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THE NEWSLETTER

May-June 2017

"The Lord gave the word: great *was* the company of those that published *it*" (Psalm 68:11).



25,000 Spanish Bibles arrived in Cajamarca, Peru

Victory Baptist Press is a ministry of Victory Baptist Church of Milton, Florida. Founder: Dr. Thomas F. Woodward (1935–1994). Pastor: Tim Fellure. Editor & VBP Director: Jim Fellure. *The Newsletter* is the official publication of Victory Baptist Press and is sent free of charge to those who request it. The main purpose of *The Newsletter* is to promote missions, with an emphasis on the printing and distribution of the Word of God. While we may not agree with every statement printed from outside sources, we make every effort to keep the paper as free from error as possible. To receive *The Newsletter*, send your mailing address to P.O. Box 766, Milton, FL 32572-0766. Phone: 850-623-0086 • Fax: 850-623-3502 • e-mail: news@victorybaptistpress.com

Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

Somehow we have come to the place where we judge the spiritual temperature of a church or the ability of a preacher by the attendance record or how big of a following he has. However, the greatest sign of God's blessing is not seen in the attendance record or the financial report. I have just finished reading *Heartbeats of the Holy*, by Keith E. Knauss, a book that every preacher could benefit from. One statement from the book, that should encourage us

all to find the will of God for our lives and stay with it, concerns John being banished to the isle of Patmos. Dr. Knauss said, "Never forget that John was on Patmos for 'the word of God, and . . . the testimony of Jesus Christ' (Revelation 1:2). Patmos was not a promotion to a larger congregation, but it provided for us the Revelation."

A few years ago, many fundamental Baptist churches were using gimmicks and worldly promotions to draw the crowds. I remember one church giving a fifty-dollar gift certificate to the biggest toy store in town to the child bringing the most visitors. Another church gave a brand new ten-speed bicycle to the one bringing the most visitors. One other church I was familiar with had Homer the clown one Sunday morning, and later they had Pee-Wee, the world's meanest boy, plus a free live, pet monkey!

Back in the 1970's, the late Dr. Harold Sightler and I were discussing the way churches were using these cheap, worldly schemes to create sensationalism at the church-house. Dr. Sightler, being a very wise man, simply said to me, "It's only a fad that will soon play out." He was right; the fad did play out. But the sad story is many of the churches that built their membership with people they paid to come to church are now struggling to exist, and many of them have closed their doors for good.

I remember one pastor friend of years gone by, who used every attendance "getter" imaginable, saying to me, "Every pastor ought to know the sensation of having a thousand heathen in church that are paid to come." He went on to tell about how hard it was to hold their attention with a Bible message. So, what does a church do if preaching will no longer hold the crowd? It is very obvious even to a casual observer that the emerging church has gone completely contemporary and started entertaining rather than preaching. But should the contemporary church set the example for Bible-believers to follow? It should not, but there are indicators that point in that direction.

Several years ago, Brother Tim wrote an article advising that what we do for Christ should be the very best that we can do. The article was entitled *That's Good Enough for Who It's For*. It emphasized that how well you do a job is a reflection of what you think of the person you are doing it for.

I have noticed another very popular downward trend, especially on the websites of many churches - the **dressing down** syndrome.

About a year ago, I made a tragic mistake when I was in town by dressing more casual for the Sunday night or Wednesday night services. I was **dressing down**! I appreciate the Lord reminding me that how well you do a job is a reflection of what you think of the person you are doing it for; how well you dress is a reflection of who you expect to meet. Our former pastor used to say, "If you have an appointment with your banker, lawyer, or professional business person, you should dress your best." If that is true in the business world, how much more important should it be to dress up for church; that is, if we expect the Lord to meet with us.

All of my ranting is just to say worldly entertainment, gimmicks, dressing down, etc., do not build, or even help build, strong churches.

I have already mentioned Dr. Harold Sightler, and anyone who reads what I write or listens to me preach very many times will discover I have great admiration for Dr. Sightler, the founder of Tabernacle Baptist Church of Greenville, South Carolina. Dr. Sightler passed away in 1995, and Dr. Melvin Aiken then pastored the church for the next twenty years. Dr. Aiken has now retired, and Brother Joel Logan is the current pastor. It was my privilege to be there this past Sunday, and I was greatly encouraged to see the good attendance, great music, Bible-preaching, and fellowship around the Word of God. Tabernacle Baptist is an example of what a church can be if it is built on praying, singing, preaching, and fellowshiping around the Word of God. They didn't have to compromise or go the contemporary route of worldliness to build and maintain that great church.

Recently (Wed., April 27), our pastor preached a very powerful, information-loaded sermon on the **dumbing down** effect the digital world is having on society, especially on young people. To say the least, the pulpit was hot. Within the past two weeks, I have heard Pastor Joe Camilleri, Pastor Brent Logan, Pastor Joel Logan, and Pastor James Knox preach in our home church some of the most powerful, straight-forward, Bible-preaching that you will ever hear. There were no gimmicks, fads, or contemporary trends.

Before I sign off, I wish to caution you not to believe that every person who calls himself a preacher is one. He may just be a bag of wind that doesn't want to work. It was once said the reason for the cold, miserable atmosphere at church was because the furnace was off but the blower was still on.

I say all of that just to say I am glad to be a part of a ministry God has blessed in a marvelous and wonderful way. Victory Baptist Press has continued printing and shipping Scriptures to the mission fields of the world since 1984. It would not have happened if it were not a local church ministry that is not local church in name only, but under the authority and complete control of one of the many good churches where the very popular, contemporary compromise is not even a consideration, but the exalting of Jesus Christ and evangelizing of sinners through the preaching of the Word of God is still preeminent.

Till we meet again, may God bless you,

Jim Fellure

Print Shop News



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This last month or so has been busy here in the shop, but not in the usual way. We have just recently gotten another truckload of paper, and I was waiting for a few more supplies before we could start printing. So, what I've been doing is trying to get an English Bible ready to print. I had actually started this layout a few years ago, but got busy with other projects, so I thought it would not be too much trouble to pick up where I left off. The trouble is that since I started we

have updated computers and software, and the program I started it in was obsolete, so I pretty much had to start from scratch. I thought it would take me about a week, but it has turned out to be a month or more. Now, I have people double- and triple-checking my work to make sure I neither added nor subtracted anything. I had a lot of help from my daughter Sarah who works with the computers and software more than I do, and she gave me many helpful hints. If you have never sat and worked at a computer all day, you may not believe it, but it is very tiring. The biggest problem with that is I go home as tired as if I had been unloading the press all day, but without burning all of the calories! Anyway, there are still a few finishing touches that need to be done to it, but hopefully not another month's worth.

We just finished printing about 100,000 English John/Romans, and now we need the covers to put on them before we can start collating. The John/Romans are a great evangelistic tool for many missionaries, and we have not printed any for a long time. We plan to print around 12,000 Cebuano Bibles for the Philippines with the remainder of the paper. The last shipment of Cebuano Bibles was in April of 2014, and they are long gone. No one else, as far as I know prints this version of the Cebuano Bible, and only a very few others are printing the RVG in Spanish. This is another reason why we have not printed an English Bible to date. The KJV is still readily available, at least in the United States, but there is either no or very little alternative for these other foreign translations, and there is a huge open door for them. We wish we could do it all, but since we cannot, we try to print what the Lord leads us to do.

Speaking of the RVG, Bro. Don Rich in Peru has received the container we shipped earlier this year and has been busy distributing them around South America. No doubt his container will be empty soon, and he will be looking for another one.

Please pray that the Lord will give us the wisdom to know which projects to take on, and then supply the means to do them. Please remember we do not charge the missionaries for any Scripture we print. Soldiers on the battlefield do not have to buy their own bullets. If they are willing to put their life on the line, the least we can do is provide them with some good ammunition. Most good missionaries make sacrifices most of us will never understand. Please consider helping us help them.

May God bless you,
Bro. Albert Berg

VBP Field Reps



Bill and Vicki Richburg

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billrichburg@victorybaptistpress.com

The Richburgs left a full-time ministry in South Carolina and became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in 1999. Brother Richburg now serves as our general field director.



Shawn and Emma Dunn

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preacherswdunn@gmail.com

The Dunns became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in September 2010. After pastoring two churches for a total of 24 years, and being heavily involved with printing and distributing the Scriptures, the burden for printing became so real to Brother Dunn and his wife Emma that he resigned as a pastor to become a full-time representative for VBP.

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continued from page 8...

But by the end of his life that same son of thunder had come to be known as the apostle of love. That son of thunder wrote more about love and less about judgment than any other apostle.

Truth Is The Barrier Against False Doctrine!

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist." In one verse John says we are to love one another; in the very next verse he says there are deceivers amongst you who deny Jesus Christ. It is almost as if he is saying love but don't love everybody. You can love and have discernment at the same time. Some people are just wrong, dangerous heretics, and you better stay away from them. You are not to love those who are in contradiction of the truth.

"Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward." Wake up, be alert, listen with discernment, be careful who you listen to. The typical Christian bookstore is dangerous to Christianity. The typical TV preacher is dangerous to Christianity. The latest best-seller in Christian writing is dangerous to Christianity. The hottest CCM or Christian pop singer is dangerous to Christianity. John says we need to "look to ourselves." Quit falling for everything the world produces, and have some discernment. There has been many a Christian who started well and were under solid, sound, scriptural teaching. But they got sucked into some modern, new-evangelical, ecumenical teaching and they've gone backwards. They have lost the things which were wrought in them.

"If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed." This is where John gets real personal with this lady to which he is writing: he wants to warn her against these false teachers. And when we read it, we would think of some cult knocking on our door. And John would say don't bring them into your house, and let them spread their lies in your home. If they want to come in and sit while I give them a Bible lesson, I will do that, but I'm not showing hospitality to a false teacher. He should not be given a platform in your house, whether it is at the front door, the kitchen table, through "Christian TV", or some woman preacher's books.

"For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." Bidding him God speed would be like saying, "God bless you." You may think that is rude, but John is protecting this lady, and he says don't give them a positive, friendly greeting. When you encounter a person who says they're a Mormon (or any other cult) don't say, "Well, that's wonderful." No, that's not wonderful; that's terrible. That means they're going to hell; what's so wonderful about that? Cut them off at the pass, rebuke them, don't let them in the house, don't act like we're on the same team. *"Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake"* (Tit. 1:11). Is it because you hate them? No, it is because you love the truth.

"Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full." The final word of John to the lady is – there is so much more I want to teach you, but time will not allow it in this letter. I hope to come to you and then we can talk, and I can teach you and answer your questions. Little lady, there is just so much more you need to know. And if you and I are going to be vigilant for the truth, there is so much more we need to know. The Bible is so deep so keep reading it, keep listening to preaching, be faithful to church so you will be ever vigilant for truth.

MEMORIALS

All of the contributors listed below, through individual contributions, have helped provide 545 Bibles for the mission field.

FROM	IN MEMORY OF
First Baptist Church of Arcola, LA.....	Charles Bollingham
First Baptist Church of Arcola, LA..	Aimee Besse
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Heritage Baptist Church of Picayune, MS	Manuel Joseph Areas, Sr.
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.....	Sally Lawson
Lakeview Baptist Church of Spring City, TN.....	
.....	Joshua Kliever
.....	Ilana Mueller

Benefits & Blessings

*Mrs. Pam Leake***I Took A Peek**

As the invitation hymn was being played I did what many likely do,—take a peek at the altar to see if I might be used to pray with someone there. It blessed my heart to see two of the young boys that were students in my Wednesday night class on their knees praying. This sight has been repeated time and time again (as I've peeked time and time again), and

often there are more children besides these two young boys on the altar, making their petition for whatever burden or need might be in their young hearts. The sight always greatly encourages me.

Through the years I've enjoyed the blessing of teaching in classrooms of young children and, regardless of their age, I am always blessed to "listen in" on their prayers when we have prayer time. The simplicity and innocence of their requests prick my heart. Most will express thankfulness to the Lord for their mom and dad, some may ask for the Lord to help them have a good time on vacation, others have asked the Lord to help their daddy with the cows and new calves, while many have requested the Lord's assistance on a test they have the next day in school! The wide range and variety of petitions is not for judging, for the Lord knows their hearts. With Him there is no request too small or too "silly" to be heard . . . and He hears them all that come from a sincere heart.

Thinking about the prayers of a child caused me to consider the way in which I come to the Lord in prayer. Jesus had something to say about children: "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not . . ." (Mk. 10:14), and "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:3). How is it that the Lord would have me come to Him? Is it not as a child, void of pretense, not trying to impress the Lord as some super-spiritual Christian? Life gets hard, messy, and sometimes unbearable, and I need to be real in my conversation with my heavenly Father. Praying to Him doesn't require a litany of high and holy words that indicates my deep spirituality; no, He wants me to come to Him in my weakness and need, speaking as a child with her Father and expressing the innermost needs that I have. He already knows me better than I know myself, so to try to impress Him with my "spirituality" is meaningless.

I'm so thankful the Lord invites us to come to Him, to pour out our hearts in praise, in supplication, and in thanksgiving with anything and everything we want to say. He desires to hear from us! There are many invitations the Lord gives in Scripture, but I'm so grateful that He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). I can come as a child to my heavenly Father who gives rest, does the impossible, and displays love to His children in such a magnificent way!

Pam is the wife of Ed Leake, pastor of Colonial Baptist Church and director of Colonial Press of Charlottesville, Virginia.
Email: pamleake@colonialbc.org

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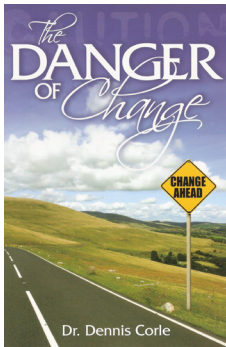
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The Danger of Change

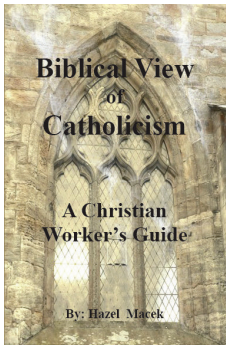
by Dr. Dennis Corle

96 pages

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Give me that old time religion. It's not built on class; It's built on conviction; It's not built on perception; It's built on reality. That old time religion is not built on happiness, but holiness...It's not built on the caviar

crowd; It's built on the locust and wild honey crowd. It's not built on popularity, but persecution.



Biblical View of Catholicism

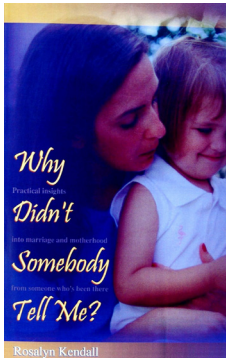
by Hazel Macek

123 pages

\$9.95

This book has been written especially to be a resource guide for all those who need to be equipped with an accurate, clear, current, concise coverage of Catholic Doctrine; while supplying them with ample

Biblical verses which counter each unscriptural teaching, either for their own personal benefit, or for evangelistic purposes.



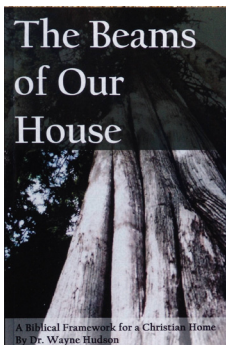
Why Didn't Somebody Tell Me

by Rosalyn Kendall

264 pages

\$8.00

This book offers some very practical insights and encouragement that can transform the life of a young woman seeking to fulfill her God-given role as wife, mother, and homemaker.



The Beams of Our House

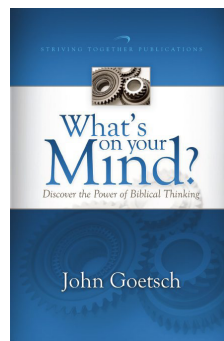
by Wayne Hudson

164 pages

\$10.00

This book is an effort to investigate the beams of the house the Lord builds – the foundation, the support walls, the joists, the rafters, and the roof that make up the Christian home. Each Christian has the tools

for its construction – the Bible, prayer, discernment, and application. Our construction superintendent is the leadership of the Holy Spirit, God waits for each of us to put up “the beams of our house.”



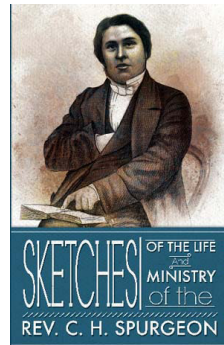
What's On Your Mind?

by John Goetsch

161 pages

\$11.95

This book is about letting the mind of the Master become the master of your mind! It is about waging the war for your thoughts with more than human willpower. It is about true, biblical life-change.



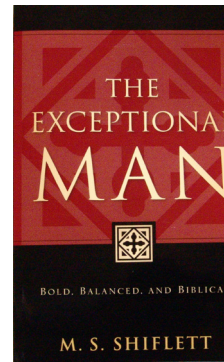
Sketches of the Life and Ministry of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon

by George John Stevenson

130 pages

\$10.95

Though this book only covers the first few years of his ministry, it gives ample evidence that Mr. Spurgeon was a man raised up and specially trained by Divine Providence to accomplish a great moral and spiritual work by promoting the well-being of both the bodies and the souls of the multitudes who thronged to hear him.



The Exceptional Man

by M. S. Shiflett

159 pages

\$12.95

God is searching for a man. This man must be bold in his demeanor. He must be balanced in his deeds. He must be biblical in his doctrine. A bold man is a strong man. A balanced man is a sensible man. A biblical man is a Spirit-filled man. A man who is all three is The Exceptional Man. Every man in America should read this book!



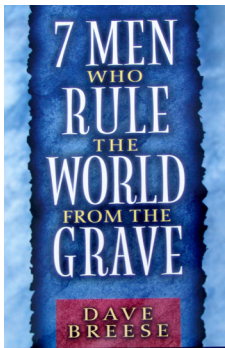
The Soul-Winner

by C. H. Spurgeon

276 pages

\$12.95

For more than forty years Mr. Spurgeon was, by his way of preaching and writing, one of the greatest soul-winners; and by his printed word he he still continues to be the means of the conversion of many all over the world. It is believed, therefore, that thousands will rejoice to read what he spoke and wrote concerning what he called “the chief business of the Christian minister.”



7 Men who Rule the World from the Grave

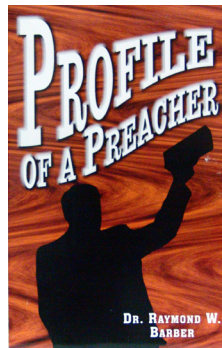
by Dave Breese

235 pages

\$13.50

Charles Darwin, Karl Marx, Julius Wellhausen, John Dewey, Sigmund Freud, John Maynard Keynes, Soren Kierkegaard – Though their bodies lie cold and dormant,

the grave cannot contain the influence these seven men have had on today's world. They generated philosophies that have been ardently grasped by masses of people but are erroneous and anti-scriptural. Today these ideas pervade our schools, businesses, homes, even the church. Dave Breese warns us of the dangers of believing unreservedly the ideas of these seven men. He also reminds us of the only man whose life and words we can trust completely—Jesus Christ.



Profile of a Preacher

by Raymond W. Barber

217 pages

\$8.00

Sometimes colorful, often complicated and repeatedly controversial, the preacher takes the light of the Gospel and shines it brightly in a world full of darkness. His wisdom must be greater than his own. His vision must not

diminish. Being entrusted with such a great responsibility imposes the burden of preparation, organization and punctuality. Pitfalls must be avoided. Pressures must not be the catalyst for the preacher's motivation.

This book spans the full gamut of a preacher's life with scriptural philosophy, proven methods, and a veritable storehouse of insight and wisdom.

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The Pastor's Page

Tim Fellure

A Letter To A Lady 2 John

In one of the churches in Asia Minor, perhaps Ephesus, there lived a godly lady. From personal remarks in this letter, we gather this lady had children (vss. 1, 4), a house (vs. 10), and a sister (vs. 13). Her husband is not mentioned leaving us to wonder if she was a widow. Some commentators have taken the view that the “elect

lady” was not actually an individual but was the church. Their thought is that John was using code language because of the persecution of that day, and the lady was a figurative term for the whole congregation he was writing to. We do know elsewhere the Church is called the bride of Christ, so there is some basis for using a female term to speak of the church. So, the question is whether John was writing this letter to an individual or a body of believers. I think the truth probably lies somewhere in the middle. John was writing first to an individual lady whom he loved in the truth, but through her he was also addressing a church, which was almost certainly meeting in her house. The letter was written TO the elect lady but FOR the church.

The theme of the letter is truth. In fact, in the three epistles that bear his name, John mentions “truth” or “true” twenty times. Already there were false teachers trying to infiltrate the churches with damnable doctrines, and the last remaining apostle was jealous to uphold and guard the truth. In 1 John he sounds the warning to the church in general of those antichrists who deny the truth of Jesus Christ (2:18, 22, 23; 4:1, 3). When you come to 2 John, there is the same emphasis on truth, but it seems the threat of false teachers is now personal. Here is a living example of what he warned against in the previous letter: a real and present danger that false teachers could get a foothold into the elect lady’s house – and through her, the church – bringing their corrupt doctrines with them. It is this danger – warned against in 1 John – that prompts John to write this letter.

There were, evidently, itinerant preachers in the apostolic age, and many were the false teachers the apostles warned against. When coming into town, they would present themselves as ministers of the true Gospel, but after winning the confidence of the people, would begin sowing their seeds of destruction. When a preacher came to town it was incumbent upon someone in the church to provide him lodging. It is possible the elect lady of 2 John had opened her home to some itinerant preachers. It is also very possible the church was in her home, so bringing them into her home was essentially the same as bringing them into the church.

So, the theme of 2 John is truth. We know that by the simple observation that the word “truth” is found 5 times in the first four

verses. In particular, the apostle was exhorting for a defense of the truth against the false teachers who sought to corrupt the church with their false teachings.

Truth Is The Basis Of Our Relationships!

“The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth.” The connection between John and this lady was the truth. The thing that brought them together, in whatever relationship they had, was that they were both believers of the truth. There was a believer in one part of the world, a believer in another part of the world, and when they met they became united because of truth. And that is the culture of every church: people who may have little else in common, but they find a commonality in the truth. And while we have acquaintances and friends outside of Christianity, our strongest ties ought to be with those of like faith.

Truth is a stronger bond than even flesh and blood. If you find that unbelievers are your favorite company, then it calls into question how serious you are about Christ. You can have business dealings, be good neighbors, have interaction, live together with unbelievers, but how can you prefer the company of someone who denies the Christ who died for you?

Truth Must Be Balanced With Love!

“And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye had heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.” Truth must not be sacrificed for some shallow, superficial love, but neither should truth make us unloving. The ecumenicalist preaches love is all that matters, and we should not let truth stand in the way of our unity, but on the other hand so many fundamentalists somehow think truth and love cannot be mutual. I’ve even known some who seemed to believe the more truth you have, somehow that is supposed to translate into being mean and harsh. But truth doesn’t make us unkind, ungracious, inhospitable: truth is to be held in love.

In the next verses, John will tell us who NOT to love. The false teacher is not included in brotherly love. If a man is going to deny Christ, I’m not going to wish him God-speed or act like we’re all in this thing together. But that attitude should not be exhibited toward my brother in Christ. Some believers have the “love not the world” down real good; but they need to work on the “love one another” part.

John is speaking from personal experience. When he first started following Christ his nickname was “son of thunder.” I have met a lot of those sons of thunder. He was such a son of thunder that once he wanted to call fire down on an entire village because they had rejected his message.

continued on page 4...