

The GOSPEL TRUMPET™



VOL 18 ISSUE 2

“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet.” Isa. 58:1

MAR – APR 2006

Every living soul will gasp his last breath, and with his last breath meet the consequences of his life, instantly, in one eternal moment. In one eternal moment each one will be introduced to the horrors of everlasting punishment or the joys of everlasting reward. Every work done in this fleshly body, every thought conceived in this fleshly mind, every motivation, every action of obedience or disobedience to the Word of God will be expressed in one great eternal moment. You need to get a hold of the gravity of your eternal consequence. In one eternal moment, every one will gain or lose everything.

Every soul is created for eternity. Every soul will glorify God in eternity, whether in heaven or in hell (Matt. 25:46). Every soul in his inner depths will know where he is going as he is entering eternity. All defences, all excuses, and every prop of the flesh will be stripped in that one eternal moment.

Salvation has appeared to all men, and God is faithful to deal with every soul that has ever lived on this earth (Titus 2:11-14). Heaven and earth shall pass away, but the Word abides forever (Matt. 24:35) and will immediately judge each soul upon entrance into the immortal realm. Nothing else will matter.

One *Eternal* Moment

Sis. Sue O'Shea

You will meet your eternal consequence.

Jesus told the Pharisees that were covetous that the rich man who fared sumptuously every day died and immediately lifted up his eyes, being in torments (Lk. 16:23). God was faithful to deal with this rich man about his covetousness by sending Lazarus, but he refused to give of his substance to the beggar man full of sores, nor would he hear Moses or the prophets. Jesus was faithful to the Pharisees. He told them, “Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God” (Lk. 16:15). Immediately, the rich man was in hell. Jesus is still faithful to souls. Consequences will be appropriately assigned in eternity. God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). The rich man,

in one eternal moment, passed from this earthly life into hell. He was told that he received all the good things in his lifetime and now he is tormented to this very day and forever.

Your life will unwind before your very eyes and without real salvation in your soul, you will be left speechless, without a defence (Matt. 22:12-13). You will need Jesus to present you faultless before the presence of His glory (Jude 24). At your appointed moment of death, your destiny is sealed (Heb. 9:27). Restitution will be impossible. It will be too late for repentance. There is no holding ground in eternity to work your way out of a personal rejection of Jesus Christ. In one moment, your eternal consequence will begin.

This is a plea to your one, eternal soul. Physical suffering in a dying state

This is a plea to your one, eternal soul.

is difficult. Very rarely is someone able to make a full repentance at this time. Amazingly, souls are often so gospel hardened at this point, that they are not even interested in repentance. It is a heart rending experience to listen to a soul yelling in sobs of desperation at the

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GOSPEL TRUMPET PUBLISHING CO.

Anti-Denominational Holiness Paper

Editor: Sis. Susan Mutch

Contributing Editor: Bro. Daniel Layne

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This definite, radical, anti-sectarian holiness paper is published in the name of the Lord for the edification of the church of God. Its mission is to point all souls to full salvation through Christ and to expose the errors of spiritual Babylon (false religion). We desire this paper to be used as a sharp instrument in the hands of the Lord, breaking the spiritual silence in this time of restoration.

The Bible teaches:

Godly Sorrow and Repentance	Acts 3:19; 17:30, 2 Cor. 7:10
The New Birth—a Radical Conversion	John 3:3-7
Freedom from Committing Sin	1 John 5:18
Entire Sanctification—a Second Cleansing	1 Thess. 5:23, Acts 15:8-9
A Holy Life	Lk. 1:73-75, Tit. 2:11-12
Unity of God's People	John 17:21
Divine Healing	Jam. 5:14-15
The Ordinances	Matt. 28:19-20, John 13:14-15, 1 Cor. 11:23-26
One Church	Matt. 16:18
Restoration (Sounding 7th Trumpet)	Rev. 10:7; 11:15
Eternal Punishment or Reward	Matt. 25:46

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Editorial

Eternal praises belong to our mighty God for saving us, not just from the guilt of sin, but from the very power of it. Jesus Christ is a Saviour indeed! "Let God be true but every man a liar" – Sinning stops when the blood of the Lamb of Calvary is applied.

How precious it is to experience this great salvation! What a privilege it is to walk on the highway of holiness (Isa. 35:8) with the King of kings, and to be empowered by Him to live victoriously over sin.

This salvation will appear more precious to us yet when in that profound moment we cross from this world to the next. Having this experience will mean everything. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift!" 2 Cor. 9:15. All will want it then. Sadly and tragically, most refuse it now and will consequently face the indescribable horrors of eternal torment.

God enabling us, as His church, we mean to labour to rescue as many as we possibly can, that when their moment comes to cross over into the eternal world, they might "be glad also with exceeding joy."

We are Relocating!

We are looking to relocate our Gospel Trumpet Publishing office in Greenville, Ohio, if the Lord wills. We have outgrown our current building in Winchester, Indiana and need more room for offices, the printing equipment, and a bookstore.

Please pray with us that God will supply the needed finances and also to find a suitable property, which will allow room for expansion as the work grows.

If any desire to donate towards the new building fund, gifts will be gratefully received at:

The Gospel Trumpet Publishing Co.

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Over 11,000!

The mailing list for The Gospel Trumpet paper has exceeded 11,100 and our prayer is that God will bless this literature as it is going out to 67 countries worldwide.

The cost of printing and mailing each Gospel Trumpet issue is approximately \$3,175.00.

We are also regularly sending out literature and CD's to contacts worldwide. Much of this is sent out for free. Postage costs for this presently average \$210.00 per month.

The Gospel Trumpet Publishing Co. is registered as a charitable organization in the USA. Please request a tax receipt for donations, if so desired.

This work is supported through free-will offerings.

Testimonies & Letters

The Lord Healed Me

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1.

I am very thankful for the Lord's great love, mercy and grace to me. He has saved my soul from death. I was once deep in sin, but the Lord has delivered me and now I am a happy child of God.

It is with joy that I also want to testify that the Lord healed me. Three months ago, I got a sickness in my body. The sickness began under my arm and from there began to spread. I did not have a lot of pain, but got weaker from one day to the next. It was strange. In obedience to God and the Word, I was anointed, and immediately the Lord healed me. Glory and honor to the Lord! In Psalm 65:2 we read, "O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come."

I am very thankful for the church of God. I am very encouraged to continue on this way. Please pray for me that I would always be a light for my unsaved family.

Sis. Sara Wall
Manitoba, Canada

Why I Want to be a Missionary

I want to be a missionary because I feel the Lord wants me to be a missionary. And I want to be a very good help to the poor because I want to be a very helpful brother. If the Lord would like me to go to Africa, I would, to help the poor and tell them about God and how much He loves them. I would like to bring them some Bibles so that they could read them. Please pray for me that I would be a good worker for the Lord.

Bro. Matthew Rempel (Age 8)
Ontario, Canada

The Real Jesus that Delivers

We were blessed here in Montana with a meeting Jan. 19-22. The Lord blessed us with messages preached by Bros. Daniel Layne, Ray Tinsman and Patrick O'Shea. We were very encouraged to hear about the real Jesus that delivers and sets us free from all sin.

It brings joy in our hearts to find

people that have heard God's call and obey God's call to preach that God's children should be one glorious body, made one by Jesus, our Saviour.

Here in Montana we are thankful to our mighty God to be called out of the barren wilderness to a place of joy, love and peace. Glory to God. Praise Him forevermore!

Bro. Gideon Yutz
Montana, USA

Nearly Fell Off My Chair

This is the first time I've read your magazine and nearly fell off my chair. On pg. 6 of the Jan.-Feb. issue is an article titled "Shame on Who?" Please don't be so hard on this writer. I have been struggling with wrapping my mind around this very topic. My conclusion is that we're talking about two different definitions for "sin." Biblically, sin is violating God's law. And that's what you address in your article. But in our sincerity to become all God wants us to be and wanting to live in a constant state of pleasing Him, we have broadened "sin" to include those times when we disappoint God by not being the "perfect Christian child." And in our goal to be like Christ, we are all too aware of the inward flaws in our personality and so therefore being "without sin" seems like an impossibility. So you see, we are in no way promoting sin, but with our probably-too-broad definition, believe we are just looking at reality. We need to really listen to each other's hearts and work at avoiding this kind of unnecessary controversy. L. B., Continental, Ohio

Amazed at the Grace of God

I am so thankful for the great mercies of God in bringing me out of the darkness and confusion of false religions and leading me to His church, where I can walk in glorious light. Here I abide with the true family of God. I am not alone. I have saints with me—a big family.

The Lord has faithfully led me and helped me through all the trials of life. A song says, "When you have done your best, let Jesus do the rest." When trials come, it is so good to be able to know that we, by God's grace, have been doing our best, so we can trust in Jesus

to do the rest, in our weakness.

Before being afflicted with cancer, I never fully realized how good God is to us and how greatly He can help us. One song says, "Had I the choosing of my pathway, in blindness I should go astray." Had I been the one to choose my own trial, I never would have chosen having cancer, for I thought I could never bear such a thing. But I stand amazed at the mighty grace of God that is daily helping me through this time.

Though on a bed of affliction for over a year now, I find my days are not long and my heart is not heavy. It feels more like it has only been a few months. Time seems to be passing quickly. The Saviour is so near.

Saints don't need to fear what may come upon them. God is gracious. He helps. There is nothing to fear for a child of God. Perfect love casts out all fear. We need not fear how the Lord will lead us, for He's leading in a good way. I cannot thank Him enough for His grace and goodness!

"Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's." The hope of heaven is real in my soul and I am content in the will of God.

I love the dear saints of God and want to thank you all for your prayers.

Sis. Maria Peters
Ontario, Canada

A Glimpse of Heaven

I am thankful to be saved and in the one true church. Since we met the saints, we have been able to see how true Christians ought to live, and for me it has been like getting a glimpse of heaven before we even get there. I can't thank the Lord enough for having mercy on my soul and for bringing me out of a dead, sinning religion and allowing me to come home to Mt. Zion.

When I was still in false religion, there was nothing to offer to people who were truly searching. Now we can proclaim the "come out message" in Rev. 18:4. "...Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins..." God is truly restoring His church in this end time. The world is getting darker, but that means the church of God

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will only shine brighter, glory to God!

Those first meetings we went to, my soul was so hungry for true manna from heaven, that I just soaked it up like a sponge. I am thankful for true watchmen who see eye to eye and who look out for my soul. I desire your prayers that I can remain faithful and continue to labor in His kingdom.

Sis. Viola Miller
Wisconsin, USA

Brighter and Brighter

I would like to submit a testimony of how the Lord has led me in this brightly shining gospel day. It has been about three years since Jesus Christ led me to this glorious restoration. Many times Prov. 4:18 enters my mind, "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." I must say that is just what has been happening in my life. The light of God's Word has become brighter and brighter since I took my stand with the church of God.

I have never experienced such anointing, glory, power, and trembling as I have witnessed in the services of the saints. Truly God is restoring His church in these wicked days. The preaching is unmatched in its authority when it is brought forth from the pulpit. It has also been a joy to see hardened sinners weep at the altar begging for mercy. Praise God! Now I understand why all hell is turned loose to fight this way. No matter how fierce the battle may be, I am determined, by the grace of God, to put the foe to flight.

Bro. Jason Rangel
Baja California, Mexico

God Took it All Away!

I thank the Lord for salvation and sanctification. I thank God for His great patience and mercy to my soul. I got saved July 31, 2005. Here's a little bit of history on my condition before God moved into my soul and body. I was a heavy smoker for twenty-two years. God took that away and I have had no cravings at all. Praise God, He took it all away! I was addicted to 40's and 80's oxycontin drugs. I took up to sixteen or more per day. I had been told on the streets that more than five per day was more than

the human body could take and I would die of overdose if I took more. I overdosed and many times thought I would die. I told myself I would be more careful next time, but that only lasted one day and I would do it again. I thank God that He had mercy on my soul! When I got saved, I flushed my drugs and God completely took the cravings away.

I had migraine headaches on a daily basis for numerous years. That's how I got into drugs—to help me with my pain. Since I got saved, my migraines are gone. God took them away. I also had some other physical problems and disorders due to my abuse of substances. God took them all away.

As you can imagine, I was not a nice man at all. People knew my short-temperedness and my determination to get my way or no way. My family suffered greatly due to my impatience and temper. My four children would stand by the window when I came home from work to see what kind of mood I was in so they could act accordingly. God took that away, too.

This is just a little history of my life in sin. I am now 37 years old and have wasted my best years. There is no joy in the world like the joy in God. The temporary high from drugs and other worldly things is nothing compared to the constant high of serving God. I have been saved for over seven months now and I have never before felt so good in body and especially in my soul. It just keeps getting better!

The world has nothing to offer that's anywhere close to what God has for you. And all you have to do is ask Him. I am also very thankful for the prayers and deep love of the saints—there is just nothing like it. Please pray for me to keep on going. God took care of me and He can take care of you, no matter what. Been there, done that—never again!

Bro. Danny Froese
Ontario, Canada

Jesus is the Only Answer

I would like to take this opportunity to say how grateful I am for the church of God. I want to say that if it had not

been for the biblical counsel, wholesome instructions, and many fervent prayers of the ministry I would not be able to testify of a sin-free life today. It seems that in the past few months the faithfulness and love of God's holy ministers has become more apparent to me than ever before. My love for this present, visible church has increased so dramatically that at times I feel almost overwhelmed when I think about it.

No words can begin to express my gratitude for the young people in this restoration that are standing strong on every biblically founded doctrine. They are not picking and choosing which doctrines to keep and which to let go, but rather, regardless of popular opinion, are reaching for higher heights and deeper depths.

I want to thank the Lord for the recent privilege I had of being a part of the company that went to Africa this past December. My eyes were opened to a much greater realization of just how needy this world really is. I have been, since then, able to see just how privileged we really are...materially, yes, but most of all, spiritually. This experience has increased my burden for souls and has taught me in a greater way how to pray for those who are laboring to take the gospel to lost souls. I saw numerous young girls, about my age, that were selling their very lives for the devil and for fleeting pleasures that will soon pass away. It gave me a greater desire and determination to somehow show them, and every other young person trapped in the delusion of sin, that drugs, drinking, boy/girlfriends, etc., are not going to fill that void. I have personally found that Jesus is the ONLY answer and if they will just give Him a chance He will satisfy—eternally—their unquenchable thirst for something better. "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4:13-14.

I am truly thankful to be saved, sanctified, and in the only and true church of God. My desire is that my life be such

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a close reflection of Christ that when others see me they will know that I have been in contact with God. Please pray for me that I will be faithful in doing my part diligently to win souls to Him. I am determined to make heaven my home and to bring someone with me.

Sis. Melissa Loftis (Age 18)
Oklahoma, USA

The Best I Ever Read

Really appreciated the Nov.-Dec. Gospel Trumpet, especially the article on "Grace" by Bro. Daniel Eichelberger. The best I ever read on the subject.

Edward Hampton,
Missouri, USA

In God's Timing

I am thankful to be saved, sanctified, and in the one body. To the glory of God I can say that I am encouraged in this way. I love this narrow way. It gives me a lot of joy.

I am so glad I gave my life completely to the Lord. When I gave my life to Him, I gave it to Him unconditionally. This life has brought me many days of sunshine and many rich blessings from my Lord. But not too long ago, it was confirmed that I have lung cancer. I am so glad that we are serving a God who has made our bodies, and that I can trust Him with my whole heart. I love this narrow way, regardless of what condition I am in.

I am a young man of thirty-seven years old. I have a wife and two boys, aged seven and twelve. The thought might come to you, "Do you think of your young family?" I am so glad that I serve a God who knows my family better than I do. My God in heaven has never made a mistake yet, and I am sure that He is not making a mistake now. I am rejoicing in my life, not knowing how much time I have, but I want to rejoice every day the Lord gives me. To God it makes no difference what kind of sickness I have, cancer or a cold, to Him it is alike. I believe it fully in my heart, that the moment He wants to heal me, it will be done. Now the thing we do not know at this time is what His will is. So we are just waiting for His will to be

fulfilled, and we will praise Him for whatever decision He makes. I was born in God's timing, and I want to die in God's timing. I feel like the three Hebrew children, who said when they were to be put in the fire, "Ye shall know that if my God wants to deliver me from the fire, He is well able, but if He chooses not to do it, I will ask no questions, and continue to trust him."

I have full courage in my heart to live. I have every reason to move on with courage if the Lord heals me. And if the Lord chooses to take me home, just think of the unspeakable joy that I will have. As for my family, the Bible says, "Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you." 1 Pet. 5:7. I know they will be in good hands, because they are in mighty hands that don't compare to anything I could do. This is why I can rejoice every day of my life, though the tears come, and at times we cry together.

I am looking forward to seeing what the Lord will do. I am excited to meet you in meetings and rejoice together in the Lord, but if not, I am looking forward with great anticipation to meeting you in heaven.

Your brother in the service of God,
Bro. David Hildebrandt
Manitoba, Canada

We Should Jump and Shout

Dear saints, I love you very much. I'm praying for you. I'm very happy to be in the church of God. We are on our way to a nicer place than you have ever seen. Jesus is there. Is that nice to hear that? We are on our way to Jesus. We should jump and shout and rejoice, too.

David Enns (Age 6)
Ontario, Canada

Send Me More

Praise God, our great Father who has joined us to His church by His Son. I am saved. I love the Lord. I am grateful you granted my request and I received the Jan.-Feb. copy of The Gospel Trumpet. It had a message that blessed me—Distinguishing between the true gospel and adulterated gospel. May God bless you and give you more revelation.

I preach at a village in Mweiga

Nyeri. I have more than 40 members and more are getting saved. We are seeing the hand of God working upon us. On Sunday, we had a message from Jer. 7:1-7, we were well nourished and edified.

Bro. Daniel, I kindly request you to send me more copies of the G.T, Bibles and Christian literature for the church...Thank you and may God bless you so much. Sis. Teresa Wangechi
Kenya

I Like to Go to Services

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I thank the Lord for salvation. At my young age I know there is something the Lord did for me. I know that there are things I shouldn't be doing, like lying, gambling, cheating. I just understand that it is wrong. I want to serve God just like the saints that I have met. I always like to go to the services. I want to learn more about God. Please pray for me and my family. Jomar Ancheta (Age 13)
Philippines

Desperately Seeking

Are there any churches in the East Tennessee area, or do you foresee any being planted here? We are desperately seeking a fellowship like yours. We are praying that you do! Website

Your Wonderful Paper

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

I would like a subscription to your wonderful paper, The Gospel Trumpet. Thank you and God bless.

Bro. Dave Sessums
West Virginia, USA

Enjoyed the Message

Jesus is Lord! Enjoyed the message in "A Compromising Preacher." I'd rather have God's approval than man's any day!

Please send me the singing CD "I'm Gonna Keep on Workin'" and the booklet "Women in the Ministry" and the booklet "Dress-An Issue of the Heart."

Enclosed is — for costs and postage. Use the extra for the Gospel Trumpet.

Randy Dimmett,
North Carolina, USA

Are You Holy?

J. C. Ryle

Let me ask everyone who may read these pages, are you holy? Do you know anything of the holiness of which I have been speaking? I do not ask whether you attend your church regularly, whether you have been baptized and received the Lord's supper, whether you have the name of Christian. I ask something more than all this: Are you holy, or are you not?

I do not ask whether you approve of holiness in others, whether you like to read the lives of holy people and to talk of holy things, and to have on your table holy books, whether you mean to be holy, and hope you will be holy some day. I ask something further—are you yourself holy this very day, or are you not?

Why do I ask so straightly and press the question so strongly? I do it because the scripture says without holiness no man shall see the Lord. It is written. It is not my fancy; it is the Bible, not my private opinion; it is the Word of God, not of man. "Follow...holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Hebrews 12:14.

Alas, what searching, sifting words are these! What thoughts come across my mind as I write them down! I look at the world and see the greater part of it lying in wickedness. I look at professing Christians and see the vast majority having nothing of Christianity but the name. I turn to the Bible and I hear the Spirit saying, "Without holiness no man shall see the Lord."

Surely it is a text that ought to make us consider our ways and search our hearts. Surely it should raise within us solemn thoughts and send us to prayer. You may try to put me off by saying you feel much, and think much about these things, far more than many suppose. I answer, "This is not the point. The poor lost souls in hell do as much as this. The great question is not what you *think*, and what you *feel*, but what you *do*."

You may say it was never meant that all Christians should be holy and that holiness, such as I have described, is only for great saints and people of uncommon gifts. I answer, "I cannot see that in scripture. I read that *every man* who has this hope in Christ purifies himself" (1 John 3:3). Without holiness *no man* shall see the Lord.

You may say it is impossible to be so holy and to do our duty in this life at the same time. The thing cannot be done. I answer, "You are mistaken." It can be done. With Christ on your side nothing

is impossible. It has been done by many. [Paul and Peter] and the servants of Nero's household are all examples that go to prove it.

You may say if you were so holy you would be unlike other people. I answer, "I know it well. It is just what you ought to be. Christ's true servants were always unlike the world around them—a separate nation, a peculiar people—and you must be too, if you would be saved!"

You may say, at this rate very few will be saved. I answer, "I know it. It is precisely what we are told in the sermon on the mount." The Lord Jesus said, "Straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matt. 7:14). Few will be saved because few will take the trouble to seek salvation. Men will not deny themselves the pleasures of sin and their own way for a little season.

You may say these are hard sayings. The way is very narrow. I answer, "I know it. So says the sermon on the mount." The Lord Jesus said that men must take up the cross daily, and that they must be ready to cut off hand or foot, if they would be His disciples. It is in religion as it is in other things—there are no gains without pains. That which costs nothing is worth nothing. 📖

A Letter Considered

Susan, in the January-February issue of Gospel Trumpet is an article that I replied to in our church bulletin (3/12/06). I wanted you to have that article and give you an opportunity to challenge me to discuss the issue (perhaps, even in the publication you edit).

Respectfully, Ron Thomas
Preacher, Highway church of Christ

The Gospel Trumpet

In the January-February issue of "The Gospel Trumpet" is an article (by the editor) on the understanding and application of 1 John 1:8 and Romans 11:6. The title of the article is, "Shame on Who?" The focus of this article is denouncing the perspective that when one

becomes a Christian that person sins. The author denounces this notion and calls this a "sinning 'gospel'" propagated by false prophets.

Let us consider her (Susan Mutch) analysis of these passages. 1 John 1:8 reads, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (ESV). The passage is very clear, as you can read. How does she handle this? John "was not referring to born-again Christians, but to the self-righteous unsaved who did not see themselves as sinful and in need of a Savior." As a justification of her sentiment, she offers 1 John 3:6-9 as evidence (we will consider that shortly). If she is correct in her understanding, it must be noted that the apostle John was unaware that he was writing

to the non-saved. There is nothing in chapter 1 that would suggest he was writing to the lost. In chapter 2, he addresses the recipients of this letter as his "little children" telling them they have an Advocate in heaven. Do those who are lost have an "Advocate" in heaven, One who will plead their case before the Father?

How does 1 John 3:6-9 play into this? Here is the passage, "No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of

God” (1 John 3:6-9, ESV). Does this passage say a child of God does not (or cannot) sin? It says nothing of the sort. What it does say is that the child of God will not practice sin. There is a difference in the two. To illustrate, consider Galatians 2:11-14. Did Peter sin on this occasion when he acted as a hypocrite? Let Ms. Mutch argue to the contrary (this has been sent to her). However, it must be noted that the translation used will be challenged. You see, the ESV is much too clear; what proponents of the “you do not sin” doctrine as a Christian will insist upon is the use of the KJV. This translation gives, they maintain, a different (and correct) sense. Their insistence on the KJV, though, does them no good. The verb tenses in this section (“sinneth”) means “does not keep on sinning” (A.T. Robertson’s Word Pictures—the foremost Greek Grammarian of the 20th century). On verse 9, which is a passage they rely on heavily, it means, “The present active infinitive hamartanein can only mean ‘and he cannot go on sinning,’” (Robertson’s Word Pictures). So the KJV does them no good.

Well, again, space is rapidly disappearing so I am unable to consider Romans 11:6. Let it suffice to say that the false prophets here are not those who are accused, but the proponents of the “Christians do not sin” doctrine. —RT

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I write to you prayerfully and with a sincere love for your soul, as well as for others who have been deceived by this “sin-you-must” teaching. For the sake of space, obviously brevity will be required and not all points can be addressed.

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.” 1 John 1:8. “Sin-you-must” proponents are quick to run with this scripture. The problem is they are running in the wrong direction, wresting the scripture, using it out of context, to their own destruction. If we were to take this scripture as they would apply it, then the apostle John himself was deceived and the truth was not in him! Hear his teachings:

- “We know that whosoever is born of God *sinneth not*.” 1 Jn. 5:18a.
- “And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins [not just some of them!]...Whosoever abideth in him *sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him*.” 1 Jn. 3:5-6.
- “He that committeth sin *is of the devil*.” 1 Jn. 3:8a.

- “Whosoever is born of God *doth not commit sin*.” 1 Jn. 3:9a.

I will stop there. John left no room for sin in a Christian’s life! Not to be “practised” one time or multiple times. The tenure of all the New Testament scriptures will bear out the same testimony, when taken in proper context.

Mr. Thomas, you state, “There is nothing in chapter 1 that would suggest he was writing to the lost.” If that is the case, then who are the ones that were out of fellowship in verse 3? “That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, *that ye also may have fellowship with us* and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.” Apparently some were not in fellowship with him and Jesus Christ.

In verse 6, the apostle directs his comments to some who *said* they had fellowship with God, yet walked in darkness—“I’m a Christian, but I sin.” This is impossible. Light and darkness have no fellowship. The contradiction between their profession and their living made such people liars, according to this scripture and many others in John’s epistles. In John’s epistles, he strongly and plainly refutes the “sinning Christian” heresy of his time, and it still fits today.

Verse 8 warns of those who *said* they had no sin, yet their wrong living declared that they did. (This fits the condition of those under the gnostic teaching—one of the heresies John was likely refuting.) Gnostics believed they were righteous in their spiritual soul—claimed to be Christians—though they continued to sin in their bodies. (Solomon said there is nothing new under the sun—This “sin-you-must” heresy has been around for a long time!)

You ask, “Do those who are lost have an advocate in heaven; One who will plead their case before the Father?” It would be my understanding that the lost *do* have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, who is the only mediator between man and God. This Advocate will plead the case for any truly repentant sinner that seeks salvation from sin.

To charge the apostle Peter with the sin of hypocrisy is typical of “sin-you-must” proponents, for they tend to class human misjudgments and mistakes in the same category as sin. One can make

a misjudgment on how to handle a situation, free of any moral corruption in either motive or intent. God hates hypocrisy and does not have hypocrites for ministers in His church.

We do not advance that it is not possible for one who is a Christian to fall back into sin. Being free moral agents, it is possible to fall. If a Christian should yield to sin, *he is at that moment no longer a Christian, but a sinner, and is become separated from God* (who is separate from sinners—Heb. 7:26). But the Bible standard for a Christian is to be kept by the power of God, who is able to keep us from falling and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory (Jude 24). What would be impossible for man, is possible with God! Any who truly come in contact with Christ as their Saviour are empowered to “go and sin no more.”

“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?” Rom. 6:1. Mr. Thomas, how is it that you answer, “Yes,” while the apostle Paul answered, “God forbid. How shall we, *that are dead to sin*, live any longer therein?” and, “Sin shall *not* have dominion over you.” “*But now* [after we are saved] being made *free from sin*, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto *holiness*, and the end everlasting life.” Rom. 6:2, 14, 22.

Any adhering to a sinning religion are not preachers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, for it is “another gospel” and “another Jesus.” I urge every honest soul to flee the grip of any denomination which holds to this heresy.

Why do proponents of such a pitiful doctrine of defeat rise so defiantly in defence of sin? They glory in their shame, and know not the exceeding sinfulness of sin.

Jesus came to put an end to sin; to *destroy* the works of the devil. Did He come short of it? When the writer of Hebrews said Jesus saves to the uttermost, did he exaggerate salvation’s power, and are we to believe that sin was stronger than the blood of Jesus could conquer? And are we then to conclude that whom the Son sets free is not really free indeed, but only slightly relieved of the sin problem?

How many times can one “practise” sin before he is separated from God? For

Adam, the answer was one.

Kindly post this on your bulletin board to follow-up your refutation of my original letter. If you or others would like some free literature on this issue, we will be glad to send it to you. Articles can also be read on our website—*In Defence of Paul and His Gospel, Sinning Saints? and Common Excuses for Sinning Refuted.*

Yes, I am indeed a proponent of what you call the “Christians do not sin” doctrine. Glory to God for the truth of this biblical doctrine and glory to God for the personal experience! I pray that you will find it. Editor

A Fighting Christian

Holiness is the same in kind in God, angels, and men. It invariably secures peace, meekness, and love as sweet as heaven. But these very elements make men hate the devil, and *oppose sin with all their might*. Perfect love makes its possessor as meek as a lamb and as bold as a lion. While it inspires love and gentleness, it teaches an uncompromising opposition to all unrighteousness. It makes its possessor a burning, shining, loving, fighting, conquering soldier of Christ.

They said the meek and lowly Jesus had a devil. John Wesley was accused incessantly for years of being heady, willful, self-conceited, censorious, and bigoted. He could be led by a hair in the right direction, but the combined powers of earth and hell could not move him an inch contrary to his honest convictions of duty. If standing up straight for God, loving all He loves, hating all He hates, and opposing all sin, either in or out of the “church,” constitutes a fighting Christian, we hope to live and die one.

—J. A. Wood

Public Schools— An Education in Humanism

The following are excerpts from Official Transcript of Proceedings before the U.S. Department of Education, taken from *Child Abuse in the Classroom*, by Phyllis Schlafly. God have mercy on the child that is left to the public school system.

Humanist magazine, Jan./Feb. 1983, “A Religion for a New Age:” “The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new—the rotting corpse of Christianity, together with all its adjacent evils and misery and the new faith of Humanism, resplendent in its promise of a world in which the never-realized Christian ideal of ‘love thy neighbor’ will finally be achieved.” (p. 120)

“In a Values Clarification session, [the teacher] encouraged them to air their gripes and discuss myths—meaning the restraints and restrictions that parents and society placed on them. They were left with the impression that they are smart enough to make all their own decisions without parental interference. They told those receptive teenagers that there are no objective standards of morality, and that truth is relative and can mean anything they want it to mean.” (p. 51)


“For one year I read all I could unearth about new educational trends. I learned about Values Clarification, Kohlberg’s moral dilemmas, psychological testing in behavioral modification programs. I discovered that educators felt it their prerogative to change and mold the minds of our children. I realized it was ‘in’ to be non-judgmental, that all opinions were to be treated as valid, that nobody these days knows what’s normal and not normal, that parents are old-fashioned and usually wrong, and that situation ethics is more appropriate in today’s pluralistic world.” (p. 414)

“Most of the parents I know send their children to school to learn to read and write, to spell, learn basic arithmetic

and learn to love and appreciate our American heritage. They do not send their children to school to have their values and attitudes changed...The worst thing I find in the material is the godless philosophy that permeates much of the educational material our children use...If some people think they evolved from some slime on a stagnant pond, that is their privilege, but I do not want that godless theory crammed into my children...Topics suggested for study [in the publication *Future Studies in the Kindergarten through Twelve Curriculum*] include: Fertility control, contraceptives, abortion, family planning, women’s liberation, euthanasia, New Age Consciousness, mysticism, ESP, new religions, changing old religions...and so on.” (p. 187-189)

“The child I took to school in the morning was not the child I picked up after school in the afternoon...The change I noticed was in their value system. They seemed to be desensitized to the morals I had been trying to instill in them...I found that the thrust of schools had turned from education to indoctrination...My real job begins at 3:10, when my children have returned to me and I can...deprogram them from what has happened to them at school that day.” (p. 195-196)

“Someone is tampering with the soul of America. This tampering has operated on intellectual deceit, clothing itself in phrases which have been designed to give the appearance of progress, while dismantling religion, culture, beauty, truth and order.” (p. 335)

“The U.S. Department of Education is guilty of destruction of academic learning, morality, love of country, and respect for and love of family...Board of Education stold principal...that ‘Fundamentalist parents have no right to indoctrinate their children in their beliefs...We are preparing them for the year 2000 and life in a global, one-world society.’” (p. 392) 



Church of God Schools

Kindergarten – Grade 12

Upland, California

The Gospel Restoration Academy

Warsaw, Indiana

The Church of God Restoration Academy

Greenville, Ohio

The Church of God Academy

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Evening Light School

Honey Grove, Texas

The Church of God Restoration School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

Little Pilgrim Academy

Kenosha, Wisconsin

The Shining Light Academy

Steinbach, Manitoba

Church of God Sunrise Academy

Aylmer, Ontario

Church of God Christian School

Neuenstadt Kr. Heilbronn, Germany

Christliche Schule der Gemeinde Gottes

Baja California, Mexico

Baja Church of God Mission School

Chihuahua, Mexico

Evening Light Christian Academy

Durango, Mexico

Church of God Evening Light School



*Holiness
unto
the Lord*

Meeting Reports

West Virginia: Approximately 60 saints from the Greenville, Ohio and Warsaw, Indiana congregations were gathered together in the small town of Pennsboro, West Virginia to hold gospel meetings from Jan. 6-8. The meeting was attended by about twenty visitors.

The dear ones there have recently been enlightened to the understanding of living without sin and are sincerely seeking the Lord for a greater grasp of the truth of holiness of heart and life. It thrilled our souls to see those from a new area with an earnest desire to serve the Lord, partaking in the meetings as truly at the Lord's table and gathering all that they needed for strength and courage. It was not unusual to see bright smiles from the precious saints there from service to service.

Bro. Randy Hargrave and I brought messages on: A Holy Life, Clinging To Your Help, and Following Jesus. The Gospel Trumpet Singers were also present and ministered in song much to the delight of those who were present, as many of the songs were familiar to the dear ones there after having frequented the church of God website. May the Lord cause His mighty truth to be firmly established in that area. Pray for the few saints there as they are already experiencing opposition in the holy way.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Bro. Stephen Hargrave

Rexford, Montana: We are thankful to have had another opportunity to be with the saints in Montana Jan. 19-22. This meeting was really blessed and owned of God. Ministers and gospel workers came from several different locations to help in the meeting. There were many visitors and many who appreciated the preaching and singing of the saints. Several returned repeatedly. We trust the Lord to bless and work in this community. Bro. Daniel Layne

Chihuahua, Mexico: It is with gratitude that we look back on the Lord's blessing upon the assembly of His saints during the past meeting from January

18-22. The Lord placed His burden upon the heart of Bro. John Redekop to preach the Word in this locality. The Word went forth with clarity, to the encouragement, warning, and edification of the body of Christ. The saints were challenged to take full advantage of the present fullness of Christ, and not live beneath their privileges. They were warned not to fall asleep spiritually, and were exhorted to desire vehemently the things of God and to allow His Word to dwell in their hearts in all of its efficacy.

Besides the saints from the Mexican states of Zacatecas and Durango who came to support the meeting, there was an attendance of visitors from the community (including the nearby Mexican town of La Quemada) in every service. The peak attendance of visitors in a single service was 39 people. We are thankful that God, who cannot lie, said of His Word, "...it shall not return unto me void" (Isa. 55:11).

We desire that God would use this effort to bring in many souls in this area, that numbers would be saved. We do appreciate the continued prayers of the saints for the work of God here.

Bro. Benjamin Tovstiga

Kidron, Ohio: We thank the Lord for the building (pictured below) we can now use for regular meetings in the Kidron area. The saints from Aylmer, Ontario and Greenville, Ohio met for a work day and had meetings on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 14-15.

The Lord is stirring up people here. We are looking to the Lord to raise up a people who are earnest for the truth. Please pray for the saints in this area, that God will grant them many souls for His kingdom. Bro. Ray Tinsman

Greenville, Ohio: Thank God in this evening time purer light is coming fast. We are thankful for the wonderful meeting we had in Greenville Feb. 5-12. The Lord wonderfully used Bro. Daniel Layne to minister the Word of God under the anointing of the Holy Ghost.

The meeting was attended by more than 500 saints and visitors. Saints came from Ontario, Wisconsin, Indiana, California, Germany, Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, West Virginia and Ohio.

The Lord accomplished much as souls found their way to an altar of prayer, seeking God for their needs. Souls were saved. Others were sanctified and unified with the body of Christ. Without doubt, the effect of this meeting will reach far and wide and will take an eternity to be able to tell of it all.

Thank God for this present restoration of truth. It gives souls a place to come to where they can find help in time of need. For too long has the "church" been lukewarm and void of the power of God, but, glory to Jesus, we can now see the moving of the Holy Ghost in our young people, children and adults. God is presently gathering all His children together into one body.

Earnest for the truth,
Bro. Ray Tinsman

Sacramento, California: The Lord gave the saints a burden to have an evangelistic meeting in Sacramento and He blessed it from the beginning to the end. Many of the saints came together Feb. 17-19 and did much work in the community. We were also glad to be with the young people we met at the New Year's Eve street meeting on Hollywood Blvd. in Hollywood, California. We are trusting God will bless the much planted seed in this area. Bro. Daniel Layne



Philippines: We are thankful the Lord gave us an opportunity to go to the Philippines. We left the USA January 13th and returned the 29th. Bros. Tim Strizu, Markus Tovstiga, Jonathan O’Shea, and myself were blessed as we labored in the work.

We spent several days in Manila with Bro. Jesus Granil who received us with much hospitality. The remainder of the time we worked with Bro. Severino Villanueva at San Jose city. The saints were encouraged and many were touched with the moving of the Spirit. There truly is a great hunger and a great harvest in the Philippines. We look for the Lord to continue to move mightily. Bro. Patrick O’Shea Jr.

Texas: “...but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.” Zech. 14:7. How thankful we are for this clear light in this dark world.

We were very privileged to have Bro. Ernest Benion Jr. come and hold us a meeting March 3rd - 5th. We are very thankful for the clear biblical preaching we heard, especially as the brother preached one evening on Ex. 32:26 and asked the question, “Who is on the Lord’s side?” I am thankful that in this end time it is once again being brought out that you must make a choice. You can’t have this world and God at the same time.

We had some visitors come to the meetings who said that they enjoyed the services very much. We trust the Lord to set souls free from all religious confusion. Please pray for us as we continue to labour for the Lord here in Texas.

Bro. Johnny Friesen

Ontario, Canada: We are thankful to report the Lord’s blessings in two outreach meetings held recently in Southwestern Ontario. On March 4th, the saints from Aylmer travelled just over an hour northeast to Wellesley, near Kitchener, for an evening service. There are currently four families from this area travelling to the services in Aylmer every weekend. It appears there is more interest being raised here. We plan to return regularly for meetings in this area.

Another family has been coming to services in Aylmer from Leamington, nearly two hours southwest of Aylmer. Two services and a street meeting were held there on Saturday, March 11th. Many contacts were made in the street meeting and the Lord richly blessed the services. 26 visitors attended the evening service and many expressed a desire to return to future meetings. Lord willing, another meeting is planned at the end of March. Please keep the upcoming meetings in your prayers. Bro. Henry Hildebrandt

Upcoming Meetings	
Germany April 14 – 20	Alaska April 20 – 23
Ohio Campmeeting May 27 – June 4	Steinbach, Manitoba July 3 – 9

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62 Congregations: Chuka, Eldoret, Embu, Kitui, Machakos, Mbeere,
Meru North & South, Murang’a, Nakuru, Nyeri, Tharaka, Western

One Eternal Moment

Continued from Page 1

moment of death as they are heading toward an eternal hell. When the appointed time for your death has come, nothing will stop it. The most progressive medical technologies will not interfere with that one eternal moment. It will not be your decision. It is appointed by God once to die, after this the judgment (Heb. 9:27). Your immortal soul will meet its eternal consequence—lost, or saved—forever. In one eternal moment you will wake up in hell, to be cast into the lake of fire, or in paradise, to be wafted into heaven with the Lord and His saints forever. In one eternal moment, the instrument of death won't matter, but the consequence will.

Consider that God has the power to destroy your soul and body in hell (Matt.10:28). To meet God as an adversary will be unbelievably terrible. He is far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and

every name that is named, not only in this world, but the world to come (Eph. 1: 21). Your soul will not be blotted out of existence, for it is eternal in nature and is required of God (Luke 12:20). To wake up in the mists of burning darkness, surrounded by thousands to millions of devils along with billions of sinners from every generation, will be horrific. All the screaming, crying and agonizing will avail to nothing in that one eternal moment. Tremendous remorse will not change the consequences. To be completely severed from the loving mercies and grace of God without a hope of mediation from our loving, omnipotent Saviour will be eternally devastating. As the death grip is pulling your soul into the eternal realm, your eternal moment will become reality. Consider the consequences of your life that will be keenly felt in your one and only eternal moment.

In one eternal moment you will be awarded the eternal weight of glory or the eternal burden of condemnation. You will be enraptured in the

unspeakable presence of God or ensnared in the deepest abyss of despair and depravity forever. You will drink freely of the fountain of life, or will thirst with an unquenchable thirst for one drop of water. You will be engrossed in the tempestuous flames of love or tormented in the insatiable flames of rejection.

“He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.” Rev. 22:11-12. In one eternal and far-reaching moment, you will experience the consequences of your lifetime decisions that will affect you from everlasting to everlasting. 📖

*In one
moment,
your eternal
consequence
will begin.*

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