# Words of Life News

Volume 25 Number 3 May—June 2018

### Free Will: Christ Crucified

In Gethsemane Jesus practiced free-will, (Matt. 26:36-46). In His great love for us He chose the way of the cross. Because of His great love we can choose to follow His example. Or, we can choose to ignore His example.

Shortly after creation, the human heart chose to sin, (Genesis (3:1-13). From the time of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden the heart of man has chosen to rebel against the commands of God, (Genesis 6:5 NIV) "The Lord saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time."

Later God spoke of Israel, His Chosen People, through Isaiah (29:13, NIV), "These people ... honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. Their worship of Me is made up only of rules taught by men."

God adds in Romans (3:23), "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." That spiritual rebellion continues today, (II Timothy 3:1-5).

The world-wide spiritual rebellion calls all blood-bought believers to focus on saving lost souls from eternal punishment. Many Bible-believing Christians seem to have forgotten the Great Commission of Jesus, "Go, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matt. 28:18-20). The world needs the offer of salvation in the message of Jesus Christ crucified and Bible-believing Godfearing Followers of Jesus need desire and courage to live and to share that message with the sinful and rebellious world, (I Corinthians 15:1-8).

The challenge: The lifestyle of the world and of many religious groups, emphasizes that neither group is interested in the message of Jesus Christ crucified. Many religious bodies flaunt their rebellion against God's authority by accepting the blasphemous conduct of the world and calling it worship.

But God requires more than mere repetition of memorized religious chants and rituals. God requires a changed heart-attitude toward His Word.

Salvation comes to the individual whose heart confesses its sinfulness and chooses to yield to the Lordship of God. In the obedience of baptism God gives His Holy Spirit to live in [indwell] each believer, (Acts 2:38).

The greatest need of all true believers is to get serious about saving lost souls; to adopt the attitude of Paul as he explains to the Corinthians, "For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified, (I Cor. 2:2). This same Paul said, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some," (I Cor. 9:19-23).

Paul's emphasis is critically important. The lost world needs the blood of Jesus and we are responsible for sharing that good news with them. Because without the forgiveness of sins all religious activity is worthless, (Matt. 7:21-23).

continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

Paul encourages the Corinthians and us, to do a personal self-check of our spiritual awareness. Where should we be as servants of The Most high God? (II Cor. 13:5 & Hebrews 5:11-14).

To help us remain vigilant Jesus records examples of churches that became careless in their walk with God. He found problems in five of the seven churches in Revelation 2 & 3: Ephesus had forsaken its first love; Pergamum had people who held the teachings of Balaam and of the Nicolaitans; Thyatira tolerated Jezebel, who called herself a prophetess; Sardis had a reputation of being alive, but was dead; Laodicea was neither cold nor hot.

To each of these churches Jesus gave an "either / or" choice. Free will required that they choose between obedience to the God of heaven or rejecting Him and receiving their choice – an eternity in utter darkness cut off from the Light that is Jesus The Christ.

Jesus warns and encourages true believers to cling to the God of promise and to meditate on His promises: (I Thessalonians 4:13-18); (Hebrews 13:5); (II Peter 3:13).

God's promises are our greatest blessings. Because He promised, we can refuse to compromise with the world; We can rejoice in suffering for His name's sake; rejoice in anticipating His coming and rejoice in longing for His new heaven and new earth, the home of righteousness, (Rev. 21:1-8).

Our mission, as we wait His coming: To worship God and to share His gospel with lost souls. Amen.

Even so, Come Lord Jesus!

**Buford Smith** 

#### Letters from Africa

I thank you for your good works in bringing to us this programme, Words of Life" on Radio Africa each week.

I am so thankful for your inspiring messages which is doing very much for some lost souls to come to Christ.

Thanks you and God bless you.

Rev. Alex Afjey Akpor, World Evang. Ministry, P. O. Box TN10, Teshe-Nungus, Fst, Accra—Ghana 5/18/18

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. I have been listening to your programme for a long time, which has enabled me to receive salvation, and strengthen my faith.

It's a pleasure to listen to direct truth about the prophecies of God that you taught in these. I thank God that you preach it without hiding any truth.

Please send me a Holy Bible and Christian Literature and DVD video of the sermon and any useful books.

I hope to hear from you soon. May God bless you always.

Uche Ogar, c/o G-Eli, 1 of U Doctor Rd., Okitipupa, Ondo State, Nigeria.

#### Letters from Africa

Thank you for helping me to understand the Word better by listening to "Words of Life" programme on the Radio Africa network.

I am so blessed whenever I listen to this broadcast, and I thank the Lord for bringing you to our homes with this powerful and inspiring message. The broadcast gives me food for thought and encourages me.

God bless you always, and hope to hear from you. Rev. Alex Adjei Akpor, World Evangelism Ministry, P. O. Box TN10 Teshie-Nungua Est, Accra Ghana, Jan 10, 2018

Thank you a lot for regularly coming to our homes with this programme—Words of Life—on Radio Africa has greatly transformed my life.

This is a God inspired programme with a deep and heart rendering messages for those who are hungry for a closer walk with the Lord.

God bless you all.

Mr. Nathan Tawiah Oku, P. O. Box KN 3765, Kaneshie, Accra, Ghana, W. Africa, January 15, 2018

I cannot express to you enough just what Words of Life means to me and my daily walk with the Lord.

The messages inspire me very much as I continue listening to your broadcast through Radio Africa.

God bless you and thank you.

Bro. Eric M. N. Duah, P. O. Box AN19081, Accra-North, Ghana, West Africa, February 17, 2018

May our Lord Jesus Christ bless you for your faithfulness in bringing us His wonderful Word each week through Words of Life on Radio Africa.

May God continue to use you to bring more souls for His kingdom.

Bro. Nathan Oku Tawiah, P. O. Box KN 3765, Kaneshe-Accra, Ghana, West Africa May 10, 2018

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Radio Messages

Speaker—David Johnson unless indicated otherwise.

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Prog.#	Date	Title
18-19	05/13/18	Hannah Was Praying
18-20	05/20/18	The Son of the Living God
18-21	05/27/18	David Fought Them
18-22	06/03/18	Miraculous Signs
18-23	06/10/18	The Aroma of Christ
18-24	06/17/18	What Our Fathers Have Told Us
18-25	06/24/18	The Name of JESUS
18-26	07/01/18	Longing for a Better Country
18-27	07/08/18	My Ğuilt
18-28	07/15/18	Peace Be With You
18-29	07/22/18	The Holy City
18-30	07/29/18	The City of Pure Gold
18-31	08/05/18	The Tree of Life
18-32	08/12/18	See HIS face

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