



General Sheridan Statue  
Capitol Building, Albany NY

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ISSUE 12

# the Soulwinner

## 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 Church In the Book of Acts

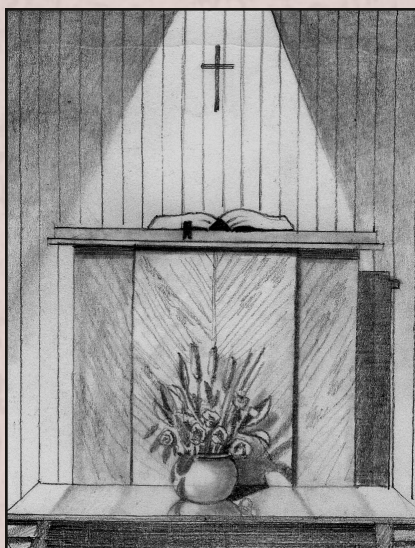
### How far have we gone?

32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. 33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. 34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. (Acts 4:32-35).

The Book of Acts epitomizes the rise of the Church as Jesus started it with his apostles on the seashores of Galilee. Among the church's functions, this scripture clearly outlines the practice of the church to make sure that everyone's needs were met. In all societies of all ages there has always been a differential between the rich and poor. But the church here bridged that gap "and distribution was made unto every man as he had need." Is there any church doing that today?

Whereas this article is not to compel people to sell what they have to give to the poor to make things more equal in social strata, is its posing the question about what happened to caring for the poor. Isn't that one of the primary functions of a church? Didn't Paul say Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do (Galatians 2:10)?

Among the functions of the church there is the act of soulwinning and teaching of the Bible. It is right for church members to gather once or twice a week to go house to house and spread the gospel. And it is also right for people to be brought to church to learn the Word of God. But it



may very well be that the reason why the state has had to raise up so many social services for the poor is because the church refuses to provide for them. Compelling a poor man to "get a job" instead of helping him is not solving the problem. He may have a disability and he can't get a job like most middle class Americans. Working for minimum wage even if for 50 hours a week is not going to finance a car with a rental payment, phone, electric bill and food. Take all that and add 3 children.

Many wealthy people repeatedly criticize the poor saying they made themselves that way and they deserve everything they get. But you never know the reason why a man is homeless. He may not be a drug addict or alcoholic. He may have developed a disability that kept him from the job force. Any number of things can render a man into poverty.

Poverty can be thought of as torture. Bills mount and services are cut off. You can't keep your clothes clean. You lose your housing. You lose your property. Take all that and add some kind of physical or mental disability. The church should be doing all it can to help the poor.



Authentic illustrations of Bible verses to hang on your walls.



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# Man's Engineering

## Something like the power of God?

In the Bible, men had multiplied on the earth after the Garden of Eden. They had gathered together to make a tower to heaven in defiance of God called the Tower of Babel, as is recorded in [Genesis 11:1-9](#). In this case, man wanted to express his "power" over God, which was absurd, but many times buildings are advantageous to us.

At the time of their completion in 1985, the Twin Towers were the tallest buildings in the world. At over 100 floors tall, these two buildings could have been considered the Towers of Babel of the modern age (see [Wikipedia](#)). As a representation of American power and wealth, the towers cut the skyline of Manhattan to remind man that he had a great power that was Godlike. Steel erections are common today and buildings are made in record time, defying the natural landscape that God created in the Garden of Eden.

God did not condemn the making of cities, however. As a matter of fact, He encouraged David and Solomon to build up Jerusalem and Judah. And [New Jerusalem](#) is a city built by God. It may be possible also that the angels built cities in heaven. But far too often, mankind latches onto the power that comes from the massive structure and feels he can outdo God. Corporate greed comes from CEOs that have buildings behind them along with a multi-million dollar income. A man is supposed to have a house, but when that house becomes a mansion he sometimes gets a big head. The buildings will go up, but lets just hope that mankind can keep his ego down.



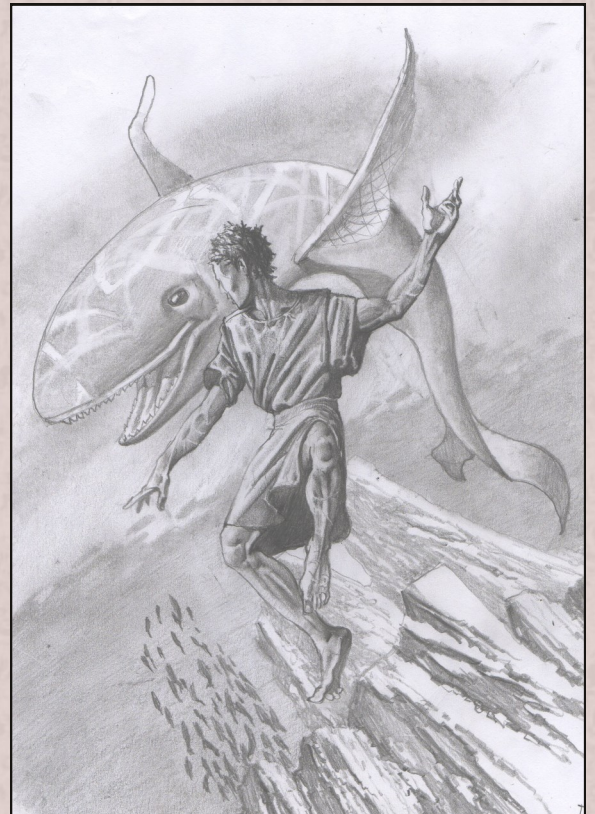
# Jonah's Reluctance

## God uses a miracle in the sea to bring about a change of mind

In [Jonah 1-2](#), the Bible gives us an account of a prophet, Jonah, who was reluctant to do the will of God because of his anger towards the people God sent him to preach to. Jonah felt that the Ninevites were wicked and didn't deserve the gospel, so he went by ship in the opposite direction God told him. The rest of the story is often told as a fairy tale, but someone who is saved and loves God and stays close to His Word understands that God can perform any miracle of His desire, even today. Jonah had to be thrown overboard from his castaway ship because of the storm, and while he was lost on the sea a big whale came and swallowed him. Jonah then spent three days in the whale's belly and was spit out on the shore. Jonah's repentance in the whale's belly is what provoked God to save him, and after his expulsion he agreed to go to Ninevah. As a result, an entire city, the first ever recorded in history, was saved by the preaching of the Messiah.

There are many stories like this in the Bible that give the secular humanist fuel to criticize God's word. Nevertheless, it takes the right kind of Christian to understand they are not just nice stories to tell children, but they are historical scripture. The Parting of the Red Sea along with Moses' great plagues is another incidence of miracles that are so powerful they seem unbelievable.

Sometimes God will get ahold of you to persuade you to change your mind about something you are wrong about. He may not send a whale, but he could send a hardship. If you take a moment to examine your life when you have a hardship, maybe God is giving you time to repent before something worse comes upon you. The Christian life is not all that difficult, and God only commanded us to love him and love our brother. But far too often we get caught up in selfishness, greed, lust and many other things that make us veer away from obedience to two great commandments.





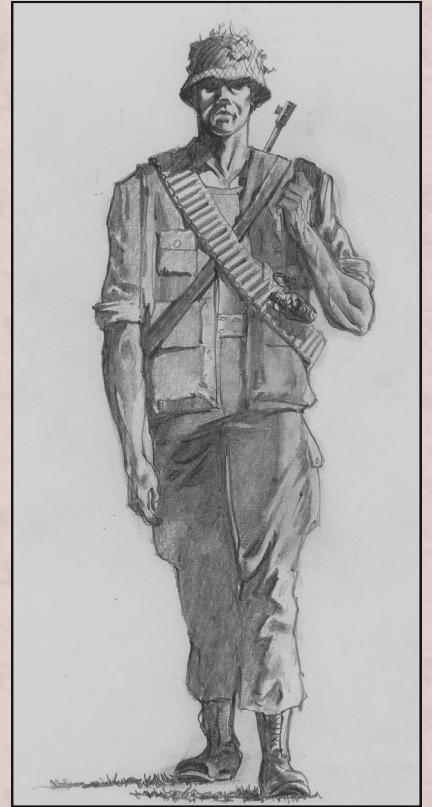
# War Series: World War 1

World War 1 was the result of imperialistic foreign policies by several European nations including the German Empire, Austro-Hungarian Empire, Ottoman Empire, Russian Empire, British Empire, French Republic and Italy. The assassination in 1914 of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria by a Yugoslav nationalist was the trigger for the start of the war. The major powers were then at war within weeks due to their colonies around the world, and then the conflict spread around the world. The two opposing forces of the war consisted of the Allies (United Kingdom, France and Russia) and the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy). Italy eventually changed sides, however, and other nations around the world joined forces to these two sides.

Austria-Hungary invaded Serbia and the war was begun. Germany then invaded several countries and Russia invaded Germany which brought the German march on Paris to a halt. The Western Front then made a trench line that lasted until 1917. Russia, after attacking Austria-Hungary, was forced back by Germany. The Russian Empire then fell in 1917 and they had to leave the war due to their own revolution.

In 1918 the Allies drove back the German armies and the United States entered the war via fighting in the trenches. Germany was also developing its own revolutions and agreed to a cease fire in Nov 1918 on Armistice Day. The war ended and the victory was with the Allies.

World War 1 lasted 4 years and was a display of the industrial power of the war machine that paved the way to a longer war that took even more lives—WW2. World War 1 took the lives of over 9 million combatants. A more thorough and illustrated account of the war can be found at [Wikipedia](http://Wikipedia).



## Medical Organizations

Links to medical professionals who have gathered to help the underprivileged

[Operationsmile.org](http://Operationsmile.org)

[Charities that help pay medical bills](#)

[Medical ministry to Cambodia](#)

Note: some links are secular and other Christian links may not use the KJV



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