

Bibleway Newsletter

April 2008

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Dear Friends,

Two men were passing through a field in the country when they were charged by a bull. They started for the nearest fence; but it

was soon apparent that they could not make it before the bull would be upon them. One said to the other, "Put up a prayer, John. We're in for it!"

But John answered, "I can't, I never made a public prayer in my life."

"But you must," said his companion, "the bull will soon be upon us. Pray, John, and pray quickly!"

"All right," said John, "I'll give you the only prayer I know, the one my father used to repeat at the table: 'O Lord, for what we are about to receive, make us truly thankful.'"

I Thessalonians 5:18 says, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." But can we still be thankful when life charges us like a bull, when we fail, or when others fail us?

It is the fool who complains about what *could have been* and what *was*; a wise man thanks God for what *is*. The Christian's thankful heart is one of the main features which distinguishes him from the world.

The world expects Christians to look and act differently, but they are taken by surprise when a Christian demonstrates a grateful spirit in spite of his difficult circumstances. May our lives give the world a glimpse of the blessed hope which lies within us.

Thankfully yours,

Rev. Larry W. Edwards

Message Highlights:

- ✓ "If you want your children to respect the Word of God, you must live it yourself." —*Sunday School Lesson*
- ✓ "Christianity is not about participation, but about practice!" —*Preacher, Walk the Walk*
- ✓ "The Christian's life ought to display physically what he promotes verbally."
- ✓ "Wallowing only gets you dirtier. When you fall, get up, dust yourself off and keep going!"
- ✓ "Bitterness sours your thought patterns. Don't let it get a hold of you! —*Tuesday Bible Study*
- ✓ "David was willing to accept the consequences of his sin. We, too, must acknowledge our sins. It matters not how severe the consequences may be, we must understand they are decreed by the Almighty, and balanced with His love for us. God is *always* just in His dealings."
- ✓ "He who seeks his own way without giving the Holy Spirit the right of way is in for a collision." —*Sunday School Lesson*
- ✓ "When you change your attitude toward your circumstances, your circumstances will change. You are where you are for a reason. *Learn all you can; do all you can; be all you can.*" —*The Servant-Employee*

Services are temporarily held at the Booth Tarkington Elementary School

310 Scott St

Wheeling, IL 60089

Visit Us Online At: thebiblewayministries.com

Special Mention:

- *Keep listening* for Pastor Edwards' weekly advertising segments on AM 1160, WYLL! Be sure to tune in on Thursdays and Fridays.
- Please continue to pray for Bibleway in the exciting year ahead. Your prayers are invaluable to our success as a ministry.
- Our Annual Musical Extravaganza is coming up soon on April 26, 2008! It will be held at the Prospect Christian Church.
- Please join us for Bible Class and Prayer on Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Prospect Christian Church. We are concluding our study on *David: A Man After God's Own Heart*.
- Currently our Sunday Morning services are taken from the book of Titus. Pastor Edwards is doing an expository study of this insightful letter, drafted by the Apostle Paul.

The Message Behind the Ministry...

The Boy with 14,000 Sins

"Do you know how many sins you have?" a man asked a youth after a Sunday afternoon service.

"No," he replied; "I've never thought about it."

"Well, suppose we try to find out. Do you think you have committed three sins a day—one of thought, one of word, and one of deed?"

"Oh, I expect lots more than that," he said.

"Well, then, we shall be quite safe in saying that you have committed three sins a day. How many is that for a year?"

The man helped him do the math, and they both discovered that he must have been guilty of more than one thousand sins a year.

"One thousand sins a year, Jimmy," the man said. "How many sins do you have?"

"Fourteen thousand," he said (for the youth was fourteen years old). He was shaken at the thought.

When Jimmy got into bed that night, it seemed as though someone came close to him and whispered in his ear, "Fourteen thousand sins, Jimmy, think of that!"

Jimmy bore his guilt as long as he could muster, but finally crept out of his bed and told his father, "I have at least fourteen thousand sins, and I don't know what to do with them."

The father told his son of Christ, Who came into the world to save sinners. He told him how the Scripture says, "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." (Isaiah 1:18)

Jimmy saw it all, and believed it, and went back to his bed relieved and happy. When the youth saw the "sin counting man" again, he smiled and said, "They are all gone, sir."

The man asked, "What are all gone?"

"All the fourteen thousand sins," Jimmy answered as he proceeded to tell the man all about what Jesus had done for him.

If you or I honestly considered our sins, we would be overwhelmed that a perfect God would still love us. What a tremendous burden we carry! Some people try to ease their conscience by convincing themselves that doing more good than evil will get them to Heaven. Others just try to be a good person in general, hoping that will make a difference before God. But there is only one way to remove the burden of our sins, and that is when we go to the Cross and accept Christ's payment for our sins.

He did all of the work required to get you and me to Heaven. "...Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow..."

Won't you accept that gift today? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you can have peace with God and the joy of salvation! If you have made a decision for Christ today, drop us an e-mail and let us know. We would love to send you some literature that will help you in your spiritual growth!

Bibleway Ministries

PO Box 3862

Barrington, IL 60011

Email Address: biblewayministries@sbcglobal.net