the word refers to the ‘order,’ ‘arrangement,’ under which Satan has organized the world of unbelieving mankind upon his cosmic principles of force, greed, selfishness, ambition, and pleasure. This world system is imposing and powerful with armies and fleets; is often *outwardly religious*, scientific, cultured, and elegant; but, seething with national and commercial rivalries and ambitions, *it is upheld in any real crisis only by armed force*, and is dominated by Satanic principle.”

That was C. I. Scofield's note on Revelation 14, page 1342, in the *Old Scofield Reference Bible* of 1909.

Its publication was followed by World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Kuwait,

Iraq, and eighty-nine more wars, plus the killing of more than 50,000,000 unarmed men, women, and children (genocides), the end of the gold standard, the repeal of prohibition, cannibalism in Russia, China, Africa, an American divorce rate of one out of two, with sex perverts pretending they were “Mr. and Mrs.,” etc., and more than 2,000,000 abortions a year.

That is a *sample* of Satan’s “kingdom come, his will be done.”

It also was accomplished by more than 100 perversions of the *King James Authorized Version* (1929–2005).

Young man! You are “up against it”! That is *the first thing* you need to know if you pick up a Bible and say you are called to preach it.

They said to Martin Luther, back in the sixteenth century, “Don’t you know the whole world is against you?” The old Kraut snorted and said, “*All right, then I am against it.*” He was kin to the “**Antipas**” of Revelation. (That word means “against everything.”) Luther’s favorite passage of Scripture would be about as acceptable today to the multiple councils, fellowships, conventions, and ecumenical movements as Farragut’s “Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!”

Here was Luther’s favorite verse out of 31,000-plus verses.

“They compassed me about; yea, they compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

“They compassed me about like bees; they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them” (Psa. 118:11–12).

The second “echelon” of enemy troops assemble under the title of “*THE FLESH.*” We shall devote an entire chapter to that subject.

Chapter 4

“If Ye Live After the Flesh, Ye Shall Die”

The verse above was aimed at a *saved Christian*. It shows that Romans 8:1 in the *King James’s* text is *correct* and the Scofield note on it is *incorrect*. *Notwithstanding, all of the new “Bibles” deleted this Biblical revelation* by using Jehudi’s penknife (Jer. 36:23) to dissect the verse. They all removed the warning found *again* in verse 13: they omitted (see Gen. 3) **“who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit.”**

Do you get the message yet, that you got from reading the last five pages? *Omissions are the hallmark of all apostates* chin deep in apostasy (see notes on Romans 6:11 in that Commentary and notes of John 16:9 in that Commentary).

Now the **“flesh”** is common to all men. Men are referred to as **“all flesh”** in Genesis 6:12 so they all go **“the way of all the earth”** (1 Kings 2:2). **“All flesh is as grass”** (1 Pet. 1:24). Contrary to everything taught in every public school and via every major public news outlet, the greatest follower of Jesus Christ said, **“in my FLESH...dwelleth NO good thing”** (Rom. 7:18). One hundred percent negative.

Paul said he belonged to a group who believed in the power of negative thinking, for they all “rejoiced in the Lord Jesus Christ” and put **“no confidence in the FLESH”** (Phil. 3:3). The great “god” of modern educators (“the measure of all things”) is described in the Book as **“a worm”** (Job 25:6; Psa. 22:6). (In the Marines, this is “MAGGOT!”) **“Man”** is a wild jackass (Job 11:12), a poisonous snake (Matt. 23:33—Jesus Christ’s terminology), whose *eyes* are rotten (2 Pet. 2:14), whose *ears* are rotten (2 Tim. 4:3), whose *feet* are rotten (Rom. 3:15), whose *hands* are rotten (Acts 2:23), whose *throat* is rotten (Rom. 3:43), whose *mind* is rotten (Titus 1:15), whose *conscience* is rotten (1 Tim. 4:2), and whose *heart* is rotten (Jer. 17:9).

One hundred percent negative. “The measure of all things” is a “rotten apple” to the core.

Do you see why neither Democrats nor Republicans will tolerate BIBLE READING in the schools? *It would totally overthrow more than 10,000,000 books in the Library of Congress*—the entire work of psychiatry from Freud, Jung, and Pavlov to Frankl, Angyl, and Menninger, the entire work and agendas of the League of Nations (1920–1939) and the UN (1951–2004), plus every issue of *Life*, *Time*, and *National Geographic* since their inception.

And God called YOU to “preach,” did He? *Are you sure?*

There are more than 20,000 preachers and more than 20,000 priests in Europe and America who don’t preach one word of that Book where it would lower their hearers estimate of their own “image.” Ninety percent of the hirelings in this group, who *profess* to believe the Book, use the term “WE” when describing man’s *lost condition*. They do it knowing (if they are saved) *that they are lying*.

Man returns to dust because his name is “mud” (Psa. 139:15; Gen. 3:19).

Jesus Christ assumes that all of his disciples are “**evil**” by birth and nature (Matt. 7:11). Their “**flesh**” is not worth eight cents a pound.

The Holy Scriptures (AV 1611) have this to say about *your* flesh as a God-called preacher:

“Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the CHILDREN OF WRATH, even as others” (Eph. 2:3).

“For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH” (Phil. 3:3).

“That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God” (1 Pet. 4:2).

“Likewise also these FILTHY DREAMERS defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities” (Jude 8).

“What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet” (Rom. 7:7).

“So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God” (Rom. 8:8).

“For if ye live after the flesh, YE SHALL DIE: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live” (Rom. 8:13).

“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” (Gal. 5:19–21).

Note that a Christian has TWO natures, and it is his FLESHY nature that commits the sins listed in Galatians 5. They are the same sins committed by all unsaved people in 1 Corinthians 6:9–10. Did you notice *that*? The late editor of the *Sword of the Lord* (Curtis Hutson) missed it completely, as all modern, apostate Fundamentalists fail to handle Revelation 21:8 doctrinally. Revelation 21:8 says that *every born-again, saved Fundamentalist in America winds up in the Lake of Fire*.

It said **“ALL liars.”** No exceptions. Since “every man is a liar” (Rom. 3:4), how can you explain *saved liars* winding up in New Jerusalem?

You *cannot* if you learned the Bible at BJU, PCC, Tennessee Temple, Crown College, Baptist Bible College, Wheaton, Moody, Fuller, Stetson, Howard, Furman, Cedarville, Judson, Louisville, Dallas, Denver, Chicago, Ft. Worth, New Orleans, or any other apostate Alexandrian offshoot.

To “**mortify...your members**” (Col. 3:5) you have to “**die daily**” (1 Cor. 15:31) by “reckoning” a great truth which is almost impossible to “**reckon.**”

“**Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord**” (Rom. 6:11).

If you get nothing straight about sin, righteousness, godliness, ungodliness, trespasses, guilt, etc., but *this*, get *this*: AFTER salvation sin can only affect the *fleshy part* of you (Gal. 6:7–8). The guilty sinner who commits sin IN YOU, is *not* “YOU” (according to the Apostle Paul, Rom. 7:20–25); *it is SIN in you*, which is IN you and will stay in you till it *kills* you (Rom. 6:23).

Every *unsaved man* to whom you preach, commits sins HIMSELF, for he is a part of “himself,” being stuck to his flesh. Sins, therefore, affect his SOUL and his SPIRIT (see 1 Thess. 5:23 and comments in that Commentary).

It is the *spiritual cutting away* (circumcision, Col. 2:12) that takes place during the New Birth that *separates your soul from your flesh* (Col. 2:11). “**Fleshly lusts...war against the soul**” (1 Pet. 2:11) because you are still physically “**in the flesh**” (see 2 Cor. 10:3), but they cannot be charged to your soul. Your soul is “YOU,” and “YOU” have been *cut loose* from your flesh *spiritually* (see Rom. 7:1–4).

That is what Curtis Hutson and John R. Rice and the whole crew of “relative truths” from “multiple authorities” (the Scholars’ Union) ran into that none of them could handle. An unsaved sinner *is* a LIAR. A saved sinner “LIES,” but he is not a “LIAR” (Rev. 21:8). *He is a Christian* (see Rom. 6:1–8 in that Commentary).

Now, the “**flesh**” is common to saved and lost, but in the ministry, its power is greatly aggravated and *increased* along with two other professions: doctors and lawyers.

Now, in those three professions, the *male* is continually exposed to “compromising situations”—or in the modern vernacular, “to become a WOMANIZER.” (That is the twenty-first century popular “double speak” for “fornicating whoremonger” or “whorehopper.” My generation [1921–1951] were much plainer talkers than the last two [1951–1981 and 1981–2005].)

Ministers, especially pastors, nearly always have to deal with four times as many *women* as they do men. Most large Protestant churches these days, outside of a handful of independent Baptist works, sport five women for every male in the place.

Again, in nearly every State in the Union, from 1776 to 1964, the men did most of the daytime work while the women either went to school, acted as stenographers or nurses, or took care of their families at home. “Progressive education” (evolution) and “behavioristic psychology” (evolution) fixed that.

The average “staff” you run into these days doing business in a telephone company, a power company, a newspaper office, or a bank is *90 percent women*. They now can be found, by the dozen, on police forces, highway construction gangs, rifle platoons, on submarines, destroyers, cruisers, and *weight lifting* spas, karate dojos, and on *football teams* (evolution).

But a pastor making “visits” in the daytime will normally find no one at home but the

wife, if the husband has any kind of a job at all. Further, most of the counseling problems you will have with families will begin with a *woman* getting upset about something. This constant having to deal with *females* instead of men created (between 1900 and 1990) a peculiar FEMALE type of preaching and pastoring. It did away, to a large extent, with any real *manly PREACHING*. *Real* preaching will often get Stephen-results or Paul-results (see Acts 7:58 and 16:22). Most modern preaching is just “rapping”—“reaching out and communicating” with rich, middle-class Christians to impress them with your vocabulary and your “manners.” *You are selling your personality*. Rick Warren is an A-1 sample.

Doctors have to deal with all kinds of women, all ages, all colors, from all walks of life; and many of them deal with women who are naked or partially naked. Human nature being what it is, you do not have to guess at what goes on behind the public’s back in many “medical” circles. *Ditto with the lawyers*. They are constantly brought into close and intimate contact with young and old divorcees, and constantly having to discuss and deal with problems of such an intimate nature that no one but a husband should have any business discussing them. This leaves the door wide open for the FLESH to exert itself; *believe me it does*.

In full-time evangelistic work, the evangelist will find himself away from his wife and family a good bit of the time. He will frequent motels and hotels at all hours of the night, unless he travels in a Winnebago or RV. I have had the “call girls” call my rooms over the telephone after midnight on several occasions.

On one occasion, in Michigan, when the Catholic motel operator found out I was an evangelist he had one of his “room makeup” girls deposit a half a dozen *Penthouse* and *Playboy* magazines in my bureau “chest of drawers.” On another occasion, after reporting a wild midnight party to the desk, my “next door neighbors” showed their gratitude by leaving four empty “Four Roses” bottles outside my room, *by the door*.

The last time I was propositioned by a *teenaged girl* was in Waco, Texas, during a revival meeting. The proposition was “clear cut.” I was *seventy-two years old* at the time.

A beautiful young woman contacted “Monk” Parker one time, during a revival meeting. “Monk” was a graduate of BJU and was a full-time evangelist for about thirty years. She had to see him “right away” for counseling. The need was “desperate.” Suspecting “foul play,” Parker put her off twice when she asked him to come to her apartment to “deal” with her. The *third time* she was imploring him and nearly begging him, so over the phone Monk said: “All right, I and *my wife* will be right over. We’ll be there in about thirty minutes.” There was a three second silence, and then it came through in a loud hiss: “*You s.o.b.!*” Clank! Down went the receiver!

When my wife from the unsaved days deserted me, I was thirty-eight years old and the father of three boys and two girls. At that time, I intended to get out of the ministry and into education, but the Lord had other plans.

I resigned a small church I was pastoring in Bay Minette and began to cancel my evangelistic meetings. I then offered to supply the pulpit at the Brent Baptist Church in Pensacola until they called a regular pastor. *They never did*. The Lord had other plans. I wound up pastoring a church of about 250–300 members, as a *single man* whose wife had

deserted him. I can remember thinking, at that time: “Well, I won’t have too much trouble with women; what *woman* would be interested in marrying a forty-year-old man with five children?”

Back in 1959 I had a lot to learn about women. Up till then, as an unsaved man, all I knew about them was that they were THINGS to be used, and although I had then been saved nearly ten years, I had had very little social or recreational or business dealings with women. I had been true to my wife after I got saved, but the five years *preceding that* was “something else”!

I then found out that there were fifteen and sixteen-year-old girls in the choir who were discussing what it would be like to be Brother Ruckman’s wife, and for nearly *ten years* I found myself “fleeing youthful lusts” in a manner that would make Joseph look like an amateur. They were coming at me from every quarter, just short of parachuting down my chimney. I have actually had to run out into the backyard, at night, and hide behind a tree; on two occasions, I had to stay fully dressed in the bathroom with the shower on *pretending* I was taking a bath.

The ministry has some real “FLESH” problems attached to it.

I remember distinctly an incident that took place about two years after I was saved. By that time I had read the Bible through twenty-four times, had not tasted tobacco or liquor for twenty-four months, and had, for the first time in my life, some decent looking suits, shirts, and ties. In addition I looked (*literally*, no exaggeration) more than ten years *younger* than I looked the day I was saved (March 14, 1949).

On this night, I was crossing Garden Street about two blocks west of Palafox. It was about 9 p.m., and I was on my way to an old dive where I used to play drums in a country-western band. Its new name was the “Peppermint Lounge.” I was clean-shaven, well-dressed, and carried on me a box of more than 100 “Everlasting Safety Matches” (small *imitation* safety match folders which were nothing but *gospel tracts* in disguise). I was going to go through the cocktail lounge and give the “customers” a “blessing.”

I crossed Garden and had to stop a second to let a car go by me; it had four teenaged girls in it. A couple of them whistled at me, and one girl stuck her head out the window and gave me a “come on” sign and yelled, “*Hey, I’ll take some of that!*”

A wave of bitter viciousness swept over me. (My reader could probably not understand what I am about to say.) Do you know what went through my mind when that pretty young girl gave me the “go ahead” sign? I almost spoke the thought out loud: “Yeah, you sorry blankety blank! *Where the H— were you when I needed you?!*”

You see, you would have had to come up through what I came up through to correctly “evaluate” the situation. I have spent drunken nights roaming the back alleys of New Orleans, Honolulu, Tokyo, and Manila (*literally*) looking for “laced mutton”; but I had never got an invitation like that one. I didn’t get any invitations like that one—and like the “swinger” in Waco (see above)—*until*:

1. I had *quit* drinking, cursing, and smoking.
2. I had *quit* telling dirty jokes and listening to dirty music.

3. I had *quit* stealing and gambling.
4. I had started *servicing* God and *witnessing* for Jesus Christ.
5. I had started *reading* the Bible regularly and *praying* daily.

Now! *Now they want to go to bed with me!* Now! Now that I have cleaned up and sold out to God and am trying to live for Him and please Him, *NOW* they start showing up!

Reader, take heed! Beware! *Red Alert!* The FLESH is ready, willing, and able to obey **“the god of this world.”** Young man called to preach, watch your step! God-called preachers are ATTRACTIVE to women. I will tell you why.

A. The women in your congregation will notice that you are neat, clean, and well dressed, if you are. Some of their *husbands* are sloppy.

B. They will notice that you are *courteous* to ladies and *complimentary*.

C. They will notice that you are “manly” and have courage—*if you preach straight and hard* right from the Book, without compromising.

D. They will immediately compare YOU with their husband or boy friend. You can take it from there; you can guess what happened in church after church after church since World War II.

A dozen of my closest ministerial associates had what John Rawlings called “zipper trouble.” Another four were not only close friends but young men that I trained.

I knocked at a door one time in Pensacola (about twenty years ago) and heard a woman say, “Come on in. It’s not locked.” I opened the door, and there lying on a sofa on my left side, not ten feet from the door, was a naked young woman, about twenty years old, smoking a cigarette. That was nearly *thirty years* ago. Can you imagine how things have “evolved” (evolution) *since then*?

You say, “What happened?” She smiled, and I slammed the door so hard it shook the house. If she had gotten up and opened the door, she would have seen me already in my car with another door shut and the ignition on.

In dealing with women, bad “situations” occur about which you must be careful. Don’t ever go inside a house to deal with a woman when she is *entirely* alone. Don’t go down and do personal work at the altar if a woman comes and kneels; motion for one of your Christian ladies to come and deal with her. If you can deal with her without putting your arm around her, that is comparatively safe, but a woman personal worker is better. If a woman is alone and opens the door, stay on the porch and deal with her through *the screen door* or invite her out *on the porch*. If you have to counsel any woman in your office, do it with a witness, or if a witness is not available, *leave the office door at least a FOOT open* so that no one will think you are trying to get away with anything and anyone can poke their head in. Just tell them, “I’ll be with you in a minute; I’m dealing with someone right now.”

These “fleshy” things are not limited to *sex matters*. It is the flesh that causes a man to lust for power (“pastoral authority”), lose his temper, over eat and oversleep, hoard money, covet property and buildings, and be envious of other preachers. FLESH IS FLESH.

If your own “home life” is “on the rocks,” these matters are ten times as dangerous. If you have the misfortune to be **“bound unto a wife”** (1 Cor. 7:27) that is a pain in the neck, a pain in the back, a thorn in the flesh, or a blabbermouth gossip with a tongue like a trip hammer, or—the variations are infinite—other women are going to be unusually attractive, especially if you only know them by *sight*. A good motto to go by is “Remember, my boy, that nearly everything that is *beautiful* in this life is useless: it isn’t *useful*.”

I have seen many a “head turner” in fifty-five years of traveling worldwide in company with the clientele of restaurants, boarding houses, hotels, motels, diners, airplanes, motorboats, ships, resorts, golf courses, hockey games, passenger trains, buses, artists, musicians, and “free ways”; and I have learned (*by bitter experience, brother!*) that the ravishing beauties would probably clean your plow and take \$100,000 from you while dumping you for someone else. No beauty queen is half as attractive as she *looks* if you know anything about show queens, Miss Americas, Hollywood stars, fashion models, and night club entertainers.

Make “a covenant with your eyes” as Job did (Job 31:1–10) and as Solomon recommended (Prov. 4:25–27).

One of my closest friends, a great Bible-believing, soulwinning pastor, was married to a neurotic woman who doubted her salvation all of her life while she was the “helpmeet” to a pastor who pastored over 1,000 people. The wife of another friend of mine had a “bay window” on her that would make you think she was permanently pregnant. Without having “gland trouble” she stayed a good 150 pounds overweight. (She was so fat when she *walked* you would think she was *rolling*.) Being unable to sit in a chair in church she quit coming to church. (This church didn’t have enough money to buy pews till about four years after it was founded.) The pastor finally resigned—against the will of his congregation—on the grounds that he couldn’t “rule his own house.”

I knew another pastor whose wife refused him his Biblical rights as her husband (1 Cor. 7:4–5), thereby defrauding him for nearly *twelve years*. Through that time he had to pastor 800–2,000 people and not “yield to temptation.”

Try it before you throw any stones at any one. *No, don’t try it*. Don’t be a proud, self-righteous FOOL.

He finally left her and then was condemned by all of his ministerial “brethren”; their main grounds (if I know anything about preachers) was JEALOUSY. They surely couldn’t have been stupid enough to think that *denying* a husband the rights God gave him (see 1 Cor. 7:4–5) in marriage (see Eph. 5:24) was not the exact *equivalent* of DESERTION. I guess some thought that because since the two bodies lived in the *same house* she was still “bone of his bones and flesh of his flesh” and she had not DEFRAUDED him (1 Cor. 7:5; 1 Thess. 4:6).

Personally, since I watched this brother found three churches from nothing (and they are all still operating and winning souls) and help a fellow pastor get a bad debt paid (which had been accumulated by another preacher), I believe it was pure JEALOUSY.

Jealousy is the mark of a *carnal Christian*: a FLESHY Christian. Jealousy and envy

are said to be the works of the FLESH in the Christian (see Gal. 5:19). “Envyings” (Gal. 5:21) are in the same class with the sex sins: adultery, fornication, and lasciviousness (Gal. 5:19).

Strange how some of the brethren “read” the Scriptures, isn’t it?

Many years ago (somewhere around 1955), I remember traveling around Prichard (a suburb of Mobile) with Pastor Aubrey Mitchell (a graduate of Norris’ school in Texas). We were doing personal work by making some “visits.”

Suddenly, without any previous notice, Brother Mitchell began to shake; he actually got the “tremors.” I said nothing but eyed him carefully. A little sweat popped out over one eyebrow; then he turned to me, suddenly, and said, “Don’t ever get jealous of any preacher, Brother Ruckman! *Don’t ever get jealous!*” I mumbled, “Well, well, yeah. I hope I never do. I sure try not to.” Looking back on the street in front of him, Mitchell said *loudly*: “If you see God really using some young preacher, maybe more than you, don’t get jealous of him!” I mumbled, “Sure. Sure, I’ll try not to.”

One more blast. “Whatever you do, don’t envy him! *It’ll destroy you!*”

I shut up and went back to looking at the house numbers and parked cars instead of him.

It wasn’t till six months later that I found the explanation for the outburst. J. Frank Norris had just died in a cottage on the grounds of a Christian camp (Keystone Heights) south of Jacksonville, Florida (1952). I stayed in that same cottage the year after he died. (Note the other odd coincidence in *The Full Cup* [1992, pp. 158–159]. I was baptized in *the same creek* in which J. Frank Norris was baptized.)

Aubrey Mitchell was referring to the great split in the World Baptist Fellowship that resulted in the Beauchamp Vick–Noel Smith–John Rawlings faction versus the Fleming–Norris–Entzminger faction (Springfield, Missouri and Arlington, Texas). I knew nothing about this matter at that time—nothing at all. But later I saw what he was driving at. J. Frank got *jealous* of Beauchamp Vick, and that is what he was driving at. J. Frank Norris had gotten insanely jealous of Beauchamp Vick’s power and popularity in the World Baptist Fellowship. He made up his mind to “get” Brother Vick, and he went at it tooth and nail. God “took him home.”

Now, this matter of jealousy, I have never fully understood. I don’t recall where I ever really envied *anyone* in a lifetime, with the possible exceptions of wishing I could handle myself *in combat* like Audie Murphy did, or Irwin Rommel or Chesty Puller or “Pips” Priller (Nazi Luftwaffe). Once or twice I have felt a twinge of envy when I saw the huge crowds of young people going to classes in large Christian Universities, and wondered why God only entrusted me with a couple of hundred every year. But when I considered it—*put my feet into the other fella’s moccasins*—the price I would have to pay to DO what the Hortons, the Sextons, the Joneses, and the Chapelles have *done*—I changed my mind in less than *five seconds*.

I would not want to have to raise a son like Bob Jones Jr. I certainly would not enjoy living with a woman like Beka Horton. I would not be able to fellowship with the

businessmen and politicians with whom they fellowship in order to gain control, money, power, and property. I could never stand to live in *a house* like Bob Jones Jr. and Senior lived in their last days. I could not possibly hire *one teacher* that *didn't believe the old Book from cover to cover*. I couldn't imagine enjoying life without a large family of *children*, a number of German *shepherds*, nights under the stars in the ocean and bayous with a *mullet net*, hours and days in *hockey rinks* playing "goalie," and *growing my own food*—six vegetables in the fall and fourteen in the spring.

I wouldn't trade places with *any* Christian celebrity on the face of this earth, no matter what his "plant" was worth and how large his Sunday morning crowd was.

I remember one dark night, after my first spouse left me, being seated in Chick's Barbecue (in Pensacola on Palafox) with Brother Rucker of Southside Baptist Church, where Sumner Wemp was pastoring. Brent had just called a pastor from Texas to take the pulpit that Dolphus Price had vacated back around 1958. I had been "filling the pulpit" at Brent throughout 1959 and 1960 because they couldn't find a preacher who wanted the job. The main reason was that Dolphus Price had left them with \$100,000 worth of *bad debts* plus a \$200,000 bond program that was not legally "legit." They had to pay off the bonds plus another \$100,000 in local bills.

Dolphus Price was a graduate of Tennessee Temple Schools.

The new pastor Brent had called had resigned in less than a *week* after they called him. The trouble was "Ruckman."

I asked Rucker, "What's the deal? I can work with any preacher they call. I'm getting out of the ministry. I got my transcripts from the University of Alabama and Kansas State College just last week."

Rucker says, "Well the deacons told him that, but said that you could not be a member of any church that he pastored."

"Why?" I asked.

"Well, he didn't say. He just said you had to go or he would go."

I said, "Why, I have never given *any* pastor any trouble in any church that I attended. I don't have any ambitions to run anybody, and I would cooperate with him any way he wanted in trying to get Brent back on its feet. That is where I was saved."

Rucker shook his head: "No, Pete. It ain't gonna work. He will not work with *you*." The deacons said, "If you can't give us a *reason* for kicking Ruckman out we are not going to kick him out." The pastor said, "Then *I'm resigning*. I will not take the church!" The deacons said, "Okay! *You go!*" and out he went!

I sighed and let my barbecue sit for a moment. I asked, "What is it? What is it that makes all of these birds scared to death of me?"

Rucker said, "*You're too big a dog, Ruckman.*"

I laughed at him. I said, "ME? *A big dog?* Me? Why, Rucker, you know as well as you know your own name there is not *one preacher in the United States* that would trade places with me *right now*. Family torn up, kids gone, children used against me in court,

\$80.00 a week traveling 300 miles a week to teach small Bible classes. What do you men ‘big dog’?”

Rucker just shook his head: “Too big a dog, Ruckman. You’re just too big a dog!”
Envy. Jealousy. Insanity. *Sin is madness.*

After going through a number of things with the “brethren” (see the details in *The Full Cup*, 1992), I was forced to a conclusion of which I had not even been conscious since the day of my birth. I was forced to believe that God Himself put me together in such a way as to arise instant, instinctive OPPOSITION as soon as I showed up—*anywhere*.

I never dreamed that I was *that* important—to *anyone*.

But I do remember (now) a strange interlude from the deep and dark past (somewhere around 1938).

I was running with a gang in Topeka. Most of them were from the “other side of the tracks.” I was the son of an Army Major (and then Colonel) who worked with the Chamber of Commerce, the Boy Scouts, and did Alf Landon’s “surveying” for him on his property west of town. My buddies were “right off the street,” and a couple were almost illiterate, in middle school.

One night, around 11 p.m., we were boozing at a late-night pool hall and barroom. I was with a thug named Ed Price, one of my buddies, and Lonnie Noeler, another one. At 11:30, Noeller wanted to go visit his girl friend (he was nineteen and she was sixteen; I was seventeen), so we went. She was “up,” and we sat in the living room and shot the bull about something or other (I have long ago forgotten what), and at 12:30 we drove back to the booze and the poolroom. When I got out of my side of the car and shut the door, Lonnie came storming around the front of the car yelling, “What did you do THAT for?”

I had no idea what he was talking about. I said, “What? What Lonnie? Did I do somethin’ wrong?” He doubled up his fists and yelled, “*You slammed that door!* What do you mean by slammin’ my door like that?” A small crowd was assembling, about five or six boys and a couple of girls.

My other buddy (Ed Price, who was about twenty years old) moved in on my right side but didn’t butt in.

“Gosh, Lonnie,” I said, “I didn’t slam your door!”

“*Yes you did, you s.o.b.!*”

He was three feet in front of me, ready to “put up his dukes.” I was paralyzed. This guy was one of my best friends; we had never argued about anything. I didn’t want him to be mad at me. I held nothing against him. I never even thought about “sucker punching” him. *I began to cry.* “Gee whiz, Lonnie, I wouldn’t do a thing like that. I’m sorry if I done somethin’ wrong, but, but....”

Ed Price grabbed me by the arm and said “Com’on, Ruck. Let’s go. *Let’s get outta here.*”

Whatever Lonnie had in mind never came to “fruition.” He couldn’t have handled Ed Price, and he knew it.

Well, Ed and I began a long walk home. We were about a mile and a half from my house. I was sniffin' and snufflin' all the way. "Why didn't you poke him?" Eddie growled. "He made you look like you had a yella streak."

"But Eddie," I said, "*I never had nothin' against him.* I can't hit anybody when I'm not even *mad* at 'em. What was he trying to do, Eddie? What was the matter? I didn't slam no door."

We sat down under a street light. By now it was about 1:30 in the morning. *Eddie said nothing.* I asked him several times what the trouble was, and he said nothing. He just looked down at the cement by the curb.

"Com'on, Ed," I said, "what is the trouble anyway?"

"Don't you know?" he asked.

"No, no, my God, I don't know. *I don't have any idea!*"

He was silent for a few seconds, and then, without looking at me, he said, "The trouble of it, Ruck, is YOU 'GOT IT' AND HE *DON'T*, AND HE KNOWS IT."

I have often had to refer to that night, in my memory, in dealing with some of the Lord's "big shots" (1949–2005).

Jealousy is rampant among Hollywood actors and actresses, opera singers, preachers, radio announcers, and FAGGOTS. *Jealousy is the FLESH.*

Another fleshy manifestation is the loss of TEMPER.

The "**bishop**" is told that he cannot be a "**striker**" of men: he cannot engage in "fisticuffs," as the Victorian expression goes. But you will find out, probably all too soon, that born-again Christians can be some of the *meanest devils* that ever tore up a church. I cannot speak for the very uneventful and mild "collisions" that such people as Curtis Hutson, Shelton Smith, John Rice, Bob Jones Jr., Charles Stanley, and others have had in dealing with the saints. I can only speak for myself and some of my "close associates." (See *Memoirs of a 20th Century Circuit Rider*, 1992.)

In some congregations, the children of the "dissenters" will shoot spitballs at various other kids *during the service*. Some women will sit perfectly still for thirty minutes with a screaming baby anywhere from six months old to four years, yelling right through the sermon, *without a letup*. I have seen fifty-year-old deacons lay out horizontally on the first row of pews and feign to be sleeping throughout the whole discourse. I have seen a brand new convert—a rebel, backwoods Georgia "Cracker," six feet four inches, in his overalls, stand up on the front row, pull out a six-inch skinner's knife, and yell: "Ah wants you folks there in the back row to sit down and shut up and *lemmee hear this SERMON!*"

I have had a grown man get up when I was just five minutes into a sermon and stomp down the aisle to the back door, stopping long enough before opening the vestibule door to turn and yell: "*You're crazy as Hell!*"

I have had deacons meet me outside in the dark and shake their fists in my face and say, "Next month I'm gonna get you, Ruckman! I'm gonna fix ya!" I have had deacons who threatened to *burn down my pastorium, cut off my salary*, get me "involved" with a

woman, and even take me to court and *sue me* for “hurting the testimony of the church.” I have seen one deacon punch another right in the eye during a business meeting, and I have seen an irate female slam a Christian “brother” right in the face with her *Scofield Bible*—and an old *Scofield* at that!

Tempers often run wild among saved, premillennial, Bible-believing “Baptists.” I have known of deacons who dumped sugar in the gas tank of their pastor and ladies’ auxiliaries who scheduled parties in the Sunday School rooms of the church *while I was preaching a revival in the pulpit*. I know several “brother pastors” who lost control briefly and socked one of their members in the face during a service. On one occasion I had to personally manhandle a troublemaker and give him the “bum’s rush” out a side door before I could finish my message.

When I compare my ministerial experiences as an evangelist and a pastor and a street preacher and a mission worker and a prison minister, it seems like the ministries of all the outstanding Christian celebrities around me were nothing but *playgrounds for children*; they were standard operational *business entrepreneurs*. “Purpose-driven—Promise keepers.”

I have had a loaded .45 right in my face, an open blade waved right in front of my face, threats over the phone to *bomb* the Bible institute, and bullet holes shot through my *side gate* and through my *window panes*.

Twice I have come within two or three seconds of a sure enough, knockdown, slam-bang, tooth-and-claw, “unarmed combat” exercise: one time on the street (1962), before a street meeting, and another time at 10:00 p.m. by a railroad track (1972) with an adversary I could not see because he didn’t get out of his car. That night I was so mad I was yelling for him to step out and I’d “show him a thing or two.” If it had been George Foreman or Mike Tyson I would have had a real problem on my hands.

Some of your best members will drop you if you fail to visit their mother or grandmother in the hospital when she was only in for “tests” and then for only two days. People will phone you up all hours of the day and night, and many times it is nothing but for a bullshooting session or a griper’s fest. I have had an elderly woman (about seventy years old) stand in front of me when I was trying to go through the vestibule after the service was over. There, loudly expressing herself before about forty people, she yelled, “*God is all through with you, Peter Ruckman! He has taken your wife and taken your family, and you are on the shelf permanently!*”

That stupid old hag yelled that back in 1957.

I didn’t smack her or her husband—who was standing there just as mousy and as mealy-mouthed as Mr. Milquetoast (a cartoon character from the 1930s). I just compressed my lips and said, “*Merry Christmas, Mrs.....!*” and went out the door. For weeks after that, the biggest gossip in the church was, “Did you hear how terribly Brother Ruckman treated Mrs.....? He said, ‘*Merry Christmas!*’ to her!”

I have seen a *mob* assemble outside a church to finish off me and the pastor. And I mean they were armed with rakes, hoes, shotguns, pistols, and .22 rifles. The pastor had insulted two families in the church by telling their teenaged kids to shut up during the

message.

When I look back on fifty-five years of ministering as a pastor, Bible teacher, missionary evangelist, rescue mission worker, street preacher, and jail minister, it seems that my contemporary ministerial and scholarly critics simply have had so little experience in *LIVING* or anything that deals with a *Bible ministry* that I would be wasting my time even to consider their opinions—*about anything*.

Read these verses carefully and memorize them:

“For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, NOT SOON ANGRY, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre” (Titus 1:7).

“But I say unto you, That whosoever is ANGRY with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire” (Matt. 5:22).

“Be not hasty in thy spirit to be ANGRY: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools” (Ecc. 7:9).

“And when he had looked round about on them WITH ANGER, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other” (Mark 3:5).

“BE YE ANGRY, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath” (Eph. 4:26).

Righteous anger is being zealous for the truth. Self-righteous anger is “THE FLESH.”

Chapter 5

His Majesty, the Devil

Your last enemy, the most powerful and frightening of them all, will be Satan, who succeeded in scaring the *NIV* committee so badly that they worshipped *him* by giving him one of Jesus Christ's *titles* (the "morning star." See Rev. 22:16 and Isa. 14:12 in the *NIV*).

You cannot "take this one" on by yourself (Job 41:10). If you could even *see him* you would faint (Job 41:9). So the "godly" Christian scholars on the *NIV* committee converted Satan into a "crocodile" so he wouldn't interfere with their perversions of 1 Thessalonians 5:22; 1 Timothy 6:10,20; Romans 1:18,25; Acts 1:3; John 3:13; Acts 4:27,30; John 1:18, etc.

Satan is not only not to be taken "lightly;" he is to be taken *dead seriously* every time he makes a decision. Victory can only be had in and through Jesus Christ (John 16:33; Eph. 6:10; 1 John 5:4–5; Phil. 4:13), for Satan is the champion of all champions when it comes to his dealings with MEN. He knocked every saint out of the "ring," no matter which one got in the ring with him. He will mop *you* up without any more effort than he knocked out Simon Peter (Matt. 26), Lot (2 Pet. 2), David (2 Sam. 12), Moses (Num. 20), Joshua (Josh. 7), Daniel (Dan. 2:46), Jacob (Gen. 47:9), Noah (Gen. 9), Isaac (Gen. 26:7), Samson (Judg. 16), and Paul (Acts 22:18–21, 24:27).

Satan got a "K.O." on Adam, Aaron, Job, Samuel, Saul, Ahab, Jeremiah, Solomon, Judah, Martin Luther, Billy Sunday, Dwight Moody, your mother and father, your sons and your daughters, your grandfather and grandmother, all their relatives, and YOU. Being a God-called minister is not going to *reduce* HIS power or HIS authority or HIS wisdom or HIS hatred for you and the Book one atom. Just because the One in you is "**greater... than he that is in the world**" doesn't guarantee ANYTHING except salvation!

That verse (1 John 4:4) is a *Charismatic cliché* to prove that Satan cannot get into the BODY of a Christian. He certainly *can* (Acts 5:3) and certainly *does* (1 Cor. 5:4–5) to the extent that Paul said "**in my flesh...DWELLETH NO GOOD THING**" (Rom. 7:18).

While blubbering and blabbering about "demon *oppression*" and "demon *obsession*" and "demon *possession*"—and claiming boldly that "no Christian can be demon possessed"—the stupid, carnal, fleshy, corrupt Bible "exegetes" *forget* to tell you that although Satan cannot damn your soul after you are born again he can get:

1. Your ministry (Demas).
2. Your testimony (Lot).
3. Your joy (David).
4. Your witness (Simon Peter).
5. Your money and property (Lot).
6. Your heavenly rewards (2 John 8).
7. Your inheritance (Col. 3:24; Eph. 5:5; 1 Cor. 6:9–10).

8. Your family (Samuel).
9. Your health (1 Cor. 11:30).
10. Your LIFE (Rom. 8:13; 1 Cor. 11:30; 1 John 5:16).

I'll tell you what to do. Get some stupid Charismatic to lose *all TEN of those items* and then let him preach a victory sermon on “*Thank God no Christian can be demon POSSESSED!*” because “**greater is he that is in you, than.... etc.**”

Satan works by *three methods*, and since “**we are not ignorant of his devices**” (2 Cor. 2:11), we know what all three are:

1. *Camouflage* (Ezek. 28:12; Matt. 16:23).
2. *Counterfeit* (2 Cor. 11).
3. *Compromise* (see Pharaoh vs. Moses in *The Bible Believer's Commentary on Exodus*, 1974, pp. 124–209).

You won't find these things discussed in any modern book on “Preacher and Preaching” or “Church Planting” or “Pastors' Schools.” *Satan makes sure he remains under cover when trying to destroy Biblical ministries.* He does a remarkable job of it; and if you don't believe that, obtain 2,000 pages of *documented evidence* in the following publications from the Bible Baptist Bookstore: *The Unknown Bible*, *The Last Grenade*, *How to Teach the “Original” Greek*, *The Damnation of a Nation*, *Roots and Methodology*, *Discrimination: the Key to Sanity*, *The Christian Liars' Library*, *The Scholarship Only Controversy*, and the *Bible Believer's Commentaries on Genesis, Job, Psalms, Matthew, and Hebrews.*

Camouflage means “cover-up.” It means “a fog of verbiage” or “rhetorical double-speak” or “news media *buzz words.*” It means “*pretend* that devils and the Devil don't exist and never have.” It means “there is a natural explanation for all ‘devilment’ and it has nothing to do with ‘devils’.” It is due to lack of “knowledge” and “education.” It means the only enemies you have are “ignorance and flesh and blood” enemies (but see Eph. 6:10–12; Isa. 24:21; and Dan. 10), so just rid yourself of the baloney in the Bible about “**principalities,**” and “**powers,**” and “**spiritual wickedness in high places.**”

Counterfeit means an “imitation” of something. Observe that *all* of the rotten English revisions since 1880—*all* of them are rotten—have converted the God-following Christian (1 Cor. 11:1) to a *God-IMITATING Christian.* This was the work of the faculty members of every Christian school that recommended an *NASV* or *NIV* to ministerial students.

They produced the fruit that their “**tree**” produces—IMITATION fruit: imitation *preachers*, imitation *holiness*, imitation *speech*, and imitation *conduct.* Paul was NOT the greatest “imitator” of Jesus Christ or God. Jesus never told *any* modern, Bible-perverting, apostate Fundamentalist to “imitate” Him. He said “**FOLLOW ME.**”

Catholicism's “Mary” is an *imitation* Mary; not a *Biblical* Mary.

The Jehovah's Witnesses “Jehovah” is an *imitation* “Jehovah,” not the Jehovah of Exodus and Zechariah.

The “local churches” set up by Presbyterians, Methodists, Charismatics, and

Anglicans are imitation *local churches*; not the kind of local churches that Paul set up all over Asia Minor.

The *ASV, NASV, RSV, NRSV, RV, and NIV* are imitation *Bibles*; they are not **“THE HOLY SCRIPTURES”** that the Bereans (Acts 17:11), the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:32), Paul (Gal. 3:8), and Christ Himself (Luke 4:21) “used” or read.

No handbook on the work of a pastor or evangelist would be complete without noting the *first main thing* about the preacher’s first and *greatest* adversary with whom he will have to deal all of his life. The first thing he must know is that this adversary *is the most “CHRIST-LIKE” spiritual being in existence.*

When it comes to “imitating” Christ, the Holy Scriptures declare that *Satan* is the supreme “imitator.” Now observe what the *King James 1611 Bible* says about the readings in the *ASV, NASV, RSV, NRSV, NIV, and the NKJV!*

1. Jesus Christ is **“THE angel of God”** (Acts 27:23). Satan is transformed as **“AN angel of light”** (2 Cor. 11:14).

2. **“God is light”** (1 John 1:5). That is what Lucifer means: a “light bearer” (Isa. 14:11–12).

3. Jesus is **“the LION of the tribe of Juda”** (Rev. 5:5). The word **“Juda”** is **“Judas”** in any Greek New Testament (Matt. 1:3; John 6:71). He was the **“SON OF PERDITION”** (2 Thess. 2:3; John 17:12). Satan goes about **“as a roaring LION”** (1 Pet. 5:8).

4. Jesus Christ has a BRIDE who is a CITY (Rev. 21–22). Satan has a BRIDE who is a CITY (Rev. 17).

5. Jesus Christ is a **“PRINCE”** (Dan. 9:25). Satan is a **“PRINCE”** (John 14:30).

6. Jesus Christ is a **“KING”** (Matt. 25:34). Satan is a **“KING”** (Job 41:34). One of his greatest Old Testament types is Nebuchadnezzar who is also **“a king of kings”** (Ezek. 26:7).

And you think the *NASV* and the *NKJV* are “Bibles” when they told you to **“IMITATE”** God?

7. Jesus Christ was the Messiah (*Christos*: “anointed” One). The Devil was an anointed “Christ” (see Ezek. 28:14; Luke 2:26; and Acts 4:26).

8. Jesus ministered as a man for *forty-two months*. That is exactly how long Satan (as a MAN, Isa. 14:16) will “minister” (see Rev. 13:5).

9. Christ is likened to a **“serpent”** (John 3:14). So is the Devil (Gen. 3:1; Isa. 27:1; Rev. 12:9).

10. Jesus Christ hangs on a tree (Gal. 3:13). That is where the **“son of perdition”** HANGS (Matt. 27:5).

Don’t you even THINK of entering any ministry if you are so stupid you would believe what the *NIV, NASV, and the NKJV* commanded a Christian to do in their perversions of 1 Corinthians 11:1.

Those are the same three godless, *depraved*, counterfeit Bibles that erased the only commandment in the Bible for you to *study it* (2 Tim. 2:15).

This simply means that your main adversary is so powerful *that he can control the MINDS of every saved, conservative Bible revisor who sits down to “update” your King James Bible*. That is why *all* of them (1700–2005), without *one exception*, never bring up the matter of ANY error in ANY translation being connected with *Satan. He was the head of their “committee” every time they assembled*.

The very idea of having a “Pastors’ School,” without mentioning the *6,000 year work of Satan* in ALL ministries with ten times the pressure today (Laodicea) that he put on them BEFORE the *King James Bible* showed up, at least where BELIEF in the Holy Bible is concerned.

Mark it down. The One who said **“I will be like the Most High”** has been trying for six millennia to be **“like the Most High.”** In the next decade he WILL BE **“like the Most High”** (see Dan. 11:36 and 2 Thess. 2:4). No pastor ever “overcame” Satan just because he had in himself One who was **“greater...than he that is in the world.”** **“The god of this world”** will reign over this world for forty-two months as an absolute, religious, military DICTATOR.

To accomplish this, he must follow some fake “Bible” that justifies himself for being an imitator of God (1 Cor. 11:1 in the *NKJV*, for example). This means in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries (Laodicea) that he must have:

1. An imitation **“body”** called **“the church.”**
2. Imitation **“apostles”** (2 Cor. 11; Rev. 2:2).
3. Imitation **“signs and wonders, and...miracles”** (2 Cor. 12:12; Heb. 2:4; Rev. 16:14).
4. An imitation supreme Deity called **“Holy Father”** (John 17:11).
5. Imitation **“ministers”** (2 Cor. 11).
6. An imitation *Bible* (*RV, RSV, NRSV, NWT, NEB, NKJV, ASV, NASV, NIV*).
7. Imitation “Christian” *music* (Dan. 3; Rev. 13:15).
8. Imitation Bible teachers (White, Willmington, Cloud, Custer, et al.).
9. Imitation *Christians* (Hosea 5:7; Deut. 32:5).

He will have to have all of those things if he is going to **“be like the Most High.”** The *NIV* and *NASV* advised you to follow Satan’s example (1 Cor. 11:1).

Read the following verses carefully and make sure you get them from one Book and ONE Book *only*—and it will *not* be any Greek or Hebrew testament published by ANYONE.

“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the WILES OF THE DEVIL” (Eph. 6:11).

“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which DECEIVETH THE WHOLE WORLD: he was cast out into the earth, and his

angels were cast out with him” (Rev. 12:9).

“And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, SATAN COMETH IMMEDIATELY, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts” (Mark 4:15).

“Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, THAT SATAN TEMPT YOU NOT for your incontinency” (1 Cor. 7:5).

“Lest SATAN SHOULD GET AN ADVANTAGE of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices” (2 Cor. 2:11).

“And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, THE MESSENGER OF SATAN to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure” (2 Cor. 12:7).

“Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; BUT SATAN HINDERED US” (1 Thess. 2:18).

“Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and LYING WONDERS,

“And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

“And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE A LIE:

“That they all might be DAMNED who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

“But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth” (2 Thess. 2:9–13).

“But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart TO LIE TO THE HOLY GHOST, and to keep back part of the price of the land?” (Acts 5:3).

Satan will use your wife, your mother and father, your pastor, your husband, your children, your priest, your government, your church, your employer, and your best friend (see Matt. 16 if you think I am just “talking”) to sidetrack you from the directive will of God for your life (see comments under Rom. 12:1–2 in that Commentary).

Chapter 6

A Brief Survey of Some Major Ministries

Today, there are a dozen Biblical ministries that did not exist in Paul's day, so when we talk about the "call to preach," we are not always referring to a *pastor's call* or even a traveling evangelist's call. "Preachers" are needed in service men's centers, rescue missions, youth camps, classrooms, "cottage" prayer meetings, Army and Navy installations, street corners, prisons, rest homes, etc.

I will list the *advantages* and *disadvantages* of FIVE major ministries, the first two being the most important ones. Personally, I have had years of experience in *four* of these five fields but only a "touch" of the missionary field.

When a young man attends PBI he is not turned over to some pastors who have spent two to ten years pastoring while taking two "revivals" a year "on the side." He is turned over to an old "junk yard dog" who has slept with the bums in the "dorm," while *preaching to them*, gone out and tracked them down on the street at night, ate two meals a day *with them* in the mess hall, and prayed with them at the altar. I wouldn't consider ANY pastor in America worth his weight in butterflies if he didn't preach regularly in *prisons* (that is where 300,000 Americans live) and on the *street* (every God-called preacher in both Testaments was an open-air preacher: Elijah, Elisha, Noah, Jeremiah, Micaiah, Amos, Peter, Paul, Silas, Barnabas, Isaiah, Jonah, and Jesus Christ Himself).

I started three local, Bible-believing, Baptist churches in America, and all three are active *now* and getting sinners saved. There are sixty-four young men that I trained to preach who are now on thirty-two fields preaching in eighteen different languages—on the street.

[Forgive me for speaking foolishly (2 Cor. 12:11). Paul had the same trouble at times (2 Cor. 11:17–19). If you can put up with *him*, bless God, you can put up with *me* for twenty seconds!]

ADVANTAGES OF THE PASTORATE

1. Time to be with your *family* if you have one.
2. A *regular* income or salary of some kind.
3. Some *real* friends (sometimes not many!), nearby, who can help you out in times of trouble: church troubles, money troubles, health troubles, children troubles, etc.
4. Time to watch your converts and church members *grow in grace* and become strong Christians.

That last thing is the most important thing. Evangelists are "hit and run" drivers and rarely get to see the *results* of their preaching, especially on children that get saved around five to ten-years-old. A pastor (especially pastors who do not have "flocks" much bigger

than 200 “sheep”) can actually *see* a delinquent straighten up, dump his drugs and womanizing, and grow into a clean-cut, soulwinning young man who witnesses for Jesus Christ. *I have seen it scores of times.*

It is true many converts wind up like Demas or Lot, but one convert like Billy Graham or Charles Haddon Spurgeon (see p. 18) is worth a lot of “misfires.” I have trained young men who had “done time” or been on dope (or both) and have seen them marry Christian girls and enter *full-time ministries* as prison ministers, pastors, and foreign missionaries.

I personally taught them, individually many times, and *watched them* through periods of four to ten years.

I know of few rewards on this earth that equal that kind of thing, and as an “old dog,” I’ve “been around” a lot of places.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE PASTORATE

1. *Small irritating tasks* found nowhere in the New Testament.

2. *Fewer* real revivals: you might be fortunate to have one every five years in country churches.

3. You have to **STAY** with trouble when it pops up. The evangelist can leave the place in the same mess it was in when he came; *you can't*.

4. Not as much time to prepare messages as you would think. A thousand “pettifogging” (British: circa 1900) details will pop up, including going around “putting out fires,” and they will eat your time up.

These days the average congregation interprets “ministering to them” as meeting their demands for *personal attention* so they can “feel good about *themselves*.” Straight, hard, sound, Biblical, doctrinal preaching in the power of the Holy Spirit, after HOURS of preparation and prayer, are not considered to be the *main part* of the “ministry.”

To accomplish this, the average “big time” pastor invites other preachers in to “carry the torch for him” because in the interim he has NOT been offending his tithers with **NEGATIVE TRUTHS**.

Yes, boys and girls, yes. Yes, there are definitely things going on in the biggest churches in the country that have nothing to do with a *Bible* ministry. I don't have one sermon in a list of 400 that has not been worked over and redone at least **FOUR** times. I have always considered the “art” of preaching to be a genuine “ART.” I didn't learn how to *paint* or *draw* by ignoring the details of the work done by Michelangelo, DeVinci, Rockwell, Howard Pyle, Franz Hals, Peter Breugel, Monet, Renoir, El Greco, Wyeth, Renoir, McCarthy, Evers, Hildebrandt, Parish, and Franzetta.

In regard to the work of a full-time evangelist (I am not speaking here of the great “city wide” revivalists like Moody, Sunday, Graham, Torrey, Finney, et al. Here, I am speaking of the kind of church evangelism carried on throughout the twentieth century by Fred Brown, Cotton Mercer, Glenn Schunk, Lester Roloff, Vance Havner, Hugh Pyle, Maze Jackson, B. R. Lakin, Monk Parker, Clifford Lewis, Samuel Gipp, John Rice, Don

Wilson, et al.):

THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN EVANGELIST

1. Lots of *traveling* and change of scenery (if you *like* that kind of thing!).
2. Plenty of *time* to study and prepare messages.
3. You can *run* from church troubles.
4. You will see more revivals or “near” revivals than *pastors* will. It is still possible to have a genuine revival in a local church or even a small town. Big cities are permanently out unless we have a depression; then you will have mob violence and armed occupation with it.

The reason why the sermons of evangelists are usually more impressive and interesting than the weekly message from your local pastor is simple. Any full-time evangelist who holds between twenty to forty meetings a year has an opportunity to preach his best messages *ten to twenty times in five years*. This means he can work on them, polish them, balance them, and improve upon them till they are genuine “works of art.” *A pastor cannot do this*. If he repeats a message more than twice in three years he will be “held to account” for it.

I have at least *three* messages that I have preached more than *one hundred times*. I have three more that I have preached at least *eighty times* and three more that I have preached at least *fifty times*. If I have taken my calling seriously, like any preacher *should*, by now I should have those nine sermons down to where no one could improve on them but the Lord.

You see, at eighty-four I still hold twenty to twenty-two “revival” meetings a year. My air mileage is 2,000,000 miles at 40,000 a year since 1953. That is eighty-three times around the equator; not counting car, bus, train, and foot mileage, *since the day of my birth*.

The nine sermons that I have worked on till further work is impossible are: Hypocrites in the Church, The Three Crosses, The White Throne Judgment, The Judgment Seat of Christ, The Prodigal Son, The Man in the Mess, God’s Woman, The Rich Man and Lazarus, and The Whole Armor of God.

DISADVANTAGES OF BEING AN EVANGELIST

1. Continual traveling expenses with *no regular income*.
2. Away from the *family* long periods unless you take them to the meetings.
3. Getting sick “on the road” and having no family doctor available, and many times no doctor you can get to in twelve hours.
4. Little or no Bible *teaching*.

There are “variables,” of course, here. Some pastors pay the traveling expenses in addition to the offering. Some evangelists take the family with them in an “R.V.,” Winnebago, or bus; however, this entails a load on the wife and the children (especially as they get into their teens) that is a tremendous “handicap” for *them*.

Since “revivals” were reduced from two and three weeks (1940–1950) to one week (1960s and 70s) and down to *weekends* (80s and 90s), no evangelist will ever have much opportunity, unless he buys radio or TV time, to do any real, deep, heavy *Bible teaching*. He will have to limit himself to a “milk ministry” (i.e.: salvation, separation, prayer, witnessing, soulwinning, getting along with the brethren, discipline in the home, the Judgment Seat of Christ, and the Rapture).

THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A FOREIGN MISSIONARY

1. Unusual opportunities to *travel* and learn how “the rest of the world” lives.
2. More time with your *family* than any other calling (see limitations below).
3. Plenty of time to *study* if you can get material to study.
4. *Separation* much easier than living in the United States or even Germany or England (see below).

Family “togetherness” usually hits snags if the missionary has growing DAUGHTERS, especially in any *Hamitic* country (any African country, Haiti, the West and East Indies) or any *Moslem* country (Iran, Iraq, Indonesia, Libya, Nigeria, Angola, Arabia, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, or Pakistan). Most missionaries leave their teenagers *in the States* when they get “high school” or “college” age. This is how PCC, BJU, and Liberty University wind up with *missionary children* in them when *not one of those three Bible-correcting Laodicean outlets has any more burden for the foreign missionaries than a five-point Calvinist or a Hyperdispensationalist*. Those three outfits spend literally millions of dollars promoting *themselves*; they all put more money into sidewalks, air conditioners, hallways, gyms, observatories, chimes, fieldhouses, swimming pools, lawns and landscaping, libraries, and dining commons in *ONE year* than they spend overseas to missionaries in *ten years*.

In regard to *separation* very few (comparatively speaking) missionaries have “zipper trouble.” Very few have to quit the field because of fornication, adultery, sex perversion, drunkenness, or drugs. The immense worldly pressure that is brought upon American pastors and evangelists makes it easy and convenient to “backslide.” *Overseas* an American missionary (especially these days) will be wide awake, alert, and “on his toes” automatically; *he will have to be*. He will constantly be in danger of being robbed on some fields, assaulted on other fields, betrayed by his native church members on other fields, messed up in his dealings from not being thoroughly acquainted with the language in other fields, and nearly always (with a few exceptions) will have no one to help him with family and money problems. It will be *him and God*, and *that* kind of life continually produces “separated living” in ANY atmosphere or environment.

Family unity and “cohesion” are absolutely essential on any foreign field (Ecc. 4:9–12; Psa. 127:3–5).

THE DISADVANTAGES OF BEING A FOREIGN MISSIONARY

1. Learning the *native language* of that country (see below).

2. *Deputation work*; traveling for months at a time trying to drum up support when 80 percent of the pastors trained at BJU, BBC, PCC, and Liberty (and forty others like them) were trained with little or NO burden for ANY mission field.

3. Learning a *foreign culture* so as not to offend the “natives” any worse than Bible preaching will offend them.

4. *Lack of money* and supplies. It has been my experience after fifty-five years in the ministry that the Christians who have the money NEVER have the “vision” and the ones who have the “vision” never have enough money to carry it out.

In fifty-six years of dealing with the saints on *three continents* and *twelve foreign countries*, plus *forty-five* of the fifty states, I have yet to meet a Christian millionaire who had the *spiritual discernment* even to spot the missionaries that were doing a *Scriptural* job and those who *weren't*. The campuses at Hyles-Anderson, Lynchburg, Greenville, Chattanooga, and others were built by RICH CHRISTIANS who thought that *buildings* and *campuses* were more important than unsaved Asiatics, Africans, and Europeans going to Hell.

“Where there is no VISION, the people perish” (Prov. 29:18).

The *alibis* are all standard: “We will be training Christian young people as *missionaries*,” “We have *courses* in missions,” “Look at all the *children of missionaries* we have attending our schools,” etc.

There is not ONE local church in America, founded by ANY graduate of Bob Jones, Stetson, Howard, Judson, Tennessee Temple, Liberty University, Cedarville, Wheaton, Furman, Dallas Theological Seminary, Louisville Baptist Seminary, Crown College, Baptist Bible College, Baptist College of America, or *any ten like them*, that has ever produced even *fifty foreign missionary families*, since 1930, who served the Lord on the field. *Not one in seventy years: 1934–2004*. That is the “missionary emphasis” given at Christian colleges, seminaries, and universities—*all of them or any of them*.

Sixty-four families for *foreign mission fields* have come out of our little metal church building down here since 1968; four more are on the way right now. With a student body (PBI) of *less than one-twentieth* or *one-thirtieth* of the other schools and an income of *less than one-fiftieth* of most of them, we were able to produce (by the grace of God and the *King James 1611 Authorized Version*) *three times as many foreign missionaries as any three churches that their graduates set up*.

That shows you the kind of “missionary emphasis” those pastors got when they were studying for the “ministry” at BJU, BBC, Liberty University, Crown College, Moody, Fuller, Baylor, Wheaton, PCC, Cedarville, Maranatha, Kings College, and Dallas

Theological Seminary.

“Where’s the beef?” (American, circa 1980s). It ain’t there. What is “there,” is HOT AIR.

The rich Christians who dumped money into those buildings had no missionary vision. They couldn’t see beyond their “portfolios.” They were as spiritually blind as a blind-bat backing into a blizzard.

In regard to *learning the language*, it may be one as difficult as Chinese, Japanese, Romanian, or Hindi. It may be a dialect like Telugu or Kannada in India, or Ilocano, Visayan, or Tagalog in the Philippines. French and Spanish are easier to learn than Norwegian or Russian. Italian and German are easier to learn than Vietnamese or Mongolian (we have young men in BOTH of those countries speaking BOTH of those languages). At any rate, it will be imperative for you to learn the language. You will NEVER be able to do as good a job without it as you will *with it*.

My young men, that I trained, can speak in Arabic, Vietnamese, Bemba, Japanese, Cambodian, Chichewa, Chinese, Tagalog, Telugu, Spanish, French, Greek, Russian, Mongolian, German, Dutch, Korean, and Ilonggo. One is now preparing to preach in Hebrew.

THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A RESCUE MISSION SUPERINTENDENT

1. You are always in complete control of the work. Your board of trustees is *limited* to raising funds for the work and supporting you.

2. You will never run out of *food* and *clothing* unless an atomic war wipes out 85 percent of the United States.

3. You will not have to do much counseling, at least not *long sessions*, and the troubles with which you deal will be *real troubles*, not petty trivia like the “brethren” will lay on you in the pastorate.

4. Being a *social work* as well as a religious work, you are entitled to “contributions” from ANY source: this includes Jewish rabbis, unsaved liberal Anglicans, Catholic bishops, and the National Association of Atheists. If the “do gooders” believe in “making the world a better place to live in”—*while rejecting the contents of both Testaments*—fine! Let them prove their sincerity by “shelling out” to help their more unfortunate “fellow men.” Bums need food and clothing and shelter and medical care.

What sincere evolutionist or Communist or atheist could object to helping supply those needs? Not one; “no, not one!”

The unlimited food and clothing come from free “pickups” going around in a pickup truck to rich homes where someone just died and making weekly and daily rounds to the grocery stores to pick up tons of food which they throw away.

THE DISADVANTAGES OF BEING A

RESCUE MISSION SUPERINTENDENT

1. Working with ungrateful sinners.
2. Very little *permanent results*, at least where the “fruits” of real conversion are in evidence.
3. *No glamour*. Rescue mission work is not even MENTIONED by the five largest fundamental colleges and universities in America. *It is mentioned nowhere in their giving, their curriculums, their conferences, their assemblies, or their “Congresses.”*
4. The constant *turnover* in personnel.
5. Being unable to have your own family live with you *in the mission*.

Bums (“street people” in the NEA) and tramps (“transients” in the news media double speak) are some of the most ungrateful people in the world. You not only owe them free room and board (without working for it); but they will gripe about the food, the beds, the chairs, the table, the weather, the cooks, the preachers, and everything else. Few ever return to a mission to thank the superintendent even after they got *saved* in his mission.

I would say, after dealing with the “knights of the open road” (American cliché, circa 1930s), in *six* different missions, through a period of fifty years (one in Memphis, one in Jacksonville, one in Charleston, one in St. Louis, one in Pensacola, and one in Blytheville, Arkansas), that you could not expect more than *one drunk out of five* to actually get the victory over the stuff on which he was hooked and live the rest of his life as a sober man. The percentage is less than that since *drugs* replaced liquor. That would be one out of five who actually experienced the New Birth as good as Billy Sunday, Mel Trotter, General William Booth, Jerry McAuley, or Pat Wilhrow ever experienced it.

My aunt, uncle, and mother were all chronic alcoholics.

THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A BIBLE TEACHER

I am here speaking of a faculty member on a *staff* at some Christian school—Seminary, Bible Institute, College, or whatever. I am not speaking of “radio pastors” (most of whom pastor *nothing*), Bible teachers who do nothing but teach the Bible on radio or television and occasionally hold “retreats” or “conferences” or “studies.” I am talking about a *full-time teacher in a religious school*.

1. *Security*. This is a regular, forty-hour-a-week, white-collar type of job with a regular salary, side benefits, insurance, and the works. Many times it includes free meals in a dining common and free rent.

2. *Regular hours*. Whether teaching two one-hour classes a day or four one-hour classes a day, breakfast, dinner, and lunch can be with the family and so can the evenings.

3. No responsibilities to speak of outside of the classroom. You are *not* responsible for the economic or spiritual failure (*or success*) of the institution, and if you are “academically,” you will soon be replaced. If you keep your nose out of other teachers’ business and tend to your own courses, you will have no unusual problems with which *any*

profession doesn't deal.

4. If you have the good fortune to land on a faculty where they allow you to stick up for the *King James Bible* and defend it, you will learn as much from *teaching* your students as they learn from you, *and even more*. No Bible teacher can spend hours and hours pouring over Scriptures that *he believes* are “**THE HOLY SCRIPTURES**” (see Rom. 1:2) without *growing spiritually* (Acts 20:32).

You will find your entire life immersed and soaked in *absolute truth* with no end to the revelations if God *wants* to give them to you. It is (according to “Uncle” Bud Robinson, an old-time Nazarene preacher) like a bumblebee loose in ten acres of clover all by himself.

THE DISADVANTAGES OF BEING A BIBLE TEACHER

1. *Paperwork*. If you are hired by a College, Seminary, or University it will be roll calls, attendance records, daily or weekly grades, grades on finals, absent excuses, permission slips, etc., plus the printing of syllabuses and test papers and their distribution.

2. Limited to how *much* Bible you can teach without getting “out of bounds” of the “Fundamentals.” You will not be able to take any student in to really “DEEP water” (strong meat) unless you yourself are the *head* of the school.

3. There is very little publicity or glamor in this work unless you author books *and can sell them*. The one or two “famous” faculty members at places like Bob Jones (Custer, Neal, Wisdom, Brokenshire, et al.), Tennessee Temple (Robinson, Afman, Price, Martin, et al.), and Liberty Baptist (Kroll, Hindson, Willmington, Wemp, et al.) are what we call “long tenure *apostates*” who get permanently “solidified” into the system. *Not one of them has ever dared to take an open stand for the King James Bible as the Final Authority for any American preacher*, and none of them ever will.

4. *Income*. Unless you are one of the senior “permanent fixtures,” with special privileges, it will be \$50 a week between 1930 and 1950, or \$100 a week between 1960 and 1980, or \$200 a week between 1990 and 2005, etc.

5. *Constant temptations to alter* the King James English text to prove the student should look to you instead of it, to prove *you* had superior knowledge than the King James translators had, and most of all, to replace it as the student's final authority **WITH THE PREFERENCES AND OPINIONS OF SCHOLARS LIKE YOURSELF**.

Now, these are brief descriptions of five different types of “preaching” ministries; there are, as we have said, others. If the God-called preacher winds up in one of these ministries he will learn the truth of what I have just written. If you want *details* on the rescue mission work obtain the ninety-minute chalk talk on “Drawing Men to Christ,” called simply “The Bottle.” If you want 171 pages of detailed information on local church evangelism obtain the work on *Memoirs of a Twentieth Century Circuit Riding Preacher* (1992), and if you want instruction on the operation of a local Bible-believing Baptist church obtain PBI's textbook called *The Local Church* (1989).

Chapter 7

The God-Called Preacher and the Book

The word “Bible” means *BOOK*. It has no reference to Greek or Hebrew manuscripts, “original autographs,” the “preserved Word of God,” or any of those shams. The word means “BOOK” as in B-O-O-K. When you say you read the “Holy Bible,” you profess to have a *Book* that is HOLY; it is never a reference to a pile of Greek or Hebrew manuscripts *that got lost somewhere back between 1000 B.C. and A.D. 200*.

The fact that 350 saved Christian scholars will *lie* about this matter (1800–2005)—they DID and DO and *will continue to do so*—should mean nothing to any pastor if God really called *him* into the ministry.

If you want to get “settled in your mind” about these matters you only need FIVE books: one by Gail Riplinger called *New Age Bible Versions*, one by Dr. Edward Hills called *Believing Bible Study*, one by Alan O’Riley called “*O Biblios!*” and two by that great arch-heretic, that cult leader of all cults, Peter S. Ruckman called *The Christian Liars’ Library* and *The “Errors” in the King James Bible*.

Now, if you are called to preach you were told to preach “**the word.**” Read these references carefully:

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing THE WORD OF TRUTH” (2 Tim. 2:15).

“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the WORD OF GOD with boldness” (Acts 4:31).

“And the WORD OF THE LORD was published throughout all the region” (Acts 13:49).

“And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth FOR THE WORD’S SAKE, immediately they are offended” (Mark 4:17).

“And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he PREACHED THE WORD unto them” (Mark 2:2).

“For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of MY WORDS, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father’s, and of the holy angels” (Luke 9:26).

“PREACH THE WORD; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.... And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (2 Tim. 4:2,4).

This is the only thing that your God *promised* to *bless* and *use*. He *may* bless and use

any number of other things, but His WORD carries the blessing with it. Read carefully—and from a *King James Bible* ONLY!:

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John” (Rev. 1:1).

“So shall MY WORD be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it” (Isa. 55:11).

“And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth FOR THE WORD’S SAKE, immediately they are offended” (Mark 4:17).

“Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through THEIR WORD” (John 17:20).

“And many more believed BECAUSE OF HIS OWN WORD” (John 4:41).

“And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called THE WORD OF GOD” (Rev. 19:13).

The *words of God*, found in a Book called **“the word of God,”** compose the most important *tool* and *weapon* you will have in the ministry.

This Holy Bible is:

1. **“Bread”** (Luke 4:4).
2. **“Meat”** (Heb. 5:12–14).
3. **“Milk”** (1 Pet. 2:2).
4. **“Water”** (Eph. 5:26).
5. **“Honey”** (Psa. 119:103).
6. **“Apples”** (Prov. 25:11).
7. A **“sword”** (Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12–13).
8. **“A hammer”** (Jer. 23:29).
9. **“Goads”** (Ecc. 12:11).
10. **“Nails”** (Ecc. 12:11).
11. **“A fire”** (Jer. 23:29).

If you examine that list you will find that it is a complete “survival” kit which could keep any man alive *anywhere on earth* in any environment under any weather conditions, crop conditions, or “wildlife” problems. Fire and water are available. Hammer and nails are available. A short sword and a long spear like a “quarter staff” or “Bo” staff (the goal) is available and then vitamins, minerals, starch, sugar, and proteins are all available.

Don’t let any educated jackass, cloned by some illiterate Fundamentalist, talk you out of your equipment.

This **“WORD OF GOD”** is composed of **“words,”** not just “fundamentals” or “main doctrines” or “essential doctrines” or “Biblical principles” or any other Disneyland cartoon invention by some egotistical Bugs Bunny who was “bugged” worse than “Bugsy” Siegel.

Read carefully! (**“Prove all things.” “Hold fast the form of sound WORDS.”**) Read from a *King James Bible*, for these **“words”** will not be found in an *RSV, NRSV, ASV, NASV, NIV, or NKJV*.

“Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Stand up and bless the LORD your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise” (Neh. 9:5).

“I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified **THY WORD ABOVE ALL THY NAME”** (Psa. 138:2).

“For the SCRIPTURE saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth” (Rom. 9:17).

“And the SCRIPTURE, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed” (Gal. 3:8).

“For ever, O LORD, **THY WORD is settled in heaven”** (Psa. 119:89).

“THY WORD** is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever”** (Psa. 119:160).

“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep **MY WORDS: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him”** (John 14:23).

“Ye shall not add unto **THE WORD which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you”** (Deut. 4:2).

“Add thou not unto **HIS WORDS, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar”** (Prov. 30:6).

“Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them **BY THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth”** (Hosea 6:5).

“Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my **WORDS in thy mouth”** (Jer. 1:9).

“Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the **WORDS of the LORD”** (Amos 8:11).

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto

according to thy word” (Psa. 119:9).

“**THY WORD** have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Psa. 119:11).

“**I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word**” (Psa. 119:16).

“**And take not THE WORD OF TRUTH** utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments” (Psa. 119:43).

“**Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy WORD**” (Psa. 119:67).

“**They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in THY WORD**” (Psa. 119:74).

“**My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in THY WORD**” (Psa. 119:81).

“**THY WORD** is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Psa. 119:105).

“**Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way**” (Psa. 119:128).

“**THY WORD** is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it” (Psa. 119:140).

“**Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in THY WORD**” (Psa. 119:148).

“**THY WORD** is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever” (Psa. 119:160).

“**My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly**” (Psa. 119:167).

These “**WORDS**”—not “the preserved Word of God”—will do *ten* things for you that no “inerrant, plenary, verbally inspired, infallible, original autographs” will ever do for you or your family or your congregation or the sinners you witness to.

1. They will make you WISE about salvation (1 Tim. 3:15).
2. They will give you the New Birth (1 Pet. 1:23).
3. They will be able to save your soul (James 1:21).
4. They will be able to build you up spiritually so you will get part of the millennial inheritance (Acts 20:32).
5. They will help you live a clean life morally (Psa. 119:9).
6. They will be able to give you faith (Rom. 10:17).
7. They can keep your body and your house and your land from exploding, and they can keep the sun and the moon from falling (Heb. 1:3) out of their sockets.
8. They can help you grow in grace in Christ (1 Pet. 2:2).
9. They can preach to you (Gal. 3:8).
10. They can show your sins and cleanse your motives (Heb. 4:12–13).

Testing time! Name me *one thing* the Catholic Church or Islam can do for you that the Book cannot do for you *without their assistance, aid, priests, advice, readers,*

interpretations, teachers, scholarship, or opinions.

The Book is “THE means of grace”; alongside it, Rome’s “holy sacraments” are nothing but pagan rituals which cannot produce *anything* Scriptural.

Never have any doubts about the WORDS in the English Scriptures (*AV, 1611*). They are to be found in any edition of a *King James Bible*, but they *cannot* be found in Jerry Falwell’s “*New*” *King James Bible* which all of his faculty and staff promoted (1980–1982) to high heaven.

Read carefully:

“Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of MY WORDS in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels” (Mark 8:38).

“Making the WORD OF GOD of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye” (Mark 7:13).

“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep MY WORDS: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him” (John 14:23).

“He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth THE WORD; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful” (Matt. 13:22).

“Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the SCRIPTURES, nor the power of God” (Matt. 22:29).

“And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the WORD OF GOD, and do it” (Luke 8:21).

“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received THE WORD OF GOD which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, THE WORD OF GOD, which effectually worketh also in you that believe” (1 Thess 2:13).

“God forbid: yea, let God be true, BUT EVERY MAN A LIAR; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged” (Rom. 3:4).

“And my speech and my preaching was NOT WITH ENTICING WORDS OF MAN’S WISDOM, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power” (1 Cor. 2:4).

“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” (Col. 2:8).

“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science FALSELY SO CALLED” (1 Tim. 6:20).

“Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me.

“And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

“Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the

stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them?

“Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the LORD will answer him that cometh ACCORDING TO THE MULTITUDE OF HIS IDOLS;

“That I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols....

“For every one of the house of Israel, or of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to enquire of him concerning me; I the LORD will answer him by myself:

“And I will set my face AGAINST THAT MAN, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

“And if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I THE LORD HAVE DECEIVED THAT PROPHET, and I will stretch out my hand upon HIM, and will DESTROY him from the midst of my people Israel.

“And they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity: THE PUNISHMENT OF THE PROPHET SHALL BE EVEN AS THE PUNISHMENT OF HIM THAT SEEKETH UNTO HIM” (Ezek. 14:1–10).

“WOE BE UNTO THE PASTORS THAT DESTROY AND SCATTER THE SHEEP OF MY PASTURE! saith the LORD.

“Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel AGAINST THE PASTORS THAT FEED MY PEOPLE; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I WILL VISIT UPON YOU THE EVIL OF YOUR DOINGS, SAITH THE LORD.

“And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

“And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD....

“Mine heart within me is broken because of the prophets; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine hath overcome, because of the LORD, and BECAUSE OF THE WORDS OF HIS HOLINESS....

“For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD.

“Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness: they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of

their visitation, saith the LORD....

“I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies...

“Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from THE PROPHETS OF JERUSALEM IS PROFANENESS GONE FORTH INTO ALL THE LAND.

“Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the WORDS of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, AND NOT OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE LORD.

“They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

“For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and HEARD HIS WORD? WHO HATH MARKED HIS WORD, AND HEARD IT...

“I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

“But if they had stood in my counsel, AND HAD CAUSED MY PEOPLE TO HEAR MY WORDS, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings....

“I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.

“How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart;

“Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal.

“The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and HE THAT HATH MY WORD, let him speak MY WORD faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

“Is not MY WORD like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

“Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal MY WORDS every one from his neighbour.

“Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith.

“Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; YET I SENT THEM NOT, NOR COMMANDED THEM: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD....

“Thus shall ye say every one to his neighbour, and every one to his brother, What hath the LORD answered? and, What hath the LORD SPOKEN?

“And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more: for every man’s word shall be his burden; FOR YE HAVE PERVERTED THE WORDS OF THE LIVING GOD, of the LORD of hosts our God....

“Therefore, behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you, and I will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence:

“And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten” (Jer. 23:1–40).

God’s estimation of His written and spoken *words* (see John 6:63 and 17:17) is that they are to be exalted above the **“name that is above every name”**; the name of His own Son (Phil. 2:9).

“Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Stand up and bless the LORD your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, WHICH IS EXALTED ABOVE ALL BLESSING AND PRAISE” (Neh. 9:5).

“I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: FOR THOU HAST MAGNIFIED THY WORD ABOVE ALL THY NAME” (Psa. 138:2).

Paul, a first class “Ruckmanite Bibliolater,” according to the faculties and staffs of the top fifty major Christian Colleges, Universities, and Seminaries in the USA, inserted the word **“scripture”** for “God” in Romans 9:17 and Galatians 3:8 and never gave James White, Doug Kutilek, Eugene Nida, Kurt Aland, A. T. Robertson, Kenneth Wuest, Arlin Horton, Theodore Letis, Donald Waite, Bob Jones Jr., David Cloud, Mike Randall, Harold Willmington, Fee, Palmer, Hodges, Pickering, Noel Smith, R. A. Torrey, Charles Stanley, or Billy Graham “the time of day” in regards to the substitution.

Let them stew in their own egotistical, apostate, Laodicean juice.

Chapter 8

The Real “Serious Student” Of the Bible

The cliché above is a standard, hackneyed expression used by all *book sellers* to sell anti-scriptural TRASH disguised as “in depth” studies in “the Scriptures.” The idea (used hundreds of times since 1800) is that the *King James Bible* is to be *used* so the common people would think you believe it, but since no “serious scholar” *believes* it to be “Scripture” for half a minute, you would do well to advance *beyond it* to the really “deep” and spiritual things revealed by “THE” Greek text or “the original Hebrew text.”

The idea is that the Holy Spirit is *unable* to reveal to you, from the 1611 AV, what He reveals constantly to its *destructive critics* who use their educations (see 1 Cor. 1:21) to pervert the “**words of the living God**” (Jer. 23:36).

A good example is: “The *serious student* of the Word of God will find this *Study Bible* (or this concordance or this lexicon or this series of “word studies” or these lectures or this new, up-to-date version, etc.) to be an *invaluable aid* in feeding the flock and leading them into the *rich pastures* of the *original languages* to better discern the *original intent* of the inspired writers.”

Which means: “Join me in my *ignorance* of the Holy Scriptures so that you, *like I*, can *explain away* any verse in a *King James Bible* that we do not *like* or cannot *understand*.” That has been “serious scholarship” since 1880.

Now here is how a God-called preacher—and don’t you try to tell me who is called and who is not, you Bible-rejecting idiot, if you can’t meet the *pastoral requirement* to be “**APT TO TEACH**” (1 Tim. 3:2)—approaches the Holy Scriptures.

A. He recognizes the fact that they are called “**the word of God,**” “**the oracles of God,**” “**the word of Christ,**” “**the word of faith,**” “**the word of truth,**” “**the word of the Lord,**” and “**the words of life.**” Seven titles. Never are the Scriptures referred to as “the Word of God.” That title is Christ’s (John 1:1–3). *All neo-orthodox apostates misapply that title.*

B. There are *five* attitudes toward the Scriptures.

1. *Roman Catholic*: it is only one of *three* conflicting authorities for the Christian. The other two are Catholic traditions and Papal decrees and encyclicals.

2. *Lutheran*: it becomes “the Word of God” when the Holy Spirit bears witness to the passage.

3. *Calvin* (Presbyterian and Reformed): it has already been *completely fulfilled in history*, so not one verse in it speaks of anything *in the future* except the last judgment; no restoration of Israel, no Judgment Seat of Christ, no Rapture, no Antichrist, no Tribulation, no mark of the beast, and no millennial reign of Christ.

4. *Humanism and Atheism*: it is a collection of myths, hymns of praise, legends, and

moral precepts and is totally untrustworthy in historical matters; it is in the same class with the *Analects of Confucius*, the *Zendavesta*, the *Puranas*, the *Tripataka*, and the *Koran*, etc.

5. *The Bible believer*: it is pure, *absolute* truth from start to finish and, *historically*, is “the truth, the whole truth, and nothing *but* the truth” wherever it deals with man’s relation to God or God’s relation to man, as well as names, dates, localities, and numbers.

“THE WORDS of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

“Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt PRESERVE THEM from this generation for ever” (Psa. 12:6–7).

“The entrance of THY WORDS giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple” (Psa. 119:130).

“THY WORD is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it” (Psa. 119:140).

“God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?” (Num. 23:19).

“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received THE WORD OF GOD which ye HEARD of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe” (1 Thess. 2:13).

A Bible believer uses the following format to correct *all* Christian and non-Christian scholarship of *any* level, sporting *any* amount of “degrees.” (Some men “die by degrees”!)

1. He never *subtracts* or *adds* a word to any text.

2. He never goes to any *scholar* for any interpretation of any text where the Bible itself *gives the interpretation* of a text in another passage.

3. He always, first, takes the *plain, literal meaning* of a text unless it is absolutely *impossible* to do so; *then* he looks for a figure or allegory or similitude in the text (see Hosea 12:10).

4. He always interprets an *incomplete statement* or revelation in the light of a *complete statement* or revelation; never in the reverse of this.

5. In examining a passage, he always asks himself: “Who is speaking?” and “To WHOM is he speaking?”

6. He always notes the *context* of any verse and never uses an obscure verse (say Acts 2:38; Matt. 16:18; Eph. 1:4; Rom. 9:16; 1 Pet. 3:21; 1 Cor. 14:14; John 21:23, etc.) for a *foundational truth*.

7. He never alters a verse *to match his own theology*; he will always adjust *his theology* to maintain the integrity of the verse—even if it makes him look like a mad man or a fool.

[If God can’t show you the absolute truth of those seven statements *right this minute*,

you have your rights to doubt that God Almighty ever called you to preach *one chapter* in the Holy Bible.]

To prove, conclusively, that any verse in the AV is in error, a prosecutor must prove “guilt.” No Christian preacher has to defend the Book until it is attacked and *then* the attacker must *prove* the defendant guilty or he (the Book in this case!) is INNOCENT. *In this case—INERRANT.*

The silly, conceited asses in the Christian Seminaries (*all of them*) have no idea what it would be like to prove an error in the AV in court unless it was a typographical error or printing error. (For example: I have one *King James Bible* that is missing four chapters in Leviticus.)

1. The apostate must prove that *his* translation is the *only possible* translation of the “erroneous” *King James* text.

2. He must show that *his* translation of the text is absolutely *correct*.

3. He must show that there are no chances *whatsoever* of reconciling the AV text with the rest of the Bible.

4. And finally, he must prove—*according to every creedal statement published by every major Christian school in America*—that the passage in the AV was not in the “original, plenary, verbally inspired original.”

Not a man breathing on this earth could do *that* with one verse in the *Authorized Holy Bible* (AV, 1611). They know it, and I know it, *and they know I know it*; and further, they know that I know that THEY know it. That is why they cuss me privately and attack me before their students where no one can “catch them in the act.” That is why they put our booklets and “news letters” where they ridicule my position but are all—*all of them for five decades*—careful to stay out of my way. They avoid my presence like a Michael Jackson or Pope Paul II would avoid a King James Bible Conference.

I have held “Open Bible Forums” more than *twenty times* within an hour or a *four-hour* drive of the Seminaries in Fort Worth, Dallas, Louisville, Chicago, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Bob Jones, PCC (five minutes drive!), and others and never had *one faculty member* show up for *one session* in fifty years. In an Open Bible Forum, I “wing it” (American humorists term; circa 1950s) “cold turkey” (American drug term, circa 1960s–1990s. It means “without aid or assistance or previous preparation).

In an “Open Bible Forum,” *anyone* in the audience is free to ask *any* question on *any* subject, with nothing barred or censored, and I guarantee a Scripture verse for an answer within *five seconds or less* after they ask the question.

I’ve done this for *fifty years* in more than 300 churches.

I never met one M.A., B.A., Ph.D., Th.M., Th.D., D.D., or Litt.D. who had the courage to come and even *attempt* to point out an error in the *King James Version*. They didn’t come when they were offered *free room-and-board and traveling expenses*.

“Chicken-Little” in Disneyland.

The God-called preacher has no trouble at all in discerning *eight* logical “divisions” to

the English text:

1. Genesis 1–2 where the *Edenic Covenant* is made.
2. Genesis 3–6 where the *Adamic Covenant* is made.
3. Genesis 8–11 where the *Noahic Covenant* is made.
4. Exodus 20–Matthew 26 where the *Mosaic Covenant* is made. This means the *Davidic Covenant* (2 Sam. 7) is part of the *Mosaic Covenant*, for it deals with the land of Canaan and its national ruler.

5. A transitional phase follows Matthew 26, which extends to Acts 7; salvation doctrines in this period are *flexible* as anyone can see by John 5:29, 15:2,6, 20:22; Luke 22:32; Acts 2:38, and 3:19.

6. The *New Covenant* was installed in Matthew 26 and applied in Matthew 28–Philemon. It is called the “Church Age,” but it contains *two applications*: one to the world (John 1:12,29; Luke 2:10) and the other to the *nation of Israel* (Heb. 8:6–8). The New Covenant is not *fully* in effect until Romans 11:26–27, and under its Israelish application to national Israel, it contains the *works of the Law* restored in temple services (see Ezek. 40–48 and note how the *NIV*, *NASV*, and similar corruptions altered Colossians 2:17 to get rid of this Scriptural application).

7. The next division is marked by the Rapture and the disappearance of the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 15; 1 Thess. 4; Rev. 4). It is called “*The Great Tribulation*,” and its doctrines are given in the “Hebrew Christian” (or “General”) epistles (Hebrews through Revelation).

They do *not* match the Pauline doctrines of free grace apart from works; see, for example, *100 verses* in Matthew 24–25; Psalm 24:3–6; Hebrews 3:12,14, 6:4–6, 10:26–31; Revelation 12:17, 14:6–7; 2 Peter 2:12; James 2:17,24; 1 John 3:8,15; Jude 10,21; Revelation 22:14, and 7:3–8.

8. The final division *begins* with the Second Advent of Christ as “**KING OF KINGS**” to sit on David’s throne in Jerusalem on the “Dome of the Rock” (Psa. 2, 110; Isa. 63; Joel 12; Jer. 25; Rev. 14, 19; Matt. 25; Luke 1:30–35, etc.). It *ends* with the White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20; Ecc. 12; Psa. 138:1–6; 2 Pet. 2:3, 9).

To learn this Holy Book, containing “**the holy scriptures**,” one should never forget that all of its verses have *three applications*.

The first is HISTORICAL which is as much to say that the contents of the verse record something that was said (or took place) that actually was *said* (or *did* take place). The second is DOCTRINAL; that is, the verse was given to teach something that is SO. If it has not taken place, it *will* take place. If it is not discernible, it will become visible. If it cannot be fully explained NOW, it will be *later* (1 Cor. 4:5). And thirdly, DEVOTIONAL. That is, you can apply nearly any verse *spiritually* to someone as a lesson to learn, a comfort in time of trouble, an encouragement to “keep on keepin’ on,” a warning to avoid sin, a need for prayer or thanksgiving, or a need to learn how to take persecution, *und so weiter* (“and so forth and so on”).

Sola Scriptura. Never forget that “**the scripture of truth**” (Dan. 10:21) is always to be the *final judge* of everything taught by any Jew, Moslem, or Catholic, or by any Buddhist, Hindu, or Humanist. That means that all of their “holy traditions” or “holy religions” are to be judged by *one standard*: “*Sola Scriptura*,” the Scriptures *alone*.

[If God cannot show you the absolute truth of *that* statement right now, *in less than ten seconds*, you have *not* been called to preach His “Holy Bible” at all. *You have been called to make a name for yourself.*]

Finally, every God-called preacher from Peter and Paul to Carl Lackey and Lester Roloff has been forced by the Holy Spirit to accept the *King James* commandment as found written in 2 Timothy 2:15—and *erased* from all new, up-to-date, “clearer” translations including the *New King James Version*.

In order to learn God’s Book a preacher must follow the following format.

1. *Contrast*. 2. *Association*. 3. *Repetition*.

Contrary to *all* systems of teaching, *all* scholarly traditions passed down from one Bible-correcting, Bible-ignoring, Bible-slighting, Bible-twisting Christian educational leader to another, the *approach* to any serious study of “**the holy scriptures**” begins with a NEGATIVE stance; that is the exact *opposite* of Eve’s approach to “knowing good and evil” (see comments on Gen. 3:6 in that Commentary).

The *Scriptural* method of studying the Scriptures, according to the Scriptures, is called “**rightly dividing**,” so *all* new Bibles removed that information from 2 Timothy 2:15. It is not found in the *NASV*, *NIV*, or any companion Alexandrian corruption.

Begin with CONTRASTS; learn to *discriminate* between “polarities.” Learn the *differences* between the covenants. Study the *differences* between the Old Testament and the New Testament. Always split, divide, *segregate*, isolate, *separate*, and divide before you make any attempt to amalgamate, synthesis, cooperate, combine, join, “reach out and touch,” “build bridges,” associate or “communicate” ANYTHING.

That is, always go 180 degrees directly contrary to *everything* recommended, taught, commanded, and practiced by the United Nations, the news media, the NEA, and all “global citizens” and “one worlders.”

Note how the Bible always sets “good” *against* “evil,” “right” against “wrong,” Satan against God, Heaven against Hell, the “just” opposite the “unjust,” the Jew and Gentile as *separate* groups, the Body of Christ and Jews and Gentiles as *separate* (“separation,” Deut. 32:7–8; Acts 17:26–27; 1 Thess. 1:9), etc. *Think negatively*. Always ask first, “What is wrong with this verse?” (Say Gen. 3:15 for example.) Why does Leviticus 11 contradict 1 Timothy 4:3–5? How could a man SEE God (Heb. 12:14; Exod. 24:10) when you *can’t* see Him (1 Tim. 6:16)? Why is God a racist (Gen. 9), a sexist (Lev. 27:1–7), and a classist (Prov. 22:2) when all news media outlets (and the Pope!) say those things are sins?

Observe that you do not approach the TEXT critically; you assume that every text you read is *correctly worded*. You are not searching for *errors in the text*; you are searching for *ways to reconcile the text with the rest of the Book* when what it says, many times (see James 2:24 and Rom. 4:5: see 2 Sam. 24:1 and 1 Chron. 21:1, for example), does NOT

match or fit the rest of the Book.

You are to study to find out *not* how to jam two verses together so they will say what you *think* they should say. That is the traditional Christian scholars' method. You are studying to find out why both verses are correct, *as worded*, even though they *appear* to contradict. You are studying to put them in their right places in your theology without touching them as far as their wording is concerned: "RIGHT DIVISION."

Israel is NOT the church. The Kingdom of God is NOT the Kingdom of Heaven. The Rapture is NOT the Advent. Salvation under the Law is NOT like salvation under Grace. Lost people are NOT "children of God." Heaven is NOT Hell. "Purgatory" and "Limbo" never existed. Mary was no more sinless than Salome or Jezebel. Knowledge is NOT *wisdom*. The New Birth is NOT *reformation*. Water baptism is NOT a *sacrament*, etc.

Find out what is "NOT so" by noting *contrasts*.

ASSOCIATIONS: Now you can assume the positive stance and see how many things you can find in the Book that *go together*—that supplement each other. Which verses are aimed directly at YOU doctrinally? Which ones are aimed directly at YOU spiritually? How many verses in Proverbs will match the material in Paul's epistles? How many verses in the Torah can you apply to a Christian and the New Testament?

What are the *similarities* (not contrasts) between the salvation of David and Abraham that are like New Testament salvation? What are the *similarities* between the Kingdom of Heaven and the Kingdom of God? What are the *similarities* between the message of Paul and the message of John the Baptist? How are the Abrahamic and Noahic covenants still in effect today?

Now THAT is "*serious Bible study*" for "*serious students of the Bible*" who "take their studies *seriously*." That pious religious garbage they issue in the *Sword of the Lord*, *Pulpit Helps*, *Christianity Today*, *Faith for the Family*, the *Bible Expositor*, or the *Biblical Examiner* is just commercial gas for putting Christians to sleep.

REPETITION: The third ingredient for learning—learning ANYTHING about ANYTHING—is REPETITION.

Once you have mastered the *differences* in the elements and the *similarities* in the elements you must keep dealing with them *repeatedly* until you "know them by heart." They must be more than memorized; they must be incorporated into your thinking processes so they become automatic: like instincts in an animal.

(I realize that none of this kind of SOP is taught in any Christian school and cannot be found in any textbooks on "the purpose driven life," "possibility thinking," "peace processes," or the "power of positive thinking," but that means nothing to me. Not once before I was saved, or *after* I was saved, was I ever concerned with any of those operations when it came to LEARNING.)

What little I have learned (and learned thoroughly) was by critical, skeptical *negative thinking*. It involved SELF-CRITICISM at every turn in the road. I had to critique *everything I did* in order to develop any kind of talent or efficiency.

From the start (1921), I never had ANY "goals" like all modern Americans have—

evidently. The thought of becoming a success or making my “first million” or winning friends or influencing people or attaining high rank or a powerful position of leadership (or control) never occurred to me ONCE in things worth working for. I have never wanted a leadership position or control over anybody, anywhere, at any time. *I don't right now.*

For some reason (1926) I wanted KNOWLEDGE, before I was saved and WISDOM *after* I got saved. Outside of that, all I was interested in was self-preservation (good health), sensual pleasure (before I was saved), and then THE SOULS OF MEN AND WOMEN (after I was saved).

Those are the absolute *limits* of my entire lifetime.

It never occurred to me that I should learn how to make friends, keep friends, impress people, control people, adjust to people, get along with people, *use* people, or even deal with people. “People” didn't even count until I was born again (March 14, 1949), and even after that I paid very little attention to them unless a crisis arose.

From the start my “goals” were to master KNOWLEDGE, and that is how I finally ran into THE BOOK that contained more real, *true*, actual, *historical* knowledge than *any* of its 22,999,999 “associates.” What I needed to know about “PEOPLE” was found in that one BOOK, and I quickly then saw the DIFFERENCE (!!) between what people ARE and what they *profess to be* (or what the “thinkers” and “intellectuals” *said* they were), including MYSELF.

Everything up to that time was learned by repetition, repetition, repetition. This included radio announcing, writing *poetry*, writing *fiction* (radio plays and short stories), dance band drumming, the *harmonica* (and later the *tuba*), bayonet fighting and hand to hand fighting, pen and pencil *cartooning* and *sketching*, water color *landscapes*, *oil portraits*, philosophy, psychology, mathematics, algebra, geometry, *tennis*, organic chemistry, *hockey*, swimming (AAU meets, *lifeguarding*, medley relays, etc.), racquet ball, close order drill, music, art, history, etc.

Nothing was mastered the first, second, or third time. All had to be gone over and repeated again and again and again for any kind of proficiency. Some mistakes were made every time, although they became much smaller mistakes every twentieth time “around.”

This is how I came to know what I know about THE BOOK.

If I have any proficiency in it at all as a Bible teacher, it is because I first noted its *CONTRASTS*—“apparent contradictions” that didn't make sense; then the *SIMILARITIES*—the things that matched or augmented each other as corollaries or supplements, and finally, by *REPETITION*—repeatedly reading from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22 more than 150 times and hearing it on my own Bible-reading cassette tapes “clear through” at least forty times.

I. *NEGATIVE*–*POSITIVE*–*REPEAT*.

II. *CRITICAL*–*APPROVAL*–*REPEAT*.

III. *DESTRUCTIVE*–*CONSTRUCTIVE*–*ACCEPTED*.

IV. *OBJECTIVE*–*SUBJECTIVE*–*INGRAINED*.

Chapter 9

The Sins of Most Saved Ministers

The second weapon the minister has (besides the Book) is *prayer*. But since this is so basic and so well covered in literally hundreds of publications we will omit comment on it here. There are books by E. M. Bounds and R. A. Torrey on prayer that are excellent. John Rice has a good book on it. The Bible Baptist Bookstore carries three chalk-talk videos from “Drawing Men to Christ” that deal with “*Real Praying*,” “*Hindrances to Prayer*,” and “*The Damning Sin of Prayerlessness*.”

For my own edification I have kept through the years (every year since 1949) a small black notebook. After singing “Count your many blessings,” several times, I decided they should be *named* “one by one,” so I *named* them. The list now numbers *185 answers to prayer*.

I *omitted* several hundred since (in most cases) any preacher who has any contact with his Master, at all, gets “small requests” answered every day; I would say probably *ten times a day, every day*. I consider the 2,006 times I have either taken off or landed on the “strip” in Pensacola to be *answers to prayer*. I have long lost track of the times that I had to pray to God to find my car keys or my billfold or my glasses or some notebook; I would say that *500 times* would be extremely conservative.

The 185 that I *recorded* were all very *important* requests. Many of them had to do with *staying in the ministry*; many of them concerned *diseases* and injury; several dozen had to do with the salvation of *individuals* or groups. Some of them dealt with *law suits*, many of them were requests for *money* when it was sorely needed, and many of them dealt with backslidden and “unruly” saints who caused me a great deal of trouble. Some of them dealt with decisions I had to make regarding *remarrying*, moving locations, *buying and selling houses and lands*, writing books, painting pictures, and *taking meetings*.

“**Great is thy faithfulness,**’ oh God, my Father!”

I will now list the *seven major sins* that are committed by born-again, saved, soulwinning, Bible-believing preachers. They will NOT be found in any Pastors’ School or textbook on preparation and delivery of sermons since “**the love of money is the root of all evil**” is connected with *five* out of *seven* and that verse has been *removed* from the “New” *King James Bible* as well as the *NASV, NIV*, and similar apostate corruptions.

1. *AMBITION*. See 3 John 9 and Proverbs 15:27. This sin was connected with “original sin” before Genesis 2. Satan will take advantage of your desire to *please God*, so he will convert “I want to be *faithful*” to “I want to accomplish GREAT THINGS for God!” Subtle, isn’t it?

2. *PRIDE*. See Isaiah 14:13–14 and Proverbs 16:18. Again “original sin” shows up. These “men of God” will be tempted to “strut their stuff” because of superior training or superior intellect or their high moral standards and “double separation.”

3. *ENVY*. See 1 Corinthians 3:3. This is the mark of the *carnal* Christian; it is directly Satanic from Isaiah 14. Check it out in *Cain's* case (1 John 2). Check it out in *Esau's* case (Gen. 27). Check it out in *Absalom's* case (2 Sam. 15). Check it out in *Saul's* case (1 Sam. 18–20). Check it out in the *Pharisee's* case (Mark 15:10, 12:7; John 12:10–11). Check it out in the *Jews' case* (Acts 13:45). Check it out in *YOUR case* (Gal. 5:21).

Envy is as common among Baptist pastors as popcorn is at a movie theatre. Ninety percent of the pastors who “hate Ruckman’s guts” do so for a simple reason, and it is not because of his married life or his preaching or his teaching. The problem is that *God is not supposed even to think of blessing a reprobate like “Ruckman”* the way He has when He could bless THEM just as well (*or better*) because of their purity—and He doesn't.

That is what “kills ‘em.”

They cannot produce the converts, the authors, the musicians, the artists, the soulwinners, the street preachers, the missionaries, the Bible scholars, nor the Bible *believers* that God lets “Ruckman” produce. (See the remarks on pp. viii and 75.)

4. *IMPATIENCE*. See Ecclesiastes 7:9, 5:2, 8:3. They cannot wait to “catch up” with the enrollment and attendance “records” of the leading Christian celebrities of their day. They want to be “record makers” and “record breakers” to prove they are *spiritual* (see comments on 1 Timothy in that Commentary).

This always causes “cut corners,” “convenient expedients,” huge debts, entanglements with rich people with no spirituality, and compromises to get attention and publicity.

5. *LAZINESS*. See Proverbs 12:27, 19:15, and 23:21 and comments in that Commentary. When they see another preacher “get away with it”—build a large congregation without doing jail work, street work, or make a half a dozen hospital calls or spend any time in sermon preparation—they “follow suit.”

6. *RESPECT OF PERSONS*. See James 2:1–4 will be order to gain income, increase attendance, buy more property, get more votes, publicity, and support. You have not heard *one sermon* by one leading TV pastor or evangelist since 1950 on 1 Timothy 6:17, and every new version recommended by every major Christian school in America (since 1901) has *removed* 1 Timothy 6:5, 6:10, and 6:20 from the Biblical text.

You live in the day of Christian millionaires—LITERALLY.

There isn't *one* found in the Book between Acts 2 and the Rapture.

7. *DISTORTING THE TRUTH*. See 2 Corinthians 2:17, 4:2, and Ephesians 4:14. This is done to prove a point, gain a name, back up some Biblical conviction, and especially to make Christians think God is using you and you are getting results when you are *not*.

Note! *Secondary separation* will not cure one sin in the list.

Note! *Orthodoxy* and belief in the fundamentals will not cure *one sin* in the list.

Note! *Education* and *intellect* will not cure *one sin* in the list.

A “man of God” can be a great *habitual* sinner without committing adultery or fornication and without supporting neo-orthodoxy or liberalism. He can be as straight as a gun barrel, outwardly, and be just as *empty* inwardly. Belief in the major (or essential)

doctrines that “can be found anywhere in the RSV, NRSV, RV, ASV, NASV, NKJV, and NIV” doesn’t solve one problem listed above. Such a belief is totally *ineffective* in dealing with SIN. It is irreverent, pagan NONSENSE.

“A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.”

To see this work out, in detail, beginning with Origen in the second century A.D., obtain *The Christian’s Handbook of Christian Scholarship* (1988) and *The History of the New Testament Church*, Vols. I and II (1980–1982).

Every Catholic Pope, Bishop, Archbishop, or Cardinal was continually guilty (lifelong) of FIVE out of seven of those sins from A.D. 400–A.D. 2005.

When you hear a preacher say, “It is good to be in the house of God,” you are IN that bracket. When you hear a preacher say, “Yes, I see that hand”—*when no hand was raised*—you are *in* that bracket. When you plant personal workers in a stadium and instruct them to come forward AHEAD of the sinners (*in order to “encourage” them to come*), you come under *that* head. When you report 1,200 in Sunday School when there were only 1,100 with fifty of them in the nursery and fifty more just dumped their wife or child off in the parking lot, you are in *that* bracket.

When the evangelist finishes and says, “Let us pray” and then starts *asking for hands, without praying*, you are in that bracket.

When your invitation is, “Make your decision FOR Christ!” or “Let Christ come into your LIFE,” you are *in* that bracket. When you take up an offering for the evangelist and he gets half of it, you are *in* that bracket. When you take up an offering for foreign missions and then use 15 percent of it to pay off your building program, you *qualify*.

Got the “drift” yet?

“The serpent was more SUBTIL than any beast...etc.”

Do you know why God often blesses this ole’ “junkyard dog” more than he blesses a lot of doubly-separated, highly-sanctified, godly “men of God” in their works? Because they don’t *THINK straight* and don’t *TALK straight* while using *their wits* (Jacob) to climb “the ladder of success.”

They alibi for their sins like a junkie peddling heroin. Do you think that Almighty God doesn’t know what is going on in these pulpits in America? What do you think your Saviour thinks of your school ad, that appears in a dozen Christian publications, where the “come-on” that you use is IDENTICAL to the “come-on” used for visiting or entering a movie theatre, a disco, a barroom, or a hotel loaded with “call girls”? What on earth would you have in mind trying to get *young men* to attend a “Christian” school (and then bragging about your ministerial association) when the “bait” you used in nearly every ad was a *pretty teenaged girl* and a *beautiful campus*?

Is *that* how Jesus Christ set up His twelve-man school to teach them (Matt. 10:1–6)? Would Paul “buy” *that* kind of “spiritual” education? Who are you trying to kid? Not me, that’s “for sure.” And if you can’t fool this old sinner, how in God’s name do you think you are going to get by HIM at the Judgment Seat of Christ?

Why you cheap, carnal *opportunist!* You are getting all your rewards *here!* That was your goal when you started!

“BE NOT DECEIVED; GOD IS NOT MOCKED.”

Chapter 10

Some Brief Notes on “Counseling”

There is only time in a book this size to touch on the very outskirts of the matter of pastoral counseling. The reason for this is two-fold. In the first place, psychological “therapy” began to replace *Biblical preaching* back between World War I and World War II (see *The Christian’s Handbook of Science and Philosophy*, 1986, pp. 157–209, 414–462).

In the second place, America morally disintegrated so rapidly after 1933 (FDR) that it became necessary for pastors to devote *half their time to simply trying to keep the families in their congregations from breaking up*. The divorce rate went from one out of ten in 1933 to one out of two in 1990.

This is called “progress” *in all Universities that teach evolution*. Similar examples are an Army composed of one-third blacks with women officers and one hundred navy “persons” having to drop out of the Navy every year for getting *pregnant*; the minimum wage rising from \$1.00 an hour to \$5.00 an hour while the price of milk went from twenty-five cents a half-gallon to \$2.00 a half-gallon and a five-cent Hershey bar went to \$1.50.

By inflationary standards, every family in America should now be getting an income tax exemption of \$4,000 apiece. Progress.

With over a million abortions a year and a plague of venereal diseases and the highest number of incarcerated criminals of any nation on earth, “the land of the free and the home of the brave” has become “the land of the faggots and the home of the dope headed fornicators.”

Most pastors have to spend more than half their time talking about “stress,” “impacting,” “exciting services,” “reaching out and touching others,” “dynamic youth tensions,” “integrating your personality,” “learning to live with yourself,” “the goddess within you,” “achieving your goals,” “finding meaningful relationships,” “sharing and caring,” “how to stay in love,” “allowing freedom of expression,” “discipline without punishment,” etc.

I would presume, from looking at the list of the speakers’ “doctorates” at a “Sword of the Lord Conference” that *God* must be sick and needs some counseling.

Heaven, Hell, the Lake of Fire, sin, blood atonement, the Second Advent, the wrath of God, God’s dealing with nations, God’s dealings with Israel, the New Birth, God’s dealings with false prophets, the dangers of Catholicism, and Bible corrupters are “also-rans.” They do not “win, place, or show” in the modern pulpit—at least not in 5,000 pulpits in America.

Instead, the pastors are busy trying to keep their families together *so their attendance will hold up*. Their families are drowning in a flood of pornography, false news reporting,

corrupt Bible versions, African sex music, drug dealers, child molesters, sodomites, crooked lawyers, illegal environmental activities, crooked politicians, dirty jokes, overeating, physical inactivity, illegal bank regulations, liquor, and adultery that would make Gibbon's Roman Empire look like Queen Victoria's England.

Who, in such a depraved hellhole, is going to be concerned about an unsaved man or woman winding up in a *real* Hell?

Well, the main problems on which a modern "man of God" will have to counsel will be:

1. *Sex problems*: marriage, divorce, abortion, birth control, adultery, sodomy, lesbianism, adultery, fornication, masturbation, desertion, and dating.

2. *Drug and alcohol problems*: possession of drugs, overdoses of drugs, dealing in drugs, getting drunk, becoming "chronic," getting violent during drinking "bouts," and damage done to the liver, kidneys, lungs, heart, nose lining, eyes, etc.

3. *Job and money problems*: choice of jobs, location of the home, rent and tax payments, debts, working "double shifts," both husband and wife having to work, hirings, firings, illegal hiring and promotion of blacks who do not meet *any* of the requirements for hiring or promotion, sexual "harassment" on jobs, etc.

In the "old days" (1800–1930) we said: "*Physical problems* should be dealt with by a *doctor*. *Mental problems* should be dealt with by a *psychiatrist*. And *spiritual problems* should be dealt with by a *minister*. P.S. Criminal problems should be dealt with by the *policemen*."

You now have the shrinks and the *news media* dealing with the criminals, brainwashed judges dealing with the criminals, the ministers dealing with the nuts, and shrinks dealing with *Christians*. The "top" ten TV preachers in America sound exactly like *amateur psychologists* hired to teach "family values" and "how to avoid divorce court."

I was twenty-seven years old with two college educations and forty-six months in the US Infantry before I heard real *Bible* preaching in America even one time. The reason for PBI's *existence* was due to the fact that I was shocked out of my shoes in 1949 when I heard, for the *very first time*, real, genuine, *Biblical* preaching from a grown man; his name was James McGinlay, a Scotch evangelist. The second one I heard was the man who led me to Christ: Hugh Pyle. The third one I ran into was a hide-tearing, pulpit-pounding, stomping, 6 foot 2 inch, peanut farmer from southeast Alabama (Brannon's Stand, near "Skipperville"): Bob Jones Sr.

I got into *that* after hearing off-and-on "Dean Day," the rector of Grace Cathedral in Topeka, Kansas, and "Father" Sullivan of St. Michaels Catholic Church in Pensacola.

I can tell you in five seconds the difference between *Charles Stanley* and Maze Jackson (or Harold Sightler.) I don't have to listen to Billy Graham or Robert Schuller five minutes to know that they are not in the same "stall" with J. Harold Smith, Oliver Green, and B. R. Lakin. A. V. Henderson and Truman Dollar could no more fill Beauchamp Vick's shoes than Mickey Mouse or Donald Duck could. Bob Jones Jr. and Harold Rawlings could no more compete with their fathers than George Norris or Charles

Billington could compete with their fathers.

You won't fool the Lord's ole' junkyard dog. You will teach him no "new tricks." Chuck Swindoll hasn't led ten *grown men* to Christ in the last year.

The really "great" *Biblical* preachers in the twenty-first century rarely appear on the platforms of the highly publicized conferences, youth camps, "spiritual renewal" gatherings, "congresses," and gatherings of celebrities; but they are "out there." *I have heard them.* When I went to BJU (1949, 1950), a student could be *shipped* for attending Harold Sightler's church in Pellam, South Carolina. Don't kid me. Go kid your grandmother.

BJU got "hard up" for money and students, like PCC is now.

Both of them had to abandon their interdenominational position and *pretend* they were Baptists. Go kid your Aunt Harriet; you'll never "kid" God.

Well, here is how I counsel. You can take it or leave it, and it will not matter to me one way or another. I figure I know the Book just as well as you do and probably *better* than your *teacher* knew it. I further believe, after studying the lives and ministries of more than 100 contemporary ministers, that if I had not already learned more about REALITY—actual day-by-day living by traveling in the USA and seven foreign countries—than 90 percent of them, I would close down PBI.

A. I never *recommend* divorce to any couple. I do not believe in divorces for *any reason* after a couple has stated, before God, that they will stick it out "for better or for WORSE." I have had Scriptural grounds for divorce, clearer and plainer than the nose on your face, but I never sued *any* woman for divorce. I believe in forgiving (Eph. 4:32), forgetting (Phil. 3:13), "making up" (Matt. 18:15), and "going on" to a golden anniversary.

B. I will inform any couple about the Bible grounds for a divorce in the Book, and I know what they *are*, if you don't. They are (1) *Desertion* (1 Cor. 7:15), (2) *Fornication* (Matt. 19:9; 1 Cor. 6:16–18), and (3) *Death* (Rom. 7:1–3; 1 Cor. 7:39).

A *remarriage* is allowed in *all three cases* and is *mentioned in their contexts* (Matt. 19:9; 1 Cor. 7:28), but it is advised against (1 Cor. 7:27).

C. I teach that a *temporary separation* is sometimes necessary (1 Cor. 7:11), but both parties have to agree (1 Cor. 7:5) to it and agree to be reconciled later. This is always an extremely touchy situation, and it rarely works. A young male or female will not take loneliness long enough for God to work; too many other "options" are "available" and "desirable."

But the *reality* you have to deal with—and not one modern, "big time" TV preacher has any idea how to deal with it—is there are women whose husbands are chronic dopers and boozers, and their lives have often been threatened by them. There are women whose husbands go "tuitti fruity" and (while professing to be *saved*) want to drive around town in a woman's dress: brassiere, panties, and all. There are women whose husbands, due to hardening of the arteries, can no longer "perform," although they are not yet forty years old.

Not one thing I mentioned in that paragraph is *Scriptural grounds* for divorce.

I don't fully understand it, but for some reason, in the paths that God has led me (and He certainly did the leading without my permission or assent), I have encountered problem after problem after problem that John Rice, Dr. Dobson, Curtis Hutson, Hyman Appleman, Billy Graham, Bob Jones Jr., Shelton Smith, Lee Roberson, Jimmy Swaggart, Benny Hinn, Tom Malone, et al., could not even *mention* or discuss, let alone offer any kind of help.

It reminds me of the old joke about two football teams who were so unevenly matched that by the third period the score was 70 to 7. After the losing team's coach had tried three times (while on the *offensive*) to break through the line and get a ball carrier into the open, he called the same play again and told the captain, "Give Willie the ball!" The fourth time the coach was informed: "*Willie say he doan want de ball!*"

That is how some "counseling" sessions would turn out. *You* answer the phone and tell them, big shot, how to solve their problem—*Scripturally*. I've had to deal with messes involving complete physical disability and dope addiction at the same time, in a born-again child of God. I've had to do it more than twice.

Twice the poor soul was already *in a wheel chair*.

D. I always inform an estranged couple of the *consequences* of divorce if they decide to go through with it. I know what they are. A lot of my ministerial brethren have no idea what they are. I point out, in particular, the damage that will be done to the children. *Lawyers* are the only people who benefit from divorces.

I point out to the mother of young children that she will have to raise them without a "daddy" unless she remarries. Until she does, her "ex" will have to pay "care and maintenance," which (in nine cases out of ten) he cannot do and support himself in "separate maintenance," so she will have to go to work. That means PAY A BABY SITTER—more expense. If her "ex" decides he cannot survive under the court order he will leave the State; about 5,000 men do that every year in the State of Florida.

To "extradite" him and bring him *back* and make him make his payments, he is arrested and winds up *in jail*. How many of your bills, momma, do you think he will be able to pay staying in the slammer? You see, there are all kinds of "angles," aren't there?

Well, *she* has the satisfaction of female vengeance: she got him in the "lockup"; but that won't pay her bills. When he gets out, *he* is free to remarry, but till his children get "growed," he will be paying the bills for *two families*. Would YOU like to try that right now?

I never spare an arguing couple anything. I tell her she will have to remarry again to get by. Naturally, she swears that one time is enough for her and "quote the raven 'Nevermore'," but it doesn't mean a thing. *Loneliness will "get to her."* Good stepfather? Sometimes; sometimes *not*. Sometimes he wants more kids of his own because he doesn't like *hers*. I tell the man he'll have to get two jobs to make ends meet, and then the woman he marries will resent what would be HER income if so-and-so was not still stuck to them, etc. I always recommend "settling out of court," and the best settlement is COMPROMISE. Both parties must identify the thing that is causing them to turn against each other.

I have never seen any family split up where the split was entirely one person's fault. Sometimes it is 50–50, but more times it is 60–40 or 70–30. The fault in my first marriage was 90 percent *mine* and 10 percent “hers.” After I got saved, the woman I married was about 80 percent responsible, and I was about 20 percent. I tell my buddies: “When I think of my first wife I *cry*. When I think of my second one I *cuss*. When I think of my third one (Pam in 1989) I *smile*.” We have now been married more than sixteen years.

If they DO split up, I usually advise the boys go with the daddy and the girls with momma, if they are determined to divorce. This is NOT always the wise thing to do, nor can it always be done, but as a *general rule* it is best. I have seen courts give “visiting privileges” to the daddy, which didn't amount to more than two days a month, when the daddy was a church-attending, Bible-believing Christian and the mother was a Catholic “swinger” who swapped men about as regularly as she bought shoes.

I have seen judges let daddy have the children with visiting privileges for momma limited to one day a week. In some of these cases, the daddy was a smoking, drinking, cussing infidel who had no more use for Jesus Christ and the Bible than he had need of a broken neck or a hernia.

The *main cause* for most divorces is “infidelity”—unfaithfulness on the part of the husband or wife. Human nature being what it is—totally corrupt (see Rom. 1:29–32; Jer. 17:9; Job 25:4,6, 14:1–4)—it is extremely hard to *forget* that your mate had no use for you and gave *your property* (see 1 Cor. 7:4) to someone else. Women are especially unforgiving about this, and where they forgive they seldom “forget.”

Hippy-zippy naked “communes” (1960–1970), where a man can have a harem, *never work*. They never have worked and never will. “Breathes there a man with soul so tough who'll say one wife is not enough?” Can you imagine the mess that Jake got into (Gen. 29–31) trying to remember FOUR anniversaries and judge *impartially* between eleven children with *different mothers*? You talk about a mad house! The first time you failed to give one wife or one child the amount of attention and love you gave another your name would be “Mud” with a capital “M.”

Chapter 11

The “Other” Causes For Divorces

Beside adultery, the other causes for families breaking up deal largely with 1. Money matters, 2. In-laws, 3. No children, 4. Too many children, 5. No knowledge or experience.

I counsel as follows—without regard for anyone’s material on the subject: any medical or psychiatric textbook or any “family value-sharing-stress-caring tension,” Chuck Swindoll “rap sessions” or “Dr. Dobson’s” theoretical guesswork.

A. THE GREENBACKS

Since “**the love of money is the root of all evil**” (America’s foreign policy, the banking system, the Federal Reserve System, the Mafia and Cosa Nostra, the theatre, rock music, pornographic literature, the *oil* and *steel* industries, gambling, *the lotteries*, the *drug* and *liquor* traffic, modern public *education*, the *news media*’s material, the sale of the last 214 *corrupt Bible versions*, etc., etc.), it has been removed from the *RSV*, *NRSV*, *NKJV*, *ASV*, *NASV*, and *NIV*.

The present economic system (set up between 1933 and 1945 by FDR) was designed to *destroy the American home*; so far it has done an excellent job. The hiring of women instead of men by luring them from their families with paychecks has accomplished much in the divorce courts, in addition to making your wife think she is your EQUAL, thus making it impossible for anyone to make decisions (after all, 50–50, in any game, is a dead heat. *It is a tie*. There is no *winner*). It encourages her to dump you if she doesn’t like you; she can still “make it on her own.”

In Vegas (1980), they had divorce slot machines where you and your “beloved” could each deposit a quarter (it is a half a dollar now) and get the necessary papers to fill out. Mail them to the right legal agencies and the records in “Town Hall,” and the job is done. No rush, no fuss, no courtroom battles, no heated arguments; just “good, clean fun” for two half dollars. *Progress!* Darwin called it “evolution.”

Most women who really love their husbands have no idea how irritating it is to his sense of *manhood* not to have enough money to provide the things he *thinks* his wife and kids should have. A dozen arguments arise in any marriage where the man is constantly frustrated because he is just that—A MAN, a *male* man—and a *good* male man is a good *provider*. He is protective of his family.

When a man cannot provide for them *like other men do*, it “bugs” him. His wife may not be a spendthrift. I have known good Christian wives who were perfectly content to stick with their “man” through “thick and thin” when milk was not always in the “fridge” and a “banquet” was Sunday noon at McDonalds. A good wife can get through that without going to pieces; VERY FEW REAL “MEN” CAN.

Should she go to work? I would say “NO” if any of the children are under six-years-old. There are exceptions. Where her husband breaks his neck or back and no workman’s

compensation or insurance or “damages” were paid for, his wife may have to do some work no matter what. (I know exactly what I am taking about, and if the “brethren” don’t, it is due to their sheltered, *artificial*, hot-house *incubator* “lifestyles”.)

Sometimes the man may have to work double shifts or constant overtime to solve the problem. It doesn’t always solve it, for it simply means that he will have to spend even *less time* than they had before. Thus the woman becomes more discontented! Griping leads to *arguments*. For one solid hour of this kind of thing between SAVED couples, obtain the video on “Drawing Men to Christ” called “*God’s Woman*.” It will have all the material on it. If the woman is a charge-card fiend who would rather spend an afternoon in Wal-Mart or Target than a Bible conference, an added “gripe” will show up in the male.

I have counseled saved couples where the man griped for fifteen minutes about what a careless and wild spender his wife was (and that was why they were always in debt). But it turned out that he only made \$600 a month (this was back in 1970), and HE BUILT HOT RODS, to run in races, out of that money.

If you know anything about those “custom-built” dragsters, you would know that, alongside him, his wife looked like a Scotchman in a straight jacket.

Again, I apologize for the ignorance on the part of all the “family values, sharing and caring” type of humanist advisors whose “major” is ABSTRACT *THEORIZING*.

B. NO CHILDREN

I never have to inform anyone that I am a right-wing, conservative “reactionary.” I believe since Eve was the “**MOTHER of all living**” (Gen. 3:20) that the mother-instinct in women, to have *children*, is as basic a part of their God-given nature as the desire to eat food or drink water.

I might not carry it to the Jewish extreme: “**Give me children, or else I die!**” (Rachel, Gen. 30:1) or weep about it day and night (Hannah, 1 Sam. 1), but Psalm 113:9 states that there is such a thing as a HAPPY WOMAN with a lot of children (see Psa. 128:3).

“**He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD**” (Psa. 113:9).

You will find very few American women without children who do not have a PET on which to lavish affection, and sometimes this is beyond the bounds of “rationale.” When you leave a pet poodle or a pet cat \$10,000 to \$40,000, there is something wrong with you with which no cat or dog ever had trouble.

I always advise an American, childless couple to *adopt children*: always, even if at great sacrifice and inconvenience. I believe in “kids and dogs” even at great inconvenience or expense. *I believe in “kids and dogs.”* I have *always* believed in “kids and dogs.” I believe that outside of the *Bible* and *salvation* and good health, that “*kids and dogs*” are the next essentials for “living.” I think a man or woman who never had the joy and privilege of raising a little boy or girl has missed one of the most important things that can happen to *anyone* in a lifetime. That is “prejudice,” I am sure, but it is a personal conviction that has grown stronger every year since I was forty years old. I’ve only raised ten children, but I have fourteen grandchildren and a couple of great-grandchildren. I have

three German Shepherds, having raised *forty* of them since 1960.

I would suggest that any American couple investigate the rules and regulations that have to do with adoptions (they vary from State to State) and adopt, as soon as possible, a boy or girl less than two years old; if impossible, at least less than *five* years old.

Nothing is *duller* than two adults going through ten to forty years together without a single loved one on which to lavish love and affection, train and discipline, teach and instruct, and for which to pray. I know the kids often break your heart, later: *I know all about it*. I know they have often failed to live up to your expectations or theirs. Don't tell me; I'll tell you. But I say they are worth it and worth all the time and all the effort (and all of the *joy* and *blessings* that came with it!) it took to try to raise them "right."

I believe in "kids and dogs."

C. TOO MANY CHILDREN

In informing the couple about such things as tubal ligations, artificial inseminations, hysterectomies, and vasectomies, I tell them about the advantages and disadvantages of each method, its dangers, and its effectiveness. I tell them that this enters into medical fields, and the Bible does not go into detail about all of these things but does command the man to treat his wife "**according to knowledge**" (1 Pet. 3:7). He is to KNOW how a female is to be taken care of (see Eph. 5:28–29), and in these matters, it is up for him to consult someone besides his pastor. He should know about his wife's health, how much work or pain she can stand, what things will hurt her condition or help her condition, when to stop having children (if they should stop), and the proper interval between births if they want a large family.

Several of my fellow ministers, whom I know quite well (two of them I trained), have families of eight to ten children. *All of them are in good health, and all of their bills are paid*. I realize this is not *always* the case. If you see a man sporting twelve children and each one is only one year apart, you will have to admit his "life verse" must have been "**be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.**" The trouble of it is one man should not try to do it *alone*. And besides, it is the WOMAN who "bears the load" (if you'll pardon the crass humor). The Germans call it "carrying the bass drum."

The best "birth control" is *self-control*, and although condoms and the rhythm-cycles can be used (all of my real children were born two to five years apart: five of them), you cannot beat the natural way to "cohabit" with a woman you love—*legally* and *Scripturally*: your own wife (see Heb. 13). They say they can reverse a vasectomy later so that a couple may have children; be that as it may be or may not be, I would always recommend a male vasectomy *instead* of a female hysterectomy—if either is *necessary*.

When she is white in the face all the time, nervous and neurotic, with blue veins standing out in her eyes, it is time to add a vacation to her "diet" besides vitamin pills and liver.

Foreign women (especially Germans, Russians, Slavs, Orientals, and Africans) are much tougher than American women. (I am not interested in your opinion on that matter one way or another. American men *spoil* their women; and any Moslem, Japanese,

Chinese, or Indian knows that.) No foreigner is happy to see American servicemen show up except to get their money. They know they will spoil their women if they get their hands on them, *and they do*. Again, I don't intend to take you seriously if you think otherwise. Many Orientals are out working in the rice fields the day after they have given birth to a son or daughter.

D. IN-LAWS (or "OUTLAWS"—whatever)

I counsel that it is best to raise your own family a minimum of ten miles from your "in-laws." *One hundred miles is better*. The order for man to "**leave HIS father and mother**" can certainly be applied to women, especially if they are "women's libbers" who think women are *equal* to men. In *that* case, a woman is to leave HER mother and father and cleave to her husband.

Now, with the economic setup the way it is in America, I can hardly understand how any young couple starting out in life wouldn't have to have some help from their "in-laws." Nothing today is like it was back in the 1930s, 1940s, or 1950s. Since the Civil Rights Act (1964), everything is *backwards*. If a baby shows up in the first year of marriage, so that only the husband is at work, I don't see how the wife and kids make it on less than \$400 a month, but some of them do. If the couple was allowed to stay in the home of their parents (*one of them!*) for even several months, it would be of great help. I believe there are cases where a young couple might have to stay with their parents (one of them!) for more than a year in order to get independent.

Jokes about mother-in-laws are a dime a thousand. "Going back to momma," after another momma's "mean" old son "abused her" is as common in America as illiterate blacks getting high school diplomas.

General Foch (Frenchman) was over in the USA after World War I, touring the country with some big shots. When he surveyed the Grand Canyon, some newspaper reporter heard him mutter something to himself as he stood there gazing at that tremendous chasm. It was muttered in French. Wanting to report on such an incident—a French General seeing the Grand Canyon for the first time—the newspaper reporter asked a French attaché nearby, "What did the General say?" The attaché smiled and said: "He said 'what a wonderful place to drop one's *mother-in-law*.'"

Then there is the Scotchman who experienced terrible "mixed emotions" when he saw his mother-in-law committing suicide by driving his new Cadillac off a cliff.

Grandmas and grandpas "spoil" grandchildren. That is simple and standard (SOP). They do this because they usually just come for visits (or the children visit them) and do not have to put up with "junior" *twelve months* at a time.

If you had a dollar for every mother in America, this year, who took sides with her daughter against her daughter's husband in a divorce (or custody) case, you could buy a new Cadillac.

"Leave the nest" as soon as possible. Your wife's body belongs *to you* if you are her husband (1 Cor. 7:3–4). It is *not* her father's body. Your husband's body is *your body* if you are his wife (1 Cor. 7:4), and his momma or daddy no longer have the final say-so in

anything in which the two of you are involved.

E. TOO LITTLE EXPERIENCE

This doesn't often happen since America reached "sex o'clock" way back in the 1930s. Books like *Lady Chatterley's Lover* or *Ulysses* (by James Joyce) needed an act of Congress to get into the United States back then. Since then, any teenaged kid could see "Deep Throat" or the "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" without getting permission from anyone.

The surest proof that NO nation needs as much "exposure" to "permissive lifestyles" as America gets (Peyton Place, Dallas, "The Color Purple," *Penthouse*, *Playboy*, *Playgirl*, *Gent*, cable TV, *The Joy of Sex*, *The Kinsey Report*, etc.) in order to beget children, is CHINA or INDIA. From 2000 B.C. to A.D. 2000, their multitudes didn't have to have classes on anything sexy or magazines about anything sexy or TV to learn how to procreate. They procreated over 3,000,000,000 people between them, without any high school or college education or any "graphics" on "couples in action."

Not one couple out of five who get married today are virgins. Recently, more than 10,000 fornicating Sodomites "got married" after *practicing* sex perversion between themselves for anywhere from *one to thirty years*. If an inexperienced young man or woman can get through high school these days without any sex "experience," he or she is a walking miracle.

But a terrible problem comes with this saturation of carnal, fleshy fornication that is as common in America as black-eyed peas or apple trees. You see, TV and the porno "flicks" *do not present a REAL picture of married life*. Two generations have grown up thinking that:

1. If you walk into a bar or cocktail lounge, it will be filled with nothing but *professional models*, and an unescorted "beauty queen" will spot YOU out and start *flirting with you immediately*.

2. Hollywood beauties will all just be dying to go to bed with you and will *initiate* "love play."

3. *Professional Hollywood models* are as aggressive as males, so they fire AK-47s in "drug busts," outkick Oriental karate experts, wear armor and fight knights, *lift weights*, and will *rape you* if you if you are not on guard.

4. Spending a night or two in bed with a man you have known less than a week is *normal American living*.

5. Any man can pick him up a twenty-one-year-old "Miss America" and in less than twelve hours talk her into having "sex" with him.

6. No hero in any TV series gets VD or gets a woman *pregnant*; not even if he has "relations" with two different women in every movie filmed; sometimes a series will run ten films.

Now what happens after *fifty years* of this fantastic brainwash job? Well, since the whole thing was a *lie* from start to finish, you are cloned to believe that you can "have

sex” with Miss America if you use the right *hair tonic* or the right *after-shave* lotion, and every movie star and professional male athlete in America will be standing in line to kiss your hand if you use the *right perfume* or have the right “hair-do.”

You produce a nation of sex-crazy, cockeyed NUTS.

When “amateur night” comes (the first night of the “honeymoon”), in the case of one or two virgins, “sex” will not match what you have seen on TV or in the theater. Actually seeing and being with a real, live, naked woman, who is a PERSON—not just a picture or a “female”—and being there with no “sound track” of an orchestra playing and no aggressiveness on her part (or sometimes “his” part), things don’t “pan out” like you saw it in the last ten movies of Katherine Hepburn, Marilyn Monroe, Jane Russell, Betty Davis, Joan Crawford, Maria Montez, Sarah Parker, Kate Jackson, Suzanne Somers, or Britney Spears.

Many a young, teenaged girl had her first “encounter” in the back seat of a car with a drunk or on a frat house or sorority house table during a drug party or flat on the ground under a boardwalk on a beach; her first experience with “sex” was one of nervousness, pain, embarrassment, and *confusion*. It did not *match* any “romancing” she had seen in the theater.

Do you know where a lot of lesbians come from? *They are manufactured from perfectly normal young girls who were shocked or discouraged by their first sexual “encounter” with a young man.* It fitted them for “bait” for older women who had abandoned normal relationships.

Ever have to counsel with THAT crew, preacher?

Ever have to get a Christian young man off masturbation after he had lived with sexual fantasies for so long that he could get no satisfaction from a REAL situation?

Wanna counsel him, Brother Stanley? How about you, Shelton Smith? Wazzat? *“Willie say ‘he doan want dee ball’?”* How ‘bout you, Sammy Allen? Chuck Swindoll? Phil Kidd? You are the “experts” on marriage and divorce, aren’t you? How ‘bout you, Doug Fisher? You know how to furnish *the “tools” for rehabilitation*, do you? I’ll betcha you do. Like Alice in Wonderland or Tinkerbell in Never-never Land.

I’ll give you a break. The Holy Scriptures that you use to deal with these problems are as follows. (Make sure you use nothing but the references found in a *King James 1611 Authorized Version*.) Proverbs 16:3; Ezekiel 11:5; 1 Chronicles 28:9, Psalm 119:9,11; Romans 6:7–8,11; 2 Corinthians 10:4–5; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Hebrews 9:14; Psalm 19:13–14; Matthew 6:22–23; Psalm 101:3.

In addition to those remedies for sex problems (voyeurism, flashing, streakers, masturbation, sadism, masochism) should be added this advice: “spend as much time *outdoors* as possible.”

Now this advice to “spend as much time out of doors as possible” will not fit into any of the modern “best sellers” on your life and your wife and your happiness and your goals and your personality. It would not occur to the author of these books that your original dwelling was not in a HOUSE; *it was in a garden*. They would have *automatically*

forgotten, in their madness to popularize human thoughts, human motives, human responses, human feelings, human solutions, human problems, and human wisdom, that *you* (and all of *them*) *were made from DIRT*.

What this means is that in dealing with *any* problem involving sex impulses, sex drives, and “sexuality” (all three are *animal* instincts like self-preservation), you will always think of such matters less when you are *outdoors* than *indoors*.

Pornographic material is seen or read or performed in BUILDINGS: *rooms*.

You need to think about that awhile. Your modern Christian “family counselors” never think about it a minute. It doesn’t even occur to them while *they* are IN ROOMS writing, teaching, or counseling.

Now, we cannot re-fight the Civil War (just yet!), but there are elements behind that terrible war (1861–1865) that are not written in ANY history books, not taught in any public schools, and not even mentioned in ANY press releases since 1880. I will be as brief as possible, but before doing so, I will make a few clear, plain, *truthful* statements about “sexuality” about which your sex educators (SIECUS) and Dr. Spock and Dr. Kinsey and Dr. Menninger said *nothing*.

1. Trappers, hunters, commercial fishermen, mountain climbers, pearl divers, highway construction crews, farmers, oceanographers, marathon runners, lumberjacks, and Indians (American, before 1880) never had as *much* trouble with sex perversion, sex deviation, and pornography that senators, doctors, lawyers, teachers, office workers, writers, artists, musicians, factory workers, students, and politicians have. I did not say what you *think* I said. I said what I *said* the way I *meant* to say it. “Never had as MUCH trouble...” etc.

Don’t pretend I said what I *did not say* so that you can “raise a question” as to the integrity (factuality) of what I SAID.

2. There is something about running water, trees, sand dunes, bushes, fresh air, rain, snow, winds, and clouds that acts as a *deterrent* against *daydreaming* about “having sex” or fantasizing in moral filth. I cannot explain it, but not one *fisherman* or *hunter* out of ten thousand is bothered with “sexual fantasies” while stalking a deer, waiting for turkey, testing a “nibbling” or a “strike,” cleaning deer (or wild pig) or fishes, aiming or firing at an elk or a water buffalo, setting the hook in a bass or a speckled trout, or hauling in a cast net after feeling it “bounce” for twenty seconds.

You may get “excited” if you spend an hour laying around outdoors on the *beach* with the “beach bunnies” and all the little “chicks” wearing nothing but a G-string and a strip of masking tape for a bra, but you will find that any planning or actions that follow take place INDOORS—either in a room or the *interior* of a car or tent, etc. It is when you are *alone* and THINKING about immoral filth that you get in trouble. *You need a “breath of fresh AIR.”*

I’ve never been bothered by any sexual fantasies two minutes while working out in my *vegetable garden* four to six hours a day.

The thoughts Paul and Solomon and Ezekiel warned you about (see Psa. 19:14; 2 Cor. 10:4–5; Prov. 23:33; Ezek. 14:4, 7, 9; 1 Chron. 28:9) don’t linger long in your mind when

you're OUTSIDE.

No “wicked thing” has ever popped up in my thoughts for *two minutes* while trying to *spot a school of mullet* in the surf or the bay or trying to cast into *a run of blue fish*. There is something about plowing, hoeing, tilling, stalking deer or bear, sitting in a dove field, or following setters and pointers through “quail territory” that keeps the MALE MIND occupied so that what he saw on the beach last week or what he saw on the late-late show or the Miss America contest *doesn't pop up*. It is thrown out into the alley and *left there*.

I don't remember a time in my life, as a lifeguard *on the beaches* (Rehoboth Beach, Delaware), where anything I saw (or talked with) had any effect on me until I was *off the beach* in a car or motel or cottage or locker room.

“Spend as much time *outdoors* as possible.”

That is *Biblical* counseling; you just didn't recognize it.

You now know what the North had against the South—and still practices against it in the most violent forms? It is a resentment against an *outdoor, agrarian culture*. They had to live in an *indoor* industrial culture. That was the main *root* of Abe Lincoln's violating the Constitution (1861).

The “North” wanted to put their miserable handicap on the South that they had put on themselves. Do you know now how they got into that position? Simple as Simple Simon; the leading *preachers* and *scholars* they followed were *Deists* who had abandoned the *King James* text and *denied the Deity of Christ*. Among them were Westcott (born 1825), Hort (born 1828), Huxley (born 1825), Darwin (born 1809): evolutionists and destructive critics of the *King James* text.

New England, the home of the Puritan forefathers, was a HOT BED of *Unitarianism* long before the Civil War broke out: Theophilus Lindsey (died 1820), Joseph Priestly (died 1835), William Hazlitt (died 1820), James Freeman (died 1835), and Hose Ballou (died 1852). The South retained the “old time religion” and the *King James Bible* throughout those years. By the time Henry Ware (1780–1842) got through with Harvard and installed Jared Sparks (1789–1866), a sideshow was set up that wound up with Horace Bushnell (1702–1786) and William Ellery Channing (1780–1842). *We call these lost sinners “DEISTS.”*

Thus, before the Civil War broke out, THE BOOK was present as an *issue*. The Book said Jesus Christ was “**the true God, and eternal life**” (1 John 5:20). *Not one man in that last paragraph believed anything of the kind*, and all the ministers they trained believed nothing of the kind. They were trained in Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Cambridge, Boston, New York, Oxford, Dartmouth, and Columbia.

So it is today. The South has still been able to keep the old Book, *in spite of Bob Jones University, Princeton, Tennessee Temple, Wheaton, Fuller, Yale, Harvard, Oxford, Stetson, Judson, Liberty University, BBC*, and the seminaries in Denver, Dallas, Minneapolis, Fort Worth, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Louisville, and PCC (*Pensacola*).

So it is today. The South, by some miracle (and in spite of World War II), still retains a small *agricultural* economy, so its people are still, *basically*, “outdoor” people. You cannot

segregate any real Southern male from *hunting* (God made the animals), *fishing* (God made the fishes), and *gardening* (God made the plants). I am neither theorizing, philosophizing, guessing, preaching, or spouting “rhetoric.” I am telling you some great truths. They will not be found in any College or University—*secular or sacred*.

So it is today. In order to bankrupt the South, the industrial North (in 1865) destroyed the plantations and “*King Cotton*” (God made both). In the twentieth century, they destroyed the *liquor* industry by arresting Southerners and then taking the money for themselves through federal handling of booze. *Liquor* is made out of seeds that God made (Gen. 1:11). In the twentieth century, the next thing they went after was to bankrupt Louisiana and Texas: the oil wells (1975–1995). *Oil comes from the ground that God made.* The next thing they did was try to get rid of every tobacco farm in the South (1970–2000), to destroy THAT income. Tobacco is a *crop* that comes from the ground: *God made the ground and the plant.*

The latest attempt (1990–1998) to wipe the South off the North American continent was Slick Willie’s NAFTA agreements where alien immigrants (without passports, visas, or I.D.s) could come in and replace native Southerners as workers in the furniture factories, shirt factories, and farms. The North was now ready to wipe out not merely the hunting and fishing and farming (1998–2004) but the *industries* in the South.

So it is today and so it will continue. New England and the “Yankees” have been *jealous* (see pp. 48–53) of the Bible-believing population in Dixie for more than 150 years; they are not about to quit persecuting and harassing “the South” till they *bankrupt* her completely. That was the *real motive* behind the Civil War (\$\$\$); it was *directly connected* with the *Holy Bible* and those who believed it and preached it.

Proof? Sam Jones (*Southerner*), Billy Graham (*Southerner*), Bob Jones Sr. (*Southerner*), Dallas Billington (*Southerner*), Jack Hyles (*Southerner*), John Rice (*Southerner*), John Rawlings (*Southerner*), Carl Lackey (*Southerner*), J. Harold Smith (*Southerner*), R. G. Lee (*Southerner*), Oliver Green (*Southerner*), J. Frank Norris (*Southerner*), Maze Jackson (*Southerner*), Jerry Falwell (*Southerner*), Beauchamp Vick (*Southerner*), Mordecai Ham (*Southerner*), et al. Paul was a Benjamite—a *Southerner*.

“*Spend as much time as you can outdoors.*”

That is why I gave that advice where “sexuality” was involved. What God made, in nature, is where YOU came from : outside—*dirt in a garden*.

You lived there, outdoors, with God, before any woman ever showed up.

Think about THAT for two or three years!

Chapter 12

A Condensed Summary of Modern Counseling

Counseling is not “preaching.” Again, it is not “teaching.” It really is no main part of the *calling* that Peter, James, John, and Paul had or the ministries that God set up for Knox, Luther, Wesley, Whitefield, Sunday, Torrey, Finney, Sam Jones, Bob Jones Sr., Moody, Patton, Judson, Livingstone, Goforth, Studd, Cartwright, or Frank Norris. *Counseling* is a “side activity” that pastors are now called upon to perform, but this task was never anything more than one or two brief intermissions or interruptions in a pastor’s ministry which might take place twice a week in a congregation of 1,000 people (1800–1918).

Back then, a pastor could often give ADVICE to someone about a problem or answer a question asked by some member, but this did not require counseling SESSIONS, lasting sometimes more than two hours. Modern *counseling* is nothing but *amateur, clinical psychology* trying to work out people’s problems by not only the Bible but by medical examinations, medical tests, the advice from shrinks and general practitioners, *philosophy*, common sense, *experiments*, humanistic proverbs, speech therapy, prayer, and *suggestions*.

It is *not* Biblical preaching.

It is *not* TEACHING the Bible.

It is *using* the Bible (occasionally) and referring to it (occasionally) to help solve a problem. No pastor would have *half* his people to counsel, that he has coming to him, if those people regularly attended every message he preached in a two-year-period; that is, if he was a *Bible-believing preacher* preaching *the Bible*. In that period of time any member of that congregation would have heard his problem preached on *and the solution to that problem given*. Counseling is nearly always needed by Christians who refused to *hear* the truth or refused to *obey* the truth after they heard it. **“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance.”**

As a consequence, the average pastor in the twenty-first century has his ministry shattered and scattered by having to spend more time trying to straighten out the lives of his *own sheep* than he can spend on winning souls to Christ and *teaching* his people THE BOOK.

That is the mess into which TV and the Christian Colleges and Seminaries got America between 1950 and 1990. The Christian scholars took the pastor’s *authority* out of his hands (the AV 1611) and gave him *their opinions* as a replacement; then the TV finished the suckers off once *they abandoned the Book*.

As I said before, America, since World War II, is set up to get rid of the family as a unit; the recent attempts to justify the marriages of two sex perverts and then calling THAT a “family” is all the proof you need. Right now a “family” could be *two brothers*

marrying each other or *two sisters* marrying each other or *six hermaphrodites* marrying each other. In such cases, the word “family” becomes a *joke*.

Notice how such things as “dating” and “going steady” have been added to the “engagement” or the “espousal”? Kids will want you to tell them why they can’t “date” at fifteen and sixteen and give a Bible reason for it; those will be Christian kids. The “family” no longer sits together in a large church. The baby is in the nursery, the kids five to twelve are in Junior Church, and your teenagers are sitting with each other in various parts of the building.

I counsel no dating ALONE until they are eighteen and no dating at all *if their parents forbid it*—even before eighteen. I counsel youth activities in *groups* until eighteen. A church can rent a bowling alley or a skating rink for the teenagers to get together. “Cook outs” and hikes can be taken, and young people can do personal work together, *in the daytime*, under supervision. I think the girls enjoy street meetings with the boys and should be allowed to pass out tracts and carry Scripture signs while the boys preach. Fishing and hunting (believe it or not!) are good things for teenaged kids to do together, and sight-seeing trips (hiking) are just as clean.

Many pastors disagree with me in these matters, but that is their privilege. Let them counsel as they see best. I have fifty-four teenagers and sixty kids between six and twelve in my church plus thirty babies in the nursery; that is in a church that only runs 650 in Sunday School. Of the remaining 506, more than 400 are *grown men*.

Of 600 active members (and about 700 church attenders), I would say that 200 are personal workers and soulwinners on a regular basis. If you can do better, more power to you.

In counseling, in the “final analysis,” all a pastor can do is offer ADVICE, and anyone knows “advice” is easier to *give* than *take*. These days, as the government seeks to shut down every Bible-believing work in America, “tort suits” have become popular. This simply means that any egotistical, carnal, worldly, demon-possessed, professing *Christian* can sue any preacher for saying ANYTHING he doesn’t want to hear or doesn’t believe.

For example, if a teenager on drugs committed suicide after you had counseled him, you could be accused of murder in the second degree. The fact that his mother and father never stopped him *from listening to rock music*—which often recommends suicide—or taking crack, PCP, codeine, peyote, mescaline, valium, marijuana, etc., will be overlooked by any judge *who hates street preaching, tract distribution, preaching against cults and the Catholic Church, ridiculing queers, or “knocking on doors.”*

Today, every judge in America is *his own authority*, so he can make his decisions *without reference to the Constitution or the Bill of Rights or the Ten Commandments* or even *common sense*; and they DO. Very often, in order to incarcerate (or fine or punish) a defendant they don’t like, they will simply forbid him to present *any evidence that might clear him*; it happens a dozen times a day, every week in the year. I’m not just talking. I said “*a dozen times a day every week.*” That is REALITY—not *talk*.

When counseling, protect yourself two ways. Always have some other witness present when you counsel, besides the one person you are counseling, or else tape the

conversation. Always counsel arguing couples *together*. If you take each of them one at a time they will eventually swear the other one was lying; then they will both be accusing *YOU* of lying about what they said.

In the twenty-first century, Darwin called this “evolution” (*progress*).

To sum it up:

A. The suggested cures for divorces are:

1. Don't ever step out on your wife or husband.
2. Earn enough money to take care of your wife without her having to go to work.
3. If she will have to work, keep her from it until all of the children are in school.
4. Avoid living “on” (or too close to) momma and daddy; either one of you. If you *have to*, don't do it for very long.
5. If you are ignorant about sex matters, simply get a dozen books on it which can be purchased anywhere and read up on it.
6. For a normal, Biblical “sex life,” drop masturbation and any type of pictures (in magazines, newspapers, or on TV) that would lead to sexual fantasies that are not *real*.
7. In conquering bad sexual habits, do *four* things: spend as much time **OUTDOORS** as possible, claim the Scriptural promises on it (see p. 137) in prayer when temptations arise, stay away from the “glass toilet” (i.e., the “idiot box”) as much as possible, and spend a lot of time *reading the Bible* (see pp. 83–88).
8. Don't load your wife up with a baby every other year unless she can “take it” and *agrees* to it. If you have no children, by all means adopt at least one; two would be better.

Now, there are 10,000 devotional books at Christian bookstores that are devoted to pleasing your wife, adjusting to your wife, caring for your wife, being sensitive to your wife, helping your wife, and *obeying* your wife; but most of that is *amateur psychology* and has no more to do with **LOVING** your wife and **TEACHING** your wife than the women's lib movement.

Always make clear to the people you counsel that it is *their decision* that will be made, depending upon what *they* think is correct. There is always a possibility that you may advise a certain line of action without having access to all of the information you *needed* to make the recommendation. *Don't take chances*. Say “here it is; here are the alternatives (news media buzz word “option”). This *may* work; this *may not*. This *usually* works, but not always,” and so forth.

You are not to make any decisions for anyone with whom you deal outside of your own family that lives in your house and contains children still under your “rule.”

Now, there is one piece of advice that should be given to every Christian you council undergoing any type of problem, stress, tension, or depression. Strangely enough, I have not found it mentioned in one *major* work on “family values” or “learning to live with others” or “learning to accept yourself” or “how to please your wife,” etc.

It is this: tell him (or her) *to pray for WISDOM* (James 1:5).

By this I mean at every turn of the wheel, every click of the watch, every time the tide changes, every time the traffic moves—whatever the problem—ask God to give you WISDOM to do or say the right things.

This is absolutely *essential*.

“**All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge**” are at their disposal if they are saved; that is, according to Colossians 2:3—the chapter that warns the counselor about *tradition* and *philosophy* (Col. 2:8).

This means that no matter how experienced or how intelligent the “counselor” is (Prov. 11:14), he or she can never be a substitute for the *Author* of the New Testament (John 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16). God always knows *something* about every mess into which we get, about every person with whom we deal, about every situation that arises, and about every disaster we encounter that WE do not know. I often say “*Gott weiss was er tun, und nie Andere.*” This means “God knows what He is doing and none else” (i.e., nobody else knows what He is doing).

It is true that God, in His Book, has often *told* man what He is doing, what He has done, and what He is going to do, but the individual catastrophes (Ecc. 9:11) that come up “as a snare” (Ecc. 9:12) are rarely forecast; at least, God does not explain to anyone *why* He does certain things the way He does them (Rom. 11:33–34).

Read Ecclesiastes carefully at this point (Ecc. 9:2, 4:1). Note that it is a Wisdom Book (there are five of them), and it was written by the wisest man who ever lived (1 Kings 3:12); at least according to the One who made all men.

There are too many cases to list. Why God suddenly takes someone’s little baby home or why God takes a boy’s mother home before he is twelve years old or why God lets good, clean-living, hard-working men die of cancer before they are forty years old or why God has allowed thousands of people (saved and lost) to be slowly tortured to death (when He could have mercifully killed them on the spot) or why God allows hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, cyclones, and floods to do away with hundreds of His own children (John 1:12) right along with “the Devil’s kids” (John 8:44), *no one knows “for sure.” But He does these things.*

Even while you are praying about *your own problems* and the problems of others, you cannot always be sure you have access to all the “facts.” That is why Paul wrote Romans 8:26. The same certainly holds true when you attempt to counsel *others* about their problems, and the same holds for those who come *to you* for counseling.

There is only *one perfect counselor*. Isaiah 9:6 tells you who He is. That “**Counselor**” is wiser than a cherub who was wiser (Ezek. 28:3,15,17) than Solomon.

So tell the inquirer: “Be sure to pray for *wisdom* from now on about every move you make.” This means the lawyer you get (if you need one), how much to *tell him* if you need to tell him anything, who to get and not to get for witnesses, when to write to an “ex-wife” (or husband) if you *should* write, whether or not to make any phone calls, what to say to the children when you see them, what doctor to chose and when to see him, what remedies to try before you see him, when to take a meeting and when *not* to take a meeting, what

church to join and what church *not* to join, what *Bible* to believe and what one *not* to believe, where to spend your money, *how much to spend*, and *when* to spend it, etc., etc.

Pray for wisdom. Did you know that is one of the reasons for the Blood Atonement? Look at this:

“And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of WISDOM, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

“For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

“And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

“And my speech and my preaching WAS NOT WITH ENTICING WORDS OF MAN’S WISDOM, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

“That your faith should NOT STAND IN THE WISDOM of men, but in the power of God.

“Howbeit we speak WISDOM among them that are perfect: YET NOT THE WISDOM OF THIS WORLD, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

“But we speak the WISDOM of God in a mystery, even the hidden WISDOM, which God ordained before the world unto our glory” (1 Cor. 2:1–7).

“WISDOM is the principle thing” (Prov. 4:7).

Chapter 13

Wise Advice From a Veteran

Bob Jones Sr. (1882–1968) was one of the last of the “old guard” of the Philadelphia Church period; he was born just before the Laodicean church led the Body of Christ into total apostasy. He lived to see this apostasy, and *unfortunately*, the school *he founded* had a great deal to do with its acceptance and spread (see *The History of the New Testament Church*, Vol. II, 1982; *The Last Grenade*, 1990, and *The Christian Liars’ Library*, 1997).

“Old man Bob,” as we affectionately called him, was one of the wisest men with one of the sharpest minds I have ever encountered: either personally or through his writings and sermons. He was a peanut farmer born near Dothan, Alabama in a community called “Skipperville.” His first college was at College Point, Florida, north of Panama City; the next one was in Cleveland, Tennessee; and it wound up in Greenville, South Carolina—the “stomping grounds” of Oliver Green, J. Harold Smith, Harv Stanberg, Harold Sightler, B. B. Caldwell, and a dozen Bible-believing evangelists who came down from the Great Smokies to hold tent meetings there.

Bob Jones Sr. majored in common sense and a “**philosophy**” that the Bible would accept, although it warned against that subject (Col. 2:8), exactly as it warned against “**science**” (1 Tim. 6:20): the *King James Bible*, that is; none of the other 214 corrupt translations from “older and better manuscripts” warn you about *either*.

But Bob Jones Sr.’s “philosophy” was not just “based on Biblical principles” (standard cliché used by all *apostates* to avoid saying “*Scripture*”). It was based on personal experience in nationwide dealings with all classes and kinds of people, first as a Methodist “circuit riding” evangelist and secondly as the founder of a Christian College. Further, his “philosophy” was actually “*Scripture*” (literal verses) given in “*dynamic equivalence*” (a hackneyed cliché used by all apostate revisors on the committees that produced the *RV*, *RSV*, *NRSV*, *ASV*, *NASV*, *NKJV*, and *NIV*).

For example: “*Finish the job.*” Note how that “sits” with Hebrews 6:1, 12:2; 2 Tim. 4:7; John 17:4 and 19:30.

For example: “*It’s a sin to do less than your best.*” Check that one with James 4:17; 2 Corinthians 8:12; Colossians 3:23 and 3:17.

For example: “*The best preparation for tomorrow is to do what you ought to do today.*” Check that one alongside Matthew 6:25,34; 2 Corinthians 6:2; and Proverbs 27:1.

You see, now, what I meant by my remarks on a “Christian” philosophy?

For example: “*It is never right to do wrong to get a chance to do right.*” You see, “Old man Bob” had constructed a common-sense philosophical system from the texts in a *King James 1611 Authorized Version*. That last one was from Romans 3:8 and Acts 16:17–18.

The *King James 1611 Authorized Version* was the only Bible Bobby’s *mother* ever saw

or read. It was the only Bible his *father* accepted as a Bible, so it was the only Bible that Bob Jones Sr. preached in *thirty-eight years* as an evangelist.

In our book on *Things I Have Not Learned* (1995), you will find where I have dealt with *four* of Bob Jones' epigrams in detail. For a complete list buy Bob Jones Sr.'s book on *Things I Have Learned* from the Bible Baptist Bookstore.

In this present work, "*The God-Called Preacher*," it is fitting that we should close with the advice that we can get from this veteran of the Philadelphia Church Period. *His contemporaries are all gone to be with the Lord*: B. R. Lakin, Sam Jones, R. A. Torrey, Billy Sunday, Gypsy Smith, Vance Havner, J. Frank Norris, Pappy Reveal, Dr. DeHaan, Theodore Epp, George Truett, Lee Scarborough, John Rice, *und so weiter*. Only Lee Roberson remains, and he was not born till more than twenty-six years *after* Bob Jones Sr. was born.

Here is the "Dean" of Protestant, *Bible-believing*, white, straight, saved, MALE ministers. (I only included that to remind some absentminded, ecumenical "Global Citizen" that every liberty document for the United States of America, set up by our "fathers"—the *Bill of Rights*, the *Constitution*, and the *Declaration of Independence*—was set up by *white*, straight, Protestant MALES.)

1. "*The greatest two words in the English language are 'DO RIGHT'*" (Gen. 18:25; 1 Pet. 3:14; James 1:22).
2. "*It is never right to do wrong to get a chance to do right*" (see Acts 16:17–18 and 2 Kings 5:22–27 for examples).
3. "*The right road leads out at the right place*" (Matt. 7:14).
4. "*It is never a compromise to go as far as you can along the right road with ANYBODY; it is always a compromise to go ANY distance on the wrong road with anybody*" (see 1 Kings 22:4; 2 Chron. 20:37; Ezra 4:1–3).
5. "*Finish the job*" (see above).
6. "*It is a sin to do less than your best*" (see above).
7. "*Prepare for the worse* (Eph. 6:10–17; 2 Tim. 3:1–8) *and hope for the best*" (2 Cor. 4:17–18; 1 Pet. 1:3,13,21; James 5:6–11).
8. "*Make sure your 'convictions' are not just 'prejudices'*" (see 1 Cor. 11:14–16 and Rom. 14:2,5–6,13).
9. "*The best preparation for tomorrow is to do what you ought to do TODAY*" (see above).
10. "*The man in this life who is a success is the man that finds out what God wants HIM to do, and does it*" (see Rom. 12:1–3 and Col. 4:12).
11. "*Duties never conflict*" (see 1 Cor. 14:33; James 1:8; Acts 8:7–8, 26).
12. "*Never sacrifice the permanent on the altar of the immediate*" (see Heb. 12:16–17; Gen. 13:9–11; 2 Tim. 4:10).
13. "*No doubt the trouble is with YOU*" (see Rom. 14:12; Matt. 7:1–5).

14. “*At the root of every doubt there is some kind of sin*” (Matt. 14:31; Luke 18:8; Rom. 14:23; Heb. 11:1,6; Matt. 8:10).

15. “*Do right, though the stars fall*” (Dan. 6:10–13; 1 Pet. 3:13–17; Jer. 20:7–9; and John the Baptist in Mark 6:18).

If any God-called preacher thinks that he is a “Man of God” then he had better adopt *all fifteen of those sayings* for his Biblical “Constitution.” One might add these two gems from “Dixie” (the Deep South): “There are *two things* you should never worry about; what you can *fix* and what you *can’t* fix,” and “Lord, show me the things I am able to fix and the things I can never fix, and give me the wisdom to know the *difference* between them.”

I have *three* to add:

“The only time a man acts tough is when he knows he ‘has the edge.’”

“If it don’t make sense there’s a BUCK in it.”

“God alone knows what He is really doing.”

Sayonara! Salamat! Proschai! Adieu! Adios! Ade! Auf Wiedersehen! Hasta LaVista! Aloha! and “*Good-bye!*”

“*See you in Israel!*”

[Other works available on Kindle](#)

Entire publication list at

www.kjv1611.org