

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)

March 2016

No. 363

TEACHINGS OF CHRIST

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. (Matt. 7:24-27)

THE HARVESTER

141 County Road 474

Woodland, AL 36280

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Let us heed the teachings of Christ that we might gain life eternal in him.

I. I am the Door to enter by. (John 10:9)

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (John 14:6)

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (Rom. 5:2)

For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. (Eph. 2:18)

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. (Rev. 3:8)

II. I am the Way to walk in. (John 14:6)

And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. (John 14:4)

And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us... (Eph. 5:2)

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: (Col. 2:6)

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus...(1 Pet. 5:10)

III. I am the Bread of life to feed upon.

Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him

hath God the Father sealed. (John 6:27)

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. (John 6:35)

I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: ...(John 6:51)

This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever. (John 6:58)

IV. I am the Shepherd to guide you.

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. (John 10:11)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. (Psa. 23:1-2)

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. (Isa. 40:11)

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, (Heb. 13:20)

For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls. (1 Pet. 2:25)

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. (1 Pet. 5:4)

V. I am the Light to follow.

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. (John 8:12)

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. (Isa. 9:2)

In him was life; and the life was the light of men. (John 1:4)

Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. (John 12:35)

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 4:6)

Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. (Eph. 5:14)

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it:

and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. (Rev. 21:23-24)

JOE YOUNG
(Deceased)

APOLOGIA

QUESTION: Is the Ethiopian woman in Numbers 12 Zipporah?

ANSWER: While there is not a definitive answer to this question, we can formulate several hypotheses about why Zipporah, a Midianite, might have been referred to as an Ethiopian. Exodus 2 tells the story of how Moses met Jethro (also known as Reuel), a Midianite priest, and impressed him so much that he gave one of his daughters for Moses to marry.

Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day? And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock. And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread. And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter. (Exo. 2:16-21)

The question comes from Numbers 12:1 where Aaron and

his sister speak against Moses because he had married someone from a different place.

And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. (Num. 12:1)

Some people believe this to mean that Moses had multiple wives. This is not probable. Moses was God's primary voice to His people during this time period as we see reading a little further into Numbers 12.

And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses? (Num. 12:6-8)

It is not likely that the man in this position would have a lifestyle in opposition to God's intent for marriage, one man and one woman:

Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said,

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For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. (Matt. 19:4-6)

The Midianites are known as a nomadic people. They moved from place to place in the same way that we see gypsies do. While they did have a specific area in the Middle East that was considered their home, they are primarily called Midianites because they are the descendants of Midian, the son of Abraham (Gen. 25:2). Ethiopians were descendants of Cush, the son of Ham who was the son of Noah (Gen. 10:6-20). Their land was on the continent of Africa south of Egypt. One possibility is that Jethro and his family were originally from one area but moved to another so they descended from both nationalities.

Another possibility is that Zipporah quite simply just had the appearance of an Ethiopian. Ethiopians were known for dark skin tones and this could have made Aaron and Miriam to refer to her as such based on her looks.

As with many other things in the Bible, it is an interesting question without a biblical answer. We have to trust that these unanswered questions are not things that God felt were important to our journey following Him, remembering that God has given us all that we need.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

A. D.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

DATES	PLACE	SPEAKER
March 25 - 27	Napoleon Woodland, AL	Hunter Bulger (Fort Deposit, AL)
March 27 - 30	Gilstrap Morgantown, KY	Joe Hill (Hager Hill, KY)

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. How old was Methuselah when he died?
 2. What kind of animal did the Lord cause to speak to Balaam?
 3. Who was David's first wife?
 4. With what did Jesus feed the 4000?
 5. According to 1 Peter, the devil walks about as what kind of animal?
- ...and remember last month's questions?
1. What was the name of Adam and Eve's third son? SETH (Genesis 4:25)
 2. From what tribe of Israel was Moses? LEVI (Exodus 2:1-10)
 3. What kind of plant did God make for a shade for Jonah? GOURD (Jonah 4:6)
 4. Where were the wise men from who came to visit the baby Jesus? THE EAST (Matthew 2:1-2)
 5. To whom was the book of James written? "THE TWELVE TRIBES WHICH ARE SCATTERED ABROAD" (James 1:1)