



NON-PROFIT



TAX-EXEMPT

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" MARK 16:15

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1999 FROM US TO YOU

As we begin another year with the Lord, it is a reminder of how fast time passes. It seems that there are never enough hours in each day to accomplish the things that need to be done! Yet those of us who love and serve Jesus Christ *"...live by faith, not by sight"* (2 Corinthians 5:7 NIV). That is not easy to do! For it goes against our carnal, human nature. Mortal man wants to control his own destiny, even to choose what he will or will not do for God. But God does not operate that way! (See Isaiah 55:9-11.) Have you been thoroughly convinced that the Lord has told you to do a certain thing but, as soon as you set out to accomplish it, everything went wrong? That's the way it was for Moses! The Lord told Moses, *"...I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people the Israelites out of Egypt"* (Exodus 3:10 NIV). In Bible typology Egypt is a metaphor for this world. So, when the slaves were delivered out of Egypt, it was the spiritual equivalent of people being set free from the bondage of sin (Galatians 4:8) through Jesus Christ. Now, under the circumstances, it would seem logical to assume that the Lord would make it easy for Moses to accomplish his mission. That assumption would be wrong! Because *"the LORD said to Moses, 'When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go'"* (Exodus 4:21 NIV). That is exactly the way it is with many Christians! As soon as we attempt to do what Christ tells us to do, every roadblock imaginable gets in our way. On the surface, it looks as if Satan is winning the battle. That obstacle seems like a mountain and we feel so tiny in comparison to it (Matthew 21:21-22). So we look to Christ for our strength! The Lord will fight for us, as long as we remain in His will (see John 15:7). However, God not only wants to win the battle, he wants to make the enemy grovel in defeat!

Moses was obedient to the Lord and went and spoke to Pharaoh. However, instead of getting better, the situation just got worse! Not only did Pharaoh refuse to let the slaves go, but he made their lives even more miserable (Exodus 5:6-9). And, typical of the way that people are, the slaves blamed Moses for their troubles (Exodus 5:20-22)! Moses was confused and he prayed about the matter. He didn't understand why God had brought so much trouble upon him. But he chose to **trust** the Lord anyway! Sometimes we believers are put into a situation where there appears to be no way out. We put our faith in God. However, instead of the problem going away, it just gets more stubborn. With Moses, this situation continued time after time. Even though Moses had performed many miracles before Pharaoh, and God had been bringing all kinds of afflictions upon the Egyptians, Pharaoh, like any mountain, would not be moved. You see, things may look scary to us humans, but our Creator isn't fazed by them at all! He knows what He is going to do! He also knows that the closer Satan comes to winning the battle, the worse he will feel when that victory is pulled away from him. And God loves to watch that old serpent (see Revelation 20:2) squirm!



Eventually, Pharaoh gave in and decided to free the slaves. For Israel, it was a time of celebration! Not only were the Israelites freed but they were also able to plunder their captors as well (Exodus 3:22)! Then, just at that moment when everything looked so wonderful, death loomed on the horizon! Pharaoh had changed his mind! No longer did he want the slaves back. He wanted them killed! Again, the Israelites began to blame Moses. They said, *"...Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt?"* (Exodus 14:11 NIV). Have you ever led a sinner to repentance in Christ only to have them grow angry at you when they face their first tests of faith? "I was better off before I came to Christ," they might say. However, Jesus said, *"...No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God"* (Luke 9:62 NIV). God isn't interested in people who refuse to trust Him! Nevertheless, the Lord is patient with us, *"...not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance"* (2 Peter 3:9 NIV). So He brought deliverance to the children of Israel. *"...Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea"* (Exodus 14:21-23 NIV).

Moses stepped out in faith and was used by God. But it was not by the power of Moses that the Jews were able to escape their oppressors. It was by the Power of God! (See Zechariah 4:6.) Yes, the enemy was close behind and the Jews were afraid. Both the Israelites and the Egyptians were in the same sea together. For the Jews it was the sea of salvation, but for the Egyptians it became a sea of death! *"Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen--the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived. But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. And when the Israelites saw the great power the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in Him and in Moses His servant"* (Exodus 14:27-31 NIV). Yes, Pharaoh and his mighty army seemed like a mountain that could not be crossed. However, Jesus said that if we have faith, that mountain will be plucked up and thrown into the sea! (See Matthew 21:21-22. Also, see Jeremiah 17:5-8.)

This month's main article is **"Successful Christian Living."** We hope that it will be a source of enlightenment and hope to all who read it. Have a blessed and happy new year everyone! *Eric and Anne Kaestner*

Successful Christian Living

By Anne Kaestner

If you are a Christian, you are probably familiar with the term “successful Christian living.” For years, churches, merchants, and religious groups have flooded the market with books, magazines, videos, audio tapes, seminars, and radio and television shows all designed to teach the child of God how to become successful in Christ. But are they doctrinally correct? For Jesus said, “*Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of Heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father who is in Heaven*” (Matthew 7:21 NIV). So how do we know the difference between what is really from God and what is mere lip-service (Mark 7:6-7)? There are only two ways. The first is consistency. Is it consistent with the teachings of Christ and His Apostles? The second is by the fruit (Matthew 7:16-20) that it produces. The Apostle Paul told the Galatians that there is a counterfeit gospel **within** the church! He wrote to them saying, “*I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel, which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from Heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!*” (Galatians 1:6-8 NIV). People think of angels as being holy and obedient to God. However, “*...Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness...*” (2 Corinthians 11:14-15 NIV).

Paul was saying, “I don’t care who tells you something different. There is only **one** true Gospel of Jesus Christ! It is the **only** way of getting to Heaven! It has already been given to the church by Christ and the Apostles, and it must not be altered, added to, or diminished! Unlike many in the church today, Paul, the man who wrote half of the New Testament of Jesus Christ, did not take his own salvation for granted (1 Corinthians 9:25-27. Also, see 2 Timothy 4:7-8). He never assumed that because he had once become Born Again (John 3:3) and had been used mightily by God, that he could slack off, drift back to his prior worldliness (1 John 2:15-17) and still get to Heaven (see 1 Corinthians 9:27). Likewise, Paul made every effort to warn the church that we need to remain faithful to Christ in word and deed so that we will not be cut away from Him, our Holy Vine (John 15:1-6. Also, see Luke 3:8-9). In his letter to the Roman church, he reminded them that Christ, our Savior, did not come into this world through the Gentiles, but through the Jews. Most of the Bible was written by Jews. And all of the original prophets and Apostles were Jewish. Nevertheless, when the Jews, who had been God’s chosen people (Genesis 18:19 and Isaiah 48:8-9), rebelled against Him and refused to accept their own Messiah (John 1:11), God turned to the Gentiles instead (Acts 13:46). “*Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in His kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off*” (Romans 11:22 NIV).

Satan knows that our eternal destination of Heaven depends totally upon whether or not we remain in Christ. Therefore, he will do everything he can to lead us astray through a counterfeit Christianity. It may look like the real thing. The language may sound alike. But it is only a facade of the truth (Matthew 23:27-28), perpetrated upon the church by the children of Satan (John 8:42-44) in an effort to deceive. “*For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ*” (2 Corinthians 11:13 NIV). We **cannot** discern

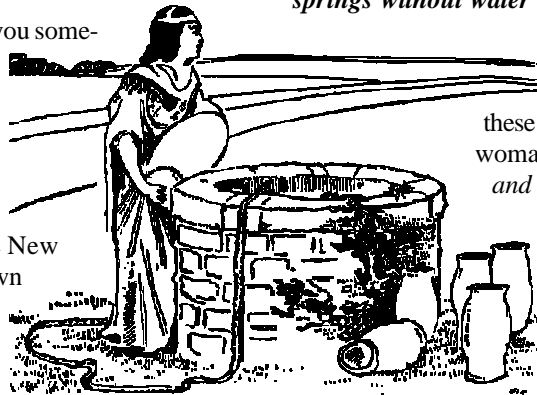
the difference based on spiritual **gifts**, because Jesus warned us that “*...false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect--if that were possible...*” (Matthew 24:24-25 NIV). Satan can fake the gifts of God! He did it in the days of Moses (Exodus 7:11, 22, 8:7. Also, see 8:18-19 & 9:11) and he is also doing it during these last days as well (2 Timothy 3:1-7)! In fact, the Apostle Paul said, “*Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth--men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected*” (2 Timothy 3:8 NIV). Bible scholars have determined that Jannes and Jambres were two of the **magicians** in Pharaoh’s court. This is why I disagree with the doctrine pertaining to the Baptism in the Holy Spirit that states that it must be accompanied by “the evidence of speaking in other tongues.” It is because the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10) is precisely that, a **gift**, not a **fruit!** And Jesus never said, “You will know them by their gifts.” He said, “*By their fruit you will recognize them...*” (Matthew 7:16 NIV).

So it doesn’t matter how many spiritual gifts a person may have, or that they can draw a large crowd. It doesn’t even matter that they are eloquent and have what is perceived as an anointing. For the Antichrist will come with great powers of persuasion (Daniel 8:23-25). In like manner, all the forerunners to the Antichrist (1 John 2:18) will be the same way! The Apostle Peter told us that these individuals “*...are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them*” (2 Peter 2:17 NIV).

Also, see Ezekiel 22:26-29). Jesus Christ is the Light of the world (John 8:12), but these people live in spiritual darkness! Jesus told the woman by the well, “*...If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water*” (John 4:10 NIV). The woman didn’t understand. For all she knew was the carnal realm around her. Water, to her, was that colorless liquid that quenches our thirst. But Jesus said to her, “*...Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty*

again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:13-14 NIV). So Peter was telling us that these false prophets are devoid of the very thing that they promise to give people, the well of eternal life! They don’t have it, because they don’t have Christ in their hearts.

They may know their Bibles very well, but so does the devil! He even used it to tempt Jesus (Matthew 4:5-6. Also, see Psalm 91:11-12). They may have spent a lot of time in prayer, but so what? The Moslems do a lot of praying as well! So do religious Jews, and the Hindus, and many other religious groups. The mere act of praying alone does not necessarily indicate that the person’s heart is right with God (see James 4:3-4 & 5:16). The Bible says that “*...there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus*” (1 Timothy 2:5 NIV). He is the Vine and we who love Christ, are the branches. Moreover, we cannot grow our own fruit for God! Because Jesus said that His Father is the Gardener, not us! And “*He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful*” (John 15:2 NIV). Why is this important to know? It is because, other than consistency, the only way that we can tell the difference between that which is truly of God and the counterfeit gospel is by its fruit! That’s why Jesus said, “*Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing,*



but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their **fruit** you will recognize them..." (Matthew 7:15-16 NIV. Also, see Galatians 5:19-25).

Brethren, Satan is a master at deception and so are his false prophets! And just as the enemy grew weeds among the good seed that was planted by God (Matthew 13:24-30), the religious charlatans have assimilated themselves in among the sheep! It is why we are told to "...come **out** from them and be **separate**, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you" (2 Corinthians 6:17 NIV). This is because once we have been washed clean (John 15:3) in the precious blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18-19), God does not want us to become dirty again! By contrast, getting you dirty once more is exactly what Satan wants to do (see 2 Peter 2:20-22)! He will use any trick, illusion, or subterfuge to steal (John 10:10) your soul! He has nothing to lose, because Satan is going to Hell anyway! (See Matthew 25:41 & Revelation 20:10.) However, he's angry with God. And God loves us so much "...that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16 KJV). Therefore, the devil will do everything in his power to make sure that we do not believe in Jesus Christ. The word "believe" means to trust God with childlike faith (Matthew 18:3. Also, see James 2:19). Because if we fail to do that, "...the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 8:12 KJV. Also, see 13:42, 13:50, 22:13, 24:51, 25:30, & Luke 13:28).

Satan has used the direct approach on God's children and it hasn't worked very well. Christian martyrs have been horribly tortured and murdered over the centuries. But the devil has learned that when we believers are suffering for our faith, instead of it weakening the church, it makes it much stronger! And instead of destroying it, it causes the true church to expand! Therefore, since his primary goal is to prevent us from getting into Heaven, deception is Satan's better alternative. And, since he knows how conceited and vain we humans are, **flattery** has become his stock in trade! Satan used it quite successfully on Eve, the Bride of Adam, and he has become very adept at using it on the Bride of Christ! That's why the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians saying, "I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to **one husband**, to Christ, so that I might present you as a **pure virgin** to Him. But I am afraid that **just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning**, your minds may somehow be led astray from your **sincere and pure devotion** to Christ. For if someone comes to you and preaches a **Jesus other than the Jesus we preached**, or if you receive a **different spirit** from the one you received, or a **different gospel** from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough" (2 Corinthians 11:2-4 NIV. Also, see 1 Timothy 2:14 & James 4:4).

How was Eve deceived? "Now the **serpent** was more **crafty** than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" (Genesis 3:1 NIV). The serpent was "...that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray..." (Revelation 12:9 NIV). "The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' 'You will not surely die,' the serpent said to the woman. 'For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil'" (Genesis 3:2-5 NIV). Satan's not very original. He continues to use the same strategies that he used back in the Garden of Eden. It's just that we foolish sheep (Isaiah 53:6) are so prone to wander away from our Shepherd (John 10:11-14 & Luke 15:4-6) that we fall into the same Satanic traps over and over again. And, as if that's not dumb enough,

Satan doesn't even change his bait! He told Eve that if she ate the forbidden fruit she would be "like God." That is the heart of the false teachings in the church today! One of them is the "King's Kid" doctrine. It distracts Christians from the Kingdom of God and gets them focused on this world instead. Yes, as a reborn believer (John 1:12-13 & 3:3), Jesus Christ is my Savior, Redeemer, and King. However, "Jesus said, '**My kingdom is not of this world... My kingdom is from another place**'" (John 18:36 NIV)! The real Kingdom of Jesus Christ is the Kingdom of God, certainly not this world! The **first** time that Jesus came into this realm He did not come as a conquering hero. He came as our suffering Savior. The prophet Isaiah said that He would be "...**despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not**" (Isaiah 53:3-6 NIV). Do you want to talk about self-esteem? It is the doctrine that goes hand in hand with the Prosperity Gospel, another false gospel that has been going around. However **self-esteem** is not from God! **Self-esteem** has been the problem with the whole human race! It is **ourselves** that we esteem instead of Christ!

These days, it has been taught that all of our problems come from a lack of self love. That doctrine is straight out of the psychology books, but you will not find it in the Bible! And you will certainly not find it in the teachings of Christ or His Apostles! Because Christ taught us self denial, not self love! He said, "...**If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me...**" (Luke 9:23-24 NIV). When Christians seek to gain self-esteem, they are doing the very opposite of what Jesus taught us. Instead of growing humble (James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5, and Luke 14:8-11), they become arrogant, smug, and self-righteous. Yet our own righteousness will never get us to Heaven (Isaiah 64:6, Romans 3:10, & Ephesians 2:8-9). We need the righteousness of Christ!

And the only way to receive that is to obey Him.

But the Christian who engages in self-esteem is not interested in obedience. For Christ is not on the throne of their heart. They are! Therefore, instead of that person's life revolving around what is pleasing to God, they continually seek self-gratification. This is another branch of the counterfeit faith. It is called the "fun gospel." God's children have bitten into this poisonous fruit for the same reason that Eve bit into hers. "When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was **good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom**, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it" (Genesis 3:6 NIV). Satan baited his hook with three great temptations, "...the lust of the **flesh**, and the lust of the **eyes**, and the **pride** of life..." (1 John 2:16 KJV). Eve disobeyed God and she who had known no sin, became the mother of all who live according to the selfish, fleshly nature (Galatians 5:19-21. Also, see 4:8-9). That fruit looked good from the outside, and so, instead of trusting God, Eve chose to rely on her own judgment (see Proverbs 3:5-7).

Satan is deceiving the church in the same way these days! All he has to do is to **change the labels** around. Jesus said to His disciples, "...**Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees...**" (Matthew 16:6 KJV. Also, see vs. 7-12). For example, we occasionally receive literature from nominal Christian ministries or organizations that try to interest us in whatever it is they are promoting. This morning we received literature from some organization that promotes automobile and motor bike races, two very carnal pursuits. Friends, this is the **leaven** of idolatry, no matter how you slice it! For what does such a worldly sport have to do with the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Nevertheless, they were promoting their idolatry to a Christian market, and to us, fully expecting that we would be just as enthusiastic about their "Christian" carnality as they are! However, (Continued On Page 4)



“...the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God” (Romans 8:7-8 KJV). That is why we must not live according to the desires of our flesh! “So I say, **live by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other...” (Galatians 5:16-17 NIV). On another occasion, we received a letter from a so-called Christian publishing house. It discussed the “Christian Fantasy” books they sell. However, Christ said, “...I am the way and the **truth** and the life...” (John 14:6 NIV). So, how can anything to do with Truth be fantasy? They are as opposite as light is from darkness (2 Corinthians 6:14). Yet Satan attempts this type of thing on a continual basis, because it works!

Christians are so far away from the true Christ that they are being deluded even by things that should be obvious to the believer! (See 1 Kings 22:6-23, John 8:45, and Galatians 4:16.) These days, the worldliness of old rock n’ roll music comes disguised as “Christian Rock.” Instead of plain worldly psychology, which is man-centered and not Christ-centered, we now have “Christian Psychology.” People, psychology existed back in the days of the Apostle Paul as well! It wasn’t called psychology, but it was basically the same thing. Sigmund Freud has been called the father of modern psychology, but he was not the originator of it. If you dig back into the past, you will find the same basic teachings in the writings of Aristotle. And Aristotle learned them from Plato. And Plato received them from Socrates. These were all ancient Greek philosophers who lived long before the Apostle Paul. The writings of these men were well known to the people who lived in Corinth, Greece. For, in Paul’s day, Greece was considered a center of commerce, art, and education, much as the United States is today. Nevertheless, none of these ancient teachings were of any help to the lost sinners of Corinth. It was not until they came to repentance and developed a personal relationship with Jesus Christ that they were delivered “...out of darkness into His wonderful light” (1 Peter 2:9 NIV. Also, see 2 Corinthians 4:6). The Corinthians had not been savages! They were civilized, educated people. The democratic form of government we have in the United States was based on that of ancient Greece. The Greeks were sophisticated individuals, great thinkers. In fact, like the American “think tanks,” some of them did nothing else but think and philosophize all day long! (See Acts 17:21.)

Even so, nothing that the Greeks had to offer had been able to change the lives of those whom Christ redeemed in the Corinthian church! Paul wrote to them, reminding them of what they had been delivered from! He said, “Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? **Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God**” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11 NIV). It was not with human wisdom that these Corinthians were set free from the bondage of sin and death (see Romans 6:16-18). None of the theories of Socrates, Plato, or Aristotle were of any help to them. **Only Christ** had made the difference in their lives! And Paul did not mix in a little bit of human wisdom into his sermons. Paul

knew that Satan was using hirelings within the church (see John 10:12-13) to try to lure believers back into their old worldly ways. So he reminded the Corinthians what had led up to their salvation. He said, “When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or **superior wisdom** as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. **For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.** I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were **not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power**” (1 Corinthians 2:1-5 NIV).

So then, what is true success in Jesus Christ? The Apostle Paul was an intelligent, highly educated man. He spoke three languages, and had been thoroughly schooled in the religious traditions of his day (Philippians 3:3-6 & Galatians 1:11-16. Also, see Mark 7:8-9). Yet, despite all of this, at the end of his life, he was not considered a success according to the standards of **this** world. Nor did he want to be! (See Philippians 3:7-11.) What is your version of Christian success? Do you, a “King’s Kid,” feel that it is your right to live in a palatial mansion? During his years of ministry, it seems that Paul, like Jesus (Matthew 8:20), never had a home of his own (Philemon 1:22). He spent most of his later years in prison, suffering many hardships for the Lord (see Acts 9:15-16, 2 Corinthians 6:4-5 and 11:23-29). As a “King’s Kid,” where was Paul’s crown?

It was in the same place that it is for every true believer. It was in Heaven (2 Timothy 4:8)! As for Jesus, the only crown that this world ever gave to our Savior was made of thorns! And out of the original twelve Apostles, eleven of them died horribly for the cause of Christ.

In the early 1980’s a well-known evangelist televised his Christmas special from a remote part of the jungle in northeast Africa. He focused on the efforts of an American missionary who lived among the natives. Satan had gained so much control over that land, due to the worship of demon gods (Deuteronomy 32:17), that God had cursed it (see Malachi 2:2, Deuteronomy 8:19, & 11:16-17)! The once lush forest had become dry and barren. Not only was there no vegetation to speak of, but the children had to sleep in the dead branches of thorn trees in order

to escape the wild beasts and insects of the ground. The video footage didn’t show much of the missionary himself. But when we did see him, he was tall and just about emaciated from starvation. We don’t even know if he’s alive today! He was a white man, who loved Christ so much that he followed the Lord’s calling into the African wilderness to bring the Gospel to starving people. Because, “...*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God*” (Luke 4:4 KJV). As the evangelist and his people were about to board the plane en route back to the safety of the United States, he said, “I’ve told Jesus that this missionary loves Him more than I do. Because I’m going home to my beautiful house, and my comfortable bed, and he’s staying behind in this terrible place.” Friends, “*there is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death*” (Proverbs 14:12 NIV). Therefore, those of us who remain in Christ should be aware that the hirelings (John 10:11-13) of this world will come and go. But we must listen and obey the words that are “...*given by one Shepherd. Be warned, my son, of anything in addition to them. Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body. Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man*” (Ecclesiastes 12:11-13 NIV).

