

## An Error

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

I was talking with a brother recently who said he had talked with a minister about what he preached. Some of what he had heard was not according to the bible and he wanted to know where he and his church came up with their doctrines. He was told that they took a liberal view of the scriptures. This is a fancy way of saying that they didn't care what the bible says, so they change it to suit themselves. That is a popular view in this day. One way to do this is to take one verse and build a whole doctrine on it.

How about taking a passage like **Romans 10:9-10**, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righ-

teousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation", and saying that there is nothing else beyond believing? In **Acts 16:31** Paul told the jailer to believe, but then he preached to him, and his household, then took them and baptized them before morning. Although repentance, confession, baptism, and living faithful to the Lord were not specifically mentioned, I have no doubt that they were included in the message. To take any one verse by itself is in error.

Almost from the beginning, man has felt little fear in leaving out, adding too, and twisting the Word of God to suit his purpose. Has there been a greater example of this than baptism? Jesus preached it, the apostles, and the early church taught, and practiced it. Why? Because the Lord said to do it. Then someone said that was too much trouble, sprinkling would do instead of immersion. Another decided to not do

it at all. Along the way someone changed it from baptism for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**, to just a church initiation. If you read the bible through from **Genesis 1** to **Revelation 22** you can not find a place where God said that any one has the right to change his commands. (**Rev. 22:18-19**). **Matt. 28:18-20**. "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Someone asked recently, "Why can't people just take what the bible says, and do it?" Good question, everyone needs to realize that God isn't going to change his word for you, me, or anybody else.

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## Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

### THE REBUILDER OF A NATION!

NEHEMIAH, OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH, WAS OFFICIAL CUP-BEARER TO KING ARTAXERES OF PERSIA. THE JEWS, HAVING BEEN TAKEN CAPTIVE OUT OF JUDEA ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS BEFORE BY KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR, HAD RISEN TO HIGH PLACES IN MANY INSTANCES, BECAUSE OF THEIR TALENTS. NEHEMIAH, BORN IN CAPTIVITY, ROSE TO THE LEVEL OF CLOSEST ROYAL ADVISER IN THE ENTIRE KINGDOM. IN 445 B.C., HEARING OF THE DESPERATE PLIGHT OF THE FEW JEWS LEFT IN JERUSALEM—A RUINED CITY OF CRUMBLING WALLS AND BROKEN GATES, COMPLETELY AT THE MERCY OF ROVING BANDS OF CUT-THROATS AND THIEVES WHO TERRIFIED THE COUNTRYSIDE—NEHEMIAH GOT PERMISSION FROM HIS KING TO GO THERE AND TO REBUILD ITS WALLS SO THAT THE INHABITANTS WOULD HAVE PROTECTION AGAINST MARAUDERS. A PERIOD OF TWELVE YEARS ELAPSED, FROM THE TIME HE ARRIVED IN THE CITY, UNTIL THE DEDICATION OF THE REBUILT WALLS (432 B.C.). BUT BEYOND JUST REBUILDING JERUSALEM'S WALLS, NEHEMIAH COMPLETELY RENEWED THE JEWISH NATION AND REVIVED ITS RELIGION, THE TEMPLE, AND ALL THE ANCIENT CUSTOMS AND MOSAIC LAW! AN EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TASK, WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THE MANY STRATEGEMS AND TRICKS EMPLOYED BY NEAR-BY PETTY KINGS TO PREVENT JERUSALEM FROM RISING TO ITS FORMER STATUS—ALL OF WHICH IS EXCITINGLY RELATED IN THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH.



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