

# LIGHT for the Deaf

*Exalting Christ among the Deaf*

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1999  
No. 165





*Exalting Christ among the Deaf*

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Billy Leavell,  
Editor

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Once again, this issue is late. But as the old saying goes, better late than never. However, we have been quietly gathering together material for future issues so we hope that in this new year (2000) we will be able to catch up. This issue is the last dated 1999 (though you may hold it in your hands in late May or early June of 2000!).

To begin the New Year, Zalvin Coveyou brings us his *Calendar* comic strip which gives us some information on how we got our present calendar. We also have articles by Jack Williamson, Mike Helms, and Mike Atteberry. We hope that all will benefit you. And to wind off this issue, we have our *Letter* page again, though, sorry, we don't have our *Questions and Answers* page. We hope we'll have that next issue! Go ahead and send us your questions!

Once again, we hope that this issue brings you to a deeper appreciation of our loving Lord and what He has done for us. We would encourage you to turn to Jesus Christ and obey and follow Him. Feel free to write us for any spiritual problems or questions you might have. We love you!




Warmly yours in Him,

Billy Leavell, Editor

# CALENDAR

BY ZALVIN COVEYOU

NEW YEAR'S DAY  
IS THE FIRST DAY  
OF THE CALENDAR  
WE NOW USE.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2 	3	4			
8 	9 	10 	11	12	13 	14 
15 	16 	17	18	19	20 	21 
				26	27 	28 

A CALENDAR IS A TABLE  
THAT SHOWS THE DAYS,  
WEEKS AND MONTHS OF  
A GIVEN YEAR.

## DAY

IN THE  
BEGINNING,  
GOD  
CREATED  
THE  
HEAVENS  
AND  
THE  
EARTH.

## NIGHT

GOD SEPARATED  
THE LIGHT FROM  
THE DARKNESS. GOD  
CALLED THE LIGHT  
"DAY" AND THE DARK-  
NESS "NIGHT". AND  
THERE WAS EVENING, AND  
THERE WAS MORNING- THE  
*FIRST DAY.*

GENESIS 1:1-5

2nd DAY

SKY

GENESIS 1:8

3rd DAY

LAND

GENESIS 1:10

SEAS

4th DAY

STARS

SUN



MOON

AND LET THEM SERVE AS SIGNS TO MARK SEASONS AND DAYS AND YEARS

GENESIS 1:14-19

5th DAY

BIRDS AND FISH

GENESIS 1:20

6th DAY

ANIMALS AND MAN

GENESIS 1:24-27

7th DAY

GOD RESTS

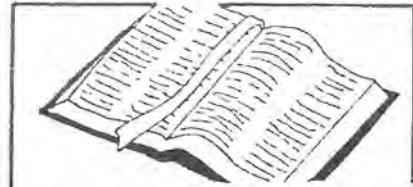


GENESIS 2:3

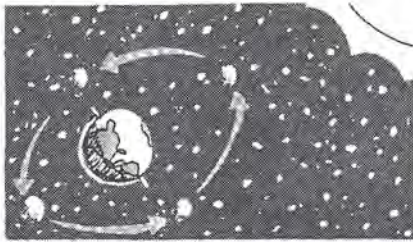
BEFORE THE CALENDAR WAS INVENTED, MAN HAD TO RELY ON NATURE'S TIME-KEEPERS- THE *SUN*, THE *MOON*, AND THE *STARS*.



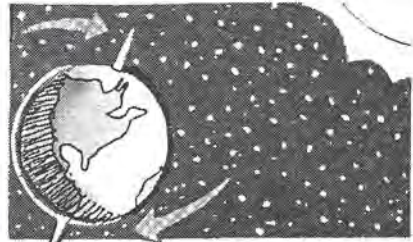
THE EARTH ROTATES (SPINS), MAKING *DAY* AND *NIGHT*.



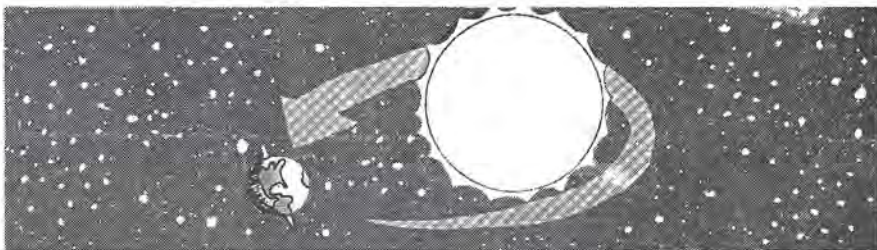
THE BIBLE SAYS THE WORLD WAS CREATED BY GOD IN SIX DAYS. WHEN GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY (THE *SABBATH*), IT MADE A *WEEK*.



THE MOON REVOLVES (GOES AROUND) THE EARTH, MAKING A *MONTH*.



THE EARTH TILTS ON ITS *AXIS*, MAKING *SEASONS*.

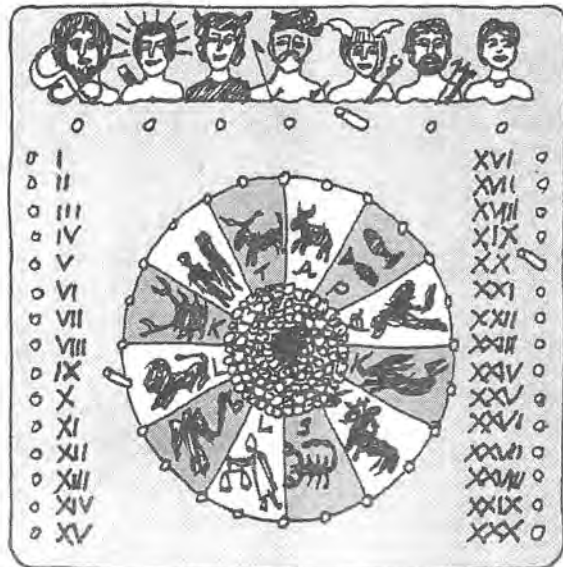


THE EARTH REVOLVES (GOES AROUND) THE SUN, MAKING A *YEAR*.

THE BABYLONIANS AND EGYPTIANS MADE CALENDARS, BUT THESE CALENDARS WERE NOT PERFECT.



THIS IS THE EARLY ROMAN CALENDAR.  
IT SHOWS WEDNESDAY,  
THE 20TH OF AUGUST.



IN 532 A.D. A CATHOLIC MONK, DIONYSIUS EXIGUUS, TRIED TO FIGURE THE YEAR CHRIST WAS BORN. EXIGUUS USED *A.D.* (*ANNO DOMINI*, A LATIN TERM MEANING "IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD") AND *B.C.* (*BEFORE CHRIST*).

THEN EXIGUUS SAID JESUS WAS BORN IN THE YEAR *1 A.D.*



ALL HISTORY AFTER JESUS' BIRTH COUNTS UPWARD.

ALL HISTORY *BEFORE* JESUS' BIRTH COUNTS *BACKWARD*. SO IF JULIUS CAESAR LIVED *46* YEARS BEFORE CHRIST, HE LIVED IN *46 B.C.*

IN *46 B.C.*, JULIUS CAESAR BROUGHT OUT A NEW CALENDAR.

THIS WAS CALLED THE *JULIAN CALENDAR*.



BUT AFTER MANY YEARS IT WAS FOUND TO BE IN *ERROR*.

SO IN 1582 A.D., POPE GREGORY III PREPARED ANOTHER NEW CALENDAR, CALLED THE *GREGORIAN CALENDAR*. IT WAS MUCH MORE ACCURATE THAN THE NOW-OLD JULIAN CALENDAR. THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR IS THE CALENDAR NOW USED IN ALMOST *ALL THE WORLD* TODAY.

## JANUARY 1582

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	
22	23	24			21	
29	30	31				





THE CALENDAR YEAR HAS 12 MONTHS, WHICH ARE NAMED AFTER TWO GODS, THREE GODDESSES, ONE STATESMAN, ONE EMPEROR AND FOUR LATIN NUMBERS.



*JANUARY* IS THE FIRST MONTH OF THE YEAR AND IS NAMED FOR *JANUS*, A ROMAN GOD OF GATES.

*FEBRUARY* IS NAMED FOR *FEBRUARIUS* (LATIN MEANING "TO PURIFY").

*MARCH* IS NAMED FOR *MARTIUS* (MARS, THE ROMAN GOD OF WAR).

*APRIL* IS NAMED FOR *APRILIS* (LATIN MEANING "TO OPEN"), OR *APHRODITE*, GREEK GODDESS OF LOVE.

*MAY* IS NAMED FOR *MAIA*, THE ROMAN GODDESS OF *SPRING* AND *GROWTH*. (THE LATIN WORD "*MAJORES*" MEANS "OLDER MEN".)

*JUNE* IS NAMED FOR *JUNO*, THE ROMAN GODDESS OF *MARRIAGE*. (THE LATIN WORD "*JUNIORES*" MEANS *YOUNG MEN*").

*JULY* IS NAMED FOR *JULIUS CAESAR* (ROMAN GENERAL AND STATESMAN). THIS MONTH WAS FORMERLY CALLED "*QUINTILIS*" (FIVE; THE FIFTH MONTH OF THE ROMAN CALENDAR.)

V



VI



*AUGUST* IS NAMED FOR *AUGUSTUS*, WHO WAS THE *FIRST ROMAN EMPEROR*. (THIS MONTH WAS FORMERLY CALLED "*SEXTILIS*" (SIX; THE SIXTH MONTH OF THE ROMAN CALENDAR.)

*SEPTEMBER*  
SEPTEM  
(SEVEN)

VII

VIII

*OCTOBER*  
OCTO  
(EIGHT)

## NOVEMBER

NOVEM  
(NINE)



## DECEMBER

DECEM  
(TEN)



THE SEVEN DAYS IN THE CALENDAR WEEK ARE NAMED AFTER THE STARS, THE MOON, FOUR GODS AND GODDESSES.

**SUNDAY:** FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK COMES FROM THE ROMAN HOLIDAY *DIES SOLIS* (SUN'S DAY).

THE CHRISTIANS FROM NEW TESTAMENT TIMES HAVE HONORED SUNDAY AS THE DAY CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD, AND ON THIS DAY CHRISTIANS TAKE THE *LORD'S SUPPER*.



**MONDAY:** THE WORD COMES FROM THE ANGLO-SAXON *MONANDÆG* (MOON'S DAY).



**TUESDAY:** NAMED FOR THE NORSE GOD OF WAR, *TIU* OR *TIV* OR *TIW* SON OF WODEN.

**WEDNESDAY:** FROM *WODEN*, THE CHIEF GOD OF THE NORSES.



**THURSDAY:**  
NAMED FOR  
**THOR**, NORSE  
GOD OF  
THUNDER.



**FRIDAY:**  
AFTER **FRIGG**,  
NORSE GODDESS  
OF LOVE.

**SATURDAY:**  
NAMED FOR THE  
ROMAN GOD  
**SATURN**. IN  
THE OLD TESTAMENT,  
THE JEWS KEPT  
SATURDAY AS THE  
HOLY **SABBATH DAY**.





THE SEVEN-DAY WEEK IS NOT  
BASED ON THE SUN OR MOON  
OR THE STARS, BUT WAS  
CREATED BY **GOD** HIM-  
SELF (GENESIS 2:2-3;  
EXODUS 20:11).

SOME PEOPLE HAVE TRIED TO  
**IGNORE** THE BIBLE AND  
TO ESTABLISH THEIR  
**OWN** "WEEKS".

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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ONE EXAMPLE IS **FRANCE**. IN 1789, WHEN THEY  
REVOLTED AGAINST THE KING, THEY TRIED TO  
SET UP A NEW CALENDAR IGNORING GOD. IN  
THIS NEW CALENDAR, THE FRENCH SET A  
**TEN-DAY** WEEK. IT **FAILED** AND IN 1801  
NAPOLEON BONAPORTE ORDERED THIS  
NEW CALENDAR TAKEN AWAY  
SO ALL THE FRENCH COULD  
RETURN TO THE GREGORIAN  
CALENDAR.

TODAY WE REMEMBER THE  
LORD **EVERY WEEK** WHEN  
WE MEET TOGETHER TO  
EAT THE LORD'S SUPPER  
AND TO GIVE MONEY.  
(ACTS 20:7, 1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-2)



REMEMBER THE **LORD** IN THIS NEW YEAR!

# Sowing God's Seed



by Jack H. Williamson

## 1.

Thank God for sowing His Seed in us that we need most of all to apply to our life. What kind of seed does God give us?

It is God's Word. (Luke 8:11)

It is the Gospel of Christ. (2 Timothy 2:8)

It is Jesus Christ our Savior. (Matthew 13:37)

## 2.

Thank God for sowing His Seed in us that we may grow in our life to be fruitful. How can our life cause us to grow from His seed? The seed will not grow by itself. But...

1. By someone who tells about God and Jesus Christ. You may get to know about Him.
2. By someone who teaches you about the word of God and spiritual life. You may learn more knowledge of Him.
3. Then you do the will of God as a servant of God. You may become strong spiritually, faithful and fruitful in your life.
4. That God makes you grow your life from His seed in your heart. Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9.

## 3.

Thank God for sowing His seed in us that we may have true hope. What for do we have this hope?

When you accept His seed (word) in your heart as you believe that Jesus is the Son of God and are baptized into Christ. You continue to be faithful and have hope of eternal life. God will reap in you the harvest of your righteousness.

Once again thank God for sowing His seed in us that we have the Holy Bible which we may read and learn God's loving word.

# Why Did God forsake Jesus on the Cross?



by Mike Helms

*And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? That is to say: My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? **Matthew 27:46***

I do not know if we will ever be able to fully comprehend this verse in all of its importance. God forsaking God—who can understand that? Yet we know it happened, giving us feelings mixed with joy and pain. Why did God forsake Jesus on the cross?

**Jesus was forsaken** because God determined He would. This was no accident; it was in the eternal purpose of God's plan of redemption (Galatians 4:4-5). This was prophesied about since the beginning of the world. God would send His Son to painfully reconcile man to God and crush Satan and his power (Genesis 3:15). He would be forsaken while bearing the sins of man (Psalm 22:1). He was to be smitten of God (Isaiah 53:4). When Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsamane, he prayed for the cup of suffering to be removed, but it could not. God had to forsake His son to follow through with His divine plan of salvation. The prophets prophesied it; it must occur.

**Jesus was forsaken** because God's holiness could not look at sin. The very idea of God's holiness implies the stains of sin cannot coexist with deity. All humanity suffers from sin (Romans 3:10, 23; 1 Kings 8:46; Psalm 53:3; Isaiah 53:6; 64-6; Galatians 3:22; 1 John 1:8). When Adam and Eve brought sin into this world, death would be the consequence (Genesis 2:17; Romans 5:12). Man must be punished by death for sin (Romans 6:23). However, Jesus took our place as our sacrifice for sin, bearing the guilt which we deserve for the sins we have committed. Since God's holiness cannot coexist with sin (Isaiah 59:1-2; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9), and Jesus bore our sins on the cross (Galatians 3:13; Hebrews 9:28; 1 Peter 3:18), God must forsake Jesus at Calvary.

**Jesus was forsaken** because God loved us more than the love of His Son. The blessed words of Jesus ring in John 3:16, *'For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'* For God to love us, even at the time when we reject Him (Romans 5:8), is definitely beyond comprehension.

Jesus was forsaken because God knew Christ's purity was the only way for man's salvation to be possible. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice, because he was sinlessly perfect (Isaiah 53:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 9:14). This was the only way because Jesus is the only one who has never sinned (1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15; 7:26-27). If Christ had sinned, he would have been in need of a savior; one who needs a savior cannot be a savior. The good news is Jesus Christ is our sinless Savior. He was the spotless lamb killed for us (1 Peter 1:18-19; John 1:29).

Please remember that when you move without telling us, the Post Office has to return your copy of **Light for the Deaf** to us, and it will cost us 50¢. So please let us know your new address, and your old (we can quickly look it up to change). Thank you very much!



# WAS THE KINGDOM FORETOLD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT?

by Mike Atteberry



In the beginning God (the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit) made a plan before the creation of the world and man. This plan, also referred to as the “mystery” was the best kept secret throughout Old Testament times. The secret truth about God’s plan was hidden from His people, the Israelites (Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 1:9; 3:5,9-11). Even the angels in Heaven wanted very much to know the secret plan of God, but it was also hidden from them (see 1 Peter 1:10-12).

But God did reveal a small piece of the puzzle of the secret plan to the prophet Daniel about the coming kingdom. Daniel lived about 500 years before the birth of Christ. While he served under the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar, the king had a nightmarish dream about a giant statute, causing him great distress. He called his wise men together to explain or

interpret the meaning of the dream. These wise men could not interpret the king's dream so he gave an order to have them killed.

God revealed the meaning of the king's dream to Daniel. Daniel went to Nebuchadnezzar and explained the meaning of his dream about the giant statue. Daniel explained that the head of gold represented the Babylonian kingdom, and three other kingdoms would come after this kingdom (Daniel 2:36-43). *But during the days of the fourth kingdom, God would set up another kingdom that would continue forever. This kingdom would never be destroyed and would crush all the other kingdoms of the world* (Daniel 2:44).

It was God's plan through Christ to establish His kingdom during the days of the Roman Empire. Notice what Paul says in Ephesians 1:9-10, God finished His secret plan at the right time when He put it all together through Christ and made Him head of all things. This brought glory and praise because everything worked out as He had planned (Ephesians 1:11-12). It was also God's plan that His kingdom would begin in Jerusalem (note the following verses: Isaiah 2:2-3; 9:6-7; Micah 4:6-8).

As you can see, all the things God planned were fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost when Peter and the other apostles spoke to the Jews about the Christ who came to establish His kingdom (Mark 9:1; Acts 1:8; 2:1-47).

# Jesus

## the Lord who wants to!

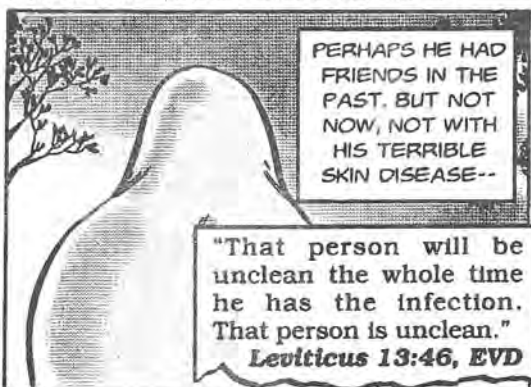
THIS STORY FROM MATTHEW 8:2-4; MARK 1:40-45; LUKE 5:12-15



HE WAS ALONE...  
AND VERY LONELY.

"If a person has a leprosy disease, then that person must warn other people. That person must shout, "Unclean, unclean!" That person's clothes must be torn at the seams. That person must let his hair grow wild. And that person must cover his mouth."

**Leviticus 13:45,  
EVD**



PERHAPS HE HAD FRIENDS IN THE PAST, BUT NOT NOW, NOT WITH HIS TERRIBLE SKIN DISEASE--

"That person will be unclean the whole time he has the infection. That person is unclean."

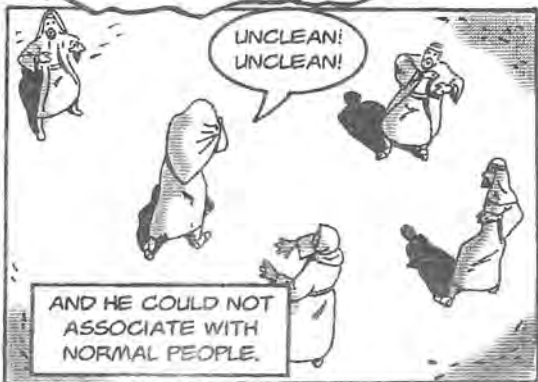
**Leviticus 13:46, EVD**



LEPROSY.

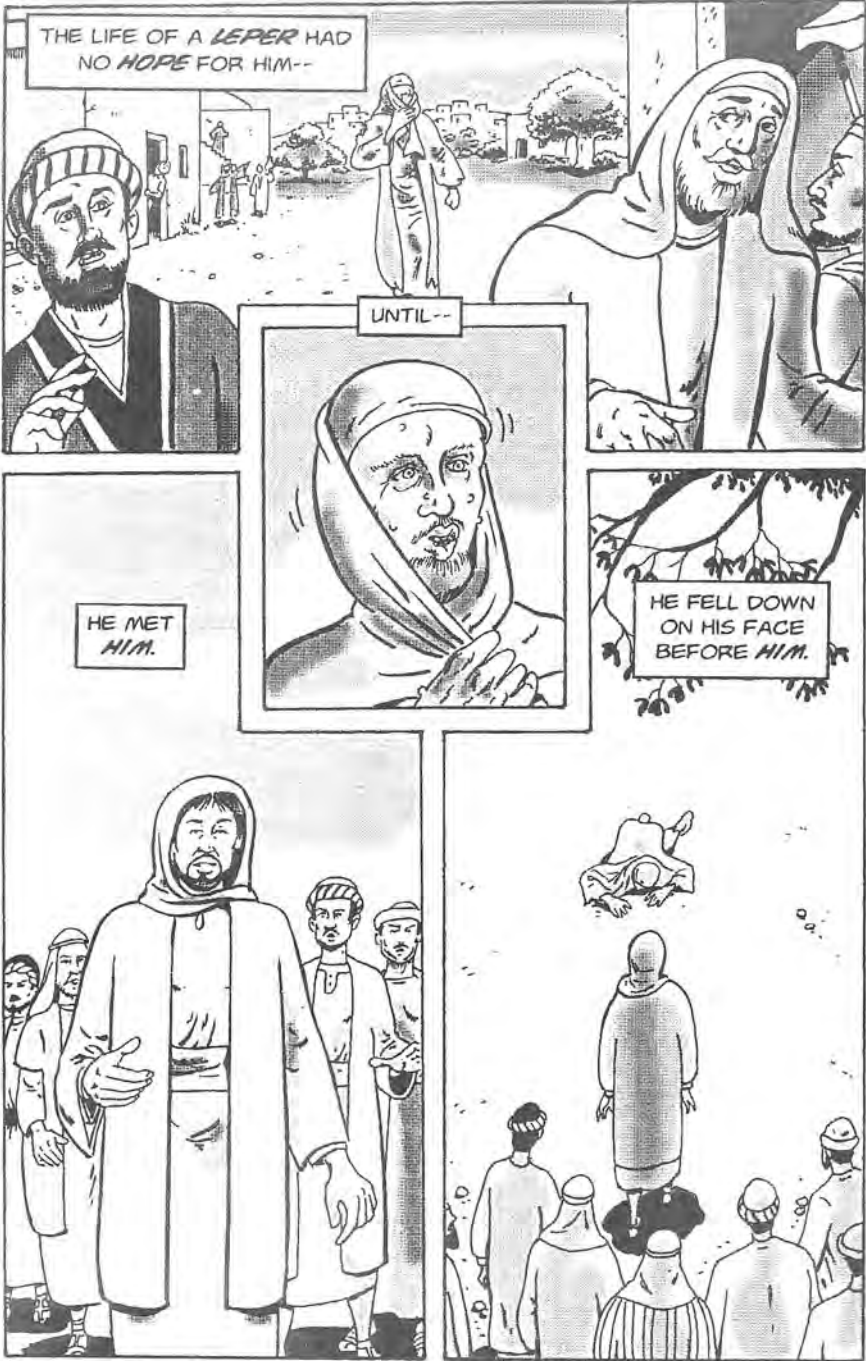
"He must live alone. His home must be outside the camp."

**Leviticus 13:46, EVD**



UNCLEAN!  
UNCLEAN!

AND HE COULD NOT ASSOCIATE WITH NORMAL PEOPLE.





L-LORD...  
IF YOU  
WANT...  
Y-YOU...  
CAN...  
HEAL  
ME.



YES--  
I *DO* WANT  
TO HELP  
YOU.

THE DISCIPLES WERE SHOCKED--



THAT THEIR MASTER *TOUCHED*  
THE FILTHY, DIGUSTING LEPER!



THE NEXT MOMENT, THE LEPER  
WAS NO LONGER FILTHY, BUT  
AS *CLEAN* AS A NEWBORN  
BABY!

JESUS TOLD THE LEPER TO  
KEEP QUIET ABOUT HIS  
HEALING...



BUT THE LEPER WAS  
SO EXCITED HE *TOLD*  
EVERYONE!

## **Light on Light for the Deaf**

All mail may be sent to 1106 Colonial Road, Memphis, TN 38117 or faxed to 901-761-2019 or emailed to WLeavell@aol.com

*We received an unusual amount of mail on our last issue, which featured the story of David's sin with Bathsheba. Apparently we did something right with God's help! We do hope, and pray, that other material we present in these pages will bring you an awareness of God's love and forgiveness. Meanwhile, below is a sampling from our mailbox.*

Just wanted to tell you we really like the "Light for the Deaf" this month. I gave an old copy to an 8 year old deaf boy at church. His name is Scott. He really liked it. Thanks for your hard work. It is helping alot of people.

**--Randy & June Gray, MO**

I wanted to write and say how much I enjoyed this last issue of the *Light*. I just got it today and sat down and read it cover to cover. I thought it was very good. By the way, I just realized that's your signature on the front. Do you draw the cartoons for each issue? I never realized that before.

**Briana Simmons, NV**

*Yes, indeed I do draw much of the cartoon material for **Light for the Deaf**. However we do make use of other deaf artists when we find them. Zalvin Coveyou has a comic strip in this issue.*

**--Billy Leavell**

David's Prophet, Nathan come to King David and Nathan used his spiritual judgment from God, not on his (Nathan's) own, but from God to rebuke David for his sin with Bathsheba (adultery and murder of her husband Uriah, pages 15 and 16). When the Prophet of God, Nathan, had strongly rebuked David of his sin, King David fell down on the ground, broken, praying with his heart to ask his God to forgive him for his sin. But you drew that Nathan started to leave, then turned around and looked at David, and told him that "The Lord has taken away your sin." Billy, I wonder if that is really exactly what the Bible had said?

**--Colleen Simsa, MI**

*My answer is that the Bible does not say Nathan started to walk away, and then turned back to David. But I drew him doing that because I*

wanted to show how terrible David's sin was, and to show how great God's gift of forgiveness is. When Nathan says these terrible words rebuking David for his sin, it should be made clear that David was broken-hearted and under God's condemnation. That is where I showed David crying and saying, "I have sinned against the Lord." When he says this, Nathan hears this. Immediately the Holy Spirit tells Nathan to tell David that his sins are forgiven. I drew Nathan's walking away to symbolize God's rejection of David. The moment David confesses his sin, I drew Nathan turning back to symbolize God forgiving him. You may have noticed that Nathan told David, "You will not die." Obviously when Nathan rebuked David for his sin, David would die for his sin. But Nathan told David he was forgiven, and that he would not die. All this is under DRAMA. It is as if you were watching actors play out the drama in a movie. You would probably see the same thing I drew.

**--Billy Leavell**

I just received your "Light for the Deaf" today; the story of David. It was very well done and most sensitive in its presentation. Well done.

**--Jerry Drennan, TX**

I was very impressed with the story, "David's Sin" and got chills when I turned the page to see Nathan confronting David: "You are the man!" David is one of my favorite characters from the pages of the Bible, perhaps because one day I want so badly to hear my Father say to me, "YOU were also a person after my own heart." I noticed your name was on the cover on David's picture. Are you the author/artist? If so, you have a great talent, and I was very blessed by your story. Thank you again.

**--Sheryl Savage, TX**

I don't know who is responsible for getting my name on your mailing list. I thank whoever it was, I have been deaf for ever 6 years now after being given (inravenously) antibiotics for an asthma attack. I am 78 and a Christian—born again!

The deaf have been neglected terribly and your booklets are outstanding. I do appreciate all the work you put into each issue.

Most people have no idea what it is like not to hear. To know how the blind feel, you can close your eyes and try to navigate. You can't close off your ears easily.

Just wanted to say thank you for the job you are doing.

**--F. H., CO**

# White Station Church of Christ



*Exalting Christ among the Deaf*

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