

# Your Way or None

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Do you believe in God? Do you walk with him and try to keep his commandments? It is surprising how big a gap there is between those who say that they believe in God and those who live for him. Most people say that they believe in God, but there are a lot fewer who go to church and live for him. Why? I believe that for a lot of people it is because things in this life don't go as they would like for them to. It's as though they think that it should be like heaven now, here on earth. It is not, although the true believers desire that it would be.

People are disappointed by so many things in this life, and, as we all know, disappointments hurt. Sometimes we are confused and unable to understand when bad things happen especially to good people. It may be the death of a child or some other helpless person. When this happens the question of why is often asked. The thought behind it is that God knows all and is all powerful so why didn't he stop it from happening? Some lose a loved one and blame the Lord. They may stop going to church and feel that since God allowed the hurt to come, then there's no use going to worship. To such a person the Lord is not to be worshipped because he let life

bring pain and not the happy life that they wanted. If we look at the bible we can see that the saints suffered just like everyone else. There were times of persecution, death, and other trials in the lives of those who lived for God. Read **2 Corinthians 11:23-32** to see a partial list of Paul's trials. There are many examples of God's people suffering in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. Those who had real faith in the Lord continued to follow him until death. If we want a life of happiness and joy without any pain and sorrow we'll find it in heaven, not here in this world.

Some folks think that anyone who says that they are a Christian should be perfect and never err in any way, whether by word, thought, or deed. That sounds good and that is what we all should strive for, but the truth is that while we aim for it, we all come short of it. Why is it that way? The reason is simple - we are all in the flesh. **Galatians 5:17** and **Romans 7** describe the conflict between the flesh and the Spirit. A person who is a serious Christian will fail at times, although he doesn't want to. When he does, he will go to the Lord in prayer and confess to God. There is mercy with God and he forgives, even though man often will not. It is like a sign that I saw somewhere that said, "Christians aren't perfect, just forgiven." Still some folks will say that a Christian has to be without any faults, or he is a hypocrite. Since no one but Jesus is perfect such a person will not follow the Lord. They don't realize that if they put their faith in the Lord and tried

with all their might they too, would make mistakes. Yes, some folks will fail you, and that's part of life. Some will and they don't care, for they are not sincere about following Jesus. Others will fail and are very sorry that they did. God knows who tries to keep his word and those who don't care how they live. I have been a Christian since 14 June, 1974 and I have been disappointed by some folks and inspired by others. Also, I know that there have been times when I have said, or done, things that likewise have offended others, and for that I am very sorry. You, me, and everyone else need to put our faith in the Lord Jesus and in him alone, he is our example and not any man.

While I study the scriptures and know what the bible says about the weakness of the flesh, it still hurts to see people do things that are against God's word. I pray for them and hope that they pray for me. The one who causes me the most trouble and concern is Linville Dunaway. It hurts when others fail you, but the worst hurt is when you fail yourself and God. Paul said it this way, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin." **Romans 7:23-25**. None of us will be as good as we would like to be here in this body of flesh, and life will not go like we would like for it to be. Serve God and trust in him to save and to lead us to heaven. Any man who goes his own way will be lost.

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**Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI**

OPEN WIDE!

NO MENTION IS MADE IN THE BIBLE OF THAT SCOURGE OF MANKIND, THE TOOTHACHE! BUT AN ANCIENT SAYING PUT IT, "ONE CAN BUY ANYTHING IN THE MARKETS OF JERUSALEM FROM A CAMEL TO A FALSE TOOTH!" MODERN ARCHEOLOGICAL FINDINGS HAVE REVEALED SKULLS WITH EVIDENCE OF DENTAL TREATMENT AND REPAIRS, AND SOME EGYPTIAN MUMMIES HAVE BEEN EXCAVATED COMPLETE WITH GOLD-FILLED MOLARS. IN FACT, EGYPTIAN DESCRIPTIONS OF DENTISTRY METHODS ARE IN THEIR RECORDS DATING AS FAR BACK AS 3700 B.C.!



ABOUT 500 B.C., HERODOTUS MENTIONED ANIMAL TEETH BEING FILED DOWN TO FILL A GAP IN THE HUMAN MOUTH. THESE SUBSTITUTE TEETH, HOWEVER, WERE CEMENTED IN BETWEEN TWO OTHER TEETH AND NOT USED IN BRIDGES, BUT BY EARLY ETRUSCAN TIMES, ETRUSCAN SKELETONS REVEAL TEETH HOOKED TOGETHER WITH GOLD BANDS, THE EARLY FORE-RUNNER OF THE MODERN DENTAL BRIDGE. SO OUR ANCIENT SAYING WAS, IN ALL PROBABILITY, TRUE—ONE COULD BUY DENTURES IN THE MARKET PLACES AND BAZAARS OF ANCIENT JERUSALEM!

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