The Gospel in 1 Verse

"For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself" (Hebrews 9:26).

The Enormous Evil - Sin. Many of us never come to grips with how awful or sin really is. Sin separates us from God and will condemn our souls (Isaiah 59:1-2; Ephesians 2:13). One dare not take ecvil and unrighteousness lightly (1 John 3:4; 5:17).

The Glorious Solution - Christ. "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation" (Hebrews 9:28). Jesus means "Savior." Christ means, "Anointed One" - the promised Messiah of the Old Testament. The only real solution to sin IS Jesus.

The Incredible Event - He appeared once for all. Jesus, the very Son of God (John 1:14-18), came to this world to deal with our sin. His name, "Immanuel," means, "God with us." This was all part of the eternal plan and purpose of God (Ephesians 3:9-11; 1 Peter 1:20). Fully God, Jesus came to this earth and became fully human (yet without sin) - He truly became a man (Hebrews 2:17; Romans 8:3). Jesus knows what it's like to live on this earth and deal with sin and pain.

The Ultimate Sacrifice - The sacrifice of Himself. Jesus "gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father" (Galatians 1:4). The greatness of the sacrifice required indicates the awfulness of sin. Surely if there were any other way to deal with sin, God would have done it. But the Father gave His Son!

The Magnificent Achievement - To put away sin. What Jesus did at the Cross is sufficient. Christ's sacrifice once and for all deals with sin. Jesus died to put away sin and to bring us to God (1 Peter 2:24; 3:18). Oh, what a Savior!

- Mike Vestal, Midland, TX (via *House to House, Heart to Heart*) -

"Now once in the end of the world hath he appeared
To put away sin by the sacrifice of himself . . ."
Hebrews 9:26

Christ's cleansing power can remove the most stubborn stain of sin.

News & Notes

BAPTISM: Shelly DeBee, 315 Fifth St., Chester, WV 26034. Phone: (304) 670-7542.

CONVERT'S CLASS: each Thursday 11:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. This class is open to all (new converts or others as a refresher).

PANTRY: Baked beans.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER: Eric Martin (friend of Joe Brubaker); **Rich Shilling** (family member of Iris Durbin).

SICK & SHUT-IN: *Rehab, Beaver Falls:* Harry Huff. *At Home:* Jim Hall, Dean Spencer, Peggy Linger, Claudette Miller, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, David Strum, Cheryl Renfro Walker. *Fox - Chester:* Mary Johnson (Lois Hissom's sister). *Calcutta Health Care:* Janice Hutchins (Marilyn Hadley's cousin). *Elsewhere:* **Carol Williams** (Sharon Sprout's mother), 104 N. Clayton, Carlsbad, NM 88220. **Todd Grimes** (Cindy Miskimen's nephew), 3827 Gibson St., New Castle, PA 16101. **Lori Stocks** (Karen Strum's niece), address on the bulletin board. **Herman McHan**, 7401 Elmwood Drive, Lisbon, OH 44432.

Is Your Bible RED?

A preacher once observed in a sermon that every Christian should own a "red" Bible. At least that was what the people heard. He actually said, "Every Christian should own a 'read' Bible." Regardless of the color, it should be well-worn by the constant study of its owner. It is amazing how little people know about the Word in this generation, even in a land with full access to the Bible (electronic, apps, websites). The former Tonight Show host Jay Leno frequently did man-on-the-street interviews. One night he collared some young people to ask them questions about the Bible.

"Can you name one of the Ten Commandments?" he asked two college-age women. One replied, "Freedom of speech?"

He said to the other, "Complete this sentence: Let he who is without sin ..." Her response was, "Have a good time?"

Leno then turned to a young man and asked, "Who, according to the Bible was eaten by a whale?" The confident answer was "Pinocchio."

Such misunderstandings are both humorous and tragic. Make time for Bible study in your life!

"How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?" (Romans 10:14)

- Author Unknown, adapted (via *House to House, Heart to Heart*) -