

Message for Tuesday April 14, 1987

Goodmorning, This is R.V. Gibbs again. Yesterday I spoke about the Triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Sunday before His crucifixion on Friday.

The Jewish governing body, the Sanhedrin had decided that the only way to stop Jesus was to put Him to death. They hated Him because He had exposed their Hypocrisy before the people. They met to devise their strategy of how to go about it. The forms of justice would have to be gone through; and besides Jesus evidently enjoyed an immense popularity among the stranger who filled the city. What might not the idle crowd do if He were arrested before their eyes? It was necessary to devise a plan so as not to bring the wrath of the people upon them. While they were deciding a plan they received a most unexpected and gratifying surprise. One of His own disciples appeared and offered to betray Him for a price.

Judas Iscariot is the byword of the human race In his Vision of Hell, Dante has placed him in the lowest of the circles of the damned, as the sole sharer with Satan himself of the very uttermost punishment: Yet he was not such a monster of iniquity as to be utterly beyond comprehension or even sympathy. He had joined the discipleship of Jesus, as the other apostles did, in the hope of taking part in a political revolution and occupying a distinguished place in an earthly kingdom. It is inconceivable that Jesus would have made him an apostle if there had not at one time been some noble enthusiasm in him, and some attachment to Himself. That he was a man of superior energy and administrative ability may be inferred from the fact that he was made the purse-bearer of the apostolic company. But there was a canker at the root of his character, which gradually absorbed all that was excellent in him and became a tyrannical passion. This was the love of money. Preaching and healing seemed to him a waste of time; the purity and unworldliness of Jesus irritated him; why did He not bring on the kingdom at once, and then preach as much as He chose afterwards! At last he began to suspect that there was to be no kingdom such as he had hoped for at all. He felt that he had been deceived, and began not only to despise but even hate his Master.

The failure of Jesus to take advantage of the disposition of the people on Palm Sunday finally convinced him that it was useless to hold on to the cause any longer. He saw that the ship was sinking and resolved to get out of it. He carried out his resolution in such a way as both to gratify his master-passion and secure the favor of the authorities. His offer came to them just at the right moment. They closed with it greedily, and, having arranged the price with the miserable man, sent him away to find a convenient opportunity for the betrayal.

Christianity has no more precious possession than the memory of Jesus during the week when He stood face to face with death. Unspeakably great as He always was, it may be reverently said that He was never so great as during those days of suffering. All that was grandest and all that was most tender, the most human and the most divine aspects of His character, were brought out as they had never been before.

He came to Jerusalem well aware that He was about to die. For a whole year the fact had been staring Him constantly in the face, and the long-looked-for had come at last. He knew it was His Father's will, and, when the hour arrived, He bent His steps with determination to the fatal spot. It was not, however, without a terrible conflict of feelings; the ebb and flow of the most diverse emotions- anguish and ecstasy, the most prolonged and crushing depression, the most triumphant joy and the most majestic peace swayed Him like the moods of a vast ocean.

In the evenings of this week He went out to Bethany; but in all probability He spent most of the nights alone in the open air. He was terribly alone. The whole world was against Him. Jerusalem panting for His life with passionate hate, the tens of thousands from the provinces turned from Him in disappointment. Not one even of His apostles, not even John, was in the least aware of the real situation or able to be the confident of His thoughts. The cause He had inaugurated must not die. It was for the whole world,

and was to endure through all generations and visit every part of the globe. But after His departure it would be left in the hands of His apostles, who were now showing themselves so weak, unsympathetic and ignorant. Were they fit for the task? Had not one of them turned out a traitor? Would not the cause, when He was gone, so perhaps the tempter whispered, go to wreck, and ruin and all His far-reaching plans for the regeneration of the world vanish like the baseless fabric of a vision?

Yet He^s was not alone. Among the deep shadows of the gardens and upon the summits of Olivet, He sought the unfailing resource of other and less troubled days, and found it still in His dire need. His Father was with Him; and, pouring out supplications with strong crying and tears, He was heard in that He feared. He hushed His spirit with the sense that His Father's perfect love and wisdom were appointing all that was happening to Him, and that He was glorifying His Father and fulfilling the work given Him to do.

This could banish every fear, and fill Him with a joy unspeakable and full of glory.

At last the end drew very near. The Thursday evening arrived, when in every house in Jerusalem the Passover was eaten. Jesus also with the Twelve sat down to eat it. He knew that it was His last night on earth, and that this was His farewell meeting with His own. Happily there has been preserved to us a full account of it, ^{with} every Christian mind is familiar. It was the greatest evening in His life. His soul overflowed in indescribable tenderness and grandeur. Some shadows indeed fell across His spirit in the earlier hours of the evening; but they soon passed; and throughout the evening the washing of the disciples' feet, the eating of the Passover, the institution of the Lord's Supper, the farewell address, and the great high-priestly prayer, the whole glory of His character shone out. He completely resigned Himself to the genial impulses of friendship. His love to His own flowing forth without limit; and, as if He had forgotten all their imperfections, He rejoiced in the anticipation of their future successes and the triumph^s of His cause. Not a shadow intercepted His view of the face of His Father or dimmed the satisfaction with which He looked on His own work just about to be completed, but the scene quickly changed as they rose from the table at midnight and passed through the streets and out of the town by the eastern gate of the city, and crossing the Kedron, reached a well-known place where He liked to pray at the foot of Olivet, the garden of Gethsemane. Here he went through the most awful and memorable Agony. It was the final access of the mood of depression which had been struggling all the week with the mood of joy and trust whose culmination had been reached at the supper table. It was the final onset of temptation, from which His life had never been free.

"Wait here while I pray." Jesus said quietly. The disciples were puzzled, but obediently they looked around for a place to sit on the grass. Before Peter, James, and John could be seated, Jesus beckoned to them. They followed Him among the old olive trees. Jesus turned to them. "My heart is filled with grief," He said. "Stay here and watch." Peter, James, and John sat down to wait. Jesus went a little farther into the olive grove. Falling to the ground. He began to pray. "Father, if there is another way, show it to Me. But whatever happens, I want your will, not Mine, to be done." As he thought about what would happen soon, Jesus poured out His heart to His Father. He knew that on the Cross He would carry the sins of the whole world even though He had never committed sin. As He prayed, sweat mingled with blood ran down His face. At last Jesus decided to speak with His friends. But when He went back to the place He had left them, He found the three men asleep. "Wake up!" Jesus said. "Watch and pray, so that when temptation comes, you will not fail." Jesus knew the trial the disciples would soon go through. The men shook themselves awake and began to pray. Jesus went back to the place where He had been praying and prayed again. Three times He went back to see His disciples but everytime He found them asleep. However, His struggle ended in a complete victory. While the poor disciples were sleeping away the hours of preparation for the crisis which was at hand. He had thoroughly equipped Himself for it; He had fought down the last remnants of temptation; The bitterness of death was past; and He was able to go through the scenes which followed with a calmness which nothing could ruffle, and a majesty which converted His trial and crucifixion into the pride and glory of humanity.

Dear friends that's all the time for today. in closing lets listen to the Swedish singer
Viola Ortegren Meyers.

W L B Q Dec. 31, 1982

not used
Dec 28, 1984

A MESSAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR

you

This is the last day of 1982 and this will be my last message to on the Radio this year. I don't know who all has been listening this week but I trust it has been a blessing to you. If we have failed God this past year, we cannot go back, but we need to look to Jesus and ask Him to help us not to fail again. If we will trust Him he will lead us safely all the way

The apostle Paul has a scripture for us this morning: Philippians 3:10-14. " That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Verse 13 says "Forgetting those things which are behind" In order for us to be at our best for God there are somethings we must forget: First of all ^{we} need to forget injustices done to ^{you} you. You may have been mistreated and falsely accused but just remember Jesus was too and ^{you} you are not greater than the Lord. He was wrongly accused, serverely abused and mistreated but he said "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." He was so busy trying to help others that He didn't have time to waste trying to fight back. The religious leaders did everything they could to find ~~###~~ fault with him and trick him in his words., But Jesus went everywhere having compassion on the people and going about doing good. What a wonderful example for us to follow. As Christian workers we have to expect persecutions. Jesus said "All that live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." We all like to have all men speak well of us but know matter how good you are there will be some people that will give you a hard time, because they are led by their father the devil and his job is to accuse the brethern day and night. Let us follow the example of Jesus who even when hanging on the cross saved a poor thief hanging beside him. The apostle Paul had a wonderful spirit of forgetting wrongs done to him and reaching out to the needs of others. But some people say well I will forgive but I can't forget. Let me say this, we remember what we dwell on in our mind. There are some things that may be hard for us to understand and it may take some effort on our part to forget, but it can be done by Godsgrace to the extent that it doesnt bother us any more and we don't wastetime and energy mulling over it in our mind. The fact of the matter is we must forgive and forget if we want to have a healthy mind spirit and body. Harboring injustices and grudges brings about self destruction.

We need to forget to feel sorry for ourself. The Devil harps on this tune all the time. Like a song we heard severl years ago, "Sing me one of those some one done ~~#####~~ SOMEBODY WRONG songs". Feeling sorry for your self has wrecked more homes and Churches than anything I know of. Not only that but it has made the the person who feels sorry very unhappy and depressed. If we will think of the needs of others more we will have less time to pity ourselves.

^{NEED} We ned to forget past failures, it's true we learn by our failures, but we can also be defeated by our failures. Many great men and women have had lots of failures but have not let them get them down. Thomas Edison, while working to make an electric light bulb filiment tried a thousand different materials before he found the right substance. One of the men who worked with him asked him why he didn't quit, he said well ~~###~~ I have tried all these things that haven't worked so now we are closer to succeeding than we were when we started. His secret for success was, lots of hard work and courage to not give up. Some things about this past year may have seemed to you a complete loss but tommorrow will be a new day and a new yoear

We need to forget to doubt and fear. Jesus said many times fear not. Remember if God be for us, who can be against us. There is nothing to fear if God is on our side, and He is on our side if we love and obey Him. Doubt and fear brings unbelief and unbelief brings sin.

Jesus said to his disciples, Why are ye so fearful how is it that ye have no faith. He also said "Without faith it is impossible to please God. We can be so paralyzed by fear that it is impossible to work or enjoy life at all.

Now there is something ^{ELSE} wise Paul brings out in this passage of scripture, in verse 14 he says "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Here he points out that we can't live in the past we must keep pressing on as the song we often sing says, "I'm pressing on the upward way, new heights I'm gaining every day, still praying as I onward bound, Lord plant my feet on higher ground. My soul has no desire to stay, where doubts arise and fears dismay, though some may dwell where these abound My prayer my aim is higher ground. Lord lift me up and let me stand, by faith on heavens table land, a higher plain than I have found, Lord plant my feet on higher ground." Yes there are several ways we need to keep pressing on toward the Glory land.

^{NEED} We need to press on in greater faith, as I said before, The Bible says "Without faith it is impossible to please God. Jesus said," According to your faith so be it unto you. and "All things are possible to him that believeth." In 1983, our faith should be stronger and better than it was in 1982 we need to keep pressing on and believe God for faith brings the victory.

Also we need to press on in love and devotion, In the 13 ch. of I Cor. Paul writes, about many things that will fail but he says Love never faileth. We may not have as much natural ability as other people have, but we all can show love to God and others, Real love for others is what has the best results in winning others to the Lord, without real love we are sounding brass or a tinkling sycle. In order to have this Godly love we must spend time in prayer and meditation with the Lord. Only God can help us to love others as we should.

The last way I want to mention we should keep pressing on is in greater sacrifice for the Lord and his gospel. Romans ch. 12 says we are to present our bodies a living sacrifice wholly acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service. How much have you really sacrificed for the Lord this past year. So many people want God to do great things for them but they never seem to realize that Gods work suffers unless they are willing to give of their time, ~~talents~~ talents and money for the precious gospel. God has promised that if we would give to him he would bless us abundantly.

Lets make this the best year we have ever had by obeying God and letting him lead us every step of the way. We know not what the future holds, but we know god holds the future. and we know that all things will work together for our good if we love and obey him praise His wonderful name!

Let us pray, Dear Lord, bless each listener today and may they find joy and satisfaction in serving you this new year. Help to find higher heights and deeper depth in the Lord than they have ever know before. May this year truly be a year of victory and blessing we ask in Jesus name Amen.

(He touched me)
The Power of God's touch.)

We all have experienced the, the
good feeling of a hand touching us.
as a boy when I was sick my
mother would lay her hand on my
forehead and say, "you have a fever,"
that touch told me she was going to
do something about it. She often
put wet clothes on my head. I knew
my mother loved me.

Ilust. Holding hands with my girl friend.
a Romantic love.

The touch of God.
Examples creation,

Breeding the 5 000, 00 5 loaves and
2 fishes. Jesus touch supplies human
need.
widow who had lost her son.
Jesus touched the bier and raised
him to life.

Blind Bartimaeus.
The women who touched the
hem of his garment.

SIN
THE HISTORY OF SIN

Goodmorning, this is R.V. Gibbs coming to you through the courtesy of W L B Q and the Butler County Ministerial Association.

The last time I was on the devotional time it was Spring, in April, the birds were coming, singing and building their nests, now it is fall and the birds songs have ceased the young have long since flown from their nests and the sings of winter are everywhere. I like to speak to you about pleasant things, Gods' love, the beauties and wonders of nature and such but I feel God would have me speak on a very ugly subject that effects the whole world today like a terrible plague.

There is something in the world that God never made; something that is a disturbing element; that is rebellious against His kingdom and government; that is not subject to the law of God. ~~It is not subject to the law of God.~~ It is the cause of every sorrow, every heartache, every disappointment, every defeat of righteousness, and is at the bottom of most of the world's difficulties. It made a devil out of an archangel; it crucified God's only begotten Son; and that something, God, in His infinite wisdom, is pleased to call S_I_N, sin.

You and I have never seen a world like God made; all that our poor eyes have ever been privileged to look upon has suffered from the curse of the dreadful disease of sin. We have never seen a man as God originally made him. All the human family we have ever seen has been cursed by sin. They are subject to aches and pains, distorted by disease, bent by age, and are destined soon to wither and die.

When God made the world, He made it pure and holy; man was holy; hence the world was happy. Man walked in sweet fellowship with his Maker, and enjoyed the smile of his Creator. There was no antagonism; nothing foul nor unclean; no friction in all of God's creation; nothing grating nor discordant. The world was at peace, and all creation in loving harmony. The land indeed was delightful; its valleys were carpeted with velvet green, and its hillsides were decked with beautiful, thornless vegetation; every tree that grew in its fertile soil was pleasant to look upon, while trees whose fruits were good for food grew in abundance. The tree of "the knowledge of good and evil" grew in the midst of this Eden Paradise.

At this period in our world's history, you might have sought from the end of the earth to the other for misery, pain or guilt, and found only holiness, happiness and harmony. But it did not long remain in this state. It was soon invaded by a subtle and powerful foe; and by one man, we are told in the Bible, sin entered into the world, and death by sin and so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12).

Sin undoubted had its existence before the foundation of the world. Somewhere out in the great eternity sin evidently had its origin. As far as we know Satan became the first being to commit sin. His sin was trying to be equal with God. As a result of His pride he caused a third of the angels to sin and there was war in heaven. He and a third of the angels were cast out by God.

The Scripture reveals the fact that Satan encountered Adam and Eve in the Garden, and succeeded in beguiling them into disobedience. So by the disobedience of this man, sin entered the sacred precincts of the beautiful Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve were driven from their happy abode; the beautiful Garden became a place of thorns and thistles; the earth, which had enjoyed the smile of its Creator, was now blackened by the curse of sin; and in less than fifteen hundred years, owing to the increased spirit of disobedience, God was compelled to destroy with one great flood all that He had made.

Today every cold wintry blast, every terrific storm, every volcanic eruption, every barren field, every tearing briar, all combine in awful accusation against man and his unholy deeds. Every breaking heart, every distorted frame racked with pain, every disappointed life, every defeated soul owes all its sorrow to sin.

One writer, speaking of sin and its origin, says, "Sin is an immense river running through the secret channels of hell; it broke out upon this world in the Garden of Eden. Ever enlarging this river flows on around the world; no flowers grow on its banks; no foliage waves beside its murky tide; everlasting lightning pencils every angry wave, and hell's terrific thunders bound from bank to bank with awful crash. Surely no one would visit this awful place; but, alas! its shores are lined from source to mouth with human wretches. ~~They are bound to~~

They crowd to plunge into the fearful tide; all sexes, all colors, all conditions, all classes.

It is an established fact that sin is here. It is not a theory, not a fancy, not an allegory, but an awful, indisputable fact. Laugh at it all you will, deny it all you will yet its fruits are manifest daily in an indisputable manner. If there is no such thing as sin, what is it that has redeened the earth with crime: If there is no sin, what is it that causes that vast army of one hundred thousand men every year to fill drunkards' graves and an alcoholic hell; and to go to the dreadful judgment to meet that God who has said, "No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God"? If there is no sin, from whence does all the wars, strife, contention, hatred proceed. Reason all you will, sin is here both in principle and practice. It stalks through our streets at mid-day, and mows down its victims by countless thousands, victims who are helpless to resist its power. As light is universal, though some may deny it, so sin is universal, though we may dispute and deny its existence. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). And as the apostle writes to the Ephesians, we "are all by nature the children of wrath" (Eph. 2:3), not by a long life of transgression, but by nature.

So we see that sin is a universal, inherent disease, coming to all of Adam's posterity through the offense in the Garden of Eden. Paul in writing to the Romans, says, "Therefore as by the offense of one, Judgment came upon all men to condemnation" (Rom. 5:18), and "by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned" (Rom 5:12). And by grace we are separated from the devil and joined to God, so by sin we are separated from God and joined to the devil. Sin is no legitimate part of our being; it is a poisonous malady, a fungus growth, an abnormal condition, a parasite of the soul, a moral deformity planted in our common father Adam, through his transgression, and inherited by all his posterity.

Of all the afflictions upon earth, there is none equal in gravity to the plague of sin upon the soul. What cancer is to the body, sin is to the soul, and more. It is more terrible in its results than aids. Cancer or Aids can destroy the body but sin can destroy the soul in Hell

We ought not to envy the sinner his sinful and worldly pleasure, than we would a man his cancer or Aids. Who would envy a man his money, if that money were to cast his soul into hell? Jesus said, "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his soul? It is sin and only sin that causes one to lose his own soul.

There are many questions we must face in life that demand our attention; our education, our business, our moral and social standing, our health, our duties as citizens as well as other problems, but after all, if we succeed in achieving success in all these things, and fail to properly solve and settle the sin question, our lives have been sadly and woefully misspent; for upon this question hinges not temporal and material prosperity and happiness, but eternal destiny. Therefore, during this week it is my earnest desire to not only reveal the awfulness of sin but to tell you how you can find a remedy for this ugly thing in your life. Let us pray. Dear Father in heaven we come in behalf of those who are listening today. It is for those who are troubled with sin in their lives that we are so concerned about. We know you are much more concerned about sin than we are, so much so that Jesus died to save his people from their sins. We know that the Holy Spirit has come into the world to convict us of our sins. We pray right that He might show hearts their need of getting rid of sin, in Jesus name we pray, Amen.

SIN
What is Sin, *TEMPTATION AND SIN*

GOODMORNING

This is R.V. Gibbs coming to you again this morning.

Yesterday ~~he~~ told you ~~he~~ would be speaking to you about the most ugly thing in the world, Sin. Its not a pleasant subject and I would much rather speak on some other subject but I felt this is what God wanted me to speak to you about. Yesterday I spoke about the history of sin. Today I want to talk to you about the nature of sin, and if I have time, temptation and sin.

What is sin? "How shall we deal with it?" are questions of vital importance. No first class physician would undertake to prescribe a remedy for a patient until he had first properly diagnosed the malady. In order to know the remedy, we must first know the disease;

At this particular time, I call not your attention to the remedy for sin, nor to the possibility of deliverance from sin, but merely to the nature and effects of sin. Sin is twofold in its existence, actual sin and inherent sin. One demotes action, the other condition; one is what we do, the other is what we are. Actual sin is defined in I John 3:4, "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is a transgression of the law." Here sin is defined in its actual sense. Actual sin consists of an act of transgression of God's law. Inherent sin is the sin principle, sometimes referred to as original sin, moral defilement, depravity and similar terms. One writer expresses actual sin as the "shoots of sin," and inherent sin as "the roots of sin." Sin therefore, is not confined to action alone; but is a dark, crooked, wicked rebellious, devilish nature, inherited by all of Adam's posterity as a result of his fall in the Garden of Eden. Inherent sin is clearly defined in such scriptures as Eph. 2:3. "All are by nature the children of wrath." Nothing could make us the children of wrath but sin; yet, this we are, says the apostle, "by nature." In referring to the same thing in Rom. 7:17 he calls it "the sin that dwelleth in me"; which is clearly and distinctly separate in character from actual sin,

Sin is not only disobedience to God's commandments, but is a polluted condition of the soul as well, it is hell's narcotic, Satan's hypnotic power; and carries in itself that which destroys a man's better judgment and sensibilities; so that a man can sin and laugh about it; sin and brag about it; he can use the name of the very God that holds the breath he breathes, in blasphemy, apparently utterly regardless of the fact that God has said, "I will not hold him guiltless that taketh my name in vain."

Standing on the verge of death, sin enables us to take the few remaining days God has given us in which to repent, and use them in sinning the more against Him. So hypnotic is the power of sin that men, under its control, are made to prefer wrong to right, wickedness to righteousness, drunkenness to sobriety, darkness to light, death to life and hell to heaven.

It carries with it great power to make wrong seem right, lust is interpreted to be love, brutishness is considered manly, and vulgarity is made to seem funny, Oh, how it blinds and hypnotizes. "Are you aware, sinner," asked the great evangelist, Chas. G. Finney, "that you have made God your enemy, and have you thought how terrible a thing this is? If you were in any measure dependent upon your fellowman, you would not like to make him your enemy." "Eternity," says he, "Is so vast, and its issues so dreadful, yet the sinner drives furiously to hell as if he were on the high road to heaven! And all this only because he is infatuated with the pleasures of sin for a season. The mournful fact is, he loves sin, and after it he will go! So insane is he that he rushes headlong to his own damnation, just as if he were in pursuit of heaven."

Most people do not like to hear about the effects and results of sin "After a sermon by a distinguished minister, dealing most pointedly with sin, one of the church officers visited the pastor and remonstrated as follows: "We do not want you to talk as plainly as you do about sin, because if our boys and girls hear you talking so much about sin they will more easily become sinners. Call it a mistake if you will, do not speak so plainly about sin. The pastor took down a small bottle of strychnine, marked "poison," and showed it to his visitor, saying, "I see what you want me to do. You want me to change the label. Now, suppose I take this label off and substitute another, say, "Essance of

peppermint," do you not see what happens? The milder you make your label the more dangerous you make the poison." Sin is the same deadly poison, whatever label you put on it, but the milder you make the label the more likely people are to be beguiled."

I come now to another important issue relative to the sin question, and that is the matter of temptation. Temptation is of the Devil. From the time he tempted Adam and Eve in the Garden until this present moment it has been the Devils constant business to tempt everyone on the face of the Earth. It is not a mark of the absence of piety to be tempted, in fact the closer we live to God the more likely we are to suffer temptation. Many people look upon temptation as denoting the presence of sin within. This however, is not necessarily a fact.

The Christian life is a warfare; temptations must and will be met. It is no sin to be tempted. If temptation is a sin, then the Savior was a sinner, for we are told: "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with a feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Heb. 4:15). Here we observe that Jesus was not only tempted, but was without sin, so we conclude that temptation is not sin, for while He was tempted in all points, He did not sin. The apostle further says, "Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations." Why? "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." ~~Exactly~~. Temptation will work out for our good, but sin never does. God would never say, "Count it all joy when ye fall into sin."

It is no dishonor, therefore, nor is it an evidence of a lack of piety to be tempted. Jesus was tempted, and all through the Bible the Christian life is pictured as a conflict. The apostle Paul says, "Thou, therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." "Neither give place to the devil." Resist the devil and he will flee from you." These and many other like statements show that no state of piety exempts from temptation, but no state of piety permits sinning as is seen by I John 3; 8,9 "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin;"

We cannot prevent the devil from tempting and making suggestions to us, any more than we can prevent ice from freezing or fire from burning, or gravitation from drawing matter to the earth, but we can so order our conduct in life as to prevent ice freezing us, or fire burning us, or gravitation crushing us. So likewise we can order our lives so as to resist temptation, and escape the inevitable consequences of yielding to it. We may be enticed by temptation a thousand times a day and not sin. But here is a warning, Jesus taught us to pray: "Lead us not into temptation," but in spite of this many professing Christians keep company with, and go to places with people when they are conscious beforehand that they are throwing themselves into the lap of temptation. We need not expect the help of God to overcome temptation when we deliberately disregard the injunction of this prayer, and walk with open eyes into the clutches of temptation. It is the purpose of God never to permit us to be tempted above ^{THAT} which we are able to bear, as is seen in I Corinthians 10:13. But when we deliberately walk into questionable places and put ourselves where we can the more easily be tempted, we need not expect God to verify His promise "to make a way of escape that we may be able to bear it." God always keeps his promise but He expects us to keep our promises Too. Two cannot walk together unless they be agreed. Let us pray: Dear Lord and Saviour we are so glad that you are faithful to lead us not into temptation but you are able to help us resist every temptation to sin. We know you were tempted in all points like as we are yet with out sin and you have the power to deliver us from all the fiery darts of satan if we but stay close to you. Bless all who are severly tempted today and help them to overcome. We ask in Jesus name. Amen

SIN
VICTORY OVER SIN

Goodmorning, This is R. V. Gibbs greeting you on this wednesday morning.

The matter of sin is before us again today, as I told you yesterday and the day before I do not consider sin my favorite subject. It is such an ugly thing that we don't like to think about it, but since our eternal destiny hangs upon what we do about sin in our lives I believe you will agree that it is a most important subject.

Let us face up to the question, just what are we going to do about sin? We were born in sin, all of us, The death penalty is on us if we don't do something about it when we are old enough to realize what sin is all about. God plainly says in His word, "The soul that sinneth it must die." Not a very pleasant thing to think about is it?

Well I'm glad that the remedy for sin, God has given us in His Word. It is found in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." We cannot save ourselves, we can only be saved through faith in Christ. all our righteousness is as filthy rags, Without Him we will continue in our sins. The very first promise in the New Testament concerning Jesus Christ is, "She shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." So here we find the cure from the curse of sin.

One of the first steps to salvation John the Bapstist and Jesus both mentioned very strongly was Repentance. What is repentance? It is Godly sorrow for sin. God hates sin and is angry with sin every day so if we are going to get anywhere with God we must hate every sinful thing in our life. There must be a deep sinse of regret for all the sins we have committed which is often evidenced by crying out to God with tears and telling God How ashamed and sorry we are for how we have sinned against Him. "Godly sorrow worketh repentance." If we have Godly sorrow we will look at sin through the eyes of God. God helps us to do this by sending us conviction. Without conviction it is impossible for us to see ourselves as God sees us. Its easy for us to compare ourselves with other people and reason that we are a pretty good fellow comparatively speaking but when God gets ahold of us in old fashioned conviction, we may feel as Paul did that we are the worst of sinners. Paul, before He met Jesus out on the Damascus road was a very religious fellow but when he saw himself as Jesus saw him he quickly changed his mind.

The main part of repentance is in confessing our sins as we read in IJohn 1:9 "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness!" So we have the guarentee that if we Believe, repent, and confess we will be cleansed from all our sins. The Word says God will take our sins and cast them into the see of forgetfulness to remember them no more, isn't that a wonderful promise.

Now that we have been delivered from sin, is it possible for us to have daily victory over sin? I would like to help you to see how you can live as God wants you to live. First of all, Jesus saves us from our sins, He only has the power to do that. He also has the power to keep us from going back into sin. Satan may entice us, tempt us, persecute us; but he can never compel us to sin; in fact, we are told, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." And God further says, "There hath no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will, with the temptation, also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (I Cor. 10:13). We are sure that Jesus did not die that we might continue in sin. We are not only commanded not to sin, but we are also commanded "Not to be partakers of other men's sins." and still better yet to "abstain from all appearance of evil." God says in His book, "Be ye holy. Why? "For I am holy."

It has, undoubtedly always been the purpose and plan of the Almighty to deliver us from the bondage of sin, as will be seen from the apostle Pauls statement in Ephesians 1:4. Here you will observe, "He hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." II Timothy 2:19 is another very clear statement as to what the Christian's relation to sin should be. "Let him," says the apostle, "depart from iniquity." Do we desire to follow Jesus and be a New

Testament Christian? Then remember that "Christ suffered, leaving us an example, that we should follow in his steps who did no sin" (I Pet. 2:21,22). No man can be made, by any perversion of language, to be a follower of Jesus, who sins every day. In Titus 2:11,14, we have a statement both of the purpose and the power of Christ's mission into the world, "That we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world," because He gave Himself "that he might redeem us from all iniquity." Has His great sacrifice been made in vain, and are we unable to live righteously and godly in this present world? Or, is it possible that we are measuring up to this standard when we are sinning every day? Can Christ redeem us from all iniquity, or is this all a mistake, a mistranslation, or the product of an imaginary mind? No, Thank God, He is sufficiently able to perform the work in every human soul, and to redeem us fully here and now.

As a child of God, we must not believe we can go on sinning. I John 3:4-9) "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin."

God does not expect the impossible of us. He is not like some parents that tell their children to do things that they know good and well they are not able to do. God is reasonable Loving and fair if he asks us to do something it will be something we can do ourselves or if we can't do it He will help us. He never expects the impossible. When He says for us to forsake sin, we know His grace is able to keep us from falling into sin. His yoke is easy, His burden is light. All we need to do is stay close to Him and like a gentle shepherd He will lead us all the way, praise His wonderful name!

I would like to make it clear before I close today that though God has made all provision for us to keep us from sinning it still is possible for us to sin. Moses sinned when he struck the rock to bring forth water from it for the people. He was angry with the people and took the glory for bringing water from the rock. As a result he was not allowed to go into the land of cannon. John writes: "My little children, these things I write unto you that ye sin not." and if any man sin he hath an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. As long as we are in this life it is possible for us to sin but not God's will, and if we do, God is not to blame, for He has given us all the grace we need for every temptation in this life. He wants us to be a shining witness for Him every day.

Let us pray: We thank you Lord for your wonderful salvation full and free to all who call upon you. I'm glad you have said "My grace is sufficient for thee for my strength is made perfect in weakness. There may be those who have listened today that have lived a defeated Christian life. Always falling into sin than repenting. never able to live a victorious christian life. Help them Lord today that they might have faith to believe that you will give them deliverance from the lies of satan, for it is in your name we pray. Amen.

THE DOUBLE CURE, #2

Goodmorning, This is R.V. Gibbs on this Friday morning. This will be my last message on the Devotional time for awhile. There are about 20 ministers who participate in this program. many have expressed their appreciation for the privilege of being on this broadcast. We all owe our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Black and W L B Q for providing this time for us. There are those who tell me they listen every ^{WEEK} to the devotional time., so I'm glad their are those who enjoy the program.

I hope I have been a blessing to you this week and that God has spoken to you through me. If I can be a help to you anytime in your relationship to God, I would be so happy to talk with you and pray with you.

All this week I have been speaking on the subject of sin. It has not been easy to bring out all that is on my heart concerning the awfulness of sin and the remedy for sin, but I pray the Holy Spirit will enlighten and help each of you.

Today I would like to continue the message I started concerning how to be free from inherited sin. Sin is dual in its nature. Actual transgressions and inherited nature of sin. Since sin is dual in its nature, therefore redemption must be dual in its application to this dual need. Actual sins must be forgiven. inherited sin must be cleansed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I ~~mentioned~~ spoke yesterday of how we must see our need for holiness of heart and how we need to consecrate all to Christ. Today I would like to mention some other ways ~~ways~~ to receive cleansing from inherited sin. sometimes we may need to plead the blood of Christ and the promises of God to obtain the blessing of sanctification. This is not in any wise because God must be appealed to and begging for one to receive this sanctifying blessing. Rather, this method of pleading in prayer is to strengthen the faith of the pray-er and to bring confidence into his heart to trust in the Lord for the need to be met. God is far more willing to give us this blessing than we are to receive it. We need not appeal to the kindness of God nor his willingness to give, so much as to help our infirmity of short sightedness of His loving care for us. Jesus said, "If ye, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" (Luke 11:13).

God's willingness to give the blessed Holy Spirit to all believers who ask Him cannot be fathomed. Doubtless, as God is more loving and more kind than we human beings, and as He knows far more perfectly our spiritual needs than we do the needs of our children, so much greater is His desire to give the Spirit to all who ask Him.

To plead the blood in our prayers for sanctifying grace will strengthen our faith to believe. Faith is the absolute element without which there can be no divine blessing of redemption bestowed. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: he that cometh to God must believe that He is and that He is the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." (Heb. 11:6).

Often confession of need accompanies seeking for sanctification. We see a good example # of this in the life of Jacob. He realized his desperate need of God's help as he was coming back to the old country to meet his brother whom he had wronged; fear filled his heart for the news had reached him that Esau was coming to meet him with a band of four hundred men. Sometimes God will permit us to get into a hard place in order that some crooked thing can be straightened out, some misunderstanding cleared up.

The only thing that Jacob could do in his dilemma was to pray. "I am not worthy of the least of the mercies which thou hast shown to thy servant ... Deliver me, I pray thee." Then he relied on the promise of almighty God, "Thou saidst, I will surely do thee good."

Next we see Jacob's consecration. Whenever there is sincerity in prayer, and honesty of purpose in our approach to God, there will always come light on our pathway. We see Jacob preparing a substantial gift for his brother, and he decided to hand over all that he had. There must be a settlement with our relations before our consecration will be acceptable to God. We must be right with our fellow man before we can be right with God. Some fail because of an imperfect consecration. They hand over many things, but fail to give their all.

THE DOUBLE CURE #2

Jacob realised he had to have the help of Almighty God. All of his plans and schemes were not good enough. No one else could help him either. He found a place where he could be alone with God. It is a good thing to be alone with God, to shut the door to the outside world, to the people, the cars of business and church activities. It was in that solitary place, when all had been sent over the ford, that there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. After a night, or even a half night of prayer, there always follows untold blessing. At first Jacob thought he was wrestling with a man, but as the night wore on, he found that the Mighty one wrestling with him was none other than God Himself.

This place seemed to Jacob to be a place of defeat. "And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh." God touched him at the very place where naturally he was strongest. Often our self-sufficiency proves to be a hindrance to the Spirit's working through us. The Apostle Paul could say, "When I am weak, then am I strong." Thus God had now conquered Jacob. Are we willing to be conquered in order that Jesus might have the preeminence, to have no confidence in the flesh, to count all things but refuse to win Christ. "The hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint." There is no longer the glory of the human.

Now this place became a place of desperation. Although Jacob was now rendered helpless, his natural strength gone, yet he held on tenaciously. "Let me go, for the day breaketh," and he said, "I will not let thee go except thou bless me." Jacob was now desperate. It is true that God will test our faith. Jacob refused to be denied, "I will not let thee go."

In his desperation, this place became a place of honest confession. "And he said unto him, What is thy name? and he said, Jacob." The name of a man meant something in those days. It was a picture of his character, his disposition, his nature. "My name is Jacob" A supplanter, or in everyday speech, "I am a thief." Under the Divine scrutiny, as we are searched by the Holy Spirit, we get a vision of our own hearts.

"Search all my thoughts, the secret things,
The motives that control;
The chambers where polluted things
Hold empire o'er the soul"

Let us be as honest in our confession as Jacob was. "What is thy name?" My name is selfishness; my name is worldliness; my name is pride; my name is covetousness - whatever it is, let the Holy Spirit show us the deep-seated roots of carnality.

This place Jacob found to be a place of transformation. "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel." No more a supplanter, but a prince of God because he had prevailed with God, his desire had been granted.

"And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, for I have seen God face to face, and by life is preserved." Have you come to your peniel?" The sun rose upon him that morning, and the Sun of Righteousness rose with his heart; and later when he met his brother they embraced, Esau fell on his neck, and they kissed each other.

I would ask you that are listening today a very important question, have you faced God honestly and yielded yourself completely to Him, if not, He is waiting for you to make a complete consecration to Him. Nothing else will bring the blessing that you so much desire.

Let us pray, Dear Lord, there are those who are listening that have never known what joy you can bring to the heart that has been delivered from all sin. The peace that passeth all understanding has not yet come to them. We know right now that you are saying, "come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Help every troubled soul to lay everything at your feet and trust you completely for complete cleansing. In Jesus name we pray, Amen

SIN
THE DOUBLE CURE

Goodmorning, This is R. V. Gibbs with you again on this beautiful Fall morning. I came from Bowling Green the first of this week and enjoyed the beautiful colors of the leaves on the trees in the woods. I don't know how God could make such a variety of colors for us to enjoy. Monday evening I noticed two doves outside my window I thought to myself. You will soon be gone as will most of the other birds. God has a way of making beautiful all the seasons ^{OF THE YEAR} ~~THROUGHOUT THE YEAR~~ ^{THROUGHOUT THE YEAR}

To you who have listened each day this week you will know that I have been speaking on a subject that is not pleasant at all, but I felt God would have me speak on it all this week. As you know it is what has caused all the misery on this earth and even caused the death of Jesus Christ on Calvary's tree. that awful thing, sin. ^{LAW}

Sin# is dual in its nature. It is a ^{LAW} committed, act of willful disobedience to the of God. "Sin is the transgression of the law"(I John 3:4). All this has reference to the first form of sin- actual or willful disobedience to the known law of God. But there is also another type of sin, much more subtle and hard to really define and much more delicate and even ~~more~~ more deceitful than out-broken transgression of the law. It is the inner sin, the hidden sin, the deep, dark and often inner resisting spirit of evil. Possibly John has reference to this sin when he declares, "All unrightousness is sin" (I John 5:17). Sin is a frightfully complicated thing in human life. It is first of all a moral propensity, a "bent to sinning," as the old time theologians called it. It is inborn sin, inbred sin. the sin of the selfhood, deeply stained from within and badly damaged from birth. In fact, it is dammaged selfhood from the moment of conception. David clearly stated this as we saw earlier, when de declared, "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Psa. 51:5). The Hebrew word rendered "iniquity" here means warped, twisted, contorted, out of shape. A child does not become sinful and twisted in his nature after birth, He is conceived that way in the flash of a second! This old twisted, contorted, evil nature is atamped into him in the act of conception. We all receive this old sinful nature from Adam, "this carnal mind," this "bent to sinning," in conception. After birth it blossoms out into actual sins of disobedience to God and His laws in every child born. None has ever escaped this pollution, except Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Inbred sin descended through the father line from Adam. Since Christ was "virgin born," this is the reason He had no sinfulness in His human nature. And this is the reason for the necessity of the "virgin birth," so that God would be able to send us a Redeemer into the world, sinless and holy, who could be suited and fitted to atone for us in His death. Now, why all this for us? Becuse the nature of sin was so deeply rooted and fastened into the human nature of man that nothing less than the blood of a divine-human being could atone for and cleanse it out of mankind.

Now, as to the need for sanctification, let us notice that sin is so deeply frooted and so powerful a force within us that mere regeneration alone can never erase its roots and traces from our hearts and lives.

Since sin is dual in its nature, therefore redemption must be dual in its application to this dual need. Actual sins must be forgiven. These acts of transgression are outward deeds of sinfulness. But what brought them about? They arise out of the sinfulness of the natural human heart. Jeremiah cried, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). The answer to that question is that no one but God can truly know the sinful human heart!

Now, sins committed against God and man can be forgiven. This is the first work of God's grace in redemption, "the forgiveness of sins." But the condition, the inner sinfulness, the inborn iniquity which caused the sins to be committed is another thing. This is not a committed act, and therefore hardly covered by forgiveness. This is seen by the fact that after forgiveness of sins and one is in a saved state, he still has left within him his old, warped, polluted nature which is the root of all corruption and sinfulness. Why did not forgiveness take care of this? Because it is not of the nature to be reached by forgiveness.

Most all church denominations believe and teach that "sin remains in believers" after conversion. All the creeds of all the churches maintain this same thing. This has been a

cardinal teaching of the Church since the days of St. Paul and he was a strong believer in this teaching as seen from many passages of Scripture. "the carnal mind is enmity against God," (Rom. 8:7); "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ." (I Cor. 3:1).

There are many, many other passages which show the need in believers in Christ for the sanctifying blessing. Christ's prayer for His followers as we see in John 17:17,19, "Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth", "And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." The heart of the human race ^{lays} for a purifying element of some kind to rid the world of sinfulness. This can only come through the sanctifying and cleansing power of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of Christ's followers.

God's Word teaches that His children should be holy. We have seen that God demands holiness of heart, or sanctification of His children to meet His will. Paul says emphatically that it is His will, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification..." For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath called us unto holiness" (I Thess. 4:3,7,8). Can anyone who is a child of God possible obstinately object to and refuse to see the Father's will? ~~and remain saved?~~

Now, we shall look at the way we may come into this blessed experience of God's sanctifying grace.

First, we must see our need for holiness of heart. That old sinful nature manifests itself in many different ways: for some it is uncontrolled anger, for some it is pride, others it is an ugly disposition, Jealousy bothers many, These are just a few of the results of the old sinful nature. All one has to do to see the need for sanctification is to look into the Word of God, ~~and to look into his own heart.~~ and to look into his own heart. The need is more apparent in some hearts, and less in others, but it is most certainly present in every heart.

Second One must in some form or other consecrate his all to Christ. This varies from person to person, ~~and may be done in many different ways.~~ Frances Rudley Havergal wrote a great song of consecration when she penned these lines:

"Take my life and let it be,
Consecrated Lord, to thee."

Consecration may take the form of simple prayerful asking God to take one's life and use it for Himself. Or, even such as, "Lord, I am tired of failures and starts and stops. I want real victory in Christ. Oh, take me and cleanse me and make me wholly thine!"

What does one need to consecrate to God? Everything that in any way touches our lives. All must be given freely to God. Our total lives and all that we possess in personal life. Our money, our time, our talents, our influence, our homes and even our very names. Cast everything down at Jesus' feet. Hold nothing back from Him.

The internationally known preacher and writer of the Salvation Army, Col. Samuel Brengle, saw when he was seeking sanctification, that his driving ambition to become a great preacher had also to be given to God. Selfish ambition was crucified with this other self-life items, even his ambition to take a small congregation and build it into a great congregation also had to go to the cross in consecration. Brengle was an eloquent speaker, but his also had to go to the cross. He finally prayed in desperation, "Lord, let me stammer and stutter!" "Let my life be yours, not merely to shine forth in my talents, but for Thy glory," had to become his earnest prayer. Our consecration expressions are well put in this great hymn, ~~as follows:~~

"Have Thine own way, Lord, have Thine own way.
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay;
Mold me and make me after Thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

"Have Thine own way, Lord, have Thine own way,
Hold o'er my being, absolute sway;
Filled with Thy Spirit, till all can see,
Christ only, always, living in me."

Let us pray, We thank you Dear Lord for your wonderful plan of deliverance from sin Guide each one listening today by your Holy Spirit and may ~~may~~ they find great peace and joy in deliverance from all sin in Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Jesus is always the Same

Godmorning, This is Friday and my last day on the devotional time for awhile. I trust you have received a blessing from listening this week. I know many of you listen most every week to the devotional time by the Ministerial association. I want to express my sincere thanks to the management and staff of W L B Q. I believe they are rendering a great service to the community.

In this life there are very few things that do not change. In fact the Bible says that even the seemingly everlasting hills will change. Mountains will fall, the Oceans will dry up, the elements will melt with fervent heat, the stars shall fall from heaven and the heavens shall depart as a scroll when it is rolled up. But Jesus will never change. Let us look today at some of the ways He will never change.

First, His love for you and me. He walked the dusty paths of Earth going about everywhere doing good. He is still bringing peace and joy today in this sin cursed world.

Also Jesus is just the same in His ability to meet human needs. See Him feeding the five thousand. See Him Healing the sick, lame, and blind. See Him saving the soul of the woman at the well. and the one who washed His feet with her tears, than delivering the woman taken in adultery. saving Zachies the rich tax collector and the thief on the cross. This happened over 1900 years ago. But He is still in the business of feeding, healing and saving. Though we do not see Him with our eyes, He is still going up and down this world, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, seeking and saving the lost.

We notice too that Jesus never changes in laws and principles He wants us to live by. The 10 commandments are still God's will for us to obey. He still asks us to love our neighbor as ourself. His teaching of obeying in spirit and in truth applies today just like it always did.

Jesus plan of salvation remains the same through all these centuries. Jesus still says, repent of your sins believe and obey the gospel and you will be saved, but if you will not, you will be lost

Jesus has never changed in His attitude toward sin. Except you repent of your sins, you will perish. You cannot cover up or condone sin. It must be confessed and forsaken or you will not be saved.

Jesus has not changed in the value He places on a soul. His words "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul applies today. The story of the good shepherd leaving the 99 sheep to go out to find the one sheep which was lost, shows the great value He places on every soul.

Than too Jesus is still not a respecter of persons. Whether Jew or Samaritan, Black or white, male or female, it makes no difference, rich or poor, wise or ignorant. A way-faring man tho a fool, need not err therein.

He is still a righteous judge. He saw the penitent heart of the thief on the cross and he still sees your heart and mine and judges rightly like no other can. He still says come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. He is still meek and lowly in heart and gives rest to our souls.

He is still the one who will take care of you, as it says in 1 Peter 5:7, "Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you." Life is not always pleasant. The life abundant concept which the Bible describes as God's will for the christian really doesn't have much to do with the physical aspect of living, and contrary to a certain brand of

can take on a burdening "I will take care of you" All I want is to get you out of the world and into a new life

modern teaching today, "life abundant", does not guarantee lots of material gain. Life can take some puzzling twists occasionally. All of us get a little "down" in view of circumstances, finances, physical suffering, unpleasant words, etc. affect us in various ways. "But he knoweth the way that I take; when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job. 23:10) When the surgeon's knife is about to do its work. God knows all about it. He can give the doctor wisdom. The Great Physician will care for and sooth our hurts and pains.

When we find ourselves without a job, remember that the Lord said. "Lo, I am with you always." Matt. 28:20. God is the great provider. He knows our needs even before we realize them. He feeds the sparrows; He will do no less for His children.

When a relative "tells you off", or a friend deserts you, fear not, for Jesus Christ is a faithful companion who will comfort you. Circumstances may look bleak, but God can brighten the horizon.

Poem, God Can Answer Your Prayers

God Can Answer Your Prayers!



"And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

—Matthew 21:22

The God who stopped the sun on high	Joshua 10:12, 13
And sent the manna from the sky,	Exodus 16:4-15
Laid flat the walls of Jericho	Joshua 6:20
And put to flight old Israel's foe;	Joshua 10:9,10
Can He not answer prayer today	Luke 1:37
And drive each stormy cloud away?	John 14:14

He turned the water into wine,	John 2:3-11
And healed a helpless cripple's spine	Luke 3:11-16
Said to the tempest, "Peace, be still"	Mark 4:39
And hungry multitudes did fill.	John 6:9-13
His power is just the same today	Hebrews 13:8
So why not labor, watch, and pray?	Matthew 26:41

He conquered in the lion's den,	Daniel 6:16-22
Brought Lazarus back to life again;	John 11:38-44
He heard Elijah's cry for rain	I Kings 18:42-45
And freed the sufferers from pain.	Matthew 8:16, 17
If He could do these wonders, then	Exodus 14:21-31
Let's prove our mighty God again.	Malachi 3:10

Why can't the God who raised the dead,	I Kings 17:17-22
Gave David great Goliath's head,	I Samuel 17:32-51
Cast out the demons with a word,	Matthew 8:28-32
Yet sees the fall of one wee bird,	Matthew 10:29
Do signs and miracles today	John 14:12
In that same good, old-fashioned way?	Acts 5:12-16

He can — He's just the same today	Ephesians 3:20
If we believe it when we pray;	Mark 11:23, 24
He's no respecter now of men	James 2:1-9
He'll do the same as He did then.	John 14:12

—Author Unknown