

The Church of Jesus Christ The Message of Hope



Revelation 21:24 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.

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The Church of Jesus Christ

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What Does The Church of Jesus Christ Believe?

We believe that the Bible is the infallible Word of God and is the SOLE authority on every subject. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God. Rev. 1:8, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." God put on the robe of flesh and walked here on earth for 33 years to fulfill prophecy for the New Testament Church, which is The Church of Jesus Christ. According to the Word, John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:14, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...." The Church of Jesus Christ believes that everyone must take His word seriously, John 8:24, "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye **believe not that I Am He** ye shall **die** in your **sins**."

We follow God's Plan of salvation. Acts 2:38, "...Repent, and be **baptized** every one of you in the **name of Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins, and ye **shall receive** the gift of the **Holy Ghost**." Baptism is by immersion in water only. The evidence of the infilling of the Holy Ghost is according to Acts 2:4, "And they were all **filled with the Holy Ghost**, and **began to speak with other tongues**, as the Spirit gave them utterance." John 3:5 states, "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born of water and of the Spirit**, he **cannot enter** into the **kingdom of God**." We must then live a clean, holy, and dedicated life to Jesus Christ thereafter taking diligent heed to the Word.

The Church of Jesus Christ must be found faithful to His Word. We must be partakers of Communion service. This service consists of the Lord's Supper and Foot Washing. 1 Cor. 11:24, 25, "And when he had given thanks, he brake it and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. (25) After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, "This cup is the New Testament in my blood: this do ye oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." John 13:14, 15, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. (15) For I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you."

Watch, pray, forsake not the assembling of yourselves together, give your tithes and offerings, so that YOU can be counted among the faithful when our one and only Savior, Jesus Christ, comes back in a "cloud with power and great glory!"





The Way to A Happy New Year

To leave the old with a burst of song;
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
To forget the things that bind you fast
To the vain regrets of the year that's past;
To have the strength to let go you hold of the not
worthwhile of the days grown old.
To dare go forth with a purpose true
to the unknown task of the year that's new.
To help your brother along the road.
To do his work and lift his load;
To add your gift to the world's good cheer
Is to have and to give a
Happy New Year.

Submitted by: Sis. Lane

Portage, IN

Pastor: Bis. Spence



Praise the Lord, everyone! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and we are looking forward to what God has in store for his people in the coming year. Thus far, our year has started out very exciting with Sis. Brooke Brandenberger receiving the wonderful gift of the Holy Ghost! We were so encouraged and still are as we pray for others to receive this wonderful, precious gift that is promised to each and every one. As the upcoming months approach, we don't know what is in store for us, but we know who is in control!

Bishop Pennington continues to bring forth encouraging and enlightening messages and Bible studies. Lately, he's been instructing the church not to look back. As it says in Luke 9:62 "And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." We must keep pressing on and pressing forward. We don't want to be as Lot's wife when she looked back to the city that they were instructed to leave. She looked back because that's where her heart was. Where are we looking? What do we have our eyes set upon? It's easy for the cares of this life to weigh us down and take our eyes off the prize. We must remember that our love must not be of this world. As it says in 1st John 2:15-16, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." Let us not just read these words, but think upon them. Do we lust after this world, the riches and treasures it can hold, or do we desire the sincere word of God and the treasures that it holds? The riches of this world shall vanish away, but the riches in God shall never vanish away. As it says in James 1:22, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." We must not just hear the word of God, but we must follow and do as we are instructed by the word of God.

We serve a just and a loving God. He has allowed each of us to hear the truth and it is our duty to carry that truth to others. Let us not keep this wonderful news to ourselves, but let us take it to the hurting and lost souls that are around us each day! God bless each and everyone!

Sis. Charity Brandenberger

Pastor: Bishop Calvin Pennington

The Church of Jesus Christ, Montpelier, Ohio

(This article was submitted last winter.)



**What is on your mind most of the time. Are you a daydreamer?
SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!**

1. The Devil is battling for control of us through our minds.

- Ephesians 2:2,3a Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3a Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind.
- Ephesians 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
- 1 Peter 5:8,9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

2. Daydreaming may seem harmless at first, but if unchecked it can destroy our walk with God.

- Proverbs 19:15 Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.
- Proverbs 25:28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit [or thoughts!] is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.
- Jeremiah 7:24 But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.

3. Daydreaming and unprofitable thoughts leads us away from the Lord.

- Proverbs 24:9a The thought of foolishness is sin.
- Isaiah 65:2 I have spread out My hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walked in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts.
- Romans 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
- Ephesians 4:17,18 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind. 18 Having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.
- Galatians 3:1a O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched [entranced] you, that ye should not obey the truth...?

4. We must take a stand against daydreaming and bring our thoughts into subjection.

- Psalm 119:113 I hate vain thoughts: but Thy law do I love.
- Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord,

and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

- Luke 11:21 When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace.
 - Romans 13:11,12 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our Salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.
 - 2 Corinthians 10:4,5 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.
 - 1 Peter 1:13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
 - 1 Peter 4:1a Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind. James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.
- 5. Fight daydreaming by keeping your mind on the Lord, the work at hand and the goals ahead.**
- Proverbs 21:5 The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness.
 - Romans 8:5,6 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.
 - Philippians 3:13,14 Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
- Romans 13:11,12 And that knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our Salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

6. We must ask ourself, "Is this what the Lord wants me to be thinking about?"

- Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my Redeemer.
- Psalm 49:3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.
- Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee.
- Jeremiah 4:14 Wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee?
- Mark 12:30 Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with ... all thy mind: ... this is the first commandment.
- Romans 13:14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof. Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. [See also 1 Corinthians 2:16]

7. The danger of imagination, when not lead my the Holy Ghost:

- Genesis 6:5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- Genesis 8:21 The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth. [See Matthew 15:19.]
- Psalm 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?
- Psalm 140:1,2 Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man; 2 Which imagine mischiefs in their heart.
- Jeremiah 11:8 Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart. [See also 13:10; 16:12; 18:12.]

Zechariah 7:10 [When you're angry with others, it could be an inroad for the Enemy's thoughts.] And let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart. [See also 8:17.]

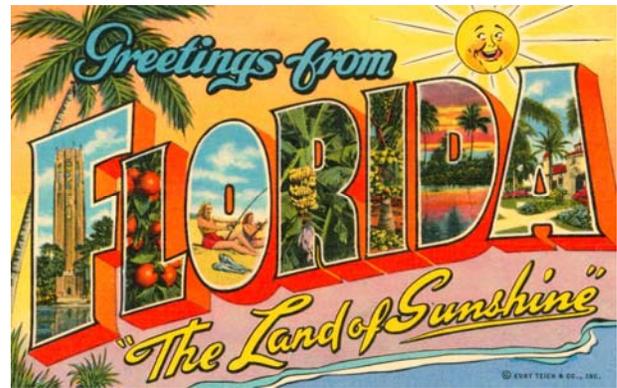
8. We can fight daydreaming and unprofitable thoughts with the Word of God!

- Joshua 1:8 This Book of the Law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.
 - Psalm 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night.
 - Psalm 94:19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me Thy comforts delight my soul.
 - Psalm 119:10 With my whole heart have I sought Thee: O let me not wander from Thy commandments.
 - Psalm 119:15,16 I will meditate in Thy precepts, and have respect unto Thy ways.
 - Psalm 119:59 I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto Thy testimonies.
 - Psalm 119:113 I hate vain thoughts: but Thy law do I love.
- 1 Timothy 4:15 Meditate upon these things give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. [See also Psalm 1:1 Joshua 1:8.]

Bis. Jarret R. Spence

Pastor: The Church Of Jesus Christ

Portage, In.



Praise the Lord! I would like to give a testimony that the Church is doing great and God is still doing great things! I would like to leave a few thoughts with you all.

1st John 1:7 says, "But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son cleanseth us from all sin." God is light and in him is no darkness. We know that in the beginning God divided the light from the darkness. So, we also should separate ourselves from the darkness and look on the bright side. Even above the clouds the sun is shining bright. We may only see the clouds of discouragements sometimes but the light is still up there. The Bible says God is a consuming fire, so even in the night he is our pillar of fire, which gives off light. Psalms 119:105 says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." When we look at his word, we're looking on the bright side. For it is a light of the Gentiles. So let's all let our light so shine before men that they may see our good works and glorify our Father which is in Heaven. Remember Jesus Christ is not just the root, but also the offspring of David and the Bright and Morning Star. Always remember that the darker the night, the brighter the light.

We are looking forward to seeing who all will be able to come to this year's Convocation in Florida. Come expecting God to do Great things! We are looking on the "bright side" in Sunny Florida!

Love all in Jesus Christ,
Pastor Troy D. Stafford
Old Homosassa, FL



Twelve days before Christmas, around 9:38 when 20 beautiful children stormed through heaven's gate. Their smiles were contagious, their laughter filled the air, they could hardly believe all the beauty they saw there. They were filled with such joy, they didn't know what to say. They remembered nothing of what had happened earlier that day. "Where are we?" asked a little girl, as quiet as a mouse. "This is heaven." declared a small boy. "we're spending Christmas at God's house." When what to their wondering eyes did appear, but Jesus Christ, their savior, the children gathered near.

He looked at them and smiled, and they smiled just the same. Then He opened His arms and He called them by name. And in that moment was joy, that only heaven can bring those children all flew into the arms of their King and as they lingered in the warmth of His embrace, one small girl turned and looked at Jesus Christ's face.

And as if He could read all the questions she had He gently whispered to her, "I'll take care of mom and dad." Then He looked down on earth, the world far below He saw all of the hurt, the sorrow, and woe then He closed His eyes and He outstretched His hand, "Let My power and presence re-enter this land!"

"May this country be delivered from the hands of fools" "I'm taking back my nation, I'm taking back my schools!" Then He and the children stood up without a sound. "Come now my children, let me show you around." excitement filled the space, some skipped and some ran, all displaying enthusiasm that only a small child can.

And I heard Him proclaim as He walked out of sight, "in the midst of this darkness, I AM STILL THE LIGHT."

Pray for our Country, Our Leaders, and Our Children, and Each other.



GOD'S ACCURACY AND THE BIBLE.....AMAZING FACTS !!

How awesome our God is!

Our Creator and Redeemer . . . and do we THINK about it ??? God's accuracy may be observed in the hatching of eggs.

For example:

- the eggs of the potato bug hatch in 7 days;
- those of the canary in 14 days;
- those of the barnyard hen in 21 days;
- The eggs of ducks and geese hatch in 28 days;
- those of the mallard in 35 days;
- The eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days.

(Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!)

God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant. The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made. God planned that this animal would have a huge body, too large to live on two legs. For this reason He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily.

The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first. A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first. How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!

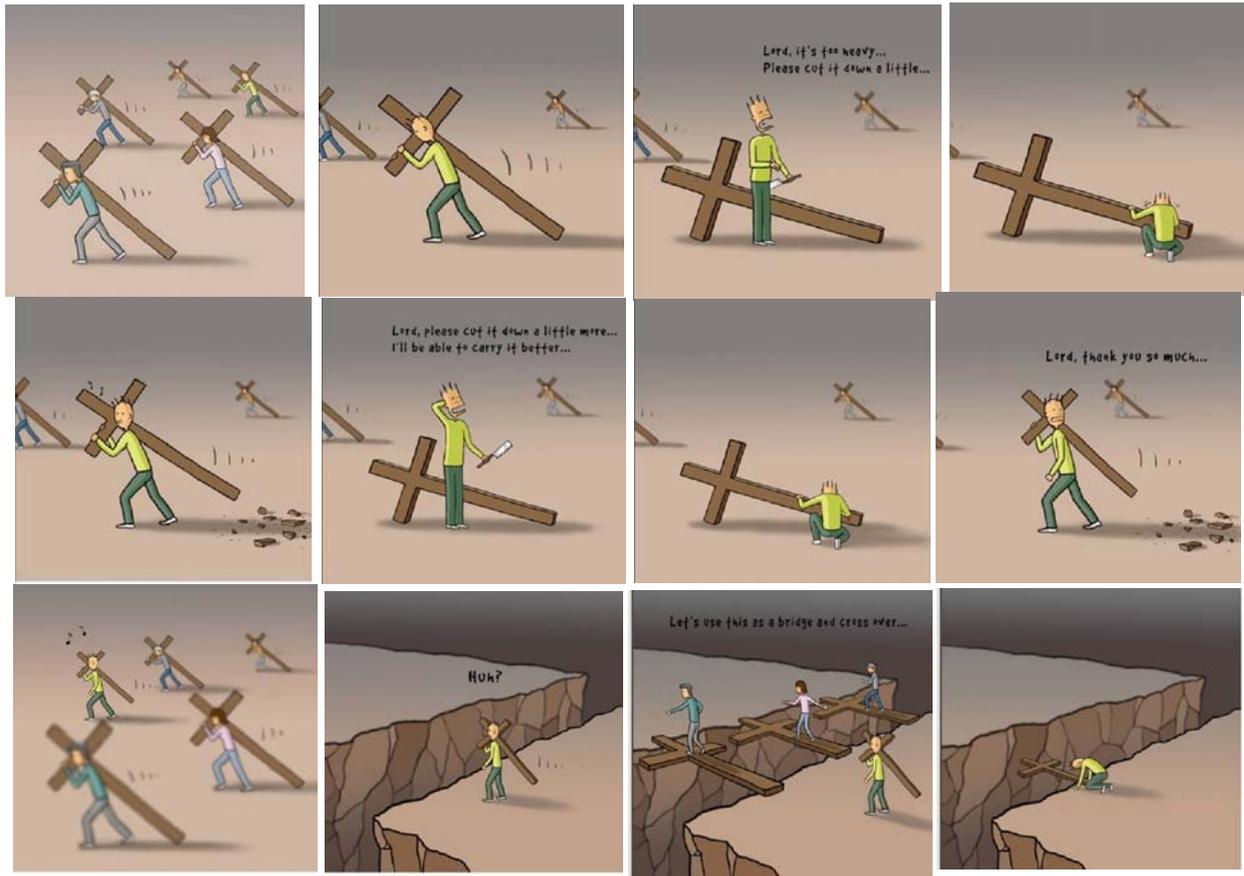
God's wisdom is revealed in His arrangement of sections and segments, as well as in the number of grains.

- Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind.
- Each orange has an even number of segments.
- Each ear of corn has an even number of rows.
- Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains.
- Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number.
- The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.

All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks, and the Lord specified thirty fold, sixty fold, and a hundred fold all even numbers.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day. Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed!

The lives of each of you may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if you will only entrust Him with your life. If you try to regulate your own life, it will only be a mess and a failure. Only the One Who made the brain and the heart can successfully guide them to a profitable end.



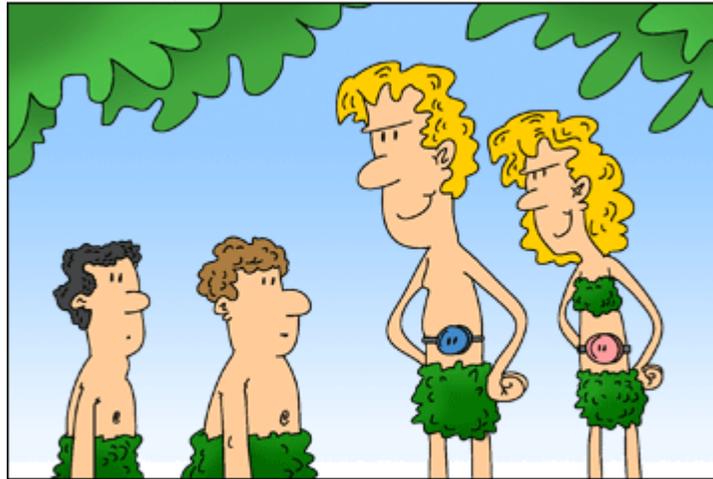
We complain about the cross we bear but don't realize it is preparing us for the dip in the road that God can see and we can't. Whatever your cross, whatever your pain, there will always be sunshine, after the rain.... Perhaps you may stumble, perhaps even fall; But God's always ready, to answer your call..... He knows every heartache, sees every tear, a word from His lips, can calm every fear... Your sorrows may linger, throughout the night, But suddenly vanish, dawn's early light... The Savior is waiting, somewhere above, to give you His grace, and send you His love.... God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage. And you question God -'why me?'. Always look at the bigger picture.....A day without the Lord- Is a day wasted.



Stop Making Excuses



In St. Luke 14:16-24 we read of the supper that was prepared and all the excuses that were made. Everything was ready for the supper but they all made excuses, they had no time for God. As a believer one goes out witnessing and inviting people to church, they may promise to come but never turn up. Stop procrastinating go to a Jesus Christ believing church. It is very sad to hear some of the excuses they make as for example: (1) I had company. (2) It was too cold. (3) I woke up late (4) I didn't have a ride (5) They had no one to keep their baby that makes too much noise... and it goes on, just to name a few. Some even blame the Pastor for ignoring them. God never promises a tomorrow. St. Luke 12:16-21 the rich man said he will build a bigger barn, drink, and be merry. God called him a fool, that very night he died. The words of God say; now is the day of Salvation, now is the acceptable time harden not your heart when you hear my voice. Accept the Lord now, tomorrow will be too late. STOP MAKING EXCUSES! For it is not by might nor by power but by my spirit saith the Lord (Zac 4:6) Find sometime for God because when he closes the door no one will be able to open it. It is not the will of Jesus Christ that any should perish. Think it over and be wise. Remember God loves you the sinner and not the sin.



Thanks to Mikel Rice

01-14-2013

ADAM AND EVE ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY WITH
THEIR CHILDREN

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RETURN SERVICE REQUIRED

