



Berryville Bible Beacon

The Lower Lights

On our recent trip to Maine, we had the opportunity to see several lighthouses. One we were able to visit up close as it was located within the boundaries of the national park and accessible by car. This particular lighthouse was not one of the tall, stately, and grand lighthouses that one is accustomed to think about when considering lighthouses, but rather, a shorter light. There were several of these lighthouses around the island on which we stayed. The tallest of the light houses around was out on another island inaccessible by car far out in the sea on Baker Island. These various light houses reminded me of the song, "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning" written by Philip P. Bliss, 1871. The song is as follows:

Brightly beams our Father's mercy
From His lighthouse evermore,
But to us he gives the keeping
Of the lights along the shore.

Dark the night of sin has settled,
Loud the angry billows roar;
Eager eyes are watching, longing,
For the lights along the shore.

Trim your feeble lam, my brother:
Some poor sailor tempest tossed,
Trying now to make the harbor,
In the darkness may be lost.

Let the lower lights be burning!
Send a gleam across the wave!
Some poor fainting, struggling seaman
You may rescue, you may save.

The lyrics of the song are instructive to us today. God's great grace, love, and mercy is the greater light which shines for all to see into the distant and far ocean of sin. He draws the lost from the great darkness that is around them and leads them toward the safety of harbor. Those souls, however, as they near shore need additional guidance to finally make it safely in. These "harbor lights" are what allows them to dock and set foot on shore. God is the greater light, but Christians are these lesser, harbor lights, who use the light which God gives them,

through teaching and influence, to illuminate others to the safe shore.

What can we do for those around us who are in darkness and struggling to come to the shore? We can love them by extending help and aid to those approaching the shore. Matthew 22:39 states, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." We can provide the right example for those around us to encourage them to extend their lights to those in need of rescue. In 1 Corinthians 11:1, Paul writes, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." We can keep our lights pure and holy so that they will shine bright and not grow dim. James 1:27 states, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Jesus said in the great sermon on the mount, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:13-16).

We have a choice before us. We can either let our light shine, or we can hide it. If we hide our light, then it does no one any good at all, including ourselves. However, if we let our light shine, then we have a great opportunity to glorify God. The few things listed above are just some things that one may do to let his light shine. There are many more. What are you doing to let your light shine? Find something, anything, that you can do to let your light shine and then SHINE!

That's Not What My Bible Says



For a number of years, I've heard warnings of a time when man-made doctrines would escape the confines of a creed book and would eventually find their way into the biblical text itself. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that a new translation of the Bible has just been published which caters to homosexuals and lesbians.

This new Bible, called "The ONE Translation," is being promoted by the archbishop of Canterbury and is said by him to be a book of "extraordinary power," though he admits many would be startled by its contents. The organization that produced this new translation says they are dedicated to "challenging oppression, injustice, exclusion and discrimination as well as accepting one another, valuing their diversity and experience."

For instance, 1 Corinthians 7:1-2 tells every man to have his own wife and every woman to have her own husband. However, this new "Bible" states that everyone is to have "a regular partner." You get the idea. You see the implications.

But now here's my point. Changing what the Bible actually says, and twisting God's words into a more politically correct reading, does not change the truth of God's word. Remember it was Jesus who said, "He

who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him; the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).

By Steve Higginbotham
June 25th, 2004

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Too Close to Home

Two elderly, excited Southern women were sitting together in the front pew of church listening to a fiery preacher.

When this preacher condemned the sin of stealing, these two ladies cried out at the tops of their lungs, "AMEN, BROTHER!"

When the preacher condemned the sin of lust, they yelled again, "PREACH IT!"

And when the preacher condemned the sin of lying, they jumped to their feet and screamed, "RIGHT ON, BROTHER! TELL IT LIKE IT IS...AMEN!"

But when the preacher condemned the sin of gossip, the two got very quiet. One turned to the other and said, "He's quit preaching and gone to meddlin'."

Funny how we are all opposed to sin except when we are the one's with the sin problem.

—Selected

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" (2 Corinthians 13:5).

In Christ We Have...

- ◆ ...A love that can never be fathomed.
- ◆ ...A life that can never die.
- ◆ ...A righteousness that can never be tarnished.
- ◆ ...A peace that can never be understood.
- ◆ ...A rest that can never be disturbed.
- ◆ ...A joy that can never be diminished.
- ◆ ...A hope that can never be disappointed.
- ◆ ...A glory that can never be clouded.

Sermons and Study Topics

Week of 6/27/04

Morning	The Conception of John The Baptist
Scripture	Luke 1:5-25
Evening	The Tested and Certified Christ
Scripture	Mark 1:12-13
Sunday Morning Bible Study	The Book of Hebrews
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	The Book of Micah

Weekly Record

Week of 6/20/04

Sunday Class	44
Sunday A.M.	67
Sunday P.M.	53
Wednesday	64
Contribution	\$1302.15
Budget	\$1778.13

Free to Preach

Our report this month is taken from the active life of our beloved Rue Porter. In March of 1954 while Uncle Rue was traveling in his work he came upon a Roman Catholic Bishop in a railroad depot and visited with him for about twenty minutes. The Bishop told Rue of his work and when brother Porter told him that he was a preacher too, the Bishop asked, "But where are your clergyman's clothes?"

Rue said that he was one of those men who opens his Bible and asks people to believe what it says and that he did not rely upon garb to distinguish him from other men of like faith. The Bishop cupped his hands over his mouth, and coming near to Rue, half whispered, "I wish

I could do that. We are all under orders. We are told what to say, and we say it. We are told where to go, and we go there. We are told how long we may stay, and when to move, and we do it. I wish I were as free to preach what I find in the Bible as you." Rue then told the man, "A man of your knowledge should have the courage to preach what he knows to be true in spite of orders from Rome or anywhere else other than Christ." Again the Bishop said, "I wish I could do that, but my hands are tied."

Rue Porter's hands were never tied. From the very first he had been free to preach the Gospel of Christ. Yes, he was free! Free in Christ to preach the gospel of Christ to as many as possible in one's lifetime. I, for one, am happy that he was free and that he was committed to the Lord enough to traverse these

United States in the preaching of the Gospel of Christ.

Don Deffenbaugh

"These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no man despise thee. Put them in mind to be in subjection to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready unto every good work, to speak evil of no man, not to be contentious, to be gentle, showing all meekness toward all men" (Titus 2:15-3:2).

Kevin's Korner

Well, we all made it back from our vacation to Maine safe and sound. I suppose that everyone has heard about the one mishap on the trip, so I won't go over the details again. We did have an enjoyable and relaxing time in Maine and along the eastern seaboard. It was interesting to watch gasoline prices go up to about \$2.38 right north of New York City in Connecticut. That was the highest that we saw them during our trip and I can't say that I haven't paid over \$2.00 a "gallon" for gasoline anymore.

One of the other "natural wonders" that we saw while on vacation were mosquitoes. Believe it or not, Maine has their share, but Maine was not to be outdone by Eastern Arkansas when it comes to this force of nature. Due to our accident, we stayed about

15 miles west of West Memphis on Tuesday night. Little did we know that that part of Arkansas is where the rice fields are. Where you have rice, you must have water, and where you have water, you have mosquitoes, and SWARMS of them. I have literally never seen so many in my life. We had some Off with us, but even this was not enough to keep them at bay. They were literally everywhere. We spent about an hour before bed simply swatting the things and the next day in the car, we killed mosquitoes all the way back to Berryville. It was quite a swat fest.

The boys went home with my folks for a few weeks to spend some vacation time in Austin Texas with their cousins (my sister's children). They went last year and so they were kind of expecting to go again this year. So Mary Lynn and I will be all by our "lonesome" for a few weeks.

Just a reminder that in July I have a gospel meeting in Heber Springs from the 18th through the 21st. So we will be out of town those dates, which are coming up fairly soon.

My personal thanks to brother Ralph Hunter who filled in for me while I was on vacation. I heard he did his usually excellent job. Thanks brother Hunter!

Elders:

Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan,
Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn
Quigley

Deacons:

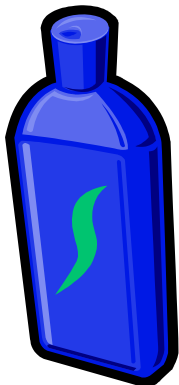
Ken Smith, Brent Stevens,
Rusty Windle.

Preacher:

Kevin Cauley... 870-423-6707

Prayers and Proclamations

- Do you feel blessed to be here today to worship God? You should! You are His creation and He is worthy of your worship. Thanks to God that he has granted us this privilege.
- The following are in need of our prayers: Geneva Atchley, Bill and Lucille Fort, Patricia Foster, .
- Please remember our shut ins. Curtis Hull, Edith Mischler, and Art Roberts.
- Our next youth devotional will be at Glenn Williams house on Sunday, July 4th. This will also be the evening that Glenn puts on his fireworks show. All are invited to attend.
- The monthly elders and deacons meeting has been rescheduled for the 2nd Sunday in July.
- John Gass wanted me to announce that there is a gospel meeting being held starting today and running through Tuesday in Omaha, Arkansas.
- Our Friends and Family day was a GREAT DAY! We beat our record from last year and now we have some work to do in following up with those whom we invited. Let's get the message out!
- Our pantry was emptied for the children's home truck, so it is certainly in need of being restocked. You may bring anything that you wish to put in it.
- The pantry item for this week is Shampoo.



Welcome!

To the Berryville church of Christ.

Family Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:..... 9:30 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
 Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 PM
 Ladies Bible Class: 10:30 AM
 Wed. Evening Bible Class: 7:00 PM

Serving Each Other

	June 27th, 2004	July 4th, 2004
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Ken Smith	Larry Elliott
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Leon Duncan	Dan Hand
Scripture Reading:	Ray Duncan	Brandon Foster
Lord's Table	Clay Bozarth	Matt Bassing
	Ken Smith	Jerry Roller
(assist)	Dan Hand	Jack Gentry
	Jack Gentry	Brent Moore
Closing Prayer	Larry Elliott	Leon Duncan
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Glenn Williams	Clay Bozarth
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Hugh Atchley	Ken Smith
Scripture Reading:	Brent Moore	John Gass
Lord's Table	John Gass	Glenn Williams
	Jack Gentry	Ray Duncan
Closing Prayer	Bill Fort	Dale Pinkley
Wednesday		
Songs:	Hugh Atchley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Rusty Windle	Hugh Atchley
Invitation:	John Gass	Dan Hand
Closing Prayer:	Dale Pinkley	George Eddings

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