

*In  
Search  
of*

# Truth and Right

*Tim Henderson, Editor*

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*"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Philippians 4:8 (NASB-U)*

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## Verbiage

By: Gary Henry  
*WordPoints—April 26, 2008*

***"But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord wills, and I will know, not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power. For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power."***

*1 Corinthians 4:19,20*

Impressive talk about God is not the same thing as actual life in Him. Eloquent words about God may abound in some circles, and there is certainly no shortage today of profound discussion about the subject of spirituality. But our relationship with God is not determined by either the eloquence or the profundity of our talk. Not even the truthfulness of our words is enough, by itself, to guarantee a real relationship with God!

It is tempting to stay in the realm of talk and never venture out into the world of action. After all, it is easy and pleasant to talk about God. When we verbalize truths about God, we not only feel a sense of spiritual satisfaction ourselves, but others also come to think of us as being wise and spiritually mature. But if we talk about God in such a way that the true emptiness of our hearts is concealed, either from others or ourselves, we are doing something that is exceedingly dangerous. As the painful realities that could draw us toward a real



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### **TIMES OF SERVICES**

#### **SUNDAY**

**Bible Classes\* 10:00 AM  
AM Worship 10:45 AM  
PM Worship 6:30 PM**

#### **WEDNESDAY**

**Bible Classes\* 7:00 PM  
(\* Bible Classes for All Ages)**

relationship with God are buried beneath a blanket of fine religious words, we may discover that our own verbiage has become our greatest hindrance in moving toward God. Endlessly repeating the truth about Him will have become a substitute for dealing with the truth about ourselves.

We're perhaps familiar with the biblical warnings against words-only religion. Paul, for example, warned about "idle talkers" (Titus 1:10), indicating that such people "*profess to know God, but in works they deny Him*" (Titus 1:16). And Jesus Himself spoke sternly on the subject: "*These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me*" (Matthew 15:8). But are "idle talkers" just the professional imposters and the intentional hypocrites? Surely these texts have a wider application. They are a warning also to those of us who've slipped carelessly into the assumption that if our words are good, then that is all we need to be concerned about. Intentional or not, hypocrisy is a very serious matter. The soundness of our faith involves more than the sound of our words.

## Today's Sermon:

*AM—We Have a Savior*

*PM—What we should look for in a Bible Class*

*"All he has rests on his tongue. His religion is something to make a noise with"*  
*John Bunyan*

## *Is There Anything We Can't Let Go Of?*

*By: Gary Henry*  
*WordPoints—May 3, 2008*

**God alone is to be worshiped, and we must make sure nothing else takes His place within our hearts.** Surrounded with so many things that attract our devotion, it is not easy to love God with a pure, wholehearted devotion. But this is the very thing we must learn to do.

*"Jesus said to him, 'If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come follow Me.' but when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions"*

*Matthew 19:21,22*

Even Abraham, the very father of the faithful, had to be taught to surrender his heart *completely* to God. As Isaac, the beloved son of Abraham's old age, began to mature, God saw that Abraham's attachment to Isaac was growing deeper by the day. Abraham needed to be tested. He needed to be taught that, if necessary, he could do without ... yes, even Isaac, the dearest blessing he'd ever received from God. "*Take now your son,*" God said, "*your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering*" (Genesis 22:2). Though his hand was stayed at the last moment from actually taking Isaac's life, the agony through which Abraham passed to get to that point had taught him that none of God's gifts must ever be allowed to occupy the place in our hearts reserved for the Giver alone. Whatever we hold on to besides God must be held loosely.

As our Creator, God is unique. We have a need for Him unlike our need for any other thing that

exists. He is the only being we have to have, the only thing we can't do without. We are to be inseparably devoted to Him alone; He is to be our only real "possession." All other things must be loved with a love we can let go of, and if our attachment to anything other than God is so strong that we can't let go of it, then that thing, whatever it is, has become an idol to us. Yet God loves us too much to leave us where we are. The "trials and tribulations" that break our hearts are often the providence through which God is teaching us that He is, in fact, the only One we can't do without. Although painful, this is the best thing that can happen to us.

*"The dearest idol I have known, Whate'er that idol be,  
Help me to tear it from thy throne, And worship only thee."  
William Cowper*

**Something to think about:**

*"The difference between using the right word and almost the right word is like the difference between lightning and a lightning bug." - Mark Twain*

***"Like apples of gold in settings of silver  
Is a word spoken in right circumstances."  
Proverbs 25:11 (NASB-U)***

## ***News N Notes***

**Remember these in your prayers:**

- Lucille Harless, Dave Harless' mother
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband.
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Blake Swanson, Dorothy Lancaster's grandson
- Trudell Tennant
- Bud and Merl Frey
- Tammy Garrison, Zeda Goddard's daughter
- Audrio Gaudio, Nancy Morris' great-granddaughter
- Marie Roberts, & Ed's father, Jim Roberts.
- Ila Marshall, Harold Marshall's mother
- Cary & Grace Lancaster

**Nursing Home:**

- Pauline Sellers
- Ethel Mahan

**Shut-ins:**

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Pauline Midcap