

## Shall He Find Faith on The Earth?

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian church

**Luke 18:1-8**, Jesus had just told the parable of the unjust judge and the widow. The message of the story is that men should always pray, trusting God to answer the prayer of faith. At the end of the parable, in verse eight, he asked the question, "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" Looking at the world today I find the question more important than ever, even among the "Church."

He didn't say, "Shall I find a church on the earth," he spoke of faith. Is a church that has meetings, or services, but change, or leave out, the commands of God, really a church? People can carry a bible, dress nice, and go to a "church" but is it a church in God's eyes? **2 Timothy 3:4-5**, "Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." The scriptures speak of a worldly church that may look like it is serving God, but is a church in name only. **Revelation 3:1**, "And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write: These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars;

I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." There are several scriptures that show that God's idea of a church and man's is very different indeed.

Man often seems to think that ritual and ceremony, along with fancy buildings make a good church. God wants faith, love, mercy, and obedience in his church. Today the "church" is still divided in dozens of dominations with conflicting doctrines. Even among those with the same name there is often differences that separate those who say that they follow Jesus. Love? Where is it? I know that there are those who do love and try their best to follow the Lord, but in general I don't see it, do you?

Not only is there a lack of love for each other, I'm not sure there is the love for the Lord that we say that we have. Does a person who truly loves the Lord forsake the worship service? So many think that if they bless the Lord with their presence on Sunday morning then the rest of the day is theirs to do as they please. So many congregations have closed the doors on Wednesday night bible study and some on Sunday night services because so few bother to come. As the older generation passes on, it appears that the younger ones don't feel the need to come. If this continues, then we wonder how many congregations will be around when Jesus comes. His "people" may

be out shopping, visiting, or at some other activity when he comes, certainly there will be few in church, unless it happens on Sunday morning.

Will he find faith on the earth? Yes, he will. There are always some who dare to believe the Lord and to follow him. They may not be well thought of by the majority of the people or even by the majority of the church, but if the Lord is pleased, then all is well with them. A lot of believers, seem to think that they can be Christians by saying that they are Christians. They don't want to pray, read their bibles, or do any visiting of the sick, talking to the lost about the Lord, but they're alright, and they will tell you so.

The future of the church here on earth? I don't know, but I can't help but wonder about it. Few parents bring their children to church, or come themselves unless it is an occasional visit. When the older members die out, who will be in church? Then the question is, when the Lord comes who will go to heaven? Do those who say that they believe in God, but live for the world make up a body of believer that is pleasing to the Lord? **Titus 1:16**, "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate."

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### MORE WOMENS LID IN THE BIBLE! THE MAIDEN WHO KILLED A GENERAL....

ALTHOUGH WOMEN, IN BIBLICAL TIMES, WERE TREATED AS CHATTELS OF THEIR HUSBANDS—OWNED OUTRIGHT JUST LIKE SHEEP, CAMELS, AND OTHER PROPERTY—MANY TIMES THEY ACTED INDEPENDENTLY, LIKE DEBORAH, QUEEN ESTHER, AND MOSES' SISTER, MIRIAM. SUCH A ONE, ALSO, WAS JUDITH, HEROINE OF THE BOOK OF JUDITH, ONE OF THE APOCRYPHAL BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.

THE ASSYRIAN GENERAL, HOLOFERNES, ATTACKED THE JEWS, BESIEGING THE TOWN OF BETHULIA, WHERE THE PEOPLE DESPAIRED OF EVER BEING SAVED. JUDITH TOOK IT UPON HERSELF TO VISIT HOLOFERNES IN HIS CAMP, WHERE HE WAS IMMEDIATELY SMITTEN WITH HER BEAUTY! AFTER ENTERTAINING HIM FOR THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS IN HIS TENT, JUDITH, AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY, CUT OFF THE GENERAL'S HEAD AS HE SLEPT!

AS A RESULT, THE ASSYRIANS FLED—CUSTOMARY IN THOSE DAYS, WHEN AN ARMY LOST ITS LEADER—AND JUDITH WAS PROCLAIMED, FROM THAT DAY ON, THE FINEST EXAMPLE OF A PATRIOT BY THE ENTIRE JEWISH NATION.

**NEXT WEEK:**  
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(27)

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