



Truth for Teens

Volume 6 June/July 2007 Issue 3

"" - - Escaping Captivity - -

Theme for the 8th annual Summer Bible Camp at Hensel Memorial Youth Camp is “Escaping Captivity.” Many scriptural and informational occasions of the captivity of God’s people are related in the Bible. The entire Old Testament would have to be studied to get a complete historical picture of human life from the first day of creation until the present time. Today’s problem is acknowledging the “captivity” Christians are under today and understanding the solution to escape from that captivity.

Christians in the United States today are free to make choices concerning how they live. But all are admonished to *be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour*, 1 Peter 5:8. Being “captive,” imprisoned by sin, is an unhealthy and unsafe lifestyle – and an “unsaved” soul! But, there is a way of “escape.” In Galatians 5:16, Paul tells the churches of Galatia, *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

Why is sin so deadly to humans? The text of 1 John 3:4 teaches us this very principle. Sin is a transgression of the law of God. God is like a parent who tells a child to by a certain time of night. Failing to follow these his parents. God tells us what He requires us to transgressed the law of God. James 1:25 describes the law of God, a law that Christians will be in John 12:48, *He that rejecteth me, and receiveth word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.* Thus, there is a law that we must obey—the Word of God.

There is a way of escape!!

clean his room, do his homework, or be home rules, he has transgressed the law set down by do; if we fail to keep those laws, then we have the Word of God as “the perfect law of liberty,” judged by on the Day of Judgment. Jesus said *not my words, hath one that judgeth him; the*

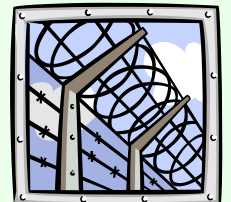
Ways of being captive to matters outside of God’s Word is (1) a life of unrighteousness; (2) sins of omission; and (3) ignorance of the Scriptures.

First John 5:17 says, *All unrighteousness [or wrongdoing, ed.] is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.* Some definitions of “unrighteousness” are sinful, wicked, unjust, unmerited. We can’t be lax in thinking that some sins are permissible. Works of the flesh are defined in Galatians 5:19-21 with a warning that those who *do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God*, [v. 21]. Living in an unrighteous way is doing things that are not in accordance with God’s will. When our actions, our thoughts, our conversation is opposite of what is right and good, we have sinned. **Escape from being captive of unrighteousness.**

When we “know” what God wants us to do then don’t do it, the sin of omission is committed. *Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin*, James 4:17. Doing good is practicing the fruits of the Spirit as listed in Galatians 5:22-26. We know we are to (1) forsake not the assembly of the saints, Hebrews 10:25; (2) encourage and edify those who need encouragement, Titus 2:15, Galatians 6:1; and (3) love one another as Christ loves us, John 13:34.

Escape from the captivity of omission of Christian characteristics!

We cannot be ignorant of the way of salvation made possible by Christ shedding His blood on the cross for the remission of our sins and providing the hope of life eternal after death, Romans 8:24. Submission to the plan of salvation is essential to receive that gift. We are encouraged to “study,” 2 Timothy 2:15; and to “keep” [do] God’s commandments, John 14:15-16 – to “study” to know the way and “keep” the commandments to be guaranteed a fulfillment of God’s promise, Acts 26:6. **Escape from the captivity of ignorance!**



Let’s escape from the captivity of sin and hear the “rest of the story” at our Bible Camp July 22-27.

FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS –	
FREEDOM OF SPEECH	PAGE 3
HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW GOD?	PAGE 4
CHRISTIANITY – A DIVIDED	
RELIGION?	PAGE 5

PRIVATE MORALITY	PAGE 6
CHANGES IN CHRISTIANITY	PAGE 6
FUN PAGE	PAGE 7
SHOWING HONOR AND	
RESPECT	PAGE 8

I would rather live my life as if there is a God,
and die to find out there isn't,
Than live my life as if there isn't,
and die to find out there is.

Author Unknown

**A PUBLICATION
FOR
TODAY'S TEENS IN TOMORROW'S WORLD**

“Truth For Teens” – Our Mission

Truth For Teens is a bi-monthly publication with a circulation of over 500 to youth throughout the United States. This is possible because a group of men and women feel a need to provide healthy, helpful information to our youth as they deal with daily situations.

This publication is supported and funded by contributions of individuals and congregations of area churches of Christ. By their support we are able to continue the publication and mailing without charge to our youth. This missionary program is non-profit and tax deductible. All contributions are used appropriately for the printing and mailing of the issues. Financial help from those who would like to join in this outreach program to our youth will allow us to continue publication. Most important are the prayers of Christians for the success of this endeavor.

An account has been set up in the name of Truth for Teens Publication. Checks can be made to that account and mailed to P. O. Box 581, Manor, Texas 78653. This is a non-profit publication.

If you would like to advertise an event, or include an article for the publication, please mail it to our publication address or email to tftpub@austin.rr.com.

To send this publication to a friend, please complete the form below and mail to TFT Publications, PO Box 581, Manor, TX 78653. Please print clearly.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE ____ ZIP _____

“Teen Talk” Articles and Reviews

Truth For Teens is an avenue open to anyone desiring to write articles or reviews for the Teen features. If you would like to publish a message to your peers, inspirational, spiritual or covering everyday issues, you can send it through our web site, www.truthforteens.org, or mail to P.O. Box 581, Manor, Texas 78653, or email to tftpub@austin.rr.com. Space is limited to one column length [approximately 600 words in 11 point type]. It must include your name, address, school classification and place of worship.

Editor’s note: We reserve the right to exclude items we deem unacceptable, using God’s Word as our guide.

--- CHECK IT OUT ---
www.thegospelofchrist.com
www.truthforteens.org

BIBLE QUIZ – New Testament

1. What flowed from Jesus’ side when He was pierced at His crucifixion?
 - blood and vinegar
 - blood and wine
 - vinegar and water
 - blood and water
2. Who raised Dorcas from the dead?
 - Jesus
 - Paul
 - Peter
 - Lazarus
3. To whom did Jesus say, “Get behind me, Satan!?”
 - Judas Iscariot
 - Saul of Tarsus
 - Seigis Paulus
 - Simon Peter
4. Who said, “I am innocent of the blood of this just person; see to it.”?
 - Pilate
 - the Centurion
 - the High Priest
 - Caiaphas
5. Who was the first Gentile convert to Christianity who was accepted without circumcision?
 - Cornelius
 - Titus
 - Peter
 - Apollos
6. Who asked Jesus to perform His first recorded miracle?
 - Simon Peter
 - John the Baptist
 - His mother, Mary
 - Martha
7. What was Paul’s trade?
 - a Roman soldier
 - a teacher
 - a potter
 - a tent maker
8. What did Simon the Cyrenian carry?
 - the money bag
 - the scrolls
 - the ointment
 - Jesus’ cross
9. Who “kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.”?
 - Lois, mother of Timothy
 - Mary, mother of Jesus
 - Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist
 - Sapphira, mother of Ananias
10. What did Judas do with the money he received from the chief priests for betraying Jesus?
 - threw it back into the temple
 - bought a potter’s field
 - gave it to the poor
 - Judas was never given any money for betraying Jesus.
11. To whom did Jesus say, “Today you shall be with me in Paradise.”?
 - Stephen just before he was stoned to death as he looked into Heaven seeing Jesus
 - the thief on the cross
 - Simon Peter
 - Saul on the road to Damascus
12. What man said to Jesus, “Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.”?
 - the centurion whose servant was sick
 - John the Baptist
 - the father of the demon-possessed boy
 - the man who was sick with the palsy
13. What wound did one of Jesus’ disciples inflict upon a high priest’s servant?
 - He smote him on the cheek
 - He ran him through with a spear
 - He cut off his ear with a sword
 - He blinded him.

Answers on back page

FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS — FREEDOM OF SPEECH —

It has been said that a country will fall from within, not because of an enemy from afar. Today, our country is weakened by the contemptuous actions and words expressed by the continual protests and divided statements made against our leaders. The purpose of elected leadership is a democratic way to make decisions that will enrich and protect the population. Because of political dissension among those elected, our enemies are given a picture of bickering and self righteousness among our leaders. And sides are taken.

Hardly a day goes by that there is not a “protest” about something happening somewhere in our “United” States [an oxymoron]. We hear the citing of the First Amendment of our Constitution as grounds allowing the right to exercise freedom of speech. Even in blogs, words are damaging to individuals, society and world peace.

“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.” First Amendment to the United States Constitution

As Christians, we are allowed opinions and the right to choose. But what does God allow in the realm of respect for our leaders? As future leaders of the church, you have a responsibility to display a capacity to show respect to the leadership of the country as you do to the leaders of the church.

We are exhorted to be careful of our words, *But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment, For by thy words thou shalt be justified and by thy words thou shalt be condemned*, Matthew 12:36-37. *A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness*, Proverbs 15:1-2. Proverbs 26:22 says, *The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.*

Many young people join protest groups because of the excitement of the moment, not understanding the consequences of disrespectful words and actions. A survey of the participants would more than likely show a small percentage with knowledge of the issue, right or wrong. It becomes like their religion – they listen to someone else instead of searching for the truth. Job exhorted, *therefore speak what thou knowest*, Job 34:33.

There are two unresolved major issues for leaders of our country today – the war in Iraq and the solution of illegal immigration into our country. Who on the street corner,

-- TRY GOD'S WAY - PRAY!!

speaking explicit vulgar words and holding signs of disrespect are knowledgeable enough to condemn those working for a solution to that issue? Are you? Have you studied the issue? Or, are you caught up in the excitement and joining the opinion of dissenters? Very little expression is "mere" speech. If it is oral, it may be noisy and insulting enough to be disturbing, and, if it is written, it may be litter. Either way, it shows disrespect for our leaders no matter their political views. Let their decisions be worked out among them in a respectful way toward each other – in a wise and knowledgeable solution.

God placed the people under civil government rule at the beginning – the Patriarchal Age, Genesis 27:29-39; Moses was placed as theocratic ruler under God of the nation of Israel during his years, Exodus 18:13-26; and in 1 Samuel a monarchical rule existed under kings. Countries have always been under the rule of a civil government, magistrates, chiefs, governors, etc. Jesus told His disciples to render unto Caesar that which was Caesar's and to God that which was His, Matthew 22:21. People have always been required to subsist under some type of governing body.

God's Word provides instructions for all things pertaining to a godly life; – *Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same*, Romans 13:1-3.

Second Peter 2:9-10 reads, *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.*

A good, sincere “prayer meeting” for our leaders and for the safety of our troops is an appropriate way for a Christian gathering voicing our opinions and our desire for a peaceful “... one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all.” *Pray without ceasing*, 1 Thessalonians 5:17.

Use our communication with God to support our leaders who have the country's peace and well-being in their plans. Psalm 19:3 – *There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.* And, in Romans 14:19, it reads, *Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.*

How Well Do You Know God?

Knowing someone important is “significant” to some people. They use names in conversations to impress others. It’s cool to say you “know the Governor,” or “know the coach” of a popular college, or “know a television or movie personality.” To tell people we “know God” is of the utmost impressive influence we can have.

But, how well do you know God? Have you considered how “BIG” it is to “know God”? Maybe you’ve gone to church and Sunday School all your life; but do you “KNOW” God? Genesis 5:1 tells us that we are created in God’s image – we are like God!! We have emotions and feelings, so if we are made in God’s image, then God has emotions and feelings. Let’s consider some “feelings” that God has. We can’t grasp the depth of the ocean or count the sands of the earth or the stars in the sky, but the Scriptures give examples of God’s “feelings.”

Does God ever hurt?

God spoke of Judah in Jeremiah in 8:21, *For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt.* After the fall of Adam and Eve, Genesis 6:6 reads, *And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.* God hurts when His children are caught up in sin and disregard for His Word.

He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, the wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. The Lord shall laugh at him for he seeth that his day is coming, Psalm 37:12, 13. Proverbs 1:25, 26 reads, *But ye have set at nought all my counsel and would none of my reproof. I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh.* On Judgment Day how painful and embarrassing it will be to see God laugh at our “suffering.”

Does God ever laugh?

In Psalm 7:11 we find that *God is angry with the sin,* Numbers 32:10-15; with our error, 2 Samuel 6:7; with our idolatry of the world, Judges 2:11-14. His destructive, Psalm 90:7; and powerful, Psalm 90:11.

Does God ever get mad?

wicked everyday. God gets angry with our with our disobedience, Joshua 7:1-12, and wrath is shown as fierce, Psalm 78:49-50;

God is *slow to anger,* Nehemiah 9:17, and *retaineth not his anger forever,* Micah 7:18; it *endureth but for a moment,* Psalm 30:5. What will quiet His anger? We must pray, Numbers 11:1, 2; behave righteously, Titus 2:12, 13; and obey, Deuteronomy 11:27.

Does God ever get tired?

Ye have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delighteth in them, or Where is the God of judgment? Malachi 2:17. God was silent for more than 400 years before He fulfilled his promise of the Messiah! We might compare it to “sinking in quicksand” until God came to rescue the world.

These six things doth the Lord hate; yea, seven are tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart swift in running to mischief, A false witness that among brethren, Proverbs 6:16-19. In David’s prayer *thou hatest all workers of iniquity.*

Does God ever hate?

an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord for guidance in Psalm 5:5, he recognizes God,

The first law God made to the Israelites was *Thou shalt have no other gods before me ... Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God...*, Exodus 20:3, 5. And in Exodus 34:14, *For thou shalt worship no other god; for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.*

Does God get Jealous?

Does God exercise?

There is no account that God exercises physically, however, in Jeremiah 9:24, He is recognized through His words to Jeremiah, *But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.* God’s exercise is love and kindness in His mercy and grace.

Does God love?

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love, 1 John 4:8. And in verse 16, *And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us, God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.* God’s love is shown when we become His children, His family.

Knowing God is knowing the greatest! How can we “know” God better? *Study to show thyself approved unto God,* 2 Timothy 2:15. Be a workman, not ashamed, rightly knowing and dividing the word of truth.

Christianity – A Divided Religion?

Christ prayed for all who believed in Him; they are the ones that keep His commandments, *If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love,* John 15:10. He is the Messiah, the head of His kingdom. This prayer by our Savior to our Father in heaven contradicts the thoughts of the world.

Today, religion offers a public interpretation that people from all denominations and religions will go to heaven. In contrast, each denomination practices their own man-made creeds and man-instilled practices, - creeds and practices that are not approved by God or found in His inspired words. Some adopt practices of Old Testament traditions; some ignore the writing in Revelation 22:18-19, a testimony from the Apostle John concerning adding or taking away of things "from the words of the book of life."

Jesus, as authority, says, *I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father,* John 10:14-18.

False teachers reject Christ's words, and by their vain expressions place their own opinions as an acceptable substitute. That causes division. *These six things doth the Lord hate; yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren,* Proverbs 6:16-19.

God desires His people to be of one accord; Christ's death and resurrection brought a new promise, a new covenant so that all could have the hope of salvation, Ephesians 2:11-16; see Ephesians 3:8-11. Paul admonishes the church in Rome, *Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words*

and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple, Romans 16:17-18; and to the church in Corinth, *For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?* 1 Corinthians 3:3-4. Relate that to Baptist, St. Paul, Luther, Methodist, Community Church, New Life Church, and many other names given to religious groups.

Deny man-made creeds, statutes, organizations, authority in traditions, cults. Strive toward unity. Follow the commandments and examples given in the Scriptures. Add to that the "fruits of the spirit," Galatians 5:22-26, and be a servant of our Lord, following His commandment in Matthew 28:19-20, *Go ye*

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word: that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me, John 17: 20-23. .

therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you....

In love, communicate and study with your peers, emphasizing that God is a jealous God, *For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God,* Exodus 34:14. Jesus is the Son of God, the church was established in His name. He requires the honor and praise of having His name and plan of salvation observed. Hope of salvation lies in these things, *Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven,* Matthew 5:19.

How Things Have Changed!

In 1900, a father's horsepower meant his horses. Today, it's the size of his minivan.

In 1900, fathers could count on children to join the family business. Today, fathers pray their kids will soon come home from college long enough to teach them how to work the computer and set the VCR.

In 1900, a father came home from work to find his wife and children at the supper table. Today, a father comes home to a note: "Jimmy's at baseball, Cindy's at gymnastics, I'm at workout, Pizza in fridge."

In 1900, a Father's Day gift would be a hand tool. Today, he'll get a digital organizer.

In 1900, a happy meal was when Father shared funny stories around the table. Today a happy meal is what Dad buys at McDonalds.

“PRIVATE” IMMORALITY? – GOD SEES ALL!!



Today, through web sites, printed information and media, we are made aware of a person’s character, public and private activities. Public interest from all walks of life comes through surveys, reviews, reports, analysis, and research, etc. Then there is the devil’s lair, gossip among people in chat rooms, social networking sites and blogs from the internet, comments columns and personal conversation.

Information on public officials’ behavior focuses the attention of the American public on the question of private versus public life. Their defense consists in part of a claim that what happens in their private life is not the public’s business. The principle behind their defense is that public officials should be judged only on the basis of their public behavior. Comments and actions of public officials, religious persons, actors and actresses have been picked up by microphones, photographers or reporters and publicized throughout the world. We know that these items are influential in keeping the media operating – sensationalism aids production; while placing judgment in the minds of the public. Respect from others is lost on those who are “caught” participating in unlawful and immoral activities, whether it is public personalities or friends.

Why do people think that acts committed in private somehow do not count in determining what kind of person we are? The Scriptures tell us that God knows our heart. Not being caught by fellow man is not security from God. Behavior needs to conform to a high moral and ethical standard in all situations.

The Scriptures do not teach that stealing is wrong only if you get caught. Lying is wrong whether one lies in private or publicly about private matters or public business. The Bible doesn’t present one moral standard for public behavior and another for behind-the-scenes conduct; nor does God condone behavior opposite His scriptural examples. In Psalm 139:11-12, David wrote, *If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.* Luke 16:15 exhorts, *And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts....*

The division of conduct in the world and in the church has a tendency to create hypocrites as people try to present one image of themselves at school, work or play while following another identity in their dedication to the church. We should all try to live so that we would not be embarrassed if the nature of our private lives became public knowledge. Paul reiterated previous Biblical teaching when he wrote that God will judge even the secrets of men – *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man,* Ecclesiastes 12:13. Paul instructs the congregation in Roman, *In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel,* Romans 2:16. Jesus Himself indicated that we will give account for even every idle word we
, Matthew 12:36-37!

God knows the hearts of those who act pious in church services and then live like the world the rest of the week! *The Lord knoweth the thought of man, that they are vanity,* Psalm 94:11.

Prominent Changes In Christianity – and when they occurred

The New Testament was completed about A.D. 100. At that time “the faith” had been delivered, Jude 3. It was not to be perverted or changed, Galatians 1:6-10. Nonetheless, men could not leave it alone, and introduced their own ideas, which came to be widely accepted.

Use of Holy Water – A.D. 120. This was borrowed from the Jew’s religion, cf. Colossians 2:8, Hebrews 6:2.

Infant Baptism – First expressly mentioned and condemned in the third century by Tertullian. See Acts 8:36-39, Matthew 28:19.

First Human Creed – The “Nicean Creed” was written about A.D. 325 at Nicaea in Bithynia by 318 uninspired men. The “Apostle’s Creed” was not written by the apostles and does not appear in its present form earlier than A.D. 650. See 2 Peter 1:3, 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.

Latin Mass – Began in A.D. 394.

Purgatory – The doctrine that one may suffer punishment after death and then go to heaven began in A.D. 593. See Luke 16:19-26.

Instrumental Music – First introduced into Christian worship in about A.D. 666.

Celibacy – Priests were not allowed to marry after A.D. 1015. See 1 Timothy 4:1-3.

Confession to Priests – A.D. 1215.

Sprinkling for Baptism – was legalized by the Council of Ravenna in A.D. 1311. The first known isolated case was Novatian in about A.D. 251.

The Bible strictly forbids adding to or taking from its doctrine, Deuteronomy 4:2, Revelation 22:18, 19. It is no small thing to change the will of God and substitute for it the inventions of men. Think about it! House to House, Heart to Heart.

SHOWING HONOR AND RESPECT - - -

June and July in America are months set aside by our country to honor special people and events. In May, Americans celebrated and honored the Mothers of our nation. There is a saying that she who rocks the cradle shapes the world. In short, the training that a child receives at the hand of their mother influences the direction of our nation. In June we add the observance of Father's Day, who partners in raising and training the young. Proverbs 1:8 reads, *My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother.*

In June we show our patriotism by celebrating Flag Day on the 14th, a day set aside to respect our country and a time to display a symbol as a remembrance of our freedoms.

On July 4th, we celebrate the independence of our Nation. We reflect on the history of our country – the patriotism of the early settlers and their struggles in making that independence and freedom a reality. Our country was founded on God's Word. There are statements by some of the signers of the Declaration of Independence declaring God's Word to be the guidelines recognized and respected in setting up the laws of this young country.

God's Word was the strength that molded our country. Laws were enacted following the principle of the Ten Commandments – honor God; honor parents; respect human life; can't murder; can't steal; can't lie; can't covet others' property. The well being of others, loving our enemies, and respect of others was practiced in the settling of the states. God cautions us as citizens to [s]ubmit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake whether it be to the king,, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well, 1 Peter 2:13-14, see Titus 2:1.

In Colossians 1:16, we are reminded that *God created all things, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers.*

Let's start and end our days being thankful and paying due respect and honor to God, our Father in Heaven, and to our earthly fathers and mothers, and for the privilege of being free to worship, a privilege made possible by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Lord and innumerable human sacrifices throughout the years.

Elementary school students were given a test of "Why God made moms." One question was "If you could change one thing about your Mom, what would it be? (1) She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I'd get rid of that. (2) I'd make my Mom smarter. Then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me. (3) I would like for her to get rid of this invisible eyes on her back.

"It is Written" or Not: (1) Shakespeare *As You Like It*; (2) Proverbs 20:5; (3) Since 16th century; (4) Shakespeare *Merchant of Venice*; (5) Since 19th century; (6) Job 37:22; (7) Shakespeare *Hamlet*; (8) Proverbs 27:15; (9) Proverbs 19:4; (10) Ecclesiastics 1:9; (11) Shakespeare *Julius Caesar*; (12) Ecclesiastics 9:11; (13) Ecclesiastics 7:16; (14) Benjamin Franklin; (15) Chinese proverb.

Double Puzzle Answers: Father, Christ, Dads, Moms, Blessings, Flag, Country – *Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace,, and things wherewith one may edify another.* Romans 14:19

Bible Quiz: (1) blood and water, John 19:34; (2) Peter, Acts 9:37-42; (3) Simon Peter, Matthew 16:23; (4) Pilate, Matthew 27:24; (5) Cornelius, Acts 10:1-48; (6) His mother, Mary, John 2:1-11; (7) a tent maker, Acts 18:2-3; (8) Jesus' cross, Matthew 27:32; (9) Mary, mother of Jesus, Luke 3:19; (10) Threw it back into the temple, Matthew 27:5; (11) The thief on the cross, Luke 23:43; (12) the father of the demon-possessed boy, Mark 9:24; (13) He cut off his ear with a sword, Matthew 26:51

Under oversight of
Central church of Christ
at Pflugerville
(512) 670-3803

Truth for Teens
fftpub@austin.rr.com
Editors

Kirk Tooley
katooley@minister.com
Tom Stewart
tstwasc@austin.rr.com

We reserve the right to exclude
items we deem unacceptable, using
God's Word as our guide.

Central church of Christ
Truth for Teens
P. O. Box 2343
Pflugerville, Texas 78691-2343

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTIN TX
PERMIT NO. 521