

Words Of a Witness Ministries
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wordsofawitness.org

Publication L1-011

A Funeral

For a funeral to be preached by a Minister of the Lord, it is a very hard thing to do. Whether it is for a baby, a teenager, a young adult or a retirement aged person. A Minister's obligation is to the Lord to preach His Gospel, to get His words out, so the Holy Spirit can save the souls of His children. So the Minister preaches to the living, about life. The dead have made their choice. If the dead was a Christian and in the will of God, the Minister's message is a little easier. When the message is for someone who could not make up his or her mind, the Minister's message is hard to preach.

How do you tell a family of someone who has died that you are not sure whether the deceased will spend his or her eternal life in heaven or hell? We just tell them that this is not for us to judge. We do not know!!!! **THIS IS WHAT IS HARD!!!!** It is hard when there is not a definite answer to give to the loved one's deceased, especially when the family are Christians and they want to know if their loved one has gone to heaven or hell.

A funeral among the living is the worst kind of all. The killing of another of God's creations. And I do not mean abortion. I mean legal murder of another Christian. God says, forsake all and follow Him. This means family and friends and family? God's greatest institution is the family but we are to seek out our own salvation with fear and trembling. This means the murder, or complete separation of our fleshly family to become apart of God's family. We serve the Lord with everything we do and by the actions we take. Serving the Lord and following Him whenever and wherever He sends you. The circumstances around family members and friends should not ever enter into your mind when you do what the Lord tells you. Do you want to be one of those **FEW** that are chosen? Scripture tells us that many are called but few are chosen. Can you choose to serve man or God – **I MEAN REALLY CHOOSE?** If you have no problem, then you have not been tried! God wants those that are willing to put down everything for Him. **FOLLOW ME!!!** I will make you fishers of men. Those that are chosen

have the whole world to catch from. Everyone bites or is called, but few are actually chosen, and those that get caught and are willing to give up every thing just to be chosen, love God, become fisherman. Those that nibble and finally get caught, some times they flounder their way back into the sea. Until they get hungry again and answer the urge that God puts on them, they are just lost souls, swimming around with nothing in sight. Those that cast out the lines, the fisherman, sometimes get back lashed and have to cast again and again and again and again! The path of the fisherman is a bumpy boat ride. **The funeral is for the fisherman.** He is the one who dies of this world. The fish just keep coming and coming and coming. The fisherman is the one who gets finned by these fish and perishes. He is the one who gets stung and stepped on. The fish do not understand God nor will ever understand God's love and ways. They want their little nibble every once in awhile and some actually will get hooked. And some, **PRAISE GOD**, will actually get caught by God!!!! I understand now what the scripture says, that all the angels in heaven rejoice when one sinner or fish is saved or caught. Those that are truly saved and not just take a nibble and then flounder back in. When that one soul is actually saved, when that one soul becomes a fisherman of men of God, then there is one less fish in the sea and the heavenly hosts rejoice. **MANY ARE CALLED BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN!!!!**

Then, this fisherman becomes the Minister, to tell bereaved families about their loved ones. Sometimes even the fisherman are floundering and some jump back into the sea, and gets lost in the world again. Fisherman, stay in the word, and forsake all that is in the world. Stay geared up and ready to answer God's call anywhere and anytime. God has many usages for His fishermen. You see, the whole world is a big sea full of fish waiting to be caught.

Fisherman, you are not alone, remember, Elijah, he had others to help bear his burden. It just feels that we are alone and floundering! We go to funerals and cast out our line with first hand proof that the fish didn't bite and what is there to be caught, with not one nibble. The fish are content, willing to just have a nibble!!! Then, don't bother the fisherman, he has fish that really do want to be caught, **PRAISE GOD!!!!**

Let the dead bury the dead; but, let the living rejoice with the eternal living!!!!

There is no grave nor no sea that is gonna keep this body down!!!
REJOICE!!!! And be a fisherman!

Christians, let us not be guilty of murdering another **FRAGILE SOUL** serving God the best they know how right now. Jesus says to love one another. If we really do, ... how can we be guilty of murder and bury another? If we are guilty of murder then guess who is accountable for the soul of one of God's little ones?

In my short walk with **God** so far, while here on this earth, it has become very evident to me that the majority of Christian deaths, not physically, but spiritually, are **NOT** caused by Satan and his devils directly. Satan uses not his buddies, but Christians buddies to maim, to hurt, to belittle, to smother and to kill other Christians. **SATAN USES OTHER CHRISTIANS TO KILL CHRISTIANS.** 2 Timothy 2:26 tells us that Christians must recover themselves out of the snare of Satan's traps, stated: *"And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."* If we are not prayed up and are as close to God as we can get, Satan can, and he will, take you at his will!!!! Anytime he wants to, **at his will!** So, the devil has a field day in our minds when he wants to. Say man, party time!!!! This scripture tells us also, that as Christians, that we may recover, we can **REBUKE SATAN AND ALL HIS DEVILS; we as Christians have this power** and the children of the dark and of the world do not know this. **THEY ARE TRAPPED!!!!**

Satan thrills himself when he gets other Christians to do his work for him. I can see him rejoicing and laughing at God when he succeeds over one of God's children. Satan was once, one of God's arch angels, and when a lost soul is saved we are told that all the heavenly hosts in heaven rejoice. Satan now rejoices and now laughs at you and God when a Christian falls. Do you like being laughed at? Then recover yourself from Satan's traps and thoughts. Do not let them manifest themselves from **Satan's** thoughts. **He puts them in your mind!!!! REBUKE THEM!** Do not let them grow!!!

A list of ways, **the Lord has given me**, which Satan will use to trap others by, are; **pride**: jealously, ignorance, conceited, self exaltation and religion. I am sure that there are other words and ways that this occurs; but, I will write some on these, that the Lord has given to me.

I PRAY TO GOD; FATHER GOD, GUIDE THESE WORDS AND THOUGHTS, AND GUIDE AND FORM THESE SENTENCES AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM WRITTEN. AMEN.

Pride, a conceited sense of man's superiority. Man can not sometimes control himself and he lets Satan lift him up. Hence, **pride**, *'No one can say or understand or do God's work and be in God's will like me'. 'If they are not like me in my actions, thoughts, deeds or doctrines, then they are not of God.'* *'If I do not feel anything or get the message, are you sure it is of God and not of Satan?' 'I didn't receive anything!'* **CHRISTIANS, SOMEONE ELSE CAN HEAR FROM GOD WITHOUT YOU HEARING FROM HIM ALSO!!!!** God talks to individuals, those willing to listen! Christians, did you know that **pride** was originated by SATAN???? Isaiah 14:12-15 says, *"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."* Do you want to go to hell with Satan from this trap of his? Or, do you want to recover? Can you recover? Will you recover?

Man is born into sin, agree? Jesus says in Mark 7:20-22, *"... that which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornication, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: all these evil things come from within, and defile the man."* **Pride** is an evil thing, and evil is of Satan, and Satan is in your heart? Right?? If we are born in sin, then where is Satan? In your heart???? **Christians, are you truly born again????**

Pride is also of the world. Christians, are you of this world? If so, ... **REPENT!** 1 John 2:16 says, *“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”* Christians, if you want to chastise someone for lusting of the eyes, and or of the flesh, chastise yourself first before you kill another Christian. Jesus said when talking to the crowd who was about to stone Mary, go ahead and stone her, but let those without sin cast the first stone. So then, are you without sin to cast the first stone? Scripture continues in 1 John 2:17, *“And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”* Saints, are we going to abideth for ever? Let us not kill our brothers and sisters, they are fighting the same spiritual battles with Satan and serving the same God as we are. Lift them up in prayer before God and pray for them and see how much better you feel than killing them, maiming, or scarring them for ever. You see, we all live in this world for the time being, even though we are not of this world. Tomorrow, Satan might choose you at his will!!!!

Another origin of **pride** is the self righteousness, the la ti da attitude , as you find the Pharisee in Luke 18:11,12!!!! *“The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank Thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.”* If this Pharisee’s arm was long enough to pat himself on the back it would reach the ground; and, he would trip on it while his nose was stuck up in the air. This, the la ti da syndrome!!!! What makes man believe that they are not just like other men???? Until man is raptured out of here, he puts his pants on like all other men!!! He is born in sin and has the same battles as other Christians. This **pride**, this self righteousness turns worldly people away. This kills God’s children before they can be born again!!! **It killed me for thirty years plus.** I could not and **I DID NOT** be around these hypocrites. But, unbeknown to me, I had become a bigger hypocrite than the hypocrites were. I did not have to be around them ... **I was better than they were.** Where have you just read this? See how Satan works with saints against saints!!!!!! Any lie, if left to fester in itself, will grow, until eventually, it will destroy someone. **REBUKE SATAN!!!** We have the power to do so, **TO BE USED**, and not to just say we have it!!!! Amen. The will of Satan, to destroy; can be done in many ways, **PRIDE**, just happens to be one of them.

The evils of **pride** hardens the mind as we find in Daniel 5:20, “***But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:***” Do not let your **pride**, which we all suffer with at one time or another, kill you. You are just a man, aren’t you? Do not let your **pride** take you away from your rightful place in that heavenly city, and your kingly throne, and have your glory taken away also!!! If this, **pride**, occurs, will this happen? Will you rebuke it before it happens, or will you let it happen and change nothing and chance going to hell????

Pride will produce spiritual decay to the point that you will lift yourself up, to that point, that you think you can do nothing wrong. You do not, will not, nor will you even know it! Hosea 7:9,10 tells us of Ephraim’s willful refusal to return to the Lord. “***Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here upon him, yet he knoweth not. And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return unto the Lord their God, nor seek Him for all this.***” Here Israel’s **pride**, kept it from seeking the Lord and testifieth to Ephraim’s face causing them not to return to the Lord their God, nor ever seeking Him any more!!!! Do we do this to other Christians instead of seeking God’s help with these matters? Do we do it on our own with too much **pride** to seek God’s help and advice??? How much Christian blood is on your hands? **NONE! WELL HALLELUJAH!!!**

Do you want to be kept from real progress from serving the Lord? In Proverbs 26:12, it tells it straight to the point, “***Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? There is more hope of a flood than of him.***” And in Psalm 10:4 it continues by, “***The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.***” You see, **pride** even hinders you from coming to God! It will keep you from doing the will of God. Loving one another! “***Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.***” Romans 12:16. And Jeremiah 49:16 says “***Thy terribleness hath deceived thee, and the pride of thine heart, O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill: though thou shouldest make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down***

from thence, saith the Lord.” Those who live upon the rock, **Christians, beware!!!** If you make your nest or your way of life high and lifted up in **pride** in your hearts by the prestige which has deceived you, the Lord said He will bring you down. **DOWN TO WHERE???** Ask the Lord, and if you do not like what He says, **then change!**

As mentioned earlier in this letter, **pride** will make man reject God’s word. *‘I didn’t hear anything!’* In Jeremiah 43:2 we read exactly that, **“Then spake Azariah the son of Hoshaiiah, and Johanan the son of Koreah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, thou speakest falsely: the Lord our God hath not sent thee to say, go not into Egypt to sojourn there:”** Now finish reading in vv 3 through 13 in chapter 43 of Jeremiah and find out what happened. They did not choose to believe that God spoke to Jeremiah. They called Jeremiah a liar!

All that **pride** will do, and will lead you to do, is to ruin and destruction of yourself or other Christians whether it be by main, belittlement or down right murder of a saint. I do not want that blood on my hands and have to be accountable for it!!! In Proverbs 16:18 it says that **“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”** Is your spirit haughty yet? Have you become arrogant? If so, **REPENT**; if not, **PRAISE GOD!!!!**

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15. **“For the kingdom of God in not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.”** Romans 14:17,18. Are we acceptable to God and approved of men? Let us examine ourselves from head to toe to find out, **“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”** 2 Corinthians 13:5. What have you found? A workman that needeth not to be ashamed? Are you serving Christ and are you acceptable to God and approved unto men???? Is your faith where it should be? Do you know your own self and that Jesus actually lives within you??? What can you hide? And where can you hide it? Is your conscience hurting? Do you have a conscience?

Only when we allow Satan to push himself in, do we show ourselves unapproved unto God and unto other men? God said in 2 Corinthians 6:16,17,18, “... *I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*” **Remember saints, to be ye separate from the world and all worldly things, people included!!!! You can not be in both!!!!** Why be ye separate? Look in Mark 10:30, “*But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.*” Again saints, remember, “*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*” 1 John 2:15.

Let us, not the **pride** enter into our temple of the Holy Ghost. Don't you imagine this grieves the Holy Spirit? **SAINTS**, “*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*” 1 Peter 5:8.

Beware, always beware, of your adversary, the devil, because, “*Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*” John 8:44. Again saints, “*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.*” 1 John 4:4. **PRAISE GOD, THANK YOU JESUS!!!!**

A FUNERAL, THE DEATH OF A CHRISTIAN, BY ANOTHER CHRISTIAN; THE FUNERAL YOU HAVE JUST WITNESSED IS MINE. I HAVE FAILED MY SELF, AND FAILED MY GOD ...! IF I CAN NOT TRUST MYSELF TO DO WHAT I PROMISED THE LORD, HOW CAN I EXPECT OTHERS TO DO WHAT THE LORD TELLS THEM? I HAVE NO RIGHT TO TRY AND TELL ANYONE WHAT TO DO. HENCE, A FUNERAL!

Lord God, hear my prayers, I repent!!!! Amen.

Died in the flesh more
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Pastor Eddie