

The Gospel Beat

Volume II

October 2014

BEHOLD I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK



“If Anyone Hears My Voice And Opens The Door, I Will Come In To Him And Dine With Him, And He With Me.”

Rev. 3:20

INSIDE THE GOSPEL BEAT

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Adult Message (Willful Sin and Ignorant sin)	3
Trust	5
Freedom	6
Youth Message (The fall of Jericho)	7
Biblical Crossword Puzzle	9
Church Bulletin	11

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(WILLFUL SIN AND IGNORANT SIN) (Is There A Difference?)



Though *God* makes a difference between those who sin ignorance (*Not knowing it*) and those who sin willfully (**Numbers 15:27-31**), repentance is always necessary to receive forgiveness (**Mark 1:15; Acts 2:38; Acts 26:18**).

Repentance is a primary change in one's attitude about *God* and goes with the saving faith in *Jesus Christ* (**Acts 3:19; 20:21; 26:20**). Without it there can be no forgiveness. *Jesus* said, “*tell you, no! but unless you repent, you too will all perish*” (**Luke 13:3; 17:3-4; 2 Peter 3:9**).

To sin willfully is to go back to trusting ourselves rather than the blood of *Christ* for our forgiveness (**Hebrews 10:26; Hebrews 6:4-6**). However, sinning in ignorance is not excusable, either: “So I tell you this, and insist on it, in the *Lord*, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of *God* because of the ignorance that is in them due to hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to a sinful kind of life as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.” (**Ephesians 4:17-19**).

Those who crucified *Christ* sinned in ignorance, yet they were still held responsible for their actions. *Jesus*, while hanging on the cross, prayed, “*Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do*” (**Luke 23:34**). However, of all those who were present at *Christ's* crucifixion, only one accepted *His* forgiveness, along with *His* salvation (**Luke 23:43**).

Jesus had the power to forgive all the evil people gathered around *His* cross and make them right with *God*, but the only person who repented was one of the criminals on a cross beside *Him*. Forgiveness is available for all, but we leave it to *God's* sovereign grace to cause the transgressor to truly repent in order to be pardoned (**Ephesians 2:4**). Those who reject *Jesus* and *His* gospel in ignorance must accept *Him* in repentance in order to receive forgiveness of their sins (**Luke 17:3**).

People are not as ignorant as they claim, however. No one can be totally ignorant of *God*, and no one has an excuse to live in disobedience. The Apostle Paul said, “For the wrath of *God* is revealed from heaven against ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

For what can be known about *God* is plain to them, because *God* has made it plain to them. Since the creation of the world *God’s* invisible qualities, *His* eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse” (**Romans 1:18-20**).

Though we may at times sin in ignorance, we can always be assured of God’s forgiveness. The Apostle Paul is a classic example of this truth: “Though I was once a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief” (**1 Timothy 1:13**).

Those who willfully and habitually sin, Peter makes it clear that: “If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our *Lord* and *Savior Jesus Christ* and are again caught up in it and overcome, they are worst off at the end than they were in the beginning. It would be better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment passed on to them. (**2 Peter 2:20-21**)

John gives us the bottom line when it comes to forgiveness: “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (**1 John 2:20-21**)

The Deacon

(Trust)

Sometimes God will glorify Himself by the way you and I lean on Him and trust Him through our suffering and hardships. At other times, He will glorify Himself by simply removing those things.

He doesn't always say no, and He doesn't always say wait. Sometimes He steps in immediately, bringing help, wisdom, comfort, and provision.

Situations such as the loss of a job, a sick child, or the death of a loved one present challenges to our faith where we may find it hard to trust God. Of course we know on an intellectual basis that we should trust God. However, when our backs are up against the wall, when we don't know what to do next, or when we feel like giving up, the practical aspects of trusting God can be difficult.

We may think, "Sure, I am trusting God." But can we truly trust God and worry about the outcome at the same time? When we panic, there is something inside of us that is screaming, "This is wrong!" We may not want to admit it, but in these moments we are not trusting God. We feel that something is wrong and it needs to be corrected, immediately! Usually, after we have spent much time and energy, we come to grips with what happened. We may not like it, but we end up seeing God's goodness in the situation. Our testimony becomes, "God brought us out. He is our Deliverer."

When we are experiencing trying situations, what if we could fast forward in our minds to that place where we come to grips with our situation and we trust God? What if we, in the midst of our circumstances, decide that we are going to trust God AND NOT WORRY about the outcome? That would be great, you may be thinking. But how do we get there. The answer is found in the second part of our scripture for today; "Lean not unto thine own understanding." The reason we worry and panic is because, according to our understanding, the situation is wrong and it is bad. It does not make sense to our understanding when "wrong" and "bad" things happen to us, particularly if we are God's children.

Part of our problem is that we do see the big picture, but God does. We cannot begin to understand how the loss of an innocent life could be part of God's plan, or how broken relationships and heartache are part of God's purpose for our lives. The truth of the matter is, we may never understand. We are not asked to understand God, we are asked to trust Him.

Let us pray this prayer, Lord, help me to trust You in every of my life. I want to trust You in the good times as well as the bad times. Help me to not depend so much on my understanding but to depend on Your love for me, in Jesus name , Amen.

Submitted by Angie Thomas

FREEDOM

It is evident that ... in most cases that the very thing that you lean upon... your crutch, ... must be laid down in order to gain your Freedom.

Exodus 4:3-5 New International Version (NIV)

3 The LORD said, “Throw it on the ground.”

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. **4** Then the LORD said to him, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. **5** “This,” said the LORD, “is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you.”

Freedom is grabbing your circumstances by the tail knowing that God has given you Knowledge (complete control) over the very thing that you run from , that keeps you captive.

The LORD said, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.”

Deuteronomy 1:21 King James Version (KJV)

..... go up and possess it, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged.

K. Tyiska

(The Fall of Jericho)

After leading the Hebrew people out of Egypt, and guiding them in the wilderness for forty long years, Moses died. *The Lord* said to Joshua, “*As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. You must lead these people so they can take the land I promised their fathers.*”

Joshua told all the leaders of the people to prepare to cross the Jordan river. “Get your supplies ready. In three days the *Lord* will help us to capture this land.” Then Joshua sent out two spies to look closely at the city of Jericho.

Inside the city, the men met a woman named Rahab, she hid them in her house when the king’s guards came by. She gave them information about Jericho. In return, the Hebrew spies promised to protect her family when Joshua and his soldiers captured the city. Rahab tied a rope out of her window so the men could escape without being seen. They crossed back over the river to report to Joshua.

“Joshua, the people on the other side are afraid of us.” The spies said. They told him about Rahab. “Rahab says everyone in Jericho knows that the *Lord* is with us. She says the men in Jericho are afraid to fight us. Surely the *Lord* has given us this land!”

It was a great day for the Hebrew. After forty years of wandering in the wilderness, the *Lord* led them at last to the banks of the banks of the Jordan river. Over on the other side, the Promised Land, the land of milk and honey! With Joshua in the lead, the people crossed over the river into land that *God* so long ago had promised would be theirs.

They stopped to worship and sing praises to the *Lord*. As Joshua finished his prayers, he looked up to see a man with a sword standing in front of him. “Are you a friend or an enemy?” Joshua asked.

“Neither,” the man replied. I have come to command the *Lord’s* army. Take off your sandals. The place where you are standing is holy.” Joshua realized this man was an angel sent from *God*. “Does the *Lord* have a command for me, his servant?” he asked.

The angel told him that the Hebrew people were to capture and destroy the great walled city of Jericho. “Joshua, gather all your fighting men. At the front, place priests carrying trumpets. March around Jericho one time every day.

Do this for six days. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times. On that day, the priests will blow the trumpets, the men will shout, and the walls of Jericho will fall!”

Early the next morning, the Hebrew soldiers lined up behind the priests. Silently, they marched outside the city. Tramp, tramp, tramp. Inside the walls, the people of Jericho were puzzled. Why did these strange soldiers march without making a sound? Tramp, tramp, tramp.

The people grew more nervous. Were these men going to attack? The king of Jericho ordered the gates closed and placed more guards around the city. Tramp, tramp, tramp. Six days of silent marching passed, and each day the people of Jericho became more worried.

The seventh day dawned. The Hebrew soldiers were ready to march at the first gleam of sunlight. Around Jericho six times they had marched. Tramp, tramp, tramp! The seventh time around, Joshua cried, “Shout, men, shout! For the **Lord** has given us this city!”

The men stood and shouted with all their might. The priests blew their trumpets until they had no breath left, and the thick stone walls of the city of Jericho crumbled like a clay pot. Inside, people screamed and ran, leaving everything behind them. Rahab, the woman who helped the spies was right. Most of the men of Jericho did not stay to fight. The Hebrews followed, and easily defeated the few who remained.

The **Lord** ordered Joshua and his men to burn everything in the city of Jericho. Only things made of silver, bronze, gold, or iron were saved as gifts to **God**. Of all the people in Jericho, Rahab and her family were allowed to live, because of the help she gave Joshua’s spies.

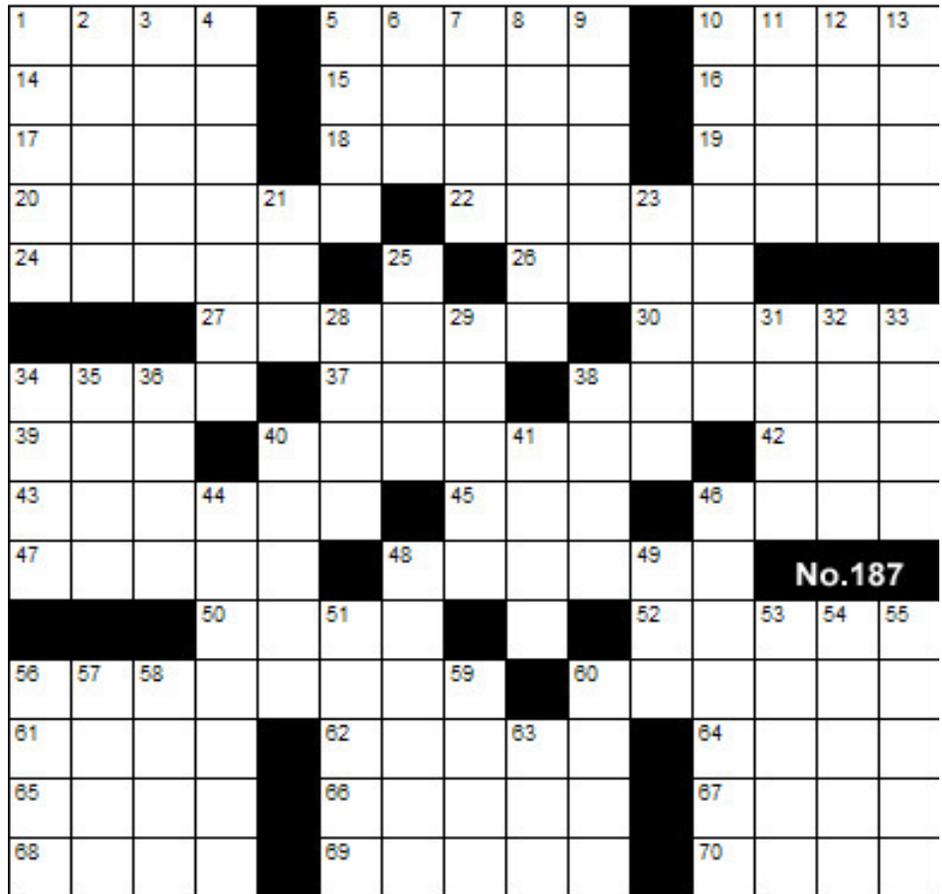
The next story is about ***Strength from the Lord***.

The Deacon

Biblical Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. the ____, and the pelican, and the gier eagle (Lev 11:18) (KJV)
5. a shelter from the storm and a ____ from the heat (Isa 25:4)
10. eyes of the LORD, which ____ to and fro throughout (Zech 4:10)NKJV
14. the priest took a chest, and bored a ____ in the lid of it (2 King 12:9)
15. He has delivered us from such a deadly ____ (2 Cor 1:10)
16. by the Spirit, not by the written ____ (Rom 2:29)
17. And Israel vowed ____ unto the LORD (1,3) (Num 21:2)
18. The Lord, the righteous Judge, will ____ to me on that day(2 Tim 4:8)
19. formed a mob and started a ____ in the city (Acts 17:5)
20. Jacobs first born son (Gen 29:32)
22. for your ____ do more harm than good (1 Cor 11:17)
24. God did not ____ her with wisdom (Job 39:17)
26. ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's ____ (Isaiah 1:3)
27. ____ the devil, and he will flee from you (James 4:7)
30. you as a father ____ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34. gathering his wheat into the ____ (Matt 3:12)
37. And I said, "Here ____ Send me!" (2,1) (Isa 6:8)
38. with a blue cord on each ____ (Num 15:38)



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39. Because thou saidst, ____, against my sanctuary (Ezek 25:3)KJV
40. criticism of the way we administer this ____ gift (2 Cor 8:20)
42. The law of the wise ____ fountain of life (2,1) (Prov 13:14)
43. decomposed (James 5:2)
45. for a ____ and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem (Isa 8:14) KJV
46. For my yoke is ____ and my burden is light (Matt 11:30)
47. the whole herd rushed down the ____ bank into the lake (Matt 8:32)
48. I ____ that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy (Rom 8:18) KJV
50. the inscription that was written: MENE , ____, TE-KEL,PARSIN (Dan 5:25)
52. the love of God (Gr.)
56. Let death take my enemies by ____ (Ps 55:15)
60. went up thither to the ____ altar before the LORD (2 Chron 1:6) KJV
61. the darkness is passing and the ____ light is already shining (I Jn 2:8)
62. The LORD descended to the top of Mount ____ and called Moses (Exod 19:20)

No.187

- 64.** ___ your sword upon your side, O mighty one (Ps 45:3)
65. The owl will nest there and lay ___ (Isa 34:15)
66. you ___ the tongue of the crafty (Job 15:5)
67. the ax is dull and its ___ unsharpened (Eccl 10:10)
68. When you see a cloud rising in the ___, immediately you say (Luke 12:54)
69. Foxes have holes and birds of the air have ___ (Matt 8:20)
70. cleanse the lepers, raise the ___, cast out devils (Matt 10:8)

DOWN

- 1.** Come and ___ your master's happiness (Matt 25:21)
2. This garment was seamless, ___ in one piece from top to (John 19:23)
3. Cry ___, spare not, lift up thy voice (Isa 58:1) KJV
4. Like ___ babies, crave pure spiritual milk (1 Peter 2:2)
5. the length thereof, and a ___ shall be the breadth thereof (Exod 28:16)
6. ___ down the tree, and cut off his branches (Daniel 4:14)
7. Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
8. ___ my footsteps according to your word (Ps 119:133)
9. It was said unto her, The ___ shall serve the younger (Romans 9:12)
10. Some of the Levites were secretaries, ___ and doorkeepers (2 Chron 34:13)

- 11.** Show me the ___ used for paying the tax (Matt 22:19)
12. said to David, "Am I ___ ___, that you come at me (1,3) (1 Sam 17:43)
13. who also were in the ship mending their ___ (Mark 1:19)
21. one ___ lamb of the first year without blemish (Lev 14:10)
23. Kedorlaomer king of Elam and ___ king of Goiim (Gen 14:1)
25. Part of the body (Judg 19:29)
28. "Be quiet!" ___ Jesus sternly (Mark 1:25-26)
29. The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year (II Ki 25:2)
31. we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of ___ (Acts 27:2)
32. I am ___ than the least of all God's people (Eph 3:8)
33. and some of them they shall ___ and persecute (Luke 11:49)
34. and putting its doors and bolts and ___ in place (Neh 3:15)
35. consciences have been seared as with ___ ___ iron. (1,3) (1 Tim 4:2)
36. the people shall go out and gather a certain ___ every day (Exodus 16:4)
38. A large vessel for holding liquids
40. the home of a man known as Simon the ___ (Matt 26:6)

- 41.** You will be made ___ in every way so that you can be generous (2 Cor 9:11)
44. my place of shelter, far from the ___ and storm (Ps 55:8)
46. who is this that ___ his heart to approach unto me (Jer 30:21)
48. Lodge in, dwell (Job 38:19)
49. And all that handle the ___, the mariners (Ezek 27:29)
51. In the first month, that is, the month ___. (Esth 3:7)
53. away from the truth and turn ___ to myths. (2 Tim 4:4)
54. Paul and his companions sailed to ___ in Pamphylia (Acts 13:13)
55. So he ___ their days in futility (Ps 78:33)
56. Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil ___ (Gen 25:34)
57. the Pharisees began to ___ him vehemently (Luke 11:53)
58. floor coverings (Isa 21:5)
59. son of Seth (Gen 4:26) KJV
60. we put ___ into the mouths of horses to make them obey (James 3:3)
63. A man finds joy in giving an ___ reply (Prov 15:23)

Open Door Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship

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Gail Roberts - House, Pastor

Sunday Worship Service 9:30AM

Monday II Samuel 6:14 Liturgical Dance Ministry 6:00pm

1st & 3rd Tuesday Leadership Council Meeting 7:00pm

Wednesday Intercessory Prayer 6:00pm
Hour of Power Word Study 6:30pm
Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:30pm

Thursday TGIF Prayer 5:45am
Call 712-432-3066 Access Code 665579

2nd Saturday Food Ministry Meeting 12:30pm

2nd & 4th Saturday Food Distribution 11:00am

3rd Saturday Men Ministry 9:00am

3rd Saturday Women Ministry 10:00am

3rd Sunday Men Ministry Meeting 11:30am

1st Saturday Shepherd's Care Ministry 12:00pm

4th Thursday Youth and Adult Ministry 7:00pm

4th Saturday Ushers Ministry Meeting 12:30pm

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Trustee Ministry Trustee Phyllis Davis 766-1041

