

THE

# HARVESTER

"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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## WHERE WOULD YOU STAND IN THE SIGHT OF GOD?

We as Christians need to think about this as we go about our daily living. We have to answer to God on that last day, when the trumpet will sound and time will be no more.

How we have lived, what we have done and said will all be known to God. Although, we must remember that God will forgive us for what we do if we will but ask him. We must ask in the name of Jesus Christ for God to hear us as we are told in I Tim. 2:5, *"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus:"*

THE HARVESTER  
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Everything we do must be done in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ as we are commanded in Col. 3:17, *"And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him!"* Let us now see where we would stand if we were put into some of Jesus' parables and stories.

In Matt. 25:1-13 Jesus tells about the 10 virgins waiting for the coming of the bridegroom. These virgins represented the earthly part of the church. They were members but 5 of them were not ready for the coming of Jesus. Where would you stand today?

In Matt. 25:14-30 Jesus tells about the 3 servants who are given talents to look after and use until their master returned. We see that 2 of them used their talents as their master wished but one of them hid his talent. The master of these servants was pleased with the 2 but very angry with the one that had not used his talent. The 2 were rewarded and the one was punished and cast into outer darkness. Using the parable as a measure of the abilities that God has given you, where would you stand today: with the one or the two?

In Matt. 13:3-9 Jesus tells about a sower who went forth to sow, and in Matt. 13:18-23 Jesus gives the explanation of the parable. The seed (or the Word) was all the same. It was and still is the people who hear it that receive it differently. How did you receive the word, on the wayside or on stoney ground or mixed with thorns or into good ground? How we hear and accept the word of God is up to us. We will not all bring forth the same amount to fruit (Matt. 13:23), but we must all bring forth or we will perish. Which ground will you be on in the eyes of God?

In Matt. 20:1-16 Jesus tells about the householder who was hiring for his vineyard. He hired people to work starting early in the morning, again in the middle of the day and even later at almost the close of day. When it was time for their reward or pay they all received the same amount. On the Judgement Day it will be the same with the church. We will all receive the same reward if we have done our job and worked as we have been commanded. And as in the story some of us will have worked all day (or all our lives) and others only half a day (or only half our lives) and still others will have worked but one hour (or only a short time) but the reward will still be the same. What is important here is not how long we have worked but how well we have worked for God. He will judge for He knows where we stand.

In Matt. 19:16-22 we read about the rich young man who wished to follow Jesus. He asked Jesus how to get eternal life and Jesus first commanded him to obey the commandments (as we have been commanded to obey Jesus' commandments). The young man said that he had done that from his youth up. Jesus then told him to sell all that he had and give it to the poor and follow Him. This rich young man went away sorrowful for he had much on this earth but nothing in Heaven. Where do we have our treasure laid up: on earth or in Heaven? God knows where we stand on this point and He will reward us accordingly.

**THE BEST EVIDENCE OF THE  
BIBLE BEING THE WORD OF GOD  
IS TO BE FOUND BETWEEN  
ITS COVERS!**

THE HARVESTER is a monthly publication mailed free of charge to anyone who wishes to receive it. Please submit name, address, and all correspondence to:

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If the Judgement were to be in the next hour, would you be ready or would there still be things that you need to do to get your life right with God? If there are things you still need to do they should be done today if at all possible. For Jesus will come in the twinkling of an eye, and time will be no more and where then will you stand in the sight of God?

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## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. In the group of ten lepers, what is the only nationality mentioned?
2. How many days was Ezekiel to lie on his side to bear the iniquity of the house of Israel?
3. According to Isaiah 55, if the evil man turns to the Lord, what two things will the Lord do?
4. According to Proverbs, to what does the prostitute reduce you?
5. Who wrote the book of Philemon?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH . . .

and remember last month's questions?

1. Who changed her name to Mara? **NAOMI**  
(Ruth 1:20)
2. After how many oracles was Balaam told to go home by Balak? **THREE** (Num. 24:10-11)
3. What should you do if a brother is caught in sin? **GENTLY RESTORE HIM** (Gal. 6:1)
4. What two books of the Bible were written by a physician? **LUKE AND ACTS** (Col. 4:14)
5. Which tribe received the last allotment of land in the promised land? **DAN** (Joshua 18:9-10 and 19:40)

## GOING HOME

You've been on the road so long now that the days just seem to run together like spring loses itself into summer. Oh, by the way, what day of the week is it anyway? Well no matter, it's almost over. You turn the corner and there it is. You begin to drive by the same trees you drive by nearly every day of your life. But today they look somehow greener and brighter than usual. The car bounces as you hit the big pothole in the middle of the road which you've hit just about every day for as many years as you can remember. But today you don't even notice it. You suddenly feel more alive and refreshed than you have in days. At last you turn up the driveway. You turn the car off and just sit there for a moment, your body still a little numb from the endless hours of driving. You open the car door and a cool but gentle breeze greets you. The air doesn't usually smell this fresh does it? You manage to pull yourself out of the

car, and after a good relaxing stretch, make your way up the walk to the front door, and try to remember which key fits the lock. After finally spotting the right key you unlock the door and begin to open it. Then it hits you, "I'm home!"

There is just no feeling in the world quite like seeing your house coming into view as you return from a long trip. Anyone who has ever taken a very long vacation will know exactly what I'm talking about. After two weeks of sleeping in strange beds and eating nothing much but fast food, after driving who knows how many miles (and getting lost a few times along the way), a feeling of near ecstasy begins to develop as you near home. The closer you get the better you feel. Is there anything quite like the sensation of satisfaction and relief experienced by the weary road warrior as he returns home?

But how excited are you about going home from this life? Are you ready to go home and face God? The Bible tells us that we are nothing more than strangers and pilgrims here on this earth. (1 Peter 2:11) Someday the vacation will be over. But as you round that familiar corner for the final time how will you feel? Will you be happy to be going home? Will the trees indeed seem greener and the air fresher? Or will the trees appear to be almost drooped in shame as you pass by? Will you feel that pothole in every joint and muscle of your body? After you park the car and open the door, will cool refreshing breezes caress your skin? Or will you have your breath nearly taken away by a blast of hot stifling air which seems to have arisen from the fiery furnace of hell itself? As you unlock the door and look inside, will you see a great throne surrounded by an innumerable host all dressed in white, and sitting upon the throne, God with His arms

outstretched, inviting you to come home to Him for ever? Or will you instead, see millions of tormented souls writhing in unimaginable pain and anguish, their faces contorted almost beyond recognition because of their immense pain. And in the middle of this crowd your eyes meet the stare of Satan. He is also suffering, but your appearance brings him a brief moment of reprieve. He looks at you and grins. Finally he just breaks out laughing. Then he says in an evil and demented voice, "Come in my son, you are home at last."

One day we will all turn the corner for the last time. We will come home for eternity. But what kind of home do you have to come home to? Our lives are nothing more than pilgrimages toward our eternal homes. We may at times get lost along the way, but God will see us safely home if we will let Him. He has given us a road map to guide the way if we will use it. That is, of course, the Bible. If we follow it we can't lose. But if we turn away from it we can't win. I can still remember as a child watching Dorothy on "The Wizard of Oz" clicking her heels together and saying, "There's no place like home." That is so true. There is no place as horrible as Hell, and no place as wonderful as Heaven. But one of these places will be our home for ever. Where will you be? Are you ready to go home?

TONY WHIDDON

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*Learn from the mistakes of others --  
you don't live long enough to  
make them all yourself.*

# GOSPEL MEETINGS

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Place &amp; Time</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Oct. 4 - 9	Oak Grove Church Liberty, KY	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
Oct. 9 - 11	Napolean Church Woodland, AL	V. W. Boland (Gadsden, AL)
Oct. 14 - 18	Marrowbone, KY	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)
Oct. 23- 25	West Broad Street Wedowee, AL	Leland Yarbrough (Tucson, AZ)
Nov. 6 - 8	West Gadsden Church Gadsden, AL	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
Nov. 13 - 15	Hokes Bluff Church Gadsden, AL	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)

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## WORK FOR CHRIST

1. THE FIELD IS LARGE. (Matt. 13:38)
2. THE NEED IS GREAT. (John 4:35)
3. THE TIME IS NOW. (Gal. 1:10)
4. THE CALL IS URGENT. (Matt. 20:6)
5. THE WORK IS VARIED. (1 Cor. 12:12)
6. THE PARTNER IS ALMIGHTY. (2 Cor. 6:1)
7. THE MEANS ARE PROVIDED. (Lk. 19:15)