

Destiny Newsletter

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by
Dave Breese

THE HIGH CALLING

Most of us have now been through a complicated time of personal examination. Businesses have spent millions bringing things up-to-date, especially the computer. Governments, attempting to keep up with things, have read the instructions and millions are still trying to measure up. Yes, the world has been through a period of self-evaluation-- from a Y2K set of questions from big time corporations all the way down to personal analysis. Billions have been spent! The computers have been reprogrammed and the prognosis for the future is beginning to be put to the test. It has been a very interesting, challenging, and expensive set of activities on the part of the global commercial systems.

This is a perfect time, therefore, to remind ourselves of the real goals for which we are supposed to work and that the real results are not for time alone.

The Apostle Paul spoke about this. He said, "*Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I*

follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:12-14). In so speaking, Paul left for us some real inspiration and instruction. He said some things that we do well to follow. They include:

1. "I don't have it made." Paul, despite his experience and spiritual maturity still realized that he still did not know the complete answers to the questions of life.
2. Therefore, Paul said, "*I am forgetting the past and I am reaching into the future.*" Paul refused to make the mistake which is so common today and that is to give the past too much influence. Tradition meant nearly nothing to him, but he realized he must give himself with new enthusiasm and labor to the ministry of the Gospel. We can be sure that Paul awakened each new morning and asked, "What can I do for Christ today." Sometime he might also have added "that no one has attempted before." Too much tradition can



overburden today's thinking. Too many crosses, candles, and somber outfits can ruin the real work of God.

So the Apostle Paul said then, "*I am going to press toward the great goal and gain the prize of high accomplishment.*" Notice Paul did not say, "I meander toward the mark." "I drift toward the mark." "I float toward the mark." Rather, the direction of his life and the intensity with which he lived it were very apparent and produced the basis of his lifetime of astonishing accomplishments. Paul also said, "Let's all be that way." He called for everyone to think as he did and, therefore, be turned into resolute soldiers for Christ. He called for spiritual initiative and illustrated that by his own living.

Few more sublime goals have ever been stated than Paul's statement, "*The high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*" Paul wanted each

one of us to arrive at heaven, to receive the highest possible credit for his strategical activity for Christ.

Quite obviously, Paul was aware that the church would do little or nothing in the world if it were simply populated by sleepy Christians who knew nothing of spiritual accomplishment. They are like the person who said, "Lord, I will be happy to serve Thee providing, of course, it is in an advisory capacity."

Indeed, if a billion people in

today's world are Christians, where are their accomplishments? Oh yes, there is no end to expensive enterprises, educational systems, discussions, and dozens of other pursuits in which Christians take part in the process. However, the accomplishments that only come by evangelism, the preaching of the Word, are difficult to find. It is a very helpful reminder to look further at the words of the Apostle Paul when, a few verses later he said, ". . .The Lord is at hand" (Phil. 4:5). We are not supposed to

think of ourselves, therefore, as serving a distant task-master. Not at all, rather, we are distinguished associates of Jesus Christ, who even now, in the days of our flesh, can do so much toward accomplishing heaven's purposes. One day, perhaps soon, we shall stand before Christ. May God grant that we shall hear Jesus say, "Well done, good and faithful servant,. . .enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matt. 25:23). This is the testimony of those who press toward the mark. It is not the words of a meandering church.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FROM YOUR CHRISTIAN DESTINY STAFF

The Group That Makes It Possible



(back row, left to right): John Epp, Computer Entry/Shipping & Receiving; Ken Koslowsky, Accounting; Perry Baird, Printing; Dave Loewen, Mailing/Shipping; Dave Breese, Gene Price, Radio Announcer/Broadcast Duplication; George Ens, M.D., Consultant/Correspondent; (front row, left to right): Carla Koslowsky, Corresponding Secretary; Gladys Janzen, Housekeeping; Alyce Loewen, Media Secretary; Carol Breese, Joanne Klassen, Executive Assistant; Frances Price, Broadcast Distribution; Diana Koslowsky, Computer Design; (not pictured): John Klaassen, Computer Consultant; Aaron Reimer, Printing.

THE TIDE OF OUR TIMES

Anyone that attempts to analyze society today will often be frustrated. He will come up with a very convoluted report as to the events of our time. The problems of these days touch most of the nations of the world, often creating smaller indeterminate wars that can be analyzed only with great difficulty. India fires missiles at Pakistan and experiences retaliation in kind. Within minutes, they could go nuclear with these weapons and we might soon have Armageddon on our hands. Serbia is still unconquered with Slobodan Milosevic being still in power. International analysis reports as many as forty wars taking place even now. So, being fulfilled is the Biblical prediction of “wars and rumours of wars” (Matt. 24:6). Along with rumors of wars come reports of fatal tragedies in many places. Events to upset society happen with greater frequency and larger intensity than ever. Many of us wake up every new morning and ask, “I wonder what has taken place during the night that is another great tragedy?” Perceptive Christians ask, “Are these the signs of the times that are promised in Scripture?” We certainly should allow for the possibility of that being the case. Christians as never before are becoming very apprehensive about even the survivability of this wretched world in the midst of which we live.

Even as we speak, the president has now visited nations in and around the Balkans as the world watches with great interest. There seems to be no place in the world anymore that is excused

from developments that could be fatal to many. Watch out for global government, global disarmament and especially global religion. Beware also of peace movements. They lead to war.

In the meantime, an interesting development touches our schools here in America. The press carries the headlines, “Court to Rule on Prayer at School Games.” The newspaper reports, “Texas school board asks justices to overturn ruling that says student-led prayers at football games violate separation of church and state.” They report, “The Supreme Court re-entered the emotional debate over school prayer Monday, agreeing to decide whether public schools can let students lead a group invocation at high school football games.”

At Galveston County, Texas, a school board is asking the justices to overturn a lower court ruling that said, “Student-led prayers over the address system at football games violate the constitutionally required separation of church and state.”

There is much that can be said about this, but notice especially that the press speaks of “the constitutionally required separation of church and state.” When will we realize that there is no statement in the Constitution that advocates any such thing as the separation of church and state? In fact, if anything, the Constitution denies the state the right to limit religious activity on the part of the people. “Congress shall make no law” is the

beginning of the paragraph as the Constitution speaks.

Again, the liberals can conjure up any statement, any lies which advance their cause. Christians realize that this is another small indication of the determined effort to limit and then destroy the influence of Christianity amongst our young people and the population in general.

At the same time, an animated discussion continues concerning the teaching of evolution in the public schools. The state of Kansas is in the midst of this and it is fascinating to see. Evolution is, of course, nonsense, but the right to teach it is still pressed by the liberal “scientific” mind. Each one of us make it the opportunity to become involved in the animated discussion in our local home town areas. You are invited to write for this special paper entitled “Christianity vs. Evolution” and we’ll get it to you. These are days in which Christians need to become animated and articulate about these developments in the midst of which we live.

Evolution, if true, destroys the basis of which science makes any claims at all. Science must produce a predictable result of an experiment. That result must be repeatable. If not, science is only observation, which is not science at all.

The fact is that the scientist cannot “observe” the past and even the future. All reality is in “the present” and presents but a small slot or observability. The scientist expects a lot but can observe a very, very little.



WINTER



*How cold the snow must be
Yet still the earth it warms,
To shelter now the seeds of Spring
'Gainst later, colder storms.*

*How hard our trials seem
When in the grip of pain.
Yet God in grace allows them all
For future, greater gain.*

*Let minds then be renewed,
Let hearts with courage sing.
For seeds by winter's trials fed
Will blossom in the Spring.*

*Then Summer harvest comes
Whose bounty bids us learn.
That faith amid the snows will bring
An hundred-fold return.*

— *Dave Breese*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"I really enjoy the **Destiny Newsletter**. It really makes you stop and think of all the things that are going on in the world today and most of them not good. We have to keep our focus on God and trust in Him." – Wichita, KS

"I recently returned from spring break and was fortunate enough to receive your letter once again. I just thought I should take a second to tell you how encouraging it is to get your letter and the books I send for as well. I really appreciate the time you spend on it, and so do many of the other girls in my hall. We enjoy reading the letter and the books and passing them around the group. I also have a question... Who pays for all of this? Anyway, thanks again!" – Muncie, IN

"It's always a pleasure to see you on television teaching the pure word of God and reading your newsletters. What a blessing the Word of God is and your continued faithfulness to it. The Lord's continued blessings on you, your beloved family and staff. See you in the Rapture some sweet day." – Springfield, VA

"I wanted to let you know that your telecast has made a profound impact upon my life. After I was born again, I attended a church that didn't teach the Word in a rich way as you have. I always look forward to the show. To be honest I had heard much about the Rapture yet never understood as complete until reading your book about the Rapture. Thank you for walking in the calling that proclaims the Good News to so many. Agape love in Christ." – BW

"Between watching your broadcasts and reading your books, I've learned so much about being a Christian. Mr Breese, Don't ever compromise your honesty and integrity. You're one of the rare few who preaches the Gospel without watering it down." – Lebanon, TN



WORTH QUOTING

"Prejudice, ignorance, bitterness and, above all, selfishness are the great obstacles to peace in people, groups and nations."

-- Joseph A. Tytheridge, D.D.

"As the gardener, by severe pruning forces the sap of the tree into one or two vigorous limbs, so should you stop off your miscellaneous activity and concentrate your force on one or a few points."

-- Emerson

"Happiness is not so much having or sharing. We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

-- Norman MacEwan

"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government."

-- Thomas Jefferson

"A hated government does not long survive." -- Seneca

"Civilization ceases when we no longer respect and no longer put into their correct places the fundamental values, such as work, family and country; such as the individual, honor and religion." --R.P. Lebret

"He who sacrifices his conscience to ambition burns a picture to obtain the ashes." --Chinese proverb

But especially,

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving" (Col. 2:6-7).

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



Q. Will man, with his growing intelligence, be able to create a perfect world?

A. The Bible does not promise this kind of a result to humanity. It says, *“Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?”* (II Peter 3:11 & 12).

Q. Are we Christians supposed to obey the law of Moses?

A. The law was a very serious thing. *“He that despised Moses’ law died without mercy under two or three witnesses”* (Heb. 10:28). Seeing this, we can thank God that we Christians are not under the law. The Scripture says, *“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified”* (Gal. 2:16). Indeed the Scripture says, *“I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain”* (Gal 2:21). So we rejoice be-

cause *“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us. . .”* (Gal. 3:13).

Q. I am going to a college which has some ungodly people and professors in it. Can I continue to be strong in the Lord?

A. First of all, remember that Christ is the key to a good education. The Scripture, speaking of Christ, says, *“In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge”* (Col. 2:3). Pray daily that you will be aided and protected by Jesus Christ. Then, as much as possible, seize the spiritual initiative. You can, with a little thought, triumph over any local atheist for they really have nothing sensible to say. Finally, pray daily for the strength of God and be a testimony for Christ. By the way, get **The Collegiate Letter**—that will help.

Q. What is the best way to defeat the Devil in my life?

A. The Bible is clear in instructing us that we have three enemies: the world, the flesh, and the devil. We are also told how to deal with each of them specifically. As far as the world is concerned, we are told to cast down its philosophies and to stop loving it. *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and*

the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever” (I John 2:15-17).

As for the lusts of the flesh, we are told to make no provision for them and to flee from them: *“Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart”* (II Tim. 2:22).

But when it comes to dealing with the devil, we are told not to run. In fact, it would be futile to run – we could never outrun him. Interestingly, though, we are told to make him run from us: *“. . . Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”* (James 4:7). We’re told to resist the devil by putting on the whole armor of God. *“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”* (Eph. 6:11).

It is good for us to remember when dealing with the devil that we are dealing with a defeated foe who can only do what God permits him to do. This is clearly seen in the book of Job, where Satan had to bow to God’s permissive will in his actions against Job. In Mark 5, the demons had to gain Jesus’ permission to enter into the swine. Remember that Jesus has defeated Satan by His atoning death on the cross: *“. . . that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil”* (Heb. 2:14).

THINKING TOGETHER

IT NEEDS TO BE SAID -- DOCTRINE

by Dave Breese

One of the most dangerous developments of our time is the decreasing emphasis upon doctrine in the church. Should this continue, Christianity will be no more.

Recently I heard a well-known television preacher say, "We don't preach doctrine, we just preach Christ!" Mary Baker Eddy preached "Christ" as well. So does Victor Paul Wierwille and his cult "The Way." The "Christ" which these enemies of the Gospel preach is hardly the Christ of the New Testament. Some, while preaching Christ, deny His deity, His humanity or His saving power. Who is Jesus Christ? Your answer to that question is a doctrine, it is called "Christology."

What, therefore, is doctrine? Doctrine is defining your terms, saying what you mean. Words which have no meaning are merely vague little emotional packages that do not communicate, they only titillate. So it is that non-doctrinal preaching, non-doctrinal songs, non-doctrinal writing communicates no real meaning. Words without meaning merely muddy the waters and confuse the mind. Ultimately they do far more severe damage, they destroy our capacity to think, to reason, to be logical. One who has lost this capacity, straight thinking, has lost his ability to function as a human being. He becomes a mere animal, responding to emotional stimuli,

but is unable to make choices. His mind has become vacuous. He has too long listened to words without meaning.

The subject of doctrine is emphasized fifty times in the New Testament. Paul uses the word "doctrine" twelve times in I and II Timothy alone. In these two books, he is instructing a young leader of the church as to his necessary spiritual credentials. We can, therefore, be sure that the minister who ignores doctrine, who does not emphasize sound doctrine, has disqualified himself from spiritual leadership. Such leaders will soon be preaching a variety of confusing themes, neither understanding what they themselves believe, nor being able to build a foundation of truth in the lives of others. Soon they will opt for anything but expository preaching—that dreary list of "special ministries." Preaching services will be cancelled whenever possible, Bible study classes will disappear and hungry parishioners will need to subsist on the thin soup of sermonettes. Nothing is more boring to the speaker and to the listener than vague biblical remarks. Conversely, nothing is more stimulating to preacher and parishioner than expository preaching, characterized by sound biblical doctrine and rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

Many Christians today are mistaken in their attitudes toward

miracles, the Jews, sanctification, the earthly ministry of Christ, the Holy Spirit, biblical inspiration, the Gospel, the early church, imputed righteousness, grace—all for want of sound doctrine. The consequence is that many believers are unable to face problems, handle family difficulties, properly advise their children, keep their marriages together, avoid bankruptcy, resist depression, face death, defeat the devil and relate properly to their friends.

A high content of what passes for Christianity going today is mere sociology, sophomore psychology, freshman philosophy, leftist politics, saccharine humanitarianism, pseudo-spirituality, overworked emotions, unrealistic expectations and other despair-producers. Christians today are promised such things as perfect fulfillment, total joy, a new personality, happiness always and other will-o'-the-wisp impossibilities, all with little or no doctrinally-based biblical content. The result is that now whole denominations are slipping into biblical vagueness and spiritual impotence. The absence of preaching on the great doctrines of original sin, the purpose of creation, the nature of man, the person of Christ, the meaning of redemption has left many Christians as nearly helpless victims of His Infernal Majesty, the devil. We will soon be to the place where no seminar, no guru, no personal counseling (the new,

doubtful panacea of our time), no quick, repentant recovery will help us. Our condition will move from helpless to impossible unless we return quickly to a higher biblical content in our pulpits and in the pews of our churches. The state of emergency is upon us now.

Why don't you begin the long road back? Have you memorized 200 verses of scripture as yet? How about the first eight chapters of Romans? Do you know the meaning of "imputed righteousness?" What is the difference between law and grace? Why did Paul write Galatians? Are we saved by our experience, or the experience of another? What is the difference between the kingdom of heaven and the Church? Do you know the answers to these questions? Are you sure?

We must begin the long road back to personal, doctrinal knowledge in every believer. The hour is late! The time to return to a doctrinal base of our Christianity is now. If we do not, then the night cometh when no man can work.

**YOUR ADVERSARY,
THE DEVIL**
by Dave Breese



Available in booklet, audio, and video. See enclosed insert.

ARE THESE THE DAYS?

Again and again in the pages of the Bible, we see the expression, "the last days." We are thereby promised that the world is not to go on forever. Rather, its course will one day be interrupted from heaven. That event we call "the Second Coming of Jesus Christ." The mention of this in Scripture certainly implies that this will be a tremendous event. The return of Christ, the Creator of the universe, is certain to effect every person and every living thing on the face of the earth. The promise of these events should lead every intelligent person to, above all else, be sure that he is prepared for that hour.

Concerning the return of Christ, there is expectation in the hearts of Christians and anxiety for the whole world. Millions, therefore, across the world are asking, "Are these the last days?" "Are we soon to see the end of this dispensation of grace?"

The answer to that question is, "Maybe we will, but perhaps we won't."

If Christ is coming soon, then we should be sure that we are saved, sanctified, ready, looking up, and above all, we should be earnest witnesses for Christ. God does not give us the material in the prophetic Word simply to make us pseudo-experts on the subject. Rather, He does this to work a great determination within us that these valuable days should be used well by each one of us as witnesses for Christ.

FINALLY



Dear Special Friend of Christian Destiny,

Carol and I wish to thank you for this marvelous year of opportunity. 1999 was very exciting and the year 2000 promises to be more so. Therefore, we shall keep on, depending on our God for His help in the midst of our great opportunities.

We do look forward to a marvelous year ahead and trust that you and your friends will continue to be with us. Your gifts, your prayers, and your love has made it all possible. Thank you so very much for all that you mean to us.

Faithfully yours,

David W. Breese, President
Christian Destiny, Inc.