

The Bible Banner

February 2020



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HAPPINESS IS THE LORD

A Russian countess accepted the Lord Jesus as her Saviour and was very open about her testimony. The Tsar was displeased and threw her into prison. After 24 hours with the lowest level of Russian society, in the most miserable conditions imaginable, he ordered her brought into his presence. He smiled sardonically and said, *“Well, are you ready now to renounce your silly faith and come back to the pleasures of the court?”*

To his surprise, the countess smiled serenely and said, *“I have known more real joy and more real happiness in one day in prison with Jesus than I have known in a lifetime in the courts of the Tsar.”*

Indeed, *“Happiness is to know the Savior...Happiness is the Lord.”*

Carob Pudding

1 can (13.5 oz./403 mL) coconut milk
1½ can refilled with soymilk (refill the coconut milk can 1½ times)
1 1/3 cup coconut sugar or sucanat
6 Tbsp cornstarch (arrowroot may be substituted)
4 Tbsp roasted carob powder
1 Tbsp Pero or other cereal coffee substitute
¾ tsp salt
Mix all the ingredients together in a saucepan. Whisk on stovetop at medium heat until thickened. Refrigerate overnight. Add peanut butter cookies for a garnish if desired.



For the Peanut Butter Cookie Recipe check out the March

2019 Bible Banner on our website here <http://www.biblepicturepathways.com/resources/March%20%202019.pdf>

PROFITABLE TRADITIONS

Cultivate “words of affirmation”--

According to an online poll in 2010, 23% of people class “words of affirmation” as their primary “love language” making it the most common primary love language. **Don’t forget to tell the people you love that they are important to you.** One way to do this is have a white board, or a cork board and tacks, or use the refrigerator with magnets where family members can occasionally find an encouraging note. Or simply hide a note for a surprise. *“Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”* 1 John 4:11

Quotable Quotes

Dwight L. Moody’s favorite verse was Isaiah 12:2: *“I will trust and not be afraid.”* He used to say:
*“You can travel first class or second class to heaven. Second class is, ‘What time I am afraid I will trust.’ (Ps. 56:3) First class is, ‘I will trust and not be afraid.’ That is the better way.
Why not buy a first-class ticket?”*

Prophetic News Notes – Catholic Herald names Ellen G White Heretic of the Week

Ellen White happens to be one of my favorite writers. She is also considered “the most widely translated American Author.” Indeed, “her works have been published in nearly 150 languages” despite the fact that “her formal schooling ended at age 9.”¹ So a few weeks ago,

I took note when someone told me that Jan. 9, 2020, she had been published as the “Heretic of the Week” in the Catholic Herald. The article contains some truth, some half-truths, some misstatements as well as some more blatant errors, the scope of which this article cannot contain.

Here are just two examples:

1. **Catholic Herald claim--** “Her ongoing revelations formed the basis of the doctrine...White claimed that Christ wanted to be worshipped on the Jewish Sabbath.”²

The Truth of the Matter—The scriptures formed the basis of all the doctrines that White endorsed. For example, God ordained the 7th day Sabbath, as a memorial of creation long before the Jews were in existence.

(Gen. 2:1-3, Ex. 20:8-11) The Sabbath continued to be kept by the Gentiles after Christ’s death and resurrection. (Acts 13:42, Acts 18:4) Jesus himself said the Sabbath was made for all humanity, not just the Jews. “*And he [Jesus] said unto them, The sabbath was made for man [Greek—“anthropos” meaning human beings], and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.*” Mark 2:27,28

2. **Catholic Herald claim--** “These doctrines included...three separate Divine Persons rather than the orthodox doctrine of Trinity.”²

The Truth of the Matter—White’s doctrine of the three persons of the Godhead is also based on the scriptures -- although it is indeed different than the Catholic doctrine of the Trinity (which is essentially one God with three faces.) “For there are **three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.**” 1 John 5:7 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:” Matt. 28:19 Here are White’s own words, “There are **three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers--the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit--those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized and these powers will cooperate with the obedient**” {HP 336.2} “The unity that exists between Christ and His disciples does not destroy the personality of either. They are **one in purpose, in mind, in character, but not in person. It is thus that God and Christ are one.**” {MH 422.1}³

Undeniably, these two doctrines of Mrs. White’s do differ from Catholicism, causing her to fall under the first half of description of a heretic according to Webster’s 1828 dictionary-- at least from a Catholic perspective. “Heretic--1. A person under any religion, but particularly the christian, who holds and teaches opinions repugnant to the established faith, or that which is made the standard of orthodoxy.”

However, the second half of the first definition for heretic stipulates that, in Christian circles, heresy is that which does not agree with scripture. “Heretic--In strictness, among christians, a person who holds and avows religious opinions contrary to the doctrines of Scripture, the only rule of faith and practice.” As we have seen, Mrs. White’s doctrines agree perfectly with the scriptures, therefore she does not fulfill this definition of a heretic.

The second definition of heretic states that the word refers to “2. Any one who maintains erroneous opinions.” According to this definition, one must study the scriptures to determine what is more heretical in nature—the one whom the article is written about, or the article itself. In the meantime, I recommend reading several of my favorites of Ellen White’s works—The Desire of Ages (the story of Jesus), Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing (the greatest sermon ever preached), the Ministry of Healing, and Christ’s Object Lessons. To discover the real reason Mrs. White may be listed as “heretic of the week”, read the most excellent history of the Protestant reformation found in her book The Great Controversy.⁴ In every book, you will find her theme to be, not heresy, but that “*The religion of Jesus is joy, peace, and happiness.*” {FLB 226.2}



1—Conflict and Courage Cover, EGW 2-- <https://catholicherald.co.uk/magazine/heretic-of-the-week-ellen-g-white/> 3- For more info watch “Deception for the Elect” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGE3WdOSV7A> 4-- PDF copies available on our website here. <http://www.biblepicturepathways.com/pdf-library.php>



Happiness is...to Take Heed!

I held my breath as I plummeted toward the ground, landing in a most uncomfortable position. “Ouch, I think I broke my arm.” I said, pronouncing my own diagnosis to my brother. And sure enough, my arm did turn out to be broken. The next few weeks were spent with my arm in a cast, and with me learning a very painful and inconvenient lesson—that my father’s warning instructions about how to climb trees (always holding on in at least three places) was for my own happiness. Only once had I broken the rule and decided swinging from branch to branch like a monkey would be fun, but once was enough teach me of the unhappiness that comes from not heeding the warning. Proverbs 3:13,14 says, *“Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.”* And Jesus says, speaking of His directions, *“If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.”* John 13:17



Let’s take a few minutes to consider what is the first warning, as well as a thrice repeated caution, that Christ gave us for the last days in Matthew 24. *“And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you... And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many... Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert [this Greek word is also translated “wilderness”—Matt. 4:1, “desolate”—Matt. 23:38, “solitary”—Mark 1:35]; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. Matt. 24:3,4, 11, 23-25, 26***

This warning tells us that there will be many false prophets, and that many will be deceived. These prophets will do wonders (maybe building amazingly orchestrated compounds or looking like they can outlive bullets?) and call people into secret or wilderness places. Jesus warns that this is a clever enough deception that it will be used even for the very elect. Sadly, many who sincerely desire to follow God are duped into following a man—a false prophet. The following is a brief look into some of the cults formed around false prophets. We will compare them to the Biblical warnings of false prophets. Happiness is found in heeding God’s warnings!

Take our Bible study on “Tests of a true Prophet” <http://www.biblepicturepathways.com/resources/29%20Bible%20Lesson%20Tests%20of%20a%20True%20Prophet.pdf>

STUDY TO SHOW THYSELF APPROVED —Warnings/Descriptions of False Prophets(FP)



I have underlined those things found to be exactly on target in my research of cults headed by false prophets Jim Jones & Warren Jeffs.

FP bring a peace and safety message—Promised a utopia? Jer. 14:13 *“Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.”*

“Jim Jones....American cult leader who promised his followers a utopia in the jungles of South America after proclaiming himself messiah of the Peoples Temple, a San Francisco-based evangelist group. He ultimately led his followers into a mass suicide [Kool-Aid laced with cyanide], which left more than 900 dead and came to be known as the Jonestown Massacre (November 18, 1978) —adopted the name ‘the Prophet.’” <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jim-Jones>



The Faces of False Prophets Warren Jeffs (L) and Jim Jones (R)

FP Prophecy lies, use fraud Jer. 14:14 *“Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.”*

FP do not reveal true wickedness, but create false burdens and causes of banishment—concentrating on vain and foolish things. Lamentations 2:14 *“Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment.”*

“Warren Jeffs ...[is a]...jailed polygamist... fundamentalist leader, whom the faithful call their “prophet,” “The prophet literally tells people where they will live, whom they will marry,” Watkiss said... he ordered followers to destroy all of their children’s toys... he has even banned corn... Earlier this year, Jeffs forbade intimacy between husbands and wives and selected 15 men to father all future FLDS [Fundamentalist Latter-day Saints] children.” <https://abcnews.go.com/US/jailed-polygamist-leader-warren-jeffs-issues-hundreds-orders/story?id=17770090>

FP look good on the outside, but are wicked within. They have bad fruit-- Matt. 7:15,20 *“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves... Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”*

False prophets are connected with false teachers and false doctrine, heresies—2 Peter 2:1 *“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.”*

The ways of FP are destructive and cause the truth to be defamed-- 2 Peter 2:2 “And many shall follow their pernicious [destructive—Web 1828] ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.”

FP love your money, not you—2 Peter 2:3 “And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.”

FP are activated by the wrong spirit, the spirit of antichrist (although sometimes they appear to teach about Christ, it is not the Jesus Christ in the Bible. An example of such false teaching is “~~Jesus, the man who became God~~” instead of the truth “**Jesus Christ, God who became man**”)—1 John 4:1-3 “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

Here we find a false prophet named Bar-jesus—False prophets may claim to have a special connection to Jesus. They are very subtle and pervert [distort, misinterpret] the right ways of the Lord.--Acts 13:6, 8-10 “And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus:... But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them [Barnabas and Saul], seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?...”

Doctrines of devils/heresies (often propagated by false prophets) include lies in hypocrisy (such as “*you must have 3 wives to go to heaven, and I can have 80 wives*”), **forbidding to marry** (“*unmarried people are holier*”), **no conscience** (often guilty of child abuse, etc.), **ridiculous dietary restrictions of healthy food that God endorses or extreme fasting--** 1Tim. 4:1-5 “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats[food], which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.”

Eagle's Nest



In a rather mysterious way, the eagle builds her nest in the tallest trees and on the loftiest mountain ledges. First, she lays down thorns, jagged stones, and all manner of sharp objects which seem odd and unusual materials for the purpose. Then she covers it thickly with wool, feathers, and animal fur. The nesting place thus becomes soft and comfortable, a delightful home for the baby birds which the mother will hatch.

But the little creatures are not destined to remain in this inviting cradle so laboriously prepared for them. The



time will come when the **mother will stir up the nest**. With her sharp talons she will begin to point the sharp protrusions into their flesh. Up to this time, the tiny creatures have had their food delivered and dropped into their mouths. After the nest has been stirred up, the eagles become so miserable and unhappy they are willing to get out and go somewhere else.

This is the mother's objective in removing all the downy material which originally lined the nest and casting it to the wind. It is not cruelty on her part, but rather an effort to produce discontent with the old lives of ease and to whet their desire to move on to maturity and the joy of flying.

According to the Bible, God often uses a similar method to encourage His people towards spiritual maturity. *For the LORD'S portion is his people.. As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: So the LORD alone did lead... Deut. 32:9, 11, 12 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Isaiah 40:31*

When your happiness seems ruffled, and your “nest” stirred up--- wait on the Lord—He has a plan for You!

Are You Ready for the Whooping Cough?

Last month, mainstream news gave evidence that vaccinations are not 100% effective. Fox News headlines blared the embarrassing facts, *“Whooping cough outbreak closes Texas school despite 100-percent vaccination rate.”*¹



The article continued, *“An outbreak of the highly contagious whooping cough has forced one school in Houston, Tex., to close its doors early for the holiday break. St. Theresa Catholic School in Memorial Park will be closed until Jan. 6 due to the outbreak, which has affected students and staff alike. Some children have been hospitalized as a result, the Houston Chronicle reports....It’s not clear how many people are affected....Officials with the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston said that 100 percent of students who attend St. Theresa Catholic School are vaccinated against the illness. That said, those who have received the whooping cough vaccine can sometimes still contract the disease if they are exposed.”*¹

*“Whooping cough (pertussis) is a highly contagious respiratory tract infection. In many people, it’s marked by a severe hacking cough followed by a high-pitched intake of breath that sounds like “whoop.”... Deaths associated with whooping cough are rare but most commonly occur in infants.”*²

*“Once you become infected with whooping cough, it takes about seven to 10 days for signs and symptoms to appear, though it can sometimes take longer. They’re usually mild at first and resemble those of a common cold...After a week or two, signs and symptoms worsen. Thick mucus accumulates inside your airways, causing uncontrollable coughing. Severe and prolonged coughing attacks may: provoke vomiting, result in a red or blue face, cause extreme fatigue, [and] end with a high-pitched “whoop” sound during the next breath of air. However, many people don’t develop the characteristic whoop. Sometimes, a persistent hacking cough is the only sign that an adolescent or adult has whooping cough. Infants may not cough at all. Instead, they may struggle to breathe, or they may even temporarily stop breathing.”*²

Our family, friends, and extended family had the opportunity to observe whooping cough firsthand about 15 years ago. Between us, there were a total of 8 children sick; 3 were infants under the age of 6 months. In our older children, most of the symptoms were just like a fairly negligible normal cough. But we can testify to the fact that pertussis or whooping cough is worse in infants. While our baby fared the best of the 3 infants, and never even missed church, he did get the characteristic whoop and turned almost blue a few times. One of the other infants lost quite a bit of weight and the other one missed church for over a month—but all survived.

In light of recent outbreaks, it is evident that both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated should be asking: “What can I do if my children, contract the whooping cough?” Of course, the best offense is a good defense and keeping up the immune system. But past that, truthfully, the best immediate remedy we found for our little one was fresh air. Our son would start whooping and be unable to get his breath, but as soon as he would be rushed out the door to the outside air, he could breathe again and the whooping stopped. It was phenomenal! A historic record of whooping cough that I found reports the same interesting phenomenon. *“We immediately went and found that the young man, thirteen years old, had been sick nine weeks with the whooping cough, and was wasted almost to a skeleton. He had fits of coughing which would stop his breath, and his father was obliged to rush to the door with him in his arms that he might regain his breath.”* {LS88 255.2}



In our case, all the vegetarian mothers all continued breastfeeding the infants. In addition, one of our family member’s medical books reported something like *“Red clover tea is an age old remedy for whooping cough.”*³ So our son was also given red clover tea in a bottle. According to the Natural Remedies Encyclopedia, red clover affects the *“nerves, lungs, blood, liver and lymph. It fights infection...relaxes the system, stops spasms and induces expectoration. It is soothing to the nerves and good for whooping cough.”*⁴

Today, there are several remedies that I would probably use for whooping cough, that I was unaware of back then. Whooping cough is a bacterial illness, so any of the antibacterial herbs may be helpful—garlic, ginger, Echinacea, oregano, etc. However, colloidal silver may be much easier to get down a baby than many antibiotic herbs. I have read many anecdotal stories of colloidal silver working for whooping cough and I personally know of an MD confirmed case of strep throat (another bacterial illness) in a two year old that was treated and alleviated (also confirmed by an MD) with colloidal silver and Manuka honey. However, my arsenal of herbs for whooping cough would also include thyme and mullein which are both expectorants and antispasmodic. Additionally, plantain is good for congested lungs. I have used all three of these herbs successfully in the past for cases of croup.

Indeed, our Great Physician has given us many good natural remedies from which to choose. And truly *“the earth which... bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God.”* Heb. 6:7

1-- <https://www.foxnews.com/health/whooping-cough-outbreak-texas-catholic-school> 2--<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/whooping-cough/symptoms-causes/syc-20378973> 3-- <https://www.thewildpharma.co.uk/common-ailments/whooping-cough> 4--Natural Remedies Encyclopedia, 6th Edition, pg. 143

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GOD'S AMAZING CREATURES

Laughing kookaburras are a large bird that lives in Australia. They are the largest of the Kingfisher family. Although some Kingfishers live near water, the laughing kookaburra lives in the open forest and woodlands, well away from water.

Laughing kookaburras build their nests in holes in trees. Mother and father kookaburras are monogamous, meaning they have the same partner for all their life. The young birds stay with their parents for several years as helpers. The laughing

kookaburra is named for the sound it makes. It makes a call that sounds similar to laughing. I guess it always sounds happy. Boys and girls who love Jesus can be happy helpers just like the kookaburra.

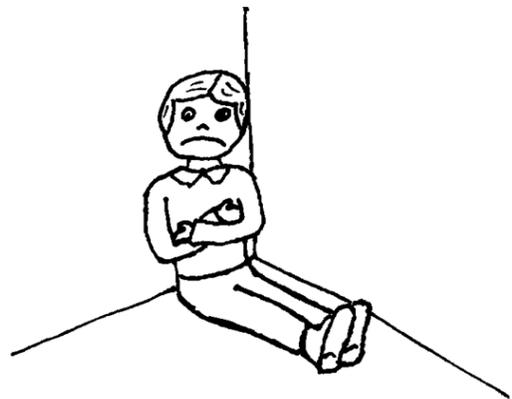


“Happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.” Psalm 144:15b

Christian asked Jesus to help him to be happy. Christian happily ate his asparagus, because he knew that Jesus made it to keep children healthy. He happily took a snowy walk outside, because Jesus had created that for him too. Christian was happy because he knew Jesus loved him.



Carnal was grouchy. He didn't want to eat anything but dessert. He didn't want to go for a walk because he thought it was too cold outside. Carnal always complained that it was either too cold or too hot. Carnal was grouchy because he forgot to ask Jesus to help him to be happy.



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