

**"THE WORDS OF THE LORD ARE PURE WORDS, LIKE SILVER TRIED IN
A FURNACE OF EARTH, PURIFIED SEVEN TIMES.
YOU SHALL KEEP THEM, O LORD, YOU SHALL PRESERVE THEM FROM
THIS GENERATION FOREVER." (PSALM 12: 6 & 7)**

Oak Hill Ministries ■ 2115 Graefenburg Road ■ Lawrenceburg, KY 40342
December 20, 2006

**JESUS CHRIST
The
ALPHA and OMEGA**

**"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with
God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh
and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as
of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."
(John 1: 1 & 14)**

**"I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no
God."
(Isaiah 44:66)**

**Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before
Abraham was, I AM."
(John 8:58)**

**"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the
End, the First and the Last."
(Revelation 22:13)**

**"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot
bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, neither
can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine and you
are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him,
bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."
(John 15:4 & 5)
Emphasis Added**

"Amen"

Dear Saints, let us all be reminded that when it comes to God's relationship with man, He had the "first" word, and He will have the "last" word! When God first spoke to man in the Garden, man received His word as a little child and obediently walked in it. Man's response to Father's word was simply -- "Yes Father , Amen". God and man were in perfect unity through the Living Word. All was well upon the earth and God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good (Genesis 1:31). Then came the "hiss of hell".

The very first shot fired in the war for the souls of men was to question God's word. Lucifer asked Eve; "Has God indeed said _ _ _?" When Eve responded to Lucifer's question by quoting God's word correctly (she had heard and obeyed up to that point), Lucifer challenged God's word and tempted Eve to do the same. We know the rest of the story. Not only do we know the story, we are living out the consequences of Eve's rebellion against God's word as each day passes.

Man was enjoying life, as Father meant life to be enjoyed with Him. Then man applied his reasoning to God's word and came to what he considered a reasonable conclusion. He then followed the dictates of his own heart. At that point, man lost his innocence before God and became a rebel – an enemy of God's Kingdom. His sentence was death! Man was defenseless – guilty and condemned! Holy Justice demanded death and death it was! All because man turned a deaf ear to God's word. Man never has, and never will fare well when he walks in opposition to God's word. When God's people disobey God, they need not expect Him to bless them for their disobedience. He never will! In fact, He will always withdraw His blessings as a direct result of our disobedience and failure to confess and repent of such spiritually prideful behavior.

Today, God's people have lost, for the most part, the fuller Biblical blessings of God. Blessings of deliverance, restoration, healing, unity, peace of mind and prosperity of the spirit, are in short supply, if they exist at all. Truly, we have become, as it is written: a people who –

"have a form of godliness but denying (by our fruit) its power."

(2 Timothy 3:5a)

"Professing to know God, but in works (our fruit) they deny Him," (Titus 16a)

I find that today the vast majority of Christians that I come into contact with do not want to hear about our spiritual shortcomings. They will ask the question – "Why are you always preaching to the choir?" -- "Where is your joy?" – "Why are you so negative, so critical of the church, so judgmental?" These, and similar questions, are directed to me on a fairly regular basis. They used to bother me a great deal. I do still listen to them and ask Father if they are coming from Him. However, so far the message that He implanted in me 20+ years ago continues to gain intensity within my soul. Our Father simply loves us too much to leave us in our present condition of spiritual decline without continually warning us to wake up.

I am more persuaded today than ever, that God desires a people who walk on resurrection ground in purity and holiness – a people who reflect His likeness and image – a people who love Him with all of their heart, all of their soul, with all their mind (Matthew 22:37) – a people who are worthy to be the Bride of Christ.

I am more convinced now, than ever, that our Father desires a people that He can express Himself through for the sole purpose of bringing Himself glory before all the earth. (2 Corinthians 1:20). I am totally convinced that Father desires and demands that He have a people whose heart's desire is for Him alone and is expressed through their allegiance to Him, even unto death. Father's desire today, as it relates to His people, is the same as it has always been from the very beginning. That desire is for a people who love His word, who desire in their heart to obey His word and who keep their eyes – heart – soul and spirit fixed on Him as the Head – the Alpha and the Omega of their very existence.

Sadly, the vast majority of we Christians today carry no such vision in our heart of our Father's desire for us. We have taken our eyes off the Head and fixed them on "self", and our desires. In addition, we have turned from the Head to the body – the church – as far as our allegiance and loyalty is concerned. We still use His name quite liberally on our programs, our institutions, entertainment, and our agendas, both known and hidden. We have become a headless body, much like a chicken with its head cut off, flopping around in all directions, split and divided into an estimated 22,000 separate denominations and sects. Each believing that they are pleasing God. And still, from this powerless body, in the death throws of division and separation from the Head, the question is raised: Why are you so critical? Why are you always preaching to the Choir? Where is your joy? When we ask these questions, what are we really saying? What is being heard in the heavens?

I am persuaded that such questions arise from hearts that have little, if any, true fear of God in them and almost no faith in His word. Except where it satisfies the desires of "self" and the affections of the flesh. This "self worship" is so strong within us, that we refuse to hear Father's prophetic voice that pleads with us to turn back to the Head. Rather, we choose to focus on the body, on body ministry, and body building (church growth) and on body preservation. Without realizing it, our allegiance and devotion has turned to the body and away from the Head; we have become "body worshipers." Lucifer must be exceedingly pleased with our behavior as we reflect to the rest of the world our "self image", rather than the fullness of Jesus Christ, the Head of all principality and power. Lucifer must be especially delighted to watch us relegate Jesus Christ to a position that violates His very own word.

**"He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.
(Ephesians 1:22&23)**

**"For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones."
(Ephesians 5:30)**

**"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn overall creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence."
(Colossians 1:15-18)**

Think about it saints; those of you who are married; if your wife or your husband showed more devotion, more affection and more allegiance for another man or another woman than for you, how would you feel? Would you accept their adulterous behavior as they used your name in the process? Do you honestly before God, believe that Jesus Christ who is at this very moment sitting on His throne, is pleased with our behavior? Are we, as a whole, a wife – a bride – reflecting our Husbands likeness and image? Do we bring to Him glory and honor before the world or shame and reproach? May God have mercy on us all?

A few years ago a deacon of a local church came by my office for a visit. As we talked, the subject of a pastor's infidelity came up. The deacon was on the board of the church involved. It was all hushed up in the church, but common knowledge on the street. I raised the question of why the matter was not handled strictly by God's word in an attitude of meek humility and deep repentance. I shall never forget his response to me. As he stood up to leave, he looked me straight in the eye and he said, "Tom, you do not understand. It is all about protecting the ministry."

"It is all about protecting the ministry." It is all about the body – protecting her employees – protecting her programs – protecting her image before the world. It is all about protecting her control over her members. Yes, of course, it is more than anything, about protecting and preserving her income stream, which now is numbered in the Billions of dollars in the U.S. alone. As horrible, as ugly, as unpleasant and as un-Godlike as it is – That is the truth, whether we like it or not! If there has ever been a season in time where the church should call a sacred assembly, call a halt to body worship and enter a time of deep – deep – deep repentance – it is now. Yes, God's people in the past have behaved worse than we have, but never has a people of God been given as much as we have and responded with such indifference, with such religious arrogance, and with such a total disregard for God's word. Never!

**"That servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required."
(Luke 12: 47 & 48)**

Given the fact that God has provided us with His written record, and made it so easy for us to have access to that Holy Word – Given the fact that He has been so patient and long suffering with us as we rebel against His word – What excuse will we have as each one of us – one by one – is called upon to give an account of our behavior? Will God have widened the gate to accommodate all the members of the 22,000 + denominations and sects that have used His name? Will He have widened the gate to accommodate all those of us who have worshipped the body and sworn our allegiance to its leaders? Will He have widened the gate to accommodate our spiritual idolatry, self worship and religious pride? Will God have widened the gate that leads into eternity with Him to accommodate the error of those who call themselves under-shepherds or leaders of God's people? Will He? Did He let Adam off the hook just because Eve was deceived?

Think about it – your entire future will depend upon the answer to these questions. Each one of us is staking eternity on our response to God's word. Not the preacher's word – Not the teacher's word – Not the Pope's word – Not the Bishop's word, and not my word. Jesus Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, the King of all Kings and the Lord of all Lords has declared:

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6)

“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)

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

“Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the Kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?”

**“And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!” (Matthew 7:13, 14, 21, 22, & 23)
Emphasis Added**

There we have the answer to our questions. From the very lips of “I AM” we are clearly told that He and He alone is our Gate, our Way, our Truth. Intellectual accent, the use of His name, and our religious works are of no value to us in the end – unless we are one with Him in our heart. Again, He makes this very clear to us:

“He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.” (Matthew 10: 37-39)

Father has always, from the very beginning, desired to be our King – our Lord – Our Savior – Our Head. Jesus Christ came to us and confirmed His desire to be One with each of us, personally. (Matthew 23: 8-10, John 14:20, and John 15:5) If we are ever to walk in His fullest blessing on this earth, it will only happen as we turn back to Him as our Head. He alone is sufficient for each of us. He does not require that we add anything to our access to Him -- not works – not some man as an intermediary – not the observance of some religious tradition – not perfect obedience – No! No! No! He only requires that we come to Him – to Him alone as the Head, the beginning and the end of our very existence. That we come to Him as a little child in meek humility and receive, by faith, His word, spoken to us –

**“I AM your peace”.
“I AM your joy”.
“I AM your deliverance”.
“I AM your protection.”
“I AM your healing”.**

“I AM your prosperity”.
“I AM your unity”.
“I AM your knowledge”.
“I AM your wisdom”.
“I AM your understanding”.
“I AM your salvation”.
”I AM your love”.

“All your needs are met in, by and through Me. Apart from Me, you have no other need. You are complete in Me. I AM your abba Father, your Daddy. Worship no other person, thing or entity. Walk with Me, talk with Me and allow Me to reveal more of Myself to you --- I love you son! I love you daughter!.

“I AM your ALPHA and your OMEGA”!

©All rights reserved

May God bless us all,

Your brother, Tom

**P.S.
Please visit our website: oakhillministries.org.**

"EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE; HE IS A SHIELD TO THOSE WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN HIM. DO NOT ADD TO HIS WORDS, LEST HE REBUKE YOU, AND YOU BE FOUND A LIAR." (PROVERBS 30:5 & 6)