

# PATHFINDER MAGAZINE - February 2005

## MAGAZINE FOR THE FAMILY

United Church of God, Longsight, Manchester

[www.ucog.org](http://www.ucog.org)

### **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Greetings all our readers in the mighty name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We have started another year which draws us closer to the return of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and I give God thanks for His daily unfailing, unending love and mercies as we journeyed through the past year.

As we look to the days ahead let us remind ourselves that there will arise many trials and various afflictions that will "challenge your faith".

I want to encourage the church to seize, hold fast and retain without wavering the hope we cherish, confess and acknowledge for He who promised is sure and faithful to His word (Hebrews 10v23).

Please remember we have been called as soldiers into a spiritual warfare. (2 Timothy 2v3). We are summoned to a fight. The word of God has admonished us to fight "the good fight of faith" and lay hold on eternal life (1 Timothy 6v12). Let us encourage each other to be "Heroes of faith in our generation".

I am calling all those who are not enlisted in this army to do so now. The battles are there but the victory is sure; our reward of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Let us go forward, united in heart and be strong in the power of the Holy Spirit.

God's blessings be with you all as we look forward to a Prosperous Year.

Yours in Christ Jesus

D F Smith (Pastor)

### **SOME PRACTICAL DETAILS OF** **PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE** **Part 2**

In the last issue of Pathfinder we looked at

**People in the Gospel - Romans and Zealots**



These sections portray some of the political and religious groups of which society in Palestine was comprised in the time of Jesus. We read in our Bibles of Pharisees, Sadducees, priest and Levites; of a disciple of Jesus who was a 'publican', and another who was a 'a member of the Zealot party' (Matthew 5 4 N.E.B.). We read of a 'centurion who came to Jesus for help' (Matthew 8, 5-13, and a Samaritan woman with who he talked by Jacob's well (John 4, 5-42). Who were these people and what part did they play in the nation's life?

### **(i). The Romans**

Since 63. B.C. the Romans had controlled Palestine, though until the death of Herod the Great in 4 B.C. Their influence had been largely exercised through his rule. Palestine was part of the province of Syria and the legate of Syria was responsible to the Emperor for its administration. Since A.D. 6 when Archelaus, Herod's eldest surviving son, was deposed, Judea had been ruled directly by Rome through a 'procurator' - a minor colonial official. The area to the east of Galilee was ruled by Philip, and the rest of Galilee ruled by Herod Antipas. Both were younger sons of Herod the Great. They were not sovereign rulers, though the Gospels give the courtesy title of 'king' to Antipas. They were 'tetrarchs' - appointed rulers - but the final authority rested with Rome.

### **Taxes in roman - occupied Israel**

#### **(a) *The Tribute*** (see Matthew 23, 15-21)

This was a tax levied on all property. It had to be paid to the Roman tax collector in Roman coin bearing the effigy of the Emperor.

**(b) *The Annona***: an annual contribution in corn and cattle which went to help feed the Roman troops. Jews were exempt from military service, but not from the obligation to maintain the army of occupation.

**(c) *The Publicum***: sale-tax, customs dues, fees on the freeing of slaves, etc. These taxes were farmed by companies of capitalist know as *publicani*, and their employees were the *publicans* or tax gatherers. In Galilee these imposts were collected on behalf of the tetrarch, though a large part of the revenue was remitted to the Romans.

Palestine, then, was an occupied country where the Roman overlords made their presence felt in every man's life. There were Roman cities like Scythopolis with a 'pagan' way of life. Even in Jerusalem itself there was a Roman fortress the Antonia, and a Roman-style amphitheatre built by Herod the Great. Roman officials and soldier could be seen in almost every town or marching through the villages. But the Jews were a proud, freedom loving people who believed passionately in the rule of God. Their restlessness under the Roman yoke broke out periodically into revolt. Galilee in the time of Jesus was a storm centre of militant nationalism. Angry politics was the background against which Jesus exercised his ministry.

### **(ii). The Zealots**

This section describes the activities of theses revolutionary groups. The main source of the knowledge about the Zealot party is written by the Jewish historian Josephus who was born AD.37 or 38, supplemented by archaeological evidence from the fortress of Masada.

When in A.D. 6-7 P. Sulpicius Quirinius, the roman legate of Syria, organised a second census in Palestine in order to assess the taxes, the leader of the revolt against this imposition was a headstrong Pharisee named Judas of Gamala, or Judas the Galilean ( see Acts, 4, 37). With another, extreme revolutionaries, who proclaimed, say Josephus, that 'taxation was no better than an introduction to slavery, and exhorted the nation to assert

their liberty.' To the Zealots, as to many Jews, to pay tribute money was sacrilege - giving to Caesar what belonged to God.

The Zealots, movement spread rapidly especially in Galilee, always an independent and turbulent district. In 4-3 B.C. When Jesus was a child in Nazareth, the town of Sepphoris a few miles away was stormed and the Roman arsenal entered and a store of weapons captured.

Judas of Gamala was soon captured and executed by the Romans, but the Zealot revolt lived on.. The Zealots operated in the hills of Galilee as guerillas.

### **3 People of the Gospel - Priest and Sadducees**

(1). As we have read in the Introduction the Jews saw the activity and kingly rule of God in all the activities of daily life. It was natural, therefore, that they should make no real distinction between Church and State. Both were the province of God. In the first century A.D when there was no Jewish king, the High Priest was in theory the supreme head both of Church and of State, though in practice his power was limited by the Romans. It was the league of Syria who appointed and deposed High Priests.

Joseph Caiaphas was appointed to the office in A.D. 18 and held it until A.D. 36. This was something of a record for the two previous years no less than three men had been removed from the office. Caiaphas was the supreme spiritual head of the nation. His chief duty, which no one else could perform, was to enter the innermost shrine of the Temple - 'the most Holy Place' - every year on the Day of Atonement, and there to offer a blood sacrifice for the sins of the whole nation. The reverence paid to the High Priest, Simon the Just.

*He was as the morning star in the midst of a cloud, and as the moon at full; as the sun shining upon the temple of the Most High, and as a rainbow giving light in the bright clouds.*

Caiaphas presided over the supreme council of the nation, the Sanhedrin, which dealt with both religious and political matters, though our distinction would have been strange to them. Caiaphas was responsible with the advice of the Council for the policy to be adopted towards the Roman and for negotiations with the procurator. In practice he had considerable power because the procurator normally resided at Caesarea, and only visited Jerusalem when his presence was required or when, as at the great festivals, there was a risk of disorder. The Sanhedrin had power to punish offences against

Jewish law, but it is doubtful whether they could order the death penalty without reference to the Roman governor.

(2). This second part will describe the duties and outlook of the priest, the Levites and the Sadducees.

#### **(i). The Priests**

The supreme duty of the priest was to serve the Temple. The priests in turn offered the daily sacrifice; burnt the incense, accepted the offerings of the worshipers and sacrificed them on one of the many altars. They performed the ceremony of declaring a leper free from infection (Mark 2, 40-45) and probably gave religious instruction in the courts of the Temple. (See Luke 2, 46-47)

#### **(ii). The Levites**

These were servants of the priests; fetching and caring for them in the Temple, guarding and keeping clean the furniture and sacred vessels.

#### **(iii). The Sadducees**

These formed a political party committed to defend the interests of the priesthood and the

aristocratic families of Jerusalem. This does not mean that every priest was a Sadducee, but all the higher ranks among the priesthood and most of the wealthy men of the country were members of the party. They were conservative in outlook, determined to hold on to the shadow of power left to them by the Romans. This policy meant that the priesthood was almost completely out of touch with the common people. It no longer represented the nation but only the sectional interests of the wealthy and the highborn families in Jerusalem.

#### **4. People in the Gospels - Pharisees, Scribes and Samaritans**

##### **(i). The Pharisees**

The year 587 B.C., when Jerusalem and its Temple were destroyed by the Babylonians and Israel went into exile, was a turning point in the history of the nation. The twin centres of national life- the monarchy and the Temple - were both destroyed. There would never be another independent king in Israel and when the Temple was rebuilt in 516 B.C. It was a

pale shadow of the glorious building erected by Solomon.

To take the places of the monarchy there arose a spirit of intransigent nationalism. Israel must be separate from the surrounding nations in order to preserve both racial and religious purity. In place of the Temple came the synagogue, the meeting place for worship and instruction to be found in every town and in many villages.

In the third century B.C. Another crisis arose when the Seleucid rulers of Palestine - the successors of Alexander the Great - tried to force upon the Jews the Greek way of life. This was the cause of the 'great war'; the war of the Maccabees. It led also to the formation of a new social class in Israel - the Pharisees. They were the Jewish puritans, 'separated from the heathen'. They were not aristocrats like the priests and the Sadducees. They moved among the common people, preaching in the synagogues, teaching in the synagogue school. So powerful was their influence that Jesus could say of them, 'the Scribes and Pharisees sit in Moses' seat' (Matthew 23, 2). They, not the priests, were now the source of authority.

In the Gospels the Pharisees are nearly always depicted as hostile to the ministry of Jesus. Certainly they would have little sympathy with the new freedom-loving prophet from Galilee, but it would be absurd and unjust to portray all the Pharisees as fanatical and unscrupulous men. They were, for the most part, respected leaders of high integrity, imbued with a deep love for their country, and determined to preserve the purity of its religion and national life at a time when Greek and Roman influences were overwhelmingly strong. But these very virtues made many of them intolerant and proud, more concerned with the correct observance of outward forms than with inward spirit of religion.

##### **(ii). The Scribes**

These were the lawyers of the pharisaic party, experts in understanding not only 'the Law of Moses', but also the innumerable interpretations of it, which had grown up through the centuries. They defined (though they did not always agree amongst themselves) precisely what could be done and not done on the Sabbath. They were arbitrators in vile disputes

and they offered advice on what actions were or were not 'according to the law'.

##### **(iii). The Samaritans**

When the kingdom of Israel was finally over-run by the Assyrians in 721 B.C. And Samaria its capital city was captured, its people were deported and scattered far and wide in

Assyrian lands. In their place the Assyrians settled men from their own territories, land-hungry farmers, soldiers who wanted to settle on a piece of land. These newcomers often intermarried with Israelite women and became in time a distinct group - the Samaritans. They adopted a form of Israelite religion based upon the Law of Moses, and built a temple on their sacred mountain Gerizim.

The Samaritans were despised by the Jews in the time of Jesus because they did not trace their descent from Abraham. They lived side by side in a kind of uneasy truce, broken by sporadic acts of violence. Jesus himself did not share the hostility of his countrymen towards the Samaritans (see John 4, 1-42; Luke 10, 25-37).

Submitted by Sis Beverley King

## **TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH**

(Used to be referred to as the 29 Teachings)

At UCOG in Manchester these teachings are used as a guide to assist us on our Christian journey. As members we take a vow that begins "... Will you sincerely promise in the presence of God and these witnesses that you will accept this Bible as the Word of God ... .." this is because we use the bible as our guide. For those who may be reading this and are not yet born again Christians these teachings can be very interesting to you too.

Over the next few issues we shall look at a few of the teachings at a time. In this issue we will look briefly at Repentance, Justification, Regeneration and Born Again.

**Repentance.** Repentance is actually forsaking/leaving and turning away from sin, which means we then tell God that we are sorry for our past sins and want Him in our lives. This is the first step of becoming a Christian. What the bible says: Mark 1:15 "*And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.*"; Luke 13:3 "*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*"; and Acts 3:19 "*Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord*".

**Justification.** Justification is the state when God has forgiven us of our transgressions/wrong doings, which we have confessed to Him in our repentance. The word justified means to be vindicated or excused from. What the bible says:- Romans 5v1-9 "*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...*"

**Regeneration.** This is an act performed on us by God when our new justified heart is given new spiritual life. Some definitions of regeneration are: spiritual rebirth; re-create; born anew; reform morally; reproduced. What the bible says: Titus 3:5 "*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.*"

**Born Again.** To be born again is to become a new creature in Christ therefore becoming a child of God. This new birth is the result of the above 3 acts, repentance, justification and regeneration, together with a distinct inner witness – 1 John 3:9 "*Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.*"

Now that you have read the above for those of you that are born again Christians, take time to reflect on what made you repent and want to become a Christian then share that experience with someone – we were all called to be Disciples of Christ! ! For those of you have not, you know what you need to know to become a born again Christian. Now the choice is yours.

Don't let the excuses in the Poem/Verse section delay you!!!!

In the next edition of Pathfinder we shall look at Sanctification, Holiness, Water Baptism and Baptism with the Holy Ghost.

## **USED BY GOD**

The next time you feel like God can't use you, remember the following people:-

NOAH was a drunk .....  
ABRAHAM was too old .....  
ISAAC was a daydreamer .....  
JACOB was a liar .....  
LEAH was ugly ..... (not pretty like Rachel)  
JOSEPH was abused .....  
MOSES couldn't talk .....  
GIDEON was afraid .....  
SAMPSON had long hair and was a womanizer .....  
RAHAB was a prostitute .....  
JEREMIAH and TIMOTHY were too young .....  
DAVID had an affair and was a murderer .....  
ELIJAH was suicidal .....  
ISAIAH preached naked .....  
JONAH ran from God .....  
NAOMI was a widow .....  
JOB went bankrupt .....  
JOHN THE BAPTIST ate bugs .....  
PETER denied Christ .....  
The DISCIPLES fell asleep while praying .....  
MARTHA worried about everything .....  
MARY MAGDALENE was demon possessed .....  
The SAMARITAN WOMAN was divorced ... more than once !! .....  
ZACCHEUS was too small .....  
PAUL was too religious .....  
TIMOTHY had an ulcer .....  
And LAZARUS was dead !!! .....

.....So no more excuses!!!!!!

# **WHY DID YOU MAKE ME BLACK LORD .....**

LORD ....WHY DID YOU MAKE ME BLACK?

Why did you make someone the world would hold back

Black is the colour of dirty clothes, of grimy hands and feet  
Black is the colour of darkness, or tired beaten streets

Why did you give me thick lips, a broad nose and kinky hair?  
Why did you create someone who received the hated stare?

Black is the colour of the bruised eye, when someone gets hurt  
Black is the colour of darkness, black is the colour of dirt

Why is my bone structure so thick, my hips and cheeks so high?  
Why are my eyes brown, and not the colour of the sky?

Why do people think I'm useless? How come I feel so used?  
Why do people see my skin and think that I should be abused?

Lord, I just don't understand, what is it about my skin?  
Why is it some people want to hate me ...  
... and not know the person within?

Black is what people are "labeled" ....  
..... when others want to keep them away  
Black is the colour of shadows, Black is the end of the day

Lord you know my own people mistreat me, ...  
.... and you know this just aint right  
They don't like my hair, they don't like my skin, ....  
..... as they say I'm too dark or too light!

Lord, don't you think its time to make a change  
Why don't you redo creation and make everyone the same.

## **LORD REPLIES .....**

**WHY DID I MAKE YOU BLACK?**

I made you in the colour of coal, from which  
beautiful diamonds are formed  
I made you in the colour of oil, the black gold  
which keeps people warm.

Your colour is the same as the rich dark soil  
that grows the food you need  
Your colour is the same as the black stallion and panther,  
oh was majestic creatures indeed!

All colours of the heavenly rainbow can be found  
throughout every nation

When all these colours are blended, you become my greatest creation

Your hair is the texture of lamb's wool, such a beautiful creature is he  
I am the shepherd who watched them, I will ALWAYS watch over thee!

You are the colour of the midnight sky, I put star glitter in your eyes  
There's a beautiful smile hidden behind your pain, that's why your cheeks are so high!

You are the colour of dark clouds from the hurricanes  
I create in September  
I made your lips so full and thick, so when you kiss .....  
they will remember

Your stature is strong, your bone structure thick to withstand the burden of time  
The reflection you see in the mirror that image that looks back,  
..... that is MINE

So get off your knees, look in the mirror and tell me what you see?  
I didn't make you in the image of darkness,  
I made you in the image of ME

## **ENCOURAGING BIBLE VERSES**

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.  
Philippians 4v19

\* \* \* \* \*

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him  
also freely give us all things?  
Romans 8v32

\* \* \* \* \*

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust in him,  
and he will bring it to pass. Psalm 37v5

\* \* \* \* \*

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake  
you. Deuteronomy 31v8 (NIV)

\* \* \* \* \*

God said; "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness...."  
2 Corinthians 12v9

\* \* \* \* \*



God said, "...Fear not, for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine." Isaiah 43v1

\* \* \* \* \*

"Fear thou not: for I am with thee: be not dismayed: for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee: yea, I will help thee: yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.  
Isaiah 41v10

Whoever comes to me I will never drive away." John 6v37

## JOKES

*A little boy was asked to name the first man. He promptly answered, "Adam."*

*Then, he was asked to name the first woman. He pondered long and hard and finally suggested, "Madam?"*

~~~~~☺~~~~~

*A preacher and a cab driver both died and went to Heaven. When they arrived there, Saint Peter greeted them and took them on a tour of their new home.*

*As they were driving the preacher was amazed at what he saw. There were streets of gold and huge pearly white mansions lining both sides of the street.*

*They stopped in front of one of the mansions and Saint Peter told the taxi driver that this is where he was going to live. The taxi driver gleefully ran towards his new home.*

*The preacher and Saint Peter then continued on their tour when all of a sudden they stopped in front of a tiny little cabin. Saint Peter told the preacher that this was going to be his new home.*

*The preacher asked in an astonished voice, "Why did that taxi driver get a huge beautiful mansion, while I have to live in this tiny little cabin?"*

*"Because," said Saint Peter, "When you preached, you made people sleep, and when he drove, he made people pray."*

~~~~~☺~~~~~

*After the fall in the Garden of Eden, Adam was walking with his sons Cain and Abel. They passed by the ruins of the Garden of Eden. One of the boys asked,*

*"What's that?" Adam replied, "Boys, that's where your mother ate us out of house and home."*

~~~~~ ☺ ~~~~~

*A man and his wife died and went to heaven. After a short tour the man started jumping up and down and shouting at his wife.*

*This was causing quite a commotion so St Peter hurried over and asked them what was wrong.*

*The man said, "If my wife hadn't fed me all that oat bran I could have been up there 10 years ago!"*

~~~~~ ☺ ~~~~~

*A young girl once confessed to her priest that she thought she was guilty of the sin of pride. She said "When I look in the mirror, I think I am beautiful." The priest said, "That's not a sin, that's a mistake."*

~~~~~ ☺ ~~~~~

#### *Adam's Rib*

*In Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny, a child in the nursery class, seemed especially content when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs.*

*Later in the week his mother noticed him lying as though he were ill, and said. "Johnny what's the matter?"*

*Little Johnny responded, "I have a pain in my side, I think I'm going to have a wife."*

~~~~~ ☺ ~~~~~

#### *Preaching*

*One Sunday morning as people were coming out of church, a little boy came up to me and said "When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money."*

*"Well, thank you," I replied, "but why?"*

*"Because my dad says that you're one of the poorest preachers we've ever had."*

## **MY HOW YOU'VE GROWN**

*Since January 2005, we at UCOG have been focusing on 'Spiritual Growth and Development'. Here is an article that I came across a few months ago and thought I would share it with you.*



When going to visit grandmother after a long absence, every child knows exactly what she is going to say: “My child how you’ve grown!!” And in many cases the child will be ushered into the kitchen where there are marks on the doorframe. The child will stand up straight, back against the frame, and a new mark will be made. Both child and grandmother will be so proud to see how much the child has grown in stature.

The growth of the young Jesus was not just physical, but also in “wisdom” and “in favour with God and man.” How sad it is if today as a Christian, growth in stature is not matched by spiritual growth. How much sadder still if we grow smaller spiritually while growing taller physically! Modern science teaches us that a child’s physical stature is controlled by the pituitary gland and hereditary influences; thus there is little if anything we can do to make a child grow taller in stature. But we can do much to help a child grow in favour with God and people.

As adults we know we cannot govern our height. (As for our size/girth/width – that’s another story!) But each of us definitely has the power to change our spiritual stature. Whether children or adults, we want to be sure that spiritual growth is never taken for granted – that each of us “stands taller” each year.

**If God showed us the marks that chart our spiritual growth, would we be embarrassed to discover that we have not grown at all? Or that we have in fact shrunk in size?**

2 Peter 3v18 reminds us “But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

## THE FOOL

Once upon a time, there was a king who delighted in his court and all his subjects, but of all the people in his kingdom he liked his court jester the best! Whenever the king appeared to be sad his court jester could **always** make him laugh.

One day the king had a **great** idea. He had the court jester called to his chamber. The king was holding a little golden wand. He gave it to the jester and said “my friend, when you find a bigger fool than yourself, you must give him this golden wand”. So the jester went out looking for a **bigger fool** than himself. He went through every village, asking questions of one and all.

*Meanwhile back at the castle.*

His Royal Highness became sick **and was dying!** The court jester was called back to the palace. “Hello my little friend” said the king. “I am going on a long journey from which I shall **never** return” He was speaking of his death!

“Have you **prepared** for that journey, your Highness?” said the court jester.

“No .... I haven’t!” replied the king.

“Then I must present this golden wand **TO YOU!**” said the court jester.

At last the jester had found a **greater fool** than himself!

***What about you? Have you prepared for your coming journey? If not, then you're in trouble ... just like the king.***

The bible says: "There is none righteous, no not one." Romans 3v10  
For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3v23

That's the bad news – because it stops our journey to heaven!

BUT WAIT .....Here's the GOOD NEWS.....

Jesus Christ, the Creator of the universe, came all the way from heaven to take the form of man. Because Jesus loves us, He died on the cross and shed His precious blood to wash away our sins. John 3v16 "For God so loved the world, (that's you) that he gave his only begotten Son (Jesus), that whosoever believeth in him should not perish (in hell), but have everlasting life (in heaven)."

Then the Lord Jesus rose from the dead and promised to go to prepare a place for us in heaven.

Jesus wants us to turn away from our sins (repent) and accept Him as our Lord and Saviour. Only then will we be ready for that long journey!

How about it? Are you ready for your journey?

Would the court jester give YOU that golden wand? DON'T BE A FOOL!

Accept Christ and be saved .....TODAY

Romans 10v9 says "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." To be saved:-

1. Admit you are a sinner. See Romans 3v10
2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent) See Acts 17v30
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried and rose from the dead. See Romans 10v9-10
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your life to become your personal Saviour. See Romans 10v13

If / when you accept Jesus as your Saviour you should then:

1. Read your Bible every day to get to know Jesus Christ better
2. Talk to God in prayer every day
3. Be baptized, worship, fellowship and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached and the Bible is the final authority.
4. Tell others about Jesus Christ.

Taken from a Chick Publication



## **TRIVIA / QUIZ**

### **WHO CHALLENGED WHO?**

1. He said "Do it a second time and a third time" later he heard a sound of abundance.
2. He lost his head, when challenged by a youth
3. She issued a challenge in the garden
4. His challenge yielded him some clothing
5. He swore when challenged
6. Challenged to watch, they disappointed him
7. He got a sinking feeling when he lost the challenge
8. The people got a reprieve when she took up the challenge
9. When challenged her answer brought death
10. He fled when challenged, to a very dry and arid land

~~~~~ 😊 ~~~~~

*What goes up and never comes down?*

~~~~~ 😊 ~~~~~

*20 birds flying across the sky, 1 gets shot, how many remaining?*

~~~~~ 😊 ~~~~~

## **BIBLE QUIZ**

### **GENERAL BIBLE QUIZ**

1. *Which O.T. book has only one chapter?*
2. *Which is the shortest verse in the Bible?*
3. *Who was the first Christian martyr? Acts 7:54-60*

4. *In what way did Saul (Paul) escape from Damascus? Acts 9:25*
5. *Which is the shortest Psalm in the book of Psalms?*
6. *Which is the longest Psalm in the book of Psalms?*
7. *Who wrote the Acts of the Apostles?*
8. *Name three Epistles in the N.T. beginning with the letter 'T'*
9. *Isaiah wrote that the gifts of the Spirit were:-*

*the spirit of w - - - - - and  
u - - - - -  
the spirit of c - - - - - and  
m - - - - -*

*the spirit of k - - - - - and  
f - - - - - of the L - - - - .*

*Isaiah 11:2*

\* \* \* \* \*

**SECOND LINES OF HYMNS**

*What is the first line of the hymns whose second line is given below:-*

1. *How still we see thee lie.*
2. *All creatures great and small*
3. *Without a city wall*
4. *Whose goodness faileth never*
5. *O gratefully sing His power and His love*
6. *Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice*

**ANSWERS TO TRIVIA / QUIZ**

**WHO CHALLENGED WHO?**

1. 1 Kings 18v34)
2. 1 Samuel 17v42-51
3. John 20v15
4. Judges 14v19
5. Matthew 26v74
6. Mark 4v33 & 37
7. Matthew 14v29-30
8. Esther 4v8 & 8v11-12
9. Acts 5v7-10



10. Acts 7v27-29

*What goes up and never comes down?      AGE*

*20 birds flying across the sky, 1 gets shot, how many remaining?  
1 REMAINS (the others are flying so have flown away)*

### **GENERAL BIBLE QUIZ**

1. Obadiah
2. St John 11v35
3. Stephen
4. He was let down over the wall in a basket
5. Psalm 117
6. Psalm 119
7. St Luke
8. Thessalonians 1 & 2, Timothy 1 & 2, Titus
9. Wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, fear of the Lord

### **SECOND LINES OF HYMNS**

1. O little town of Bethlehem
2. All things bright and beautiful
3. There is a green hill far away
4. The King of love my Shepherd is
5. O worship the king, all glorious above
6. All people that on earth do dwell

## **HEALING**

We ALL know what Isaiah 53 v 5 says, and even if we don't know what it says by just saying the scripture we know it when it is identified. *"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed."*

It also helps that there are many songs that repeat these words. Do you find that as soon as someone starts to talk about healing this is the scripture verse that comes to mind?

Let us then share some other scriptures that you may like to consider when praying for healing. Get to know them and remember them the next time you have a headache or something more severe:

Psalm 107v20 *He has sent forth His Word and healed all my diseases.*

Psalm 34v19 *Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.*

Psalm 37v5 *Commit thy way unto the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.*“

This says that you should hand your situation over to God, be glad in him and he will bring it to pass.

Psalm 119v152/153 *Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law. Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word.*

Pray this prayer for deliverance.

Isaiah 59v1 *Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear.*

God is able to meet your need.

Isaiah 65v24 *And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.*

God's promise, speak the word for healing and deliverance and while you are yet speaking He will hear.

Jeremiah 17v14. *Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise.*

When God saves and heals, it is a finished work.

Jeremiah 17v7. *Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.*

Trust in God. Place your hope for healing in Him.

Jeremiah 30v17 *For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.*

It is God's desire to heal and restore.

Matthew 16v19 *And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*

We have the keys and are commissioned to bind and lose God's delivering and healing power.

Matthew 18v19. *Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.*

Come together for the power of agreement.

Matthew 21v22. *And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.*

Believe! All things are possible.

During your daily reading, look out for any scripture that speaks of healing and write them down, there are many. You may not see the need for them now but a time will come when those very scriptures will bring comfort to you and who knows during a bible quiz, a question on healing may be asked and You may have the answer!!

LET US PRAY IN FAITH, BELIEVING

## **60 SECOND INTERVIEW**

Sis Pauline Harris is a prominent member of the UCOG in Manchester, She has held various positions in the church namely President of the Women's Working Willing Band, been the Youth President for the past 2 years, in addition to previous years, She directs the Youth and Adult choirs and the church group "Radiant" and is one of the leaders of the Praise and Worship team.

At present what's your fondest memory of your childhood?

How long have you been a Christian, and what was the experience that brought you to Christ?

What one setback have you had to overcome in your Christian life?

Why do you think the youth of today find the concept of becoming a Christian hard?

So what would you say to Christians who are traditionalist and cant related to the gospel being delivered vibrantly in today's society?

What do you believe is the most important part of being a Christian?

In three words how would you describe the atmosphere of worship at UCOG?

What advice would you give a young person, in getting to know the Lord?

## **PSALM OF MARLON DUCILLE**

Oh Lord, my God  
You are my Jehovah Jireh;  
You provide all my needs according to your ...  
... riches in Glory in Christ Jesus  
You are my Jehovah Nissi;  
You are my defender, the author and finisher of my faith; and your banner over me is LOVE  
[Selah]

You are my Jehovah Rophi;  
You heal me whenever I pray to you  
You are my Jehovah Tsidikenu;  
You have redeemed me by your blood and now I am Your child,

You call me righteous, You say I am the apple of Your eye

You are my Jehovah Shalom;  
You are a peace within me that passeth all  
human understanding

You are my Jehovah Rohi;  
You shepherd me day by day from all accidents and deliver me from danger. Though I  
walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.

Lord, You my El Shaddai, the Almighty God  
Supreme, The Everlasting Father and the Prince of Peace  
How can I not praise You, O Lord  
My mouth will continually sing Your praises regardless of  
my circumstances

## **INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES**

Each time anyone comes into contact with us  
they must become different and better people  
because of having met us.

We must radiate God's love  
We must know that we have been created for greater things  
not just to be a number in the world,  
not just to go for diplomas and degrees,  
this work and that work.  
We have been created in order to love and to be loved.  
Love does not measure .... it just gives

***(Mother Teresa)***

Your talent is God's gift to you.  
What you do with it is your gift back to God

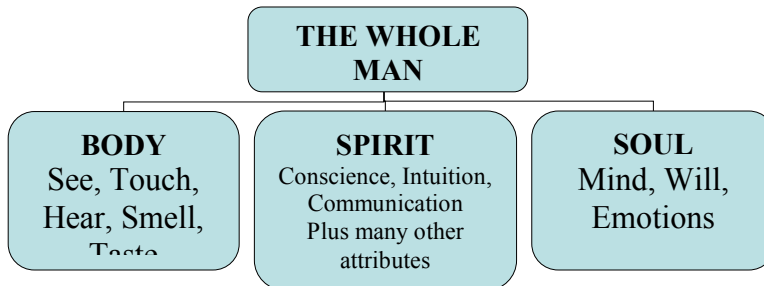
***Leo Buscaglia***

“When one door of happiness closes, another opens:  
but often we look so long at the closed door that  
we do not see the one which has been opened for us.”

***Helen Keller***

Every man dies,  
Not every man truly lives

## What is the condition of your Soul? Part 2



### **SPIRIT OF MAN - The Natural Man**

The word of God teaches us that 1 Corinthians 2v11-14 The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto Him; neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned.

The result of Adam's fall has separated mankind from the presence of God. Mankind's natural relationship is now with the world, sin and the devil. Man became "Self-centred".

The natural man does not accept, welcome or admit into his/her heart the gifts, teachings and revelations of the Spirit of God for they are meaningless to them. The bible is being read with ones "natural eyes" and so one has only natural knowledge; the deep things of scripture are hid for only the "Holy Spirit" can bring men into the true knowledge of God.

Natural man - fleshy, sensual desires and actions. Romans 8v5-13. Man's thinking is earthly, completely dominated by sin principles and therefore is at enmity with God. He/her lives under the control of their bodily or fleshy appetites. Natural man walks in utter darkness.

In Romans 7v15-24 the "natural man" is seen as a wretched man, in a body of death; one in definite need of deliverance.

Returning to our original thought, the natural man is one whose spirit is dead to God, the soul has taken place of the Spirit in his body and so decides totally man's earthly and eternal destiny.

**To be continued in next issue**

## **I'M GONNA TELL YOU HOW IT WAS! PART 2**

For years we continued to worship in the church and for years we had maintenance problems. Then one Sunday the day had arrived when we heard something to the effect of "God has been so good to us that he has enabled us to knock down this church and rebuild another one". For a moment I thought there'd be no Sunday service for at least a year or so, so that's all right. It was a building that we were now use to; as we accepted all its faults.

I cannot remember the exact date when the building came down but if you want to know when the new building was officially open just take a look at the plaque inside the foyer as you enter through the church's second door.

When the building contractors came in you could tell by their faces that this seemed like a big task.

So as time went on we attended another church just behind the market, again it was a big old church so we were used to the coldness, lack of heat etc, as God had prepared us in our old building. Every now and again I would pass our church and see what was going on, at this time most of the old building had been knocked down. A couple of months passed and I noticed that they were further on and moving mightily fast.

So time passed on and lo and behold our new building was completed and ready for worship. There were one or two loose ends to tie up but they could be done later.

When the church was officially opened it attracted a great number of people from both near and far. This spectacular moment was captured on videotape. It was so lovely to see the saints who have gone on before rejoicing in their new home, it was an achievement that everybody wanted to see and be part of.

Some of us are house-proud people, we dust every so often and we put out our very best chinaware. We take care of our homes like they were a precious investment.

So when you see the odd piece of paper, tissue, dirt or any other foreign item on the floor or anywhere instead of walking over it or ignoring just pick it up and put in the bin as our investment in is Christ and the place we worship is our home.

It was announced last year that we were DEBT FREE and to me that was a long awaited announcement. It felt like a heavy burden being lifted. We can now have the light on from 12am – 12pm, we can have the heating on from day till night, and hot running water. No more trips to the swimming baths for our baptism as we have an indoor pool. We can make as much noise as we possibly can and to finish it off we don't have a caretaker telling us that it is time for us to go!

You see in Part One I mentioned that I had to clean the benches by hand with a duster, sweep the floor, remove the chewing gum from underneath the benches and I always thought it would mount to nothing but without giving too much away the last couple of years were two wonderful years for me but as the preacher always say we must always give thanks to the blesser as he is the one who gives us the blessings. So even though I had a long wait and thought that the man upstairs (God) had forgotten what I had done in the past I have now learnt that it does pay to be patient.

***Ruth Smith***