

Three Great Principles

Life is Tough. Job observed that man has but a few days, and they are full of trouble. Jesus said that each day has its own evil. The wise man Solomon wrote the book of Ecclesiastes about the subject. Heaven is not on earth. Nothing is ever as good as we think or as bad as we think. Christians are not immunized, exempted from the pains of life. Being human is hazardous to your health.

God is Good. Do not confuse God with life! Life is tough, unfair. God is good. Don't blame God first then pray last. Pray first and blame Satan. God can be trusted. We can give ourselves totally to God. Faith does not give us the answers; faith allows us to live without the answers. In Job's deepest distress declared of God and his faith in Him, "Though He slay me, yet I will trust in Him" (Job 13:15). Nothing touches us that has not already passed through the hands of God. The secret to our life is God, not circumstances. Things don't work out — God works things out.

Heaven is Sure. Day by day we must remind ourselves about our deaths. In Christ's resurrection we have the hope that when life is over it is not over. God wants me in heaven. He wants you in heaven too! What a blessed hope! We must want to go to heaven more than anything else on earth.

- Charles Hodge [condensed from May, 2001 *Gospel Advocate*] - via *Bulletin Digest* -

Spiritual Inventory

1. Can I give a scriptural reason for what I do and teach religiously? (1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).
2. Do I worship in spirit and in truth? (John 4:24).
3. Do I wear any religious name that cannot be found in the Bible? (Acts 11:26; 1 Peter 4:16).
4. Is the church that I'm a member of mentioned in God's word? (Romans 16:16; Matthew 16:18).
5. Have I refused to obey the simple commands of Christ? (Luke 6:46; Acts 2:38).
6. If claiming to be a Christian, do I engage in worldly practices? (2 Corinthians 6:17).
7. Do I absent myself from the worship of the church? (Acts 20:7; Hebrews 10:25).
8. Am I growing spiritually? (2 Peter 3:18).
9. Do I truly love my brethren and even my enemies? (Matthew 5:43-48; 22:37-39).

- Johnny Ramsey (deceased), via *Bulletin Digest* -



Truth is hate to those who hate the truth.

News & Notes

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Resumes **this Tuesday, May 3rd at 7:00 p.m.**
OUR LADIES DAY: Next **Saturday, May 7th, 9-9:30 a.m. Registration & continental breakfast. 9:45 a.m. Program begins.** Lunch provided. Topic: "*Mirror, Mirror On the Wall, Do You See Christ In Me At All?*" Speakers: Elaine McClung & Docie Moore.

FRIDAY NIGHT SING: **May 20th, 7:00 p.m.** at Hanoverton.

PANTRY: Peanut butter & jelly.

SICK & SHUT-IN: *At Home:* Melissa Rosohac, Becky McKitrick, Mike West, Barbara DeLong, David McCoy, Russell Martin, Claudette Miller, Cheryl Renfro Walker, Nicole Stoffer (aunt of Tamara Sprout), Lori Rowand. *Weston, WV:* Rick Beck.

What To Do In Uncertain Times

During an earthquake that occurred many years ago, the inhabitants of a small village were very alarmed...and at the same time surprised at the calmness and apparent joy of an old Christian lady, whom they all knew. At length one of them, addressing the elderly lady asked: "Aren't you afraid?" "No," she replied, "I rejoice to know that I have a God that can shake the world."

When your future seems uncertain, and worries abound you can gain peace and confidence. What are you most worried about today? What are you most uncertain about?

We need to remember that the Bible was written to people who lived in uncertain times. Whether it was Moses leading people out of slavery, David facing Goliath, or Peter preaching to the crowds on Pentecost, all these people lived in times of uncertainty.

Question: How did these people face uncertainty head on without wavering? How did they know the comfort and peace of God?

Answer: They learned an important truth: Life is uncertain, but God is not, and He is in control.

"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails" (Proverbs 19:21).

"Dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations" (Psalms 22:28).

- Larry Fitzgerald, Woodlawn church of Christ, Abilene, TX -
 (via North End Church of Christ, Parkersburg, WV)

