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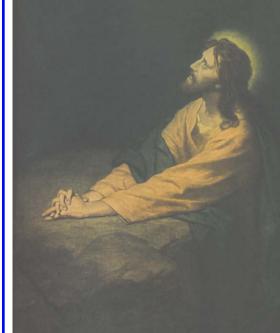
VOL.65, No.4

"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

April 2019

CHRIST IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

By Heinrich Hofmann 1824-1911



THE HOLY BIBLE--The Gospel According to
Saint Matthew XXVI:36
"Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called
Gethsemane and saith unto the disciples,
Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder."

"Understandest thou what thou readest?"

As we come closer to Easter each year, I am deeply moved and amazed that God would give us such a gift of love and forgiveness in Christ. The death and resurrection of Christ are at the heart of our Easter celebration, and at the heart of the message we preach at home and abroad. Christ is risen!

On the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). When the two disciples walked on the road to Emmaus. they were discussing Jesus' death. Suddenly Jesus Himself was walking with them, but they didn't recognize Him. When He asked them what they were discussing that made them so sad, they told Him about Jesus of Nazareth, whom they thought was a great prophet and the Messiah. Now their hopes and dreams were dashed. He had been crucified and buried. Some of their group claimed that He had risen from the dead, but they could not believe it.

Jesus then told them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" Then Jesus quoted from the Scriptures beginning with the writings of Moses, explaining what the passages meant and what they said about Himself.

They wanted this stranger to join them for some food in their home. He did. When He took the loaf of bread, broke it and passed it to them, suddenly their eyes were opened. They recognized Him, and then He

disappeared. They started telling one another how their hearts felt strangely warm as they talked with Him. Within the hour, they were hurrying back to Jerusalem, where the other disciples of Jesus were waiting. We would do well to go once again to the Bible and reflect on the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus for our sins, which is the crux of the GOSPEL that we preach (1 Corinthians 15:1-8).

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Before crucifixion, criminals were commonly scourged with a whip made of leather thongs weighted with pieces of sharp metal until the flesh on their backs was all torn open. Sometimes death resulted from scourging alone. After the beating, the victims were led to the place of execution through the city market place. When they arrived at some easily accessible knoll, they were made to lie down while they were bound to the cross-bar and their hands nailed. They were then lifted up by ropes or ladders and the cross-bar was attached firmly to an upright that had been driven into the ground. The crucified's crotch rested on a round peg driven into the upright. The feet were nailed to the upright, and the victim left hanging not more than two feet from the around.

There was great mental anguish in hanging practically face-to-face with the curious and the sadistic that might mock and scorn at the cries of the dying.

Crucifixion was regarded as the most disgraceful, as well as the most excruciating manner of execution. The torture of the cross began with the pain of the unnatural position of sitting on the peg. The swelling wounds on the hands, feet, and lacerated back, the torn tendons and nerves, and the unsufferable thirst under the hot sun combined to bring torture beyond imagination. Arteries of the head and stomach would become surcharged with blood, causing a terrifying throbbing sensation.

The Lord Jesus Christ suffered one of the most ignominious, savage kinds of death known to man. But He died standing up in symbolic defiance of the powers of sin and Satan, crying with a loud voice, "It is finished!" He was made a curse for you and me that we might not have to bear God's curse on sin ourselves (Galatians 3:13).

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Sue and I have had the privilege to lead tour groups to the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem and enter it, pausing before the ledge upon which a body was placed. But the tomb is empty and the stone is rolled away!

Were you there when He rose up from the grave? "And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell His disciples, that He is risen from the dead; and behold, He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see

Him; lo, I have told you so" (Matthew 28:5–7).

Up from the grave, He arose. He lives. Christ is risen indeed. When the glorious sunrise of Easter morning comes, we shout, !He is risen"" The resurrection of Jesus Christ is what gives us hope as we look to the future.

How can I ever praise the Lord Jesus Christ enough? He has done so much for me. Does this express your sentiment? When we are thinkful, we will be thankful! Christ was "made sin" for us, though He knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

Hannah K. Burlington expressed this truth so beautifully when she wrote:

The Holy One who knew no sin, God made Him sin for us;
The Savior died our souls to win,
Upon the shameful cross.
His precious blood alone availaled
To wash our sins away
Through weakness He o'er hell
prevailed
Through death He won the day.

Do you believe that God raised Jesus from the death? With your mouth have you confessed that Jesus is Lord? Ask Him to save you right now if you have never done so. If so, you are following His instructions in Romans 10:8-13.

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henr

I shall know Him



Born: March 24, 1820 Putnam County, New York

Died: February 12, 1915 Bridgeport, Connecticut

Buried: Bridgeport, Connecticut

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

Fanny Crosby was probably the most prolific hymnist in history. Though blinded by an incompetent doctor at six weeks of age, she wrote over 8,000 hymns. After her blindness, she said: It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dispensation. If perfect earthly sight were offered me tomorrow I would not accept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the beautiful and interesting things around me.

In her lifetime, Fanny Crosby was one of the best known women in the United States. To this day, the majority of American hymnals contain her work.

Some of my favorites are the following: All the Way My Savior Leads Me; Blessed Assurance; Blessed Redeemer; Christ the Lord is Risen Today; He Hideth My Soul; I am Thine O Lord; Jesus is Passing This Way; Living for Jesus; Meet Me There; Near the Cross; No Tears in Heaven; Redeemed How I Love to Prooclaim It; Safe in the Arms of Jesus; Saved by Grace; Saved by the Blood; Showers of Blessing; Tell Me the Story of

Jesus; Through Your Sins be as Scarlet; To God be the Glory; To the Work, Trusting Jesus,; and Will Jesus Find Us Watching? These are songs whose words have strengthened my commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and increased my love for the One who died for my sins. Most are Christocentric!

One line that I have pondered over often is "I Shall Know Him by the print of the nails in His hand." At this Easter season, let's reflect on what brought about those nail-prints and determine to give Him our best.

When my life-work is ended, And I cross the swelling tide, When the bright and glorious morning I shall see; I shall know my Redeemer When I reach the other side, And His smile will be the first to welcome me.

I shall know Him, I shall know Him, And redeemed by His side, I shall stand. I shall know Him, I shall know Him, By the print of the nails in His hand.

HALLELUJAH!

In the bonds of Death He lay
Who for our offence was slain;
But the Lord is risen today,
Christ has brought us life again,
Wherefore let us all rejoice,
Singing loud, with cheerful voice,
HALLELUJAH!

Martin Luther

And with <u>great power</u> the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And <u>great grace</u> was upon them all." Acts 4:33

The first evangelistic sermon Acts 2:22-39

The first evangelistic sermon was preached by Peter on the day of Pentecost. Crowds had gathered. Peter preached. His message contains the basic elements of the Gospel.

(1) Jesus was crucified and raised from the dead (w 23-24); (2) Jesus' death was predicted and explained in the Bible; (3) He is Lord and Savior (v 36); (4) Repent and show your faith in Him (v 38a); (5) Your sins will be forgiven, and God will give you His Holy Spirit (vv 38b-39).

Modern preachers could learn much from Peter's sermon that was designed to unveil the true nature of Jesus (God's servant (Acts 3:13, 26), the Holy and Righteous One (v 15), the Christ/Messiah (v 18), and the foretold "prophet like Moses" (v 22) so that his listeners, who had hesitated to accept Christ's claims while He lived among them, would change their minds about Jesus. Anyone who thinks of Jesus as anything less than God, and the Savior of mankind, must change his or her mind about Jesus to be saved.

Sadly, some are turning from the old paths. They say, "This is a new way, a more relevant way. We need a new way to express the Christian message." There is no "new way" to express the Gospel, for the Gospel of Jesus remains the same Good News it was when first preached by Peter and believed on by around 3,000 Jews in Jerusalem. We can all learn from Peter's first evangelistic sermon incorporated the elements as we witness.

Explanation of check list (pp 9-15)

For the first two decades of the prayer seminar ministry, the basic teaching tool was a seventy-nine page workbook. Although I could never teach more than 30% of the workbook during a six-hour seminar, I felt it could be an on-going resource to those who made commitments related to their prayer lives during a seminar.

Due to time pressures in seminars in other countries, I condensed the material into a thirty-page workbook including every subject that I cover. Another reason, it is easier to translate thirty pages than seventy-nine pages. In 2003, it became obvious that a wise move would be to use the thirty-page workbook in all seminars both at home and abroad. It is my conclusion that this edition is far more useful as a tool for

teaching-learning than the larger one.

One challenge, however, was deciding what to omit. In session six, which deals with getting ready to pray, I included a very helpful inventory check sheet to enable a person to see himself as God sees him—using the Scripture itself as the mirror. There was no room in the thirty-page workbook, although I have included it in my book, Intercession: Prayer as Work. For sometime I have felt that it would be helpful for believers sincerely seeking personal revival to have access to the Check List. I encourage you to study it carefully and prayerfully.

If you have the **Prayer Seminar Workbook**, you might want to insert the Check List in session six. If you do not have a thirty-page workbook, and would like to have one, please request one and we will get one to you.

Shining Star Baptist Church Middle River, Maryland Saturday, March 16, 2017



The Everything by Prayer Seminar Team Doorkeeper Wanda Lewis (L), Chairperson



Some of the Lighhouses of Prayer who will be pushing against the spiritual darkness in Baltimore

PRAYER IS THE WORK THAT MUST COME BEFORE ALL OTHER WORK. MANY ARE READY TO ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BEING A LIGHTHOUSE OF PRAYER FOR THEIR FAMILIES & THEIR COMMUNITIES.

IN LOVING MEMORY

"Absent from the body, present with the Lord" 2 Corinthians 5:1, 8 Pastor James Johnson Shining Light Baptist Church Middle River MD 9/22/1941-12/27/2017

DOORKEEPER

Sara George (Mrs. Robert) Columbus, Georgia 12/10/1936-3/18/2019

WELCOME, NEW DOORKEEPERS

Tina Darden (MD)
Mark & Debbie Jenifer (MD)
Aaron & Iris Johnson (MD)
Vicky Johnson (MD)
Aaron & Wanda Lewis (MD)
PARTNERS TOGETHER WITH GOD



NOTES FROM MY BIBLE

Note 4041. "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits" (Psalm 68:19); "daily" does not mean "now and then;" "loadeth" does not mean a little, it means a lot."

Note 4042. A Christian who is not witnessing is a disobedient Christian."
Note 4043. With God behind us and His arms beneath us, we can face whatever lies ahead."

Note 4044. God is no security against life's storms, but He is perfect security in life's storms.

Note 4045. When trouble calls on us, we can call on God.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers."

1 Thessalonians 1:2

February 16-March 18, 2019

 Regular
 68
 \$6,517

 Cuba
 41
 8,200

 Kenya-Martin
 1
 100

 Total
 110
 \$14.817



PRAYER CALENDAR

APRIL 2019

"I will give myself to prayer..." Psalm 109:4b

MONDAY, APRIL 1

1 KINGS 1-4 (Trinidad 1.2M)

Zane & Burma Abbott (VA)

Mae Adams (NC)

Robert/Susanne Adams (TN)

Norma Ailes (NJ)

H. L. & Janie Allen (SC)

David/Eunjoo Andersen (VA)

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

1 KINGS 5-8 (Uganda 369.6M)

Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

Eldon/Gayle Armstrong (SC)

Leonor Avila (MD)

Mike & Joyce Baker (VA)

Marcia Barna (PA)

Tim Bash - GCCC (NJ) Emily Baskin (TN)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

1 KINGS 9-11 (Ukraine 44M)

Jean Beasley (TN)

Linda Beattie (PA)

Tommy Bell (TN)

Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)

Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)

Beulah Baptist Church (VA)

Dennis Hollandsworth, Pastor Beverly Blankenship (TN)

Loretta Bolen (VA)

THURSDAY, APRIL4

1 KINGS 12-16 (UKingdom 65M)

Everett/Deborah Boston (MD)

Wm/Debbie Bowden (NC)

David & Marna Boyd (OR)

Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)

Ed & Jean Bradshaw (VA)

Kim Bradshaw (VA)

Lurline Braud (VA)

Michal Breed (WI)

Nancy Bretz (PA)

Judy Britt (GA)

Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

1 KINGS 17-19 (Jamaica 3M)

Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)

Freddie/Yvonne Brunson (DE)

George & Janet Buck (NJ)

Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)

Eileen Camarena (NJ)

Anne Campbell (VA)

Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

1 kINGS 20-22(USA 326.6M)

Cliff & Laura Cannon (FL) Robin & Teresa Carlson (NJ)

Robert & Anita Carroll (VA)

SUNDAY, APRIL7

Vernia Coleman (MD)

Mary Columbus (VA)

Kathie Connolly (VA)

Philip & Jennifer Cooke (VA)

Larry & Sue Cooper (DE)

Foster/Ravenna Covington (VA)

Barry & Melanie Cox (VA)

Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)

Jerry & Joan Crain (SC)

MONDAY, APRIL 8

2 KINGS 1-3 (Uruguay 3.4M)

Robert/Charlotte Crout (SC)

Dufrene/Peggy Cummings (NC)

Barbara Custalow (VA)

Tina Darden (MD)

Bobby & Deborah Davis (VA)

John Davis (VA)

Harold & Tama Decker (NY)

Robert & Janice DeLong (VA)

Carolyn Dodd (VA)

Jo Anne Dudley (VA)

Michael & Diane Eagle (VA)

Katherine Eaton (ME)

Bessie Eggleston (MD)

Lynn Elkins (TN) Jeff & Leeann Englert (KY)

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

2 KINGS 4-8 (Venezuela 31M)

Don & Mardy Enoch (FL)

Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

John & Susan Finnessy (MD) James & Ruth Flanagan (GA)

Nancy Fowser (NJ)

Freedom Through Faith (MD) Bob Tribodeau, Pastor

Claire/MaryAnn Fredstrom (NE)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

2 KINGS 9-12 (Zambia 16.M) Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)

James Fugate (CA)

Emilee Fulcher (VA)

John & Kim Gaines (MD)

Pauline Garrett (NJ)

Ron & Kay Gavette (VA)

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

2 KINGS 13-17 (Phippi 104.3M)

Gloucester Co. Community Ch Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)

Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND) Steve & Sue Gordon (VA)

Chad & Wendy Goodner (OK)

Sam/Michele Graisbery (NJ)

Dale & Mary Gray (IL) Odether Gray (GA)

FRIDAY, APRIL12

1 KINGS 18-21(VeNEZUELA 31M)

Linda Gregory (UT) Mike Hall (IN)

Joy Harper (VA)

Bruce & Vivian Harris (TN) Sadie Harris (VA)

Hazel Hartless (VA)

Jim Hengoed (CT)

Gina Henry (VA) J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)

SATURDAY, APRIL13

1 CHRON 1-9VeNEZUELA 31M)

Jack Henry (TN) James & Kathryn Henry (MS)

Mark Henry (TN)

Melody Henry (VA)

Roger & Sara Henry (OH)

Sean & Bethany Henry (VA)

Steve & Donna Hensel (MN)

Ed & Donna Hindson (VA)

Frank & Pat Hitchings (VA)

Jeff Hodge (VA)

Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Joanna Holland (VA)

John & Glenda Holland (VA)

Anita Horton (VA) Mike & Sonya Hosick (TN)

Coy Hunsucker (NC)

Joyce Hunt (TN)

Wilbert/Almaretta Hupp (PA) Jide & Bunmi Iware (MD)

Vernelle Jenkins (MD)

Mark Jennifer (MD) Paul/Suzanne Jennings (TN)

Jonathan & Julia Jobe (SC)

Millicent John (NY) MONDAY, APRIL 15

1 CHRON 10-16 (Brazil 207.4M)

Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)

Gwen Johnson (AZ)

Iris Johnson (MD)

James Victoria Johnson (MD)

Jim & PennyJohnson (KY) Rick & Betsy Johnson (TN)

James Jones (FL) Paul Jones (KY)

Theodora/Sherry Jones MD)

W I & Eloise Jones (SC) Judy Jordan (VA)

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

1 CHRON 17-21 (Brazil 207.4M)

Mohan Katta (IL) Suzie Kauffmann (NC)

HarperShelia Keebaugh (PA) Harriet Kennedy (VA) Kerby Knob Baptist Ch (KY) Daren Hisel, Pastor Louis & Jane Kiger (VA) Larry & Janet King (NC) Ken & Bonnie Kirby (PA) Robert/Andrea Klepper (TN) Kenneth & Amy Kollar (ID) WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 1 SAMUEL 20-23 (Brazil 207.4M) Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI) Korean Branch: Dr. Shin Kwang Suk Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA) Woodrow & Linda Kroll (NE) Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ) Phil & Edra Landers (OK) Del & Mary Leach (VA) Aaron & Wanda Lewis (MD) THURSDAY, APRIL 18 1 SAMUEL 9-12 (Brazil 207.4M) Liberty University (VA) Jerry Falwell Jr., President Delores Liely (MD) Mike & Earlene Lips (MS) Vince/Mary Lobisco (MI) Ray & Bobbie Long (WV) Don & Betty Lowry (SC) Manship Chapel (DE) Bruce & Vickie Tibbett Wilma Marcum (KY) Nick & Pat Markham (VA) FRIDAY, APRIL 19 1 SAMUEL 13-15 (Brazil 207.4M) Reg & Gloria Martin (OH) Larry & Sue Mason (VA) Beau Ware Masonry (VA) Deborah Mathias (NY) Murray/Loretta Mathis (TN) Bob & Heidi Matney (MD) Dan & Fay McConville (VA) R. O. & June McHaney (VA) Nancy McPherson (ME) Don & Barbara Meduna (CO) Terry/Sandra Metzgar (TN) SATURDAY, APRIL 20 1 SAMUEL 16-19 (Brazil 207.4M) Betsy Miedema (MI) Roger & Nancy Minney (VA) Keith & Joan Mistretta (ME) Bill & Sharon Moody (VA) Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC) Joseph & Doris Moos (NJ) Drever/Roberta Morton (VA Elaine Moser (MN) Bob & Diane Nichols (VA) NE Baptist College (VT) President Mark Ballard

Oconto Gospel Chapel (WI) Zack & Jackie Olcott (VA) SUNDAY APRIL 21 Ann Palumbo (PA) Pecks Baptist Church (VA) Bryan Sheehan, Pastor Jack & Carollyn Peerman (VA) Jim & Barb Peterson (MI) Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA) Barbara Powell (NY) Elbert/Barbara L. Powell (VA) Marshall & Lois Powell (KY) Jeanne/Maggie Pribble (VA) Marjorie Randall (TX) MONDAY, APRIL 22 SAMUEL 24-26 (Brazil 207.4M) Dave Ricker (ME) Joyce Riley (KY) Calvin & Valerie Ritchey (VA) Cynthia Roach (VA) John & Sandra Roberts (NC) Dorlos/Betty Robinson (MS) Isabel Robotham (NY) James & Shelly Rode (FL) Clark & Marie Rogers (VA) TUESDAY, APRIL23 1 SAMUEL 27-31 (Brazil 207.4M) Fred & Wanda Rolater (TN) Bob & Marlene Rose (MI) John Saint (PA) Don/Marie Satterwhite (MO) Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA) Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA) WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 1 SAMUEL 20-23 (Brazil 207.4M) Phil & Wendy Schrank (IL) Steve Schrank (IL) Sam & Jill Scott (VA) John & Peggy Seibert (AL) Dennis/Monica Shannon (OH) Shenandoah Valley Bapt Ch (VA) Nellie F. Shepard (CT) Lola Simpson (NY) Mary Skiles (KS) Ron & Bonnie Smith (VA) THURSDAY, APRIL 25 2 SAMUEL 1-4 (Brazil 207.4M) Walt & Betty Sommers (VA) Helen Sourlis (MD) St. Paul Baptist Church (IN) C. L. Adams, Pastor Randy & Cheryl Stauter (MN) Tim & Pam Steger (ID) Carol Snow Steward (CT) FRIDAY, APRIL 26 2 SAMUEL 5-7 (Brazil 207.4M) Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA) Charles Stinson (VA)

Johnny/Rose M. Street (TX) William Suttles (NC) Bob & Sandy Swain (VA) Brian/Janice Tarraferro (TX) Billy & Sharon Taylor (PA) SATURDAY, APRIL 27 2 SAM 8-10 (Singapore 5.9M) Ron Taylor (VA) Stephanie Taylor (GA) Jimmy & Mary Thomas (VA) Mona Henry Thomas (VA) W. D./Jackie Thomason (TN) Larry Thompson (VA) Montez Thompson (WI) Cathy Tilton (VA) Paula Tipton (TN) SUNDAY, APRIL 28 William & Katie Toney (NC) Carrol/Ouida Troutman (KY) Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY) Diane Troutman (KY) Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY) Joe & Benita Troutman (KY) Malcom Troutman (KY)t Marshall/Mary Troutman (KY) Frances Turpin (VA) MONDAY., APRIL 29 2 SAM 15-18 (Brazil 207.4M) Sara Underwood (TN) Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN) Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ) Harrs/& Jane Verkaik (MI/FL) George/Jeanette Vernarchik (NJ) Patsy Ann Voss (DE) Michael & Sandra Ward (IN) Beau/Ashley/Willow/Will Ware (VA) Joyce Warpoole (TEN) Holland & Mary Warren (VA) Rodger Watts (WI) Naomi Webb (NJ) Frank & Nell Weer (KY) TUESAY, APRIL 30 2 SAMUEL 19-20 (Brazil 207.4M Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY) Paul & Diane Wieland (PA) Reg/Mary Ann Wilburn (VA) Jeff Williamson (FL) Ken & Carol Willis (VA) Julie L. Wilson (PA) Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA) Eva Winebarger (VA) Amos & Celia Wipf (GA) Jon & Selena Wood (PA) Layden Wood (VA) David & Lili Wykle (VA) Yeshua Ministries (TN) Frank Bell, Pastor Fred & Susan Zeller (VA)

PREPARATION FOR PERSONAL PRAYER



GOD IS SEEKING PRAYER WARRIORS TO SERVE AS LIGHTHOUSES OF PRAYER

There are two aspects of sin for a Christian. First, God says, "There are some things I do not want in the lives of My children." Second, God says, "There are some things that I want in the lives of all my children." What am I doing that God does not want me to do? What am I not doing that God wants me to do?

A practical suggestion is to get off by yourself with pen and paper. Ask God to show you any sins in your life. List them in order to deal with them through repentance and confession one by one. Begin by praying a prayer like David's prayer as he sought cleansing long ago: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24). Until you confess and forsake known sin, you cannot have a prayer life: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psalm 66:18); "Behold, God's hand is not shortened that He cannot save; neither is His ear heavy that He cannot hear, but your iniquities have separated between you and your God and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He cannot hear" (Isaiah 59:1-2).

The Word of God is a mirror

Conviction is the starting place of getting clean before God. Conviction simply means being conscious or aware of sin. Conviction is the work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:8-11). He uses the Word of God to bring conviction. One explanation of the lack of conviction in the lives of many Christians is that they are not in the Word of God. When a Christian is seeking God through the Word, the Holy Spirit often shows him how God sees Him.

A few years ago, my wife, Sue, and I were conducting a series of prayer seminars in several Latin American countries (Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Mexico). We were having lunch in San Jose, Costa Rica. She said to me, "You have a piece of butter on your right check" which I did not know. I said, "thank you," took my napkin, and wiped off the butter. Often, as we read His Word, the Holy Spirit says, "You've got a piece of butter on your right cheek" or WHATEVER. It is then that we can take care of the problem through repentance and confession.

The Check List

Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, this Check List can be a tremendous help in identifying and confessing sins that often hinder genuine revival. Read the selected Scriptures that follow. Go through the questions one by one. Answer truthfully each question in the light of your life at this time. Every "yes" means a sin in your life. In reading these questions, as you are convicted of sin by the Holy Spirit, put the sin on your sin list. Once the list is completed, consider each sin one by one with a willingness to make things right. Think in terms of repenting (changing your mind) and confessing (agreeing with God, owning up to the sin and saying the same thing about it one by one that He says). Once you have confessed the sin, you can accept forgiveness and cleansing because that is what God will give you. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Be sure to NAME YOUR SIN to God since that is what is required by the word "confess." Be specific. For example, you might need to say, "Lord, I have not put You first in my plans" or "I have neglected Your Word and prayer." Further, do not make even the least excuse for sin of any kind in your life. Remember "he that covereth his sin shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy" (Proverbs 28:13).

No matter what others do, or do not do, leave nothing undone on your part. God wants to work through you to bring about a great spiritual awakening and a revival in your church. You can begin by fulfilling, with the help of the Holy Spirit, every requirement laid out by the Lord in His Word.

- 1. <u>Matthew 6:12,14-15</u>. "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: but if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."
 - 1) Is there anyone against whom you hold a grudge?
 - 2) Is there anyone whom you have not forgiven?
 - 3) Is there anyone you hate?
 - 4) Is there anyone whom you do not love?
 - 5) Are there any misunderstandings that you are unwilling to forgive and forget?
 - 6) Is there any person against whom you are harboring bitterness, resentment or jealously?
 - 7) Is there anyone you dislike to hear well spoken of or praised?
 - 8) Do you allow anything to justify a wrong attitude toward another?
- Matthew 6:33. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."
- 1) Is there anything in which you have failed to put God first?

"I WILL ARISE AND GO TO MY FATHER, AND WILL SAY UNTO HIM, FATHER, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST HEAVEN, AND BEFORE THEE" ... Luke 15:18

- 2) Have your decisions been made after your own wisdom and desires, rather than seeking and following God's will?
- 3) Do any of the following in any way interfere with your surrender and service to God: pleasures, loved ones, friendships, desires for recognition, money, your own plans?
- 3. <u>Mark 16:15</u>. "And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."
 - 1) Have you failed to seek the lost for Christ?
 - 2) Have you failed to witness consistently <u>with your mouth</u> for the Lord Jesus Christ?
 - 3) Has your life not shown to the lost the Lord Jesus Christ?
- 4. <u>John 13:35</u>. "By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if ye have love one to another."
 - 1) Are you secretly pleased over the misfortunes of another?
 - 2) Are you secretly annoyed over the accomplishments or advancements of another?
 - 3) Are you guilty of any contention or strife?
 - 4) Do you quarrel, argue, or engage in "heated" discussions?
 - 5) Are you a partaker in any divisions, or party spirit?
 - 6) Are there people whom you deliberately slight?
- 5. Acts 20:35. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
 - 1) Have you robbed God by withholding His due of time, talents, or money?
 - 2) Have you given less than a tenth of your income for God's work?
- 3) Have you failed to support mission work either in prayer or in offering?
- 6. <u>1 Corinthians 4:2</u>. "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."
- 1) Are you undependable so that you cannot be trusted in the Lord's work with responsibilities?
- 2) Are you allowing your emotions to be stirred for things of the Lord, then doing nothing about it?
- 7. <u>1 Corinthians 6:19-20</u>. "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."
- 1) Are you in any way careless with your body?
- 2) Do you fail to care for your body as the temple of the Holy Spirit?
- 3) Are you quilty of intemperance in eating and drinking?
- 4) Do you have habits that are defiling your body?

- 8. <u>1 Corinthians 10:31</u>. "Whether ye eat, or drink, or WHATSOEVER YE DO, do all to the glory of God."
- 1) Do you take the slightest credit for anything good about you, rather than give all to the glory of God?
- 2) Do you talk of what you have done rather than what Christ has done?
- 3) Are your statements mostly about "I"?
- 4) Are your feelings easily hurt?
- 5) Have you made a pretense of being something you are not?
- Ephesians 3:20. "Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."
- 1) Are you SELF-CONSCIOUS rather than GOD-CONSCIOUS?
- 2) Do you allow feelings of inferiority to keep you from attempting things you should for God?
- 10. <u>Ephesians 4:28</u>. "Let him who stole steal no more; but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."
 - 1) Do you underpay?
 - 2) Do you do very little in your work?
 - 3) Have you been careless in the payment of your debts?
 - 4) Do you waste time for yourself and for others?
- 11. <u>Ephesians 4:31</u>. "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice."
- 1) Do you complain?
- 2) Do you find fault?
- 3) Do you have a critical attitude toward any person or thing?
- 4) Are you irritable or cranky?
- 5) Do you ever carry hidden anger?
- 6) Do you get angry?
- 7) Do you become impatient with others?
- 8) Are you ever harsh or unkind?
- 12. Ephesians 5:16. "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil."
- 1) Do you listen to unedifying radio or TV programs?
- 2) Do you read unworthy magazines?
- 3) Do you partake in worldly amusements?
- 4) Do you find it necessary to seek satisfaction from any questionable source?
- 5) Are you doing certain things that show you are not satisfied with the Lord Jesus Christ?
- 13. <u>Ephesians 5:20</u>. "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."
- 1) Have you neglected to thank Him for all things, bad and good?

- 2) Have you virtually called God a liar by doubting His Word?
- 3) Do you worry?
- 4) Is your spiritual temperature based on your feelings instead of on the facts of God's Word?
- 14. <u>Philippians 1:21</u>. "For me to live is Christ [to live all over again], and to die is gain."
- 1) Are you taken up with the cares of this life?
- 2) Is your conversation or heart joy over "things" rather than the Lord and His Word?
- 3) Does anything mean more to you than living for and pleasing Christ?
- 15. Philippians 2:14. "Do all things without murmurings and disputings."
- 1) Do you ever by word or deed seek to hurt someone?
- 2) Do you carry prejudice against true Christians because they are of some different group than yours, or because they do not see everything exactly like you?
- 3) Do you gossip?
- 4) Do you speak unkindly concerning people when they are not present?
- 16. Philippians 4:4. "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice."
- 1) Have you neglected to seek to be pleasing to Him in all things?
- 2) Do you carry any bitterness toward God?
- 3) Have you complained against Him in any way?
- 4) Have you been dissatisfied with His provision for you?
- 5) Do you have any reservations as to what you would or would not do concerning anything that might be His will?
- 6) Have you disobeyed some direct leading from Him?
- 17. <u>Colossians 3:9</u>. "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds."
- 1) Do you engage in empty and unprofitable conversation?
- 2) Do you ever lie?
- 3) Do you ever exaggerate?
- 4) Do you ever cheat?
- 5) Do you ever steal?
- 6) Carefully consider: Do you overcharge?
- 18. 2 Timothy 2:22. "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."
- 1) Do you have personal habits that are not pure?
- 2) Do you allow impure thoughts about the opposite sex to stay in your mind?
- 3) Do you read that which is impure or suggests unholy thoughts?
- 4) Do you include in any unclean entertainment?
- 5) Are you quilty of the lustful look?

- 19. <u>Hebrews 10:25</u>. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and much more, as ye see the day approaching."
 - 1) Do you stay away from meetings of preaching the gospel?
- 2) Do you whisper or think about other things while God's Word is being read or preached?
- 3) Are you irregular in attendance at services?
- 4) Do you neglect to attend and to participate in prayer meetings?
- 5) Have you neglected/slighted daily private prayer?
- 6) Have you neglected thanksgiving at meals?
- 7) Have you neglected family devotions?
- 20. <u>Hebrews 13:7</u>. "Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the Word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."
 - 1) Do you hesitate to submit to leaders in the church or elsewhere?
 - 2) Are you lazy?
 - 3) Do you rebel at requests given to you to help in the work of the gospel?
 - 4) Do you have in any way a stubborn or unteachable spirit?
- 21. <u>James 1:27</u>. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world."
 - 1) Have you allowed yourself to become "spotted" by the world?
 - 2) Is your manner of dress pleasing to God?
 - 3) Do you spend beyond what is pleasing to God on anything?
 - 4) Do you neglect to pray about the things you buy?
- 22. <u>James 4:6</u>. "But He giveth more grace, Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth more grace unto the humble."
- 1) Do you feel that you have done quite well as a Christian?
- 2) Do you feel that you are not so bad?
- 3) Do you feel that you are good enough?
- 4) Are you stubborn?
- 5) Do you insist on having your own way?
- 6) Do you insist on your own "rights"?
- 23. <u>James 3:11</u>. "Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?"
- 1) Have you dishonored Him and hindered His work by criticizing His servants?
- 2) Have you failed to pray regularly for your pastor and other spiritual leaders?
- 3) Do you find it hard to be corrected?
- 4) Is there rebellion toward one who wants to restore you?

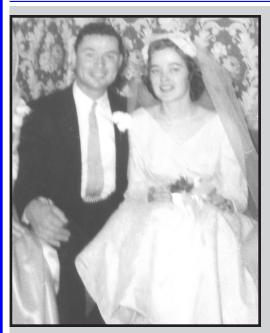
5) Are you more concerned about what people will think than what will be pleasing to God?

Conclusion

When you have been honest and truthful in the matter of admitting your sins (commission and omission) and have repented (changed your mind), then you are ready for cleansing. Sins that are admitted are sins that are confessed. "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse Thou me from secret faults" (Psalm 19:12).

Remember three things: (1) When the sin is against God, confess it to God, and make things right with God; (2) When the sin is against another person, confess it to God, and make things right with the other one; and (3) When the sin is against a group (including the church), confess it to God, and make it right with the group (church).

When there is FULL CONFESSION, there will be FULL CLEANSING. Then the joy of the Lord will follow. Then there can be testimony and prayer in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Check List will help Christians obey the command in **Ephesians 5:18**: BE SPIRIT-FILLED, which literally means SPIRIT-CONTROLLED. When our known sins are confessed [agreed to] and forsaken, the Holy Spirit can control our lives and use us to touch lives for the Lord Jesus Christ.



LOVING GOD LOVING ONE ANOTHER

SIXTY-TWO YEARS

James Gordon Henry
Sue Troutman Henry
United in Holy Matrimony
April 18, 1957
Calvary Baptist Church
Somerset, Kentucky
Officiating
Harris Bell Harris

GOD'S PLAN: TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

DAILY INTERCESSION

J. Gordon & Sue Henry: JGHM Leaders
Adam Nathanson, Vice-President & Senior Teacher

BULLETIN

Murfreesboro TN. JGHM (J. Gordon Henry Ministries), founded here in May 1984, has invited Adam Nathanson, currently serving as a missionary in Venezuela, to assume leadership for the worldwide prayer seminar ministry with details forthcoming. He has been associated with Dr. Henry since May 1997 when, as a missionary-teacher, he coordinated a series of prayer seminars in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. He has served as Dr. Henry's Spanish interpreter in many nations including Argentenia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, and the United States. Dr. Henry observed that he and Adam have traveled together as a team more days and more miles than anyone else.

Not only has Adam interpreted for hundreds of prayer seminars, he has been serving as JGHM Vice President and senior teacher. Dr. Henry recently observed that Adam actually teaches many of the sessons more effectively than he himself does. During the past year, he has been incorporating prayer seminars in his missionary work both nationally and internationally.

The goal is to complete the transition by December 31, 2019. Dr. Henry's involvement will be limited to editing the Reflector and overseeing the JGHM website.

Dr. F. Murray Mathis, who has served as the only chairman of the JGHM Board of Directors beginning in May 1984, stated that since Dr. Henry announced his plans to step aside from his leadership role that everything has moved in the direction of Adam being his successor.

Adam and Dianna, his wife, and their two sons (Daniel and David) have resided in Caracas with Baltimore, Maryland their homebase.



(L) DIGMAR GARCIA & (R) ADAM IN CUBA

H Zane Abbott [Burma] (VA)
E Ron Gavette [Kay] (VA)
A Melody Henry (VA)
L Bruce Kirby [Wanda] (KY)
T Edra Landers [Phil] (OK)
H Jean Smith [Jim] (KY)

Adam is currently conducting prayer seminars in CHILE and is scheduled for Brazil April 15-May 14. PRAY FOR A GREAT RESPONSE.

CONTACT INFORMATION REFLECTOR ISSN 0885-8538 "Holding Forth the Word of Life" J. Gordon Henry Ministries 1127 Lakeview Drive

Lynchburg, Virginia 24502 (434) 239-8837 Cell/Text E-mail: jghm84@aol.com

Web: www.jgordonhenryministries.org
SKYPE: Dr. J. Gordon Henry