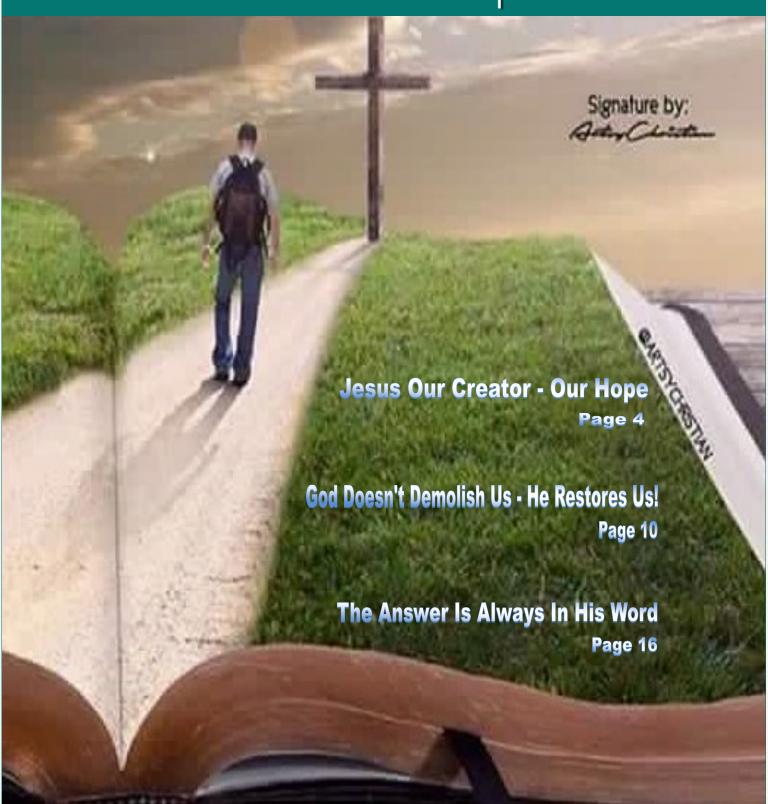
## Journey Through Life Ministries Your Spiritual Newsletter



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Journey Through Life Ministries' Newsletter is a quarterly publication promoting spiritual awareness and evangelism in the communities.

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Please submit all comments and church calendar events to: journeylife@verizon.net

Journey Through Life Ministries accepts testimonies and questions provided they are related to spiritual awareness. All testimonies and questions will be edited for content & validity.

Please note that Journey Through Life Ministries does not publish political or opinion pieces.



Welcome to Journey Through Life Ministries' Quarterly Newsletter. We pray you will be blessed by the reading of these inspirational articles.

Our goal is to fulfill the great commission Jesus commanded in Matthew 28:16-20 to "...go and make disciples of all...."

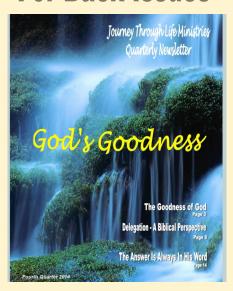
This is being achieved by working with churches, professional organizations, social services, and the publication of this quarterly newsletter. As an outreach ministry in the communities, we also offer to adults and youth Biblical studies through various enrichment programs, motivational teachings, and discipleship workshops. All of these programs are created to help individuals to discover the "love" of God and who they are in Christ. And, finally these programs will help individuals to learn the "freedom" they have in Christ Jesus as they become "free" spiritually enabling them to live their lives in the purpose God created for them.

#### Charles & Georgetta Head

#### We Would Love To Hear From You!

Do you have a testimony or praise report you would like to share? We would love to publish it! Your testimonies and praise reports are encouraging words of praise and glory of what God has done in your life—and it will be a great help to others in their walk with the Lord. Email your testimony to journeylife@verizon.net or visit our website www.journeythroughlifeministries.net (prayer request page).

### For Back Issues



Visit our website at: www.journeythroughlifeministries.net/newsletters



Shoe Boxes for Seniors is an on-going program drive. You can send donations any time during the year for the 2016 Shoe Boxes for Seniors Program. Checks or money orders can be mailed to:

Journey Through Life Ministries
P.O. Box 17968
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Gift items can be dropped off at our Teaching Facility any Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at 10529 Lindberg Drive; Penn Hills, PA 15235.

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# Jesus Our Creator. Our Hope

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. (Romans 15:13)

We live in a world in which many question the existence of God! They go as far as to say "prove He exists;" and, there are those who don't believe Jesus existed, but if He did exist, they say "He was a teacher or prophet and not the "Son of God." Or how about this, "He exists but not in the Old Testament (OT). But if one reads the OT with the eyes of a detective and with the guidance of Holy Spirit, it is very easy to see Jesus in the OT scriptures. Although, it may be easy for some to believe in God, because man has created numerous Gods in their minds, they find it unbelievable to believe in Jesus – just mention the name of "Jesus" and everyone goes into doubt or denial mode. Plus, the ruler of this world (satan) wants everyone to believe that man evolved from apes or the world came about because of the big bang theory. The Word of God tells us differently—it is because of our lusts and need of independence from God, man would rather choose a lie than the truth. Banning Jesus, who is God, from our schools, government and public places is not prove He doesn't exist, it's just the opposite, it just says, He does exist and we don't want GOD in our lives! So, ask yourself this question, why is satan and some men so desperate to ban the name of Jesus from the entire world?

**Because there is power in the name of Jesus**. Power to save the lost! Power to heal the sick! Power to raise the dead! Power to set the captives free! Power to restore what was lost! The name of Jesus brings life to any situation! God says He has exalted the name of Jesus above every name and that Jesus has ALL authority and power. When we put our trust in Jesus and what He did for us at the Cross, we can tap into the power of Jesus, our inheritance, which is our hope. Without Jesus, there is no hope!

Whether man chooses to believe God or Jesus exists is really not the issue. The real issue is a matter of the heart and mind! You see, God doesn't have to prove His existence because He says everyone has knowledge of His existence. He put inherent knowledge of His existence in every man at birth. So Holy Spirit tells us: "Let every man be a liar, and God be true" (Romans 3:4). Lost men and women need a "heart transformation." Since the fall of Adam and Eve, many have chosen to live a life separate from God, thinking they can be self-sufficient, this is a deceptive lie from the enemy. Unfortunately, history has proven that these individuals live a life of hopelessness and emptiness, because God's Word says apart from Him we can do nothing, including finding hope, peace, love, and joy separate from Him.

Because Jesus is Our True Purpose. The Book of Genesis, which means "beginning," details earths creation along with Jesus creating man in His image. Our purpose for being created was to have a relationship with God and to rule on earth on His behalf. Our "true purpose" was to rule and reign on earth for Jesus, with Him as our Heavenly Leader – we are Jesus' subordinates; and nature and animal life are subordinate to man. We didn't evolve from apes or a big bang theory. God created us to do great things, but like Adam and Eve most choose the world of satan, instead of the goodness of God/Jesus. Jesus created us for His good pleasure and He blessed us and gave us stewardship over earth. Ephesians 1:5 and Ephesians 1:9 tells us Jesus "having predestinated us unto the adoption of Children of Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of His will." Our purpose is to serve God and to rule and reign on Earth.

Because Jesus Gives Us Peace—He is our Peace. We allow many distractions into our lives. Unfortunately, many of these distractions are from satan, designed to make us doubt God or to walk away from our free gift of salvation. Distractions and discouragement are two major issues in a Believer's life. Numerous times in Genesis chapter one the phrase: "and God said...." When God speaks, things happen - something out of nothing comes to life. Man can't speak anything into existence, but Jesus can! He spoke to the storm "peace be still." Connected to Jesus, He can speak peace into our lives! We don't have to accept the enemy's garbage!



Because Jesus can transform our hearts. Man needs a regenerated heart. We have lost our way! Man's heart is deceitfully wicked, it has become full of event devises, such as jealousy, envy, murder, etc. Man's heart for the things of God have disappeared and have been replaced with the things of this world. We have polluted our hearts with evil instead of the goodness of God. Connected to Jesus, He can transform our hearts. Jesus went to the cross to transform our old man into a new man (2 Corinthians 5:17). How does this happen? When we accept Jesus Christ into our heart and believe by faith what He did for mankind on the Cross!

To get back to the original question—if there is no Jesus and Jesus isn't God and God doesn't exist and there is no Cross - we are in a great dilemma, especially if we choose to believe as the world in evolution or the great bang theory. Why? Because we will be eternally lost without hope of ever existing Since the fall of man, sin has separated man from God, and man has been hiding from God, thinking that there manmade decisions and counterfeit society is not seen by God. We can't live without Jesus in our lives, we are hopeless without Jesus. Just look at the big mess we are living in now! Do you see or feel love everywhere you go? Do you experience peace and goodness in this world! NO! Jesus is what we need, He is love, beauty, peace and goodness. He is our healer!

**Jesus' Love for His Creation.** Even though man failed, God was not surprised by it. Because of His love for His creation He already had a plan to reconcile man back to Him – and that "way" was through His Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ.

God extended His grace to mankind. He announced the coming of the One who would crush the head of the deceiving serpent (Genesis 3:15).

The Son of God left His Heavenly Kingdom to come to earth to show us the "way," a "way" for fallen man to be reconciled with the Father and obtain salvation

through Him. On the cross, Jesus crushed satan's head.

Jesus is God! We need to share this good news with everyone. Psalms 68:20 reads "He that is our God is the God of Salvation" and John 1:1-3 verifies Genesis 1:26 by telling the reader: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>The same was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made." The key words here are "salvation" and "Word." How do we obtain salvation? And who is the Word. Salvation is through Jesus Christ, who died on the Cross for ALL of our sins and infirmities, He is God. It was Jesus/God who went to the Cross for mankind. Holy Spirit is telling us that Jesus is the Word and the Word is God. Jesus is God!

The Father and Son are ONE! In John 14:9 Jesus tells the disciples "if you see me, you hath see the Father." And in John 10:30 he tells the disciples again "the Father and I are one." Stay Connected to Jesus! We learn in John 4:7 what Adam and Eve learned when they disobeyed. Jesus said "I am the vine you are the branches without me you can do nothing." Without the life of Jesus, these mortal bodies die and without Jesus we are weak and a target for the enemy of our soul.

Friends, Jesus loves the world so, that He willingly gave His life for ALL mankind. Jesus tells us in John 8:32 that when we know the "truth" the "truth" shall make us free. The truth is that Jesus died on the Cross, was raised on the third day, and ascended to Heaven to intercede for you and me. He did this so that sinful men could be reconciled to God through His shed blood. Through Him, we have the freedom to "pray" to God for forgiveness of our sins and to receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior, promising all that do believe will receive eternal life. Jesus says in John 10:9 "I am the Door: by Me if any man enter in He shall be saved..." The Door is never closed! Enter in today!

## Old Testament Survey - Ezra

Rev. Georgetta Head



Last quarter we learned in Ezra Part I, that the children of Israel's 70 year captivity had ended and God had touched the hearts of the kings in Babylon to deport them back to their home land.

To recap, the Book of Ezra was written by Ezra. He was a priest from the priestly line of Aaron (Ezra 7:1-5). This book relates the story of two returns of the tribe of Judah. Chapters one thru 6 details the return of the first group of Jewish people under the leadership of Zerubbabel for the rebuilding of the Temple. Chapters 7 thru 10 the second group of Jewish people returned under the leadership of Ezra for spiritual reformation. Ezra was a skilled scribe in the Law of Moses.

We pick up in Ezra 7:6-10 that Artaxerxes is now king. Ezra asked king Artaxerxes' permission to return to Jerusalem to teach the returning children of Judah. "For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel." Once permission was granted he also requested the king to write a letter to assure his safety in traveling.

Ezra 7:11-26 reads that Artaxerxes not only wrote a letter recognizing Ezra's status as a priest, the king also gave a contribution to Ezra and permission to collect offerings along the way. What a God we serve! Just imagine, the children of Israel were in captivity for 70 years for their sin of idolatry, but at the end of those 70 years, God kept His promise—He freed them and sent them out of Babylon with favor! And, God used pagan kings to bless His children! In

Ezra's words "he was encouraged, as the hand of the LORD God was upon him" (Ezra 7:28).

When Ezra arrived in Jerusalem, he was shocked to discover that the men had once again strayed away from the commandments of God. The people including the priests and Levites, had polluted themselves by taking pagan wives. Ezra was very upset! The people once again were disobeying the commandments of God (Ezra 9:1). These mixed marriages were a threat to the purity of the "holy people." Instead of the men seeking God's wisdom for wives, they compromised their beliefs because of loneliness. Does this seem familiar in the church of today? We are so quick to please our fleshly desires, rather than wait on God for His wisdom and instruction.

Ezra's openly disapproval of this grave sin produced an immediate response from those who took the Word of God seriously. Action was taken and the sin was dealt with.

We need more Ezras in the body of Christ today to preach against the tolerance of today's evils that have become widespread teachings in many congregations, such as the acceptance of living together, abortion, premarital sex, homosexuality; no-fault divorce, etc.

God doesn't wink at sin, He is a holy God and He will judge sin and anyone that commits wickedness. If you have allowed compromises to enter into your life, confess them today to Father God, and turn from those wicked practices. He will forgive you!

## Bible Facts

The Law revealed our separation from God (Romans 7:7-25), but Jesus revealed "Grace & Truth" (John 1:14)

All wisdom is given by God and He knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. (1 Corinthians 3:18-20)

God's Word cuts down into the secret of human hearts and there is no hiding, He reveals secrets, there is no hiding from it. (Hebrews 4:12-13)

Methuselah was the oldest man in the Bible. He lived 969 years; but six other individuals lived over 900 years: Adam 930 years; Seth 912 years; Enos 905 years; Cainan 910 years; Jared 962 years; Noah 950 years.

There was also a woman named Noah in the Bible. (Joshua 17:3)

The only boats mentioned in the Bible by name was Castor and Pollux. (Acts 28:11)

Genesis never says Adam and Eve ate an apple, only that they ate fruit. (Genesis 3:1-6)

## **Book Review**

Order your copy of the Bible today!



The Bible is about a King and His Kingdom. It tells us why the most important King ever left His Heavenly throne to redeem lost man.

The Bible teaches man why they need salvation and how to have a relationship with their creator—God. And, most importantly, teaches us why Jesus Christ died on the Cross, and what it means for fallen man.

Available at any Christian Book Store.

Order your copy today to learn the truth about salvation, eternal life, real love, and how to live in this world.



#### **Upcoming Events**

Men's Fellowship Meeting
Visit Website for Dates

Journey Through Life Ministries Teaching Facility 10:00 to 12:00 p.m.

Daughter's of Wisdom and Virtue
Fellowship Meeting
November 3, 2016
No Meeting in December

7:00 to 8:30 p.m. 10529 Lindberg Drive Penn Hills, Pa 15235

**Discipleship Workshop Visit Website for Dates**10529 Lindberg Drive
Penn Hills, Pa 15235

## CARRY YOUR BOOKS? A Joyful toon by Mike Waters MAY I CARRY THOSE BOOKS FOR YOU? PESUS CARE WORRY PROBLEM UNEED

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

#### Bible Study:

Weekly Bible Study is every Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. all are welcome to attend. We are currently studying the Book of Ephesians.

#### **Shoe Boxes for Seniors Outreach**:

The Shoe Boxes for Seniors Christmas Outreach is an ongoing program in that we accept donations year round to fill shoe boxes for Seniors during the Christmas season. You can mail donations to the ministry or drop off donations on Wednesday's 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. All Shoe Boxes and donations are due by December 19, 2016.

#### Daughters of Wisdom & Virtue:

Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Journey Through Life Ministries' Teaching Facility. We are learning by Holy Spirit the importance of developing a sincere and meaningful relationship with Father God, our family and others. Please check website for monthly topics.

#### **Movie Night**

Movie Night is the last Friday of the month. This is a free event and ages 13 and up are invited to attend. Because food is served, we ask that you please R.S.V.P. to ensure we have enough food.





### **Buyer Beware!**

Buying a major appliance, vehicle, car insurance, electronics or life insurance can be a trying experience. For instance, one must know what is the best appliance for their needs; should one purchase a name brand or unnamed brand, and what about warranty's - are they worth purchasing? Or what is the return policy for major appliances? Or how about purchasing a vehicle, now this is not just a trying experience, it is a major headache experience. But would you ever think purchasing "life insurance" will be a major problem?

We had an unusual conversation with a woman who purchased, what she thought was "whole life insurance." For this article, we will call her "Nancy."

Nancy is in her 60's and tells us she decided to put her house in order. She wanted to make sure she had all necessary documents pertaining to her home in the event of her untimely death, such as her Will and life insurance policy. She wanted to make sure they were up to date and in a safe but accessible place for her children upon her death. She also decided to call her insurance agent to get information about the policy and the payout amount. While talking to the agent, to her surprise, she discovered that the policy she had was not a "Whole Life Insurance Policy" but an "Accidental Death Policy." She had been paying, on what she thought was a life insurance policy for over 20 years, believing it would have a payout benefit upon her death. What a shock! Especially now, at her age to purchase a "Whole Life Insurance Policy" would be very costly. And by the way, the agent who sold her the policy is no longer with the company!

Buyers, when purchasing anything, including life insurance and car insurance, please take the time to read what you are signing. Ask questions and if you are not sure what to ask or know very little about what you are purchasing, take someone with you that is knowledgeable about the product and can be your voice and ears. If you have to go alone take notes and do not sign anything! Take the papers home with you and have someone you trust review them with you and explain to you what the "small print" means. Don't be in a hurry, that's when you make mistakes. Nancy didn't ask the right questions and she made assumptions about what she was purchasing, and unfortunately, there are predators seeking whom they can deceive for fast money.

Friends always pray and seek God's advice and wisdom before making major purchases. He will guide you to the right people and help you make the right decisions without being deceived by predators.

If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving—it will be used to measure what is given back to you.

Luke 6:38



Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17)



Not to long ago as I was riding through a small town, I watched a construction crew demolish an old, but beautiful building. Rather than restore or refurbish the existing building, they demolished it! How sad? It appears that in today's world we find very little interest or appeal for things that are old, broken, run down or blemished. We want everything shiny and new! We, unfortunately, find little worth in restoring something old or blemished into something new. When speaking with a real estate agent, he told me it is too costly to restore or refurbish old buildings, it is more cost effective to tear it down and to start anew.

This made me think about creation and fallen man. When Adam and Eve sinned they brought sin into the world and, as a result, everyone born into this world is born a sinner. God tells us in His Word that sin is costly—it costs one's life! God knew Adam and Eve would fail, so instead of demolishing them, He had a plan in place to restore them and all mankind born after them. Genesis 3:15 tells us that God told Adam and Eve He would send a deliverer to restore them back to Him. ("And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.") This deliverer is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Believers at one time were considered blemished and doomed for eternal destruction, but in the "fullness of time" God sent His only begotten Son to redeem mankind back to the Father. Just as He promised Adam and Eve! Jesus paid the "costly" price to restore mankind back to God rather than have them doomed to eternal hell. The cost was His life! Jesus allowed man to horribly beat him, crush His skull with thorns and then allow man to crucify Him on a Cross—shedding His precious blood for the cleansing of our sins. Jesus' death on the Cross was very costly, but He believed we were worth the price because He loves us so much.

Jesus' death and resurrection on the Cross offers eternal life and restoration to Father God to *whosever that believeth* in Him and His finished work on the Cross (John 3:15)! By "faith" a sinner can pray to God confessing with their mouth and believing with their heart that Jesus is Lord (Romans 10:8-10). Friends, when you pray to God for salvation, you will become a new creature in Christ, your old man will pass away and all things will become new. In other words, you will have passed from death eternal to life eternal with Jesus. God doesn't destroy us, He restores us!

Jesus believes you are very valuable and paid a costly price to redeem you back to God, so I pray you will see the value and treasure He sees in you and make the decision today to receive the "free gift" of salvation. He loves you and is waiting to hear your voice today! Don't allow the devil to continue demolishing you, "allow Jesus to restore and transform you, you are so worth it!"



## Acknowledge God In all your Ways and He will direct

He will direct your path. Prov. 3:5-6 The word "Integrity" means, the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles or moral uprightness.

Having integrity means doing the right thing in a reliable way. It is a personality trait that we admire, since it means a person has a moral compass that does not waver. Simply said, doing what you said you would do. In today's society it is becoming more and more scarce to find people of integrity. I have observed in many instances, the lack of integrity in business deals, within families, on a personal level, and even in the family of God that people will not stay true to their word or even keep their promises.

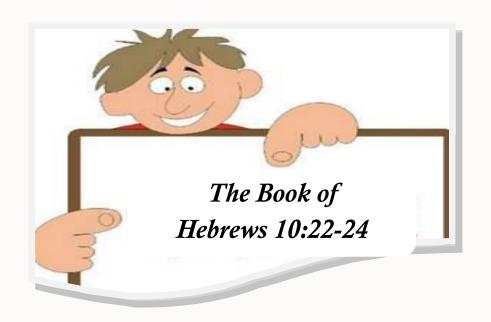
I have great respect for a person when they have come up short and they have the heart to apologize, in truth, not another made-up lie for not keeping their word. We all need to examine ourselves and take inventory on our motives before we give a person our word to do something. If many of us are honest, we would find out we had no intention of keeping our word, we were

just saying words and not making our action a priority to do what we said we would do.

God has prescribed in his word a saying for those who don't keep their word. Proverbs 25:19 says: "Confidence in an unfaithful man in times of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint." This verse describes a person who does not keep their word as being as bad as an aching pain or being useless. A tooth that is broken will be useless and very difficult to eat with; and a foot out of joint will cause extreme pain with limitations until it has been healed. Proverbs, which is known as God's book of wisdom, records another verse that will enlighten us on the subject of integrity, also referred to as being faithful. Proverbs 20:6 reads: "most men will proclaim everyone his own goodness, but a faithful man who can find?" Which means boasters can readily be found on every side, but trustworthy men must be sought for. There is nothing better than to find a dependable person who will keep their word and who are so reliable that you know something urgent must have happened when they miss an appointment.

Want to have the Quarterly Newsletter mailed to your home? You can! For \$20.00 per year, a copy will be mailed to your home each quarter. Or would you like to make a donation of any amount to help in the cost of preparing, copying and distribution of this newsletter. Fill out the form below and mail to: *Journey Through Life Ministries; P.O. Box 17968; Pittsburgh, Pa 15235 for a subscribe or to make a donation.* 

;   	Quarterly Newsletter Subscription
Name	
Address	
City	State Zip Code
Phone	Cell Email
Donation for Newsletter:	1 Year \$20.00 2 Years \$40.00 \$5.00 \$10.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$30.00 Other \$



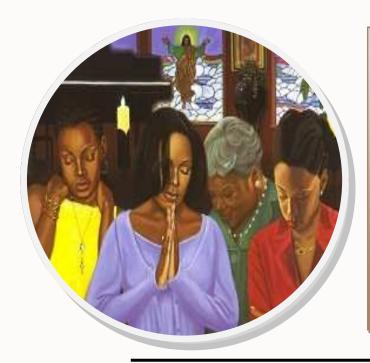
#### Hebrews 10:22-24

LET US
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#### IN THE LIGHT OF HIS WORD

God promises you security,
Yet you put more trust in those you see.
God promises He will never leave you,
Yet from Him you often flee.
God promises to meet all your needs,
Yet you worry every day.
God promises you salvation,
Yet you try to find another way.
God's promises don't change, in spite of all you do.
God has yet another promise He promises to always love you!!

I know this is for the New Year, but thought it was too good not to print.

Welcome to Flight #2016. We are prepared to take off into the New Year. Please make sure your **Attitude** and **Blessings** are secured and locked in, in upright position.

All self-destructive devices should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt and discouragement should be put away.

Should we lose Altitude under pressure, during the flight, reach up and pull down a **Prayer**. **Prayers** will automatically be activated by **Faith**. Once your **Faith** is activated you can assist other passengers.

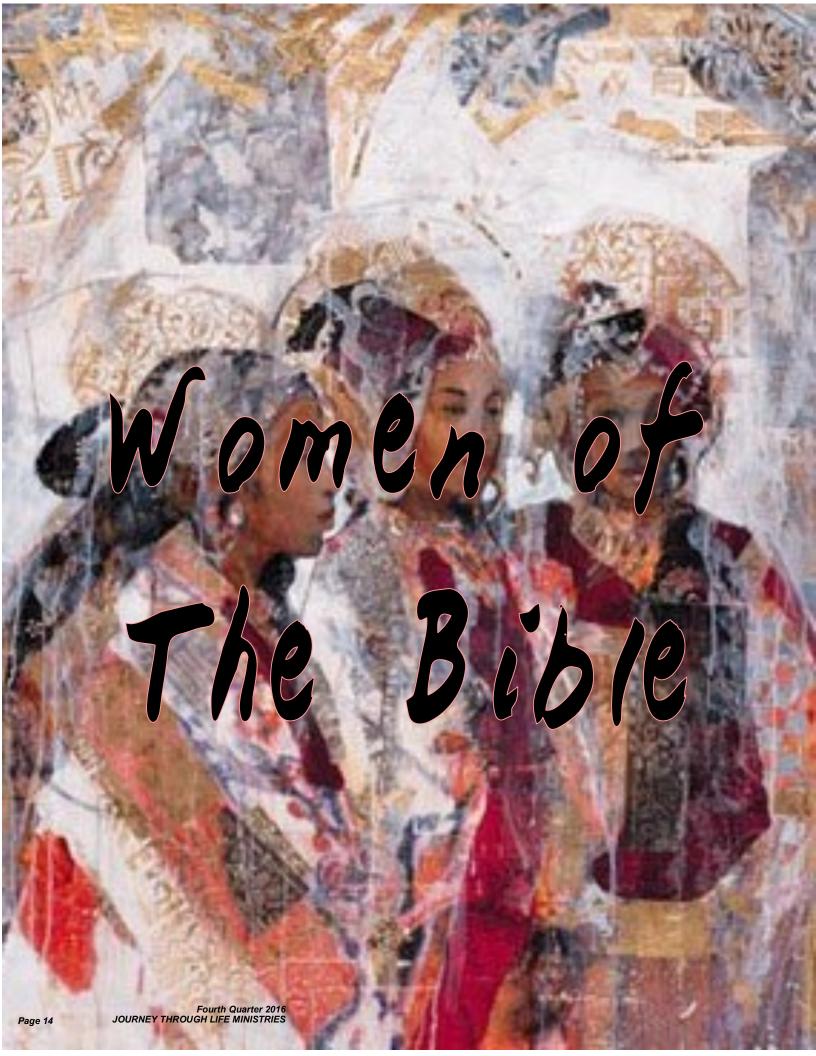
There will be **NO BAGGAGE**, allowed on this flight. The Captain (**God**) has cleared us for takeoff. Destination **GREATNESS**. As you land at each GREAT destination in 2016, keep your mind stay on the Word of God for HE is in control of all. In the take-off HE has given you what you will need at each destination. Therefore, GO.......Please report if you are taking this flight with us.

#### SENIOR MAN AT THE SUPER BOWL



A man had 50 yard line tickets for the Super Bowl. As he sat down, he noticed that that the seat next to him was empty. He asked the man on the other side of the empty seat whether anyone was sitting there. "No," the man replied, "the seat is empty." "This is incredible," said the man. "Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the Super Bowl, the biggest sporting event in the world and not use it?" The second man replied, "Well, actually, the seat belongs to me. I was supposed to come with my wife, but she passed away.

This will be the first Super Bowl we haven't been together since we got married in 1967." "Oh, I'm sorry to hear that. That's terrible. But couldn't you find someone else — a friend or relative, or even a neighbor to take the seat? The man shook his head, "No, they are all at the funeral."





Proverbs 31:20 "She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy."

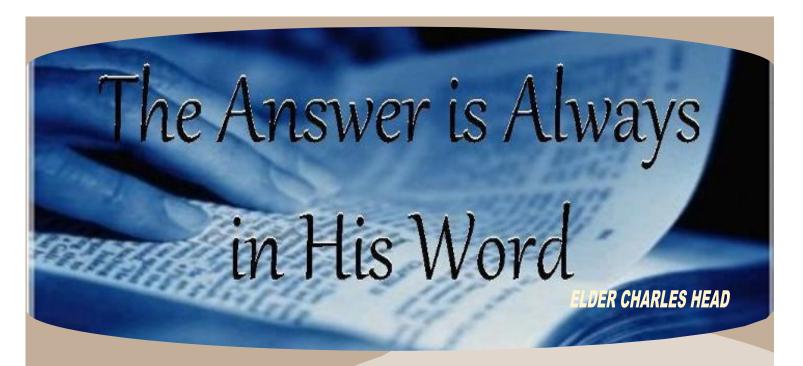
In Biblical times women didn't have much of a voice, nor where they involved in public life. So it is very interesting as one reads the Book of Luke you will notice he takes the time to record events which included women and their contributions to the ministry of Jesus. I believe Holy Spirit had Luke include numerous women in the Gospel of Luke to let readers understand that Jesus finds value and worth in women. Luke 8:1-3 introduces the reader to a woman named Joanna and several other women who were healed from infirmities and demons.

Joanna was the wife of Chuza, who was Herod's steward - placing her in an upper class position because she was married to a man with society status in Herod's kingdom. One day she heard of Jesus coming to her town. She went out to hear Him preach the "glad tidings of the Kingdom of God." While she was there in the midst of the crowd, Jesus healed her of an infirmity and she became a Believer. Joanna was so grateful for her healing that she became a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. She had a heart transformation that day!

Joanne immediately began to freely distribute her resources to Jesus and the twelve disciples, which enabled them to continue their work of preaching the good news. Joanne was present at the crucifixion of our Lord. Joanna used her riches for Jesus' burial after his brutal death, and she is among the women who anointed His body with spices and oils and herbs befitting a King.

Most importantly, Joanne discovers Jesus' empty tomb when attending His grave on the third day after His death. Along with Mary of Magdalene and Mary, mother of James, they together found an angelic visitor at the tomb encouraging them not to mourn because: "He Is Risen!" And, they were among the first to deliver the good news, "He Is Risen!"

We can learn much from Joanna! After her healing and salvation, she never looked back, she put her "faith into action." With her heart transformation, she learned that nothing she had was more valuable then serving the Lord and His work. She also learned that this world system had nothing to offer her—Jesus was her hope and her future! Friends, put your faith into action, as Joanne did: "seek ye the Kingdom of God and His righteousness...." and you will have everything!



#### "HANNAH'S SONG OF PRAISE"

The word of God is full of stories that inspire us to carry on. Sometimes there is a part of God's word that brings correction to us also, but if we read it and apply it, it will keep us on track and our life will stay on balance with God.

The Story of Hannah, which is found in First Samuel chapters 1 & 2 is a story that we can read that gives us an example of pain, hurt and disappointment, but the story ends with praise to God for his goodness.

Hannah was a barren woman during those days that when your womb was closed it was considered a curse by many people; so she was being mocked by her enemy because of being childless. Sometimes what others may consider a curse from a world's point of view, is only a test for the child of God.

Hannah's test went on for several years but she never gave up on God, even when her heart was broken and at the same time being tortured by her enemy. So the conclusion of her matter was "it's not how you start, but how you finish!" Hannah started out with hurt but ended up with praise because she kept her trust in the Lord, who is able to deliver us from our pain and heal our broken heart.

When Hannah's deliverance came she wrote a song of Praise unto the Lord, which is found in First Samuel 2:1-11: "There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble. The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto His King, and exalt the horn of his anointed."

What are you going through in your life today? Don't fret, the same God that put a song in the heart of Hannah is waiting to give you a song for your own personal trial. Keep trusting and praising him!

## There's still oom at th He shed His Blood for you! -The Cross-The only answer to man's dilemmas! What are your struggles in life? What bad habit does the enemy, satan, have you bound with—drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, sexual sins, anger, unforgiveness! Then there is room at the Cross for you! Let Jesus set you FREE! Jesus went to the Cross and shed His precious blood just for you! You don't have to live in bondage to sin anymore! Freedom is just a step away for you! Come to the Cross today and call on that precious Name-JESUS for salvation and forgiveness from your sins and deliverance from bad habits. Jesus loves you and died for you. Every sin you have ever committed was nailed onto the Cross with Jesus. His precious blood washes your sins away! There's still room at the Cross for YOU! What are you waiting for? Come today!



I am a mother of three and have recently completed my college degree. The last class I had to take was Sociology. The teacher was absolutely inspiring with the qualities that I wish every human being had been graced with. Her last project of the term was called, "Smile." The class was asked to go out and smile at three people and document their reactions. I am a very friendly person and always smile at everyone and say hello anyway. So, I thought this would be a piece of cake, literally. Soon after we were assigned the project, my husband, youngest son, and I went out to McDonald's one crisp March morning. It was just our way of sharing special playtime with our son. We were standing in line, waiting to be served, when all of a sudden everyone around us began to back away, and then even my husband did. I did not move an inch... an overwhelming feeling of panic welled up inside of me as I turned to see why they had moved.

As I turned around I smelled a horrible 'dirty body' smell, and there standing behind me were two poor homeless men. As I looked down at the short gentleman, close to me, he was "smiling." His beautiful sky blue eyes were full of God's Light as he searched for acceptance. He said, "Good day" as he counted the few coins he had been clutching. The second man fumbled with his hands as he stood behind his friend. I realized the second man was mentally challenged and the blue-eyed gentleman was his salvation. I held my tears as I stood there with them.

The young lady at the counter asked him what they wanted. He said, "Coffee is all Miss" because that was all they could afford. (If they wanted to sit in the restaurant and warm up, they had to buy something. He just wanted to be warm). Then I really felt it - the compulsion was so great I almost reached out and embraced the little man with the blue eyes. That is when I noticed all eyes in the restaurant were set on me, judging my every action. I smiled and asked the young lady behind the counter to give me two more breakfast meals on a separate tray. I then walked around the corner to the table that the men had chosen as a resting spot. I put the tray on the table and laid my hand on the blue-eyed gentleman's cold hand. He looked up at me, with tears in his eyes, and said, "Thank you." I leaned over, began to pat his hand and said, "I did not do this for you. God is here working through me to give you hope." I started to cry as I walked away to join my husband and son. When I sat down my husband smiled at me and said, "That is why God gave you to me, Honey, to give me hope." We held hands for a moment and at that time, we knew that only because of the Grace that we had been given were we able to give. We are not church goers, but we are Believers.

That day showed me the pure Light of God's sweet love. I returned to college, on the last evening of class, with this story in hand. I turned in my project and the instructor read it. Then she looked up at me and said, "Can I share this?" I slowly nodded as she got the attention of the class. She began to read and that is when I knew that we as human beings and being part of God share this need to heal people and to be healed. In my own way I had touched the people at McDonald's, my son, instructor, and every soul that shared the classroom on the last night I spent as a college student. I graduated with one of the biggest lessons I would ever learn: UNCONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE. (Author Unknown)



"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" 1 Corinthians 6:19 (KJV)

We are living in a health conscience age in which everyone is looking for ways to live longer and healthier. We are constantly looking for some new fade diet or miracle food or pill to snap us back into shape, when we already have the answer for a healthy lifestyle. It's called "discipline" and "moderation."

We need to learn how to discipline ourselves to stop eating foods that are harmful to our bodies; and learn to eat all foods in moderation. Too much of anything can be harmful!

I would like to challenge you to do research on fruits, nuts, oats, wheats, and vegetables. God created these food groups to give our bodies enough nutrient to heal our bodies and to give it the fuel and energy needed to survive. For instance, did you know that "nuts and seeds" are a good source for our blood sugar? Eating nuts on a regular basis can help in preventing type 2 diabetes.

Nuts are rich in cancer-fighting antioxidants. A one ounce serving of almonds provides 50% of the recommended dietary allowance of vitamin E. Walnuts are rich in "ellagic acid," an antioxidant that may inhibit the growth of cancer cells.

Nuts can boosts your energy. Because nuts are a slow burning food

containing a mix of fat and protein they provide sustained energy.

Eating just 1.5 ounces of sesame seeds every day for four weeks can lower bad LDL cholesterol. Did you know that pumpkin seeds and sesame seeds are a good source for fighting anemia.

Researchers have discovered that eating nuts and seeds on a regular basis can protect one against heart disease. Nuts are high in fat and calories, but a good health source, so please eat nuts in moderation to maintain a heart healthy diet.

## Who's Who In The Bible

The tribe of the Amalekites are from Esau's grandson Amalek; and Esau was the twin brother of Jacob (Genesis 14:7). They were the first tribe to attack the Israelite children as they entered Canaan. The Amalekites also fought Moses, Joshua, the judges, Saul and David.

Did you know that **Bartimaeus** was the first person in the Gospel of Mark to openly acknowledge that Jesus was the Messiah. Bartimaeus was a blind man that sat by the road to Jericho who called out to Jesus for healing. He called out to Jesus "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me." (Mark 10:46)

**Barnabas** was an early Christian convert. Known by many as a good man, full of faith and the Holy Spirit, had a ministry of encouragement. His name actually means "son of encouragement." Barnabas chose Paul to assist him in a fruitful ministry in Antioch. They worked together for a year encouraging disciples and evangelizing the Gentiles. Barnabas' on Paul's first missionary journey, covering 1400 miles, resulting in the formation of many Gentile churches.

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#### What Must I Do to Be Saved?

Believe in Jesus and pray the "sinner's prayer below!

Dear Jesus, I come to you today as a lost sinner. I am asking that you save my soul and cleanse me from all sin. I know that I need help and that I can't save myself.

I believe that you are the Son of God. Forgive me for my sins and all wrong doings I have done to others and help me to forgive those who have hurt me. I believe that you died on the Cross for my sins and the sins of the world. I accept You, Jesus, into my heart as my Lord and Savior.

I confess with my mouth the Lord Jesus, as my Savior and believe in my heart that God has raised Him from the dead and You are now seated in Heaven.

#### Congratulations!

You are a "new creature in Christ and a child of God!" Now share the "good news" by telling someone else about your salvation.