

The BEACON



Published by the Newton church of Christ
Meeting at: 656 St. James Church St and Glendale Rd

Vol. 26, No. 3

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March 2012

IT CAN HAPPEN TO THE BEST

Paul admonished the Corinthians in 1 Corinthians 10:12-" let he that thinks he stands, take heed lest he fall." Satan will not let up on anyone because of their past faithfulness (1 Pet. 5:8). He is constantly seeking ways to undermine our faith. That is why we must realize that we are in a battle, and he can never be embraced and thought to be our friend.

Good king Jehoshaphat in Judah is an example of how an otherwise good person can let his guard down and fall. For some reason he had made a league with Ahab of Israel and the deal was sealed by the marriage of Ahab's daughter, Athaliah , to Jehoshaphat's son, Jehoram. Ahab had declared Baal worship the national religion of Israel and was "more wicked than any before him." For some reason, however, Jehoshaphat, thought he could compromise with him and be his friend. Jehoshaphat did much good in Judah. He followed after the example of his father Asa, in doing all he could to rid Judah of all signs of Baal worship. He stopped short, as his father did, of getting rid of all the high places. Overall, he did a great job and God was pleased with him. In Ahab's last battle with Syria, to regain Ramoth-Gilead, Jehoshaphat was encouraged by Ahab to help Israel. Jehoshaphat committed his troops then said that they should consult God about the matter. Ahab brought forth his 400 false prophets,

and Jehoshaphat asked if there was a "prophet of Jehovah" who could be consulted and Micaiah was brought forth. Ahab said that he never said anything good about him. Micaiah prophesied that they would be defeated and Ahab would die. Rather than heed his advice from God, Ahab made light of it, and Zedekiah, one of his false prophets, slapped Micaiah, the prophet of God in that face. Micaiah had called all the other prophets, liars. Rather than stand with Micaiah, Jehoshaphat folded to peer pressure and went along to get along. He was later rebuked severely by God through Jehu, for his action. Why didn't Jehoshaphat stand firm for what was right? His actions undid much of the good he had done. He repented of what he did and pursued a zealous course, and died in a faithful state. But he was susceptible to sins, that he probably thought he would never commit. My father, commented several years ago, that he "hoped he did not live long enough to undo any good he did." The longer I live the more I understand his wise comment. We cannot rest on what we did. We must fight all the way home. Older as well as younger must understand we cannot make treaties with error. Stand up for the Lord.



Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:

Fear God and keep His commandments,

For this is man's all.

(Ecclesiastes 12:13 NKJV)

The cross of Christ is the greatest of all paradoxes.

Most tragic event in world history	YET	The most wonderful thing to ever happen
The saddest spectacle ever beheld	YET	Out of it came the greatest joy for man
It was Satan's greatest victory	YET	His most stunning defeat
It was Christ's greatest humiliation	YET	His most glorious victory
Christ won by submission	YET	Conquered by His surrender
Shows God's justice in condemning sin	YET	His mercy in pardoning sin
Showed God's hatred of sin	YET	His supreme love for the sinner
Means of God's justice/condemning sin	YET	His mercy forgives it if one obeys
Darkest hour in history	YET	The time of greatest light
The sun refused to shine	YET	Means by which Christ shone as the Light
See man's hatred for Christ	YET	We see Christ's love for man
See human vengeance crying for blood	YET	See Divine forgiveness- "Father Forgive"
Portrays man's sinfulness	YET	God's holiness
Shows man's inability to save self	YET	God's ability and power to accomplish it
From human standpoint it's foolishness	YET	It reveals the highest wisdom of God

“for the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.” (1 Cor. 1:18). –Chart made from article by E. Britnell-



While some are wishing for the church to somehow grow, others are preparing themselves to be instruments of God in church growth as "fishers of men" ([Mar 1:17](#)).

God's Plan for Our Salvation

Hear the Gospel - Romans 10:17

Believe (Faith) – Romans 10:10; Heb. 11:6; Gal. 3:26

Repent (turn away from sin) – Acts 2:38; 17:30

Confess Jesus as The Son of God – Acts 8:37-39; Rom 10:10

Be Baptized (immersed in water) for Remission of Sins – Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:27; Acts 22:16; Mark 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21; Rom. 6:4-6

Results:

You will be saved and The Lord will add you to His church (Acts 2:47). You will then be a Christian and expected to serve God faithfully until death (Rev. 2:10).

Please search the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things are so. Acts 17:11

Your soul is important to us. If you would like to set up a study, or if we can help you in any way, please contact us.

We meet at 656 St. James Ch. Rd. in Newton, NC

Sunday
Bible Study - 9:30 AM
Worship – 11:00 AM

Wednesday
Bible Study – 7:00 PM

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