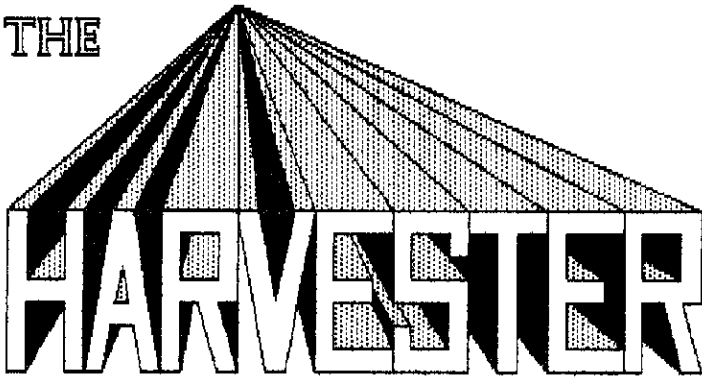


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*"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2)*

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## ENRICHING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

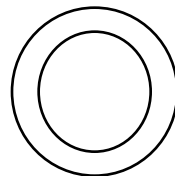
What can we do to enrich the spiritual life that we have together as Christians? Here are a few things that I believe can make a difference. They all come from the first chapter of the book of James.

1. View challenges as opportunities.

*"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." (Jas. 1:2-4)*

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Possessing a positive perspective about difficulties is good for congregations as well as individuals. We will face difficulties. The end result of these trying times oftentimes is largely related to our responses to them.

## 2. Pray for wisdom.

*"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord."* (Jas. 1:5-8)

We should not only pray for wisdom for ourselves, but for each other as well!

## 3. Maintain the proper perspective about our situation.

*"Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways."* (Jas. 1:9-11)

Fellowship can be interrupted by envy or pride. We should strive to see ourselves only as God sees us -- there is no room for pride or envy. Let's be thankful for what ever situation we may find ourselves in.

4. Be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath.

*"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."* (Jas. 1:19-20)

Poor communication and short tempers will quickly destroy any relationship. But, if all apply this "triad" of graces, problems can be gracefully handled and overcome.

5. Practice pure and undefiled religion.

*"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."* (Jas. 1:22-27)

This involves all of us, and in more than one way. We need to be doers of the Word, and not just hearers only. We need to let our actions speak louder than our words. And we need to keep ourselves untainted from the world.

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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These are only a few of the things we can to do enrich our lives together. There are many more. Let's work to strengthen our Christian relationships, and to enrich our life together!

CHAD PRINCE  
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## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. Who was Abraham's wife after Sarah died?
2. The Jew, Alexander, was going to speak in what city, but the crowd kept shouting "Great is Diana"?
3. According to Psalm 104, what does God make his chariot?
4. God performed swift judgment on Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5. How did this affect the early church?
5. What plant was Amos known for growing and caring for?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH . . .

and remember last month's questions?

1. What was Ruth's nationality? MOABITE  
(Ruth 1:4)
2. How many cows were in Pharaoh's vision which was interpreted by Joseph? FOURTEEN (Gen. 41:2-3)
3. When Pilate sent Jesus to see Herod what did Herod hope to see Jesus do? PERFORM A MIRACLE (Luke 23:8)
4. What was Stephen doing while he was being stoned? HE WAS PRAYING (Acts 7:59-60)
5. In whose eyes, according to Proverbs, should you not appear wise? YOUR OWN (Prov. 3:7)

[Editor's Note: Many of you have sent words of encouragement and gratitude for the work accomplished through this paper. For that I am very thankful. It is my prayer that many souls can be helped and/or strengthened. I am also grateful to those individuals who contribute financially and especially to the congregations who assist me on a regular basis: Sun Hill Road Church, Taylor's Crossroads, and West Broad Street. Without your support I could not afford this effort. As usual, I am always in need of "edifying" articles, short or long ones. If you have one, please send it in to me for publication. My goal is to prepare everyone to become able laborers in the Lord's harvest (Lk. 10:2). Please pray for me that I can fulfill this role God has chosen for me as editor of this paper.]

## THE EXISTENCE OF HELL

The evidence for a place called Hell is abundant in the Scriptures. Our Lord and the apostles both testify to the fact. There is much that we do not know about hell but there is a place where the wicked will go and is very clearly presented. Yet many people today reject the idea of a place of future punishment for the wicked.

From a survey conducted by Dr. George Herbert Betts of 700 ministers and students from theological schools, 76% do not believe that hell exists as an actual place or location, 13% were uncertain and 11% believed in hell.

There are three reasons for believing in hell as the destiny of the wicked.

1. Reason demands it. There cannot really be a heaven without a hell. If heaven is to be a holy place where peace and righteousness prevail, there must be a place for the wicked to go. If all the criminals of the earth were placed in heaven it would soon be changed to hell. If a modern city is to be clean and healthy it must have a garbage dump, a waste disposal and a sewage system. By the same token, if heaven is to be clean and holy the unclean of the earth must be placed somewhere else. That place is called Hell in the Bible.

2. Justice requires it. Sir William Blackstone wrote, "Where there is no penalty the law is null and void." There is a law of God written in the Bible and

men break those laws and sin, thus causing suffering and evil in this life. God's word declares that there is a punishment for unforgiven sins -- HELL. Therefore we conclude that justice requires the existence of hell to punish the wicked who escape punishment in this life.

3. Revelation reveals it. We have already studied (in previous articles) many scriptures that speak of the reality of hell, the terrible condition of hell and the people who will go there. Eleven times our Lord speaks of Gehenna (eternal hell). To the individual who believes that the Bible is the word of God, there can be no doubt that there is a place where the wicked will go at the end of this life.

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## HOW CAN A MAN BE BORN AGAIN? (John 3:4)

1. Man must **believe** on the Lord Jesus Christ (Jn. 8:24; Mk. 16:16; Acts 16:32)
2. Man must **repent** of his sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; Acts 3:19)
3. Man must **confess** the name of Christ (Matt. 10:32-33; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:9,10)
4. Man must **be baptized** into Christ (Rom. 6:3,4; Gal. 3:27; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16)

# GOSPEL MEETINGS

<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE &amp; TIME</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>
June 2 - 7 AL) (Su-Fr)	Taylor's Crossroads Roanoke, AL 7:00 PM week nights	Edward Herren (Woodland,
June 7 - 9 (Fr-Su)	New Bethel Church Cullman, AL 7:00 PM Fri & Sat	Gerald Carter (Eubank, KY)
June 9 - 14 (Su-Fr)	Mt. Carmel Church Woodland, AL 7:00 PM week nights	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
June 14 - 16	Valley, AL	Dwight Thomas & Donald Thompson
June 14 - 16	Pleasant Ridge Church Woodbury, TN	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)
June 16 - 21	Ephesus Church Ephesus, GA	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
June 23 - 27	Hokes Bluff Church near Gadsden, AL	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
June 28 - 30	Chapel Hill Church Pell City, AL	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)

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In everything you do, put God first, and  
he will direct you and crown your  
efforts with success. (Prov. 3:6)