

# Anchor Of The Soul

Hebrews 6:19

November 2007

## Does Jesus Know You?

By Andy Mitchell

Hear the words of scripture! "...The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." (2 Tim. 2:19) After hearing those words, we should ask ourselves at least three questions...

1. **Am I His?** In other words, do I belong to Him? God's word tells us that we are known by our fruits (Mt. 7:16, 20). We know that we are in Him if we "keep His commandments" and "walk, even as He walked." (1 Jn. 2:3-6) Jesus Himself said, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." (Jn. 10:27) Jesus also said, "If ye continue in My word, then are ye my disciples indeed." (Jn. 8:31)
2. **Do I name the name of Christ?** If I name the name of Joseph Smith (Mormon), John Calvin (Presbyterian), John Wesley (Methodist) or John Smythe (Baptist), I am not naming Christ! If I follow these men's teachings, they have become thieves and robbers (Jn. 10:31) Those who are Christ's will not follow the voice of strangers (Jn 10:5) "Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but He that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven." (Mt. 7:21)
3. **Have I departed from iniquity?** There is a sharp contrast between the righteous and the ungodly. "For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish." (Ps. 1:6) Those who continue in sin do not know Him (1 Jn. 3:6). If you profess Christ, but do not abide by His teachings, let His teachings reprove you (Jn. 12:48). "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." (Mt. 7:23)

*Friend, does Jesus recognize you as His own?*

**-Daily Bible Reading Schedule-  
November 2007**

Is there anything that we can do for you  
Fill out the form below and mail it to:

**“Anchor Of The Soul”  
P.O. Box 401  
Spruce Pine, NC 28777**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Evening</u>
1	Is. 63-64	Jer. 39-40
2	Is. 65-66	Jer. 41-42
3	Ezek. 1-2	Jer. 43-44
4	Ezek. 3-4	Jer. 45-46
5	Ezek. 5-6	Jer. 47-48
6	Ezek. 7-8	Jer. 49-50
7	Ezek. 9-10	Jer. 51-52
8	Ezek. 11-12	Lam. 1-2
9	Ezek. 13-14	Lam. 3-4
10	Ezek. 15-16	Lam. 5
11	Ezek. 17-18	Hos. 1-2
12	Ezek. 19-20	Hos. 3-4
13	Ezek. 21-22	Hos. 5-6
14	Ezek. 23-24	Hos. 7-8
15	Ezek. 25-26	Hos. 9-10
16	Ezek. 27-28	Hos. 11-12
17	Ezek. 29-30	Hos. 13-14
18	Ezek. 31-32	Joel 1-3
19	Ezek. 33-34	Amos 1-2
20	Ezek. 35-36	Amos 3-4
21	Ezek. 37-38	Amos 5-6
22	Ezek. 39-40	Amos 7-8
23	Ezek. 41-42	Amos 9
24	Ezek. 43-44	Obadiah
25	Ezek. 45-46	Jonah
26	Ezek. 47-49	Micah 1-2
27	Dan. 1-2	Micah 3-4
28	Dan. 3-4	Micah 5-7
29	Dan. 5-6	Nahum
30	Dan. 7-8	Habakkuk

**NOTE: For previous Bible reading schedules, please contact us and we will provide them to you free of charge.**

**Check any of the following FREE Bible study offers that interest you.**

1. Home Bible study \_\_\_\_\_  
 -Choose a day: M T W Th F S  
 -Choose a time: AM PM

2. Correspondence Course \_\_\_\_\_

3. Bible Tract/Material \_\_\_\_\_  
 -Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Audio Bible Study \_\_\_\_\_

5. Sermon CDs \_\_\_\_\_  
 -Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

**In order for you to receive the material that you have requested, please provide a way for us to contact you.  
Thanks!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bible Trivia

### The Patriarchal Age (Genesis):

1. How old was Noah when he died?
2. What was the name of Abram's father?
3. How many flocks of sheep were by the well when Jacob met for the first time the herdsmen of Laban?
4. What did Rachel name her last son?
5. What occupation was an abomination to the Egyptians?

### Name That Apostle:

6. Which apostle was the son of Alphaeus?
7. Which apostle brought Nathanael to Jesus?
8. Which apostle, at Jesus' transfiguration, offered to build three tents for Jesus, Moses and Elijah?
9. Which apostle doubted that Jesus was raised?

### Challenge Question:

10. Will there be different levels of rewards in heaven?

### Bible Fact:

There are three distinct dispensations in the Bible. The Patriarchal dispensation lasted from creation to Sinai. The Mosaic dispensation lasted from Sinai to the cross. The Christian dispensation began at the cross and is currently in effect.

### Answers:

1. 950 (Gen. 9:29); 2. Terah (Gen. 11:27); 3. Three (Gen. 29:2)
4. Ben-o-ni (Gen. 35:18); 5. Shepherding (Gen. 46:34); 6. James (Mt. 10:3); 7. Philip (Jn. 1:45); 8. Peter (Mt. 17:4); 9. Thomas (Jn. 20:25)

### Challenge Question ANSWER From September 2007:

Christians are not bound to observe any dietary restrictions. We are told in 1 Timothy 4:4, "Every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving." Men may set dietary restrictions (e.g. no meat on Friday), but the New Testament does not.

## The Disciples Were Called Christians

By Byron Smith

Harvest is a time for the farmer to reap what he sowed months earlier. If he sowed corn seeds he expects to reap corn. If he sowed bean seeds he expects to reap beans. If he sowed watermelon seeds he expected to reap watermelons. This is certainly a reasonable expectation for any farmer to have, because he is simply relying upon the continuance of a law that God set in motion in the beginning. **A seed produces "according to its kind."** (Gen. 1:11-12)

While this principle is certainly common sense to even an amateur farmer, some of the seemingly great Bible minds among us have positively missed the proper application of this principle to one's relationship with God.

Jesus, in addressing the different responses of men to the gospel, in the "Parable of the Sower," fittingly said **"the seed is the word of God."** (Lk. 8:11) That seed, when it is sown in "a noble and good heart" produces that which it is intended to produce. In the first century, when the apostles and other inspired men preached the word of God in its simplicity, without any admixture of error and false doctrine, it likewise produced **a Christian and a Christian only!**

"And the disciples were first called **Christians** in Antioch." (Ac. 11:26) Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a **Christian.**" (Ac. 26:28) Peter exhorted, "If anyone suffers as a **Christian**, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter." (1 Pet. 4:16) Note that followers of Christ were called Christians, without any prefix or suffix, and without modifiers or explanations as to what kind of Christians they were. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century the seed remains the word of God, and when it is sown today in the hearts of honest men and women it continues to produce that which it produced in the first century, **Christians and Christians only!**

The word of God alone will **not** make one a Jew, or a Catholic, or a Protestant. When one responds to the gospel in faith and obedience it will simply produce a Christian who is then added by God to the church (Ac. 2:47) which is purchased (Ac. 20:28), built (Mt. 16:18) and owned (Rom. 16:16) by Jesus, who is the Christ. **Being a Christian is not merely the best way to serve the Lord acceptably, it is the only way!**

.....  
.  
.  
.  
.....

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.LOOKINGTOJESUS.COM](http://WWW.LOOKINGTOJESUS.COM)

# Preparing For Big Challenges

By Larry Ray Hafley

Doubtless when Daniel was delivered into Babylonian captivity, he had no inkling of having to make a choice between serving God and the lion's den. He began by simply determining that he "would not defile himself" with the diet delights of the king's dainties (Dan. 1:8).

Alone in the open wilderness, young David did not dream of having to fight a man like Goliath. As a dedicated shepherd, though, he was not going to let a lion and a bear steal his sheep (1 Sam. 17:34-37).

Neither Daniel nor David knew their youthful courage would someday propel them to everlasting honor, that their fearless faith would be praised by all future generations in every clime and tongue. However, it was the meeting of private demands and personal difficulties which prepared them for the challenges which would define their lives for mankind for all time. If Daniel had wavered and had decided to eat whatever was set before him, "asking no question for conscience sake," would he have resisted the king's decree? Had David reasoned that the risk of losing his life alone in the forest was not worth the loss of a sheep, would he ever have had the confidence to confront Goliath? I think not.

We do not see Goliath; we cannot foresee the lion's den of adversity. It will come when we least expect it. How we are facing the "little," personal and private difficulties of day to day living may well determine how we shall react when Goliath dares and demands that we fight him. Remember, Daniel and David were preparing and training their souls ere they ever faced the crowning moment of their faith. And so are we.

- .....
- The following lessons were presented in our recent
  - gospel meeting with Marc Nations...
  - 1. Does Palestine Belong to Israel Today?
  - 2. Are There Ten Lost Tribes of Israel?
  - 3. Facts About Israel
  - 4. The Kingdom
  - 5. Matthew 24
  - 
  - To receive these CDs, call us at (828)467-1463 or email
  - your request to NCBibleQuestions@yahoo.com.
  -
- .....

# Putting Down Our Whole Weight

To celebrate an old man's seventy-fifth birthday, an aviation enthusiast offered to take him for a plane ride over the little West Virginia town where he spent all his life. The old man accepted the offer. Back on the ground, after circling over the town twenty minutes, his friend asked, "Were you scared, Uncle Dudley?" "No-o-o," was the hesitant answer. "But I never did put my full weight down." We smile at the remark of the old man, but there is no doubt of the fact that there are many Christians who are exactly the same way. They have been offered and have received salvation; they enter Christ, but they never put their full weight down on Him. He's carrying them all the time, but they are tense and unrelaxed in their Christian life and do not know the joy that comes from complete rest in Him."

-Eternity

**We WANT to help you!**

**Do you or anyone you know struggle in any of the following areas? Circle any that may apply.**

**Marital problems**

**Drugs or alcohol**

**Gambling**

**Troubled teen(s)**

**Depression**

**Contemplating suicide**

**Anger**

**Pornography**

**Other- \_\_\_\_\_**

**Understand that Jesus Christ is the only true answer to these problems.**

**Are you ready to take that first step? If so, then cut out this coupon and mail it to P.O. Box 401, Spruce Pine, NC 28777. Or call us at (828)467-1463.**

“Anchor Of The Soul” is distributed monthly by the **Spruce Pine church of Christ**. We are a non-denominational church whose primary goal is to follow the New Testament pattern. Below, you will find our meeting times and the location of our building.

Meeting Times

**Sunday**

Bible Class.....10:00 AM

Morning Worship.....11:00 AM

Evening Worship.....6:30 PM

**Wednesday**

Bible Class.....7:00 PM

Directions

Our building is located at 36 McHone Rd just behind the Mitchell Veterinary Clinic in Spruce Pine. If you turn onto 226 South from Hwy 19, drive past Don Smith Ford/Subaru to the top of the hill. McHone Road will be on your right. Once you turn onto McHone Road, we are the second driveway on the right. You will see the sign on the top of the hill.

**Ten Reasons Why I Never Wash (a parody of the thread-bare excuses people give for not going to church)...**

- My parents always made me wash as a child.
- People who wash are hypocrites; they think they are cleaner than other people.
- There are so many different kinds of soap, I could never decide which one was right.
- I used to wash but it got so boring I stopped.
- I still wash on special occasions like Christmas and Easter.
- None of my friends wash.
- I'm still young, when I get older and need it more I might decide to start washing.
- People who make soap are only interested in your money.
- I'm so busy I just can't find the time to wash.
- I've got to make a living. I don't have time. Please have me excused.

**Author Unknown**

## Waiting for a Sign

By Edwin L. Crozier

Sadly some folks walk through life oblivious of God. Many claim they would believe in God if they could only see a sign of His existence. Instead of waiting around for a sign, we need to look around us. The signs of God's existence surround us.

Romans 1:19-20 says, “For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made (ESV).” If you need a sign of God's existence, wake up early and watch the sun rise. Pull out your telescope and examine the stars. Take a walk through a forest and watch the diversity of life. Dip your feet in the chilly mountain stream. Stroll along a beach and watch the powerful waves crash against their shoreline boundary. Pull out a microscope and examine a cell that comes from your own skin. God's signs are all around us.

Psalm 119:1-2 says: “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech and night to night reveals knowledge” (ESV). The psalm goes on to describe the circuit of the sun established by God. Have you ever wondered how it is the earth has such a perfect orbit around the sun? How does the moon have such a perfect orbit around the earth? Why is it our days, months and seasons all work with such precision that we can set our watches by them? When we see watches or calendars, we know someone made them? Why on earth would we think the instrument by which we set our watches and calendars happened by accident? That is simply illogical.

God is. The signs are everywhere. You do not have to wait for a miracle. Be amazed at the miracle of creation. Recognize what it means about God and His love for you. He created a world perfectly suited for your existence. He provided you with air to breathe, food to eat, space to roam, beauty to enjoy. Is there any doubt God has plans for you?

God is God. He is there. The signs are all around us. Bask in them. Enjoy them. Proclaim them. Then get to know God through His Word.

.....  
•  
• **TURN TO 1470 AM EACH SUNDAY MORNING FROM** •  
• **7:30-8:00 AS WE GET “BACK TO THE BIBLE.”** •  
•  
.....

## Jehovah's Witnesses Are WRONG (No. 2)

By Casey Head

As we continue our examination of the Jehovah's Witnesses, let us consider three of their most prevalent doctrines- their rejection of the deity of Christ, their doctrine of paradise earth and their belief that there is no soul distinct from the body. Certainly, other doctrines could be addressed, but for now, we'll stick with these three. In this article, we will talk about the deity of Christ.

Jehovah's Witnesses deny the deity of Christ, saying that He was only an angel. Let's consider some of their prooftexts. First of all, Paul says of Jesus Christ in Colossians 1:15, "Who is the image of the invisible God, the *firstborn* of every creature." This passage is misused to teach that Jesus was the first being created by God. In that way He is the "son" of God. But Jehovah's Witnesses misunderstand the meaning of the word "firstborn." Paul's point here is NOT that Jesus was the first being created by God, but that He is preeminent and superior (Col. 1:18). Examine the use of the word "firstborn" in the Old Testament, and this becomes clear and irrefutable.

Verses such as John 14:28 and 1 Corinthians 15:28 are also used by the Watchtower Society to support the idea that Jesus Christ is a mere angel and not God. Jesus told His disciples in John 14:28, "For My Father is greater than I," and Paul says in 1 Cor. 15:28, "Then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him (the Father)." Yes, it is true that the Father has greater authority than the Son, but this says nothing about the nature of Christ. They have different roles. That is all! We are told in 1 Corinthians 11:3 that "the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." Man is the head of the woman, but are not both human? You see, the fact that one has authority over another says nothing about their nature. It has to do with role distinction!

Despite the efforts of the Jehovah's Witnesses, the truth remains, and any honest person will see it. John 1:1 says, "In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word was with God, *and the word was God.*" It does not say that the Word was "a god." It says that the Word was, and is, God! 1 Timothy 3:16 says, "God was manifest in the flesh." In Hebrews 1:8, the Father says to the Son, "Thy throne O God, is forever and ever." These verses, along with so many others, prove unequivocally the deity of Jesus Christ.

Hopefully, these few points will help you as you battle the doctrines of the Jehovah's Witnesses. In our next issue, we will address the doctrine of "paradise earth."

### Do You Want To Subscribe?

Perhaps you are reading this newsletter while sitting in the waiting room at the hospital, or maybe you found it while waiting to have your hair cut. If you would like to subscribe to "Anchor Of The Soul" for FREE, all you have to do is fill out the form below and mail this coupon to the following address...

P.O. Box 401  
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to sign up any friends or family members? If so, write down their names and addresses and send them to the address listed above. Again, this is absolutely FREE!

## Lightning Lesson

A lot of religious people struggle with Matthew 24. They incorrectly apply it to the end of time, connecting it to the book of Revelation (which they misunderstand) and certain Old Testament prophecies. I want to take just a moment of your time, not to explain every verse in this controversial chapter, but to clarify the premise of Jesus' discourse. Matthew 24:1-2 says, "And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and His disciples came to Him for to shew Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? Verily I say unto you, there shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down." This disturbed the disciples! Their questions in verse three were motivated by this powerful proclamation concerning the destruction of the temple. The bulk of this chapter (vv. 4-35) pertains to the destruction of Jerusalem, not the "end-times." Finally, notice verse 34: "*This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.*" Everything prior to vv. 35 occurred in the 1<sup>st</sup> century.