

Volume XI Issue VII **Every day is a priceless y**iit of Rod

JULY 2016

Buzzard, Bat, and the Bumblebee!



THE BUZZARD: If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.



THE BAT: The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.



THE BUMBLEBEE: A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom.. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.



PEOPLE: In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up! That's the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem! Just look up. Sorrow looks back, Worry looks around, But faith looks up! Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly and trust in our Creator who loves us.









From the Editor *Eric Grimes*

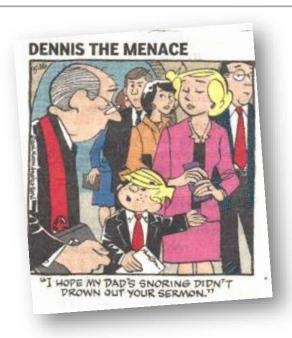
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www.eastsidebaptistchurch65.org

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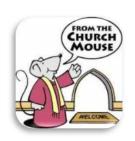
"I WILL PRAISE THEE; FOR I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE:

MARVELLOUS ARE THY WORKS; AND THAT MY SOUL KNOWETH RIGHT WELL."

(Psalm 139:14)



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How do you know that you are saved (that you are a Christian)?

2 Corinthians 13:5 says that we should

Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.

So how do you make sure that you are not disqualified? How do you make sure that you are not in that number of many church-going people who will say to God on Judgment Day....Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then (he) will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'(Matthew 7:22-23)

How do you know you are saved?

Well first of all, you should be displaying (or starting to display) the fruit of the spirit which <u>is love</u>, <u>joy</u>, <u>peace</u>, <u>patience</u>, <u>kindness</u>, <u>goodness</u>, <u>faithfulness</u>, <u>gentleness and</u> <u>self-control</u> (Galatians 5:22-23)

If you are continually displaying immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness and carousing, then this is a good indication that you are not saved and as it says in Galatians 5:21, those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God

The books of 1 and 2 John also give you a list of things to look out for 'so that you may know that you have eternal life.' (1 John 5:13)

- You will not walk in darkness. If you do, then you do not practice or live by the truth (1 John 1:6)
- You will have fellowship with other Christians (1 John 1:7)
- You recognize your sinful nature (1 John 1:8,10)
- You confess your sins (1 John 1:9)

- You obey and keep his commandments (1 John 2:3,5,1 John 3:24, 1 John 5:2)
- You will not hate your brother or sister but love them (1 John 2:9,11, 1 John 3:10 and 1 John 4:7-8,12-13, 20-21, 2 John 1:5)
- You will not love the world or the things of the world (1 John 2:15)
- You will do the will of God (1 John 2:17)
- You believe the <u>divinity of Jesus Christ</u> and that he has come in the flesh (1 John 2:22 and 1 John 4:2-4,15, 2 John 1:7)
- Biblical truth will be abiding in you (1 John 2:24)
- You understand the righteousness of Christ (1 John 2:29)
- You will be practicing righteousness (1 John 2:29)
- You will not habitually practice sin (1 John 3:8,9, 1 John 5:18)
- You will have compassion for those in need (1 John 3:17)
- You believe that Jesus is the Christ and is the Son of God (1 John 5:1)
- You abide in the doctrine of Christ (2 John 1:9)

Now am I saying that if you are missing any of these then you are not saved? Of course not. It is not about perfection but about direction. *You should be moving in the direction of doing the things above.* This is called progressive sanctification where God is doing an inward work in you. Other questions to ask yourself are:

- Am I growing in holiness?
- What is my relationship with sin?
- Do I have a struggle with sin or do I justify it?
 (Read Romans 7:7-25). Struggling with sin is actually a good sign believe it or not
- Do I hate it more and more or do I try and justify it?
- Do I have a love for Gods word, the bible?
- Do I hunger and thirst for righteousness?
- Do I embrace biblical correction from someone else?
- Do I have a concern for the lost?

If the answer to the majority of these questions is no, then I would seriously doubt your salvation and I would urge you to repent of your sins and put your trust in Jesus Christ and in him alone.

MEDITATE ON THE MESSAGE

"So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God"
(Romans 10:17)

Did you enjoy the Sunday Service? <u>Have you ever wanted to hear just the message</u>, <u>prayers, praise & worship or choir selections over again?</u> Do you want a witnessing tool for a family member or friend? AUDIO CD's MP3's & DVD's are available: Sunday Morning Service... \$5.00 ea... Eastside 2015 50th ANNIVERSARY...(DVD Disc set \$30.00) or \$10.00 for individual day. Custom build your own MP3/CD selections \$10.00 each disc made from our digital downloadable library selections.

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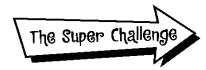
KIDDING AROUND!



Matthew 19:13-15

Jesus loved everyone, especially children. He showed it through his words and actions. Can you tell what Jesus is saying to these kids by matching the letters to the blanks below?





. Circle II things wrong with this picture.

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Joke of the Week

A woman ran a red traffic light and crashed into a man's car. Both of their cars are demolished but amazingly neither of them was hurt.

After they crawled out of their cars, the woman said;
"Wow, just look at our cars! There's nothing left, but
fortunately we are unhurt. This must be a sign from
God that we should meet and be friends and live
together in peace for the rest of our days."

The man replied," I agree with you completely. This must be a sign from God!"

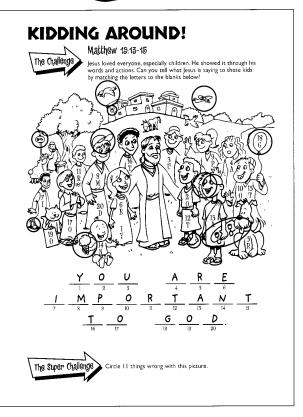
The woman continued, "And look at this, here's another miracle. My car is completely demolished, but my bottle of 75 year old scotch didn't break. Surely God meant for us to drink this vintage delicacy and celebrate our good fortune." Then she handed the bottle to the man.

The man nods his head in agreement, opened it, drank half the bottle and then handed it back to the woman. The woman took the bottle, immediately put the cap back on, and handed it back to the man.

The man asks, "Aren't you having any?"

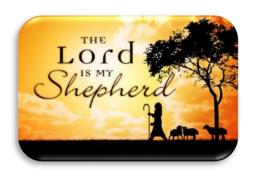
She replies, "Nah. I think I'll just wait for the police."

Adam ate the apple, too! Men will never learn!





TEMPTING, TEMPTING ... ONE, TWO, THREE



The Lord is my Shepherd	that's a Relationship!
I shall not want	that's Supply!
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures	that's Rest!
He leadeth me beside the still waters	that's Refreshment!
He restoreth my soul	that's Healing!
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness	that's Guidance!
For His name sake	that's Purpose!
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of dec	aththat's Testing!
I will fear no evil	that's Protection!
For Thou art with me	that's Faithfulness!
Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me	that's Discipline!
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine en	nemiesthat's Hope!
Thou annointest my head with oil	that's Consecration!
My cup runneth over	that's Abundance!
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of	my lifethat's Blessing!
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord	that's Security!
Forever	that's Eternity

