



the Soulwinner

April 11, 2013

ISSUE 25

ONE SOUL AT A TIME

Mark 15:16 — King James Version 1611

Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature

Promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Inner City

Illustration, photography, graphic design and journalism by Jim Robinson, unless otherwise indicated. Most all pictures link

Past Issues of *The Soulwinner* can be obtained from jartworks.org

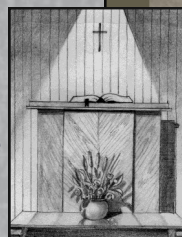
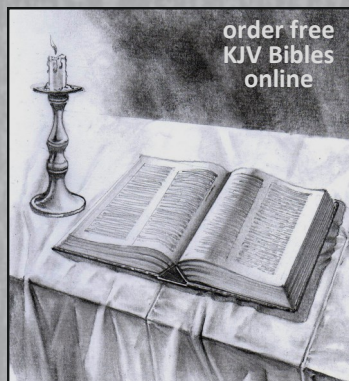
The Sword of the Word God speaks to you through the King James Bible

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart -Hebrews 4:12

Some of America's greatest preachers, or even preachers not from America but who were popular here, came from a Victorian Age when a woman would not be found in any garment other than a skirt or dress and blouse, modestly covering the form of her body. God blessed America for that, and she at one time flourished with a Holy Spirit and sense of dignity and hope for the human race—as promised by God to our forefathers the Pilgrims, many of whom died during the early years of America. Many early preachers who influenced America including Billy Sunday and Charles Spurgeon (shown below), preached like wildfire in the pulpits that stirred America to fear God. Our country was known for being the only nation in the history of the world to rise to power in our industrial manufacture and military defense in a short span of 200 years, to compete with European cultures that have been in development for thousands of years. There is one reason for that: *the fear of God in America* that faded out some 50-60 years ago. And that fear came from a daily Bible reading of the KJV.

Some people claim there is no God for they have no *proof* of Him; they have no tangible representation of God as in say a Prophet calling down fire from Heaven. They have no way to pay a bill, they have to live with an illness, the same people who deny God because of suffering in the world. Our suffering is often the result of our own sin. Most people have no idea of the standards that God has for us to live by because after years of America being bombarded with the abominations of Europe, one being lewdness, we have hid away the values of our grandparents that saw them through times of poverty and loss. As long as we have the middle-class job, that we seem to think we *deserve*, then these values that carried our grandparents through World War 2 do not matter anymore.

Charles Spurgeon, (to the right) was called the British *Prince of Preachers* from the early 1900's and was known for his presentation of the personal relationship we can have with Christ based on reading the Bible. You can find Reverend Spurgeon online by clicking on his picture to obtain his literature.



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IF YOU DIE TODAY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HEAVEN?

If you die today are you looking for heaven?

The Tenure of This Newsletter Intended as a Helpful Soul Winning Tool

About 10 years ago I had a desire to produce a Christian newsletter but I did not have the resources to do it. It was not until about 2 years ago I acquired the equipment and internet websites to make it possible. The graphics you see here are the result of studies in the software programs of Photoshop and Publisher, with some Painter 11. The result is an artistic rendition of “news” about the Bible, soul winning stories and some current issues.

The premise behind the newsletter is NOT to usurp the authority of your pastor but to provide an encouragement and instruction tool for soul winning. Excerpts about Bible scriptures from stories to doctrines are included to help the soul winner with some questions he may be asked by people he is giving the gospel to. Although evangelistic in nature, the newsletter does not constitute a religious movement or leadership. It is a counterpart to the Christian school of your church. The doctrines are Baptist and support the Baptist church, but many of them are interchangeable to other churches. The newsletter is not a part of a ministry of a church, but it does support soul winning in any church.

The newsletter spans from the Capital District Area of New York State (Schenectady, Albany and Troy) to New York City with the soul winning that I do and the expanse of my photographic footage. It contains the artwork and literature I have made and provided on the websites kjvibleprints.net, kjviblebooks.net and kjvibletracts.net. The artwork dates as far back as 1994, and it is modest in apparel and contains only implied violence from the Bible. Many of the works of art have been researched for authentic cultural inventory and accuracy to the scriptures of the King James Version. It is advised that the reader make scripture references to supersede any statements made in this newsletter.



“Set Your Affections on Things Above” A Society that Relies on Materials Does Not Know God

A wealthy man relies mostly on his material possession for his sustenance and to bring him sureness and comfort. A poor man, who does not have resources, does not have the option to rely on wealth. The poor man who is a born again Christian learns to put his faith in God for that which he does not have while at the same time the wealthy man is learning to put his faith in his materials. But Jesus made it clear many times in the Bible that what matters the most is your spiritual state, not your carnal: *for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth (Luke 12:15)*. Even though the poor man is mocked and downtrodden, if he loves God he learns to have faith in God and in a lot of ways he is better off. God owns the cattle on a thousand hills ([Psalm 50:10](#)), and when God sees fit he can bless the poor man with all that he feels he wants to give him, including wealth. Jesus said, *“I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” (Hebrews 13:5)*. Some Christians died of starvation in poverty,

but God had a reason for it.

Paul said *Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:2)*. Our minds then should be thinking on Jesus Christ coming to reign on the Throne of Israel as well as the laws of the Bible that God gave us to live comfortably with one another. If you feel yourself doubting God you can look to nature for a record of God's creation.

In the modern day and the New Age that comes with it, it is common for people to pursue luxuries and pleasures with their wealth. They seem to be blotting out the things of God and ignoring the matters of God's law for the pleasures of modern technology. Although material possessions can bring comfort and we all rely on them, they should not replace your relationship with God. I daresay that very few people read the Bible everyday, nor do they pray, nor do they go soul winning, and the good habits of a Christian are failing us. In stead we vie to go out and spend our paycheck.



The Lake at Noon, pencil by Jim Robinson. Since we can't see eternal things we often doubt them, but we always have the Bible and Creation to remind us.

JW's, Catholics, Mormons, Islam, Jews: A Common Denominator—Their Salvation by Works, Not Grace

Many times when you are soul winning you come across people of different faiths who are sure about what they believe. In one sense you want to make sure you give them an offer for the correct alternative (if they believe the wrong thing), but in another sense you don't want to force it on them. When I find a person like this, I often ask him a question to invite a conversation to pose my side. If he refuses the invitation, I carry on to someone else who may want to hear the gospel instead of spending time arguing with him when others are in need.

The option I pose to people who are of the faith of Jehovah's Witness, Catholic, Mormon, Islamic and Jewish is the same, although some other details may befall each one of them separately. Each of these is a **salvation-by-works religion** whereas the Christian is a **salvation-by-faith religion**.

In a salvation-by-works religion, the person is expected to do good things all of his life to the best of his ability and in the end, when he stands before God after he dies for judgment, God will let him into Heaven because his good works outweighed his bad. But this is not a guaran-

tee, for no matter how good his life is he still has no **promise** from his church of Heaven. All of these religions have strict rules that **MUST** be followed as a deposit made to try to earn a place in their heaven, but there is no sureness that heaven awaits them. They are left hanging.

In a salvation-by-grace religion, the sins of the person are all forgiven by the blood Jesus shed on the cross and his **promise** of Heaven is sure by several scriptures including [Romans 10:13](#). And that salvation is **eternal**—he can never lose it.

The good works of these other religions in mention are only an expected reasonable service toward God; their sins can not be forgiven because they do not believe in Christ. It is their sin that will keep them from going to Heaven because Heaven is perfect and God can not allow sin there. The soul of the Christian who is saved by the blood of Christ stands perfect and sinless before God on judgment day (even though his flesh was not sinless). The salvation-by-works person is destined for hell because God does not recognize his good works and all He sees is unforgiven sin ([Isaiah 64:6](#)).



Paul On the Road to Damascus, pencil by Jim Robinson. Before the Apostle Paul was saved on the Road to Damascus by Jesus Himself, he was a strict Pharisee of the Jews. His works included the persecution of Christians.

Assurance of Salvation For a Lifetime Confirming It to Your Convert

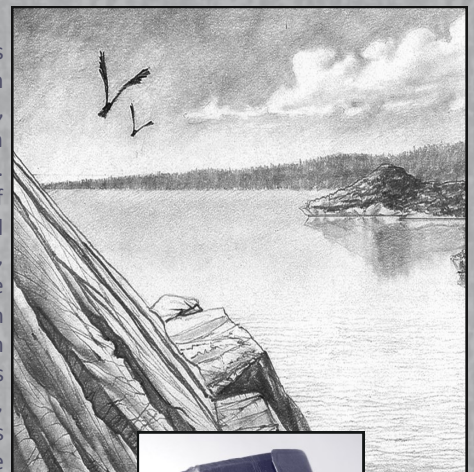
Winning someone to Jesus (when a person says the sinner's prayer with you), is a wonderful accomplishment. It is important also that the person who gets saved understand that he is **saved forever**—he can never lose it. There then should be some dialog you give him after he says the sinner's prayer to explain to him that once he is saved, he is always saved.

I often ask him a series of simple questions to assure his salvation then make him understand that he can never lose it. For example, after he says the sinner's prayer I ask him, "If you died now, where would you go?" He would say "Heaven." Then I ask him, "If you had not been saved where would you have gone?" And the answer is commonly "Hell". Then I ask him, "If you die 50 years from now where would you go (being that you had been saved today)?" And he would commonly say "Heaven."

If your convert doesn't give these answers to these questions then you have to stop a minute and explain them to him. You can give him a few verses on assurance of Heaven such as [Romans 10:13](#) and [Ephesians 4:30](#). I often tell him after he gets saved, "All of your sins are forgiven you (past, present and future), but, remember, there is always a **consequence** for sin." That helps answer questions about sin after you are saved. It is important that he understands

that salvation does not prevent him from sinning again, but it forgives the sin in the eyes of God. For example, if someone got saved then robbed a bank, God would forgive his sin but man would punish him with prison. It is unlikely, however, that a man who is truly saved has the initiative to rob a bank.

Please make sure your convert leaves you knowing he is saved and expecting to be saved for the rest of his life.



What Is an Idol?

Are the Pictures We Use in Everyday Life Considered Graven Images?

It seems difficult to determine what a graven image is when images are all around us all of the time. Can we live without **any** pictures or sculptures, or for that matter anything forged by man's hand? Wouldn't that eliminate about 80% of our everyday environment?

Many people have pictures up in their homes. We use pictures everyday on the internet, in television, newspapers and magazines and books. So then what exactly is a graven image or idol?

In Exodus 20:3-4 God said, "**3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me. 4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.** This verse, if taken just in this context, would certainly eliminate all of the pictures from our lives, not to mention the sculptures of which architecture and engineered devices would be a part. But if you read on to the next verse it says, **5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God.**

The answer that can given then is that if a pic-

ture or object is made for the purpose of worship (to bow down to it and pay it homage or even if it represents a pagan god) then it is a graven image. If a picture is made to illustrate or teach something good, or even to decorate or exemplify in a good way, and it is not intended to be worshipped nor does it represent a pagan God, then it is not a graven image.

One way of determining if an image is graven to be worshipped or if it represents a Satanic (pagan) god is by its **symbolism**. Nudity, satanic icons, Satanic animals in the Bible and many other symbols can be found in media today and in tattoo parlors, graphic design agencies and with art publishers.

Many artists want to glorify God with their art, much like musicians have given us the beautiful hymns of the martyrs. In [Exodus 36](#), Bezaleel was commanded by God to sculpt the cherubim (angels) for the ark of the covenant and do embroidery on the curtains for the tabernacle. Although art can be used to glorify God, in many Catholic and other orthodox churches involving idol worship, the same kind of Biblical image becomes and idol.



Jesus, pencil by Jim Robinson. The artist here attempts to give his mind's eye image of what Jesus may have looked like, not with the intent of making it an idol. Many Catholic renditions of Christ have been reared up for worship as idols.

Reaching Souls In the Maine Mountains

Brother Ron Meldrum and His Family

By Ron Meldrum

Brother Ron Meldrum and his family are reaching people for Christ in the mountains and foothills of western Maine. This rugged, rural area is dotted with little towns where once the wood-mill and shoe-shop industries created jobs, before products were outsourced to China. The county they work in has a population of 32,000.

The Meldrum family has worked in Franklin County, Maine, for twelve years. Their work centers around building the church in Kingfield which was planted by Brother Meldrum's late father. Kingfield has a population of 1,100 people, but is an easy drive from three other towns of similar and smaller size.

Three times a week, they run vans over miles of winding, hilly, and dirt country roads, picking up folks for Sunday morning church, Wednesday prayer meeting, and Monday Youth Group. They witness and distribute literature at local town festivals and have a Gospel Tent at the annual county fair.

In the last two years, they have seen a move of God among young people. Teenagers, in particular, are responding to the straight preaching of the "old fashioned" Gospel, and they have about 30 each week in the youth group, with almost 20 of those teens showing up for Prayer Meeting (and they all pray) and Sunday church services. Several have grown to the point that they are witnessing



to and winning their friends.

These young people help out in the outreaches in local towns and the country fair. Three young men have surrendered to preach in the last 18 months. Over 50 men, women, and youth have been saved in the last two years as a direct result of the Youth Work.

What is happening here is nothing special," says Brother Ron Mel-

Continued on page 3

Reaching Souls In the Maine Mountains

Continued from page 2

drum. "It could be done in hundreds of rural New England Towns. There is a hunger and searching that is going on here. Kids are growing up now in a spiritual void and are searching. All God needs to reap this harvest are laborers."

Not people who show up for 3-4 years and disappear, Meldrum added, but people who will give their lives in service to Christ to reach these areas. Brother Meldrum's vision is to help plant more churches in rural New England, reaching the hundreds of little country towns.

"Most church planters gravitate to the populated areas," Meldrum said. "And, I understand that. That's a good thing. However, we also need to find away to reach the rural areas, too. A hundred years ago, 8 out of 10 preachers were called from country church-

es. As country churches have closed down or gone liberal, we have lost that 'preacher breeding ground.'"

Meldrum believes that with enough laborers and financial resources, America would have a new "Bible Belt" stretching across rural New England in 15-20 years.

Challenges to the work include the isolation of the area; long, hard winters; the amount of witches and paganism in the area; and generating finances in an economically depressed area. But God has been faithful in helping with every challenge.

The Meldrum's web site is <http://rcpne.fundamental.org>



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IF YOU DIED TODAY ARE YOU 100% SURE OF HEAVEN?

Of all the seeds that can be sown in the ground around the world, the mustard seed is the smallest. Yet it grows into the biggest of herbs (Mark 4:31-32). Likewise, salvation from hell is so simple that even a child can be saved, yet it is the most important thing you will ever do. *If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed...nothing shall be impossible unto you (Matthew 17:20). Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).* Salvation from hell requires only a little faith in the Word of God to completely change your life. Here is the little faith:


The Word of God says, *For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).* And there is a payment for our sin. First you die physically: *For the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23a)* Then your soul dies a second death for all of eternity: *and whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into a lake of fire Revelation 20:15).* But with just a little faith in the **seed**, the Word of God, there is a way out.

The Bible says, *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and not that of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).* Jesus death on the cross was a payment for our sin, and the blood that he shed is enough to save us from hell simply by asking him for salvation. *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Romans 10:13).* Neither good works nor any other ritual can save you. Only the blood of Jesus can save you. Simply pray, believing in your heart, a prayer like this:

*Lord, I know that I am a sinner deserving death and hell. I want to go to heaven. Please come into my heart, forgive my sin and take me to heaven when I die. I am trusting **only** you for my salvation. Thank you for saving me from hell. Amen.*

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The Door to SAMBUCCA

The Novel

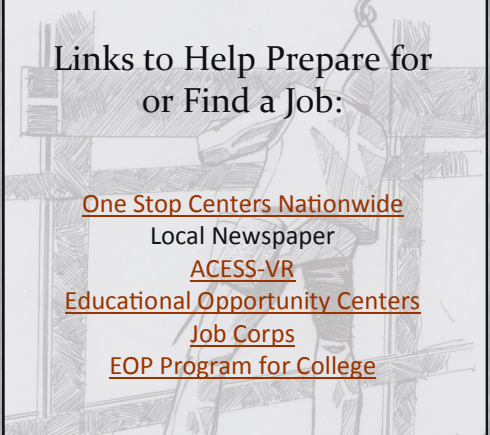
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written and illustrated by Jim Robinson

A Vietnam Vet returns from the war to find the worst has happened. With a life torn from adversity, this short novel gives the fictional account of a Christian man's courage and honor to God. He sets out to undo centuries of a family's destructive contribution to the end times.



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