

CHAPTER 4

NOW the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

3 Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

4 For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:

5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

6. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself *rather* unto godliness.

8 For bodily exercise profiteth

little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

9 This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.

11 These things command and teach.

12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

16 Take heed unto thyself, and

unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

CHAPTER 5

REBUKE not an elder, but *re*intreat *him* as a father; *and* the younger men as brethren;

2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

3. Honour widows that are widows indeed.

4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God.

5 Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day.

6 But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

7 And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless.

8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

9 Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man,

10 Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.

11 But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry;

12 Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith.

13 And withal they learn *to be* idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.

14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

15 For some are already turned aside after Satan.

16 If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.

17. Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

20 Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.

21 I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.

22 Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

24 Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some *men* they follow after.

25 Likewise also the good works of *some* are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

CHAPTER 6

LET as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and *his* doctrine

be not blasphemed.

2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise *them*, because they are brethren; but rather do *them* service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

6. But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the

root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

13. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and *before* Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

14 That thou keep *this* commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

15 Which in his times he shall shew, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man

can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom *be* honour and power everlasting. Amen.

17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane *and* vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace *be* with thee. Amen.

¶ The first to Timothy was written from Laodicea, which is the chiefest city of Phrygia Pacatiana.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

The final chapters of I Timothy deal with the church and its ministry to at least seven different kinds of people.

Chapter 4 deals with the pastor personally—his spiritual life and labors. It indicates that a true pastor will have three great qualities. He will be: (1) A good preacher, preaching God's Word (verses 1-6); (2) a godly preacher, practicing God's Word (verses 7-12); (3) a growing preacher, always progressing in God's Word (verses 13-16).

In chapters 5:1,2 Paul gives instructions to Timothy as to how to deal with the older saints. In verses 3-16 he tells Timothy how to deal with widows, both young and old. In verses 17-25 he tells Timothy how to deal with the church leaders. Timothy had apparently been having some difficulties with some of his church officers. Part of the problem was that he had misjudged some of them (verses 24,25), and made some hasty decisions. We must remember that pastors are only human, and they do make mistakes, even if their hearts are right.

How can a church member help his pastor grow? One way is to protect his time, so that he has opportunity to study and pray. Too many selfish church members use every excuse possible to phone the pastor or "drop in" at the study. Every pastor wants to be available when there is a need, but no spiritual pastor can afford to waste time. The most important thing to do is to pray daily for the pastor. Charles Spurgeon said that he had several hundred people praying for him while he preached. A congregation that prays continually for its pastor can expect God to bless and use that pastor in a great and mighty way—not only to feed the flock of the local church and provide the spiritual needs they may have from day to day, but also to preach powerful, Spirit-led sermons that will point sinners to the cross of Jesus Christ.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit" (Proverbs 15:4).

HYMN FOR THE DAY

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Christmas carols as we know them now were abolished by the English Puritan parliament in 1627 because they were a part of a "worldly festival," which they considered the celebration of Christmas to be. As a result, there was a scarcity of Christmas hymns and carols in the 17th and early 18th cen-

tures. Charles Wesley's "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" was one of the few written during this period. Wesley's fine text and the melody by master composer Felix Mendelssohn have given this hymn its great popularity and its standing as a classic among Christmas songs.

Like many of Charles Wesley's more than 6,500 hymns, this text clearly presents biblical doctrine in poetic language. The first stanza describes the song of the angels outside Bethlehem with an invitation to join them in praise of Christ. The following verses present the truths of the virgin birth, Christ's deity, the immortality of the soul, the new birth, and a prayer for the transforming power of Christ in our lives.

For more than 200 years, believers have been enlightened and blessed by the picturesque manner in which Charles Wesley has retold the truths of our Savior's birth.

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild—
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"*

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."*

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."*

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons. For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 29 (found on page 8).

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1791

THE BILL OF RIGHTS WAS DECLARED IN FORCE.

The following ten amendments compose the Bill of Rights:

ARTICLE I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

ARTICLE II

A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

ARTICLE III

No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war but in a manner prescribed by law.

ARTICLE IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by an oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

ARTICLE V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital or other infamous crime unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land of naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

ARTICLE VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right of a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which districts shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witness against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

ARTICLE VII

In suits at common law where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States than according to the rules of the common law.

ARTICLE VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

ARTICLE IX

The enumeration of the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

ARTICLE X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

588 B.C.

EZEKIEL STARTED LAMENTATION FOR EGYPT.

How we ought to lament and be burdened for the sins of our people. Let us ask God to break our hearts because of sin. Let us remember that "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." (Proverbs 14:34)

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1864

In one of the decisive battles of the war, two brigades of black troops helped crush one of the South's finest armies at the Battle of Nashville. Black troops

opened the battle on the first day and successfully engaged the right of the rebel line. On the second day Col. Charles R. Thompson's Black brigade made brilliant charge up Overton Hill. Thirteenth U.S.C.T. sustained more casualties than any other regiment involved in the battle.

1934

Death of Maggie Lena Walker (69), first black woman to head a bank, in Richmond.

Spingarn Medal awarded to William Taylor Burwell Williams, Tuskegee dean and agent of the Jeanes and Slater funds, for his achievements as an educator.

1943

Death of Thomas W. ("Fats") Waller (39), in Kansas

City, Missouri.

San Francisco *Sun-Reporter* established.

Spingarn Medal presented to William H. Hastie "for his distinguished career as a jurist and as an uncompromising champion of equal justice."

1961

Police used tear gas and leashed dogs to stop mass demonstration by fifteen hundred blacks in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Kenneth B. Clark, psychologist and educator, awarded Spingarn Medal for pioneering studies that influenced the Supreme Court decision on school desegregation.

A Christian Life . . .

ROGER WILLIAMS (1603-1684)

Founder of the first Baptist church in America. Roger Williams was born in London and raised in the Episcopal Church, of which he was made a rector. Becoming dissatisfied with the ritual and ceremony of his church, he became a Puritan. He came to America and preached in Boston and Plymouth, Massachusetts, where he taught separation of church and state and complete religious freedom. He was driven from Salem, Massachusetts, because of these convictions.

He went to Narragansett Bay, where he did missionary work among the Indians. It was there that he founded the settlement of Providence, Rhode Island. At this time he became a Baptist and was immersed in water for the first time since his conversion. He served as governor of the new colony from 1654 to 1657, but he practiced his separation of church and state doctrines even as a civic ruler.

Under his leadership, Rhode Island was the first colony in the New World to establish complete religious liberty for all men.



MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT 29 (for review):

Please spend time reviewing these memory verses. If you have been completing the assignments in the TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING, then you already have spent a week memorizing the Scriptures below. Now it's time to review!

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION: PROPHETIC DETAILS OF CHRIST'S DEATH

Identified with a rich man in His death (712 B.C.)

() Isaiah 53:9

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence neither was any deceit in his mouth. (Fulfilled—Matthew 27:57-60)

Beaten and spit upon (700 B.C.)

() Isaiah 50:6

I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. (Fulfilled—Matthew 26:67)

Silent in His own defense (712 B.C.)

() Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. (Fulfilled—Matthew 27:12-14)

Condemned on the basis of a false testimony (1000 B.C.)

() Psalms 35:11

False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge things that I knew not. (Fulfilled—Matthew 26:59)

His Body resurrected and saw no corruption (1000 B.C.)

() Psalms 16:10

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. (Fulfilled—Acts 2:27-32)