



NON-PROFIT



TAX-EXEMPT

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

January 2020

## FROM US TO YOU

It's January and the holidays are over. However, for those of us who love and serve Christ, worshipping and serving Him gives us a warm glow all year long! The worldly lights may not be as bright, but the light of the Word of God illuminates our hearts and gives us hope no matter what conditions exist elsewhere. Because the joy we feel comes from within. It is internal. Yet blind faith is not enough for Christians these days. Because Satan is a deceiver (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10, Mark 13:5), a liar (John 8:44), and a con man (Genesis 3:1-5). He delights in taking that which is good and pure and contaminating it. For example, did you know that Harvard University was originally founded in 1636 by the Puritans who settled in Boston, Massachusetts? It was intended to be a University for the purpose of training young theological students how to minister the Gospel for Christ. Its creed was to fulfill John 17:3, which in their Geneva Bible said, “*And this is life eternal, that they may know Thee to be the only very God and Jesus Christ, whom Thou has sent.*” [But these days, Harvard has become a hotbed of liberal propaganda and a harbinger of Secular Humanism](#), which is the total opposite of the teachings of Christ and His apostles!

Satan never created anything good. He just perverts that which God created. Even people who love God can be led astray by those who pose as sheep, but are really working on behalf of the devil, to pervert the Gospel. 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). Bad “fruit” includes the attitude and actions of those who do not love and obey Christ. “*The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires*” (Galatians 5:19-24 NIV).

As Jesus told His followers, “*I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves*” (Matthew 10:16 NIV). In other words, don't allow the devil to deceive you. Because even that which starts out good, pure, and holy, can get contaminated by just a little evil. That's all it takes to destroy the whole. Take an eight ounce glass of pure, nourishing milk that is good to drink. Now place two drops of ink in it, and that two drops will make the whole eight ounces undrinkable. That's because, sin destroys anything pure! And Christianity is a pure gospel. You can't mix it with that which is unholy.

That's why the Apostle Paul was so upset when the new church he started in Corinth began bragging to him that they had so much

love and patience with sinful church members of their flock that they allowed them to remain in the church. Paul knew that this would encourage other church members to do the same. And the church would not be holy anymore, as Christ intended (1 Peter 1:14-17). So Paul wrote back to them, “*It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this?*” (1 Corinthians 5:1-2 NIV).

Paul knew that it is the pure lifestyle and holiness of Christians that convicts the hearts of the unsaved and brings them to repentance. So he wrote back to them saying, “*Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough?*” (1 Corinthians 5:6 NIV). He also told the church in Ephesus, “*Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which He bought with His own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears*” (Acts 20:28-31 NIV).

A recent example of this deception occurred when “Christianity Today,” a magazine started by conservative Billy Graham in 1956, came out with an op-ed by the magazine's Editor-in-Chief, Mark Galli stating that they support impeaching President Trump. This was shocking and distressing to most true Christians because the President has been such a supporter of religious freedom, and has come to the defense of missionaries and Christian principles. Franklin Graham, the founder's son, stated that he felt compelled to respond because, “They invoked my father's name (I suppose to try to bring legitimacy to their statements). Yes, my father, Billy Graham, founded Christianity Today; but no, he would not agree with their opinion piece. In fact, he would be very disappointed. I have not previously shared who my father voted for in the past. But because of this article, I feel it is necessary to share it now. My father knew Donald Trump. He believed in Donald Trump, and he voted for Donald Trump. He believed Donald J. Trump was the man for this hour in history for this nation.”

Nevertheless, “*...we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose*” (Romans 8:28 NIV). So, “*do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus*” (Philippians 4:6-7 NIV).

In the Lord's service, *Eric and Anne Kaestner*



# Another Christ, Another Gospel

By Anne Kaestner

One of the most confusing aspects of evil is that it does not necessarily speak with one voice. Evil constantly wrestles against itself! Drug dealers fight other drug dealers. Families involved in organized crime are frequently battling other crime families. Nations led by evil dictators often go to war against each other. There is no peace in serving Satan! It's not only the righteous that he seeks to destroy, but also his own people! That's not to say that he won't lure foolish individuals into his den of evil with gifts and promises. But even secular wisdom tells us that all that glitters is not necessarily gold! Young women hear about the exploits of Playboy centerfolds. They see glossy magazine layouts about them, and hear about them staying at fancy hotels, and are met at the airport by chauffeur driven limousines. To a bored, unhappy teenager that type of life may look appealing, but of all those trading their eternal souls for it, very few make it all the way to the top. Yet of those few who reach the pinnacle and, for a while, seem to enjoy all that this world has to offer, the pleasure of sin is fleeting (see Luke 15:11-16 and John 2:15-17). Because "...everyone who sins is a slave to sin" (John 8:34 NIV). It does not bring lasting happiness! Moreover, the devil is like a loan shark whom desperate, vulnerable, people turn to. He doesn't give away any gifts without charging exorbitant interest! Therefore, once he gets his hook into you, he will use you, and after you discover that life is not what you had expected it to be, it will be too late to undo the damage. Only Christ can break Satan's evil hold! Yet even if you turn to the Lord, the more useful you were to the devil prior to repentance, the harder he will fight to get you back into his evil grasp!

Satan hates all of those who truly love and serve Jesus Christ. However, those of us who do are under God's protection until our work for Him is done and God takes us home to Heaven (John 14:2 and Luke 16:22). Yet those who do not live for Christ are not protected, and they are ripe for the devil's attacks! He will take that man or woman who prefers the temporal pleasures of this world system (Hebrews 11:25, James 1:14-15), and as soon as their usefulness to him is over, Satan will kill them. Moreover, the devil is a hard taskmaster. The ancient Pharaoh of Egypt is a typical example of the attitude of those controlled by the prince of darkness, Satan (see Exodus 5:10-19 and Ephesians 2:2-3). He squeezes his subjects dry, and uses them up as fast as he can. As a result, they often die far younger than would a child of God. That's not to say that there haven't been many Christians who have died young. Nevertheless, I believe that those who love and serve Jesus Christ, live far longer than do those who serve the god of this world, Satan (Ephesians 2:1-3, John 12:31, Matthew 4:8-10). For instance, prostitutes and drug dealers usually don't live to a ripe old age. They often die from murder, suicide, venereal disease, or drug abuse. James Dean, Marilyn Monroe, and Elvis Presley are just a few examples of this.

In a TV Guide article written many years ago, Rod Serling, creator of "The Twilight Zone" stated (paraphrased), "They give you a million dollars for a contract and you think you're doing great. Then, after you get used to living on it, they threaten to take it away from you if you don't do as they say." *"Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry"* (Colossians 3:5 NIV). And greed can become as addicting as any drug, as is all idolatry. Because it never satisfies. You will want more and more. And then one day you realize that it's not you who controls the money; the money controls you!

Money is just another one of Satan's many techniques for controlling your soul. There is no peace in sin. Only Christ can give real peace, because He's the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6, Philippians 4:7). Sure, you're going to find exceptions like George Burns, who lived to be a hundred years old despite his worldly lifestyle, hard drinking, and chronic cigar smoking. But I believe that it was God who kept Burns alive all those extra years. Satan doesn't preserve life, he takes it (John 8:44, 10:10). For *"the Lord is ... patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance"* (2 Peter 3:9 NIV).

When you love someone, you hate to hear anyone speak badly of them, and that's the way I feel about God. I remember talking to a woman on the phone one time, who was flying into a tirade of how terrible God was treating her, and how she wouldn't serve a God who was so mean. But I knew enough about the woman to understand that it wasn't the Lord who was making her life miserable. She herself had made bad decisions, she wasn't willing to trust God with her problems, and even her cat meant more to her than Jesus! I try to be a patient person, but I had put up with just about enough insults toward the Lord. So finally, I just broke into her angry monologue and told her that I love and serve Jesus Christ, and I wasn't going to listen to her going on any more about how much she hated Him.

I tried to tell her that God had been good to her, and wanted to change her life for the better but that she had been too self-centered and rebellious to give Him the opportunity. And now she was blaming Him for problems that she had brought on herself. But she didn't want to hear it and the conversation came to an end.

I never saw the movie "Oh God," and wasn't interested in doing so, but the advertisements for it made me aware of its profane content. And, just as I was with the woman on the phone, I was hurt by anyone slandering my Savior, and desecrating His Holiness. So I used to wonder why the Lord allowed someone like George Burns to live so long when he seemed to make a profession of blasphemy. Then, one day, I was in a book store and happened to see a book written by George Burns. It was all about his late wife, Gracie

Allen. I began to leaf through the pages, and looked carefully over the pictures in the center. Burns must have been in his nineties when he wrote the book. He died in 1996. And Gracie Allen had died in 1964, which was nearly three decades earlier than the book. But the book was all about her. And I had not seen such a monument of love a man could have for a woman since an Indian King built the Taj Mahal, the most beautiful mausoleum in the world, for his wife, who had died. And it was as if God said to me, "That's why he lived so long. He loved Gracie so much, and was so hurt, and bitter toward me after she died, that I have given him extra years to come to repentance."

Mankind cannot even fathom the ways of God. His love is so deep and abiding for us, and His sacrifice so unimaginable that He gives us every possible chance of coming to Him and accepting His one and only plan of atonement in His Son, Jesus Christ (John 3:16-17). For *"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under Heaven given to men by which we must be saved"* (Acts 4:12 NIV). That is why people who reject the Lord have no excuse. It's because God will do everything possible to reach a person and pluck them out of the sea of destruction, if they will only look upon Him for salvation, accept Him as their Lord, and remain faithful to Him. *"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father has com-*



passion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him; for He knows how we are formed, He remembers that we are dust” (Psalms 103:11-14 NIV. Also, see Genesis 2:7).

That’s why it makes no sense to me at all when Christians like to have it both ways, to live for this world, and still claim to be Born Again. Anyone who truly loves Jesus isn’t going to “cheat” on Him! As Paul told the fledgling church he started in Corinth, “*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). When you really love Christ, you make a commitment to Him, and you remain faithful and obedient.

What do I mean by “cheat”? In Old Testament times the Hebrews would often stray away from the Lord and become chummy with the pagans. They would disregard the laws of God and fall prey to all kinds of sin and debauchery. The devil hasn’t changed his tactics in all these centuries, so it would start out pretty much the way it does today. After the Lord had been blessing His people and they were strong and prosperous, they would forget who made them that way. Many times, they would begin to look around at all the other nations, who were pagan, and make friends with them. When this occurred, the Hebrews would be influenced by the cultures of the heathen and, over a period of time, they would fall further and further away from God and deeper into sin (Psalm 106:31-39). They would intermarry with the foreign nations, and build altars for the worship of their gods. Even King Solomon did this (1 Kings 11:6-10). This was an abomination to the Lord! It was also the reason why God removed His blessings from the Hebrews and they eventually ended up in slavery again (2 Chronicles 36:16-20 & Daniel 1:1-4)! “*For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus*” (1 Timothy 2:5 NIV). So if a human being wants to worship his Creator he has to do so God’s way, through Jesus Christ. Even in the days of the Old Testament the righteous knew that (Job 19:25-27)! The Lord said, “*...I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*” (John 14:6 NIV).

Although America was founded on Christian values, and blessed by God, these days the government has chosen to separate itself from God. Educational establishments and the mass media try to tell us to have tolerance for other religions and alternate lifestyles. Yet the amount of tolerance God wants us to have with sin and idolatry is zero! Does this mean that we go around killing people who do not agree with us? Certainly not! Satan has tried to twist scripture in this regard so as to get well-meaning Christians off of the “straight and narrow” (Matthew 7:13-14) and into an attitude of hatred and violence. The Bible gives us a good analogy of this type of thing. Jesus was heading for Jerusalem and stopped off at a Samaritan village on the way, “*And they did not receive Him... And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt Thou that we command fire to come down from Heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But He turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them. And they went to another village*” (Luke 9:53-56 KJV).

These were men who loved and served Jesus Christ, but were not living according to the Holy Spirit, for their hearts were still filled with

worldliness, pride, and hatred. On a different occasion, Jesus had been explaining to His “*... disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that He must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. ‘Never, Lord!’ he said. ‘This shall never happen to You!’ Jesus turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men’*” (Matthew 16:21-23 NIV). This is something that Christians have real trouble understanding. When we become Born Again into the kingdom of God, it is not the beginning and end of our responsibility to God. It is only the **beginning!**

A newborn baby (1 Corinthians 3:1) might be cute and have great potential, but if he were to remain a baby forever, he wouldn’t be able to accomplish very much. A baby is very vulnerable because it can’t do anything for itself. A caregiver has to change the baby’s diapers and feed the child, because the baby cannot feed himself! Even so, it is expected that the little boy or girl will grow into a mature adult one day who will be an asset to his or her community and a building block toward the greater good of the nation. So time should be invested in that child to mold and develop him through proper teaching and discipline so that he will be all that he can be in service to his family, neighborhood, and country. For what is a country, just topography, earth, rocks, sky, vegetation? All of these things are good. But the potential of a nation depends on its people who live there! And people always start out as innocent, vulnerable infants. That’s the same way



it is with Born Again believers (see John 3:3)! It is also the reason why proper spiritual nourishment and development is so important in the body of Christ, the church (Colossians 1:24)! St. Paul explained to us that when a woman is married to a man, she is obligated in the eyes of God, to remain true and faithful to him as long as her husband remains alive. But if her husband dies, she is free to marry another man. Paul used that as an analogy of our relationship with Christ (Romans 7:2-4, Ephesians 5:23).

We were all born through the first Adam (Genesis 1:27-28), who sold out to the devil, and doomed himself, his wife, and all of his descendants, to an eternity of satanic bondage. Yet when we are Born Again (John 3:3) in Christ, we are no longer children of the flesh, which is corruptible and separates us from God. We are children of the Spirit of God. For Satan no longer has any hold on us, and we are no longer under the bondage of evil (Ephesians 2:1-5). We are under the lordship of a new Adam, Christ (1 Corinthians 15:45). In other words, God compares the two Adams, and the two brides. The first Adam was married to Eve, the mother of all of us. Through Eve, and every other woman after her, we were born into the natural realm of sin as babies, and we were thereby, contaminated with sin. God had put the entire blueprint for mankind in the seed of Adam, for he was to be the father of the human race. So when Adam poisoned the bloodline through his sin, that poison was inherited by every little baby ever to be born, because life is in the blood (Genesis 9:4), therefore, sin is also in the blood.

However, Jesus Christ was the only person ever to be born of a woman who was not, Himself, contaminated with sin. Mary was a human being just like every other woman who ever lived. So Mary didn’t contribute to the deity of Christ in any way (Luke 11:27-28, Mark 3:31-35). She was just the means through which God allowed His own Son to come into this world. And since Jesus Christ was not born through the act of a human man, He was not contaminated by sin. That’s because Mary didn’t become pregnant by having normal sexual relations with any man. In fact she **(Continued On Page 4)**

was a virgin. Mary was made pregnant through God Himself (Luke 1:26-35)! So Jesus wasn't infected with the poison that spreads throughout the human race as a result of the sin of Adam. But it's even better than that. For the blood that flowed through the veins of Christ wasn't just a similar type of blood to that which we have in our bodies. The blood of Christ was sacred and holy, because that is the natural condition of God, our Creator. Therefore, His blood had sterilizing ingredients in it that contained the antidote to sin for the entire human race!

Many years ago I saw a few episodes of a television show about a man who had a special type of blood that contained antibodies in it that killed germs in humans. Anyone who was given a blood transfusion from him was automatically cured of all his diseases. Naturally, in the show, human nature being the way it is, certain evil individuals saw a way of making money through him. So they tried to keep Him a slave who would just be available to them so that they could take blood from him whenever they chose to do so, and get rich. It's rather like the way that evil individuals today seek to get rich off of the blood sacrifice of Christ! (See 1 Timothy 6:10.) Yet, unless they repent of their sins, those individuals will be doomed to Hell and the Lake of Fire throughout all eternity (Revelation 20:15)!

Jesus doesn't want to be taken for granted by those who just want salvation from Him, but don't really love Him. That's why He 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. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from Me, you evil-doers!'"* (Matthew 7:21-23 NIV). Salvation is only for those who really love Jesus, not just with words, but with a heart that deeply seeks to please and honor Him! For this world may ignore His sacrifice, the false prophets may seek to profit from the Gospel (Matthew 7:15-19), *"Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God--children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God"* (John 1:12-13 NIV).

There has been so much talk in the church about the gifts of the Holy Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 12:4-11), and the love of God, that the church has become unbalanced in its faith. Yes, our Creator is a God of love, and He has given His people great gifts, if they truly love and serve Him. Nevertheless, the fear of God is never even discussed much anymore, and God expects us to not only love and obey Him (1 Samuel 15:22), but also to fear Him (Proverbs 1:7, 2 Corinthians 7:1), for He is Holy, Holy, Holy (Isaiah 6:3)! Christians today speak of God as if He were the tooth fairy or Santa Clause! Everything has been twisted around, by that great twister, Satan, so that believers no longer concern themselves with finding the will of God, but in looking for ways to get God to do **their** will (Jude 1:11)! The problem is a lack of faith. Yes, I know that we have all been hearing a great deal about the so-called faith ministries of today. But they are just another example of what I am discussing. Some churches have big signs outside saying "come expect a miracle," as if God is going to perform a magic act like a magician pulls a rabbit out of a hat! People, God doesn't exist to entertain us (Matthew 12:38-39)!

Therefore, when miracles and spiritual gifts are stressed continually in the body of Christ, it is the equivalent of feeding a baby nothing but candy! Now we all like sweet things for dessert, but we

simply can't live on them all the time. Nutritionists always talk about us having a balanced diet. Well, we also need a balanced faith! And I believe that it is because so many doctrines of the church have been blown up out of all proportion and others have been shrunk down to the fine print at the bottom of the page (so to speak) that Christians have been getting spiritually sick! You cannot live on a steady diet of candy and sweets day in and day out without becoming ill, and the same thing is true with a candy coated Gospel! Every nation in the world today that has a history of Christianity, and was founded on the Word of God is far stronger and more prosperous than nations that have never known the Lord. Yet despite this, these nations are losing ground economically and socially. Crime is increasing dramatically, lawlessness abounds, and new killer diseases are on the rise. Diseases from the past, that were once thought to be history, are now developing a new life of their own that is resistant to antibiotics. It's much the same way with insects. Some of them, such as bees and butterflies, were given to us by God, for the honey they make or the beauty they create, but other insects were used by God to punish rebellious humans (Exodus 10:4-6) in the hope that they would repent of their sins and return to the Lord.

The Constitution of the United States granted everyone freedom of religion because it was the framework of a great Christian nation. That was something heathen nations generally don't grant. And God wants people to choose to worship Him out of love, not to do so because they are forced into it. If people are told to become



Christians or die, most will accept Christianity, but their hearts will not really love the Lord. So our Creator would rather allow us to have a choice in the matter. He only wants those who turn to Him for salvation and lordship because they want to, not because it is the religion of the land. Yet these days, this freedom has been erroneously interpreted to mean freedom **from** Christ rather than **freedom of choice**. This pattern has repeated itself down through the ages! God is not a spoil sport. He doesn't tell us to stay away from idols because He doesn't want us to have any enjoyment. He does so because Christ loves His Bride (John 3:28-30 & Ephesians 5:31-32) and will not share her with demons posing as other gods. For these "other gods" are really no gods at all (see Deuteronomy 32:16-25). They are all under

Satan's authority because they are fallen angels (Revelation 12:9), who fell from their position as angels when they mutinied against God (Revelation 12:7-8).

Therefore, those who do not worship Christ, our only Savior, end up worshipping these demon spirits. And these evil spirits have retained some of the power and abilities God gave them when they were angels. So they use their power to fool gullible individuals into worshipping them. The pagans didn't know any better, so God understood their sinful ways. But when His own people, whom He had blessed and nurtured, began to worship the same demons, treating them as gods (Deuteronomy 32:17), the Lord was livid. It always begins with the blessings of God. Then people take the blessings for granted and grow bored with serving the Lord. They think that sin will liven things up for them and they rebel. When humans worship idols, it is spiritual adultery as far as God is concerned! That's because as Christians, we are supposed to be married to Christ (see 2 Corinthians 11:2). Therefore, enter your relationship with God *"...through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it"* (Matthew 7:13-14 NIV. Also, see Revelation 3:15-20).