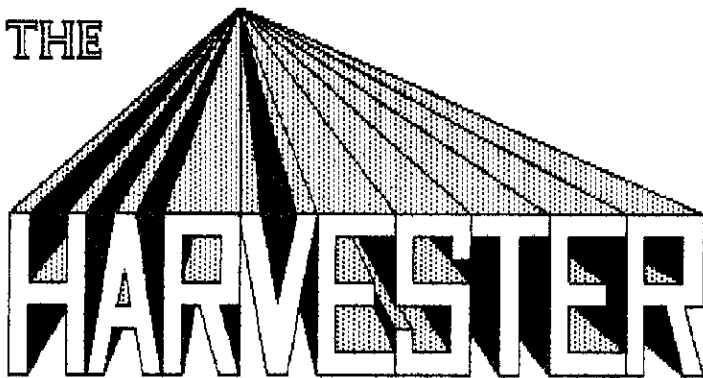


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"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2)

JUNE 2000

No. 174

REVERSE THE PERISCOPE

Submarines, as we all know, are vessels that travel under water. They use various techniques to determine their position. One device they use -- a periscope -- enables them to view ships on the surface of the water while the submarine itself remains underwater. Perhaps you have seen this device on TV, or even in cartoons!

One interesting thing about a periscope is that it can view everything on the surface of the water, all 360 degrees. There are even telescopic lenses built in

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to periscopes to enable them to view ships great distances away. All of this, but it cannot see the submarine!

Sometimes we can act just like a periscope. We are able to see every fault in every brother or sister, yet we can't see our own faults. Or, perhaps, we do not choose to view our own selves, to examine ourselves.

Self-examination is no easy task, but it is necessary. 2 Cor. 13:5, "*Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*" Lam. 3:40, "*Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.*"

Someone once said if you point your finger at someone else, there were three of your own fingers pointing right back at you. (Give it a try, and you'll see!) We need to remember this in our dealings with other people. While we may be able to spot the faults of others, let's not be like the periscope!

Remember what Jesus said about this in Matt. 7:3-5. "*And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.*"

[The NIV version uses "*speck of sawdust*" instead of "*mote*", and "*plank*" instead of "*beam*".]

Let's reverse the periscope, and examine ourselves on a regular basis!

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SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. What was the chest of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream made of?
2. About how many men swore an oath not to eat until they had killed Paul?
3. Who was the first king of Israel after the 10 tribes split from Judah?
4. What did the five foolish virgins forget?
5. How many times in all did the Israelites march around Jericho?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH ...

and remember last month's questions?

1. Which prophet bought a field to symbolize that Judah would return from exile? JEREMIAH (Jer. 32)
2. Which apostle was a Roman citizen? PAUL (Acts 22:25)

THE HARVESTER is a monthly publication intended to encourage all men everywhere to become laborers into God's harvest (Luke 10:2). This paper is mailed free of charge to anyone who wishes to receive it. Please submit name, address and all correspondence to:

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3. Which prophet had his lips touched with a live coal? ISAIAH (Isa. 6:6)

4. Who was the disciple known as the one whom Jesus loved? JOHN (Jn. 21:20+)

5. Which son of David tried to set himself up as king when David was near death? ADONIJAH (1 Ki. 1:5)



THE PROCESS OF BEING SAVED

involves:

- 1. Hearing God's Word (Rom. 10:17)**
 - 2. Faith in Christ Jesus (Heb. 11:6)**
 - 3. Repenting of one's sins (Acts 2:38)**
 - 4. Confessing Jesus is God's Son (Acts 8:37)**
 - 5. Being baptized by immersion (Rom. 6:3-6)**
 - 6. Living in faithful service to the Lord (Rev. 2:10)**
- because only the obedient shall be saved (Matt 7:21)

THE DEVIL'S CONVENTION

Satan called a worldwide convention. In his opening address to his evil angels, he said, "We can't keep the Christians from going to church. We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth. We can't even keep them from conservative values."

"But we can do something else. We can keep them from forming an intimate, abiding relationship experience in Christ. If they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So let them go to church, let them have their conservative lifestyles, but steal their time, so they can't gain that experience in Jesus Christ."

"This is what I want you to do, angels. Distract them from gaining hold of their Savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!" "How shall we do this?" shouted his angels.

"Keep them busy in the non-essentials of life and invent un-numbered schemes to occupy their minds," he answered. "Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, then borrow, borrow, borrow."

"Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6 or 7 days a week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their lifestyles. Keep them from spending time with their children. As the family fragments (breaks down), soon their homes will offer no escape from the pressure of work."

"Over stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still small voice. Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive, to keep the TV, VCR, CDs, and their PCs going constantly in their home. And see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays non-biblical, contradicting music constantly. This will jam their minds and break that union with Christ."

"Fill their coffee tables with magazines and newspapers. Pound their minds with the news 24 hours a day. Invade their driving moments with bill-boards."

"Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, sweepstakes, mail order catalogs, and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering free products, services, and false hopes."

"Even in their recreation, let them be excessive. Have them return from their recreation exhausted, disquieted, and unprepared for the coming week."

"Don't let them go out in nature to reflect on God's wonders. Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, concerts, and movies instead."

"And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences and unsettled emotions."

"Let them be involved in soul-winning. But crowd their lives with so many good causes, they have no time to seek power from Christ. Soon they will be working

in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of the cause."

It was quite a convention in the end. And the evil angels went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busy, busy, busy, and rush here and there.

Has the devil been successful at his scheme? You be the judge.

How about this definition of BUSY:

B - Being
U - Under
S - Satan's
Y - Yoke

Wow huh, makes one think... Satan's goal is to take our minds and hearts off Christ, then steer us toward the cares of the world. God wants us to enjoy life, but He must be first.

If we are too BUSY for God, then we are too B-U-S-Y!!!

--COPIED--

Submitted by Jeanette Herren

The world and the church need people who can
DO something; not the person who can "explain"
why he did not do it!

GOSPEL MEETINGS

<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE & TIME</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>
June 4 (Sunday)	Taylor's Crossroads 10:30am & 6:00pm	Chad/Brad Prince (Oxford, AL)
June 5 - 9 TN) (M-F)	Taylor's Crossroads Roanoke, AL 7:00 each evening	James McDonald (Woodbury,
June 11 - 16	Mt. Carmel Church Woodland, AL	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
June McDonald 18 - 23	Ephesus, GA	James (Woodbury, TN)
June 25 - 30	Hokes Bluff Church near Gadsden, AL	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
June 26 - 30	Winchester, OH	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
July 9 - 14	Temple Hill Church Smithdale, MS	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
July 10 - 14	Westwood Church Ashland, KY	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
July 16 - 21	Oak Grove Church Woodland, AL	Ray McManus (Woodland, AL)
July 19 - 23	Fayetteville Road Fairburn, GA	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
July 23 - 28	Napoleon Church Woodland, AL	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)

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