



Saratoga City Hall, NY

the Soulwinner

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ISSUE 22

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

Most all pictures link

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The Person of Paul the Apostle An Unparalleled Oneness With God

Paul the Apostle is responsible for 14 of the 27 New Testament books of the Bible. No other prophet wrote as many books. He was responsible for winning all of Asia to Jesus Christ ([Acts 19:8-11](#)). Paul was persecuted and tortured by whipping, stoning, imprisonment and beatings yet he never lost his zeal for the establishment of Jesus' church and the preaching of the gospel ([2 Corinthians 11:22-27](#)). What is the common denominator that kept Paul going with such great enthusiasm?

Paul had the power of the Holy Spirit and he sought the things of God, spiritual things, before the things of the earth. Paul was always looking to Heaven as his reward for being saved, and the joy of Heaven in its comparison to the pleasures of earth. He said, *Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth* ([Colossians 3:2](#)). Paul's desire for Heaven was consuming to him. *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him* ([1 Corinthians 2:9](#)).

Paul said quite a bit about his desire for Heaven and the joy of knowing something better was coming for all of the saved people. He brings to mind the groaning we have for our home in Heaven in [2 Corinthians 5:1-9](#). Paul reminds us that here we are naked because we can not be clothed upon with our house from Heaven. And that as long as we are present with the body we are absent from the Lord, but there will come a day when our soul will travel to Heaven and later we will get a resurrected body. It was the promise of his afterlife that kept Paul going through all of the persecution, and he also had a love for his brother that was obvious.

Probably one of the other driving forces in Paul's personality was his desire for repentance of his former life as a Pharisee. The Bible says in the book of [Acts 26:1-11](#)



Paul On a Ship to Rome, pencil by Jim Robinson. Paul set his affection on things above not on things on the earth and it gave him great zeal for the work of God. [Order print.](#)

that Paul as a young Pharisee persecuted the church to a point where he was going into homes and hailing men and women to prison to be killed later on. When Paul was saved by Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus ([Acts 26:12-18](#)), he understood what he was doing wrong and he repented of his abomination. He said in [Acts 26](#) : "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision...But shewed first unto them of Damascus...that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." Paul was concerned about showing the Lord he had repented, which means he had changed his mind about his sin, and he did just the opposite of what he had done before. Paul spent the rest of his life caring for and being persecuted for Christians. He started churches on his missionary journeys and cared for them until he was in his eighties.

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Joseph—Sold Into Slavery But Forgave His Brothers

In [Genesis 37](#) the Bible gives us the account of Abraham's grandson Jacob whose name was changed to Israel. Israel had 12 sons, the 11th being Joseph who was the second to the youngest son whose name was Benjamin. Joseph was favored in his father's eyes because he was the son of his old age, and Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons. He gave him a coat of many colors of which his brothers despised. Joseph was a boy who feared God, and he was a prophet although this was unknown to his parents and brothers.

Joseph had two dreams that foretold the future. In one dream the sheaves of his brothers in the field did obeisance to his sheaves. In the other dream the sun, moon and eleven stars made obeisance to him. His brothers were furious at the dreams, and they planned to kill Joseph. Instead they threw him into a pit until the Ismeelites came on their way to Egypt, and Joseph's brothers actually *sold Joseph into slavery to the Ismeelites* who brought him to Egypt.

While Joseph was in Egypt, he never cursed God and he remained faithful to Him. He had done so well as a slave that his master, Pontifer, preferred him. But Pontifer's wife lusted after Joseph, and she told a lie to have him put in prison when he refused to lay with her ([Genesis 39](#)). Joseph spent years in prison, but he could interpret dreams. Pharaoh had two very grievous dreams ([Genesis 41](#)). One dream was about 7 ears of good corn on a stalk and 7 ears of bad corn, and the bad ones devoured the good ones. The other was about 7 good keine (cattle) and 7 bad, and again the bad devoured the good ones. When Pharaoh recruited the magicians of the land to interpret the dream none of them could, but Joseph did. Joseph told him there would be 7 years of plenty and 7 years of famine in all the land, and that Pharaoh needed to find a man to store food for the famine for 7 years and distribute it for the 7 years to follow. So Pharaoh let Joseph out of prison for interpreting the dream, and Joseph, sought as delightful in the eyes of Pharaoh, was given charge

over the storehouse for Egypt's 7 years of storing and 7 years of distribution for the famine.

At the time of the famine after 7 years of plenty, Israel, Joseph's father, had no food and he sent his sons to Egypt to buy corn, of which their brother Joseph unknown to them was in charge ([Genesis 42](#)). And when Joseph realized these were his brothers, he wept, but he treated them harshly at first calling them spies and planting traps in their bags to accuse them of stealing. After they left and returned to Egypt, Joseph made himself known unto his brothers, and invited them into Egypt with open arms. He forgave them for selling him into slavery and he told them it was for the good of Israel that now he was in charge of the storehouse and all of his family could come to live in Egypt.

Sometimes God allows adversity in our lives that we think is cruel and we do not understand it. But if a man is serving God and fears God, he need only know that God is in charge of his life. The same principle can be applied to the martyrs who were probably men woman and children who suffered the most for Christ, enduring hideous tortures for their faith. But it was their faith that brought a King James Bible and an America that at one time had missionaries all over the world.



Joseph is shown here perplexed in the pit that his brothers threw him into prior to selling him into slavery. But years later Joseph saved his family, and all of Israel, from famine.

Sensuality Verses Chastity Today's Younger Generation and Courtship

Some of the greatest patriarchs in the Bible arranged the marriages of their children such as Abraham for his son Isaac in [Genesis 24](#). That is rare today in the modern age where very often there is sensuality in most public places where a young man chooses his own wife based on what his eyes see. How much are our children chaste before God? Are they chaste if they are going out to night clubs? Is that where the average man finds his girlfriend? And are not night-clubs notorious for being sexually promiscuous?

There is a lot to be said for a young woman or man searching diligently in a **church** for their spouse. The general thought is that a person going to church is showing some kind of piety and would most likely have the attributes of Christian values. Christian values are generally geared toward the man being a father

and husband, working hard, paying his bills and loving his wife. The woman then would be careful at home to nurture and care for the children as well as reverence her husband ([Ephesians 5:33](#)).

Today's media is littered with lewd and provocative images and notations, and as the saying goes "sex sells." It is difficult for the younger generation who are new to the world to decipher all that media information, and it is very easy for them to latch onto the sensuality created by it. **Chastity** then becomes a discipline of preserving your sexuality for marriage, and withholding yourself from a strange woman or strange man, (a woman or man who is not your spouse) as it says in [Proverbs 5](#). Only then can the institution of marriage take its proper course when two young people have the same values about marriage and come together.



Great With Child, pencil by Jim Robinson. Although society tempts the young adult otherwise, waiting until marriage for a physical relationship is a prize in God's eyes. [Order print.](#)

Robbery In Manhattan

It Could Have Been Prevented With a Gun Owned By The Victim

Someone I know has a true story about a trip he took to Manhattan that ended up in disaster. He suffers from mental illness, but his condition comes and goes and more often than not he has his reasoning abilities. He had taken a trip to Manhattan previously and he had taken his bank card for money in case of need. While he was in the city at that time, his card would not work and he didn't have the money for the trip home. He was stranded there and had to resort to the NYPD for help.

He planned to take another trip sometime in early 2009. This time he decided he would take cash with him instead of a card for the reason that the card didn't work at the pinnacle of his distress the last time. So, he packed \$2,000 to ensure he would not be stranded this time, and he also brought his debt money and money for monthly bills totaling a little over \$3,000 cash. \$100 of it was put in his wallet.

At around the time he was ready to go to NYC he started exhibiting the symptoms of hypomania, his mental health condition.

Regardless, he set off on the Greyhound for NYC to trek through Manhattan for his current reasons.

When he got there, he spent about 3 hours wandering around and finally, at around 11 pm he became lost in Manhattan. Asking people for directions became futile and he was roaming from one store and restaurant to another—but *he had money*. Then two African American young men stopped him on the street. They must have been watching him.

“What do you have in the bag?” one of them asked. There was a long hesitation and he asked it again. The man then took off the bag for fear of an assault that would permanently disable him, and he took out the money. He passively handed the robber the cash. Then the aggressor wanted to know what he had in his wallet. So, once again the man passively handed him the cash, and he was told to keep the cards.

Consequently not only had the man been robbed by two African American men, they had also left him no money to get a ticket



home or a hotel to get through the night.

If the victim had a legally concealed pistol, the turn out of this robbery may have been different. The old west afforded a man this right; today the government is taking it away from us.

Places to Find, or Prepare For, a Job

Community Resources that Should Be a Part of Every Church

Some people are in disagreement with any government program that can help a man get a job, yet they discourage the poor for not having a lucrative middle-class job and for not being able to pay his bills. Additionally, a tax base supported by people who do not depend on government programs to prepare for or get a job is usually not welcome. These same people then criticize the poor for being alcoholics, drug users, single mothers and fathers, and for utilizing welfare and health insurance programs.

This article lists several government programs that our taxes pay for to HELP disadvantaged people get jobs. There are vocational and college options listed here, including the ACCESS-VR option for people with disabilities.

[One Stop Centers Nationwide](#)

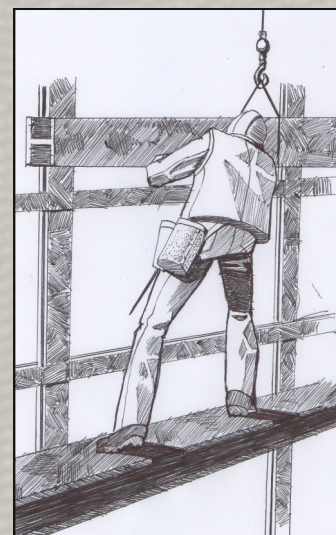
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**IF YOU DIED TODAY
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Of all the seeds that can be sown in the ground around the world, the mustard seed is the smallest. Yet it grows into the biggest of herbs (Mark 4:31-32). Likewise, salvation 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.



**Links to Help Prepare for
or Find a Job:**

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[Educational Opportunity Centers](#)

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