

Hunger For Truth

July 1, 2011



“Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

Proverbs 7:2

Matthew 5:6

John 8:32

II Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews 4:2

Special Interest Articles:

- “A Slice of Humble Pie” by Andrew Lacroix
- “Five D’s” part 1 by Andrew Lacroix
- Running the Race in the “Children for Christ” column

Individual Highlights:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Greetings, Meditate on the Word | 1 |
| Meditate on the Word | 2-3 |
| Children For Christ | 4 |
| Quotes | 4 |
| Song of the Month | 5 |
| Praise & Prayer | 5 |

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“Hunger For Truth” is a monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman who is a member of Community Baptist Church of Quakertown, PA where the Pastor is Dr. David Smith.



Greetings

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the latest issue of Hunger For Truth. I hope each and every reader is having a wonderful summer and that you are on fire for the Lord just like the heat of the sun in summertime.

In This Issue: you’ll find two more great devotionals from a dear friend and brother in

Christ Andrew Lacroix entitled “A Slice of Humble Pie” & Part 1 of “Five “D’s”. Also, check out “Fresh Vision” in the quotes section.

See the “Special Interest Articles” section for just some of what you will see this month in the newsletter.

Also, please note that back issues of the newsletter are available to

view, print or save at www.studytoanswer.net.

The goal of this ministry and newsletter is to edify and encourage believers using the truth of God’s precious Holy Word.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for me. I greatly appreciate your comments and I praise God for each and every one of you.

Meditate on The Word (Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:148)

A Slice of Humble Pie (By: Andrew Lacroix – 5/24/11)

Andrew D. Lacroix is a member of the Heritage Baptist Church in Norwood, MA (Pastor Steve Hathaway).

Text: Isaiah 6:1-5

Countless preachers have often used these verses to preach on God’s holiness. God’s holiness is most definitely a forefront running issue in this Isaiah passage, but this devotional will be a little more humble.

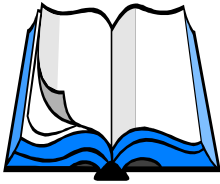
In Chapter five, Isaiah declares a six fold “woe unto them” on the nation of Judah for a number of egregious sins against a holy God. Bringing it forward to our text, Isaiah now recalls his call to prophecy. It also meant a humbling of self. He, in the presence of the Lord, recognized exactly who he was, and declared “woe is me!” I believe Isaiah needed to get off his so called “high horse” and be humbled.

(Continued on Next Page)



A Slice of Humble Pie (By: Andrew Lacroix) (Cont.)

Humility is a key part in the life of a Christian. God cannot use a man who is proud. Pride underlines rebellions. David said, “Though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly; but the proud he knoweth afar off” (Ps. 138:6). Solomon’s proverb declares a proud look as an abomination unto the Lord (Prov. 6:16-17). He also spoke of pride in 21:4: “An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.” James reminded his readers that “God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.” (4:6a)



Matthew 5:6

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”

John 8:32

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

“The Spirit-filled life is not a special, deluxe edition of Christianity. It is part and parcel of the total plan of God for His people.”

-Unknown

Humility demands that we esteem ourselves lower than anyone else. A humble person will sit at the lowest place at a feast and only come higher if he is asked to (Luke 14:7-11). Paul called himself the chiefest of sinners (I Tim. 1:15); someone who is proud would dare not admit their condition.

Men with pride never want out of the spotlight. This is why many professional sport athletes have the kind of pride that will not help them see their need for Christ. A humble person will deflect the attention on others. John the Baptist showed humility not only by saying, “There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose” (Mark 1:7), but by focusing on Christ: “He must increase, but I must decrease” (John 3:30).

Going back before our text, I believe Isaiah suffered from a common Christian deficiency entitled “Pointed Finger Syndrome”. Those with PFS are often on a “high horse”, blaming everyone and pointing fingers at everyone else, all while saying they had nothing to do with their troubles. These individuals cannot see that for every finger they point at another, there are three that point right back at them. Isaiah points his index finger six times in Isaiah 5, only to finally recognize later that his middle, ring, and pinky fingers point to the true responsible one: himself.

There is a lot God can do for one who shows humility. Christ proclaimed, “Whoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 18:4). Hezekiah was told by Isaiah to prepare to die, and he humbled himself and pleaded for his life, and God blessed him with fifteen more years (2 Kings 20:1-11). Sadly, during this time he would become prideful and self-centered (2 Kin. 20), leading to the much maligned Manasseh reign. Manasseh would also humble himself in his affliction (2 Chronicles 33:11-13) and be delivered from the Assyrians. He immediately changed things, showing evidence of God’s work in one who humbles himself. God does not forget the cry of the humble (Ps. 9:12).

Have you had a slice of humble pie yet? It is one of the most scrumptious and fulfilling things that can ever happen to one person. Or, are you perhaps suffering from Pointed Finger Syndrome? Blamed everyone but yourself yet? Pride needs to be banished, your index finger needs to be peeled back, and see who the other three fingers indicate is the source of the problem. I personally love humble pie, and everyone needs at least a slice of that a day. God help us all to stay off the high horse of pride, and show the humility a Christian should have.

-Andrew D. Lacroix



Five “D’s” (Part 1) (By: Andrew Lacroix) (6/2/11) (Text: Jonah 1:1-3)

Many Christians have had the privilege of being homeschooled, always in a positive environment, where loving parents who fear God instruct their offspring in the likes of our faith. Sadly, not all Christians have had this kind of upbringing. A lot, myself included, of Christians endured the public school system, standardized testing, and the ever-so-dreadful grading system. For those unfamiliar, many schools have an A-F (E is excluded) grading curve, where “A” is the top echelon, and “F” is failure. While many children try their best to vie for that A and the possibility of being that class’s valedictorian, a lot more sadly elect to just barely scrape by without a care, resulting in D’s, or doing just enough to pass.

Today, we begin a five part series on a prophet looking to “just pass by”. Don’t get me wrong; Jonah was a tremendous prophet and a great example of God’s compassion towards sinful men. However, Jonah had gripes about the Assyrians, possibly stemming back from their constant attacks on his hometown of Geth-hefer. He wanted nothing but the wrath of God upon their lives. What Jonah got was the exact opposite.

I want to start by looking at Jonah’s **disobedience**. This is pretty easy to see in our text. God tells him to go to Nineveh, but is Jonah going there? Not if his life depended on it (which it will).

We are not told where he was when he was commanded by the Lord to go to Nineveh, but it is told that he flees to Joppa. Joppa is a seaport town on the eastern shore of the great sea (Mediterranean). From there, he pays a fare in an attempt to go to Tarshish (present-day Spain). That is a long way from Nineveh (which is now part of present-day Iraq). He pays money to go away from God’s will. This happens a lot to those of us who stray from what God has for us. It may not be money we lose per se, but we lose out on God’s blessings.

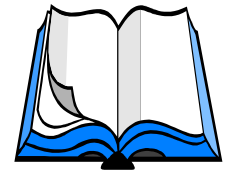
God brings a storm into Jonah’s life and the lives of those innocent men upon the Tarshish bound ship. For a time, Jonah is asleep, caring less about the evil Ninevites and even those on the ship. Those on the ship decide to cast lots to see who the troublemaker was, and Jonah’s the one to blame.

Jonah loses his testimony in verses eight through ten. Had Tarshish been God’s will, he would be an example to those no doubt lost sea men. However, God’s will is Nineveh, and Jonah, who said himself, “I fear the Lord, the God of heaven...” (vs.9). A man who fears the Lord should not be heading away from what the Lord wants!

The men ask him how to solve their crisis, and Jonah puts himself on the line by asking them to toss him overboard. I believe he was willing to die before he would go tell Nineveh to repent. The men seem unwilling to do it, even trying to row back to shore, but they finally plead for their lives and toss the disobedient prophet into the sea. The sea calms and they praise God for their salvation (from the raging sea).

Disobedience will often result in loss. Consider Uzza, who should not have touched the ark (I Chronicles 13), but he did so, even with good intentions, and he lost his life. An obedient Lot (instead of one who was literally forced out of Sodom, Genesis 19) would have gotten more than him and his wife out. Moses was told to strike a rock ONCE for water. He strikes it TWICE in an angry rage against the faithless Israelites, and as a result, he is forbidden to lead them into the Promised Land (Numbers 20:8-12).

As we conclude part one, let’s remember that in our Christian lives, obedience is the very best way to show that you believe. When God asks us of something, let’s do it right away the first time, and not flee away from His will. God help us all to be obedient.



II Timothy 3:16-17

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Hebrews 4:12

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”



Quotes of The Month

Fresh Vision

*“Lord, Give Each One
Of Us The Vision We
Need To Care About
This Dark World.”*

*I Need Fresh Vision To
See The Lord --- Look
To Jesus (Hebrews 1:2)*

*I Need Fresh Vision To
See The Lost --- Look
To The Harvest (John
4:35)*

*I Need Fresh Vision To
See With Love --- Look
To The Needs Of Others
(Phil. 2:4)*

*I Need Fresh Vision To
See The Late Hour ---
Look To The End (Luke
21:28)*

*I Need Fresh Vision To
See My Life --- Look To
Yourselves (II John 2:8,
Luke 21:34)*

**Note: Sorry, “National
Heritage” is pre-empted
this issue.**

☺ Children For Christ ☺ - “Running the Race”

Memory Verse:

1 Cor. 9:24 --- “Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

TEXT: I Corinthians 9:24-27

1. More than once, the Apostle Paul used the motif of running a race, an athletic event, to illustrate how believers were to live their Christian lives. Today, as we run our race for the Lord, let us endeavor to please Christ as did Paul. Do you, dear believer, desire to run the race? _____
2. Read vs. 24. We run a race by running to: A. Obtain B. Gain C. Fail
3. We can run to obtain with a: A. Goal B. Determination C. Selfish mindset
D. Both A & B
4. Read vs. 25. We are to run for: A. Ourselves B. The Incorruptible Crown C. Nothing
5. **True or False:** We can run for an incorruptible crown by having self control – knowing how and doing it.
6. **True or False:** We can run for the incorruptible crown by having the imperishable in mind.
7. Read vs. 26. We are to run with: A. Certainty B. Water C. Care
8. **True or False:** We are to run with certainty with purpose and with surety or confidence.
9. Read vs. 27. We are to run with: A. Foolishness B. Discipline C. No Thought
10. **True or False:** Running with discipline means having my body under control and having my aims well in sight.
11. Read II Timothy 2:5. We must run by: A. Our own way B. Others Ideas C. The Rules
12. Read II Timothy 2:4. Do you strive to stay untangled ? _____
13. Do you desire to work hard – strive for the Lord in His work? _____
14. Read II Timothy 4:7-8. **True or False:** We are to run to the finish, for the crown, with the love of His appearing.

The Lord has given us a race to run to His honor and glory. Let us run that race in Christ Jesus to the best of our ability following the Apostle Paul’s example.

Fresh Vision Continued

Lord, give me a vision, oh, help me to see the needs all around me; souls dying for Thee; Oh, make me a blessing, as onward I go, by telling the story, that others may know. Lord, give me a vision of fields that are white, souls that we must gather ere cometh the night; dark shadows are gathering, and some will be lost, some neighbor or brother—how awful the cost. Lord, give me a vision, lest I empty stand there at the great judgment, no sheaves in my hand, no labor of love then to offer my King, with nothing but leaves then the master to bring.



Song of the Month – “It’s Not In Vain”

This great hymn really should help us strive to run the race for our labor **is not in vain** in the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58).

We have labored in the vineyards of the Lord, and it seems the world has stolen our reward. But God has not forgotten, and when He calls us home we’ll receive eternal treasures and a place of honor near His throne.

It’s not in vain, It’s not in vain, we serve a risen Saviour; Jesus rules and reigns! The heavens cheer us on, we do not walk alone; our labor, our witness, our faith is not in vain!

God has seen our faithful service through the years, all the heartaches, all the

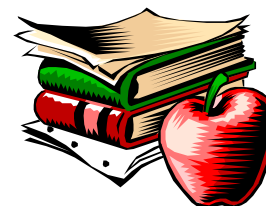
burdens, all the tears. But do not be discouraged, there’s a purpose, there’s a plan. There’s a reason for each season, so trust the leading of His hand.

It’s not in vain, It’s not in vain, we serve a risen Saviour; Jesus rules and reigns! The heavens cheer us on, we do not walk alone; our labor, our witness, our faith is not in vain! It’s not in vain, It’s not in vain, we serve a risen Saviour; Jesus rules and reigns!

The heavens cheer us on, we do not walk alone; our labor, our witness, our faith is not in vain! It’s not in vain!



If you have a praise, prayer request, study, devotional or article you would like posted in Hunger For Truth, please e-mail it to me at svtdtday@yahoo.com



Praises

- I praise God for the deep, vast wideness of His mercy, love and grace.
- I praise God and want to say thank you to each and every one of you who take the time to read this every month and to those who have sent emails or have spoken to me about how the Lord has blessed you. Please keep them coming. They are a great blessing.
- Praise God for solid Local NT churches all across the land.
- Praise God for Victory in Jesus! Hallelujah, What a Savior!
- Praise God for health, safety, friends, family, and fellowship.
- I praise God for the privilege & blessing of preparing and sending this newsletter to people all across the land.
- Praise God that all we are and have belongs to Him. We should not want it any other way.
- For the recent sale of my house in PA.

Prayer Requests

- Children and teens across the globe with serious health ailments.
- Expectant mothers all across the globe to know the Lord and raise the children for the Lord
- Bro. Greg Myers (recovering from heart bypass surgery)
- Gods grace, strength, wisdom and victory regarding an unspoken request for the HFT editor.
- Those in need of employment and ones seeking other jobs •Wisdom for HFT editor in leaving current jobs
- Pray for wisdom in finding work in MA in God’s perfect timing and for process of house sale in PA to go well.
- Pray that God would help the H.F.T. editor find the one wife that God has for him.
- Our nation and its leaders and for revival in this land
- Salvation of my sister Wendy & friend Ben • Local New Testament churches with building needs
- Salvation of my nephew Jacob and Aunts’ Sybil and Bernice
- Salvation of our family, friends and co-workers
- Souls devastated by the recent earthquake & tsunami in Japan. Pray for souls to be saved.
- Wisdom regarding HFT, HFT ministries and for FT service as the Lord leads
- Parents across this land to raise their children for the Lord
- Health and needs of Pastors, Missionaries, and Evangelists and their families
- Tract distribution and outreach to lost souls all over the world who were witnessed to last month for salvation

Back Issues of Hunger For Truth Are available to view, print, or save at: www.studytoanswer.net

Please Note: Psalms and Proverbs study has been put on hold for a couple of months.

If you do not wish to continue receiving this monthly newsletter, please e-mail me with “please remove” in the subject line.

In The Next Issue

Parts 2 and 3 of “Five D’s”. You’ll find several studies plus a devotional in the “Children For Christ” column.

Thank you for reading this. I praise God for all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ and I greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

His Servant,

Craig G. – Prov. 3:5-6

