

# Spring Has Sprung



**by Dawn Reed**  
**Eastern Ky. Columnist**

barn?  
When the Baby grew, joy abounded all over the countryside. Spring had finally come! New life was everywhere! He healed the lame and gave sight to the blind. He fed the hungry and taught the crowds about His Father. But there were some who didn't want these wonderful things. They did not need a Savior, they thought. He was rocking the boat. They would put a stop to all of this madness, they decided.

And they did. But only because the Messiah allowed it. He is omniscient, which means "all-knowing". He had known all along how it would go.

On Good Friday, it must have seemed like winter. The sky turned dark in the afternoon. Surely, there was a chill in the air. The Savior of the world had been crucified. Right there in front of everyone. It had been horrific, a nightmare, and now He was gone. He was taken down from the cross, wrapped tenderly in cloth and placed in a borrowed tomb. Friends and family stumbled home trying to make sense of all that had happened.

But . . . on the third day . . . life

as we know it changed forever! The spring of all springs came to Jerusalem, to the world!

Early Sunday morning, when the women went to the tomb, they found that the stone had been rolled away and the tomb was empty. They had never seen or talked to an angel before. He told them Jesus was not there, that He was alive! Minds. Blown. Then the angel gave them marching orders: go and tell. Did they squeal? Did they cry? Did they skip on their way?

I L-O-V-E that Luke 24 tells of the exchange, "When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others..." Verse 11 is my favorite: "But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed like nonsense." Not the first/last time THAT happened!

It may seem that winter is lingering cold, dark and too long in your life. You want spring in your heart and new life in your bones. Please know that Jesus is ALIVE and ready to give you a fresh start, to melt the snow in your soul that has held you down for too long.

Winter is over. Spring has come and brought a risen Savior!

## BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore **God exalted** him to the **highest place** and **gave** him the **name** that is **above** every name, **that** at the name of **Jesus** every **knee** should **bow**, in **heaven** and on **earth** and **under** the earth, and **every tongue** acknowledge that Jesus **Christ** is **Lord**, to the **glory** of God the **Father**.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

C P L J N A B O V E  
G L O R Y G D H F F  
E A R T H E V A G T  
F C D G T G T M S H  
N E O L R H N I T I  
A D A E E E R O E G  
M X D R V H N R V H  
E N W A C G K N E E  
U O E S U S E J R S  
B H Q E T H A T Y T

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

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

©2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Bible Word Search Answer on Page 12

## Once Saved, Always Saved Is This Without Exceptions?

**by BOB CASEY, preacher**  
**Cornerstone Church of Christ**  
70 Bond Street at Camp Avenue in West Irvine

I can't remember the times that folks have said this very thing in defense of their lifestyle, but, is it true? It would be wonderful to all who claim salvation through one plan or another, because this statement actually is saying that one may not be held accountable for sins committed after they have supposedly been converted. It it were true, then every obedient Christian would never have anything to fear by any sins committed by them.

In **Acts 8:9-24**, Simon the magician, working witchcraft among the Samaritans, heard the Gospel preached, believed it, and he obeyed it by being baptized and for some length of time, he followed the Apostles. So, by reading the text, we can clearly see that he was considered an obedient Christian. Then in Verse 18, sin arose in Simon in so much that he wanted the gift that was given to the Apostles only, desiring no doubt to make a lot of money by doing so. Then, what happened? Peter said, "Thy money perish with thee." He went on to say, "Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God." Then Peter called upon him to "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee." He added, "I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity" (lawlessness). Then, Simon asked the Apostles to "pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me."

Now, some may argue from dust to dawn that this man was never saved in the first place, but they can never prove it from the Scriptures because Acts 2:38 refutes it. This man no doubt had fallen from the Lord because of the sin of lust and greed for money had overtaken him.

But, the Scriptures are full of warnings that we should ever be on guard because "the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." <sup>1</sup> Peter 2:8 Paul says in **1 Corinthians 10:12**, "Where-

fore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

The writer of Hebrews wrote very strongly to the Jewish brethren not to tempt the Lord by refusing to live up to their commitment. In **Hebrews 3:6**, he wrote, "But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end." Then in **Verse 12**, he adds, "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." He goes on to say in **Verses 13-14**, "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." <sup>14</sup>For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end."

So then, the Scriptures give us examples and warnings to tell us to avoid sins that if continued and go unrepented of, will destroy us at the end. One of the saddest comments regarding those who do not believe sins unrepented of will destroy one, only need to read **2 Peter 2:20-21**, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning." <sup>21</sup>For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them." Then he uses the nature of dogs and hogs to prove his point.

Friends, we will all have to fight the fight of faith as long as we live, but to let our guard down to believe that we cannot sin away our security with Christ, is a misleading idea.

Paul, in **Romans 7**, tells us of his warfare between the Spirit and the flesh (**Verses 23-25**), saying, "But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members." <sup>24</sup>wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? <sup>25</sup>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."

So, don't be misled into the idea that we can "sin up a storm" and never be held accountable as a Christian. For further conversation, call any time, 1-WACO-369-4165.

Sincerely, Bob Casey

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Nehemiah in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From 1 Kings 11, what was the number of wives and princesses, along with 300 concubines of King Solomon? 3, 50, 100, 700

3. When he had a vision, who said "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean"? Adam, Reuben,

Samson, Peter

4. From Acts 7, who was the first person martyred for his belief in Jesus Christ? Apollos, John the Baptist, Jehu, Stephen

5. When he met King Abimelech, Abraham pretended that Sarah was his ...?

Mother, Neighbor, Sister, Daughter

6. Besides Jonah, what other prophet ministered in Nineveh? Nathan, Paul, Nahum, Philip

**Answers on bottom of Page 13**

**"Test Your Bible knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.**

## Seeds of Hope



It is well known that time has a way of bringing about a "lapse in memory." Many of the important events in our lives - especially when God has intervened in a very dramatic way - have been forgotten over the years. Yes, there are moments when they come to mind, but for the most part, unless we record them somewhere they are forgotten. Certainly this is a shortcoming for many of us and it would be good if we had a "remember this" list.

No doubt that is why God had David add this "benefit" to his list of "Do not forget."

"Do not forget that he redeems - or more literally - rescues you - from the pit." In the previous verse we are reminded about His healing. Now we are

reminded to "store this 'benefit' - being rescued from death inside us."

"The pit" quite literally means "death." Those who have ever "walked through the valley of the shadow of death" understand the significance of the "walking back into the light" of life. So, we dare not forget the great benefit and blessing of the restoration of health and healing, hope and happiness.

But we must also remember the "benefit" of having been rescued from "eternal death!" Jesus promised us that, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me, will never die." This great benefit, eternity with Him, is the greatest of all benefits!

May we remember and rejoice each day that we enjoy the benefit of eternal life and the hope it gives us.

**Sower Ministries.org**  
**277**

## SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Cover

RELAY

Warning

RINSE

Belt

PARTS

Furnish

REACT

TODAY'S WORD



"It's made especially for vacation wear... it attracts men and repels

## Stickeler's Puzzle

**STICKELERS** (sic)  
by Terry Stickels

Match the prefixes on the left with their respective meanings on the right.

- |           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| 1. meta-  | a. pertaining to the hand    |
| 2. apo-   | b. separated or derived from |
| 3. genu-  | c. thick                     |
| 4. manu-  | d. after, behind             |
| 5. pachy- | e. pertaining to the knee    |

©2021 King Features Syndicate

## Stickeler's Answer on Page 12