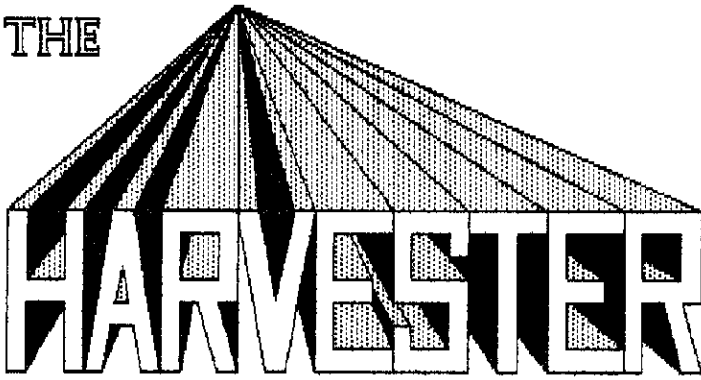


THE



"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)

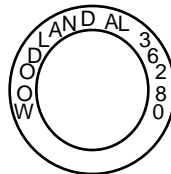
OCTOBER 2001

No. 190

SOME IMPORTANT STEPS IN CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Christianity is a "Do" religion...
"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."(Matt. 28:20) Christ demands more of us than just confessing faith in Him and calling on His name.
"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."(Matt. 7:21)

THE HARVESTER
1120 Sun Hill Road
Birmingham, AL 35215-4106



FORWARD & ADDRESS
CORRECTION REQUESTED



There is a reward for doing the will of God. "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs and sorcerers and whoremongers and murderers and idolaters and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." (Rev. 22:14-15)

Now we will look at some important steps in Christian growth that give us a right to the tree of life and paves the way into the eternal kingdom of God.

1. A change of mind... "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." (Rom. 12:1-2) "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God." (Col. 3:1-3)

2. A change of life... "Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Rom. 6:3-4) "As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts

in your ignorance: but as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."(1 Pet. 1:14-16)

3. *A hunger for spiritual food... "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."*(1 Pet. 2:1-2)
"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness."(2 Tim. 2:15-16)

4. *Add to your faith... "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."*(2 Pet. 1:5-9)

5. *Be faithful and steadfast... "Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."*(1 Cor. 15:58) *"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering for he is faithful that promised; and let us consider one another*

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:

Ray McManus
 141 County Road 474
 Woodland, AL 36280
 Phone: (256) 449-9221

to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins."(Heb. 10:23-26)

6. Submit your life to God...*"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to god, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."* (Jas. 4:7-8) *"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith."*(1 Pet. 5:6-9)

7. Put on the whole armour of God. As a Christian, we are in a continual warfare with Satan. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 to learn what the whole armour of God is.

8. Give heed to what the Lord says...
"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him."(Heb. 2:1-3)

9. Reflect Christ in our lives...
"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."(Matt. 5:14-16)

10. Walk daily with Christ...
"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."(Col. 2:6-9)

ALBERT L. DAVIS (deceased)
Lucedale, MS
reprinted by permission

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. Who commanded the sun to stand still over Gibeon?
2. How many words were written on the wall as a sign to the Babylonian king?
3. What is the root of all kinds of evil, according to 1 Timothy?
4. The angel in Revelation 10 had a rainbow upon his head, but what was his face like?
5. How did Jezebel die?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH . . .

and remember last month's questions?

1. Which of Joseph's brothers was shocked to find that Joseph had been sold by the others? REUBEN (Gen. 37:29)
2. Where did the two angels that came to Sodom find Lot? AT THE GATE OF THE CITY (Gen. 19:1)
3. The two men put to death with Jesus were guilty of what crime? ROBBERY (THEY WERE THIEVES) (Mark 15:27)
4. What does feeding a hungry enemy or giving drink to a thirsty enemy do? HEAPS COALS OF FIRE ON HIS HEAD (Rom. 12:20)
5. What is like apples of gold in pictures of silver? A WORD FITLY SPOKEN (Prov. 25:11)

GOD BLESSES AMERICA

What more can be said about the tragedy that struck our nation on September 11, 2001? News coverage, presidential speeches and magazine articles have touched every aspect of it. I certainly cannot add anything new.

But in the wake of the terrorist attack on America, I make this one observation: the United States, as a whole, has turned toward God. Although some still deny the Almighty, many have approached God as never before. Countless prayers have been offered, along with several "moments of silence". At nearly every major event, we sing "God Bless America". It seems that we want to remind the world of the one thing that we may have forgotten ourselves -- that we are "one nation under God".

The Lord has blessed our country so very much. Consider the freedoms and the liberties we enjoy and the abundance of goods within our grasp. We really don't know what "poor" is, do we? Perhaps we have taken all this for granted. Maybe too many of us forgot who God is and who truly blesses us. Perhaps God, in his infinite wisdom, is reminding us that *"every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights"* (Jas. 1:17). Brethren, God did NOT cause the recent tragedy that occurred but he did allow it for some reason. Maybe, just maybe, we forgot that "God blesses America."

RAY McMANUS

GOSPEL MEETINGS

<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE & TIME</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>
October 1 - 5	Oak Grove Church Eubank, KY	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
October 4 - 7	Ashlock Church near Celina, TN	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)
October 5 - 7	New Bethel Church Cullman, AL	Bob Golson (Prattville, AL)
October 8 - 12 TN)	Laurel Church London, KY	James McDonald (Woodbury,
October 12 - 14	Valley, AL Fri & Sat 7:30PM EST	Kevin Mills (Newnan, GA)
October 15 - 19	Blanchester, OH	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
October 19 - 21	West Broad St. Church Wedowee, AL	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)
October 22 - 26	New Bethel Church McKinney, KY	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
October 25 - 28	Marrowbone, KY	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)
Nov. 2 - 4	Second Ave. Church Opelika, AL	Brad Prince (Auburn, AL)

* * * * *

**When small men begin to cast big shadows,
it means the sun is about to set.**