

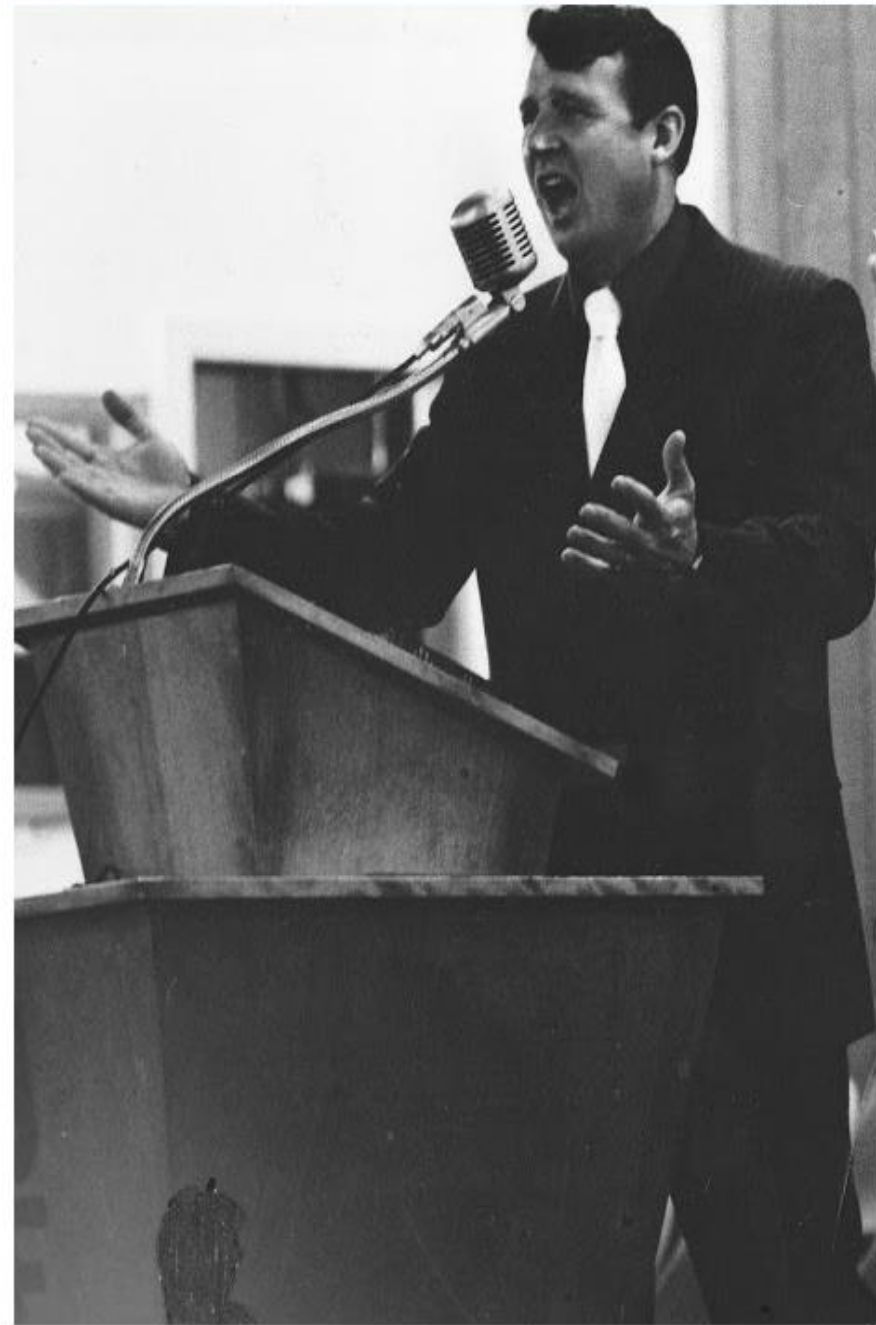
HEALING FOR HURTING PEOPLE

Healing no.2 cont.

By Pastor Max Solbrekken, D.D.

WHAT MUST WE DO?

When Daniel was called to interpret the spiritual dream that God gave Nebuchadnezzar, he specifically warned the king of coming judgment if he would not change his ways! What would he have to do? “Break off thy sins by being righteous, and thine iniquities by showing mercy to the poor.” What could have happened had he obeyed?



God would have been merciful to him: “If it may be a lengthening of thy tranquility.”

Did the arrogant Nebuchadnezzar show remorse, repent or turn from his wicked ways? No, he did not! What was the outcome? The hammer of God’s judgment fell: “At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon. The king spake, and said, Is this not great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty.

“While the word was in the king’s mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times (years) shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.” (Dan.4:29-32)

HERE IS THE OUTCOME: “The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, until his hairs were grown like eagles’ feathers, and his nails like birds’ claws. And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High,

and I praised and honoured Him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation.

“And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest Thou? At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

“Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and His ways judgment: and those that walk in pride He is able to abase.” (Dan.4:33-37)

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS?

That God is in control and that He hates pride and blesses those who humble themselves and are genuinely remorseful for their sin! It speaks of God’s great mercy to those who honestly desire to live a decent, God-fearing life and care for the ones who are needy and less fortunate. It also reveals why nations in general and individuals in particular, who have left God out of their lives get into deep trouble!

August Strindberg, the celebrated Swedish author, wrote these words shortly before his death: “Clearly said - I ascribe all my misfortunes to this one fact, that I have been godless! An individual that has broken contact with God cannot receive any blessings. All this talk about ‘being your own man and making your own happiness’ is chaff.

“If the Lord does not build the house, they labour in vain who build it. That is the whole truth! That misfortune can also strike a person of faith, we know. But the outcome is not the same. These misfortunes seem only like trials that pass over and leave peace in their wake! “A curse rests on everything that an ungodly person puts his hand to. If money comes his way, it will disappear like it came. Nothing remains in the life of the ungodly!”

THE MERCY OF GOD ALWAYS REACHES OUT TO SINNERS AND BACKSLIDERS

The prophets gave clear instructions as to what is needed for God’s blessings to flow into our lives: “Wash you, and make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before Mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If

ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.” (Is.1:16-20)

I BELIEVE THE REASON many people are not convicted of their sinful actions, is because they are not familiar with God’s hatred for sin . Godly sorrow for sin - which brings genuine repentance and faith to receive His blessing - comes from the Word of God and the Holy Spirit . If the rank and file of our nation knew how we grieve our Heavenly Father by our sinfulness, we would all seek by His grace to serve Him to the utmost of our ability!

HERE IS HIS WORD: “Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? But My people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit. Be ye astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be ye horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the Lord.

“For My people have committed two EVILS; they have forsaken Me the fountain of living waters and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.” (Jer.2:11-13)

God condemns the idiotic actions of the ancient people of Israel whom He called His chosen people! He asks the heavenly bodies to witness this astonishing event – turning

from the “Fountain of Living Water” to man-made “broken cisterns that can hold no water”!

It is inconceivable that clear thinking, intelligent people would forsake the God of the universe, the creator of life and all things visible and invisible, and turn to imaginary gods and goddesses – both medieval and today’s New Age! The devil knows how to make fools out of people since he is the biggest fool of all, having orchestrated and failed in his own rebellion against the Almighty:

“For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.”
(Is.14:13,14)

SATAN INVOLVED WITH FALSE RELIGIONS AND MAN-MADE GODS, GURUS & PROPHETS!

Without doubt, Satan has engineered all the false religions and demonically deluded the many false prophets who have claimed to speak in the name of Almighty God from the very beginning of time!

In his powerful book 'The Knowledge of the Holy' A.W. Tozer writes: "Among the sins to which the human heart is prone, hardly any is more hateful to God than idolatry, for idolatry is at bottom a libel on His character. The idolatrous heart assumes that God is other than He is – in itself a monstrous sin – and substitutes for the true God one made after its own likeness. Always this God will conform to the image of the one who created it and will be base or pure, cruel or kind according to the moral state of the mind from which it emerges.

"A god begotten in the shadows of a fallen heart will quite naturally be no true likeness of the true God...Surely this must be serious affront to the most High God before Whom cherubim and seraphim continually do cry, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth." Allah, Shiva, Krishna, Buddha, Odin, Thor, Zeus, Artemis (Diana), Gaia and a host of other gods and goddesses are only imitations of the One True Almighty and Eternal Lord God Jehovah and Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

ASK YOURSELF: "How could the Eternal God command Muslims to kill Jews and Christians, when He repeatedly states that He is the "God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", the Jews are His chosen people and that so long as this universe exists, He will protect them and keep covenant with them? (Ex. 3:6,14; Jer.31-37; 33:20-26)

The crucified and risen Lord of Glory specifically told Saul of Tarsus that when he was persecuting, imprisoning and killing Christians, he was persecuting God: “And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me? And he said, Who art Thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I AM JESUS whom thou persecutest....” (Acts 9:5)

In the Quran (sura 5:60) we read that Allah has transformed Jews and Christians into “apes and swine”, who worship “evil” . As recently as 2002, the leading Muslim imam in Baghdad, Iraq parroted Allah when he affirmed: “Jews and Americans are apes and swine.”

In the 1930s, Muslim Grand Mufti Haj Amin el Husseini was invited by his good friend and hero Adolf Hitler to visit Berlin . While speaking on Berlin radio, Yasser Arafat’s Egyptian uncle the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem stated: “Kill the Jews - kill them with your teeth – this is well pleasing to Allah!”

THE QURAN SAYS: “Jews are the enemies of Allah, Muhammed and the angels, and Muslims must kill them wherever they find them.” (sura 4:101 and sura 4: 91); “When the month with respect (Ramadan) is over, you must persecute, imprison and kill non-Muslims wherever you find them.” (Al Toba 5: 9); “And continue your battle against

non Muslims until they accept Islam. And if they do not seek Allah and will not leave the country, imprison them and kill them, wherever you find them.” (Al. Nofal 8: 39)

“All who fight against Allah or convert to other religions shall be executed, crucified or have their hands and feet hacked off on opposite sides.” (sura 5334); “Regarding unbelievers (non- Muslims), they are determined enemies of Muslims. Muslims shall arrest them, imprison them and ambush them everywhere.” (sura 9: 5; sura 4: 101); “You shall grab them and kill them in every place where you find them.” (sura 4: 90)

“Allah will create terror in the hearts of unbelievers. Hack off their heads and cut off their finger tips.” (sura 8: 12); “Fight those who do not believe in Allah, who do not acknowledge the Religion of Truth, even if they are from the people of the Book - Jews and Christians (sura 9: 29). “Muslims shall fight against unbelievers who live among them. (sura 9: 123)

In 2002 A.D. Islamic leaders stated: “Israel is the little Satan, Europe is Satan and America is the great Satan.” Why would they say that? WHY SHOULD’NT THEY? After all, they are only quoting their holy book: “Jews and Christians can be likened to Satan.” (sura 59: 11)

In a piece titled 'God and Allah Aren't the Same', Marvin Olasky wrote: "Does the god of Islamic imagination act toward man as God described in the Bible does? Read the Quran: If you know anything about the civilization of 7th century West Asia, you won't find many surprises. The Quran has Allah promising gifts to his warriors, just like conquerors of old dispensed boons to theirs.

"Suras 44,52,55,56,69, 78 and others include descriptions of how good Muslims after death will have "a life of pleasure" complete with meat, bananas and large-eyed, beautiful young women."

NAMES OF THE MOON GOD!

"The names given by men to the moon god varied from area to area. Nanna, Suen and Assimbabbar were utilized in ancient Sumeria . In Assyria and Babylon, Suen became pronounced 'Sin' as the favorite name for the deity of these moon-cult followers. Represented by a crescent moon, this god was considered to be the 'controller of the night' or the 'ruler of the darkness'. The title of the god Sin was 'Alilah', which in Arabic means 'the great god'. These pagans believed that Al-ilah was married to the sun goddess and the stars were their daughters". <http://www.bibelievers.org.au/moongod.htm>

And how could any intelligent person believe the lie perpetuated by the deceptive

Joseph Smith and his personal spirit guide Moroni? Here is their unbiblical New Age teaching: “As we are now, God once was and as God now is, we will become”. What NONSENSE! The god they represent IS NOT the God of the Bible, but a false god! Don’t ever forget this truth: The Eternal God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He is El Shaddai, Adonai, El, El Elyon, Jah, JHWH, Jehovah Jirah, Jehova Rapha, Jehovah Raah, Jehovah Nissi, Jehovah Shammah, Jehovah Shalom, Jehovah Tsidkenu, Jehovah M’Keddesch and Jehovah Saboath!

After his conversion to Jesus Christ, the proud Jewish Pharisee Saul changed his name to Paul – ‘the little one’. His words to the Galatians, relate perfectly to the followers of Joseph Smith today: “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel. Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you that ye received, let him be accused.”

(Gal.1: 8,9)

**WE MUST NOT & WILL NOT
WHITWASH GOD’S WORD!**

God exposed the two evils His people had committed. He did not whitewash these sins. He called them two EVILS! Therefore, we must not minimize them either! We must expose

them, as I am doing here! This is an important question for us all: “If the religion, guru or god one follows is unimportant, WHY would the Living God be so specific about His name in the Decalogue? Let’s examine these powerful words:

“Thou shalt have NO other gods before Me. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.” (Ex. 20:3,4-7)

WHO is the God referred to in these Scriptures? Here is the answer: “And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the LAND OF EGYPT, out of the house of bondage.” (Ex.20:1,2)

Did Buddha, Shiva, Krishna, Odin, Thor, Zeus, Artemis (Diana) or Gaia bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt? No, they did not! Did Allah bring the children of Israel out of the land of bondage? A thousand times NO! Allah is a relative new comer among the god pack! In the 7th Century, Muhammed banned the worship of all tribal gods and goddesses, except the most powerful, Al-ilah!

WHAT DOES IT MEAN to take the name of the Lord in vain? For years, pastors taught that it is to curse or swear using the Lord's name. It means more than that, however. Calling the Creator, Saviour and Sustainer of the world by another name than His own, is taking the Name of the LORD in vain! Can you imagine how the Eternal God feels when people call Him by spurious names like Gaia, Allah, Krishna or Buddha? That is a great affront to the Almighty, Eternal, Omnipotent, Omniscient and Omnipresent God of all flesh!

THE BLUE PRINT TO REVIVAL!

What we need is an old-fashioned revival of righteousness, holiness and the fear of the Lord, in order to turn the world back to the truth and God's deliverance! How do we do that? The Bible says: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the Holy is understanding." (Prov. 8:10) The key here is the FEAR OF LORD!

For many years, preachers of the Gospel have labeled 2 Chron. 7:14 the 'Blueprint For Revival': "If My people, which are called by My name, shall HUMBLE themselves and PRAY, and SEEK my face, and TURN from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will FORGIVE their sin, and will HEAL their land."

1. HUMBLE OURSELVES – The Bible says: “For thus saith the high and holy One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.” (Is.57:15)

“But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble: “...and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.” (James 4:6; 1 Pet. 5:5,6)

The Word of God says: “The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the forward mouth, do I hate. Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” (Prov. 8:13; 16:18)

2. PRAY – Jesus taught His disciples to pray (Luke 11: 1-4). He admonished them to pray to our Heavenly Father in His name and promised that He would answer: “And in that day ye shall ask me nothing, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, He will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in My name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.” (Jn.16: 23,24) One of the necessary prerequisites to

obtain God's blessing and receive the fire of the Holy Ghost, is that we PRAY: "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" (Luke 11:13) There has never been a revival of any significance without first laying the foundation through fasting and prayer: "And when they had heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, Thou art God, which hath made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in then is:

"And now, Lord, behold their threatening: and grant unto Thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak Thy Word, By stretching forth Thine hand to heal: and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of Thy Holy Child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the Word of God with boldness." (Acts 5: 29-31)

God says: "If My people which are called by My name – we are included – shall humble themselves and PRAY and seek My face, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and HEAL their land."

Jesus admonished: "...men ought always to pray, and not to faint. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though He bear long with them." (Luke 18:1,7); "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (Mk. 11:24)

St. Paul declared: "Pray without ceasing." (1 Th. 5:17); "I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting." (1 Tim. 2:8); "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." (Rom. 8:26)

The Bible says: "Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the Church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained

not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.” (James 5: 14-18)

3. SEEK GOD’S FACE – In his powerful ‘Mars Hill message on the ‘Unknown God’, St. Paul stated: “That they should SEEK the Lord, if haply they might feel after Him, and find Him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in Him we live, and move and have our being.” (Acts 17: 27,28)

The Holy Record says: “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that SEEKEST after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. There is no fear of God before their eyes.” (Rom. 3:10-12,18)

Yet, the Psalmist declares: “Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that SEEK Him with the whole heart.” (Ps. 119:1,2)

The Almighty states: “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon Me, and ye shall go and pray unto Me, and I will turn hearken unto you. And ye shall

SEEK Me, and find Me. When ye shall search for Me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the Lord.” (Jer. 29: 11-14)

The prophet Daniel was concerned about the city of Jerusalem because he had read the prophecies of Jeremiah regarding God’s judgment upon that city. Here is what He did:

“And I set my face unto the Lord God, to SEEK by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love Him, and to them that keep His commandments; We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from Thy precepts and from Thy judgments:

“Neither have we hearkened to Thy servants, the prophets, which spake in Thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.” (Dan. 3:1-6)
What was the outcome? God dispatched the angel Gabriel with the answer to the prophet’s request!

The Scripture says: “For thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israel, SEEK ye Me, and

ye shall live. Seek good, and not evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God will be gracious..." (Amos 5:4, 14,15)

One of the most appalling things happening across the world today is exactly what happened to ancient Israel. They forsook God, the fountain of Living Water and hewed themselves out broken cistern that could hold no water! The devil has not changed. He is still the evil, hateful and deceptive entity that he always was. He is still the liar and deceiver extraordinaire! Millions of people are being deceived by the 'New Age Movement', which is in fact, old-time occultism!

The Bible says: "And when they say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits (witches, clairvoyants, fortune tellers), and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter (spiritualist mediums): should not a people SEEK unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them." (Is. 8:19,20)

Jesus said: "But SEEK ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6: 33)

4. TURN FROM OUR WICKED WAYS – The Bible says: "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near: 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. “But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.” (Is. 57: 6,7)

WHY do we need to REPENT and turn to God? The Bible says: “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jer. 17: 9)

“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.” (Mk. 7: 23)

St. Paul testifies of his conversion and his mission to preach that people “should repent and turn to God, and do the works meet for repentance.” (Acts 26: 20)

John the Baptist and our Lord both preached repentance and faith. (Matt. 3: 1-3; Luke 13: 3) Jesus taught His disciples to do the same: “And they went out, and preached that men should repent.” (Mk. 6: 12)

St. Peter emphasized: “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.” (Acts 2:

38); “Repent ye therefore, and be CONVERTED, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.” (Acts 3: 19)

The Bible says: “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to REPENT: Because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.” (Acts 17: 30, 31)

Every thinking person should consider the great love of God that is reaching out to this sin-sick world. How could anyone turn away from such love and mercy? We were all lost in sin and rebellion – sinners by birth, nature and choice! And then, the Creator became one of us in order to save us from our sins. The Bible calls that grace ‘unmerited favour’. (Eph. 2: 8,9). God’s goodness leads to repentance - which is godly sorrow for sin - that brings forgiveness and real change in lives! (Rom. 2: 4; 2 Cor. 7: 10)

By GRACE alone ~ through FAITH alone ~ in CHRIST alone!

Here is a true story that pin-points the truth of the incarnation – God the Son, True God from eternity and True Man - wrapped Himself in human flesh by being born of a virgin, so that He could suffer, bleed and die in our place, as our substitute and thereby meet

the demands of Divine Justice!

The Bible says: “Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, he staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

“And being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on Him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead’, Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.” (Rom. 4: 16-25)

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Eph. 2: 8,9)

THE GOOSE STORY!

“There was once a man who didn’t believe in God, and he didn’t hesitate to let others know how he felt about religion and religious holidays, like Christmas. His wife, however, did believe, and she raised her children to also have faith in God and Jesus, despite his disparaging comments. One snowy Christmas Eve, his wife was taking their children to a

a Christmas Eve service in the farm community in which they lived. She asked him to come, but he refused. "That story is nonsense!" he said. "Why would God lower Himself to come to Earth as a man? That's ridiculous!" So she and the children left, and he stayed home.

A while later, the winds grew stronger and the snow turned into a blizzard. As the man looked out the window, all he saw was a blinding snowstorm. He sat down to relax before the fire for the evening. Then, he heard a loud thump. Something had hit the window. Then, another thump! He looked out, but couldn't see more than a few feet. When the snow let up a little, he ventured outside to see what could have been beating on his window.

In the field near his house he saw a flock of wild geese. Apparently, they had been flying south for the winter when they got caught in the snowstorm and couldn't go on. They were lost and stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter. They just flapped their wings and flew around the field in low circles, blindly and aimlessly. A couple of them had flown into his window, it seemed.

The man felt sorry for the geese and wanted to help them. The barn would be a great place for them to stay, he thought. It's warm and safe; surely they could spend the night

and wait out the storm. So he walked over to the barn and opened the doors wide, then watched and waited, hoping they would notice the open door and go inside. But the geese just fluttered around aimlessly or didn't seem to notice the barn or realize what it could mean for them.

The man tried to get their attention, but that just seemed to scare them and they moved further away. He went into the house and came with some bread, broke it up, and made a breadcrumb trail leading to the barn. They still didn't catch on. Now he was getting frustrated. He got behind them and tried to shoo them toward the barn. Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn where they would be warm and safe. "Why don't they follow me?" He exclaimed. "Can't they see this is the only place where they can survive the storm?"

He thought for a moment and realized that they just wouldn't follow a human. "If only I were a goose, then I could save them," he said out loud. Then he had an idea. He went into the barn, got one of his own geese, and carried it in his arms as he circled around behind the flock. When his goose was released, it headed straight into the barn – and one by one the other geese followed it into safety. He stood silently for a moment as the words he had spoken a few minutes earlier replayed in his mind: "If only I were a goose,

I could save them!” Then he thought about what he had said to his wife earlier: “Why would God want to become like us? That’s ridiculous!” Suddenly, it all made sense. That is what God had done. We were like the geese – blind, lost, perishing. God had His Son become like us so He could show us the way and save us. That was the meaning of Christmas, he realized. As the winds and blinding snow died down, his soul became quiet and pondered this wonderful thought. Suddenly, he understood what Christmas was all about, why Christ had come. Years of doubt and disbelief vanished like the passing storm. He fell to his knees in the snow, and prayed his first prayer: “Thank You, God, for coming in human form to get me out of the storm!”

LET THE HEALING BEGIN IN YOUR LIFE! Jesus said: “Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” (Matt.11: 28) And that is exactly what we all need – God’s rest for our souls, peace for our minds, healing for our bodies, deliverance for our families and blessings for our nation! Christ is the answer to this sin-sick world and all of the hatred, bigotry, torment, fear, disease and perversion that is afflicting Adam’s fallen race! My prayer is that you will cry out to our Heavenly Father in Jesus’ precious name for mercy and forgiveness, peace and healing! My friend – Jesus Christ will save you and make you whole. Amen!