

A Grip on Reality

by **BOB CASEY**, preacher
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Many times in this life we have situations that arise that demand that we arrive at a point of decision. We look at the facts, we weigh the alternatives, then consider the outcome, and are forced to take some actions that we hope will resolve our problem.

This same thought will cover nearly all our decision-making, concerning all things. Our Lord Jesus faced the same thing the night before entering into the events that led to his crucifixion on the cross. After weighing all the facts that he knew was about to unfold, he went three times to his father asking fervently if there was any other way that this mission could be accomplished that would substitute his sacrifice upon the cross. Then, when no answer came, he resigned himself to his father's will.

When I think about our Father's will for us, I can see the facts concerning all his plan for us. First of all, our Lord was sent on a mission from his Father to get mankind to see the facts about their present condition. The fact was, that nearly all of mankind were engaged in the sins that left unchecked would bring about their total destruction in a Lake of Fire one day. These, our Lord called the lost (Luke 19:10). Thus he came seeking and to save these whom were overcome by their sins.

So, when we examine the facts that are prevalent in this very time, we can see by the passing away of others that we also will face this day for ourselves. Then, after this death, there will come a day in God's time that we will all arise and face the facts concerning how we have lived here on the earth. Hebrews 9:27 declares these facts.

2 Corinthians 5:10 says all will face this tribunal before Jesus. But another fact is, that death and Judgment will not annihilate anyone. There is something called eternity that all have facing them, plus the fact that there are only two places in eternity that mankind will one day inhabit. Both are eternal. In **Mark 3:29**, we understand that if any man denies, scoffs, ridicules the work of the Holy Spirit, he "is in danger of eternal damnation." **Matthew 18:8** and **25:41** says the fire shall be "everlasting." Also, **Matthew 13:45** calls it a "furnace of fire."

Friends, the facts are, you surely do not wish that to be your end. Jude 6-16 says this is the vengeance and the executing of Judgment upon a world of ungodly sinners.

But, notice that the God and Christ that we can serve offers hope through obedience to his word, the forgiveness of sins, through repentance, confession, baptism for the putting away of our sins. How? When we are baptized unto Jesus, we are baptized unto his death. This is how we contact his shed blood. Then, being washed clean through the process, we are added to the Lord's church. Read Romans 6:3-5 and Acts 2:35-47. See if this is what the Bible says.

If we have faithfully obeyed these things and will continue to do this until we die, the facts are, 2 Peter 1:10-11, give diligence to make your calling and election sure for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Revelation 2:10 says, ". . . be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." So, Dear Reader, the facts remain, obey only what the Lord says and eternal Heaven is yours. Continue to ignore the truths and facts and you will live to regret it. Eternal life is just that, eternal! Call any time, 1-859-369-4165.

Sincerely, Bob Casey

Wanderings from the Woods & Water
 by **Jay Bicknell**
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FREE

I have been thinking about the word free a lot lately. What does free mean? Is anything free? What is the cost of free? The worker get nothing free for their sacrifice.

You might be asking why he is thinking about the word free. Well, it started a several weeks ago. I had a person tell me they made their living off of welfare. That statement really got me to thinking about free and the cost of free. Now I don't have a problem with people getting welfare that need it. I do have a problem with people thinking it's a way to make a living. I do have problem when a healthy able-bodied American gets welfare. I do have a problem when illegal immigrants get welfare. I do have a problem when junkies get welfare.

So, let's talk about free. A soldier sacrificed so Americans can live in Freedom (that I so appreciate). The same soldier must fight V.A. to get the healthcare they earned. While others don't have to pay a dime for healthcare that they didn't earn. A worker labors for a paycheck that they earned. When they find a lot missing via taxes. A lot of these taxes goes to pay for free phones and welfare. The soldier and

Full-time undergraduate students with a semester grade-point average of 3.4 to 3.79 are named to the Dean's List. Students with a GPA of 3.8 to 4.0 are named to the President's List.

WKU student from Irvine makes fall President's list

Western Kentucky University has released the Dean's and President's lists for the fall 2017 semester. Jacob C. Harris of Irvine was named to both the Dean's and President's Lists.

Americanisms



"... how little do my country men know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy."

-- Thomas Jefferson

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

PSALM 25:1-2

In you, **LORD** my **God**, I put my **trust**. I trust in **you**; do **not let** me be **put** to **shame**, **nor** let my **enemies triumph over** me.

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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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Seeds of Hope



Shortly before leaving for college my saintly pastor came to visit me and offer me a few words of advice on the importance of being well prepared to serve God. During our conversation he advised me to take every course that had anything to do with speaking or writing. "Larry," he said in a voice that reflected sincerity and compassion, "it does not matter how much you know about the Bible, if you can't explain it so people can understand it, accept it and live it, you'll be letting God down." It made good sense to me and I followed his recommendation carefully.

One of the classes I took emphasized the difficulty of people hearing what a speaker says and interpreting it correctly.

It is easy to hear what someone says but quite difficult to pass it on without changing the words and the meaning that the speaker intended. When this happens something is lost in "transmission" and it could be a matter of life and death if the message passed on is incorrect or inconsistent.

The importance of the integrity of God's message is clearly presented in Psalm 92:5, "Your statues stand firm!" That means "Whatever God said is so." His Word contains no errors, no mistakes and no information that can lead us astray if accepted as written. In fact, the word for statues emphasizes the fact that Scripture rests on the integrity of God our Creator. His statements, promises, warnings and commands are not to be changed to meet the desires of man but to proclaim and present the everlasting covenant between God and man.

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PS 232

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the Book of Darius in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In biblical times, how long did the journey of Ezra ordinarily take from Babylon to Jerusalem? 3 days, 4 months, 2 years, 5 years
3. From Philipians 4, what does the Apostle Paul instruct us to do

rather than worry? Cry, Pray, Love, Talk

4. What creature(s) did the prophet Joel have a vision of? Locust, Flies, Viper, Leeches

5. From John 18, who asked, "What is truth"? Moses, Paul, Pilate, David

6. In what were all of Job's children killed? Flood, Fire, Wind, Stampede

Answers on bottom of Page 9

Now available by Wilson Casey!
 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers from TouchPointPress.com

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...It is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:18



Detail of "Man in the City" by Hermann Scherer (1893-1927)

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Gamaliel's Counsel (Acts 5:38-42)

And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: 39But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.

40And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. 42And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

Sponsored by Crooked Creek Christian Church Inc.
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SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Dainty; 2. Robust;
3. Delay; 4. Cause

Today's Word

TODAY