

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR



Pastor and Mrs. Collingsworth

## What's Missing?

<u>INTRODUCTION:</u> In *Mark 10:21*, when the rich young ruler came to Jesus wanting to know what to do to inherit eternal life, he gave a list of things he had done. Jesus then said, "*One thing thou lackest.*" Jesus was saying "There's still something missing."

Even though we may be unaware of certain things missing in our life, we know that God sees us as we are. So, what we need to do, is see those things that are missing.

#### FIRST: PRIORITIES ARE MISSING IN MOST PEOPLE.

**MATTHEW 16:26** 

"For what is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

Our Lord Jesus Christ urges all of us to realize how important it is to settle our eternity. The soul is lost when we reject Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour. Jesus is the only way for us to receive eternal life. (*John 10:28*).

The sad truth is, that most prefer to win the world even if it drowns them in self-destruction.

#### SECOND: PERCEPTION IS MISSING IN MANY.

MATTHEW 16:3

"...ye can discern the face of the sky; but ye cannot discern the signs of the times?"

The weather is used more than any other item to strike up a conversation, but try to bring up the Bible in conversation, even if it reveals current events and watch how quickly the subject is changed.

The unsaved person is missing everything that is spiritual. That's why the unsaved need to be born-again to understand truth. (*I Corinthians 2:14*)

On the other hand, the person who is saved should be responsive to the Bible, and if he is not, there are clear reasons:

- Hindering the Holy Spirit.
- Resisting the Holy Spirit.
- Sin in their life.
- Just plain lazv.

One clear sign of the God of the Bible is the unbelievable changes in the lives of those that have placed their faith in Jesus Christ. It is

obvious that Jesus Christ has transformed them.

In spite of all the evidence, man is missing the discernment to see the hand of God at work.

#### THIRD: PLAIN COMMON-SENSE IS MISSING IN SOME. MATTHEW 16: 9-12

There is such a lack of understanding today even among other Christians. Here in these verses, even disciples did not appear to grasp clear teachings from Christ Himself.

The average Christian today is so ignorant of the Bible it is ridiculous. It is a shame.

There are some professed Christians today that believe more of what a newspaper teaches than accept the clear-taught teachings of Scripture.

Continued

#### Is Hell Literal Fire?



John R. Rice

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."—Matt 25:41

Is there a literal, physical fire in Hell? Will lost sinners in Hell suffer literal, physical torment of body, the torment of fire?

The Bible repeatedly, from one end to the other, teaches that Hell is a place of fire. The modernists and liberalists teach that there is no Hell. Many who claim to be fundamentalists or conservatives say that the Bible passages teaching a physical Hell with literal fire are figurative in meaning. This is, I believe, because they have not studied the matter afresh for themselves in the Bible, but have simply accepted the current teachings without seeing for themselves what God has said.

But it has resulted that the whole Christian world has lost its fear of Hell, and with it has lost the soul-winning passion. To Christians all over the world, Hell has cooled. That means that Calvary means less, there is less emphasis on redemption by the blood of Christ, there is less teaching about sin, very little warning of judgment, and almost universal powerlessness and fruitlessness on the part of Christians. Our hearts are turning toward modernism while our heads still accept the letter of the Bible. At the same time, the unbelieving world tends more and more to scoffing and scorn about the things of God.

Thus it seems necessary for Christians to make a renewed study of the Bible doctrine of Hell. Oh, if there is a literal Hell of eternal torment, if it has real fire in it, and if poor lost souls will suffer eternally in physical torment as well as mental torment in this physical Hell of literal fire, then we ought to know it!

#### **Our Church Ministries**

- 1. Fishermens' Club
- 2. Phoster Club
- 3. Bus Ministry
- Sunday School
- 5. Welcome Wagon
- 7. Music Ministry
- 6. Bookstore
- 8. Counseling Ministry 10. Heritage Baptist Academy

9. Grounds & Maintenance

- 11. Nursery
- 12. Boys Bible Club
- 13. Girls Highlander Club
- 14. Cleaning Ministry
- 15. Teen Club
- 16. Junior Church
- 17. Ladies' WMS Ministry
- 18. Ushers
- 19. Altar Workers
- 20. Greeters

#### Fall Treat

2 lbs. fresh strawberries, trimmed and Pinch kosher salt sliced

3 to 4 tbsp. sugar, divided

1 tsp. lemon zest

4 oz. purchased vanilla meringue cookies (such as Trader Joe's)

1 cup heavy cream

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Place berries in a medium bowl. Sprinkle to 3 tablespoons sugar (use more if berries are slightly underripe, less if they're juicy), the lemon zest and salt. Gently fold with a silicone spatula. Let stand at room temperature 1 hour, folding occasionally.

Meanwhile, break meringues into irregular pieces. (One method: Set each meringue on the countertop and press firmly with the heel of your hand.) You should have about 2 2/3 cups.

Place cream, 1 tablespoon sugar and the vanilla in a mixing bowl. Beat with a mixer on medium speed until stiff peaks form (tips stand straight).

To assemble: Divide half the broken meringues (and their crumbs) among six bowls or good-size (12ounce) drinking glasses. Top with half of the berries, then half the whipped cream. Repeat layers, ending with cream. Chill 30 to 60 minutes before serving, Makes 6 servings. Prep tip: To serve a party, double the recipe and layer ingredients in a glass trifle bowl.

#### The Sword Of The Spirit Ephesians 6:17

In today's Christianity, there has 'been a downplaying of the importance of God's Word. Some evangelical "preachers" are questioning the relevance of God's Word while others promote a Christianity based solely on feelings. Both lead to Christians living in defeat. Living a victorious Christian life is not possible without the whole armor of God. As a soldier of God, Christians must be completely equipped, which includes having the Sword of the Spirit. The sword that we are to carry is the Word of God.

Paul was well acquainted with the uniform of a Roman soldier. A fully equipped Roman Dr. Greg soldier was armed with a shield (scutum), one or two javelins (pila), and a sword (gladius).

The gladius generally was made out of steel. It could be two-edged, extremely sharp, and mainly used to thrust. The owner's name was often engraved or punched on the blade. Paul's comparison of the Christian's Sword of the Spirit to the Roman gladius offers us some essential principles concerning its importance. Comparing Scripture to Scripture, we can learn how to use the Sword of the Spirit in our battle against the enemy.

#### FOURTH: PREPARATION IS CERTAINLY MISSING.

AMOS 4:12

"Prepare to Meet thy God"

If you were to die today, what would you be lacking in preparation? Would you awaken in the presence of God, or in an eternal Hell? The choice was always yours to make.

**Conclusion:** What would it take to get you to examine your relationship with God right now?

#### **Prayer of Salvation**

If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven?

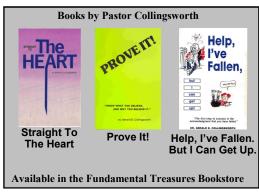
If not, would you be willing to pray this prayer with me?

"Dear Jesus, I'm asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I'm trusting you,
Jesus, as my Saviour. Thank you for saving me. Amen." (Romans 10:9 and 10:13)



### **Prayer of Service**

"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6)



"If you want a better preacher, pray for the one you have. One of you will change." unknown

I MET A MICROBIOLOGIST THE OTHER DAY. HE WAS MUCH BIGGER THAN I EXPECTED.

#### DON'T QUIT!

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will: When the road you're trudging seems all uphill: When the funds are low and the debts are high And you want to smile, but you have to sigh: When care is pressing you down a bit. Rest if you must - but never quit!

Life is strange with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns;
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won if he stuck it out.
Stick to your task though the pace seems slow—
You may succeed with one more blow.

Success is failure turned inside out—
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt—
And you never can tell how close you are;
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit.
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

Dr. Bob Gray

# Let's Go Soul Warning! Seven times in Ezekiel 3, God uses the words warning or warn when speaking to the

watchman of Israel. In verse 18, God tells us the result of not warning the wicked is "...his blood will I require at thine hand." God repeats this emphasis in Ezekiel 33. Mark 16:15 says, "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." This Scripture does not instruct God's people to win anyone. It does remind us of our responsibility to warn everybody about an eternal Hell and an eternal Heaven. Soul winning is not about saving souls. It is the opposite of soul losing. Jesus Christ is the only One who can save a soul from Hell. We are to introduce lost people to the Saviour and win them over to Him. In order to do this, we must actively pursue the lost with warnings.

Someone will refuse to go soul winning because he does not want to embarrass himself by returning without anyone trusting Christ. The one time he did go, he had to listen to the other soul winners tell about ail the people they were privileged to lead to Christ. After they talked about all the people they saw saved, they turned to him and asked how many he had saved. So, he just decided he would stay home so he would not be embarrassed. Yet, the truth is, no one will have bloody hands because he does not win people to Christ; rather, he will have bloody hands because he did not warn people.

The most productive way to make sure the Gospel is given to a lost world is by pursuing the lost. When God's people are actively spreading the Gospel to the lost, then and only then will there be productivity.

Dr. John R. Rice reintroduced personal soul winning to fundamentalism. Dr. Jack Hyles became one of the earliest forces in fundamentalism to carry aggressive soul winning into the local church setting. As a result, he saw significant growth in the number of personal soul winners in his own church as well as around the country. We are living off the impact of these two great men of God. We are enjoying the benefits of two men who crisscrossed this nation challenging men, women, boys, and girls to be active personal soul winners. This is God's plan!

# Something to "CROW" about!

- 1. Heritage Baptist Church had someone saved every week for 34 years.
- 2. Heritage Baptist Church has not closed our Sunday School, Sunday Morning, Sunday Night, or mid-week service in 34 years—including two years of COVID.

  3. Heritage Baptist Church will be hosting the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual "Old-Time Religion" Conference
- on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

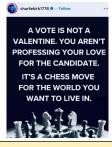






Every man thinks every woman's dream is to find the perfect man. Please. Every woman's dream is to eat without gaining weight!

I BOUGHT A THESAURUS, BUT WHEN I GOT HOME AND OPENED IT. ALL THE PAGES WERE BLANK. I HAVE NO WORDS TO DESCRIBE HOW ANGRY I AM.







#### From our Pastor's Wife ... Mrs. Vida Collingsworth "Apply As Directed"

Every month in our Christian school we memorize a passage of Scripture. This past month, our passage was Colossians 3:16-25.

Every summer as I prepare our Scripture memory list for the year, I pray and as the Holy Spirit to direct me as I plan and prepare this list. I am still continually amazed to see how God gives me so much of what I need, just at the time I need

it, through these passages. As I read Colossians 3:16, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in your richly in all wisdom..." became a wonderful prescription for me.

Having worked in doctors' offices before, I was aware of how people treated their medication. Many times patients would not take their medication, or they would skip doses, or they would take it until they felt better and not completely take the prescribed amount. I thought about how often we treat God's Word in the same manner. We carry our Bible with us but we do not read it, or we read it now-and-then (skipping doses), or read it to make us feel better (just enough to say we did our duty!) - just putting on the 'topical ointment.' We don't really take the full prescription and let the Word of God dwell deep within us.

Recently, I have been reminded to "Believe God" and to really trust His Word. Trusting man will always bring disappointment, for we are human flesh, but trusting Jesus and His Word brings only joy. It does matter how we apply it. A topical, surface application will never do. We must let the Word of Christ dwell in us deeply!

Colossians 3:16, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom: teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts for the Lord."

#### **Get Back To The Bible**



It was a good day for me when I decided that I was going to make my final authority the Word of God. I was taught in Southern Baptist schools to believe that the Southern Baptist program was it. One day I decided to just read my Bible and reorganize my church. I did. I decided to get the book of Acts and read it word for word to see what the New Testament church was all about. I cast aside all the tradition I had been taught, all the jargon I had been taught, all the catechisms to which I had been taught to swear allegiance, and I decided I was going to try to find out what kind of church the New Testament church really was.

Dr. and Mrs. Hyles

Dr. Curtis Hutson gave the best compliment to First Baptist Church of Hammond that has ever been given in the Sword of the Lord. He said that he was here for Pastors' School.

He told how many conversions and baptisms we had the Sunday before. Then he said, "If God were writing the book of Acts today, He would write about the First Baptist Church of Hammond." That's the ultimate compliment.

You see, I decided that I was going to get my Bible down and decide what I thought the New Testament church was scripturally; then, that's what I was going to have in my church. I believe with all of my soul that the First Baptist Church of Hammond is as near as is humanly possible to being what the church in Jerusalem was 2,000 years ago. Where did I get that? I got it from the Bible. Do you know why we are scattered abroad winning souls all over this area? It's because the church in Jerusalem was "scattered abroad," and they "went every where preaching the word." (Acts 8:4) Do you know why we go house to house, knocking on doors? We do it because it says in Acts 5:42, "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." We do it because that's what they did in the Bible.

Somebody says, "Well, we have different kinds of churches. You have a soul-winning church, and we have a deeper-life church." In the first place, it's a lie. There's no life as deep as a soul-winning life. However, they say, "We just have different kinds of churches." No, we don't. We have a church, and you don't! Brother, the Bible is our charter to exist. If the Bible is not your final authority in practice and doctrine, then you are not a church. You might have the word "church" on the outside, but you are not a church.



#### FOR MY GOOD AND FOR HIS GLORY

One of my favorite verses to meditate upon, especially in difficult times, is **Psalm 46:10**. The beginning of the verse says, "**Be still, and know that I am God..**" When broken down and put into action, this verse can be a guide for surviving our trials. **Ba still** 

In other words, we must quiet ourselves. Turn off the electronics. Get away from the noise. Stop thinking and do not make any decisions.

Crystal Collingsworth

...and know...

Stop doubting. Start trusting. Remember that God always keeps His promises to us, even when we have forgotten them.

...that I am God...

He is not the "I was" or the "I will be." He is the "I AM!" He is King, Lord, Master, Healer, Almighty, and the list continues. When we look to the Bible for answers, we should take the time to understand what God tells us, then we should act upon it.

#### A Little Pulpit Humor

It seems that the guest preacher's sermon had a very happy ending because everybody was glad when it was finally over.

Another man came to the church to preach a trial sermon, and the people reported that it was "very trying." Introducing a guest preacher, the deacon said, "I will not give a long, boring speech; our speaker will take care of that himself."



Hannah Senesh

### Lest We Forget

#### **Hannah Senesh**

She is among the most courageous Jews of those who chose to leave the comparative safety of what was then Palestine to join the fight against fascism in Europe.

Hungarian partisan and poet Hannah Senesh had emigrated to the future Jewish homeland in 1939 to escape Nazi persecution, but then chose to enlist in the British army in 1943 as a paratrooper. The following year she was dropped into and joined Tito's partisans in the task of organizing resistance activities and

occupied Yugoslavia and joined Tito's partisans in the task of organizing resistance activities and rescuing Allied soldiers and airmen trapped behind enemy lines. But while attempting to cross the border into Hungary so that she could assist in the rescue of Hungarian Jews, she was captured, imprisoned and tortured. She was executed on November 7, 1944, without betraying her comrades.

Some food for thought ...or...

# Seed From The Silo!

#### CALIFORNIA PARENTAL NOTIFICATION BAN DRAWS INSTANT LEGAL CHALLENGES

The moment California Governor Gavin Newsom (D) signed his name to a bah (AB 1955) on school parental notification policies, [his action invited a challenge!. The very day, Liberty Justice Center (LJC) filed a lawsuit on behalf of Chino Valley USD. Chino Valley USD school board president Sonja Shaw called the bill "an egregious attack on parents' God-given and constitutional rights."

"School officials do not have the right to keep secrets from parents, but parents do have a constitutional right to know what their minor children are doing at school/ declared LJC senior counsel Emily Rae. "Parents are the legal guardians of their children, not Governor Newsom, Attorney General Bonta, or Superintendent Thurmond."

EDITOR'S COMMENT: Newsom and the legislature should have expected a challenge, but the liberal mindset seems to always be a "few quarts low" of common sense.

Joshua Arnold, The Washington Stand

#### COURT BLOCKS HHS RULE FOR STATE-FUNDED MEDICAL MUTILATION

A federal judge in Mississippi has ordered a nationwide injunction blocking a new Biden administration rule from forcing states to use taxpayer dollars to pay for harmful puberty blockers, hormones and mutilating surgeries.

Fifteen states sued the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). According to the ruling, the judge sided with the states, which alleged that the HHS was attempting to form a "regime" of health regulators committed to "gender ideology over medical reality," and applied the injunction to all states.

This ruling marks the fourth federal court in the last several weeks to strike down Final Rules from the Biden administration.

—Liberty Counsel

#### PHARMACIES SELLING ABORTION PILL

Walgreens and CVS will begin selling the lethal abortion pill with a prescription this month. This means that in pro-abortion states like California, Illinois, and Connecticut, a teen with a doctors note can receive the abortion pill in her local pharmacy, all without her parent's knowledge. Expansion

of the abortion pill into local pharmacies has already killed tens of thousands of preborn children.

The U. S. Supreme Court will soon hear the most important pro-life case since overturning Roe v.

Wade. The Court will decide whether dangerous telemedicine abortions and the distribution of abortion pills by mail and pharmacies can continue nationwide.

—Live Action

What Kind Of Seed Are You Sowing?



# Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye! 2023 Turkey Shoot Champions



<u>Fathers' 1st Place</u> <u>Gerald</u> <u>Collingsworth</u>



<u>Fathers' 2nd Place</u> <u>Jeff Oswald</u>



Sons' 1st Place Ethan Spencer



Side No.

Sons' 2nd Place Jacob Gregory

Top guns:

Pastor Collingsworth —5 First Place and 5 Second Place Ken Watson — 3 First Place and 4 Second Place Jeff Berezne — 3 First Place and 1 Second Place



Who Will Be Top Gun in 2024?
29<sup>th</sup> Annual Father & Son Turkey Shoot
And Chili Supper
Saturday November 9th

Saturday, November 9th
From 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM





## **Our Statement of Faith**

We accept the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice. *Psalm 12:6-7, I Peter 1:23* 

We believe in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons–Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Matt.* 28:19-20 We believe in the deity of Christ– His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily

resurrection, His exaltation at God"s right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillenial return.

I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:11

We believe that all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour. **Romans 3:23**We believe that men are born again through faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

#### Acts 16:30-31, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 1:13, John 10:28

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world. *John 5:28-29, Luke 16:22-23, Rev. 20:11-15* 

We believe that Baptist churches were the first churches of Christianity and that Jesus founded a Baptist church. *John 1:35-37, Acts 1:22* 

## **Baptist Beliefs**

# Baptist Heritage

- **B**iblical Authority
- Autonomy of the Local Church
- Priesthood of ALL Believers
- Two ordinances Baptism & Communion
- I mmersed Church Membership
- S oul-liberty
- Two officers Pastors and Deacons
- S eparation of Church and State

- John the Baptist, Exalter of Christ
- Meno Simons (1496-1561), Dutch Anabaptist leader
- Roger Williams (1603-1683), Founded the first Baptist church in America in Providence, Rhode Island in 1638.
- John Clarke (1609-1676) was a Baptist preacher, medical doctor, and co-founder of the colony of Rhode Island. He was a driving force to get religious freedom into the charter of Rhode Island.
- John Bunyan (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim''s Progress*
- Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892), might be the greatest Baptist pastor in England
- John Franklyn Norris (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- Jack Frasure Hyles (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year and might be the greatest Baptist pastor

#### Heritage Baptist Church

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