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Daily

**JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH 1988 No. 119**

# Personally from Billy

Welcome, readers! This time we look at the problem of false prophets. We do not need to remind you that today, in this modern time, we still **do** have false prophets who deceive the people into thinking that they (the false prophets) have the Word of God, when they do not! Only if you **know** God's Word, can you protect yourself from these false prophets! Be sure to read all the Scriptural references scattered throughout this issue's comic strips, because we don't want you to just take our word for it. We want you to see what God's Word itself says!

This is why we have not tried to name any well-known false prophet today, because by the time this issue comes out, the person or persons we name may have fallen and new ones have come up in their place. We repeat, **study God's Bible** itself to prevent yourself from following false prophets. And be sure to look up to **Jesus Christ**, the author and finisher of our faith!

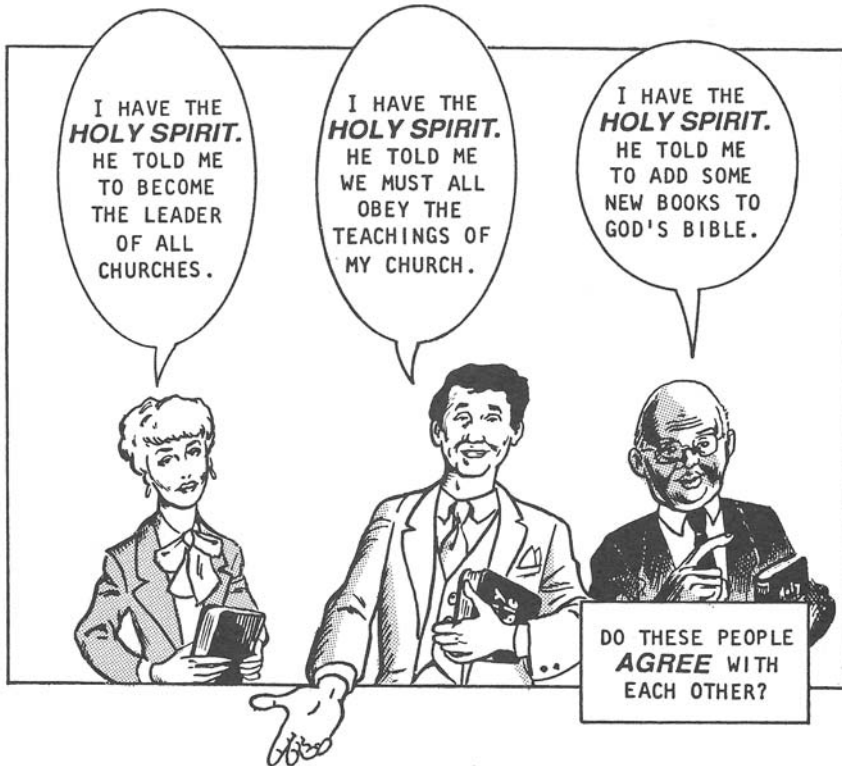
Next issue we will have shorter items. This is in keeping with our efforts to provide variety in this magazine. But our goal remains the same-- **exalting Jesus Christ among the deaf!**

I love you in Christ,  
*Billy*  
Billy Leavell,  
Editor



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Subscription is free to all, though donations are welcome. Billy Leavell,  
Editor.

# HAS GOD **REALLY** SPOKEN?



**T**HE HOLY SPIRIT COULD **NOT** HAVE SAID ALL THESE THINGS.

**WHY?**

THIS IS **WHY!**

For God is not the *author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.  
**1 CORINTHIANS 14:33**



**G**OD'S BIBLE  
IS **TRUTH.**

SO LET US **FOLLOW**  
THE BIBLE ONLY--  
NOT WHAT PEOPLE  
SAY.

**H**ERE IS AN **EXAMPLE**  
FOR US FROM THE  
**OLD TESTAMENT:**

1 KINGS 13:7-24

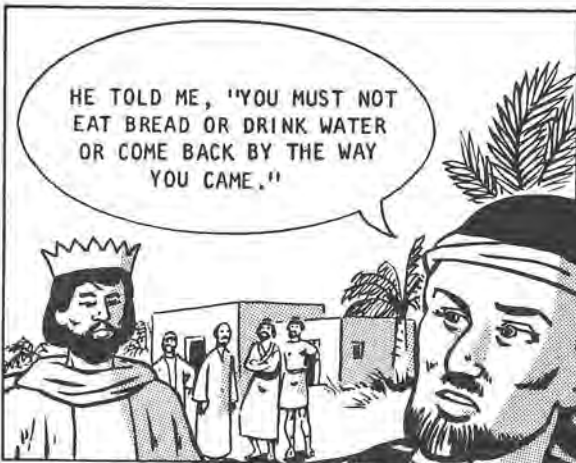
**A** MAN OF GOD  
WAS SENT TO  
KING JEROBOAM  
OF ISRAEL TO  
GIVE HIM A  
MESSAGE...

COME HOME WITH ME  
AND HAVE SOMETHING  
TO EAT. THEN I'LL  
GIVE YOU A GIFT.

NO, KING JEROBOAM.  
EVEN IF YOU GAVE ME  
HALF OF ALL THAT  
YOU HAVE, I WOULDN'T  
GO WITH YOU, OR EAT  
BREAD, OR DRINK  
WATER HERE.

WHY, MAN  
OF GOD?

BECAUSE THE LORD'S  
WORD COMMANDED ME.



HE TOLD ME, "YOU MUST NOT EAT BREAD OR DRINK WATER OR COME BACK BY THE WAY YOU CAME."

THEN THE MAN OF GOD LEFT BETHEL, USING A DIFFERENT ROAD LIKE GOD TOLD HIM TO...



BUT SOME YOUNG MEN, WHO HEARD WHAT THE MAN OF GOD SAID TO KING JEROBOAM, CAME TO THEIR FATHER, WHO WAS AN OLD PROPHET...

...AND HE TOLD THE KING HE HAD TO TAKE A DIFFERENT ROAD HOME.

WHICH WAY DID HE GO?

THERE!



SADDLE THE DONKEY FOR ME!

ARE YOU THE MAN OF GOD WHO CAME FROM JUDAH?

YES.

THE OLD PROPHET RODE THE DONKEY AND CAUGHT UP WITH THE MAN OF GOD, WHO WAS NOW RESTING UNDER AN OAK TREE...





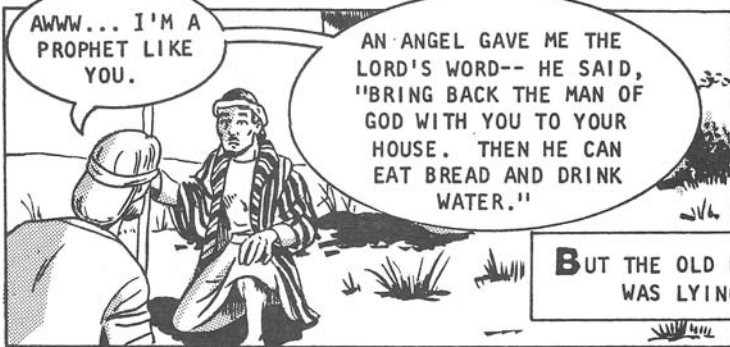
COME HOME WITH ME AND EAT.

NO, I CANNOT DO THAT. I CANNOT GO BACK WITH YOU.



I CANNOT EAT BREAD WITH YOU, OR DRINK WATER WITH YOU HERE IN BETHEL.

THE LORD TOLD ME, "YOU MUST NOT EAT BREAD OR DRINK WATER THERE, OR COME BACK THE SAME WAY YOU CAME."



AWWW... I'M A PROPHET LIKE YOU.

AN ANGEL GAVE ME THE LORD'S WORD-- HE SAID, "BRING BACK THE MAN OF GOD WITH YOU TO YOUR HOUSE. THEN HE CAN EAT BREAD AND DRINK WATER."

**B**UT THE OLD PROPHET WAS LYING!



**T**HE MAN OF GOD BELIEVED THE OLD PROPHET'S WORDS!

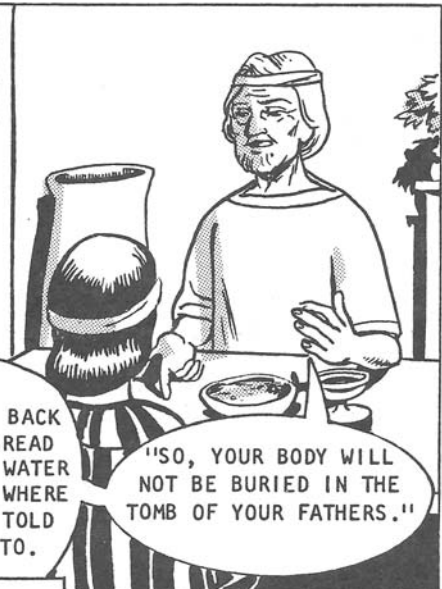
REALLY? I DIDN'T KNOW THE LORD CHANGED HIS MIND! ALL RIGHT, I'LL GO BACK WITH YOU.

**W**HEN THEY SAT AT THE OLD PROPHET'S TABLE TO EAT, THE **REAL** HOLY SPIRIT CAME INTO THE OLD PROPHET, AND--

THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS:  
"YOU HAVE TURNED AWAY FROM THE WORD OF THE **LORD**, AND YOU HAVE **NOT** OBEYED THE COMMAND THAT THE LORD YOUR GOD GAVE YOU.

"YOU CAME BACK AND ATE BREAD AND DRANK WATER AT BETHEL WHERE THE LORD TOLD YOU NOT TO.

"SO, YOUR BODY WILL NOT BE BURIED IN THE TOMB OF YOUR FATHERS."



**S**URE ENOUGH, WHEN THE MAN OF GOD WENT ON HIS WAY HOME, A LION CAUGHT HIM AND KILLED HIM...



AND THE OLD PROPHET CAME AND BURIED THE BODY IN HIS OWN TOMB.

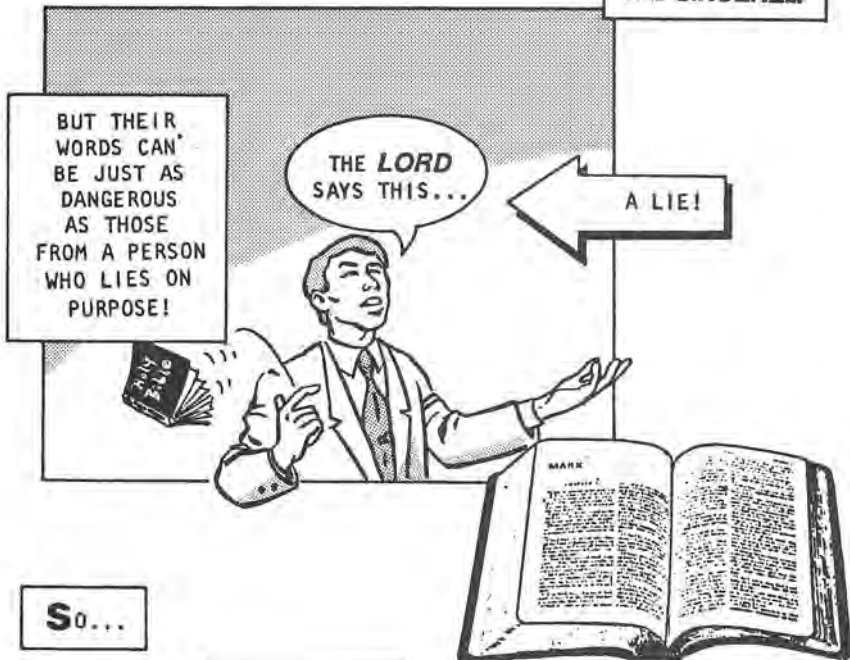
**N**OW, WHAT IS THE POINT OF THIS EXAMPLE FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT?



IT IS THIS-- PEOPLE CAN **LIE** TO YOU WHEN THEY SAY **GOD** SPOKE TO THEM, OR THAT THE **HOLY SPIRIT** CAME INTO THEM.



SOME PEOPLE ARE *SINCERE*...



So...

IT IS WISE TO BE *CAREFUL*...

AND FOLLOW THE *BIBLE* ONLY!



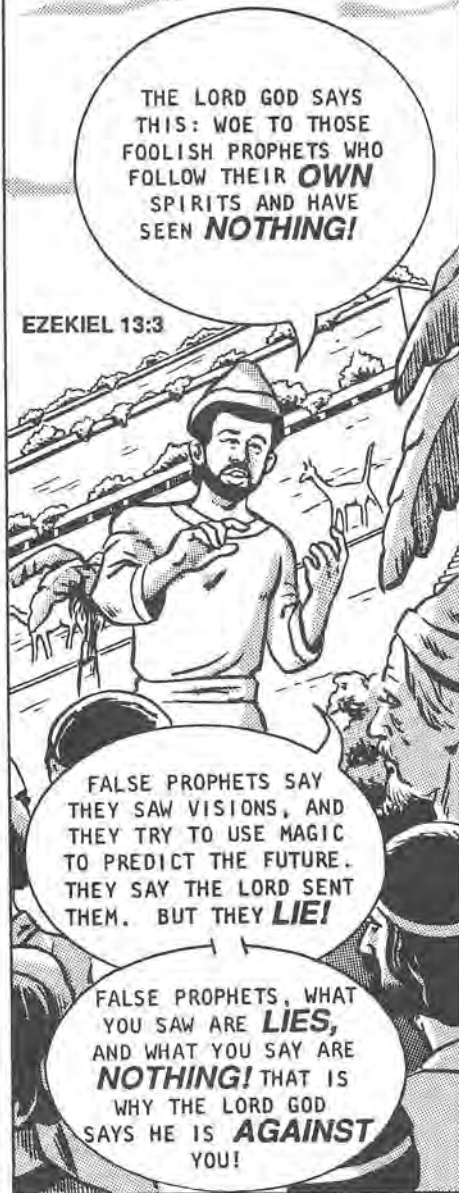
IN MOSES' TIME, IF A PROPHET WAS FOUND TO BE A FALSE PROPHET, THEN HIS PUNISHMENT WAS **SEVERE**--



THE LORD SAYS THAT THE PROPHET WHO SAYS SOMETHING THE LORD DID NOT SAY MUST BE **PUT TO DEATH!**

DEUTERONOMY 18:20-22

HUNDREDS OF YEARS LATER, ANOTHER PROPHET, EZEKIEL, ALSO HAD HARSH WORDS FOR FALSE PROPHETS...



THE LORD GOD SAYS THIS: WOE TO THOSE FOOLISH PROPHETS WHO FOLLOW THEIR **OWN** SPIRITS AND HAVE SEEN **NOTHING!**

EZEKIEL 13:3

FALSE PROPHETS SAY THEY SAW VISIONS, AND THEY TRY TO USE MAGIC TO PREDICT THE FUTURE. THEY SAY THE LORD SENT THEM. BUT THEY **LIE!**

FALSE PROPHETS, WHAT YOU SAW ARE **LIES**, AND WHAT YOU SAY ARE **NOTHING!** THAT IS WHY THE LORD GOD SAYS HE IS **AGAINST** YOU!

EZEKIEL 13:6-8

**E**VEN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WARNED ABOUT FALSE PROPHETS...

FALSE CHRISTS AND FALSE PROPHETS WILL COME. THEY WILL DO GREAT SIGNS AND WONDERS TO TRY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO **FOOL** EVEN GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE!



**MATTHEW 24:24**

**T**HE APOSTLE PAUL GAVE A TERRIBLE PICTURE OF THE FUTURE.

THE TIME WILL COME WHEN PEOPLE WILL NOT **LISTEN** TO TRUE TEACHING.

THEY WILL ADD MORE AND MORE TEACHERS THAT THEY LIKE.

**2 TIMOTHY 4:3-4**

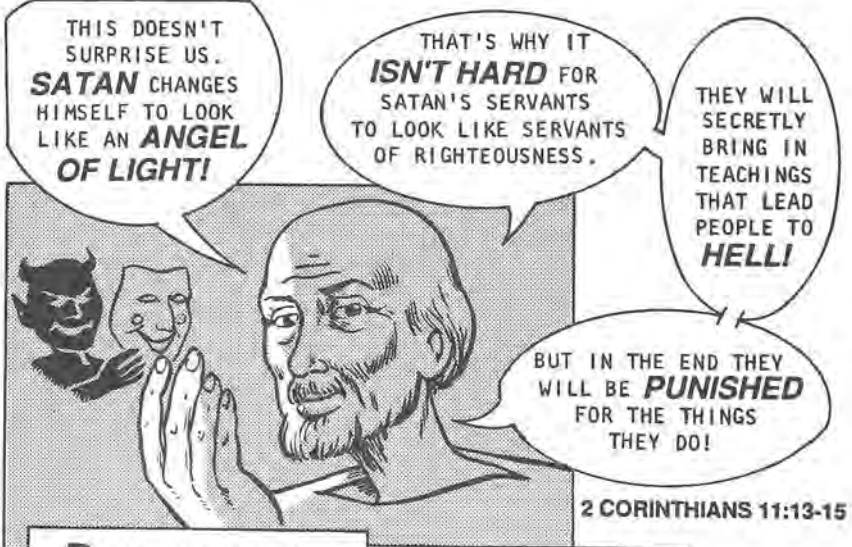
THEY WILL **TURN AWAY** FROM THE TRUTH AND TURN TO FALSE STORIES!

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS CLEAR IN SAYING PEOPLE WILL **STOP** BELIEVING TRUE TEACHING IN THE LATER TIMES.

**1 TIMOTHY 4:1**

FALSE APOSTLES WORK TO FOOL PEOPLE. THEY CHANGE THEMSELVES TO **LOOK LIKE** THE APOSTLES OF CHRIST.

**2 CORINTHIANS 11:13**



THIS DOESN'T SURPRISE US. **SATAN** CHANGES HIMSELF TO LOOK LIKE AN **ANGEL OF LIGHT!**

THAT'S WHY IT **ISN'T HARD** FOR SATAN'S SERVANTS TO LOOK LIKE SERVANTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

THEY WILL SECRETLY BRING IN TEACHINGS THAT LEAD PEOPLE TO **HELL!**

BUT IN THE END THEY WILL BE **PUNISHED** FOR THE THINGS THEY DO!

2 CORINTHIANS 11:13-15

**P**PETER ALSO WARNED...

THESE FALSE PROPHETS WILL EVEN **DENY** THE LORD WHO BOUGHT THEM. THEY WILL BE QUICKLY DESTROYED!

IN TIMES PAST THERE WERE FALSE PROPHETS AMONG THE PEOPLE.

IT IS THE SAME **TODAY!** THERE WILL BE FALSE PROPHETS AMONG YOU.

MANY PEOPLE WILL FOLLOW THESE FALSE PROPHETS' EVIL WAYS.

THAT IS WHY OTHER PEOPLE WILL SAY **BAD THINGS** ABOUT THE WAY OF TRUTH.

2 PETER 2:1-2



THESE FALSE PROPHETS  
WILL BE **GREEDY** FOR  
**MONEY!**

THEY WILL USE  
LYING WORDS.

JUDGMENT AGAINST  
THEM HAS BEEN  
READY FOR A LONG  
TIME.

2 PETER 2:3

THEIR PUNISHMENT  
WILL **NOT BE DELAYED!**

**J**OHAN, NEAR THE END OF  
THE FIRST CENTURY, ALSO  
GAVE A WARNING...

MY LOVED ONES,  
DON'T BELIEVE EVERY  
SPIRIT, BUT **TEST** THE  
SPIRITS TO SEE IF  
THEY ARE FROM GOD.

WHY? BECAUSE MANY  
**FALSE PROPHETS**  
HAVE GONE OUT INTO THE  
WORLD!

JOHN WROTE  
THE CHURCH  
IN EPHEBUS  
TO TELL THEM  
WHAT OUR LORD  
SAID--

1 JOHN 4:1

YOU HAVE **TESTED** THOSE  
PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO BE  
APOSTLES, BUT THEY ARE  
**NOT**. YOU HAVE FOUND  
THEM **LIARS!**

REVELATION 2:2

**H**OW CAN WE TEST  
TEACHERS TO BE  
SURE THEY AREN'T  
FALSE TEACHERS?

LET'S LISTEN  
TO WHAT JESUS  
SAYS--

WATCH OUT FOR FALSE  
PROPHETS! THEY COME  
TO YOU IN SHEEP'S  
CLOTHING. BUT  
INSIDE THEY ARE  
**WOLVES** READY TO  
GRAB YOU!

**MATTHEW**  
7:15

HOW CAN WE  
KNOW IF THEY  
ARE FALSE  
PROPHETS?

YOU WILL KNOW  
THEM BY THEIR  
**FRUITS.** PEOPLE  
DON'T GATHER  
GRAPES FROM  
THORNS, OR FIGS  
FROM THORN  
BUSHES.

**MATTHEW 7:16**

**I**F YOU SEE A PREACHER DOING  
OR ENCOURAGING THESE THINGS--  
**BEWARE!**

THEIR EYES  
ARE FULL OF  
**ADULTERY...**

THEY CANNOT  
**STOP SIN...**

THEY **FOOL**  
WEAKER PEOPLE  
INTO SIN...

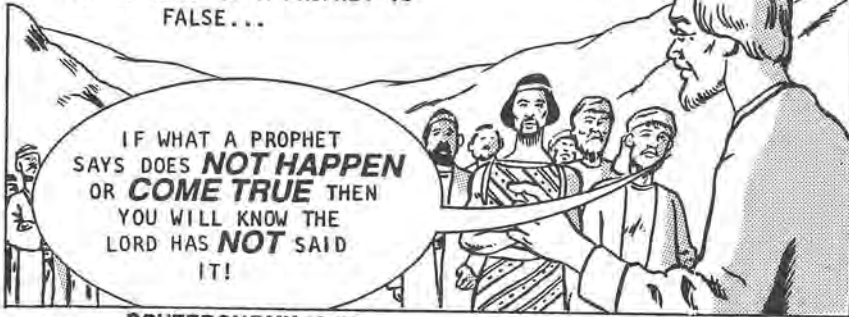
THEY PRACTICE  
**GREEDINESS...**

THEY ARE  
**CURSED.**

THEY HAVE  
LEFT THE  
**RIGHT WAY!**

**2 PETER 2:14**

**A**LSO, MOSES TELLS US ANOTHER WAY TO KNOW IF A PROPHET IS FALSE...



IF WHAT A PROPHET SAYS DOES **NOT HAPPEN** OR **COME TRUE** THEN YOU WILL KNOW THE LORD HAS **NOT SAID** IT!

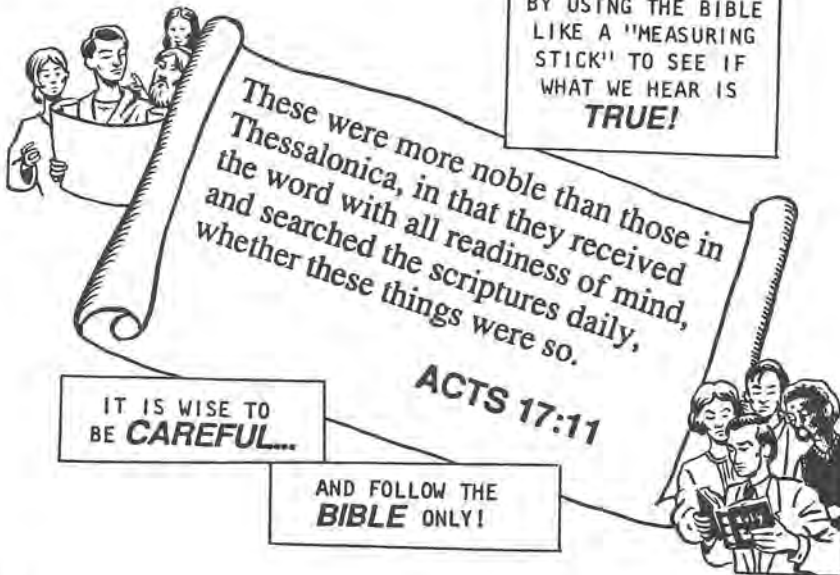
DEUTERONOMY 18:21



HOW CAN WE DO THIS?

DON'T TREAT PROPHECYINGS LIKE THEY ARE NOT IMPORTANT. BUT **TEST** EVERYTHING AND **HOLD ON** TO WHAT IS **GOOD!**

1 THESSALONIANS 5:21



BY USING THE BIBLE LIKE A "MEASURING STICK" TO SEE IF WHAT WE HEAR IS **TRUE!**

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether these things were so.

ACTS 17:11

IT IS WISE TO BE **CAREFUL...**

AND FOLLOW THE **BIBLE ONLY!**

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The answers given to the questions below are the responsibility of the **Editor**.

**If a person doesn't pray and talk to God for a long time, can other people bother him or can a person forget God quickly?**

The person who does not communicate with God regularly may be in danger of allowing evil influences to win him over. Why? Because when a person prays to God, that person is allowing his mind to think over spiritual things. Romans 8:6 may be helpful for you to understand: **"If a person's thinking is controlled by his sinful self, then there is spiritual death. But if a person's thinking is controlled by the Spirit, then there is life and peace."** So if a person does not pray to God for a long time, likely he is not at all trying to live the Christian life, but is controlled by his sinful self.

**If a person has sex with a woman out of marriage, will the person's mind be ruined? I know myself if a person repents or talks to God, God will forgive the person if he never does that again.**

If you mean that the person's mind is destroyed such that he cannot think clearly any more, my answer is that a person's mind is **not** always destroyed by his having sex out of marriage. The Bible does not say that! **But** if the person receives a disease from the

woman he has sex with, the disease could possibly destroy his mind. Gonorrhea does that if it is not treated, but it takes many years before it finally destroys the person's mind. But there is another way the person's mind may be "destroyed". That person may think of nothing but sex all the time. This way he ruins himself! Romans 1:21-22 helps us understand this: **"People's thinking became useless. Their foolish minds were filled with darkness (sin). People said they were wise, and they became fools."** Verse 24 adds, **"So God left them and let them go their sinful way."**

And yes, you are right, God will forgive the person who repents of his sexual sin. But remember the word **"repent"** means a **change of mind**. The sexual sinner must decide in his mind that sexual sin is wrong, and he must actually turn away from it. If he is sincere in wanting to quit his sin, he can ask Christ for help to do so. See Philippians 4:13.

**I thought Jesus says a person must eat for good health. But what did He mean in Matthew 6:25 when He says not to worry about food?**

First, in verse 24 Jesus is talking about the fact that a person cannot serve two masters ("bosses") at the same time. Which comes first, God or mon-

ey? That is what Jesus talked about in verse 24. Then in verse 25 Jesus tells the people not to worry about food or the clothes they need for their bodies. Jesus pointed out that the birds in the air and the flowers in the field don't have jobs. But God feeds the birds and clothes the flowers! That is why Jesus goes on to say, "Don't worry and say, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' (verse 31)?" Why? "Because your Father in heaven knows that you need these things (verse 32)." So have faith in God and He will give you the food and clothes you need. "The thing you should want most is God's kingdom and being right with Him. Then all these other things you need will be given to you (verse 33)." Yes, Jesus would want us to eat for good health, but He does not want us to worry about where we will get food if we have no money. God will take care of us!

**Can a person who is a Christian visit his deaf friends at a Deaf Club?**

It will depend! Some Deaf Clubs are clean and nice in some areas. But in other areas they allow alcoholic beverages, gambling and other sins. If your influence would be ruined by going to a Deaf Club, then it is wise not to go. Paul warns the church in Ephesus, "Don't continue living like those people who don't believe (Ephesians 4:17)." And in verse 22 Paul says, "You were taught to leave your old self-- to stop living the evil way you lived before." Again, Paul said to the church in Corinth: "Don't be fooled: 'Bad friends will ruin good habits' (1 Corinthians 15:33)." But

if your influence is strong enough that it might help your deaf friends see Christ in your life, then it is good to go. You will have to use your judgment in this matter.

**Is it true that sinners can't do anything against Christians because Christians have strong faith? See Mark 9:38.**

Not true! Remember Stephen was full of mighty faith, yet the Jewish leaders still killed him (Acts 6:5; 7:57-60). Also notice that Jesus told Peter that he would die for his faith (John 21:18-19). And Paul himself was killed because of his faith (2 Timothy 4:6). But of course sinners cannot take away our faith if we stay with Christ. But what does Mark 9:38 mean? Here's an explanation that will help you understand: the apostle John noticed that there was a man who was not one of the twelve apostles. But that one man was forcing out demons from a person. John and some of the other apostles told the man to stop because he was one of the twelve apostles. But Jesus answered, "Don't stop him (verse 39)." It seems that Jesus approved of the man although the man was not one of the twelve apostles. Understand Mark 9:38 now?

**Can we pray for sinners because they don't know God or believe in God?**

Of course we can, and **should**, pray for the lost, but we should not forget to pray for laborers (evangelists, soulwinners, teachers, etc.) (Matthew 9:37-38). And of course if we are able, we should go to these people ourselves and tell them of Jesus!





## Light on



I grew up as a "hearing person" but am very profoundly deaf. My reading skills are excellent but I like the idea of a comic strip not only for the deaf but young ones as well.

—Joel Binkley, McEwen, TN

I love to read the comic strip with Bible language. It is very good for helping the deaf people to read them and more understand mean the Bible's words. It is very true. You accept your promise to work the comic strips with Bible words and more text. You are still wonderful for your good work. It is the same thing as 2,000 to 4,000 years ago. They did try do comic strips. Today they still have them.

—William H. Sharp, Harrisburg, AR

This may surprise some of our readers, but you are right, William, there were comic strips as far back as 4,000 years ago. Of course they did not exist in the form we are familiar with today. Egypt is well known for its ancient hieroglyphs (papyrus rolls on which drawings and scripts were prepared). Some of these works look remarkably like modern comic strips and a few even show animals dressed humorously like people. However the comic strip as we know it today did not develop until the late 18th century. It reached its present form a few years before the 20th century began.

Your latest issue of LIGHT is great. Yes, keep up with cartoon strips-- they are not comic stuff, but they teach the scriptural truths

in the simplest form. I know you are very conscientious and you are very, very careful to teach the gospel truth. May God bless you with many more years of this great work. You are the only one in the brotherhood who has this rare, special gift.

—James Russell, Garden Grove, CA

Thank you, James. I am not the only one in the brotherhood who has this gift, however. Bob West, a hearing artist of North Carolina, has this gift also and in fact did a few cartoon tracts for Star Printing Company. He also marketed some clip art which includes his well-known Theophilus cartoons and other cartoons. (We have used some of these cartoons.) But the general response from the brotherhood was not large enough to justify continuation of Bob's efforts to market his efforts. We do hope that someday he will make a comeback.

Please don't cut down on your comic strips in LIGHT FOR THE DEAF. They are fantastic and meaningful. We always enjoy and appreciate them! Many of them show great expressions in faces and body that emphasize whatever you try tell in the stories. We know for that many other deaf people enjoy your comic strips! They are clear and easy to understand. I believe that even many intelligent deaf people enjoy them, too. Your LIGHT FOR THE DEAF is the only one that has comic strips among many other deaf bulletins.

—Sharon Hensley, Abilene, TX

Sharon's letter arrived too late for us to include in the last issue, but we appreciate her comments. She and her father James Russell (whose letter we have printed above) are both deaf. Sharon's husband, Ted, also deaf, has done mission deaf among the deaf in Africa and more recently in the Philippines.

And now, we print the below letter from the person who "started it all", Jimmy Bailey.

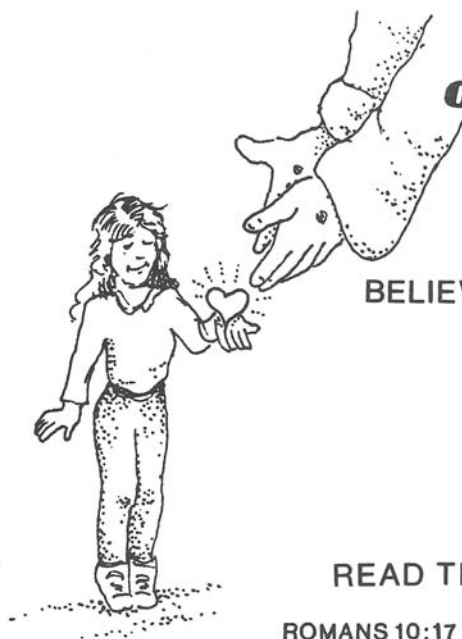
Billy, you are doing what you should be doing, using the comic strips as long as the majority of readers favors them no matter if they are deaf or hearing. But

as for me, as the saying goes, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks", so I guess I will always prefer text. Even though I don't like cartoons, you are doing what you should do. And it's up to me to get used to it or not.

—Jimmy Bailey, Newport, AR

Thank you, Jimmy, for being such a good sport about it all. Yes, you'll have to get used to the idea of us keeping comic strips in LIGHT FOR THE DEAF. But as I have mentioned in private correspondence to you, I read many religious text magazines, and surely you have access to these same periodicals, so you shouldn't have problem finding text articles to read.

Send all correspondence to  
*Light for the Deaf, 2285 Frayser Boulevard Memphis, TN 38127*



## **Let the Lord open your heart**

like He opened Lydia's  
heart in Acts 16:14, 15!

**BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS...**

**BE BAPTIZED TO WASH  
YOUR SINS AWAY...**

**AND LIVE FOR JESUS!**

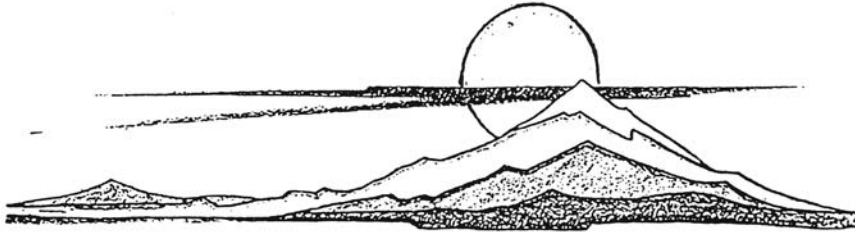
**READ THESE SCRIPTURES!**

ROMANS 10:17 ROMANS 10:10 ACTS 16:31

LUKE 13:3 ROMANS 10:9 MATTHEW 10:32

ACTS 22:16

LIGHT FOR THE DEAF is not a profit-making venture, so we do not run ads. But we are glad to run the below "ad" for free as a public service. The Lord willing, I will be at this workshop, and I hope to see many of our readers there.  
--Billy Leavell



**Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord. (Isaiah 2:3)**

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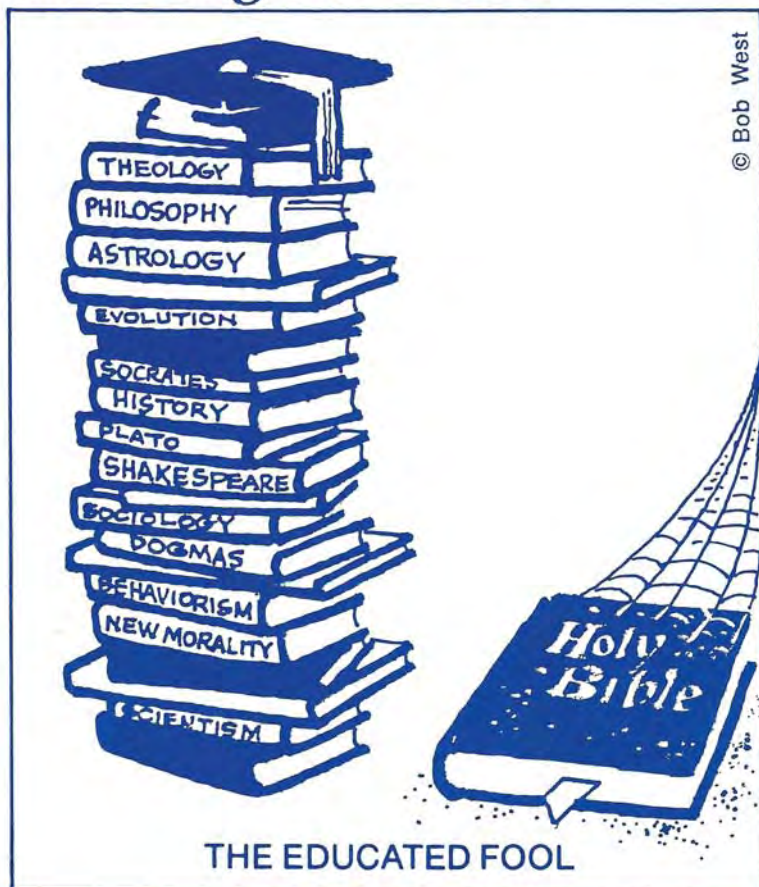
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