



Hunger For Truth

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HUNGER FOR TRUTH
MINISTRIES

Proverbs 7:2 – Matthew 5:6 – John 8:32 – II Timothy 3:16-17 – Hebrews 4:12

“Let us Hunger For Truth”

Please note that back issues of Hunger For Truth are viewable and printable at:
www.studytoanswer.net.

It is our desire that Hunger For Truth edifies, blesses and encourages you in your walk with the Lord. Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for us. We greatly appreciate your comments and we praise God for each and every one of you.

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--Please note E.I.T.B. Is preempted this issue

Dear Hunger For Truth Readers: (Subscription Notice)

To start, we want to thank all our subscribers who read Hunger For Truth each time it is emailed. We also want to especially thank those who share it with folks in their local church body. We praise God for each and every one of you and for the privilege of publishing Hunger For Truth twice a month.

The reason for this notice is, we have felt led to see who is and isn't receiving Hunger For Truth. If you receive and read Hunger For Truth, please send me a brief email letting us know you wish to continue your subscription. Please note, I will not remove your email address from the mailing list unless you desire to be removed from it. This project is simply to see who is and isn't receiving Hunger For Truth.

Thank you so much for your cooperation and may God richly bless you, your family, and your local church ministries.

In His Service,
Bro. Craig
Bro. Lacroix
Prov. 3:5-6

The Book of Revelation (Chapter 3) (Dr. Thomas Strouse)

The following is **part #** of a study on the book of Revelation by Dr. Thomas Strouse who is Pastor of Bible Baptist Church and Theological Seminary in Cromwell, CT (www.bbc-cromwell.org). It is a syllabus written by Dr. Strouse. It is the HFT editors' desire that this study helps you grasp the deep truths within this incredible book! Please look for a chapter from this syllabus posted in upcoming issues of Hunger For Truth. We trust this will be edifying and convicting as well as a blessing and encouragement to readers. Thank you for reading. We praise God for the privilege of being able to share this study with you. May God richly bless!

The Book of Revelation / Thomas M. Strouse / (Rev. 3) **CHAPTER 3**

Background

The Lord Jesus Christ concluded His addresses to the angels of the last three (Sardis [vv. 1-6], Philadelphia [vv. 7-13], and Laodicea [vv. 14-22]) of the seven churches in Asia Minor, condemning two of the three.

Exposition

Rev. 3:1-22

The Church at Sardis (Rev. 3:1-6)

The church had a testimony of life and yet was spiritually dead—a good reputation but a bad reality. Only a few within, presumably including the pastor, were not defiled with the error, and they were to hold fast and repent. Their names would not be blotted out of the book of life.

The Church at Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13)

The Lord recognized the obedience of this assembly, albeit little in strength, and promised that he would deliver them from the hour of world-wide Tribulation. The promise of the imminent return of Christ is coupled with the church's continued obedience to be in existence when the Lord returns.

The Church at Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22)

The Lord Jesus Christ reproved the pastor of this lukewarm assembly because of her wealth. It seems that the Lord was on the outside attempting to get in the assembly, standing at the door knocking.

Theological Concerns

The Lord warned the assemblies that He' would come as a thief and remove their candlestick status, unbeknownst to them. As churches become large they risk the danger of doctrinal impurity, and the consequent loss of divine approval and status.

The book of life contains all who were ever conceived and reduces down to all who receive the Savior by meeting the conditions of repentance and faith (cf. Rev. 20:12-15). Apparently when an unrepentant sinner dies, he is blotted out of the book of life (cf. Rev. 13:8).

Textual Issues

Rev. 3:10-Although the texts of the CT and TR are the same with regard to the preposition *ek*, the meaning of *ek* is "from" and not "out of" because Paul already instructed the Thessalonian church that she would be gathered unto Christ before the Day of the Lord, which is, the Tribulation and Millennium, in I Thes. 4: 17, 5:2.

Summary of Chapter Three

The last three churches received similar commendations/condemnations from the Lord as did the first four. All were to remain faithful, repent, and continue until the Lord comes back. None did! For the true Christians in Baptist churches who show their status of overcoming by the practice of overcoming, there are many blessings yet to come in heaven.

Bread and Butter Christianity (By: Bro. Andrew Lacroix)

Bread and Butter Christianity: Outline (Part 1)

The Christian life has many facets. We cover just a few in detail.

Text: I Thes. 5:16-19

1. **Praising** (v.1n6). The Christian should rejoice. We should rejoice because:
 - Paul told Phillipi to (4:4)
 - Christ died for us (John 3:16)
 - When one accepts Christ, those in Heaven rejoice (Luke 15:7)
 - We rejoice with other Christians in our local church.
 - Thessalonica had a lot to rejoice in (1:6,9; 2:19; 3:9)
 - A great rejoicing will stem from the promise of the Rapture given to them (4:13-18); John 14:2-3.
 - We should rejoice even when circumstances would cause us grief (Rom. 8:28)
2. **Persistent Praying** (v.17). Paul mentions prayer twice in the final verses.
 - “Without ceasing,” means to show diligence, persistence, and dependence upon God.
 - One prayer “no-no” is to ask amiss (James 4:3).
 - Another prayer “no-no” is to not consider any sin between you and the Father (Ps. 66:18). Believe that He will hear your prayer when you’ve dealt with sin biblically and not in disbelief (I John 1:7-9). God has promised to remember sin no more after we’ve dealt with it before Him (Jer. 31:34).
 - A third “no-no” is praying in vain, using much speaking. Religions do this (Matt. 6:7).
 - Much prayer time should be spent in the “prayer closet” (Matt. 6:6).
 - Ephesus received the same command as Thessalonica (6:18).
 - If we pray right, God promises an answer (but cf. Jer. 33:3)
 - God has given this command to His children and expects us to pray. Note I John 5:14-15.
3. **Persecution** (v.18). Christians who seek to live for God will encounter this.
 - Paul suffered much tribulation. He was flogged on numerous occasions (II Cor. 11:24, cf. Deut. 25:3). He was stoned to near death at Iconium (v.25; Acts 14:19-20). He endured three shipwrecks; one of which may well have been recorded in Acts 27.
 - When emerging from a trial remember Who delivered you from such.
 - Peter knew and wrote about trials to his readers (I Pet. 1:7, 3:13-20; 4)
 - One importance to remember in your trial is just verifying it is not of your own undoing that you have caused a trial in your life. However, persecution of the ungodly will increase in the last days (II Tim. 3:1-5).

Be prepared to endure hardness (II Tim. 2:3).

-Horatio Spafford used his trial of losing family to glorify God in the writing of "It Is Well With My Soul".

Remember Job's sufferings (13:15).

4. **Prevention** (v.19). If we want success, we need the Holy Spirit's ministry.

-When Jesus told of His death, He promised this Comforter (Paraclete) would come (John 14:16). He begins His ministry at the moment of conversion and lasts until death or Rapture (Phil. 1:6).

-As long as there is not sin between the believer and the Father, the Spirit can work. As soon as sin enters in, the conduit clogs, and the opportunity for failure exists. Missed blessings can result from sin between the Spirit and the redeemed sinner. Look at Saul (I Sam. 15:23).

-Ephesus was challenged to grieve not the Spirit and was given a laundry list of grieving sins (4:28-31).

-Since our body is the dwelling place of the Spirit, we have a responsibility (I Cor. 6:19-20).

-Confess sin at its onset to restore the fellowship and prevent Christian catastrophe.

Conclusion of Part One

Only Jesus Saves! (John 14:6)

Five Things God Wants You to Know

I. You Need to Be Saved

A. Rom. 3:23

1. All have sinned
2. All have come short of the glory of God

B. John 3:3b

1. You must be born again
2. You can't see the kingdom of God if you are not born again

II. You Cannot Save Yourself

A. Titus 3:5

1. It is not by works of righteousness we have done
2. It is according to His mercy that He saved us

III. Jesus Has Provided For Your Salvation

A. 1 Peter 2:24

1. Who (Jesus) His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree (The Cross)
2. That we being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed

IV. You Must Accept Jesus For Salvation

A. Acts 16:31

1. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ
2. You shall be saved when you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ

B. John 1:12

1. As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God
2. Even to them who believe on His name
3. Why not receive Him and the Free gift of salvation?

C. Romans 10:9

1. That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus
2. And shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead
3. Thou shalt be saved

V. Now is the Time to Accept Jesus as Your Saviour

A. II Cor. 6:2

1. Behold, now is the accepted time!
2. Behold, now is the day of salvation!

B. Hebrews 3:7-8

1. The Holy Ghost says, today if you will hear his voice harden not your hearts.
2. Don't resist the Holy Ghost's call to be saved! He may never call again!

:) Children For Christ :)

More Important

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

In the following check what is more important to help you in your walk with the Lord:

Please note: The less important things listed below are not necessarily wrong, but should not become more important than God in your life or it becomes an idol.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Playing Sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Watching TV | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible study |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Playing Video Games | <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Church |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Comic Strips | <input type="checkbox"/> Witnessing to others about Christ |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Helping those in need | <input type="checkbox"/> Playing with toys |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Singing songs of praise to God | <input type="checkbox"/> Riding your bike |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Taking a hike somewhere | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping in your church |

Lastly, on a blank piece of paper, please write how you desire to keep the things of God, the **more important** things, first place in your life. Thank you.

“Lord, make my life a hallelujah from head to toe.”	“Is something missing in your life? Are you complete in Him?”
“Life with Christ is an endless hope! Life without Christ is a hopeless end!”	Praises <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Praise God for His boundless love toward His children!
“Motion without devotion leads to commotion in your life.”	Prayer Requests <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sherrie (Sister of Bro. Craig's Fiancee Tash) (Possible Cancer) (Heart issues)• Job and living situation needs for Bro. Craig and Andrew• Wedding for Bro. Craig and Sister Tash on May 2, 2015• Abby Lafreniere (ALS) (Wife of Pastor John Lafreniere, church planter to Fairfield, CT)• Dr. Michael Thompson (Member of Heritage Baptist)
“The Bible doesn't teach waiting on baptism after salvation.”	

<p>“No happiness without holiness. No blessing without obedience.”</p>	<p>Church of Norwood, MA) (Brain cancer)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Gary Freeman (Race Street Baptist Church in Catasauqua, PA) who is battling colon cancer. • Needs of New Hope Baptist Church of Lynn, MA • Needs of Chester Baptist Church of Chester, MA • Missionary Tim Hawes (To Papua New Guinea) (Church Planting, Bible Translation, Agricultural Development) • Brother Bill Moore of Heritage Baptist Church (Health needs) • Those affected by the Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines • The condition of this nation following the abomination that has occurred with the DOMA decision. • Needs of the body of Heritage Baptist Church • Salvation and needs of those affected by the tragedy in Boston, MA on April 15th 2013 • Salvation of Brother Andrew Lacroix's family • Salvation of Wendy and friend Ben, Jacob, Kaitlyn, Sybil and Bernice (Family of Craig Glickman)
<p>“Have the right focus and vision! Don't ever focus on circumstances, the world and its pleasures, others, job, etc. Always keep your focus on Christ. He is the answer and the focus. Fix your eyes on Him by faith.” (Heb. 2:9)</p>	

Hunger For Truth is a bi-monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman and Andrew Lacroix who are members of Heritage Baptist Church of Norwood, MA where the Pastor is Steve Hathaway.

If you wish to subscribe to H.F.T., or you have a study, devotional or article you would like posted in Hunger For Truth, please send an email to svtdtday@yahoo.com or andrewdlacroix@yahoo.com.

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Thank you for reading this. We praise God for all our dear brothers and sisters in Christ and we greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

***His Servants,
Craig Glickman Andrew Lacroix
Prov. 3:5-6 1 Thes. 5:18***

