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MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By

David A. Davis

*“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without
which no man shall see the Lord” Heb 12:14*

Spreading Scriptural Holiness to the World

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David A. Davis

Father of Dorothea Maxey

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

After many years study and reading books by Christian men and women, I decided to write down what I believe is the one way to heaven, and I feel the Lord has wonderfully helped me in deciding what to write.

I also have to give many thanks to my daughter, Dorothea A. Maxey, and her husband, Duane Maxey, for the many hours they have spent typing, correcting, and arranging this book for the publisher.

THE AUTHOR,
David A. Davis
Coeur D' Alene, Idaho
November 22 ,1992

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INTRODUCTION

This book has been written by my father when he was 92 years old. We encouraged him when his physical strength gave out and he could no longer keep physically active, to keep his mind active. He studied his Bible and related books. When we got our computers we encouraged him to use it and write his history down for us. It then broadened out into the book presented here.

David A. Davis was born March 24, 1898 and remarked frequently how many firsts he saw growing up. A lot of them are mentioned in the book. Then we published this book for him in printed form, and it was also a first for him.

This electronic publication is also a first for this book. This is done in memory of my father who died at the age of 95, on June 29, 1993.

We trust this will be a blessing to you.

Dorothea and Duane Maxey

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

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CHAPTER 1 MY LIFE STORY

To the best of my knowledge all of my ancestors migrated from the British Isles to Canada many years ago. My great grandparents came to Prince Edward Island and raised their family. This is the first knowledge I have of the Davis family. My grandfather, Thomas Davis, was born there on March 2, 1811. After he was grown to manhood he moved west to Durham, Ontario, Canada. Here he met and married an Irish Lassie on August 31, 1841.

My grandmother, born Martha Farr, was born June 18, 1816 in County Down, Ireland. Later the family moved to Durham, Ontario, Canada. Here she met and married my grandfather on August 31, 1841. They moved onto a farm where they farmed the rest of their lives. They raised a family of nine children. My father, David John Davis, being the youngest. He was born November 12, 1857.

The Greenwood family moved from England to Durham, Ontario, Canada where my mother, Elizabeth Grace Greenwood, was born. I don't know how many were in the family, but she was the youngest and only one born in Canada. She was born September 15, 1862, and I suppose attended the same school as my father. Anyway, they were married on October 2, 1881 and settled on a farm nearby. I am sure many interesting things happened in the next sixteen years, but they never told me about them. In 1897 my folks decided to sell the farm and move to northern Michigan. They had seven children by that time, and loaded the family and furniture on two sleds and drove across the lake near Sault St. Marie on the ice sometime during the winter of 1897-98.

They rented a house in Gatesville, now known as Gettisville, Pickford County, Michigan. I was born here on March 24, 1898. In the spring, my father bought an eighty acre farm near there and we moved into a two story log house out in the woods. There was quite a large area of cleared land and twenty acres of sugar maples. Every spring we collected barrels of maple sap. I still remember running around among the trees and drinking the sweet sap that came from the trees. I was pretty small about four, five, or six years old that I remember about. We had a beautiful well near the house with an old iron pump, and in the summer that water came up almost ice cold. How we loved to pump and drink that cold water on hot summer days.

Two years after we moved to this farm my mother presented us with another baby boy, Roy Earnest Davis, on October 24, 1900 and on December 24, 1903 we received a baby sister, Harriet Annie Davis, for Christmas. I remember there were plenty of deer in the woods, but there were also many black bears and bobcats. We could hear them at night and see their eyes shining from the trees near the house. We kids didn't dare to go outside the door alone after dark. I remember one day, I must have been five years old. My two little brothers and I were in the kitchen in the middle of the afternoon begging my oldest sister for something to eat (we were always hungry at that age) when we heard a crackling noise upstairs. My sister listened for about a minute, then yelled "FIRE". My father and two oldest brothers were away somewhere on business, so it was up to us to put out the

fire. My mother grabbed a bucket of water and a dipper and went upstairs to the attic to fight the fire from the inside. My oldest sister went up on the roof with a bucket of water. My other three sisters formed a bucket brigade from the well to the roof. I wasn't very big, but I manned the pump to keep the water running. My seven year old brother ran to the neighbors for help. By the time the neighbor got there the fire was out. He got up on the roof to make sure it was out. One thing I remember about the fire was one bucket of water my sister threw on the fire came right down over my mother's head and shoulders. That was the only casualty, but when father came home he was thankful he had a house to come to, even if he had a repair job on the roof.

After harvesting the maple syrup in the spring of 1904, my father sold the farm and had an auction sale. He sold all the cows, some of the horses and machinery, and the furniture they decided not to take with us. They loaded a boxcar with four horses and two dogs in one end and the rest of the furniture in the other end. My oldest brother rode with the horses so he could feed and water them. The rest of the family rode on the passenger train. The trip out west was quite uneventful, to me at least. We first crossed over to Ontario, Canada, then west to McCloud, Alberta, Canada, where we spent the winter in a rented house.

Somewhere, however, on the journey we were all exposed to diphtheria and before we were really settled my mother became very sick. The doctor pronounced it diphtheria and put a big red "Quarantine" sign on our door. The whole family except my father and oldest brother came down with the disease, so they nursed the family through most of the winter. We were afraid for a few days that my mother wasn't going to make it, but she lived through it. She had the worst case.

When the authorities pronounced everyone well, everything had to be thoroughly disinfected before they could take down the sign. Each person had to be bathed with some kind of disinfectant in the water and then dressed in sterilized clothes and put outside the house. I don't remember, but I guess we went to some of the neighbors. The house was then sealed all around the doors and windows and some kind of disinfectant was put in the house, I believe it was twelve hours. If my memory is correct, they burned sulphur until the whole house was thoroughly filled with the smoke. At the end of twelve hours, the doors and windows were opened and we had to wait another eight hours before anyone could enter the house. We could still smell the smoke when we were ready to move out to our ranch a few weeks later.

Early in the spring of 1905, my father and two oldest brothers went to Lethbridge and filed a claim to a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres each, costing each one ten dollars. If at that time women had been able to homestead, my three oldest sisters could have each had one hundred and sixty acres.

As soon as a house could be built, the whole family moved out to the farm, a happy day for all of us. It is hard to describe how we all felt after being confined to the inside of a house most of the winter, to be out where we could run miles in any direction and not even see another house.

Speaking of running, we had to be awful careful not to step on a cactus. These were little round balls covered with spines that grew in the prairie grass. If you stepped on one, of course we were all

barefoot, we limped back to the house and someone would pull out all the spines with the tweezers. We would always run some more, but were more careful.

As soon as we got moved, my folks went to plowing up the prairie sod and planting wheat and oats. We also planted a large garden and with twelve in the family, it took a lot of garden to keep us supplied. That Fall they harvested the crops with the old-fashioned binder that tied the bundles of grain up in neat bundles with binder twine. After it was stood up in stooks to cure out, it was hauled in and stacked until the threshing machine could come by and thresh it out. Those stacks were built round about fifteen feet across and twenty five feet high. We had a full-size basement and by that time one side was full of coal for the winter and the other side was full of vegetables, also for the winter.

I believe it was on September 5, 1905 at five o'clock in the morning that we heard a terrible noise. The kitchen door was open and all the pans and kettles, plus two big wash-tubs, were sliding out the door. Later we found them scattered for a mile down across the prairie. A cyclone had passed by. Later we saw such freaky things as two bundles of grain that had been lifted off the top of one of the stacks. A few feet away several tons of wet hay had been picked up, though it was weighed down with at least a thousand pounds of rock tied on with heavy wire, and set it down in front of the barn. It went past the house and sucked the east gable end out about 8 inches, then it was gone across the open prairie. My brothers had to find a way to put that hay back on the barn. They also had to figure out how to push that gable end back in place before they could continue to finish the house.

In October, 1905 the man with the original threshing machine, who traveled all around that part of the country threshing out a few stacks of grain here and there for farmers, arrived at our place. There were no steam or gas engines then to drive the machine. It was horse-power. You will probably never see one, so I will try to describe it the best I can. There was some kind of machine with gears attached to a long pole. They hitched a horse to the end of the pole and, as the horse went around and around in a circle, it turned the gears which were somehow connected to the threshing machine. This caused it to thresh the grain. A man or a boy sat on the seat on the gear box with a buggy whip to keep the horse going. When the horse stopped, so did the machine.

Now, for the threshing machine as it worked. A man with a fork stood on top of the stack and threw a bundle down, one at a time onto the conveyor belt. There a man saw that it was turned the right direction to go through the machine. A man with a sharp knife stood on the other side of the conveyor belt and cut the twine so the hammers could pound out the grain. A large fan blew the chaff out the back end of the machine and another conveyor belt carried the straw out the back also. The grain was carried up by some kind of an auger and dropped into a wagon box to be hauled away to the grain bin which was prepared to hold it 'til later.

Now my father would take a load of wheat to the flour mill and have it ground. There would be so many sacks of white flour, so many sacks of shorts, (now known as graham flour) and then a few sacks of bran. Now we were stocked up for the winter with the basement full of coal and vegetables, and the attic full of flour. So, when we butchered a beef and a couple of hogs, all we had to do was take care of the animals, then sit around the fire and read or play games 'til spring. My parents were Christians, and my father would get the family together and read the Bible and have a session of

prayer. One morning he was reading Psalm 34. As he read verses 19 & 20, I was not more than eight years old, but something seemed to say "That is for you." It read: "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. He keepeth all his bones. Not one of them is broken." I didn't say anything about it then, but I believed it then, and I still do.

In later years, I rode many wild horses. If they could put the saddle on it, I would get on its back. I was thrown many times, but no broken bones. I also broke many wild horses to work or pull the wagon or buggy. Later I worked as a carpenter, I had several bad falls, but still no broken bones.

The Lord seems to have had His hand on me for good all of my life. Of course, I knew my mother was praying for me as long as she lived. Maybe she still is. When I was growing up I learned to obey my parents, not because I feared them, but because I loved them I felt better when I had done what I was told, and so, I didn't learn to fear. When I was about 12 yrs. old, an old-fashioned Methodist preacher came to our country school house. My sister and I went to the altar and had our sins forgiven. Now I was old enough to learn to obey the Lord the same way I obeyed my parents.

My father and I were very close, real pals. When, just before my 15th birthday he took very ill and died, it was a great shock to me. I felt completely lost. I slowly learned to think for myself, instead of depending on him. But, I never got over missing him, even today.

I could write many pages about some of the horses I trained, I loved working with horses. How wild and mean some of them were and how well they turned out, but you might get bored.

When I went to high school in the city, I was able to attend church services regularly. I learned that the Bible says that we should be baptized, so it was arranged that a group of us were baptized one Sunday.

World War I was fought while I was in high school. I signed up for the Air Force, but the war ended shortly before I got into training. After my older brother received his discharge from the Army in 1918, we decided to go up to the Peace River country in northern Alberta. Here the government was giving away homesteads. If things looked good, we would get us some free land. We talked to some of the farmers and decided that we did not want to farm up there. They said it only got down to 60 degrees below zero in the winter. One farmer said he shipped a car load of oats to Edmonton, and after he sold them he still owed \$19 for shipping charges.

We each got a job on a farm up there, as we both needed money to get back south. My brother worked for a while, then went down to southern Saskatchewan where he worked for more than a year. I left the farm and got a job in a creamery in town, and worked there until it closed down for the winter. Then I went south to Seattle, Washington for the winter.

In the spring I went out to work as a bridge carpenter for the railroad, where a friend of mine was the foreman. It was a real good job for the summer time, with good pay, but not so good in the winter. I looked for an inside job for the winter. I did various jobs in Canada and Washington 'til the Spring of 1923. Then I went to Fresno, California where my youngest brother lived. For 6 yrs. I had steady work there.

In 1925, my mother and little niece came to live with me in Fresno. At Christmas she gave me a Bible, my first Bible. That was when I became interested in reading my Bible, though I had spent many hours reading other books.

In 1926, my mother decided she wanted to go back home to Canada. That year I married a very lovely lady that I had met some time before. We had a marvelous time for about a year, when she suddenly became very ill and died. It seemed like the end of everything for me.

It was at this time things came up in the church I was attending that hurt me so bad I swore I would never go back there again, and I never did. I kept reading my Bible, and I found so many things there that they did not teach that I was happy to be free from what they taught.

The general idea I had heard up to this time had been that each person sinned in thought, word, or deed every day. So to balance that, we should do as many good deeds that same day. At the end of the day, if we had time and weren't too tired, we would take time to tell the Lord all the good deeds we had done and ask Him to forgive that day's sins. At least that is how I saw it. That way, you never knew how things balanced up and so were always afraid the Lord would come at the wrong time of the day. I kept reading in the Bible that if we repented and turned to the Lord, He would forgive our sins and put them as far as the east is from the west and remember them no more against us. Or, He would bury them in the deepest sea, and still remember them no more. Then He said "If you will believe Me and obey My will, I will give you a clean heart so you won't want the things of sin any more. I did much praying about that and told the Lord that was what I wanted.

If my memory is correct, I was on my way from Santa Cruz to Fresno, California in the Fall of 1930. I was way up in the mountains on a winding mountain road when suddenly I was not in the car, but was looking at the dividing of the way. On my right hand was a wide paved street with a nice side-walk and business houses all along the sidewalk, and in the middle of the businesses was a big sign which said: "Saloon." In the gutter in front of the saloon lay a man who had too much to drink. Just then I heard a voice from the mountain side behind me say, "Now, are you ready to let Me guide you all the way?," or words to that effect. I turned around and there was no man there. But, I saw a fence with a narrow steel gate and a narrow path leading around the side of the mountain. I knew it was the Lord, and all I could say was, "Yes, Lord, lead on." It was a pretty rough looking trail as far as I could see, but for all these years He has gone first. I started to walk toward the gate, but before I got there it felt like someone had poured something down over my head and shoulders. I know it was the Holy Spirit, because I felt so clean, and to this day I have never felt the inner urge to do those things which I used to enjoy doing. Immediately after this, I was consciously in the car driving around the mountain on my way. I know I did not go to sleep and dream this because up there one moment of sleep and I would have gone over a cliff to my death.

The job I went to was night watchman in a steam laundry, and as it turned out, I was supposed to do some janitor work besides. I had to punch a clock at eight stations in the plant every hour so they would know I had covered the whole plant, including the office where the safe was located. That was the job. The janitor work was really for free to the company. The man that was doing the job before me was found one morning bound and gagged in the office beside the safe that had been blown open and robbed. The company thought I should apply for a permit to carry a gun, but I decided not to do

so. The other fellow didn't get a chance to use his gun, so why carry one. I worked there through the winter, but decided I was doing two men's work for one man's wages. So I returned to Hayward, California. Here I owned a home where my father-in-law and mother-in-law were living.

This was during the depression and I was unsuccessful in finding a job. So when I got a letter from my brother in Illinois begging me to come back there, I decided that was God's answer to my problems. After some delay and a couple of false starts the Lord made a way for me to get there. My brother was farming and needed my help so for the next four years, in the worst of the depression with the Lord's help we came through just fine.

The first summer I was there the county gave us a job clearing the trees and brush away from the side of the highway on each side of a bridge that crossed a creek at an angle. We were hired for this job after a car missed the bridge and fell in the water. I then helped him harvest his corn crop. Late that Fall we found a bee tree with loads of honey and we had honey to last at least a year. That winter I hunted and trapped cotton-tail rabbits and sold them frozen to the store. They shipped them to Australia for food.

The next Spring besides the corn crop, we planted about an acre of green beans. When they started to bear, one day we would pick beans and the next morning we hauled them in to town (we now had a used Model-T Ford). We had a pretty good business with some of the stores and the remainder we sold door to door on the street. We also raised some calves and some hogs, so we got along nicely. We also got a good supply of beans and corn canned for the winter. My brother and sister-in-law were Christians, Free-Methodists, so we all worked hard and trusted the Lord to supply our needs.

My brother was renting this farm, but I found out he owned 20 acres some 4 miles from there. One day we walked over to see how good it was and to see if there was some way we could build him a house so he could move into his own place. We found a large, older house for sale cheap to be torn down. So, we bought it and tore it down and hauled the lumber to his place, and, as I was a pretty good carpenter, we built them a nice two-bedroom home and had enough left over to build them a small barn for their two horses and one cow.

One day, after I had them all moved and settled in their own home, my brother and I went out looking over the ground deciding what to plow for the next crop. The thought came to me about a certain place on the back part of the 20 acres. I know it was of the Lord. I told him: "I believe there is coal right here," and my brother said, "Let us dig down and see." We went and got a pick and shovel and started digging. I dug a hole about three by four feet, and when we got down about four feet we came to a solid layer of limestone. I told my brother that right under that rock was coal. We got some dynamite and drilled a hole down into the rock. My brother knew how to use dynamite, so we blew a hole in the rock and there was the coal—beautiful, and black, and shiny.

We uncovered a space about ten feet square and found we had an 18 inch thick vein of beautiful coal. We continued to dig and took out many tons of coal. We used what we needed and stored for future use, and then sold the rest. I traded in my Ford on a nice, used Dodge car, and traded coal for the rest of the price.

One day when I was digging out the coal from under the rock, something inside me said, "Jump!" I didn't ask why, but I jumped backwards as far as I could. By the time my feet settled on the ground, I saw a large rock, weighing at least 300 pounds, sitting where I had been standing. The Lord had kept His promise that none of my bones would be broken.

Maybe here I should tell you how my brother and I built a well from the bottom up. Under the coal we found there was a small stream of water. So we took the limestone and built a tunnel over the water as we worked down the hill. When we got to the property line we had to stop digging. So we used the limestone and built a well, and as we built it we filled around it with rock and dirt. When we got up to ground level we had a well that kept us supplied with water, and it was walled up with limestone rock.

In the Spring of 1936 we all felt there was not much more for me to do there, so I loaded up my Dodge with my belongings and was on my way back to California. I had a few cases of canned vegetables, but very little money. I said, "Lord, How can I go that far with so little money?" But He still seemed to say "Go". So I borrowed \$10 from my brother, saying that I would send it to him as soon as I could get a job and earn that much. I started out early in the morning, filled up with gas and traveled north until the middle of the afternoon. I needed more gas, so I pulled into a service station. While there I asked the attendant if he knew of anyone needing a man to work for the summer. The Lord had it timed just right, for he said that a farmer had been there that day looking for a man to drive his tractor. He gave directions to find the farm and I was hired on the spot. I worked there all through Spring plowing and planting. I was soon able to send my brother his \$10.

Just before the tractor job ran out, a neighbor came over and said he had a lot of plowing to be done that summer with horses, and wondered if I would be interested. I said I would. I was to go over in a few days when I finished with the tractor.

I worked there until harvest time and then helped him through most of the harvest. By that time it was getting late in the season and I wanted to get across the Rockies before the passes were blocked. So I told the farmer I would have to get going, as I wanted to get to Seattle before the snow came. These farms were near Peoria, so after I crossed the Mississippi, I drove north to Winnipeg, Canada, as I wanted to visit my other brother in Alberta before going to Washington and California.

I know the Lord was with me on the long trip, for somewhere in Minnesota I went to sleep, for how long I do not know. But I woke up when the left front wheel went off the pavement on the left side of the highway. Without any thought or reason, I cut the wheel left and went straight down the embankment at least 20 feet and drove out into a field, turned around, and drove straight up the bank and onto the highway and kept on going. The extra-amazing thing about this is, as far as I could see, that was the only place along there with no ditch at the bottom of the embankment and no fence at that point. I know the Lord saved my life for some reason.

I traveled on until towards evening and I was getting hungry, so was looking for some place to eat and also a place to sleep, as I was getting tired. At last I saw a sort of wayside motel where I could spend the night, but there was no place to eat. The kind lady consented to fix me something in her home, so I ate and then had a good night's sleep.

The next morning I found a place to get some breakfast and didn't stop again until I was way north of St. Paul and found a small restaurant and relaxed for a short time. When I came out there was a priest, I don't know what order, but he wanted a ride to Winnipeg, Canada, if I was going that far, which I was. Now I had someone to talk to. When I came to the Canadian border, possibly because I was travelling with a priest, they asked very few questions and passed me right on through.

When I got to Winnipeg, we drove into a service station and there the priest left me and went on his way. I believe it was there I put on a new tire and went across the street to a restaurant and had my evening meal. After that, I drove west out of Winnipeg, but didn't find a suitable place to spend the night. So I found a quiet place and slept that night in the car.

At that time the only paved highway was right in the city. It was pretty slow travelling on those rough gravel roads. However, I made it all the way to my brother's place in Alberta by some time that evening. There I found a bed and something to eat.

My brother said, "You are just in time, as I am just getting ready to start my harvest." Once more the Lord had it timed just right. His tractor and combine both needed to be completely overhauled. He was going to hire a mechanic to do the job. I did the two overhaul jobs, and I drove the tractor and he operated the combine. So all he had to hire was someone to haul the grain away from the machine. We had good weather all through the harvest.

I was getting rather low on money when I arrived at my brother's place, so now I had enough to take me all the way to California. I looked for work around Seattle, but did not find any, so went on to California where my youngest brother lived in the northern part of the state. I visited with him for a couple of days.

My brother and I married sisters, but I lost my wife after we were married about one year, but my brother's wife lived many years. At the time I arrived at his house my mother-in-law was visiting with her daughter and my brother. She was about ready to return south to Hayward, California where she lived. That was where I wanted to go so she said she would pay for my gas if I would give her a ride home. So the Lord's timing was just right again.

I stayed with the in-laws for a few days 'til the Lord found me a job. It was only \$20 a month plus room and board on a chicken ranch. That wasn't much, but this was still the depression. I worked there about two years and saved enough to buy a good second-hand car. My Dodge just wore out and I sold it for \$10 as junk, and I had to have some kind of a car.

At this time the man who owned the hatchery where my boss bought their baby chicks offered me a job at \$80 a month with a cabin to live in, but I was responsible for my own living expenses. I accepted the offer and worked there another two years. The last few months I worked there I went out selling baby chicks on the percentage basis. While doing so, I came in contact with another small hatchery. He and his son were in partnership, but the son wanted out, so he asked me to come in to take his son's place. It looked like a good deal, so I went in with him and we worked together until the Fall of 1941. Then I sold my share and moved out.

In Illinois, I attended the Free-Methodist church where my brother both attended and did most of the preaching. After coming to California, I did not find a group I felt comfortable with until I was working at the hatchery. My mother-in-law asked me to take her to a revival meeting at the Nazarene church in east Oakland. I liked it so well I started to attend regularly, and there I made friends with a couple who owned a second-hand store in Hayward, California.

After I left the hatchery, I bought a half interest in the store. Later that Fall, I married my friend's sister-in-law and we took over the management of the store, and my friend had a steady job by then. World War II broke out in December, and the next summer I sold the store which I now owned completely. I bought a home and went to work on a job in Oakland. In my spare time I did some remodeling on our new home, and because the war made a shortage of meat we raised rabbits and chickens and put in a nice garden.

About this time a group of friends and myself decided we wanted a church in Hayward. So after holding a few prayer meetings, we called a pastor and started regular services in my friend's basement, which with a little remodeling made quite a nice chapel. This is where I met and married this friend's sister-in-law, and ours was the first wedding in the new chapel.

At this time I was able to offer my brother living in Illinois a steady job in California. They sold their farm and moved to Hayward where they bought a small home and spent the rest of their lives in comfort in California. The Lord not only took care of all my needs, but helped to take care of the needs of my brother and his wife and give each of them a proper funeral.

For 24 years we worked together with our friends to get a good church going in Hayward. First we bought a suitable building on Main St., but in a few years we needed a larger place to worship. We sold that place and bought 2 acres on the edge of town and started building. Now they have a large and beautiful building and though I am not there anymore I hear it is doing real well.

I believe it was in 1943 that I was offered a job in Hayward with the Hunt's Packing Co., which was so close to my home I could walk to work. A big wind storm had torn a large part of the roof from the plant. Then they were doing a lot of remodeling, so I worked there until some time in 1947 when most of the remodeling was finished. It was during World War II that I was working here and the company, to help the war effort, used to bring a bus load of returned veterans down from the army base every Monday morning. They would house and feed them for a week and give them a week's pay to work in the plant. So every week I had a new crew and most of them were not carpenters. So I spent most of my time showing them what to do, but we did get the job done.

Now I took time to finish remodeling my home and then sold it at a good profit. Then I bought a couple of acres with a small home on it. At this time my wife became pregnant, and at the appointed time gave me a beautiful daughter. While living here the Pacific Can Co. decided to move their factory from San Francisco to San Leandro. They bought an acreage with a large building on it which they had to remodel to suit their business. I applied for and got a job as carpenter there. Later I worked as maintenance machinist and stayed there until my retirement at 65 yrs. of age.

Before I go further, I must tell of a miracle that happened to us that saved our lives. The 2 acres I owned was up above the main highway between Reno, Nevada and Oakland, California. The street that led from my place to the highway was quite a steep hill. My car at that time was equipped with hydraulic brakes, as all modern cars are today. When I went to brake on the hill, there were no brakes, as the oil line had ruptured. All I could do was cry, "Lord, Help Me!," and He did. I had my wife and baby with me. The Lord had many things ahead for all of us, so He made an unusual break in the traffic and I shot across that four-lane highway without getting killed or even a scratch on the car. Today my daughter is working as a pastor's wife and also as a nurse.

While working on this job, I continued to buy and sell real estate and ended up at retirement with a home paid for and a tri-plex as a rental. By this time my daughter was about to finish high school and we had to think about sending her to college. Now we sold our tri-plex and a little later traded our home in on a beautiful eight-plex apartment house and moved into one of the apartments.

We chose the Nazarene college in Nampa, Idaho for our daughter. When she was in her second year in college, we decided to sell our apartment house and move to Nampa, Idaho to be closer to our daughter. first, we rented until we found a place we decided to buy. Later we sold that place and bought one that suited us much better. Still we had not received all of our money from California. I had a friend in the real estate business that I left to finish up the final papers and get everything I owned down there sold.

The first three years in college, my daughter took business administration. But then she decided she wanted to be a nurse. She could not get that training in Nampa, but was accepted in the college in Bethany, Oklahoma. At that time I did not have the cash in hand, but still had a dribble of money coming from California. She felt sure that was what the Lord wanted for her life, and so did I, so I told her to get ready to go and the Lord would supply the money. We got the clothes ready and all the papers signed. A few weeks before she was to leave, I had a letter from my agent in California saying if I would deduct five hundred dollars from the amount owed that he could get all the rest in cash. All I had to do was send him the signed papers and he would forward me the check. There was the money right on time. It also allowed me to turn in one of my cars on a new one. I also sold my other car at that time for cash.

One year later my daughter entered nurses training through a hospital in Illinois, and after two years received her RN certificate. Now she was a Registered Nurse. While my daughter was getting her training I sold my house and bought a place that needed some work done on it. I remodeled it and ended up with a nice home worth twice what the other one sold for. In the meantime my wife's health began to fail her and for three years she was on oxygen. The Lord took her home on the tenth of October, 1978.

My daughter remained on the staff at the hospital in Illinois after graduation until her mother's illness, when she decided to come home in 1972 to be near and help her mother. She went to work at the Caldwell hospital and worked there for 12 years.

After I lost my wife I was very lonely, and about all I had to do was keep up the housework and read, which I did a lot of. I was 80 years old, so there didn't seem to be much I could do. However,

several things seemed to happen and the Lord seemed to approve that I should try my hand at oil painting. I told the Lord I didn't know anything about painting, but He still seemed to be impressing me I should try. So I went down and bought canvas, paint and brushes, and told the Lord I would try if He would help me. I painted several and they turned out so good that when I went to our newspaper, who made a practice of printing one artist's picture a week, they accepted one of mine and gave me a write-up. The lady who chose my picture had taken an art course in college, and when I discussed doing the same, she advised me not to. She said my paintings were natural American and a course would likely just spoil my style. I did not take the course, but at this date almost 9 years later I am still painting some.

About three years ago my daughter and some of my nieces and nephews, knowing I was the only one left of our family that knew most of the family history, asked me to put together a complete family history. So for about a year I spent a lot of my time looking up records and ended up with a pretty complete record. I distributed copies to those who wanted them. During this time, I was told by several people that I should write a book about some of my experiences and the many things I had learned in my studies of the Bible. The Lord seemed to approve also and gave me a promise He would help me to write as He did with my painting. After writing some family history and many experiences of my life, the following pages will be the things I have felt impressed to write after much thought and many hours of study.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

PART TWO CHAPTER 2 THE ETERNAL GOD

Now the Lord tells me He wants me to paint with words. So with His help I will write what he tells me to write.

My first picture is of the Eternal God, As the Eternal Triune Government. The Eternal Father is sitting on the throne as seen by Isaiah chapter six, verses one through four, with the cherubim and seraphim ministering to Him. He is conferring with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, which is the Triune God as written in the scriptures.

Jesus said to the Father, "With your permission and the help of the Holy Spirit I would be pleased to make a marvelous thing and when it is finished I will present it to you as my gift to you." In the Gospel of John chapter one, verses one through five, It is written that all things were made by Him and without Him was not anything make that was made. Then the Father said, "I will give you complete power to build what you have in mind. But there will be certain rules you will have to follow and the Holy Spirit will help you when you need Him. But, "the Father said, "You might have some trouble with satan before you are finished." Jesus said, "With the help of the Holy Spirit, I will conquer satan, even if I have to go down and live among men for a time and die on the cross, I will destroy satan and bring you a gift that is pure and holy."

On the first day they created the heavens and the earth but all was in darkness and the earth was covered with water. God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God divided the light from the darkness and gave us day and night.

On the second day God said, "Let the waters be divided," and so, much of the water became clouds in the heavens and the rest of the water became our oceans. They completely covered the earth as they did in Noah's time.

On the third day the Lord said, "Let the waters under heaven be divided so there will be dry land called earth." Now the water dried up and the mountains and plains were there to divide the water into oceans. The Lord said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, trees and all kinds of vegetation to cover the earth."

On the fourth day the Lord said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night and let them be for signs, seasons, and for days and for years. Let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light upon the earth," and it was so. So the Lord made two great lights, the sun to light the day and the moon to light the night.

On the fifth day God said, "It is time to put life on the earth," so He created great whales and sharks and also all kinds of little fishes to fill all the waters with life. He also created birds of every color and size to fly over the land and many of them made their nests in the mountains. On day number six, God began to create the many kinds of animals on the land. The first mentioned were the large animals such as the dinosaurs and elephants. Then came cattle and sheep and down to the snake and the littlest worms.

Now God blessed all these living things and told them to multiply and fill the earth. Then God said, "Let us make man in our own image and after our likeness and give him dominion over all these things we have created." He also told them to be fruitful and multiply and rule over all living things on the earth. He planted a beautiful garden with grass and every kind of beautiful tree and every beautiful flower that could be named and he placed man (Adam and Eve) in the garden to take care of it. There were no weeds there that needed to be destroyed.

At this time we see a beautiful picture. It must have been spring because everything was beginning to grow and the weather had to be warm because we know they were naked but they didn't know about those things. We don't know how long Adam and Eve were in the garden. The Bible says that in the cool of the evening God came down and walked and talked with them and showed them each day what fruit and vegetables were ready for them to eat. One day He pointed out to them one tree whose fruit was beginning to ripen and it was soon going to look beautiful. But he warned them the fruit was poison for them and if they ate it they would surely die.

This was the first command that God gave to man, except He told them to till the soil in the garden and also to be fruitful and multiply. This garden was just a nice place to live if they obeyed what the Lord told them what to do or not to do. Now satan was just waiting for the time to come when the fruit of that tree would be ripe and look very beautiful to the eyes. He then came into the garden and told Eve, God was wrong and the fruit was not poison but would make them like gods if they ate it. Eve was deceived by his lies so she ate the fruit and gave some to Adam, who knew he should not eat it, but he did and it was accounted to him as sin.

In the evening when God came down to talk with them, Adam and Eve had hid because they knew they had done evil. God called them and when they told Him the whole story and made their excuses, God drove them out of the garden and for their sake cursed the serpent, which was satan, and also cursed the ground which now brought forth weeds and pestilence and diseases. He said to Adam he would have to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow and Eve would bring forth children in pain and suffering. The first animals were killed by God to make garments for them from the animal skins.

God said at that time that the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head and the serpent would bruise his heel and there would be enmity between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent.

In the course of time Eve conceived and brought forth two sons, Cain and Abel. Now Cain was a farmer and grew various crops by working the soil. But Abel was a shepherd and raised sheep.

When it came time to bring an offering to the Lord, Abel brought a lamb of the flock and was accepted of the Lord. But Cain brought of the produce of the field which the Lord did not accept. So Cain became angry and slew his brother because he was jealous. Now God cursed the ground for Cain's sake and drove him from his family and the presence of God. But, God put a mark on Cain and said whoever slays Cain will be cursed seven times. Because of Cain's sin, he lost his inheritance and his father's blessing, so his seed would not carry the line of the Messiah, Who was to bruise the serpent's head.

Now the second son, Abel, was dead and had no seed, so the third son, Seth, became the heir of promise and God blessed him and his seed throughout the generations. The blessing of the promise was supposed to carry through the first born son and did except when that son sinned and lost the blessing.

Now Seth's first born son was Enoch and his first born was Kenan. Kenan's first born was Mahalalel, and his first born was Jared and he in turn became the father of Enoch. Now Enoch was a righteous man and walked with God all his life till God took him. Enoch's first born was Methuselah, the oldest man that ever lived. His son Lamech was the father of Noah, who was five hundred years old when he built the ark.

Now, Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. In my early studies I decided that Noah's wife was a descendant from Cain and was colored, which was the mark God put on Cain and so God had mercy on Cain to give him seed after the flood. After further study I decided it was Ham's wife that was the descendant from Cain because it was only one son of Ham's who became the father of the colored race. All the other descendants from Noah were white or light colored as the Egyptians and the people of Asia.

Throughout the Bible the promised seed of the woman and the blessing was carried through the first born son unless they committed some great sin and then a younger son received the blessing. Therefore, Noah's oldest son Shem is the line traced down through the generations to Abram, Isaac, and Jacob, the father of the twelve tribes of Israel. Abram was the oldest son of Terah and Isaac was Abram's oldest legitimate son. Esau was Isaac's oldest son but he sold his birthright for a mess of pottage and also lost his father's blessing. The line was continued through the second son, Jacob.

Now Ishmael, Abraham's first born by Sarah's handmaid, also became a nation known as the Ishmaelites, but later seem to be absorbed by the nations around them.

Esau also became a great nation known as the Edomites, who for many years were enemies to the Israelites.

This might be a good time to bring in a side issue that is just mentioned in the Bible. For many years I have read about the origin of the people of America and how come the many things built in ancient times were so much like the building in what is known as the Bible world. The Bible says that in the days of Peleg, about the fourth generation from Noah, the world was divided by a great earthquake, and so all the inhabitants of the west part of the earth and all the buildings were separated from the eastern part of the earth and later became known as the Americas. Science tells

us that the American continents are still moving west a few feet each year and that the east coast of America fits pretty close to the outline of the west coast of Europe and Africa. And that solves all the mystery of how the natives got over here.

Now another aside from the main theme. I always seemed to like to read the book of Job, but often wondered who he really was and I have heard many others say the same thing, so one day I decided I would try to find out. So, with the concordance of my Bible I started. The Bible said he lived in the land of Uz, so I started there. I found that one of Abraham's great uncles was named Uz and in that day each man owned large tracts of land and that land was named after the man who owned it. So this territory was called the land of Uz. So Job should be a descendant of Uz and had inherited much of the land. This would make Job a distant cousin of Abraham, and also was descended from Noah's oldest son Shem.

Now to get back to Isaac's two sons. When Esau realized that Jacob had cheated him out of his birthright and also his father's blessing, he threatened to kill him as the only way he could get them back. So Jacob took his mother's advice and fled to her brother, his uncle Laban's place, until Esau's anger should cool. His uncle Laban asked him to stay and work for him, and since he loved Rachel, the youngest daughter, he agreed. He worked 14 years for the two daughters, and then another six years for wages in sheep, goats, and cattle. He then returned to his father Isaac with 12 sons and 1 daughter and great wealth of animals.

At this time he became reconciled to his brother Esau, who by that time was also wealthy. As Jacob moved into his inheritance, Esau also moved to a new location where his descendants became known as the Edomites, who later became the enemies of Jacob's descendants, later known as the Israelites.

On the way to his uncle's place Jacob had a dream, or vision, and God spoke to him and said he would bless him wherever he went, so not to fear. Now on his return trip, before he met his brother Esau, an angel of the Lord met him and as they wrestled the angel blessed him once more and changed his name to Israel and told him he would be the father of a great nation and there would be many kings among them and through them all the nations of the world would be blessed.

Now the Lord chose to bless Joseph, Israel's oldest son by his favorite and best loved wife, Rachel, and Israel loved him more than any other sons. For this reason, the other sons were jealous and hated him, and first thought to kill him, but later when they had a chance to sell him into slavery in Egypt they thought that was better. However, the Lord was with him and prospered him and brought him into great favor with Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Later, in time of great famine, he was able to persuade the Pharaoh to allow him to bring his whole family into Egypt. Here he had a plentiful supply of food and gave them of the best of the land and so saved his father and all the family and their animals from starving. Here they grew and increased greatly in number for the next four hundred years.

Joseph married and had two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, and they became two separate tribes instead of one tribe that would have been Joseph's. Their tribes are mentioned frequently throughout the remainder of the Bible.

Now after many years Joseph died and a new Pharaoh came to the throne and he did not know Joseph. By this time the children of Israel had become great in numbers and he feared they might decide to take over the government, so he passed strict laws making them slaves to the Egyptians, but they still increased in numbers. The laws were made more cruel, trying to destroy them. After four hundred years, and at least two hundred years in cruel slavery, the Lord looked down in pity on their suffering and chose a man and his wife of the tribe of Levi, the third son of Israel, and their son Moses was chosen later to lead all the children of Israel out of bondage.

First he had to be trained, so the Lord arranged for him to be adopted as a baby by Pharaoh's daughter so he would be raised and trained in Pharaoh's household. At the age of forty, he had to flee for his life to the desert country where he spent forty years training in the desert. At eighty years of age, God called to him from a burning bush and sent him back to Egypt to free His people, the children of Israel, from their bondage. Moses told the Lord, "I am a timid man with no eloquence of speech, so how could I persuade such a great people to follow me, or how could I persuade Pharaoh to let them go?" The Lord said, "I will be with you and I also will give you your brother Aaron to help you, and behold, he is now coming to meet you."

He also asked him, "What is that in your hand?" Moses said, "It is my staff." The Lord said, "Throw it on the ground," and it became a snake. "Now," He said, "Pick it up." When Moses obeyed, it was again a staff. Then the Lord said, "Now go, and I will perform many wonderful things for you and teach you what you must do if you will trust Me and obey my words." Moses and Aaron then returned to Egypt and the Lord was with them. They were able to persuade the Israelites to trust them. Then they went to meet Pharaoh. After the Lord helped them to perform many miracles before Pharaoh, He consented to let them go.

Now before the Lord performed the last miracle, which was the death of the firstborn of man and beast, except every home of the Israelites who obeyed His command to kill a lamb and put the blood on the lintel and doorpost, and roast the meat and eat it that night. They were to have everything packed and ready to march in the morning. The Lord told Moses the avenging angel would pass over every home where He saw the blood.

In the morning Pharaoh saw so many dead among his people he told Moses and Aaron to take the Israelites and all they possessed and leave Egypt. So Moses succeeded in delivering the Lord's people from slavery.

Now after several days travel the people came to the place where they had to cross the Red Sea. Pharaoh, who had changed his mind, was pursuing them with a large army to bring them back into slavery. The people became frightened and cried unto Moses. Moses cried unto God for help. The Lord had led them by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. The Lord spoke out of the pillar of fire and told Moses to prepare to cross over in the morning. He said to have the people ready to march in the morning. He put the pillar of cloud between them and the Egyptians. He then told Moses to stretch his rod out over the water and the water flowed back, and the wind that caused it dried the bed of the Red Sea so they walked over on dry ground.

When the Egyptians followed them, the Lord told Moses to again stretch out his rod and the waters came back. All the Egyptian army drowned, including Pharaoh. The Israelites traveled on with great rejoicing and Moses became their great leader.

From the time of Adam to the time of Moses, the Lord had chosen certain men, or families, to carry His laws down through the generations. Now He is dealing with nations. He chose Joseph to save a family who became a great nation. Then He chose Moses to lead that nation. First He trained Moses for forty years in Pharaoh's palaces. Then forty years in the desert. So now at eighty years of age, he is ready to do the work God had for him to do.

In so great a nation they needed an experienced leader that God could depend on to do His will. They also needed a religious leader who could lead them in the worship of the true God and away from the gods of the Egyptians. Moses was chosen as the man between God and the people. His brother was given him to teach the people to obey the laws given to Moses. Many times in the next forty years God had to punish the people for disobedience, and Moses had to plead with God to have mercy on them. By the time Moses was 120 years old and they were ready to enter the land of promise, God had raised up a young man named Joshua to take Moses' place. God took Moses to the top of the mountain so he could look over the promised land and then took him home. Aaron had already died and his son had taken his place.

At this time the Lord told Joshua, "In three days I want you to take this people over the Jordan River into the land I have given them," and instructed him how it should be done. Therefore, on the morning of the third day, as the Lord had instructed, Joshua with the priests bearing the tabernacle set their feet in the water. The Lord seemed to lower an invisible dam across the Jordan and stopped all the flow of the water until they had passed over and were ready to camp on the other side. Then the Lord raised that invisible dam and the river flowed as usual. God had glorified Joshua in the eyes of all the Israelites for all the rest of his life. Then, after the Lord brought all the Israelites across the Jordan into Canaan, the first thing He commanded Joshua was to bring all the people up to the full law of Moses, which had been somewhat neglected and had all the males from eight days and up circumcised and then gave them time to heal before they were called into battle with the Canaanites.

Now the Lord told Moses and Joshua that the wickedness of the Canaanites had become so great He wanted them completely destroyed. But, when Joshua sent two spies over the Jordan to spy out the land, Rahab, the harlot in Jericho hid the spies and saved their lives. They promised to save her and her family alive when the city was destroyed.

The law of the Sabbath was given to Moses forty years ago and the penalty to break the law had been death. But now, I believe, as a test to see if they would obey His voice, they were told to march around Jericho once a day for six days, but the seventh day, that must have been the Sabbath, they were told that instead of resting, they were supposed to march seven times and when the wall fell down to go in and destroy everything. This was another test of obedience as there were beautiful animals and garments, besides silver and gold. So the Lord gave them a double test right on the start of their conquest of the land.

Only one man in all the whole nation failed to obey. But since God was dealing with a nation now, that brought quick disaster to the whole army. When that man and all he possessed were destroyed for punishment then the Lord again went with the army. They were successful in battle as long as Joshua was leading them.

From the time of Adam to the end of Revelations, God had tried to tell man that obedience is better than sacrifice. I may repeat this statement again from time to time as I write.

As long as Joshua was leading the Israelites, they remained true. But after they had conquered the land and each family had their allotted homes, and Joshua was dead, they had no designated leader. Only judges and priests who mainly took care of the sacrifices, and other Sabbath day services. So the people slowly drifted back to idol worship and failed to follow the law in many ways.

When God let calamity overtake them and armies came in and conquered them, they would turn back to God and repent of their sins. Then God would raise up a deliverer and they would follow him while he lived. But then would drift away again. God sent many prophets to warn them but many of these they killed.

Finally, God raised up Samuel as a prophet and judge. He ruled the people for many years. But then the people cried out to Samuel for a king to rule over them. This made Samuel angry, but the Lord told him to listen to the people and showed him who he should choose. So, God chose a young man from the tribe of Benjamin, Jacob's youngest son, who had all the appearance of being a great king, So Samuel anointed him. When he had called the leaders of all the tribes together, he presented Saul to them as their new king. All the people rejoiced and were glad and said now we have a king to lead us in battle.

Saul was a marvelous king. When he led the people in battle the Lord was with them and conquered every enemy as long as they obeyed every command God Gave him through the prophet Samuel. In time Saul was very successful and became high-minded and failed to obey all the commands of the Lord. So the Lord told Samuel, "I have refused Saul as King and will not be with him any more, because he would not obey me. Now I send you to a man named Jesse, of the tribe of Judah, and I will tell you which of his sons you should anoint as the new king to take Saul's place.

Now, to go back to the battle of Jericho, when the Israelites first crossed into the land of Canaan. The Canaanites were the descendants from Canaan, Ham's oldest son. If my studies are right, had some of the bloodlines of Cain, Adam's oldest son. So Rahab, whose life was spared at the destruction of Jericho, carried some of the bloodlines of Cain through Ham's wife to Ham's oldest son Canaan. Rahab married Salmon, who was Jesse's great great grandfather.

We now come up to the book of Ruth for another example of how God does not forget even those who for a time seem to be forgotten. Elimelech, of the tribe of Judah, and his wife, Naomi, and their two sons moved to the land of Moab because of a famine in the land of Judah. The Moabites were the descendants of Lot, Abraham's nephew, through Lot's oldest daughter and her first born son was named Moab. Elimelech's two sons took wives of the Moabites. In the next ten years, Elimelech and his two sons died and Naomi decided to return to her homeland. Her daughter-in-law Orpah stayed

with her people. The other daughter-in-law insisted on staying with Naomi and returned with her to her home in Judah. There she met and wed Boaz, who was the son of Salmon and the grandfather of Jesse. So Ruth became the grandmother of Jesse.

Jesse had 8 sons and they came before Samuel, from the oldest to the youngest. The Lord refused each one in turn until the youngest named David. So Samuel anointed him as the future king of Israel. Although the Lord rejected Saul as king, he allowed him to reign for another forty years, when he and his sons were killed in battle.

David was quite young when Samuel anointed him king. But, by the time Saul was killed, he was mature and well trained in what a king needed to know. So, at Saul's death the people chose him as their king. God was pleased with him and blessed him and blessed the people during his reign. God promised him that he would never lack a son to carry on his reign as long as the kingdom lasted.

David was a mighty warrior and during his reign he subdued all his enemies and extended his kingdom far and wide. So before the end of his reign he had peace throughout the whole kingdom. He decided to build a great temple to house the Lord's tabernacle and a suitable place for the people to worship and make their sacrifices. The Lord sent his prophet Nathan to tell David that He, God, appreciated his desire but since he had shed so much blood during all of his lifetime of war he should not build the temple. But his son Solomon would be allowed to do the building. David was allowed to draw up the plans and gather most of the material needed. So when Solomon became king he was able to put the builders to work and finish this beautiful building.

The Lord gave Solomon great wisdom and also great wealth. He became the greatest king the nation of Israel ever had in their whole history. But, in his later years he became enamored with many heathen women, having three hundred wives and seven hundred concubines. They led him away from the true God to worshipping false Gods. The Lord was very displeased and told him He would not take the kingdom away from him. But in his son's reign, He would divide the kingdom and give half to another king. When his son Rehoboam came to the throne, ten tribes rebelled leaving only the tribe of Judah and Benjamin with the house of David.

In the time of Moses, the Lord had told the Israelites if they would continue to worship Him and obey His laws and do His will, He would continue to bless them and make them a great nation. But, if they fell into idol worship and disobedience, He would destroy them. After the reign of Solomon, each generation sank deeper into idol worship though the Lord raised up many prophets to warn them. So, He raised up a stronger nation who utterly destroyed them and their temple and carried them away into captivity. After 70 years in captivity, the Lord brought back to Jerusalem a remnant who had remained true and they rebuilt Jerusalem, and the temple. But, they were under the rule of the foreign power, I believe there is no further record of idol worship among this remnant.

While the children of Israel were in captivity the Lord intervened in their behalf three times. The first time was when the three Hebrew children were thrown into the fiery furnace because they refused to bow down to the great idol the king had made. Someone that had the appearance of the Son of Man, even Jesus Christ Himself, walked through the fire with them and when the king called for them to come out of the furnace there was not even the smell of smoke on their clothes. So,

through their refusal to disobey their God, the king proclaimed their God, the God of the whole nation. Now the children of Israel were able to worship the true God according to their own laws.

The second time was when the king was persuaded by some evil men who were jealous of Daniel, a descendant of king David, as recorded in the book of Daniel, to proclaim that no one should ask or pray to anyone but the king for 30 days. The penalty for disobedience was to be thrown into the den of lions. They were sure that Daniel would continue to pray to his God and then they could have him destroyed. These men waited till they heard Daniel make his regular prayers to God and then had him thrown into the den of lions.

Again God intervened and sent His angel and closed the lions' mouths. Daniel slept soundly all night with the lions. In the morning the king who loved Daniel came and called to Daniel and when Daniel answered him, he had his servants draw Daniel out of the den. Then knowing that these wicked men had tried to destroy Daniel, had all of them thrown into the den of lions and they were completely destroyed. He then made Daniel ruler over all his dominions, next in authority under himself. So Daniel's faith and obedience were well rewarded.

The next occurrence was many years later, recorded in the book of Esther. This story covers quite a number of years but God was preparing His man for the occasion. The man, Mordecai by name, heard two of the king's servants plotting to kill the king. He got word to the king and the men were hanged and the king's life was saved. This was written in the king's records, but no record of a suitable reward. The king had a chief advisor who was a very wicked man and hated the Jews, and especially Mordecai, because he refused to bow down to him. Now Mordecai's niece, Esther, who he had raised from a child, was chosen to be queen, to take the place of the first queen who had fallen into disfavor, and the king loved Esther. God caused the king to have a sleepless night and for something to do, he called for the records to be brought in to him. When he saw the record of Mordecai for saving his life with no record of a reward he asked his chief advisor what would be a suitable reward for a man the king wanted to favor. The advisor, named Haman, thinking he was himself the man, outlined an elaborate celebration only to find out the man was instead Mordecai, and that he would have to bow down before him, showing that now Mordecai was in great favor in the king's court.

Then Haman was able to put out an edict under the king's signature, though the king did not realize that it would mean the death of all the Jews in the kingdom, including the queen and her uncle Mordecai. Mordecai was one of the first to hear about it and send word to the queen that she must go to the king and have the edict counter-manded.

She sent out word that all the Jews in the area should fast and pray for 10 days, then she would go before the king, knowing if she received his favor her request would be granted but if she did not receive his favor it would mean her death. Her faith in her God gave her courage to go to the king. The Lord was with her and gave her favor and she was able to save her people. When the king realized what Haman had done he had him hanged and Mordecai took his position.

After the Israelites, now known as Jews, were returned to Jerusalem and again inhabited some of the land of Israel they adhered closely to the laws of Moses and also to many precepts supplied by

the priests and Levites. They were under the rule of first one great power and then another, but never a free people. The elders and priests had led the people to believe that their Messiah would come to Jerusalem, a great man with a crown on His head and a kingly robe, riding a beautiful mule or a prancing stallion. The prophet Zechariah had told them a different story. In chapter 9:9 he says: "Behold thy king cometh unto thee, He is just and having salvation, lowly, and riding an ass, and His Dominion shall be from the sea to the ends of the earth."

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus Christ, our Savior and King did just that, but the rulers in Jerusalem refused to receive such a lowly person to be their king. The Lord had promised even from Adam's time down through all the prophets of Israel that a Messiah would come. He would be born of a virgin. Later king David was promised that he would be of the line of David and so would be legally entitled to be the king of Israel.

The Bible does not give the virgin Mary's lineage, but she was a first cousin to Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, who was of the line of Aaron. So though Jesus was legally of the house of David and so was legally rightful king, He was also of the line of Aaron and could be a priest also. So He is King of Kings but also our High Priest. Many of the priests were also prophets, and so Christ was also a prophet.

In studying the Bible I have not been troubled much about numbers. There are a few numbers that stand out throughout the scriptures: The first number is one. "Hear ye oh Israel, there is only one God and Him only shall you serve." Christ said "I am the way, the truth and the light." So there is only one way, the way of holiness. There is only one true light and that is the Light of the gospel. The children of Israel crossed the Red Sea on dry ground only once and also the river Jordan. I could give many more cases of the number one.

The next number is three. We read of the Triune Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God created the world and all creation in six days, that is two times three, then He added one day of rest to make a week of seven days. In three days God created the earth and the sea and all the vegetation. The next three days he created the sun and moon plus all the stars and the fish in the seas and man and all the animals. The next day He rested, making our first number four and also our first number seven.

Adam had many sons and daughters but the first three sons are all that are named. Man is made of three parts—body, mind and spirit. When Noah went into the Ark, he had three sons and their three wives from which the earth was re-populated after the flood. Next we come to the three patriarch—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Then there is the first three kings of Israel, they were Israel's greatest kings and given the most details. They each reigned the same number of years. We also have the three Hebrew children, who stood true during the time of their exile and were thrown into the fiery furnace. Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights and Christ was in the tomb three days and three nights. The first three disciples Christ called were Peter, James and John and on many occasions during His ministry He called them aside to be with Him.

There are many other places in the Bible where the number three is to be found. The last, a Christian's life is divided into three parts. The first the sinner, Christ said all men have sinned and

come short of the glory of God. Then there is the justified state after he has repented and had all his sins forgiven. The best and most important stage is when, without any reservation, he gives his all to the Lord and is sanctified wholly and is cleansed from all inbred sin.

I passed up the number two but it has importance in many things in the Bible. In all animal and bird life there has to be two or there is no offspring and in a great many plants we have to plant two if we get any fruit. Then God made man but said it is not good for man to be alone so He made woman. When God sent the animals and birds into the ark, He told Noah to be sure to have a pair of everything. But of the clean birds and animals He said to have seven pairs so he would have some extras for the sacrifices.

Christ said in the end of time when He returns that two people will be working together or sleeping together and one will be taken and one left which sounds like half of the people in the world will be left behind when Christ returns to take His Bride away.

Now our next number is seven, which is the number three plus number four. God made all creation in six days and rested on the seventh day. When He sent the animals and birds into the ark, all of the animals and birds accounted clean for man to eat or use for sacrifice, He sent seven pair. When He gave the law to Moses, He said six days shall you labor, but the seventh day is holy unto the Lord for worship, and you shall not do any work.

When the Israelites were established in the promised land, every seventh year the land was not to be worked or planted, but everything that grew of itself was to be left for the poor of the land.

Christ said a thousand years is as one day with the Lord and we're at the end of six thousand years since the time of creation and the sixth day was the time of the ingathering in preparation for the sabbath. It seems to be the time now of the ingathering of souls for I'm sure there has never been in the history of the world such a harvest of souls as in the last hundred years. All the signs point to the soon coming of Christ and the beginning of the thousand years of peace when Christ will reign and holiness will cover the earth.

In Matthew 25:1-12, there is the parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins and of course that makes the number ten which is used several times to multiply the number three and four. The next number is twelve, and that is four times three, so we still have the three. First, our year is divided into twelve months and that is how long it takes the earth to travel around the sun, and at the angle the earth spins that gives us the four seasons.

Now when the Lord changed from dealing with one man to dealing with a family, He gave Jacob twelve sons, then after four hundred years, the twelve sons became twelve tribes and became one nation. For a long time God dealt with them as twelve tribes under the leadership of Moses and Joshua. They were later to become a nation with a king.

Now coming down to the time of Christ, He chose twelve apostles to train, to carry on after His death on the cross. Jesus also said in Luke 22:30 that they would sit on twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

The next number is forty, or ten times four. The first time it is used is when it rained forty days and forty nights at the time of the flood. Next when Moses was forty years old, when he fled to the desert from Pharaoh's court. After forty years in the desert, God spoke to him out of the burning bush and sent him to deliver the Hebrew children from bondage where they had been for 400 years. That is ten times forty. The children of Israel wandered in the desert for forty years, making Moses 120 years old, three times forty when he turned his command over to Joshua and died on the mountain top.

When Moses brought the children of Israel out of Egypt, God called him to the top of Mt. Sinai where he talked to the Lord for forty days, and he received the ten commandments of tablets of stone.

We also know the first three kings of Israel each reigned forty years. Lastly, when Christ was baptized by John, and as He came up out of the water the Spirit of the Lord descended upon Him, and the Father said, "This is My Beloved Son." Then the spirit led Him into the desert to be tried for forty days by satan, and also He fasted for forty days. Also, after Christ was raised from the dead, He remained with His disciples for forty days, teaching them what to expect after His ascent into Heaven.

Let us now see what the Bible says about temptation. The Bible says God is not tempted, neither does He tempt any man. But God wants a tried people, so He allows satan to tempt all mankind at one time or another. Beginning with Adam and Eve, they were untried when God put them in the garden of Eden. But when satan tempted them, they failed and were driven from the garden. There is no record of them disobeying, to the end of a very long life, after leaving the garden. There is no record of Able sinning, but his life was very short. But Cain was disobedient and in a jealous rage killed his brother. But the Lord had mercy on him and did not put him to death, but put a mark on him that remained on him the rest of his life.

Now Seth, Adam's third son, it says was the image of his father Adam, and there is no record of any disobedience in his life. Throughout the generations of the descendants of Seth down to Noah, there is no record of good or evil except Enoch, Noah's grandfather, and it says Enoch walked with God and the Lord took him.

The Bible says Noah walked with God in righteousness, and when God told him to build the ark he obeyed. This must have been a great testing time for him when people laughed at him and asked him where he would get the water to make the ark float. Noah stood the test and became the father of all the people of the earth today.

Then we come to Job, who God called His servant who was perfect in righteousness before me. God allowed satan to test him and he almost destroyed him, but he stood the test as God was sure he would.

The next man God chose was Abraham. It was said he believed God and it was accounted unto him for righteousness. But God put him to the test when He asked him to sacrifice his son Isaac on the mountain top. So God blessed him and chose him to be the father of the nation of Israel, and God promised that He would give them all the land around where Abraham was now living. We don't

read much about Isaac except he allowed his father to bind him on the alter of sacrifice when he was just a lad. But Jacob, his son, was tested many times in his lifetime, but always stood true. God was with him and blessed him many times and in many ways.

Joseph was another one among God's chosen people who was severely tried and tested and each time proved true. It must have been a severe test of his faith to be torn from his father's loving care by his older brothers and sold into slavery in Egypt. But God was with him and gave him favor with the Pharaoh. So he was able to save his father and brothers from the great famine, though years later their descendants were enslaved by the Egyptians. Many years later, God chose Moses of the tribe of Levi, and after forty years in the courts of Pharaoh, and forty years in the desert, he was called to lead the children of Israel out of bondage. And, though tested and tried many times, he remained true to the God of his father.

God next chose Joshua. He was tried many times as he served Moses as they wandered in the desert forty years. He was prepared to take Moses' place to lead the people into the land of promise.

After many years without a leader, except the judges and priests, the people cried out for a king. So Samuel their prophet and chief judge, was told by God to anoint Saul, of the tribe of Benjamin, as their king. In the beginning he was a good king and a strong leader and led the people to victory in many battles with the enemies around them, and the Lord was with them. Because of all these victories, he became proud of his successes and began to disobey the Lord's commands, and the Lord rejected him and all his family as the line of kings. He then told Samuel to anoint David, of the tribe of Judah, to be the next king. Saul reigned for forty years while David was being trained and tried many times. When Saul was killed in battle, David was chosen by the people to be their king and leader.

David was a good king and remained true to God all his life. So God told him he would always have an heir to his throne forever. Twice David was tempted and fell into grievous sin. But, after the Lord punished him and he repented and pleaded for mercy, the Lord forgave him. He remained on the throne till he died of old age and his son Solomon reigned in his place.

Solomon was chosen as king by God because he was an obedient child and obeyed his voice. So God blessed him greatly and gave him great wisdom and riches and made him the greatest king Israel ever had, even till the time of Christ. God also showed him how to build the great temple known as Solomon's Temple.

However, in Solomon's later years, he fell into sin and the Lord reprimanded him and told him, because of his sin, Israel would be divided and part would be given to another king. But, because of his good past record, he would not do it while Solomon lived.

In the generations ahead there were many kings, some good and some very evil, and the whole nation drifted off into idolatry and sin. God finally sent a strong nation that completely destroyed them and carried all the people into captivity and they were scattered to all parts of the known world.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 3 TRUE WORSHIP

The Lord always had a remnant of true worshippers, After seventy years in exile the Lord brought them back to Jerusalem, where they prospered and multiplied though still under foreign rule.

In God's appointed time He found a man, a priest, serving in the temple, Zechariah by name, who was a righteous man serving God. While he served in the temple, a man sent from God met him by the altar and said, "Your wife, who is barren, will conceive and bear you a son and you shall call his name John. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit from his birth and be great in the kingdom of God."

The wife's name was Elizabeth and she was a daughter of the priesthood also. In Elizabeth's sixth month the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, a cousin of Elizabeth's and said, you are blessed Mary, for you will conceive and bear a son and you will call his name Jesus. Mary was a virgin espoused to a carpenter named Joseph, who was of the lineage of King David, and they lived in the town of Nazareth in Galilee.

Joseph was troubled when he knew his intended wife was with child, but God spoke to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son and you shall call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet. Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His name shall be called Emanuel, meaning God with us, so when Joseph awoke he took Mary to be his wife.

According to Jewish law, Jesus was Joseph's son and so He was also known as son of David. and heir to the throne of the Jewish nation. But Mary was of the line of Aaron so He also was in line to become the high priest. So he is our King and also our High Priest forever.

Now even Jesus, the Son of the most high God, was tempted and tried before the Father sent Him out as the Messiah to teach the people for three years. When Jesus was baptized by John, when He came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit descended on Him in the form of a dove and a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

And the Spirit led Him out in the desert to be tempted of the devil for forty days. But there He defeated the devil and then was ready to go out and do all those things the promised Messiah was supposed to do.

After His crucifixion and resurrection, He sent His disciples out to preach the Gospel to all the world. But he warned them not to expect an easy time for He said, "After all they did to me don't be filled with wonder at what they will do to you."

In our day we sometimes wonder why some of these things happen to us. But we were never promised an easy way when we chose to follow Christ. But He did promise He would be with us even to the end of the world. So why should we complain when we are tried.

Before Jesus ascension, He told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until He sent the Holy Spirit to baptize them with power. He would tell them what to do. But impulsive Peter told them that in the book of Psalms it says we should choose another to take the place of Judas. So they did not wait for the guidance of the Spirit, but cast lots between two of their followers and thus chose a man to take Judas' place. God had other ideas and we never hear any more of Mathias, the man they chose. After the day of Pentecost the Lord chose His own man, Saul of Tarsus, better known as Paul, who became the real twelfth disciple. Paul became one of the greatest among them and was called to go and preach the Gospel to the Gentiles and to even me.

I wrote all this to show that God did not make any mistakes. He knew from the beginning what kind of a people He wanted and He knew what he would have to do to get them. Jesus knew before the world came into being that He must suffer on the cross to redeem mankind. God knew when He created Adam and Eve there was a big possibility that they would fail their first test, but He already had the remedy ready and waiting.

First Adam sinned, then his first son sinned. The third son, Seth, was a righteous man and Adam taught him to worship God. But as each generation progressed and the population increased, so did sin increase. Till the time of Noah, the people of the earth were so corrupt that God chose Noah, a righteous man, and his three sons to repopulate the earth after He had destroyed all living things with the flood.

Again in time the people sinned and corrupted the earth. But this time He chose Abraham, a tried and true worshipper to be the father of a righteous nation, who, if they remained true, could spread the Gospel around the world. They remained true for many years before they fell away into sin and even crucified His son, when He came to redeem the world.

Now God had proved to us, His redeemed people, that there is only one permanent cure for sin, that is the blood of Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins. All that call on His Name can be saved. God did not make any mistakes, but man did. Only Christ was able to save him and today many are turning to Him for Eternal Life.

Jesus Christ had a natural human body and grew to manhood as any other boy in obedience to his parents and working in Joseph's carpenter shop. But He had a Heavenly Father instead of Joseph, so the carnal nature coming down through all the generations from Adam through the human father was not passed on to Him. He lived to manhood without sin.

However, when God told Him it was time for Him to fulfill the purpose of His life here on earth, He first accepted John's baptism for repentance of sin, our sin, not His, and as an example for His followers. He then spent forty days in the desert where he completely defeated the devil before He chose His twelve apostles to teach and to carry on His work after His death on the cross three years later.

He travelled about the country and through the towns and cities teaching the new way of life and what the new covenant would be. He healed many sick and many lepers, cast out demons and gave sight to the blind, opened the ears of the deaf and made the dumb to speak, thus He fulfilled many more prophecies from the old testament.

He taught mostly by telling stories or parables and all of those truths are just as true today as they were in His day. He had always been known as the Good Shepherd so one of His first stories was of the good shepherd who would leave his ninety and nine sheep in a safe place and go out and find the one that was lost. He told the Pharisees He didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance, and there was great rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner brought into the fold. So our job today is still to go out in the highways and streets to bring the sinners into the fold.

However, He also told the story of the farmer who went out to sow his seed. Some fell on hard ground and some fell on rocky ground and some fell on ground where the weeds were allowed to grow, but much of the seed fell on good ground and produced a good crop. He told His disciples, "You are the farmer and the seed is the words I am teaching you, so keep sowing, but don't be too disappointed if many seeds fail to bring in a harvest." That still applies to us today.

Again He told the story about the merchant looking for pearls. When he found the most beautiful pearl, he didn't hesitate but sold everything he had and bought the pearl. So today when we find the way of real salvation, we should not hesitate to give all we have, and all our preconceived ideas and all our worldly desires, even all our future life, and let the Holy Spirit have complete control. He then says He will remove our stony evil heart and give us a heart of love for God and for our fellowmen.

This parable is a warning to us to be awake and be diligent in what we are doing. He tells of the man who went into a far country and left his servants to take care of his property while he was gone. He warned the servants to take care of his property while he was gone. He warned the servants who were in charge of everything to be very careful at all times, because he might return at any time and he wanted everything in order when he came. So we who are looking for Christ's return should be ready at all times to welcome Him.

Another parable Jesus told was of the rich home owner, who when he took an extended trip, called three of his servants and to one he gave one talent of gold, to the second he gave two talents and to the third he gave five talents. You might say, why did he make so much difference between the servants? I would say he knew his servants and knew their abilities, so he gave to them accordingly. When he returned, he proved to be right. If the man with one talent had used it as instructed, he would have been commended even if he had only gained a half of a talent. But, he thought, well he only gave me one talent so I will just bury it till he comes back, and so he was reprimanded instead. I have heard people say, I don't have any talents so I can't do anything. I am afraid they are missing a great blessing because you never know what you can do till you try. I hope when the Lord returns He will see that I have used all of my God-given talents.

Another parable was about the Pharisee who prayed in the temple so everyone could hear him and how good he was, but the publican stood far off so only God could hear him. The people heard the Pharisee's prayer, but God heard the publican. I know there are times when it is right to pray in

public, when we are praying for those who need prayer. Christ did that many times, but I like to do most of my praying when I am at home alone talking when only God hears me.

When Christ was being tempted by the devil, He was very hungry after fasting for forty days. So, the devil said if you are the Son of God turn these stones into bread. Christ knew He had the power to do just that but it would be a selfish act and would not give God any glory. He refused to do it. Later in His ministry He did almost that when He fed several thousand people with a few loaves and fishes after praying to the Father and so the Father received the glory.

When Christ sent His disciples two and two to preach in the towns ahead, he told them, "Don't take anything extra with you, neither scrip or purse, and not even a cane for protection. For My power will go with you." But before He was arrested and taken to be crucified He said, "Now you had better carry your sword and if you don't have one. sell your cloak and buy one, for you will need to protect yourselves."

My own personal experiences over many years have taught me that if you want to live in peace always, be prepared for war and then no one will dare to pick a fight. I was raised on a farm on the Canadian prairie and so had plenty of chance to develop muscles. Besides, I used to break wild horses, some to ride and some for work.

In 1921 when I was farming with my brother-in-law he traded one of his quiet horses for a nice looking white horse but he was a mean outlaw. They brought him over and turned him loose in the coral and it was up to me to put a halter on him and break him to work. I walked into the coral with a halter and a buggy whip and kept repeating "come here". Each time he would either try to kick me or bite me, I used the buggy whip. I did this for possibly an hour before he gave in and quietly walked up and let me put on the halter and lead him in to the barn. Then I petted him and so he trusted me and obeyed me from that time on. That same year I managed five horses I had trained at the county fair. There was one large five year old stallion, one two year old stallion and two mares and a colt. I showed each of them off in the ring and took four first prizes and one second prize.

One time in grade school, I had to change schools and in the new school there was a young fellow about my age who was a sort of a boss of the school yard, so he had to check me out. He got his gang together to see what I would do. So I got my back to the coal shed and just stood there for a while. Finally his gang walked away and he came up and shook hands and we were friends from then on. So because I was prepared there was no fight. I believe the same thing applies to our nation. We don't need to be afraid of war as long as we are strong. But if we let ourselves get weak, a stronger nation will come in and destroy us.

At this time another parable comes to my mind. Some of the disciples were asking Jesus for the top positions when He came into His kingdom so He told this parable: A certain land owner needed men to work in his vineyard. So he went out in the morning to the market place and hired those who were waiting for a job and promised them a certain wage for a day's work. He needed more help, so at noon he went out and hired more men, and again later in the afternoon he hired a few more. At the end of the day, he paid each man the same amount. The way I read my Bible each one, if they come into the kingdom as a child, or in the middle, or even in old age, is promised one thing if they

endure to the end, that is a home in heaven, no other. Any other rewards will be given according to ability and not according to the length of service. As for me, I will not complain or feel bad just so I receive my home in heaven.

Now, I remember another parable that seems to fit in right here. In Matthew 13:24-31 Jesus tells the parable of the man that sowed good seed in his field. But at night the enemy came and sowed weed seed in his field. The servants asked if they should go out and pull the weeds, but he said no, for in so doing you would trample down and pull up too many of the good plants. So we will wait till harvest time, when we will gather the good seed into the bins and burn up the weeds.

In Revelation 14:14-20 it tells how the harvest will be done. Then I looked and lo a white cloud and seated on the cloud was one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head and a sharp sickle in His hand. And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to Him who sat upon the cloud, put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe. So He who sat on the cloud swung his sickle on the earth and the earth was reaped.

Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. Then another angel came out from the altar and the angel, who has power over fire, and he called with a loud voice to him who has the sharp sickle, "Put in your sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth for its grapes are ripe." So the angel swung his sickle on the earth and gathered the vintage of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. The winepress was trodden outside the city and blood flowed from the winepress as high as a horse's bridle for a space of one thousand six hundred furlongs.

It seems to me this could apply very closely to the American continents. The Pilgrims came here by the boat load to establish freedom to worship God according to the Bible. The good seed was sown in a very fertile soil, but it wasn't long till the devil also came over and sowed all kinds of evil seeds, and how they have grown. It seemed for a time that the good seed was almost completely being choked out, but still it kept on growing. And new seed is being planted continually. More seed is sprouting and growing every day. So now we are expecting to see the Lord come on the cloud to gather the harvest into His fold before the avenging angel comes to destroy everything that is evil on the earth.

In the many years I have lived, I have observed that God doesn't make a practice of doing unnecessary or foolish things, but is always ready to perform a miracle if necessary.

On the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to the one hundred and twenty disciples gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem, they all spoke the language of the Jews at that time. There was no time to train any of them to speak the many languages that were present at that time. God performed a miracle and helped certain of the disciples to interpret what Peter said in the Jewish tongue. Now Peter did not talk in tongues as some people seem to think, but the other disciples were able to interpret what he said so the foreigners could get the message. In our day, we have schools to train missionaries the language they need to speak when they are sent out. In the United States and Canada, our pastors speak English in most of our churches, but in Quebec they speak mostly French. In Spanish churches they speak Spanish, but each is trained to speak the language of the people they

are talking to. So why would the Lord give a man who knows how to speak English the gift of other tongues when he will be only talking to English speaking people?

In John 14:15-17 Christ told His disciples if they loved Him they would keep His commandments and He would pray the Father and He would send the Comforter even the Spirit of Truth, Who will be with you and be in you. And in verse 26, He will teach you all truth. In Luke 24:49 He said, "Behold I send the promise of My Father upon you, but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

On The day of Pentecost, they received that power and immediately began to preach the gospel message with great power. However, the disciples didn't know what was ahead and what they were supposed to do, so they gathered all their converts into what we call a commune and they had all things in common. Each one who had property sold it and brought the money to the disciples because they thought Christ would return very soon to be their King and He would take over control of the city and the surrounding country. From the beginning they had problems and then persecution drove the believers to all parts of the known world. There they formed small groups who lived at home and carried on their regular business and met together on the first day of the week. At first they did not have a regular meeting place so met from home to home. Later as the groups grew larger, they had to build regular meeting houses as we do today. We know these new groups each ate in their own homes because Paul warned them to eat at home before they met together for the worship service of breaking bread.

Now the disciples appointed teachers or shepherds for each group and taught them to bring in their tithe to pay the teacher so he would be able to give all of his time to study and teaching and, in every way, to be able to care for the needs of the flock. Also they were told they should bring in special offerings to feed the poor and needy among them. We follow those general rules in our protestant churches today all over the world.

At first the disciples and their converts went and preached to the Jews, who were scattered throughout that area of the world. Until Peter was told in a vision to go to one named Cornelius, a gentile and a righteous man in Antioch. And when he and his household received the Holy Spirit just like they had at Pentecost, the disciples gradually began to go to the gentiles, when the Jews refused to hear them.

Now when Paul was chosen to bring the gospel to the gentiles, he still went first to the Jewish synagogues, but when they would not receive his message he went out on the streets and preached to the gentiles and many new groups were formed as churches. The new groups of gentiles were first called Christians in the town of Antioch.

When Paul was called to preach the gospel to the gentiles he was told he would have many times of suffering as he traveled from town to town. He found this to be so, as he was thrown in prison and beaten and driven out of town many times. One time he was stoned until they thought he was dead.

He went back to Jerusalem to take a gift of money from the churches in Asia Minor to the needy church in Jerusalem. While there, the Jews in the temple caught him and would have beaten him to

death if the Roman soldiers had not rescued him and put him in prison. From there they sent him to Rome, where he was held in prison most of the rest of his life. That is where he wrote most of his letters and epistles that we value so highly today.

In Paul's writings he warns the new Christians that in time there would come many false teachers who would lead many astray. That takes me back to the thought Christ brought out in the parable of the good seed that was sown and the false seed the devil sowed later. The plants that grew from the false seed, called tares in the Bible but we call darnel looks almost like the wheat plant at first, but when full grown it looks very different. So these false religions that have sprung up in the world look very good at the start, but when we look closer we find they are useless to get us to heaven.

I almost missed a thought in the parable of the fishermen bringing in their net full of all kinds of fish because it sounded so much like the parable of the wheat and the tares. It is similar, but I got another thought from it. How did the fishermen know the difference between the good fish and the worthless fish? To me, they looked very much the same, but the experienced fishermen knew the background of each fish, so he picked out the good ones first then destroyed what was left. Now all these fish were hatched from eggs and lived all their lives in approximately the same water, but the trash fish lived on other smaller fish and various kinds of trash while the good fish lived on mostly vegetable diet and that made the difference. This also applies to humanity. We are all born to human parents and grow up in the same environment. Some of us yield to the drawing of the Spirit and are born again of the Spirit, and then we are a new and changed person, though our physical appearance is very similar. When the net is drawn in, the Lord will know those who are born again and have a spiritual background. So he will take us into His kingdom and then all that is left will have to be destroyed.

Another parable that I hadn't thought much about, now seems to bring out a very important truth. The mustard seed when planted is a very tiny seed and when it sprouts is a very tiny weak sprout, but it points straight up towards the sun and just keeps on pushing. But it is also putting down tiny roots to draw strength from the soil and as the roots send up strength, the sprout gets larger and stronger till it breaks through the ground and reaches the sunlight. So now it thinks its troubles are over and all it has to do is grow tall and straight. but one day a strong wind comes along and bends it all the way to the ground and it looks like it might be finished. But the roots keep sending up new strength and when the wind stops it has enough strength to raise up its head. But instead of growing so tall and slim, it spreads out and puts out new branches near the ground. And when the next wind comes along, it may have to bend its head, but the main stock stays strong and straight. Instead of the wind hurting the plant, it became so much stronger and soon it blossomed and produced a crop of seed. And as Christ said, "The birds will rest on its branches."

Christ was trying to tell His people in the Kingdom of heaven here on earth that as He sends all kinds of winds and weather on His plants to make them strong and productive plants, He promises to send all kinds of trials and temptations to His children in the Kingdom here on earth, to make them strong and productive here on earth.

First, John the Baptist came out of the wilderness and preached, "Repent and be baptized for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand." He had a few followers but was laughed at by the majority of those

who heard. Then came Christ saying almost the same thing. He chose twelve men as His disciples, just common men, four were ignorant fishermen and a couple more were their relatives. Then He picked a tax collector and we don't know just what trade the other five were. But at least one was a child of the devil and later betrayed Him to the authorities who were able, though He was innocent of any wrong doing, to have Him condemned and hanged on the cross as a criminal.

God raised Christ from the dead and He appeared to His disciples many times in the next 40 days before He was taken up to heaven. Ten days later, as the disciples were praying and waiting for the promise of the Spirit of power that Christ would send to them after He returned to the Father, the Spirit suddenly fell on them and gave them great power to teach and preach the gospel of the good news of the Kingdom of heaven, which had now come to dwell among the people on earth. From that small beginning nearly 2000 years ago, the Kingdom message has spread around the world and people of every nation and tribe belong to it. Even though the children of the devil have fought it all the way and now are trying to get into it with the purpose of trying to take over the power from the inside and in that way, finally defeating the very purpose for which it stands. Now we can see who the birds are who hide in it's branches.

Another parable of the leaven hid in 3 measures of meal. When you mix the leaven in the meal, it won't do anything until you add water to moisten the meal. The moistened meal starts to expand and keeps on getting bigger, and so Christ hid the gospel in the hearts of the disciples. But He told them to wait in Jerusalem till they received the Holy Spirit, which the Father would send after He returned to the Father. And so on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit, or the Water, was added to the leaven that Christ hid in the disciples hearts and then they went out and spread the gospel far and wide till today it is heard around the world.

Then there is the parable of the man who found the treasure in a field and sold all that he had and bought the field so the treasure would be his. I would say this is the man who had repented and had his sins forgiven but had not heard of sanctification. He heard or read about the second work of grace, but he also heard what it would cost him. The more he thought about it, the more he wanted it and finally decided it was worth it, so he sold everything including himself. Now he had the great treasure of the Holy Spirit as the Lord sanctified him.

As I have written down my thoughts about these parables, I think to go on to something else, then I get so many new thoughts I don't know where to quit writing about them.

When Christ spoke about the faith of the mustard seed, He was talking about something in a seed that just starts it to grow when the proper moisture and warmth is applied. So when the Holy Spirit was applied to the seed or the word He had planted in the disciples hearts, it was just natural for the seed of the Kingdom to sprout and grow on the day of Pentecost when the 3000 souls were brought into the kingdom. Just as the mustard plant, after it was windblown and trampled on, it put out branches and grew large and strong. So the church, when persecution came, it was scattered far and wide and the more persecution it had, the farther it spread until today it is known around the world.

Again, about the parable of the pearl of great price. When he had paid the price for it, he didn't hide it away out of sight but put it in a prominent place so all his friends could enjoy looking at it.

And so when we receive the Holy Spirit, we should show the glory of His presence to all our friends so they will want Him in their lives.

A different idea is given to the parable of the great treasure. When he receives it, he should give it out to help those around him as Christ said about the living water which became a river of water flowing out from us to those around us.

In order to carry the thought of the curse and the seed of the woman from Adam to Christ, I will need to repeat some statements, but I know of no other way. Adam and Eve were cursed because of their disobedience and the oldest son Cain carried it on because he killed his brother. After many generations of sinning all mankind was drowned by the flood except Noah and his family. Noah was called a righteous man.

Cain was cursed for killing his brother Abel. Now Abel was dead so God chose Seth, the third son, to carry the righteous seed. Down through the generations God had always had a remnant that called on God in worship and preached righteousness from generation to generation.

It says that Enoch walked with God and was not for God took him. Noah was Enoch's great grandson and was also a righteous man before God. When Noah entered the ark, he had 3 sons and they with their wives entered into the ark. Shem was the firstborn and the righteous seed was passed on to his sons. Ham being next then Japheth are the only sons or daughters named in the Bible.

After much research I have concluded that Ham's wife was a descendant of Cain and so had the mark of Cain, because their first born son named Cush is supposed to be the people of Africa. Now almost all of the people of Africa belong to the black race.

Now if we look back to Genesis 4:12-16, we will see that though God cursed Cain for the murder of his brother, when he cried for mercy, God had mercy on him. He put a mark on him for his protection from the rest of his family down through the generations and saved him a seed after the flood and made them a mighty people who now rule most of Africa.

I had the mistaken idea that Noah had said they would be the slaves of the descendants of Ham's brothers, but not so. It was the descendants of Ham's younger son, Canaan, that Noah cursed for Ham's sake. The sons of Cush have not been slaves as a nation and when large numbers of them were slaves in the United States, God raised up Abraham Lincoln to set them free, like he did Moses to set the Israelites free. Now whenever we see a black person we should thank the Lord for His mercy in forgiving us our sins as He did the first murderer.

Ham's second son was named Egypt. Some of his descendants became the Egyptians. Ham's third son, named Canaan, who Noah cursed, drifted north, up into the land later known as Canaan land, and it seems they were always a wicked people as we see when the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah in the time of Abraham. Some four or five hundred years later God told the Israelites to utterly destroy them when they took over the land of Canaan. Those they did not destroy became the slaves of the Israelites.

Japheth, Noah's other son, we don't read much about except to say his descendants drifted north into what we now call Europe, also into Scandinavia, the British Isles and some parts of Russia. In Bible times, they were the real gentiles.

Now we take up the history of Shem's descendants. They traveled up into Asia and Asia Minor and the majority drifted into idol worship. God always had a minority of righteous people who called on God and obeyed His voice. Of these, God called Abraham to leave his people and go to a country that he knew not. Abraham believed and obeyed God, and it was accounted unto him as righteousness. And God promised him He would make of him a great nation. After some 500 years, many of these years as slaves in Egypt, Moses led them out of slavery and they became God's chosen people, and a great nation known as the Israelites. Sad to say they turned from worshipping God to idol worship and God had to destroy them as a nation and scattered them in exile among the heathen nations. God still had a large remnant who were later returned to their native land in Jerusalem. This remnant never returned to idol worship but they tended to depend on the works of the law rather than the God Who gave them the law. It was at this time, when the Israelites were under the rule of Rome that their promised Messiah was born of a virgin according to the prophesy and came to live among His people. He performed many miracles among them after He grew to manhood and did many mighty works as the prophets had foretold. His people refused to accept Him because He preached righteousness, but not according to their interpretation of the law. One of Christ's names was the Vine, because the righteous seed crept like a vine down through all the generations from Adam to Christ.

In John 15:1 Christ said, "I am the true vine." In verse five, He said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches, he that abideth in Me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without Me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in Me he is cast forth as a branch and is withered." Therefore, when the Jewish nation rejected Christ and had Him nailed to the cross, they were cast forth and utterly destroyed as a nation. In Matthew 21::43 Christ said, "The Kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."

The first missionaries sent out to spread the gospel were Jewish converts and many Jews were saved even though as a nation they were Christ rejectors. Paul was traveling with the intention of going over into Asia, but was prevented by a vision asking him to come over into Macedonia and help us. Paul obeyed the vision and was gladly received by the people there. Thus the gospel was preached from there throughout Europe and the isles of the sea. These people are in general the descendants of Japheth, and so we see the spread of the gospel was taken from the rejecting Jews and given to the descendants of the younger son of Noah.

As Christ said, the natural branches would be broken off and the wild branches grafted in. The people of Europe gladly received the gospel and later, under persecution when they fled to the wilderness of America, the church grew and increased and ever since have been sending missionaries to all parts of the world including even the nation of Israel.

Even though the Jewish nation still rejects Christ, all those who do accept Him will be included in that number when the saints go marching home. Christ said, no evil thing not even an evil thought, will enter heaven when Christ returns to take away His bride. So what about that carnal nature? If

you haven't been sanctified and the carnal nature which is enmity against God has been removed, how will you expect to enter heaven?

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 4 "THE DRY BONES"

I thought I had finished my book but these scriptures seemed to persist in my mind day after day, so I decided to add some more.

First, the valley of the dry bones of: Ezekiel 37:1-14 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, {2} And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. {3} And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest. {4} Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. {5} Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: {6} And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. {7} So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. {8} And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. {9} Then said he unto me, Prophesy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. {10} So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. {11} Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. {12} Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. {13} And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, {14} And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.

As I studied these scriptures, these are the thoughts that came to me. First, I remember Christ said when He was on earth: Ye are dead in your sins. In the year 70 A.D. the Roman empire destroyed the whole nation of Israel and also the temple and the city of Jerusalem. The people were scattered throughout the world, and as a nation they were dead and buried for almost 2000 years.

In 1948, the Spirit of the Lord moved on the nation of Great Britain to set aside the area of Palestine for the Jews and called all the dead bones of the nation of Israel to come together and again they were once more a flesh and blood nation, but they are still a spiritually dead nation, still looking for their Messiah. This scripture will not be completed until Jesus comes to Mount Zion with His holy angels, and the Jews as a nation accept Him as their Messiah and King and He forgives all their sins and cleanses them from all unrighteousness.

Zechariah 8:1-8 says: Again the word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying, {2} Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I was jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I was jealous for her with great fury. {3} Thus saith the LORD; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain. {4} Thus saith the LORD of hosts; There shall yet old men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for very age. {5} And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof. {6} Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If it be marvelous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, should it also be marvelous in mine eyes? saith the LORD of hosts. {7} Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country; {8} And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

Again in Ezekiel 37:15-23 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, {16} Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions: {17} And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand. {18} And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not show us what thou ~~meanest~~ by these? {19} Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand. {20} And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes. {21} And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: {22} And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all: {23} Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwelling places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.

Isaiah 21:11-12 says that there is a morning coming for Israel, but I believe it indicates the night comes first: The burden of Dumah. He calleth to me out of Seir, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? {12} The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will inquire, inquire ye: return, come.

1 Thessalonians 5:2 says: For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

Matthew 24:40-42 says: Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. {41} Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. {42} Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. The ones that are taken are those who are called to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:7-9 says: Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. {8} And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. {9} And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed <are> they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

While the blood washed saints are enjoying the marriage supper of the Lamb, the people left behind including the nation of Israel will be going through the darkness of a night of the great evil and suffering until the great day when the Lord with all His army from heaven returns and stands on mount Zion.

I have already described Revelation chapter six, the first four seals of the sealed book: Revelation 6:1-8 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. {2} And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. {3} And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. {4} And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. {5} And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. {6} And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. {7} And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. {8} And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

Now the fifth seal showed the souls under the altar (Revelation 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held) of those slain for their belief in Christ while the first four seals were opened and they were told to wait until their brethren joined them.

When the sixth seal was opened, John was shown four angels standing on the four corners of the earth holding back the wind or spirit of destruction till the angel of the Lord could put the seal of the Lord on the foreheads of one hundred and forty four thousand of the Israelites who would be protected by the Lord during the great tribulation to come upon the earth; just like they were protected in Egypt in the days of Moses.

At this time evidently Christ came and took His bride away, because in Revelation 7:9-17 it tells of the great throng of bloodwashed pilgrims of every nation and tribe, standing with Christ before the throne: After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; {10} And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. {11} And all the angels stood round about the throne, and <about> the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and

worshipped God, {12} Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. {13} And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? {14} And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. {15} Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. {16} They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. {17} For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Revelation chapter 8 seems to be the beginning of the great tribulation which lasts for three and one half years. It continues into chapter 9 where the sixth angel is instructed to release the four angels of chapter 7 and then in chapter 14:17-20 it tells more of what will happen after the saints are called home.

In Revelation 15:2 John was shown a great crowd of God's victorious saints standing on, as it were a sea of glass watching as the angels with the seven last plagues poured them out on the earth. Now, chapter 19:1-10 tells of the great rejoicing in heaven over the destruction of the evil on earth.

Revelation 19:11-21 tells of Christ's victory over the beast and false prophet and their being cast into the lake of fire with all those who have the mark of the beast: And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. {12} His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. {13} And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. {14} And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. {15} And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. {16} And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

{17} And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; {18} That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. {19} And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. {20} And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. {21} And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. Now comes the day I am looking forward to, it is the finish of the devil's story:

Revelation 20:1-3 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. {2} And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, {3} And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Revelation 20:4-5 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. {5} But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

When the thousand years are over, satan will be let loose from the bottomless pit, and he will come out to seduce the nations in the four quarters of the earth and to muster them for battle, yes, the hosts of Gog and Magog, countless as the sands of the sea: Revelation 20:9-10 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. {10} And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 20:11-15 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. {12} And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. {13} And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. {14} And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. {15} And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21:1-8 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. {2} And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. {3} And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. {4} And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. {5} And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. {6} And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. {7} He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. {8} But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

There shall be an end to death, and to mourning and crying and pain, for the old order has passed away! All this is the victors heritage, but as for the cowardly, the faithless, and the vile, murderers, fornicators, sorcerers, idolaters, and liars of every kind, their lot will be the second death, in the lake that burns with sulphurous flames.

Revelation 22:6,20 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show unto his servants the things which must shortly be done . . . He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The Lord God who inspires the prophets has sent His angel to show the servants what must shortly happen. And He says remember I am coming soon! Yes, I am coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

I believe that it is worth serving the Lord for a few years while we are here on this earth.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 5 THE FULL CIRCLE

Many times at night as I have looked at the stars, I have looked at the Milky Way and wondered where it started. As I pondered these things I concluded there was no start and no end, because the Milky Way was just a great circle. In a year's time the earth travelled completely around the sun and came back to the same place. Any time during the year you can go out on a clear night and there is the Milky Way, and it looks the same, and I am sure it does not follow the earth, so it must be a great circle of stars around our part of the universe.

I then got to thinking about circles in general and decided all circles have no start or finish. If you started to walk around a circle that was one mile across, you would end up where you started. The same thing would happen if the circle was three miles across.

Now I thought of the word eternity. Where did it start and where will it end? It came to me, eternity is like a great circle. It has no start and no finish. It is like the Milky Way if we could visualize it. We travel along and see so many things happen, but eternity is still there.

I guess we could say the Lord took some part of past eternity to make heaven what He wanted it to be. Then He created the angels and other heavenly beings to serve Him at all times. After that, God said: "Let us make man in our own image." Gen.2:26 It must have been the Godhead, or Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit conference. He said "Us".

Genesis 1:1 says: In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. When was the beginning? In eternity time is not counted. We believe God created heaven as His place of abode many eons of time before the creation story in Genesis began. For in Genesis 1:2 it says: And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. So, the whole earth must have been covered with water at this time.

Genesis 1:3-5 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. {4} And God saw the light, that <it was> good: and God divided the light from the darkness. {5} And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

On the second day God divided the water of the clouds in the sky from the waters on the earth and then He divided the water on the earth into the seas and the dry land appeared and God called it earth and on the third day God said let the earth bring forth all kinds of vegetation. First there was grass and herbs, then berry bushes and grape vines, and then came the many kinds of trees.

On the fourth day God made the sun, moon and stars. The sun was to give light and heat for the day. It also regulated the day and the seasons of the year. The moon was to give light at night, and

also regulated the months of the year. The stars also gave light in the night and made the sky beautiful to see.

On the fifth day God filled the ocean and streams with all kinds of fish. He made the large fish such as the whales and sharks, but then He had to give them something to eat, so He made great numbers of smaller fish to feed the larger fish and also man.

When God made all the plants they were rooted in the ground so could not move around, so they were fertilized by the wind and the insects carrying pollen from one blossom to the other. But, with the fish, they swam all over the ocean and up the streams into the hills, so He had to have a different method of reproduction with the fish, such as whales, sharks, seals and walruses, the males and females mated and at a set time the female would produce the young of the species. With the smaller fish, such as the Salmon and Trout, He used a different method. The female produced a large number of eggs and at a set time of the year would swim up some quiet stream or river and deposit all the eggs in a nice, warm, sandy place, and then the male fish would swim over and fertilize all the eggs at once.

On the same day He made all kinds of birds that would fly in the air and live on the earth. Now, there were many kinds of birds, from the tiny little hummingbird up to the large ostrich. But, except for the size, they were very similar. They were all covered with feathers to keep them warm. They had two legs and two feet. They also had two wings with large feathers they used for flying, and also large tail feathers.

Now we have a different method of reproduction. Like the fish, the female produces a large number of eggs, then after they mated with the male they would build a suitable nest and each day deposit one egg till a complete clutch according to the kind of bird. Then they sit on the eggs to keep them warm until the young birds break out of the shell. Some birds hid their nests in the grass or bushes, some in trees, and a few flew to the top of the mountains and built their nests where no animals could climb up and destroy them.

On the sixth day God created every kind of animal that man needed at that time and many creeping things, possibly even fishworms, for He knew man would later use a lot of fishworms to go fishing.

With all the plants, birds, fish, and animals, including man, only God regulated which of the young would be male or female, but with the honey bee it was different. I don't know about all insects, but the honey bee builds up great swarms, and most of them are worker bees, but not male or female. There are a few male bees, but they do not do any work. The worker bee supplies all their food. Then there is the queen bee that lays all the eggs and also has all her food supplied. When the controllers of the hive decided they need a new queen they instruct the workers who take care of the eggs to separate some eggs in a special place and bring in some special extract from the blossoms of the plants and feed these eggs so they will develop into queens instead of workers. When they want males, we call them drones, to mate with the new queens, they bring a different kind of food from the blossoms and feed another group of eggs and they become males. In this way the Lord allows those in control of the hive to regulate the type of bees needed to keep the hive properly balanced.

In Genesis 2:8, it says the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden and there He put the man. In verse 18, He said, it is not good that the man should be alone I will make him a helpmate. But before He did He brought before Adam every living thing for him to name. This must have taken Adam several days, for Adam was only a man and could only work so fast as a man. In verse 21, the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam. While he slept the Lord took one of his ribs and made a woman and brought her to Adam as his wife. Adam said this is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; and she shall be called woman because she was taken out of man. Verse 24, and Adam said, therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh.

When God made man and put him in the garden it says he was made in the image of God, so was as pure and clean as God Himself, but he had the ability to choose to do right or wrong, to obey God's demands or to refuse to obey. We don't know how long Adam and Eve stayed in the garden as obedient children, but it says God came down in the cool of the evening to talk to them. So it must have been a regular thing for Him to do. As the plants grew and their fruit ripened God showed them what they should eat each day. In the course of time the tree of good and evil ripened it's fruit and God knew it would be beautiful and look like it was good to eat. But God said for them it was poison and if they ate it they would die. That evening, God called them, and when He heard their story, how the devil persuaded Eve that God is wrong and the fruit is really good to eat and will make them like Gods. Eve is deceived and ate the fruit and gave some to Adam. Adam knew it was wrong so to him it was sin. Before this they were naked but were as innocent as babies, they thought nothing of it. When they ate the fruit they were given the knowledge of their nakedness and ran to hide in the bush from God. He in mercy killed two innocent lambs and covered their nakedness. But then, He drove them out of the Garden as punishment for their sin. God told Adam he would have to work for his living and Eve would have pain and sorrow in childbirth.

Now it seems that when Adam sinned that an evil spirit entered into him and polluted his seed and that pollution is still there trying to destroy everything that is good in the world today.

God pronounced Eve's punishment as pain and sorrow of conception, but there is no indication of the seed of the woman being polluted, at least as long as she was a virgin. God said the seed of a woman would bruise the serpent's head, and later said the Messiah would be born of a virgin without sin's pollution.

The Bible says in the fullness of time Christ came, so this was exactly the right time in God's plan. When the Roman rulers used death on the cross as punishment for those they condemned. It was prophesied that Christ would be hung on a tree.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 6 THE END OF THE AGE

I have read quite a number of books about the Book of Daniel and the Book of Revelations. I now felt led of the Lord to write some of my thoughts and will tie in the Book of Daniel with the book of Revelations.

History has shown that the visions Daniel saw and wrote down were the history of the Jews from that time until the time of Christ.

Daniel's vision continued and showed many things, but the angel told him to seal up that part of the book until the end time. This was in chapter twelve, verse four of the book of Daniel.

In the book of Revelations chapter five, verse one, John the Revelator was shown the book of the seven seals, which sounded very much like Daniel's sealed book.

Now I feel that I have many things to write about the book of Revelations. I am sure I will bring out some thoughts that have never been mentioned in any of the books that I have read. Most of the books that I have read claim that the letters to the seven churches in Asia foretell the seven stages in the development of the church down through the years, and I agree with them. I also think each letter was written to each church for their good and to tell them what they needed to do if they would not be destroyed.

The message to the church at Ephesus seems to be very good except they have left their first love and are called on to repent or their candle will be removed. To the best of my knowledge their candle has been removed and there is no trace of the church at Ephesus today.

To the church at Smyrna is only praise, but a warning of future persecution. But at the end if they continue faithful will be a crown of life. I am told that church is still in existence today.

The message to the church at Pergamos started out very good but later they allowed sinful practices to come among them. They were also told to repent or they would be destroyed and I understand they are not here anymore.

Each church has a different message, and the message to Thyatira is quite different and He commends them for many good things but will destroy those who persist in their sins. I believe that church is also missing today.

Next is the church at Sardis and they are told they are almost dead but still have a few who are standing true and working for the good of the church.

Next we get the message to the church at Philadelphia and it is all praise and blessing and I am told that church is still there today and will surely stand till Christ comes to take us all home.

This is the saddest message of all written to the church at Laodicea. He says they are neither cold nor hot and He will spew them out of His mouth, He is not even allowed in the church, for He says, "I stand at the door and knock hoping someone will open the door and let me in", but evidently the door did not open as that church is no more.

There was one message sent to all the churches and is still true today. Each person who stands true to the end will be received into the kingdom and given a white robe and power to rule over the nations.

Now to get back to the church periods in the letters to the churches, I will not add to what has been written except to say it seems to me we are in the Philadelphia period, when the Lord said, "I will open doors and no man can shut them." There has never been a time in history when there has been so many doors opening around the world for the true gospel of Holiness as there is today. The Lord said, "No man can shut them till the whole world has heard the gospel of Holiness." I believe it behooves us as a missionary minded church to try to enter every door that opens to us for the time is getting short.

The Four Horsemen of Chapter Six of Revelations

I have read many ideas of the four horsemen of chapter six of Revelations, but I have been given a very different interpretation of these four seals. I believe the four horses and their riders are four stages of the church and I believe if you follow along with me, you will find I am right.

The first horse was pure white, denoting purity. The rider had the very earliest type of weapons, the bow and the arrow. The early church did not have any of the written word of the new covenant, but used the teaching of the disciples as their authority in winning new followers of Christ's church. The rider was given the crown of righteousness, which gave him the authority to preach the word. He went forth to conquer the world.

The second horse was red, denoting blood. That was the period of great bloodshed when so many of the Christians were martyred because of the word of God. It was during this period that the gospels and epistles of the new testament were written and the church went forth with the written word of the new covenant, the sword of the spirit.

The third horse was black, denoting complete darkness of the knowledge of the word of the new covenant of the gospel of Christ. The leaders of the church, the priests, collected all the written word and stored it in their cathedrals. They would give it out for a price to those who were able to pay. This period is known as the Dark Ages. No one except the priests were allowed to even see a copy of the word. Everyone had to depend on what the priest told them to do to find their way to heaven.

Now, the fourth horse was a pale horse showing a mixture of light and darkness, a mixture of the true doctrine and a not so true doctrine. The rider of that horse was death. We believe that death

means the separation of the spirit from the body. The word for death in the original could also be interpreted as separation so this period could be the time when the Holiness people began separating from the non-Holiness people and the pilgrims started coming over to America so they could worship God in the spirit of Holiness without hindrance from the higher authorities of the church. That separating is still going on today.

I am so glad that I am free to interpret the word of God as God shows me and others are free to disagree with me if they don't see it my way. This is my explanation of the first four seals that John saw opened. The fifth seal shows the souls of those who were slain for the word of God. They were clothed in white raiment as they wait by the altar. They cried, "How long, Oh Lord, before our blood will be avenged on those on earth." They were told to rest a little while longer until the rest of their fellow servants should be slain like they were.

After many years of study, I feel impressed to write my interpretation of the vision in Revelations chapter twelve.

John saw a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, she wore a crown of twelve stars. The woman is the new church and the twelve stars are the twelve apostles. The child to be born is the New Testament.

The red dragon was the Roman church with the seven heads and ten horns. The Roman church tried to seize every copy of the word, but many copies were preserved. Then the dragon persecuted the woman, but she was given the wings of an eagle and flew to the wilderness.

The emblem of the United States is the eagle. The persecuted Christians fled to America and brought the Bible with them and so the Bible was preserved.

In Revelations chapter twelve, verse fifteen, it says that the serpent cast up a flood to try to drown the woman but the earth opened her mouth and swallowed the flood.

I remember in the early days, most of the teaching of the Roman church was among the Indians and Central and South America. Our missionaries found those countries were one hundred percent Roman Catholic and were hard to reach with the true Gospel. The Roman church has fought our missionaries continually throughout the world even to this day.

In the beginning of the church age, the disciples were driven out of Jerusalem by persecution and scattered over most of the known world. They went from city to city preaching the gospel of the new covenant and won many followers, mostly among the gentiles. In each area, they appointed leaders and started a local church, as we do today.

Soon several of the disciples decided to write what they remembered, with the help of the Holy Spirit, which they received on the day of Pentecost, of the life and teaching of Christ.

I believe John Mark was the first to write. Next Matthew wrote for the benefit of the believing Jews, so he wrote so the Jews would understand.

Then Dr. Luke wrote more for the understanding of the gentile converts. Later Dr. Luke wrote the acts of the apostles from the time of Pentecost until the time of his writing.

Sometime in this time bracket, John the beloved wrote his gospel message and also his three letters or epistles. We have all learned to love all of his writings. Peter, James and Jude also wrote letters to the churches at this time.

During this time the apostle Paul wrote a number of letters to the different churches many of them from prison.

The church now had the written word to use in their teaching and preaching. At that time most of the converts could not read or write so only the appointed leaders had the written word, which is our new testament. These leaders read the word and explained it to the people. This worked well at the beginning, but a few generations later false teachers gradually took control and so distorted the gospel that those who stood fast to the truth were martyred as heretics for the truths sake. This is how Satan raised up his beast out of the religious world Revelations chapter thirteen, verse one. The sea represents the religious people of that part of the world and Satan gave the beast great power to deceive the people.

Now in the same chapter thirteen, another beast is raised up out of the earth. This time, it was raised up out of the political world. It was much the same as the first beast except it had only two horns.

In the reign of King Henry VIII of England and Ireland, the king asked the Pope to allow him to divorce his queen so he could marry another woman. The Pope refused his request, so he withdrew from the Roman church and started the church of England. It was patterned after the Roman church only the head was called the Archbishop of Canterbury. He had the same power as the Pope, but under the King, of course.

Now followed the time of persecution of the true believers and many were burned at the stake or otherwise killed as heretics. Now great numbers fled to America in fear of their lives. There, in time, they established a solid foundation of Holiness teaching, and began to send missionaries around the world till today most of the world is hearing the gospel.

I have written three stories of the progress of the church from the time of Christ to the end time. First the four horsemen, a brief history in four parts. Then the message to the churches, a more detailed story in seven parts and third, a description of how all these changes developed.

I learned to paint with a brush and oil long before I tried to paint pictures with words, but find many similarities. First, you need to have a picture in your mind before you can paint it, so also you need to have a picture in mind before you can describe it.

Now I painted quite a variety of pictures. When I hung them on the wall, I had to arrange them so they complimented each other and made a pleasing display to show to the people.

When John wrote Revelations, he was shown many pictures and he wrote down their descriptions as he was shown them. After many years of study, I am trying to place the pictures as they fit together.

Now in Revelations chapter six, verses nine, ten and eleven, when the fifth seal was opened John saw the souls of them that were slain for the word of God up to that time, under the altar. I wonder if that included the prophets of the old testament also. They cried with a loud voice, "How long oh Lord, Holy and true, till you avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth."

The answer was, they were given white robes and told to wait a little while longer till their brethren were killed also. This picture was just the beginning of a continued story down through the history of the church down through the present time and beyond. Now near the end of the church period, we are given another picture of what is to happen.

In Revelations chapter seven, beginning with verse one, John is shown four angels standing on the four corners of the earth holding back the four winds, or forces of destruction, till another angel puts the seal of God on the foreheads of the one hundred and forty-four thousand Jews, twelve thousand from each tribe. They are called the servants of God.

In the listing of the tribes who were sealed, the tribe of Manasseh evidently was named instead of the tribe of Dan and Joseph is named instead of Ephraim, the youngest son of Joseph. In Genesis chapter forty-nine, verse seventeen, as Jacob was blessing his sons, he called Dan an adder and a serpent. In verse eighteen, "I have waited for your salvation, so Dan will not be protected during the tribulation."

In Jeremiah seven, verse fifteen, it says, . . . and I will cast you out of my sight as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim." Another place it says Ephraim is joined to his idols so let him alone.

I believe Christ will come to take away His bride at the same time as the angels are putting the Lord's mark on the forehead of the one hundred and forty-four thousand chosen Jews.

My first reason is that right after John tells of the marking of the Jews, he writes in Revelations chapter seven, verse nine, "After this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude which no man could number, of all nations, kindreds and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes with palms in their hands; they cried with a loud voice, saying, salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."

Then in verse thirteen, one of the elders answered, "Saying unto me, who are these which are arrayed in white robes? And whence came they? I said unto him, sir, thou knowest. He said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, not "the great tribulation" and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, are they before the throne of God and serve him day and night in His temple; and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat

for the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of water and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

This could be the end of the age of the Philadelphia church period. The promise is that they will be kept from the hour of the great temptation that will come upon all the world to try them. I don't know who will be left, but it sounds like a cold formal church like the church at Laodicea. Even then, He says, "I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice and open unto me, I will come in to him and sup with him. To him that overcometh, will I grant to sit with me in my throne."

My second reason is that when the seventh seal is opened and which seems to be the beginning of the great tribulation the seven trumpets begin to sound. When the fifth trumpet sounds and the great locusts come out of the bottomless pit, they were commanded to hurt all mankind who did not have the seal of God in their foreheads. So either the saints had been raptured or God had His mark on their forehead. I don't find any place in the Bible where God has had His saints branded except the one hundred and forty-four thousand Jews.

I believe here is the place to bring in the parable of the ten virgins. Matthew twenty-five, verse one through thirteen says, "Then shall the Kingdom of Heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were wise, and five of them were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them; but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. At midnight there was a cry, behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him."

Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. We know the wise virgins had oil and went in with the bridegroom, but the foolish were left outside.

I believe when Christ the Bridegroom comes, those who have the oil of the Holy Spirit in their hearts will go in to the marriage supper of the Lamb, but all the others will be left outside the gate and will have to go through the great tribulation.

I believe quite a number of the foolish virgins will become martyrs during the great tribulation period and join those under the altar and there will be many who live through it all and will be those outside the gates when Christ and His bride come down with His Holy temple to reign for one thousand years, but the saints will have their home in the temple with Christ and will be free to come and go as they please.

After the thousand years end, Satan will have a short time to deceive enough people outside the gates to form an army to come and fight against the Holy city and this will be the last battle and Satan will be cast into the lake of fire forever and all those who were deceived into following him will also be destroyed.

This will be the end of time and all those who have remained true to Christ will begin living in eternity and from that time on everything and everybody will be pure and holy.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 7 **EXPLANATION OF THE CHART OF THE GENTILE CHURCH**

[The chart referred to in this chapter is found as "chart tiff" in the list of files. To view it will necessitate bringing in as a graphic in your word processor or graphic program. Dorothea Maxey]

I have read quite a number of books about the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation. Now I felt led of the Lord to write some of my thoughts, and will tie in the book of Daniel with the book of Revelation. History has shown that the visions Daniel saw and wrote down were the history of the Jews from that time until the time of Christ.

Daniel's vision continued and showed many things, but the angel told him to seal up that part of the book until the end time. This was in Daniel 12:4. In the book of Revelation 5:1, John the Revelator was shown the book of the seven seals, which sounded very much like Daniel's sealed book.

The Lord asked me to make a chart of the time of the Gentile church, so now I have to write the explanation of the chart, and first I will explain the seven churches.

THE CHURCH AGE

THE SEVEN CHURCH AGES

EPHESUS	SMYRNA	PERGAMOS	THYATIRA	SARDIS	PHILADELPHIA	LAODICEA
HOLDING TO THE TRUE GOSPEL OF CHRIST	POOR IN WORLDY GOODS BUT SPIRITUAL	FALSE DOCTRINE CREEPING INTO THEIR WORSHIP	GOOD WORKS FAITH AND PATIENCE BUT HAVE JEZEBEL	WORKS NOT PERFECT BEFORE GOD	TEACHING THE PURE GOSPEL OPEN DOORS	LUKEWARM CHRIST ON THE OUTSIDE

FOUR DIVISIONS OF THE CHURCH AGE

1ST. SEAL WHITE HORSE	2ND. SEAL RED HORSE	3RD. SEAL BLACK HORSE	4TH. SEAL PALE HORSE	5TH. SEAL	6TH. SEAL	7TH SEAL
RIDER WITH BOW DENOTES PURE GOSPEL BY WORD OF MOUTH OF THE DISCIPLES	RIDER WITH SWORD, THE WRITTEN WORD ALSO FALSE TEACHING DESTROYS PEACE	WITH SCALES BLACKOUT OF GOSPEL	RIDER IS SEPARATION; TRUE GOSPEL SEPARATES FROM FALSE	SHOWS ALL THE MARTYRS IN HEAVEN WITH THEIR WHITE ROBES	SHOWS THE GREAT DIVISION WHEN THE LEADERS OF TRUE RELIGION BROKE AWAY FROM THE FALSE TEACHERS	WAS WHEN THE TEMPLE OPENED AND THE SEVEN ANGELS WITH THE SEVEN TRUMPETS CAME OUT TO SOUND

THE SOUNDING OF THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

TRUMPET 1	TRUMPET 2	TRUMPET 3	TRUMPET 4	TRUMPET 5	TRUMPET 6	TRUMPET 7
THIS WAS WHEN THE JEWISH NATION WAS DESTROYED IN THE YEAR 70 A.D. AND MANY CHRISTIAN LEADERS WERE KILLED	THIS MOUNTAIN WAS MOHAMMED A DESCENDANT OF ISHMAEL AND A GREAT RELIGIOUS LEADER AT THAT TIME	MOHAMMED II WITH THE HELP OF THE SARACENS BECAME THE NEXT GREAT LEADER OF THE ARAB RELIGION	THIS WAS THE DARK AGES WHEN TRUE GOSPEL ALMOST WAS DESTROYED FROM OFF THE EARTH	I BELIEVE JOSEPH SMITH WAS THE FALLEN STAR AND HE TOOK UP THE MOHAMMED-AN RELIGION	THE RELEASE OF THE FOUR ANGELS TO ALLOW THE GREAT WAR WITH HITLER WHO DESTROYED SO MANY JEWS	AT THE SOUND OF THIS TRUMPET THE ANGELS STARTED TO POUR OUT THEIR VIALS OF GOD'S WRATH

POURING OUT OF 7 VIALS

VIAL 1	VIAL 2	VIAL 3	VIAL 4	VIAL 5	VIAL 6	VIAL 7
GREAT SORES BROKE OUT ON ALL MEN WITH THE MARK OF THE BEAST	THE SECOND ANGEL Poured HIS VIAL OUT AND THE SEA BECAME BLOOD	THE RIVERS AND FOUNTAINS BECAME BLOOD	THE SUN BECAME SO HOT IT SCORCHED MEN LIKE FIRE	POURED OUT ON THE SEAT OF THE BEAST	POURED OUT ON THE RIVER EUPHRATES AND IT DRIED UP	EVIDENTLY THIS VIAL WAS Poured ON THE CITY OF BABYLON

Ephesus, the first period, held to the true gospel of Christ and their love of Christ at the beginning was supreme. But as the years passed and they grew in size their loyalty became to the organized church, for which Christ rebuked them.

Smyrna, the second period, was poor in worldly goods, but rich spiritually even though persecuted and Christ commended them for their loyalty.

Pergamos, the third period, many were standing true and they were doing many good works but the false doctrine of Balaam and also the doctrine of the Nicolaitans was creeping in, Nicki meaning the leaders were claiming authority over the laity or people and this led to the priesthood with their power over the church.

Thyatira, the fourth period, was still full of good works, and good works became the great emphasis, also began the worship of the priests and many saints which became a form of idol worship instead of the worship of Christ.

Sardis, the fifth period, there are many holding to the true gospel of Christ but many are believing the false teaching and the church is dying spiritually, but those who remain true will be saved from the second death.

Philadelphia, the sixth period, is when the followers of the true gospel have broken away from the apostate church and are once more teaching the true Gospel of Christ, and Christ is opening doors all over the world to the churches preaching Holiness. This seems to be the last period of Holiness preaching in the world.

Laodicea, the seventh period of the church, they are rich in worldly goods but dead spiritually. It says Christ is outside knocking on the door asking to get in. So the seventh church period is totally without Christ's teaching but Christ is still calling for people to come out from among them and accept Him as their Savior.

This period proves to be satan's church and I believe it will have the Mormon sign on the front of it. The penalty for leaving this church will be death so the last of the martyrs will enter Heaven during this period before Christ comes to take control. I believe anyone who comes out to accept Christ at this time would be killed and that would be the last of that great throng of martyrs as recorded in the fifth seal.

Now we begin to explain the seven seals.

Before the book with the seven seals was opened, John was shown a scene in Heaven which was very revealing. First, he saw God sitting on His throne and evidently four banners representing four living creatures were on four sides of the throne and each banner represented a group of people.

Many years ago I read a book explaining how the children of Israel were arranged when they were camped in the wilderness as they traveled toward the land of Canaan. We read in Numbers 2, that every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's

house;, far off, about the tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch. On the east side was Judah, Issachar and Zebulan, their standard and ensign was the Lion. On the south side was Reuben, Simeon and Gad, their standard and ensign was the Calf. On the west side was Ephraim, Manasseh and Benjamin, their standard and ensign was a Man. On the north side was Dan, Asher and Naphtali, their standard and ensign was the Eagle. These four groups surrounded the tabernacle of God as the children of Israel marched to the promised land and correspond to the same ensigns that surrounded God's throne as John saw it in Heaven.

This must be showing John a picture of the future because this great throng of people are singing the song of the redeemed by the blood from every kindred and tongue and people and nation. And, in Revelation 5:11, 12, 14, And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

When the Lamb opens the first four seal it shows the development of the church in four periods. In Revelation 6:2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. This was when the disciples went forth with only the words of Christ in their memory and the power of the Holy Spirit as their weapons.

Revelation 6:4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. This was when the false doctrines began to have power in the church and began to kill those of the true doctrine as heretics. However, the writings of the true gospel were stored in the archives of the church and they later became our New Testament that we have today.

Revelation 6:5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. This was the period in the church known as the Dark Ages when the leaders of the church withheld the true gospel except for a price and that price many times was death to the person who gave it out.

Revelation 6:7-8 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, or separation. At this time the people who believed in holy living began to separate themselves from the false teaching of the main body of the church. Many gave their lives for their faith in the Gospel of Christ, while many others crossed the ocean to America to have freedom to follow Christ's teaching. We are still in that fourth and last period of the church and Holiness people still have to separate from the main body of the church if they are to follow the teaching of the Bible. I believe these conditions will exist until the end of the Gentile church age when Christ will take over.

Revelation 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud

voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

Revelation 6:11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled. It sounds like it was near the end of our time on earth.

The opening of the seals was giving the future history of the Gentile period of the church and the sixth seal is a quick review of that period. The sun and the moon darkened represent the Old and New Testaments which for a long period of time the leaders of the church would not allow any lay member to own or read and learn the true gospel that was given to the early church. The fallen stars are the leaders of the church who fell for the false gospel and gave it out to the people. Any man who tried to give out the true gospel was removed from any office in the church and many of them became martyrs for their beliefs. During this period of history the kings and many of the earth's great men begged to be taken into this apostate church because they were told if they did not come under their protection the wrath of God would be upon them. The great earthquakes of this time represent the great breaking up and divisions of the church.

Before the seventh seal was opened as told in Revelation 8, John was shown many things in chapter 7:1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

Revelation 7:2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

Revelation 7:3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. Revelation 7:4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

Revelation 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

Revelation 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

Revelation 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Revelation 7:15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

Revelation 7:16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

Revelation 7:17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Now we come to Revelation 8, and the opening of the seventh seal: Verse 1: And when He had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in Heaven about the space of a half an hour. Verse 2: John saw the seven angels which stood before God; were given seven trumpets, but before they sounded John tells us in verses 3, 4, 5, that another angel scattered fire and incense on the earth. I believe this was when persecution scattered the Christians over the known earth shortly after Christ's death, and there were many unusual things happened at this time.

Now in verse 6, the seven angels prepare to sound their trumpets. Verse 7, the first trumpet sounds and it says hail and fire and blood were cast on the earth and burned up one third of the trees. The Jewish nation is often referred to as trees, so I believe this was when the Romans destroyed the Jews and scattered them around the world and possibly one third of them were killed.

It also said all the green grass was burned up, but did you ever see a grass fire? It just burns the top of the grass but does not hurt the roots. This evidently referred to the Christians because many of the leaders were killed, but the roots were not hurt.

In verse 8, the second trumpet sounded and a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea and a third part of the sea became blood and a third part of life died. This was about the time Mohammed came on the scene as a great leader among the Arabs. He claimed to trace his ancestry back to Ishmael, Abraham's son by Hagar, and he claimed to have the true gospel. There is only one God and Mohammed is His prophet and all who refused to hear him would be lost, but all who followed him he promised a home in heaven. The sea of blood represents his false religion and all who believed would die spiritually. This great mountain was a great religious leader. His belief in one God came down through Ishmael from Abraham, but was mixed up with many heathen beliefs and became the beast John saw rise out of the sea of religious teachings of that day.

Revelation 8:10 And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; This was Mohammed the second, and he became the image of the beast. From my studies I learned that Mohammed the second as a boy was taken from a Christian home and raised and educated as a Mohammedan and became a great leader in the Arab nations and world, including Palestine and Jerusalem, but later during the great crusades they were slowly driven back and defeated until it looked like they were dead as a religious force in the world. And, as they were driven back the true gospel began to spread once more, but Mohammedanism, although badly wounded, did not die.

Revelation 8:12 And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. This must have been the time known as the Dark Ages when there was such a confusion of religions in the world. The Mohammedans

controlled most of India and Turkey. The Buddhists controlled most of China and the apostate church controlled most of the religious activities throughout Europe and even in America.

Now in chapter 9:1 many translations say John saw a fallen star and he was given the key of the bottomless pit. Now in my study of the Mormon church, I find that Joseph Smith was raised in a home where magic and superstition was a great part of his training. However, as a teenager he started attending some Methodist meetings and was accepted into membership and married one of the daughters in the church. Later when he refused to give up his practice of magic and all his superstitious beliefs the church leaders asked him to turn in his membership. He now started studying ancient religions and one night he said he was visited by an angel of light who said he was a messenger from God, (the god of this world, satan) and this is evidently when he received the key to the bottomless pit as told in chapter 9:1.

As he talked to his friends and relatives about this new religion (which was almost identical to what Mohammed taught) it spread very much like smoke and he soon had a large following and they called themselves Mormons. After Joseph Smith's death and the Mormons established themselves in Utah they began sending out missionaries, and today they travel around the world. I would say these missionaries resemble the description of the locusts given in chapter 9:3-11.

First we have Mohammed the beast. Second we have the image of the beast in Mohammed the second and the Saracens. Now we have Joseph Smith and his Mormons as the false prophet. They are all anti-Christ and very soon THE ANTI-CHRIST will be revealed.

Revelation 9:13-15 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, {14} Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. {15} And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. This evidently was Hitler's great army and it had been held under control for several years and was suddenly let loose and there must have been a third of mankind destroyed during that war and besides there must have been a third of the Jews destroyed in the gas chambers. One reason I believe this was Hitler's war is verse 21 says that those who were not killed in the war continued in their sinful ways and did not repent of their wickedness.

The next thing John saw after this great war is described in Revelation 10:1-10 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: {2} And he had in his hand a little book open: . . . {8} And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. {9} And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. {10} And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.

In this picture John represents the Jewish nation and the little book represents the clear title to the land of Israel which the Jews received from Great Britain in 1948 after World War 2. And it certainly sounded sweet to them at the time, but they have been in bitter fighting ever since.

Now let us turn to Ezekiel 36:16, Why God destroyed Israel as a nation and scattered them among the heathen nations in the year 70 A.D. and left them there until the year 1948. Then Ezekiel 36:21 He tells us why He gathers them home in 1948. Then in the rest of the chapter He tells what He will do for them and just why He is doing it.

Then in Ezekiel 37, he compares the house of Israel to the valley of dried bones and how He will draw all Israel, though Jesus said they were dead in trespasses and sins, and he compares where they are living to graves, but instead of being a divided nation they will be one nation. but in Ezekiel 38,39 it tells what Israel will be faced with before the Lord does sanctify them and makes them clean and fit to be His people.

Now to get back to Revelation 11, We read that John was told to measure the temple, but there is no temple now in Jerusalem, but evidently there will be one built in the near future. Now I read in the papers that the Mormons are trying to covenant with the Jews to build them a temple for their worship, and verse 3 says there will be two witnesses, and their description fits Moses and Elijah, so the witness would be the Law and the Prophets. When these witnesses have prophesied 1,260 days, the beast which is the Mormon church will break their covenant and take over the temple and prevent any further witnessing, but after a short period of time, it could have been 3 1/2 days, 3 1/2 months, or 3 1/2 years, when the great earthquake destroyed the city and killed 7,000 men that the Mormons gave the temple back to the Jews. Now the witnesses are revived and it says called up to Heaven and God was glorified. In Revelation 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

Next I looked at Revelation 14:14-16 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud <one> sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. {15} And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. {16} And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

We had better be ready for this time of reaping may start any day now. Just a few days ago a teenager was killed in a car accident. She said she was ready, but her family had better repent, or none of them will be called to meet Him in the air.

Revelation 15:1-3 and I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. {2} And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. {3} And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

So after all the blood-washed saints are gathered on the sea of glass in Heaven God sends forth His angels with the vials of God's wrath, in Rev.16:1 to pour it out on the earth.

In Rev.16:2, The first one poured his vial and there came out great sores on all the men with the mark of the beast on them. Verse 3, The second angel poured out his vial and the sea was turned to blood. Verse 4, the third angel poured out his vial and the rivers and fountains became blood. Verses 5,6, The angel says Thou art righteous, O Lord, for they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and Thou hast given them blood to drink. Verse 8, the fourth angel poured out his vial and the sun became so hot it scorched men like a fire and men cursed God for the terrible heat. Verse 10, and the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast: and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, and blasphemed the God of Heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. According to my studies, the seat of the beast will be Salt Lake City and the surrounding area.

Revelation 16:12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. The rest of the chapter tells of the gathering of the nations for the great battle of Armageddon when Jesus Christ will come and destroy this great army and save all the Jews still alive and be accepted as their Messiah and King of Kings. Now to get a good description of this great battle turn to Ezekiel 38, and 39.

After this John heard the sound of many voices praising the Lord and saying now is the Marriage of the Lamb and all the saints are dressed and ready. But right after the wedding, John says, Christ rides forth on His white horse with a great army of Heavenly angels to rescue Israel and destroy this great army gathered against her. Revelation 19:11-14 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. {12} His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. {13} And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. {14} And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

Now Revelation 19:15-21, Tells of the great battle of Armageddon where the fowls of the air and the beasts of the field are called to the feast after the battle, where the beast, the false prophet and all those who had the mark of the beast were thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:1-3, tell how Satan is bound with a chain in the bottomless pit for 1,000 years, and then the scene changes and John saw Christ on His throne in Heaven with the many saints around Him and it seems they are receiving their rewards at this time. Christ is ruling things on earth from His throne in Heaven for the 1,000 years after Armageddon just like He is at this time.

At the end of the thousand years Satan is released from prison and goes out and stirs up the nations against Israel, but the Jews are not harmed because fire comes down from heaven and destroys all the rebels and Satan is now cast into the lake of fire.

Now, in chapter 20:11, John again shows Christ sitting on His throne as the Judge and all those in the second resurrection come before Him and evidently all those still alive on the earth have been

translated because just before this it says the heavens and the earth fled from before His face and there was found no place for them, so those accounted as sheep would go to the new earth and the goats to the lake of fire.

Revelation 21:1-5 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. {2} And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. {3} And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God <is> with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, <and be> their God. {4} And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. {5} And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

In Rev 21:9 An angel showed John the Bride, the Lamb's wife which is the new Jerusalem where the blood-washed saints will now be living. Verse 10-23 gives a description of the city. Verse 24-27 tells that all those of all the nations who were saved because their names were written in the Lamb's Book of Life will live on the new earth. The kings of the earth will be allowed to bring their glory into the city, but nothing impure will be allowed.

This completes my study of Revelation, and I hope anyone who reads what I have written will be able to get a better understanding of this last book in the Bible.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 8 THE BRIDE

The book of Matthew tells the story of Christ's birth, Matthew 1:18-25 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. {19} Then Joseph her husband, being a just <man>, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. {20} But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. {21} And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. {22} Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, {23} Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. {24} Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: {25} And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Now I would like to show that the church as Christ's bride is quite a similar story. Christ was definitely a Jew of the tribe of Judah as Joseph's adopted son and legally a son of King David. Mary was a descendant of Aaron the priest, so He was also a Jew by birth and belonged to the priesthood.

Now God did not send Christ to earth to find a physical bride and raise children, but He came to find a spiritual bride and to raise spiritual children. Christ desired to raise His spiritual children from the Jewish race but God had other plans, because He knew the Jewish nation would reject Him and hang Him on the Cross.

In Matthew 15:24, Christ said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Also He said in Matthew 23:37-39 How often would I have gathered Thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not, behold your house is left unto you desolate.

However, He chose His disciples and the few who followed Him at the last, strictly from the Jews. On the day of Pentecost, the group of 120 including the disciples, the nucleus of the church were His espoused bride. He being a Jew could only marry a Jewish bride according to the Jewish law.

Christ said I am the vine and ye are the branches, talking to the Jews as a nation, but He also said you are dead in your trespasses and sins, so you will be cut off and another nation will be grafted in which will bring forth good fruit, the wild grape branches when grafted into the good vine they become good branches and were able to bear good fruit.

When Christ's Holy Spirit came down to His espoused bride on the day of Pentecost He gave her power to go out to the Gentiles and bring forth His spiritual children as they were grafted into the true vine Christ Jesus. In my own words Jesus said you think it is marvelous that this people that were not considered a people have now become a great nation and a holy people.

Now let us turn to Luke 16:19-23 which tells us how as soon as Christ's children die, they are carried by the angels up to where Abraham is waiting till the new heaven and earth are created when all God's children will have a beautiful new home.

Luke 16:19-23 {19} There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day; {20} and there was a certain beggar named Lazarus which was laid at his gate, full of sores, {21} and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. {22} And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom; the rich man died also, and was buried, {23} and in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeing Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

Right after John was given the message to the seven churches he was shown a view in heaven as the Lamb was chosen to open the book of seven seals. He was shown the throne of God with the four beasts and the twenty-four elders around the throne.

Now in Strong's Greek concordance it says the Greek word translated beast in the King James Bible could also be translated living creatures, and the following scriptures in Revelation 5:8-14 describes the beasts and the elders as ten thousand times ten thousand redeemed saints singing the song of the redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.

Again, after the angel had sealed the 144,000 Jews, John saw in, Revelation 7:9-10 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; {10} And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

To get the complete story you need to read the rest of Revelation 7, where it tells that one of the elders tells John that these are they which came out of great tribulation and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Now in Revelation 14:13-16 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. {14} And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. {15} And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. {16} And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

Evidently this is what Christ meant in Matthew 24:40-42 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. {41} Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. {42} Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

In Revelation 15:2-3 John saw for the third time the great host of the redeemed. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. {3} And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

Now let us turn to Revelation 19:7-9 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. {8} And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. {9} And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

After Christ had His wife and children safely settled on the sea of glass, He then went forth to claim His Kingdom as told in Revelation 19:11-21 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. {12} His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. {13} And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. {14} And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. {15} And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. {16} And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. {17} And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; {18} That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. {19} And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. {20} And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. {21} And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

Now that all of satan's armies have been destroyed we find satan a helpless creature and so the angel from heaven comes down to bind him as described in Revelation 20:1-3 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. {2} And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, {3} And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he

should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Now the scene changes to Heaven where Christ's throne is and always will be, and his children the blood-washed saints have already been given their eternal positions ready to take over when the new heavens and new earth are made ready.

Now as I study the papers from day to day and read the maneuvering of all the nations it looks to me like the beginning of the shaping up of this great army. It may take ten years or maybe fifteen years to complete all the plans but they are being made.

The early Russian Communist leaders started out by building up a great army and making satellites of a large number of the European nations and planned to go on to conquer the world but it just didn't work out that way. Now this new leader is trying something different. He is withdrawing all Russian troops from the satellite countries but leaving a native Communist army there. Now he is trying to make friends with all the Arabs and especially with Iran and Ethiopia. They all hate the Christians and especially the Jews so he feels if he can combine all these armies under the Russian command he can wipe out the Jewish nation which is the seat of both the Jewish and Christian religions which have stood in his way and then could completely conquer the rest of the world.

This is how Christ plans to draw all these wicked nations to the battle of Armageddon against Israel so when He comes He can destroy them all with one breath of His nostrils. In Matthew 15:24 Christ said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Therefore, while He was here on earth He ministered only to the house of Israel and at the time of His ascension He was talking to the Jews only and the promise of His Messianic return was to the Jews as their King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Therefore, His return must be after the end of the age of the Gentiles when all the Gentiles are saved that could be saved.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 9 BIBLE HISTORY

When God created man He gave him power to control everything He had created but under His direction, but when Adam and Eve sold out to satan that power of control became satan's but still under God's control.

Throughout the Old Testament God Himself controlled what He would allow satan to do as told in the book of Job. Job was God's man tried and true but for some reason God did not call him to be the head of a great nation but later He called his cousin Abram to leave all his relatives and go into a far country that he knew nothing about and promised to make him the head of a great nation if he would just obey Him and changed his name to Abraham which means "Father of a great nation". Later his son Isaac received the same promise. His grandson Jacob also was given this promise and after some four hundred years we are told that his seed. has grown to the size of a nation but are in slavery.

At this time God has a man named Moses all prepared and ready to lead this nation out of slavery back to the land He has promised them. It takes another forty years in the wilderness to discipline these slaves and prepare them to take over this land they had been promised. This nation became known as the children of Israel, Jacob's other name, and when Moses died God had Joshua well prepared to lead them into the land of Canaan where their descendants live today.

For many years God continued to raise up leaders like Samuel and Samson who kept the nation united. Then God gave them a king named Saul who led them for forty years and at his death God had David ready to take over for another forty years and at his death his son Solomon was ready and reigned for another forty years.

All these years although there was much sinning among the people the nation as a whole were trying to serve God, but now the leaders went out into idolatry and deep sin so as God promised He let them be destroyed as a nation and for seventy years they were in exile and served other kings. After this God had mercy on those who remained true and let a remnant return to their own country but they were still under the rule of other nations, but God had promised that some day He would send a Messiah, a descendant of King David to rescue them and rule over them so they waited and prayed that He would come soon.

At the appointed time God sent His Son and gave Him all power over the earth and its present ruler satan. However, though a few Israelites accepted Him as their Messiah., the majority of the nation rejected Him and had Him hung on a cross. This was as their prophets had written.

On the cross Christ paid the ransom price and bought back ownership of the earth that Adam sold to satan. But according to Jewish law of redemption of property He must wait till the year of redemption before He could come and take possession.

John gives us a picture of Christ on His throne with the saints without number and of all nations gathered around Him. He has just come from the marriage supper with His bride and is now sitting on His throne.

After this He rides forth on His white horse with His army of many thousands of angels also riding on white horses and sets His feet on earth His footstool and the first thing He does is destroy the greatest army the world has ever known who are about to destroy the nation of Israel.

He now sends His angels to the four corners of the earth to gather His elect, the one hundred and forty four thousand Jews who were sealed just before this great battle began. These are the only people who meet Christ on mount Zion when He comes back to earth.

This time when He comes to earth all the Jews who are still alive after this battle will cry "Messiah" and accept Him as their Lord and King. He then forgives them all their sins and anoints them with the Holy Spirit and accepts them into His Kingdom.

The first thing He gives them to do is spend seven months burying the dead of the army He has just destroyed. It also says the army equipment will supply the Jews with firewood, or we would say fuel, for seven years.

Now one more evil influence has to be destroyed before Christ can take over as King of Kings and Lord of Lords here on earth. Babylon the center of evil ever since Babel shortly after the flood is now completely destroyed by fire with all her influences throughout the world. Now this nation who was dead in trespasses and sins has been given new life in Christ Jesus will have peace under the direction of Christ's elect who were sealed for his purpose and Christ will direct them from His throne.

Man will have had six thousand years to mess up and destroy this world and now Christ will take over complete control and give the renewed Israel a chance to grow and increase and be that great nation God promised in the first place. The Bible says one will become a thousand and every child will grow to be very old before they die. According to Revelation 21:14 death and hell are destroyed in the lake of fire after the seventh thousand year which is God's Sabbath for the Jews. During this thousand year all the other nations will become subject to the nation of Israel and the world will be at peace until satan is let loose for a little while when he will cause all these other nations to rebel against Israel. And, that is when God will send down fire from heaven and destroy all those who have rebelled and satan will then be cast into the lake of fire.

After this we see Christ seated on His judgment throne and all who were not at the marriage supper of the Lamb will have to pass before Him and be judged according to their works. Don't think you can cover up anything for every thought or deed is recorded in God's books, good or bad. Only God knows who will be of the sheep or of the goats from the time of Adam to the time of Christ, but

we know that since Christ came to save sinners, all who have repented of their sins and been washed in the blood of the Lamb will have their names written down in the Lamb's book of life and all who refuse will automatically be listed as goats.

Now it seems that all the dead that were not in the first resurrection will first pass before Christ and will be either judged as sheep or goats according to the books and then all those still alive on earth will be changed in a moment of time and they will also be separated.

At this time when all mankind have been removed from the earth the old heaven and earth will suddenly pass away and all the sheep will be taken to the new earth where they will live for all eternity and Christ's throne will be in the new heaven where He will reign over heaven and earth throughout all eternity.

All those accounted as goats will be in the lake of fire with satan where the beast and the false prophet and antichrist are.

When we read in the Bible how wonderful it will be on the new earth with Christ on the throne in the new heaven we should not waste any time deciding if we want to go with satan into the lake of fire or go with Christ to the new earth where sorrow and death are no more forever.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 10 OUR MOTHERS

Mother's day 1988 has just passed and as we talked of our mothers in class I thought of writing a chapter about our mothers past and present.

The first of our mothers was Eve. Before she became a mother she and her husband Adam sinned by disobeying God's instructions and were driven from the garden of Eden. They evidently repented and were forgiven as there is no other record of disobedience as long as they lived. It does not tell us how long Eve lived, but Adam lived to almost one thousand years. We don't know why her first son Cain was a very disobedient child and in manhood was also disobedient to God and was driven from God's presence after he murdered his younger brother. The second son Abel seems to have been an obedient child in the home and also to God until his death. The third son Seth was also obedient to his parents and to his God. He became the father of all those who obeyed God down through all the generations, down to our day so I would say. Eve was a good mother and God said her seed some day would destroy the works of the devil. That Seed was Jesus Christ.

The next mother mentioned was Noah's wife, who gave him three sons. Not much is written about her but God considered her worthy to be saved in the ark and be the mother of the new race of men after the flood.

The next mother I think of was Sarah, Abraham's wife. She was a good wife except she did not bring him any children and in those days that was a calamity. God promised Abraham he would be the father of a great nation but they got in a hurry and raised a son by Sarah's maid that later proved to be a bad mistake though he became the father of a minor nation. However, God did give Sarah one son and so she became a good mother as well as a good wife and her son Isaac became a true follower of their God.

Now Isaac's wife Rebekah was a good wife and I believe a good mother though her two sons might have been better but there was not much written about her for us to judge by. Isaac's oldest son Esau had four wives and the whole family drifted away from serving God. The second son Jacob also had four wives but they as a family stayed true to God. Leah and Rachel his true wives were good mothers and stayed true to God.

The next mother I think of was Moses' mother who saved Moses' life and taught him the way of the Lord and though we don't read much about her we know she was a good mother.

Now I think of Samuel's mother Hannah. She was a very worthy person but the Bible says in I Samuel 1:6 the Lord had shut up her womb so she had no children. She was very sad and wept many times but never lost faith in the Lord. She and her husband went up to Shiloh every year to bring their yearly sacrifice and worship the Lord. One year she went before the chief priest and prayed

greatly that God would have mercy on her and give her a son and she vowed a vow to give the son to the Lord forever. The Lord heard and answered her prayer and when her son arrived she called him Samuel because she said I asked him of the Lord. Afterwards she became the mother of two more sons and two daughters.

When Samuel was old enough to be weaned she took him to Shiloh and gave him to the care of Eli the priest in the house of the Lord. Every year she went up to Shiloh with her husband and brought Samuel a new supply of clothes and checked on his welfare. She was a good mother and loved and cared for her children.

Naomi is the next mother that comes to my mind. She and her husband Elimelech moved to the land of Moab because of a famine in the land of Judah where her family lived. Naomi had two sons and while they lived in Moab they took wives of the Moabites. Her husband and both sons died leaving three widows.

Orpah decided to stay with her family in Moab but Ruth loved her mother-in-law so much she refused to leave her so returned with her to Judah. Naomi instructed Ruth in the ways of her people and in a matter of time she was married to Boaz a relative of Naomi. David, king of Israel, was a descendant of Boaz.

There are several prominent names of women in the Bible but they were not prominent as mothers, but the next prominent mother I think of was the virgin Mary, who was the mother of Jesus Christ and has a great name throughout the New Testament.

In the New Testament, Timothy's mother and grandmother are given a place of honor. In later times in Church History the place of honor goes to the mother of John and Charles Wesley as one of the great mothers of the present Christian church.

Now I give honor to my own mother who raised ten children and gave them a good Christian background and was loved by all of them to the end of her life. I can remember as a child kneeling at my mother's knee for prayer before going to bed at night. And, after I was grown I knew my mother's prayers followed me no matter where I travelled. My mother was a true pioneer mother, always poised and prepared for emergencies. We homesteaded out on the prairie many miles from any town or even neighbors. Whoever came by were welcomed. It might be a buggy load of people looking for a homestead or a couple of Northwest Mounted Police. They were given a place at our table and then went on their way. The Northwest Mounted Police as they travelled many miles over the prairie on horseback enjoyed stopping for a hot meal and fellowship at our table.

I learned from these experiences as I grew up to never meet a stranger. They were just friends passing by and I treated them as such. My mother has been gone these many years but her influence has been with me all my life.

I could write about several of my friends as good mothers but there are two I would like to mention, but will not give their names. My first time away from home when I went to high school

this family took me in as one of the family. She was a good mother and I appreciate the way I was treated there.

The next year I went to a different town and a different high school and this family took me in and treated me as one of their boys so I felt like I was at home and the whole family were my friends for many years.

The last mother I will give honor to is my wife of thirty seven years, but she has gone to her reward. She was a good wife and a great mother. We only had one child, a daughter but we kept many children in our home and she loved and mothered all of them as though they were our own. She stood by me through depression times and later when times became better. She carried her share as long as she was able.

I have written this to show all who read it that although men have always been given more prominence in the Bible and in secular writings that most of our great men have been great because of the influence of a great mother. I thank my mother and my wife for what I am today.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 11 GOD IS ALL POWERFUL

God is all knowledge. He sees all we do and hears all we say or think. God made all things that have been made. Yes, God made Satan who became the power of all evil, but God still has power to control him.

God made Adam in His own image and that gave him the power of choice so he could choose to obey God's commands or refuse to do so. After a period of time God made Eve from one of Adam's ribs so he would not be lonesome and would have someone to help him.

Now the serpent or satan as he is known, was very wise and for some reason he decided that Eve would be easier to deceive than Adam so he persuaded her to disobey God and eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good or evil which God had forbidden them to eat and she believed satan.

Now satan comes to Adam and tells him you don't need to be afraid of dying if you eat of that fruit. He told Adam, I disobeyed God and I didn't die and see Eve ate of the fruit and she is not dead, so Adam was persuaded to also eat of the fruit.

When Adam disobeyed God, the spirit of disobedience from satan entered his heart and the heart of man has been polluted even to this day.

I believe when Adam and Eve were driven from the garden they repented of their sins, for there is no other report of sin in their lives. Now God killed a lamb to make a covering for them, but He also showed what it means to die for their sins and that later they would also die for their sins. It seems that God instructed Adam to bring a sacrificial lamb to the Lord once a year as a sin offering because his son Abel when he became a man he brought his lamb as a sacrifice for sin and God accepted it and forgave his sins while his brother Cain disobeyed and brought an offering from his garden and was not accepted. Cain in a jealous rage killed his brother and was driven from the presence of his family and also the presence of God.

After the death of Abel, Adam and Eve had a third son named Seth who was obedient to his parents and also to God. His descendants became known as the sons of God while the descendants of Cain were known as the sons of men. While many of the descendants of Seth inter-married with the descendants of Cain and drifted away from the worship of God, still God always had a remnant who stayed true.

When God decided to destroy all mankind because of their wickedness, He found Noah a righteous man and his family worthy of being saved. God showed Noah how to build an ark that could save his family and a seed of all created life upon the earth. Thus satan was defeated in his bid to rule all the earth and God triumphed with a new start of true worshippers on the earth.

Satan was defeated but not discouraged so he waited till Noah's descendants increased upon the earth, then he persuaded many of them if they would build a high enough tower they could climb up to Heaven and they would be as Gods.

Again he was defeated by God confusing their language and scattering them over the earth, but they were still worshipping one God and trying to obey Him and not satan. Satan now decided if man must worship a God he would give them many gods to draw them away from the true God.

One group that lived in the Egyptian area raised cattle as their large source of food so he persuaded them that was their god so they made an image of a calf and worshipped it as their God, the source of life, and quit worshipping the true God as they formerly had done. Another group was persuaded that their source of life was the sun and the moon so their God became the sun and a lesser God was the moon. Now each group of people found their own God to worship. Finally one group chose a serpent as an evil god that must be appeased and worshipped and they did all kinds of evil things to please this evil god, but God still had a group of true worshippers in the descendants of Noah's oldest son Shem.

Genesis 10:22 says that Aram was the fifth son of Shem, and his first born son was named Uz who evidently became a wealthy landowner and his territory became known as the land of Uz.

Now in the book of Job, chapter one verse one it says, there was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job, and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. Job was a grandson or great grandson of Uz and had received his share of the Uz estate and being a good business man he had enlarged his holdings Now Job had seven sons and three daughters and according to verse four he had given to each a house and a portion of land for their inheritance and so they would also be known as of the land of Uz. At that time as it was before the flood those that remained true worshippers of God were known as the sons of God and on certain days they met together before God in worship. This time satan in some form met with them, not to worship but to criticize God's people. God asked him where have you come from and what have you been doing. He replied that he had just been traveling around the earth and I suppose seeing what evil things he could do. God asked him if he had observed Job, a perfect man who hated anything evil. Satan said, why wouldn't he be a good man and love You with all of his heart when You protect him from all harm and bless him every day. If You would let calamity come on him, He would curse You and turn away from You. God gave satan leave to do anything to Job but take his life, but in verse twenty two it says in all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly. So, God proved that He could be victorious over satan once more. In this case God allowed satan to put His chosen man to the test and proved him true.

Shem's first son named Arphaxad was an uncle to Uz and so a great uncle to Job, but he was also the ancestor of Abraham who therefore was a cousin to Job and one of the people known as the sons of God at that time.

I believe God had many followers at that time but the Bible only records the people God called for a certain job for carrying out His purpose in the future. God Himself tested Abraham many times

and proved him worthy to be the father of the great nation of Israel which was to be the place of the birth of the great Messiah, the Son of God who would some day rule the world.

In Genesis 17:6 God Promised Abraham He would be a father of many nations and many kings would come from his loins. God made a covenant with Abraham to this affect and sealed it by the sign of circumcision. Now when Joseph, Abraham's great grandson revealed himself to his brothers he said in Gen.45:5-8 it was not you who sent me to Egypt, but God did it to preserve the life of our family. After Joseph had helped his father Jacob and all the family to move to the land of Egypt where they spent the rest of their lives and Jacob became very old and was preparing for his death he called all of his sons together to give them his blessing and told them the future for each son's family. He said Reuben would not become great because of the sin he had committed, then he said Levi would be scattered among the several tribes and so would not receive a heritage among his brothers. This proved true later because the sons of Levi were chosen as priests of the temple and so were the religious leaders for the whole nation of Israel. Jacob now prophesied that Judah his fourth son would be chosen from his family as a line of kings that would never fail to have seed royal to sit on the throne of Israel. He then called each one in turn to Benjamin and made no further mention of a ruler.

When God created the earth and all He put on it He had a complete plan for the duration of this earth and He has followed that plan down through time to the present time. When Adam and Eve sinned He said, sometime in the future the seed of the woman would destroy the seed of the serpent, satan.

Many years later He chose Noah a righteous man and revealed His plan to bring a flood on the earth and had him build an ark to save his family and certain animals and birds.

Again in later years He chose Abraham a true follower and revealed to him many things about the future of his family. He said his family would spend four hundred years partly in slavery in Egypt, then when they had become a great and strong nation He would deliver them from Egypt and lead them back to Canaan where Abraham's present home was. He said they would have a long line of kings to hold the nation together for many years.

He then chose to tell Abraham's grandson Jacob that the king would be chosen from the tribe of Judah. Before the beginning of the four hundred years partly in slavery God revealed to Jacob's son Joseph before he died that the children of Israel or Jacob would become a great people and would leave Egypt and return to their promised land as the nation of Israel. At the end of the four hundred years partly in slavery as He had promised Abraham. God raised up a man He could depend on named Moses to lead His people from Egypt to the land of Canaan.

After many years in the promised land God had chosen a little boy in the tribe of Judah He knew would make a worthy king, but the people demanded that Samuel the prophet would give them a king. So, God showed Samuel a man of good appearance of the smallest tribe in Israel, the tribe of Benjamin the youngest son of Jacob.

Jacob before he died had said that later a king would be chosen from the tribe of Judah and that was God's inspired word, but at that time Judah did not have a man suitable to be king so God found a man in the tribe of Benjamin named Saul who filled the bill for forty years until David a descendant of Judah was prepared to take over.

Before David became king he despaired even of his life many times but God was training him to become the greatest king Israel ever had, and God promised him he would never lack a man for the throne forever. Joseph of the line of David was the husband of Mary when Jesus the Christ was born to her, and Jesus became our eternal King. And, some day, maybe soon, He will be accepted as the Messiah, the King of the Jews.

God has all eternity to work out His plans and though we sometimes get in a hurry to see the finish God in His own time will bring all things to pass that He has promised.

The Bible says in His appointed time Christ, the Seed of a woman, did come, and when He died on the cross and rose again He bruised the serpent's head and every time another soul is received into the Kingdom that is another bruise on the serpent's head. But someday, we hope soon, the serpent will be destroyed. I have destroyed many serpents and I found that even when their head was badly bruised it took a long time for them to die. Satan has been bruised and beaten many times and been driven out of many people when the Holy Spirit has entered in, but he is very much alive today throughout the world and will continue to destroy lives until Christ binds him in hell and takes over as King of kings and Lord of Lord's in this world.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 12 GOD OUR CREATOR

In this chapter I want to show that God has not changed but is still creating new things. The Bible says that God is the same yesterday, today, and will be forever. That is why I believe He is still creating new things for us today.

Before the earth was created God made Heaven and created all the angels, cherubim, and seraphim, and we have no record of other things that He may have made. He also made satan and he was beautiful before he sinned and was cast out of Heaven.

I believe most people believe God created the earth and all things on it in six days, and rested the seventh day. That is not quite what the Bible says. In Genesis 1:31 it says "and God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good, and the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

I would say that everything that God created in the first six days was good and beautiful, even man made in the image of God was good and pure in heart. There were no weeds or ravenous beasts at this time. All the animals were good and useful for Adam's service and food.

After Adam and Eve sinned and were driven from the garden God cursed the ground for their sakes and it brought forth weeds, briars and thistles so these evil things were created after the six days of creation.

Up until the time of the flood there is no mention of vicious beasts or insects such as flies or wasps or hornets and different kinds of bees, and there must not have been any termites or they would have eaten a hole in the ark and let everyone drown. If there had been lions or tigers they would have killed all the sheep and goats in almost a year they were on the ark. It is pretty sure there were no mosquitos on the ark as they need swampy ground to live, and at best they only live a few days.

Many diseases have appeared since the time of the flood. The first time leprosy is mentioned is when God told Moses to put his hand in his bosom and when he drew it out it was leprous, and later Miriam his sister became a leper as a punishment for her rebellion.

When the children of Israel became hungry in the wilderness God created manna and fed them for about forty years and when they cried for meat He created quail by the thousands to give them meat. At different times in history we read of some new plague that suddenly appears and kills many people. God has a reason for sending these new diseases to let people know that death can knock at their door at any time. When I was growing up there were many people died of tuberculosis before it was brought under partial control. Then in 1918 a new form of influenza swept through the country causing thousands of deaths. Now in the 1980's a new disease called AIDS is sweeping the world.

God promised He would never send another flood but He did not promise He would not send diseases at different times that would kill many people.

The first time I find flies mentioned in the Bible is when God sent a plague of millions of flies on the Egyptians in Moses' time and where can you go today and not find flies? It seems He also created frogs and locusts at this time. And, as the Israelites went in to conquer Canaan it says that God sent swarms of hornets ahead of them to help them to drive out the inhabitants.

We don't know when honey bees were created but the Bible says Canaan was a land flowing with milk and honey. And, there were lions there for Samson killed one. We have no idea what new thing God may create in the future but He has promised to create a new Heaven and a new earth after this one is destroyed by fire.

Man was made in God's image so now you can see why men are always trying to create something new and better than what they have. When God created a new heart within us the Bible says we are a new creation, created for His glory if we obey Him. Finally I say the only animals created on the sixth day were those that ate grass and other vegetables and fruit for in Genesis 1:30 the Bible says "and to every beast I have given every green herb for meat and it was so."

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 13 OUR PATTERN

All of the physical things as we know them are patterned after the spiritual as I will try to prove as I go along. The first thing mentioned as made after a spiritual pattern was man made in the image of God. The next image was when God shed the blood of a lamb to cover Adam and Eve after they sinned, and that was a sign for the forgiveness of man's sins down to the time when Christ the Lamb of God was slain to redeem man from his sins.

Evidently Adam was told to bring a lamb as a sacrifice for his sins once a year to God and he taught his sons to do likewise because Abel brought his yearly lamb from the flock when he came to manhood. He believed his father and his God and was obedient.

Cain on the other hand did not believe that the blood of the lamb was necessary so in disobedience to God and his father he decided his offering of vegetables from his garden was good enough for God.

The same thing is happening today and man is trying to make his way to Heaven by good deeds instead of accepting the blood of Jesus Christ to wash away his sins.

God accepted Abel's offering of obedience and forgave his sins whatever they were. But, He refused to accept Cain's offering of disobedience and drove him from His presence. Even so God had mercy on Cain and gave him a mark that would protect him from immediate death.

So today if disobedient man repents and accepts the blood of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the earth as the remedy for his sins, then God will accept him into His Kingdom and give him life everlasting, but if he refuses the blood he will be cast out of God's presence forever.

God has always asked for man's obedience if he would receive the good things God has for him. Later in history God found a man, Abram by name who sometimes made mistakes but he obeyed everything God called on him to do, and God loved him and accounted his obedience for righteousness and promised to make of him a great nation which He later fulfilled.

Now some five hundred years later when Abram-(who became Abraham)-and his seed the Israelites had become a great people although in complete slavery to the Egyptians, God had a man thoroughly prepared to lead them out of slavery and make of them that great nation He had promised. This man was Moses and God had given him perfect training to be the leader of the people.

After God led His people out of slavery He wanted a suitable place to meet with their leaders so He showed Moses the exact pattern of God's spiritual tabernacle to be built among men so He could

come down and meet them there and guide them in the right way. For many years the Israelites came to the tabernacle as the place to meet God and get directions.

After the nation was established with Jerusalem as the capital and David as their chosen King, God put it in David's heart to build a great temple for his God, but God said he had caused too much bloodshed in his wars, but his son Solomon would build the temple and He would put His name there and meet His people there.

However, He allowed David to collect most of the material used in building the temple, and I believe He showed David the plans for building, and they looked very much like a copy of the heavenly temple John saw later in Revelation.

Now God does not call anyone to do a job unless He knows He can show him how to do it and that is just as true today as it was in the early history of the Israelites. In the building of the tabernacle out in the wilderness He told Moses to call certain people to do certain jobs and He said I will make them able to do it like I want it. Again in building the temple God told Solomon to call certain people and He would show them how to do the work.

I don't know when God first showed man how to build chariots but the Egyptians were using them at the time of the flight of the Israelites from Egypt. That is the first record I see in the Bible of chariots. The first record found of heavenly chariots is in 2 Kings 2:11—"and it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder, and Elijah went up in a whirlwind into heaven." Verse 12—"and Elisha saw it, and he cried, my father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof." So there were also horses and men from heaven.

The next appearance of heavenly chariots with horses and men was in 2 Kings 6:17 Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray Thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. I don't find any place where the heavenly chariots were ever used for fighting. But when Elisha prayed the whole Syrian army was stricken with blindness, but evidently the Lord does have chariots and horses in heaven. Also in Revelation 6:2-8 John saw four men riding four horses.

One more thing of earth that is an image of the heavenly—In Revelation 22 John was showed a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, flowing out of the throne of God and of the Lamb, and on either side of it were trees. In Genesis 2:10 it says "and a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from thence it was parted and became four heads."

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 14 WHAT IS POWER?

I was going to write God is power! But the Bible says God is Love! Also the Bible says God is all powerful. Therefore, Love has the greatest of all power.

After God had created heaven and His throne and all the angels, cherubim, seraphim, and certain animals mentioned in different places in the Bible as part of the heavenly beings, He wasn't satisfied. He wanted something to love. He decided to make a man in His own image that He could show His love to him.

When God made man He instilled in him a capacity to love which was a part of Himself.

Now when a young couple gets married, which is as God planned, it isn't long in most cases till the wife says "I want a baby to love" and they start to fix a place for the baby to sleep, and collect the many things a baby will need.

Now by the time the baby is big enough to run around, he or she, whichever starts looking for something they can love so mom or dad soon come home with a small kitten or pup. Now they have to make a place to keep the animal and supply it with food and water.

Now when God decided to make a man He first had to make a place for him to live, so He created the earth and being all-wise He made sure it would contain everything man would need in the future as long as the world would last.

He wanted to make it beautiful, for He loved beauty and so He knew man also would love beautiful things. So, He planted grass first, then trees such as the evergreens, and oh, such a variety of beautiful flowers. Next, He knew he would need something to eat, so He planted a variety of fruit and nut trees and in between were the vegetables, herbs, berries, and the grape vines.

Next, He filled all the waters with fish so man could enjoy going fishing, but now he needed fishworms to catch the fish, so He filled the ground with fishworms.

After that He made a variety of animals to eat the grass and keep it mowed. There were cows and goats to give milk and of course sheep to produce wool and meat, horses and donkeys to ride and pull the plows. Then there were the deer and such animals plus geese and ducks for hunting and also chickens, pigeons and doves to give a supply of eggs.

These are some of the things God created just in preparation for the pleasure of man so the last thing He created on the sixth day was a man and He also created day and night so man could keep track of time as before this everything was part of eternity.

When I lived in Nampa, Idaho I had an automatic door opener on my garage. When I went any place with my car, before I got home I pressed a button and when I got home I didn't have to get out in the rain to open the door. It was open and I could drive right in the garage.

Then we had a wireless telephone that we could carry out in the garden or street for quite a distance and we could dial any number and talk to people without going back in the house.

I wrote this to say God used wireless even from the time of creation. When God created man He installed in him an instrument of communication. That instrument is the faith that God gives us and it is activated when we become one of His children. When we have our faith working we can talk to God, which is our prayers, and know He is listening and He doesn't put us on hold though sometimes it takes time to work out the details.

I read of a woman and her family who were out of food and everything they needed but she was a child of God so she prayed and told God her problems but God had to contact someone who would be willing to help. There was a well liked man in the neighborhood. but he was an atheist. But, God woke him up in the middle of the night and he couldn't get back to sleep. He kept feeling that this neighbor needed help so finally he told his wife and they fixed up a whole bucket of food and though it was winter and a lot of snow on the ground he waded over to her house and when she told him he was her answer to prayer he was convicted and prayed through to victory in his soul. The next day he aroused the neighborhood and they got together and supplied her needs for the rest of the winter.

I don't want anyone to take this as an invitation to go right out and buy a television set, and if you read on you will see why.

A few thousand years ago God used His television to show Isaiah what He wanted him to do so He set up His screen over the altar in the temple.-Isa.1;1-9 Verse 1 says: "The vision of Isaiah the son of Amos, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah kings of Judah."

Again in chapter 6:1-"In the year that King Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple."

Now turn to Ezekiel and read starting at chapter I then to chapters 8 and 37. After that read the book of Daniel and find many such pictures. There are many other pictures shown in the Old Testament but in Acts God showed Saul also known as Paul the Apostle a picture that changed his whole life.

Now the book of Revelation is one continuous story of pictures God showed John of what would happen in the future and I have read many true stories of visions certain people have seen that changed their lives in fact more than fifty years ago I had such a vision that really changed my way of living and I am still praising the Lord for showing me that picture.

Now Satan saw how God was using pictures to show man how to live so he helped a man or some men to invent television so he could spread his gospel of death around the world. I am old enough

to know about the beginning of the television. In fact, I saw myself on television at the world's fair in 1939 when the first television was displayed. The first television was mostly world news with a few simple story pictures to fill in, but gradually it became more stories and less news. Now everyone who could afford to bought one or more machines. Satan now had the whole world where he wanted them. They all had to have a television in their home. Now he began slowly to change the programs from the few simple stories that any child could look at to all the filth that is shown today. Now I say let us clean up America and prevent these programs from coming over the air or destroy all the devils machines.

I believe when Christ returns He will either destroy all these machines or use them to spread His messages throughout the world.

God is still allowing satan to spread his evil gospel around the world but when God says it is enough He will put a stop to it.

In the time of the flood in the midst of all the evil in the world God found one man "Noah" and his family who lived righteously so He showed him how to build the ark to save his family and a few chosen animals and birds when He destroyed every other living thing on the earth. Thus, all of satan's works here on earth were destroyed.

In Abraham's time God allowed satan to fulfill his evil ways in Sodom and Gomorrah. Then He sent down fire from heaven and completely destroyed them but He saved Lot and his two daughters out of the city before the fire fell.

Again some fifty years ago God allowed Hitler to gain great power in Germany for a few years while he gained control of several other nations before he destroyed him and his powerful machine and even divided Germany and gave half of it to Russia's power.

Let me say this, God sometimes uses evil men to fulfill His purposes. God raised up Moses to deliver the children of Israel out of slavery, but God also said at this time that He raised Pharaoh, a very evil man, up to fulfill His purpose and Pharaoh did just as God expected him to do and was destroyed with all of his army.

God called Saul to be king over Israel and though he became a very wicked king God used him to train David. And, when David was ready to take over as king He allowed Saul and all his sons to be defeated in battle and killed.

Now the time is drawing near for God to show His power once more. I believe the new leader in Russia is God's man to carry out His purpose. God does not need any atomic bombs to do His work. So, He had the leaders of Russia and the United States, the two most powerful nations in the world today, to decide to destroy all the atom bombs by the year 2000.

Now Russia is recalling most of her troops home from all over Europe and by the time all the atom bombs are destroyed they will have the greatest army in the world with full equipment.

According to the following prophesy they will then draw troops from all their satellites in Europe and make one grand drive to completely wipe out the nation of Israel.

Ezekiel 39—"Therefore thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, thus saith the Lord God; Behold I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; and I will turn thee back and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel and I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.

Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee; I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. So will I make my Holy name known in the midst of My people Israel; and I will not let them pollute My Holy name any more. Behold it is come, and it is done saith the Lord God; this is the day whereof I have spoken.-(the Day of the Lord)

They that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth and shall set on fire and burn the weapons as fuel for seven years and it shall come to pass in that day that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel. Seven months shall the house of Israel be burying the dead.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 15 EASTER

My dictionary says Easter comes between March 21 and April 26 on the first Sunday after the first full moon after March 21. This date was set by the Roman church in A.D. 325. The astronomers of Alexandria, Egypt, experts in calculating dates that depended on the course of heavenly bodies, were authorized by the council of Nicaea to help the Archbishop of Alexandria determine for the whole church the date of Easter.

The word Easter is not in any scriptures of any translations except Acts 12:4, in the K.J. version so don't believe it was heard of in the early church history but in those days in parts of Europe the heathen worshipped Ester Goddess of spring and the Norsemen had a spring festival known by four different spellings, Eostur, Eastur, Ostara, Ostar which meant growing sun and the church used the same dates to celebrate Easter which means Christ is risen, possibly to attract the heathen from their heathen worship.

When I was seven years old my family moved to a homestead in the middle of the prairie in Alberta Canada. We were all alone there so there was no church to go to for many years. My father was a Christian and believed Christ rose from the dead on the first day of the week so that was the Lord's day for our family and no unnecessary work was ever allowed on Sunday on our farm but of course we fed the animals and milked the cows.

Sometime during the day father gathered the family around and read the Bible and had a season of prayer so we had our own church services. It was at one of these services that the Lord spoke to me and gave me my first promise which today at 93 is still true and I still believe but since then I have had many more promises given and fulfilled praise His name I know I can trust Him all the way.

When I was sanctified the Lord promised me some rough times ahead, I have had many down through the years and the Lord has always helped me over those times and kept me. The year 1990 has been one of those times but my hope is that the year 1991 will be easier for me health wise and also financially .I plan to keep busy till the Lord comes. The Jewish Passover comes at about the same time as the Christian Easter. It, too, is a time of rejoicing. It is celebrated with feasts, stories, folk songs, and games. That is why it was so easy to exchange Easter instead of the heathens day of worship of spring.

Easter egg rolling is a custom practiced in several countries. The most famous eggroll is on the White House lawn in Washington D.C. President Hayes started the White House, eggroll in 1878. The custom has been observed ever since, except for the years between 1942 and 1953.

The idea of colored eggs being hunted or rolled on Easter morning originated in ancient Egypt and Persia. Legend has it that they are laid by the Easter Rabbit on Easter eve.

Could it be our custom of ham and eggs for breakfast Easter morning started because the descendants of Ham in Egypt started the egg hunt???

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 16 JESUS ASKED: "WHICH OF YOU"

Mt.6;27 "Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?" — Or NIV "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" If you have problems, ask the Lord to help you and then relax and trust the Lord. He can solve any problem if you only believe. Lu.14:5 "Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day?" Sunday is not the Sabbath day but because Christ arose from the dead on the first day of the week, the early church set that day aside to meet together for fellowship and to worship their Lord Jesus Christ.

Lu.14:28 "Which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost?" There is a cost to be Christ's disciple for we have to give all including all we possess plus ourselves if we will enter the Kingdom.

Lu.17:7 "Which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, go and sit down to meat?" Where I was raised on the farm that is the way we treated our hired help. We would say go wash up, dinner is on the table waiting for you.

Lu.11:5 "Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves for a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? And he from within shall answer and say, trouble me not: the door is now shut; I cannot rise and give thee." My experience has been quite different from this scripture as I have come at midnight many times and never found the door shut but sometimes I have had to wait even years for my answer.

In the depression of the early thirties I was out of work and prayed many times for a job but for some time no answer, but then I received a letter from my brother in Illinois asking me to come there to help him. I was living in California at that time and did not feel like going to Illinois but the Lord said go. I obeyed the Lord and spent four years working with my brother and now he did not need me any more and the Lord said; "It is time to go back to California." There was a job waiting for me and I had full employment until the age of retirement.

John 8:46 "Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?" Many of the scribes and Pharisees accused Jesus of sin at different times but no man ever proved He had sinned, for He never did.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 17 "IF ANY MAN"

I would like to draw your attention to 12 things which we must do, or be, in order to be Christ's disciples:

Mt.16:24—"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." We must be willing to give up our own desires in order to do Christ's will, even if it means carrying a heavy burden or cross. We must accept it believing He will help us and give us the strength we need for the task.

Mt.24:23—"Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not." There have been many false prophets who have told us when or where Christ would appear, and they have had many followers, but don't believe them, for only the Father knows that.

Mk.4:23—"If any man have ears to hear, let him hear." If any man will listen to the preached Word he will know what the Lord requires of him, but if you don't go where the Word is preached, how can you know the Lord's will?

Mk.9:35—"If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all." If any man desire to be first in the Kingdom, he must be willing to serve others. Christ set the example by washing the disciples' feet though He was Lord and King.

Lu.9:23—"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." Daily—That means we may have many crosses to bear during our lifetime, but we must continue to carry our load and follow everyday all the way.

Jn.6:51—"I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever." Christ said "I am the living bread," but He is also "The Living Word," so to eat of this bread we will have to read and absorb the Living Word, which is our Bible.

Jn.7:17—"If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." If any man will do as the Bible teaches he will know it is the truth from God and that Christ has brought us the living Word that will give us life everlasting with Him.

Jn.7:37—"If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink." If any man thirst spiritually, Christ the Living Water will satisfy him, and as he reads the Living Word his spiritual thirst will be completely satisfied.

Jn.11:9—"Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light." Jesus said that if you walk in the light you will not stumble and fall, so

if we walk in the light of the Gospel we will not fall spiritually. Therefore, let us read God's Word so that we need not stumble and fall in our spiritual life.

Jn.12:26—"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour." If any man will serve Christ he must be willing to go where He asks us to go and to say what He asks us to say, even if we know people will not accept what we say. If we know Christ is with us, we know God will honor us some day, either here or in the next world.

Jn.12:47—"If any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world." If anyone hears or reads Christ's words and believes not, then Christ's words will judge him on the day of judgment. There will be no excuse then. Christ came the first time to save men from their sins by repentance and forgiveness, but when He comes again the world will be judged by the wise and perfect Judge, Christ.

Rev.3:20—"Behold I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him and he with me." In the former part of Christ's statement ending with "I will come in to him, and will sup with him," we see that He will accept what you have or are at the time. In the latter part of Christ's statement where He says "and he with me" we see that then He will start feeding you the proper food to make you spiritually strong and well in spirit.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 18 FULL SALVATION IS FREE

Before I write about free salvation, I think I should tell a brief story of my life about 40 years ago. at that time I was drawing unemployment and left word at the employment office let me know of any job that I could do. . . . In the meantime a friend told me of a can company moving from San Francisco to San Leandro and I might be able to get a job there so I asked the man at the employment office about it. He hadn't heard about it but called and made an appointment for me. . . .When I told the business manager I was a carpenter he said "We can use you as soon as we get the machinery moved over from San Francisco. . . .A few days later he called me and said come into my office and I will instruct you about your job. He told me what needed to done and gave me the blue-prints, and I went out and went to work. . . .He liked the way I worked and when the remodeling was finished he gave me a better job and said he would like to keep me in our organization and I stayed with the company till my retirement many years later.

Now this company didn't just happen. A young Jewish man had a desire to do something worth while so he started a small can company and as it grew larger he had to find a larger place Now this cost him plenty of money but it did not cost me one penny to join the company.

After I joined the company they expected me to be there five days a week and to do what was needed to keep the plant running and obey the rules of the company. One thing they insisted on was on payday they deducted the amount of the government income tax from the full amount of our paycheck as the government had instructed them. The government asks anywhere from fifteen percent up to fifty percent depending on which bracket you are in.

Now to get back to free salvation. Christ, a young Jewish man, the chosen Son of His Heavenly Father, was called by His Father to organize the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth and after three years of choosing His leaders and teaching them the rules of the Kingdom He paid the price with His life on the cross so we could come in free.

After His resurrection He instructed His chosen leaders to spread His gospel around the world and accept all who were worthy into the Kingdom. All He asked, to become a member of the Kingdom was, will you follow Me and obey My rules which are simple but they are the law.

One of His rules is, will you faithfully attend My services where you will receive instructions from my servants the pastors, and will you strive to live according as the Bible teaches in your daily living? Will you be willing to give the first day of the week as far as possible to the building up of the Kingdom?

To be a citizen of the United States you are compelled to pay your income tax each year on time. To be a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven, God asks for a modest ten per-cent of your income to be

paid each payday to your place of worship for the spreading of the gospel around the world and the winning of souls everywhere. God says in Malachi and many other places in the Bible if you fail to pay God's tithe, you are a thief and a robber and your name will be erased from the Lamb's book of life forever.

Jesus Christ said, pay unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's. God has promised to bless all who obey but all who disobey will be accursed, so why not be His obedient servant.

I have written this article to show each one who reads it that being a Christian and living a Christian life is very similar to our daily life but much more rewarding here and very rewarding in the future.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 19 TWO MYSTERIES

When Adam and Eve were created they were innocent of all sin because God made them that way and in the cool of the evening God came down and walked and talked with them and they enjoyed His fellowship for a period of time.

Now satan enters the garden and while Adam is busy taking care of the garden he persuades Eve that it is alright to eat of the forbidden fruit and then she gives some to Adam and he eats it even though he knows he is doing wrong and to him it is sin. We don't know how he did it but now satan was able to plant in Adams heart a root of bitterness that would pollute is seed throughout all the generations of man.

That evening when God came to the garden and found that they had disobeyed. He drove them out of the garden and they were separated from God from that time forth. Adams first son was disobedient and was driven from God's presence and became the father of the children of the world. Adam's second son was murdered but the third son was obedient to his father and also to God and his children became known as the children of God.

As time went on the children of God intermarried with the children of men and the world became so corrupt that God decided to destroy it all with a flood but He found Noah and his family worth saving so before He sent the flood He had Noah build an ark to save his family and a pair or more of all the animals and birds to restock the earth.

After the flood God promised Noah He would never send another flood to destroy the earth for their sins so later on He called out a man named Abraham and promised him if his descendants would obey Him and not sin He would make of them a great nation and they would some day rule the world in righteousness but after many generations they also drifted into deep sin and the Lord had to destroy them as a nation but there was always a remnant that remained true.

Among this remnant God found a virgin who was worthy and had all the proper credentials to be the mother of His Son the promised Messiah so in the fullness of time Jesus our Messiah was born in Bethlehem of Judah as promised.

The Bible doesn't tell us much about Christ's life as He grew to manhood but at age thirty He performed His first miracle and then after being baptized by John the Baptist He began to teach the new gospel of love. He chose twelve disciples and sent them out to preach His gospel of love to the Jewish nation, His people.

John the Baptist told the people that Jesus would baptize them with the Holy Spirit but Jesus said He must return to the Father and then He would send the Holy Spirit who would then baptize them and guide them in all truth.

After three years of teaching and performing many miracles He was crucified on the cross but on the third day He rose from the dead and after forty days and many appearances He ascended to His Father and presented His blood on the altar as the supreme sacrifice for the sins of the world and then on the day of Pentecost He sent the Holy Spirit on all those waiting in the upper room and they were sanctified and made Holy.

After the day of Pentecost all those who's sins were forgiven could receive the Holy Spirit and have all trace of the carnal nature eradicated from their heart and be made pure and Holy for the Masters use.

The first mystery is how could satan plant in Adam's heart this evil spirit that would pollute mans heart throughout all generations and cause evil through the world as it is at the present time in spite of all the love and mercy God has shown to man.

The second mystery for which we are very thankful is how Christ after He returned to the Father was able to send the Holy Spirit down into the heart of His children and cleanse them completely of satan's carnal nature and make them ready for Heaven.

June 3rd- is Pentecost Sunday.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By

David A. Davis

CHAPTER 20 GOD'S CHOSEN ONES

In Matthew 20:16 and also Matthew 22:14 Jesus said "many are called but few are chosen". In His three years of teaching the people Jesus talked to many thousand Jews. On one occasion He fed 5000 men plus women and children and again He fed 4000 men plus women and children but on the day of his ascension there were only 500 men and women to hear His last message. Christ told them to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit.

On the day of Pentecost there were only 120 men and women waiting in the upper room. Why did the Holy Spirit only fall on 120 instead of 500? Because only 120 were obedient and waited there. Matthew 22:2-10 many prominent people were called to the feast but they made excuses and did not come then the poor and needy were called and they came and were fed. I have heard people say God is not fair to call only a few to be His chosen people but I know I can show you that God is more than fair. When God plants a church in any area that is an invitation to all the people in that area to come and hear his message. I will be generous and say one hundred people respond and hear the message of salvation. In the course of time let us say five people decide to let Christ have His way in their lives. Now God finds one person he can call to be a pastor and possibly one for a teacher and even one for a missionary while the other two might be valuable lay people to support the other three workers. Now these chosen ones go out and repeat this situation around the world and so God always has a few chosen people to do His work and spread His message "Jesus is coming soon so be prepared."

I could shed tears like Jeremiah when I see so few respond to the gospel message week after week.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 21 THANKSGIVING

Psalm 26: "That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Thy wondrous works." This is November, the month when all people are supposed to thank God for their many blessings of the past year. I find something every day for which to be thankful, but sometimes I wonder 'til I think, and then I know and am able to say thanks.

Last February I slipped on the ice and had some very painful bruises, so how could I give thanks for that? But at my age-(92)-I was thankful for no broken bones, and each day in the hospital thanked the Lord for the good care I received. To this day I am so thankful for the way everything has been timed just right for my good as the Lord has slowly healed my bruises, and now I am able to walk with a cane.

Jonah, chapters 7-9, after his experience with the whale, which must have been a very trying experience, he said: "But I will sacrifice unto Thee with the voice of thanksgiving," Jonah realized he was justly punished, but he was sure the Lord still loved him and would be with him on his mission if he obeyed His voice.

Job has always been an inspiration to me. When it seemed everything was going wrong and the devil was allowed to try me, I could be sure the Lord would only let him go so far, and then it would turn out for my good, and I would be able to again praise the Lord for His goodness.

Many years ago the Lord caused me to leave California and spend four nonprofitable years. But after four years when I returned to California the Lord had a position for me where I worked many years. Now, at 92 years of age, I am reaping benefits, and now can praise the Lord for His goodness to me all these years.

About four years ago I had pneumonia and spent several days in the hospital where they took care of my needs. While there my daughter brought me six religious books I had written and as I talked with some of the help I was able to give out five books to people I hope were helped by reading them so although I did not enjoy being in the hospital I was able to thank the Lord for the privilege of a chance to help five people spiritually that I would not otherwise have met so if I had to suffer to help five people to see more light I have no reason to complain.

Again as I think back twelve years ago when my wife went home to Heaven and I was left alone the Lord helped me to paint beautiful pictures that occupied my time and gave my friends pleasure of having the pictures. I also enjoy looking at some of my pictures hanging on my walls.

After I came home from the hospital four years ago the Lord asked me to paint pictures with words so with the Lords help I have written three books more or less about my life as I have tried

to serve the Lord for the last sixty years and many people have told me they have enjoyed reading them.

This is the twelfth article I have written in the last year for the church mailing list and I have had a good response so far from those who have received the mailers and this gives me reason to thank my Lord every day of the year for His help and guidance each day year after year as I try to help people find their way home. I hope to meet all of you over there some day as I plan to be with the Lord and all my friends soon.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 22 A NEW BEGINNING

We are now beginning a new year and if you have never tried living for Christ, this is a good time to start a new life in Christ. Christ calls all men and women to serve Him, the Bible says many are called but few are chosen or I would say few choose to serve Him. Many years ago I trained horses and I think of one beautiful white gelding I was asked to train. He was in the open corral so I went in with a bridle and a buggy whip. He was supposed to be mean and hated man.

I walked into the corral quietly and just repeated "come here". He tried to kick me but I kept out of his way but used the whip. He reared up and struck out with his front feet but the whip stopped that and every other thing he tried.

This possibly went on for an hour and then he decided to obey me and quietly walked up and let me put the bridle on him and lead him away into the barn where I saddled him up and started my training.

I first trained him as a saddle horse and then I harnessed him and trained him as a buggy horse. when he learned to obey he became a useful animal.

This same method applies to mankind. Some people are raised in a home where they obey their parents and many soon learn to obey the Lord when He calls to them while others have not had this training and so it is hard for them to learn to obey when the Lord calls.

It does not matter what your background has been the first thing the Lord asks is will you obey me at all times. Only then can He train you for His service. Some are called to preach, some to teach and many are called just to be a good neighbor, but He wants your best, whatever you do.

In many years of service I have been asked to do many things but right now I have been called to write these articles and what next I don't know but now I write as the Lord directs, it is a wonderful life to just serve the Lord all the way.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 23 WHAT IS FAITH

Another word for faith is trust or we could say believe. Every baby, bird, animal or man has faith and trusts their mother. As they grow older fear is experienced and they learn to have faith in those who are worthy. I learned to have faith in my whole family that they would only do me good so I had faith or trust in my family and my friends. My parents were Christians and had great faith in God so as I grew up I learned to have faith in God so when I was eight years old, as my father read a certain scripture I was given a promise by the Lord if I would obey His teaching. I believed Him and tried to obey. The Lord has never failed to keep His promise so my faith in God has grown from year to year.

As I look back over my life I can see where the Lord has kept and guided me all these years. If we believe God we have faith that He will keep all His promises. The Bible says of Abraham he believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness so faith in God is accounted as righteousness for us today.

As I grew up I had faith in myself that I was able to do certain things and when I looked for a job the man saw my faith and believed me and so he had faith to hire me and trusted me to do what I said I could do. Now if we have complete faith in God we will not fear when the Lord asks us to do something out of the ordinary because we are sure if He asks us to do it we can do it with His help and guidance. I have found that to be true always. Don't ever fear if God calls you to do something He will see that you will have all the help and guidance you need to finish the job.

The Lord sent me to southern Illinois where my brother needed my help and I was there four years before returning to California. While I was there I helped my brother on his farm and then I helped him to build a house and barn, then we cut down some trees and built a log house and made a nice warm chicken house. After this we found coal close to the surface on the back of his farm so for the next year we mined coal and sold it as long as we could without heavy equipment. The spring of 1936 the Lord said you are no longer needed here and I want you in California so I told my brother it was time for me to go back home.

If I had said Lord as soon as You send me enough money for the trip I will go, I would still be in southern Illinois but I had enough money for one day's travel so I loaded my car and started north which was the right way to go at that time. Before the day was ended I had a job that paid me enough to travel to my next stop up in Canada where I earned enough to take me all the way to where I made my home in California.

God was not in a hurry but He wanted obedience. According to James chapter 2 verse 17 even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone so what good is faith if we do not act on it. I started out in the spring and it was almost Christmas before I got to California but the Lord took care of me

and blessed me all the way because I obeyed Him and because He now wanted me in California He continued to bless and care for me.

Jesus said unless you become as a little child you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven. If we have faith in God as a little child has in its mother we may enter into the kingdom.

God always takes care of His children so in difficult times just trust the Lord and pray and if you believe be sure the Lord will solve all of your problems in His own way.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 24 WATCH

The Lord says watch and be ready, for I may come today! As I read the daily papers I am persuaded that the Lord could come at any time, and I want to be ready and busy in the Lord's work. If He doesn't come today I will keep busy till He does come. Right now He asked me to write this article to go in the mail soon.

When the Lord decided to send the flood He told Noah to build an ark to save his family and various animals and birds, and then waited patiently while the ark was being built, and supplied food and gathered all His creatures safely inside before sending the flood. The Bible says Noah was a preacher of righteousness, but it seems no one listened to him, so he and his family plus all the animals were saved from the flood. Today, as in that day, if any man preaches Holiness few people will listen and obey His teaching and be ready when that trumpet sounds to call the saints to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, which could sound any day or hour now.

Again in Abraham's time, his nephew Lot, who was living in Sodom, which became so wicked God decided to destroy the city. However, before He did He sent an angel to bring Lot, a righteous man, out of the city with his family, and He said don't even look back, but Lot's wife disobeyed and was turned to a pillar of salt. Only he and his two daughters were saved.

Abraham was known as a friend of God, and God made a covenant with him that sometime in the future his seed would become a great nation. He renewed that covenant with his son Isaac, and again with his grandson Jacob, so that covenant was made three times which really made it sure.

Many years later when Jacob's family had grown to a great multitude, but were in slavery to a wicked king in Egypt, God raised up Moses to lead them out of that wicked nation so they could worship the true God and become His people. As a nation they remained true to God, but sin crept in among the people and the nation became polluted, and God punished them many times. However, there was always a few who remained true to their God, and so God continued to love and care for them. Today they are a free nation once more.

God promised Abraham a righteous seed, and after many generations He found a virgin pure enough to be the mother of His Son, Jesus Who established the Church, known as the Bride of Christ here on earth, and is also known as the Kingdom of Heaven. This Church has grown till now it is known over most of the world and numbers in the millions of those who have served the Lord in the past, and many are serving Him now.

God said He called His son, Israel, out of Egypt but as His son He would need to be punished when he did wrong. That happened many times but He still loves and cares for Israel, His son.

It is easy to believe world conditions are as bad as in Noah's day, but God promised He would not send another flood. However, I believe God may do something soon. I am looking for the angel to sound the trumpet very soon to call all of God's saints to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, and I intend to answer that call for I believe the man of sin will be revealed right after the trumpet is sounded and all the saints are safe home.

If I read Revelation correctly, God will then pour out His wrath upon this wicked world and will destroy everything that has not been sealed first by the angel. God said there will always be a true Israel as His son, sealed for eternity, and the Holiness Church will always be known as the Bride of Christ for all eternity!

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

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David A. Davis

CHAPTER 25 ONE WAY

When Adam was created in the image of God his heart was pure and without sin and he had sweet communion with God as they walked in the garden in the cool of the evening while God gave him instructions for the next day. Now God said there is one tree in the middle of the garden that you shall not touch or eat of the fruit or you will die or be separated from my presence.

Now When Adam disobeyed and ate of the fruit God had mercy on him and shed the blood of an innocent lamb in his stead but drove him and Eve from the garden and from His Presence and used the skin of the lamb to cover their nakedness.

It must have been at this time that God gave Adam a way to atone for his sins in the future He was to build an altar and sacrifice an innocent lamb on the altar once a year for his sins for the Bible says that later his son Abel sacrificed a lamb from his flock and the Lord accepted his offering and blessed him.

Before Adam. sinned there is no mention of fire in the Bible but now God has sent Holy Fire as a sign of acceptance of man's offering for sin so now we have the one way to salvation from sin, the shedding of innocent blood for the forgiveness of sin and the Holy Fire for the cleansing power to cleanse our hearts.

After the flood the first thing Noah did after he was released from the ark was to build an altar and sacrifice a lamb on the altar he built as a thank you to God for his safe deliverance and an atonement for any sin he might have committed.

In later years Abraham built many altars as he brought his sacrifices before the Lord year by year and Isaac and Jacob carried on the tradition throughout their lives but for four hundred years while the Israelites were in slavery we don't read anything about sacrifice but after God brought them out of Egypt they again continued the offerings and added many special offerings for the different seasons.

Now we come to the final offering for sin when Christ the Son of God shed His blood on the cross for the sins of all mankind so God could forgive the sins of all men or women who would accept Christ as their Savior and repent of their sins.

After Christ rose from the dead and ascended up to heaven He sent the Holy Spirit as a consuming Fire on the day of Pentecost to burn out of men's hearts that evil spirit that does cause men and women to sin.

There is only one remedy for sin and that is the blood of Jesus Christ for forgiveness and the Holy Spirit for complete cleansing so if you are not cleansed, why wait any longer just come to the fountain now and be clean.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By
David A. Davis

CHAPTER 26 THE TWO VIEWS OF THE SEVEN PARABLES

VIEW ONE

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER—Mt.13:1-23

This parable represents 4 kinds of soil and after three years of sowing Jesus found only 120 hearts of fertile ground that would produce an abundant yield. However on the day of Pentecost this group found three thousand hearts that were fertile ground and produced much seed.

THE PARABLE OF THE TARES—Mt.13:24-30, 36-43

The good seed has been sowed but now the god of this world sends his prophet who sows the false seed where good seed was sown. While men wanted to root out the weeds, God said wait till the harvest and my angels will destroy the weeds and gather the good seed into bins.

THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED—Mt.13:21-32

The Kingdom like the mustard seed started very small but like the mustard it grew large and put out many branches so the birds (cults) tried to nest among its branches and try to be accepted as the truth but are only accepted by pseudo Christians or worldly people who do not know the truth or refuse to accept the truth.

THE PARABLE OF THE LEAVEN—Mt.13:33

We often think of the Leaven as the evil influence spreading through the church but this parable is referring to the spread of the gospel among the people of the world but it does take time and effort to accomplish.

THE PARABLE OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE—Mt.13:44

Many people like the rich young ruler at first fear the price is too great but like Saul of Tarsus decide it is worth it all and become one of Christ's chosen disciples. At first he hid it and turned away but he could not forget and finally decided it was worth it all.

THE PARABLE OF THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE—Mt.13:45-46

There are many people who have spent half of their lifetime searching for a life that satisfied them, then they found the truth in Christ after trying many ways that only Christ's way satisfied the soul and brought salvation to the soul.

THE PARABLE OF THE DRAGNET—Mt. 13:47-50

In the last few weeks it looks like the Lord was starting to draw in His dragnet but we know millions of non-Christian Arabs have been killed and it looks like many more will be in the near future. We believe if any Christians were killed they are safe in the arms of Jesus.

VIEW TWO

In Matthew 13 Christ gave 7 parables that gave a condensed story of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

THE SOWER Mt. 13: 1-23.

In this parable Christ spent three years sowing the seed His word and tells how it was received in that area. He was speaking of men's hearts, some were hard as pavement, others were so shallow they responded quickly but very soon faded away, other seed fell among weeds as it were and the cares of this world soon crowded out what growth there was, however He did find some good ground and on the day of Pentecost there were 120 good plants and they were able to win many souls into the Kingdom.

THE TARES Mt. 13: 24-30, 36-43.

In this parable the persecution of Christ's true followers have scattered them away from Israel and as they went they sowed the true seed, the Word, everywhere they went and won many converts among the Gentile nations and so Christ's kingdom of Heaven was growing fast and many gentile churches were organized but now Satan began to scatter false seed among the good seed and now many false ideas became mixed with the true gospel. Men tried many times to stop the false teachers but Christ's advice to man was to wait till the harvest and let the angels do the job.

THE MUSTARD SEED. Mt. 13: 21-32.

The word of the Kingdom was like the mustard seed but as it grew strong it would put out many branches and while each branch is a little different they each put out seed which they claim to be the true seed of the gospel but I am afraid. we will have to wait till the harvest and let the angels divide the good seed from the false.

THE LEAVEN. Mt.13:33.

You may have heard of sour dough bread. In my boyhood days every family baked their own bread for the family. Each time they baked bread they saved out a portion of the dough as a starter for the next baking, that was the leaven. I don't know all the details but when the old dough was mixed with the new dough the leaven spread all though the new dough and then we had some more delicious sour dough bread to eat.

Now as I see it the word of God "the Bible" is the Leaven of the Gospel and as each generation has preserved the Bible for the next generation so the leaven has spread from generation to generation.

THE HIDDEN TREASURE. Mt. 13:44.

In this parable the field is Jesus Christ and this man as he lives a normal life learns about Christ and as he studies he learns that in Christ is the great treasure of eternal life but he finds that to buy that field will cost him everything he has so he hesitates for a time but decides the treasure is worth it all and buys the field.

THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE. Mt.13:41-46.

There are many people who have searched many ways for real happiness but then they tried Christ's way and had their sins forgiven but as they read God's word they learned that Christ's blood could cleanse from all sin. Now this is the pearl of great price and the cost was everything he had or hoped to have but the joy of possession was worth it all.

THE DRAGNET. Mt.13:47-.50.

I have watched when the fishermen drew in their nets they picked out the marketable fish and put them in baskets or carts but the trash fish were destroyed. Now at the end of time when the Lord says "it is finished" He will draw in His net and His angels will divide the good from the evil. The good will be given eternal life on the new earth but all the evil will be cast into the lake of fire for eternal punishment.

MY LIFE AND WRITINGS

By

David A. Davis

CHAPTER 27 THE SWORD

Isaiah 2:4 (KJV) And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks.

Micah 4:3 (KJV) And He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks. When these scriptures were written these were the weapons used in war but today our weapons of war are cannons and atom bombs, The atom bomb must compare to their sword so we will talk about the atom bomb instead of the sword.

This seems to be the later days the Bible speaks about for the great nations of the world are now trying to destroy the atom bomb but all over the world the nations are building atomic power plants to make electricity to run their machinery and give them lights.

We are now using atomic power to run our submarines and I expect they will soon be using this same power on our ships that travel around the world and may I predict our large trucks will soon be trying this power as the price of diesel oil continues to rise. I would not presume to say how long these last days are going to last but given enough time I believe some mechanic will find a way to use atomic power in our cars before we completely run out of gasoline.

I hope these thoughts will be a blessing to all who read them.