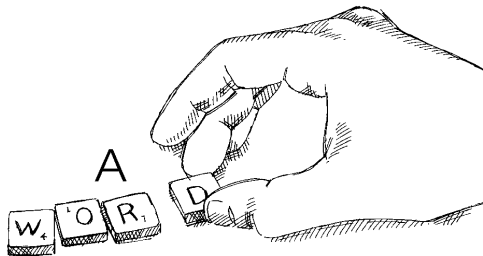
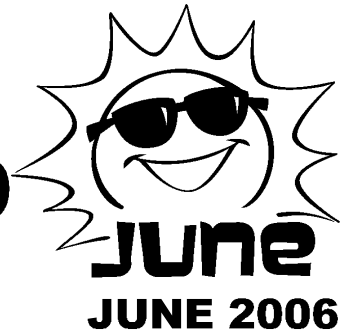


# VOICE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 6



from the  
Pastor

## THE REST OF GOD

God wasn't tired when He finished His creation. The Word teaches that God rested but this is a different kind of rest that you and I are acquainted with. This rest is the same as when an artist puts aside his brush after finishing a masterpiece. If he were to make one more stroke, it would be too much and one less stroke wouldn't be enough. Nothing could be added or taken away from God's creation so it was good, perfect and finished. The rest of God that the Bible speaks of for you and me is in the same order. Our rest comes from knowing the finished work of God. We rest in His ability and draw strength from the same. The Sabbath day is a time set aside by God for humanity to reflect upon the greatness of God and to draw strength from that knowledge. The mind plays such a role in the tiredness of our bodies and therefore as our minds reflect upon God, our bodies can be strengthened. Satan has fought hard to remove the Spirit of Reverence the day has been appointed for. The Sabbath has just become another day for so many people. The worship of God and the acknowledgment of Him has been removed in so many people's lives. Peace of mind and rest of the soul never come apart from a reflection on the Creator.

## HE'S ALIVE!!!

## PUTTING THE WILL OF GOD ON DISPLAY "Proving the Will of God"

It is my belief that one of the major functions of miracles and supernatural living is to offer immediate, irrefutable proof of what God wants to happen on earth. Let me put it to you this way—it demonstrates who God is by showing what His reality looks like. Paul said in Romans 12:2, "**And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**" It has never occurred to most Christians that one of their primary jobs on this earth is to prove the will of God. How do we do that? By showing people what God is like by allowing Him to overwhelm the enemy's works through you. Another way of putting this truth is to demonstrate the "reality" that exists in heaven, and manifest that "reality" right here, right now. We are not just to be people who believe the right things about God, but people who put the will of God on display! How? By expressing His "will" and causing others to realize, "Oh, so that's what God is like." Healing and deliverance and restoration do much more than

## RETURNING TO OUR PRIMARY MISSION

solve the immediate problem; they give people a real demonstration of who God is.

Every miracle that we allow God to perform is a great example of carrying out our original calling as human beings. God's first commission to mankind is found in Genesis 1:28, "**Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**" God wanted Adam and Eve to "**....fill the earth....**," not just the Garden, and for them to, "**....subdue it;**". The Garden of Eden did not need subduing, the earth did. It is my belief that God said these words to Adam and Eve because He wanted the boundaries of His Garden extended. This extension would represent His government, His will—to the ends of the earth. It is a beautiful, breathtaking picture, and it remains God's goal for you and me. Of course, we know that the original plan got derailed. Adam forfeited the rulership God gave him over the earth, putting humanity into slavery to the enemy. Paul wrote in Romans 6:16, "**You are that one's slave whom you obey....**".

The good news is that God had a plan of redemption in place, Jesus would come to reclaim the world and to do God's will. This plan began when God told the evil one in Genesis 3:15, "**And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.**" When that prophecy was fulfilled through Jesus, God took back the "authority" man had given away and reclaimed our purpose on the earth. God has given us a clear field—we are to run toward the original goal of enlarging the boundaries of God's Garden to include the whole earth. To do that we must heal the sick, preach the good news, demonstrate Who God is and What He is like—we must extend the Kingdom of Heaven on this earth.

The problem as I see it is that too few of us today are willing to follow those precise instructions. We get caught up in side arguments, intellectual skirmishes, theories, and emotional head-trips. Or we become enamored of our own talents and spiritual

# SIN

Are you a sinner? Do you knowingly commit sins every day? Have you sinned for so long that you no longer are aware that you are sinning? Does your everyday language in large part consist of sinful words? Many people today use the name of God only in curses, and the name of Jesus Christ (the Messiah) to indicate anger and to put emphasis on some curse words. Did you know that the ancient Hebrews refused to allow God's name to be used in every day words so that it would not become common to them, thereby losing the majesty deserving of that name? They (the Israelites) moved so far away from God that they began

to worship other gods. A terrible episode in the history of the Jews ensued which has not stopped even today. They have been scattered all over the world. They do not believe in Jesus, the Son of God, but one day they will see Him, face to face, and then they will know that even though they may have left Him, He knows exactly where and who they are. Every head shall bow, every knee shall bend to worship Him.

When then, is sin? To condense into as short as possible, any thought, or act that would not be to the glory of God, is sin. Pretty narrow parenthesis! You might say that this leaves only breathing. Not true, the life of a forgiven, serving, blessed Christian, is not one that demands glum and soberness all of the time. On the contrary, that life is lived with joy and true faith that the Jesus that forgave my sins, will not let me drift into something that would be bad for me. His Word says that, "We shall worship but one God." That means not to love money, cars, homes, bank accounts, or any other thing that would come ahead of our worship of God. This is not to say that we should in any way neglect the other aspects of life or to not be concerned with them. What it does mean is that if we place the proper respect and trust on Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, those things which seem to require so much of our time and concern, would be done with ease and great care.

Sin began in this world with Adam and Eve. Disobedience. Next came Cain who slew his brother Abel in a jealous rage. Sin grew from that point up to the time of Noah. God wiped it all out with the flood, but when the water went down, Noah's son Ham sinned against his own father, and it has never stopped.

When God took His people out of Egypt, He referred to them as His chosen people, and the Israelites. He appointed Moses to lead them, and sin went right on. He gave Moses the Ten Commandments, with which He wanted Moses to lead, and sin went right on. It was as though they were shaking their fists at God's leadership. Many years later the priests and ruling council had developed several thousand laws, besides the ten original, all for the purpose of holding on to control of the people. Churches today fabricate all kinds of rules and regulations, for the sole purpose of holding onto control.

Then some 1500 years later, God sent His Son Jesus to this earth, and Jesus said not to eliminate the Ten Commandments, but to add on one more. We are to treat others as we want to be treated. That is the single law against sin. Did someone cheat you on a business deal? Did someone say some rumor about you that was not true? Did someone break something that you bought and paid for and then smirked that it was already weakened? If these or others have happened to you, your first instinct is retaliation. Vengeance! Pay them back. That is happening all of the time, in someone's life. Furthermore, many of God's people get this kind of treatment all the time. You went too far, too fast, and did not listen to God's guiding voice. Yes, you will lose some of that money that you worked so hard for, but don't let that come between you and God's presence in your life. Where you and I have been promised to go, we will not need money. If you consider and love money, you are sinning. Not the earning of money, but the love, outdoing all else. If this is where you are at, I can assure that you will die rich, but your spirit will live forever in hell.

We now live in a world that is engulfed in lying, hatred and stealing, and murder. Drugs have taken away all semblance of humanity. One drug lord murders another, and then he is murdered. Even animals do not kill and maim in this way. The Israelites made attempts to serve God over the years, but they never acknowledged Jesus. But He was there. It was Jesus that told Moses to remove his sandals because he was standing on holy ground. It was Jesus that emboldened the hearts of men to do His bidding. It was Jesus that Jacob wrestled with all night long. Jesus was and is the Creator and our sacrifice all day, every day. It is His Holy Spirit that will go with us as far as we will let Him. It is Jesus Who intercedes for us before the Father every day. We need only to never forget that He is with us always.

Let our daily prayers not be to amass a great fortune on this earth, but to learn the ways of Jesus so that we become more like Him. God bless us all.

Bro. Vic Clayton

## "PUTTING THE WILL OF GOD ON DISPLAY" Continued from Page One

Though well-intentioned, we become self-appointed in our commissions, honestly believing we are submitting to God. In reality,

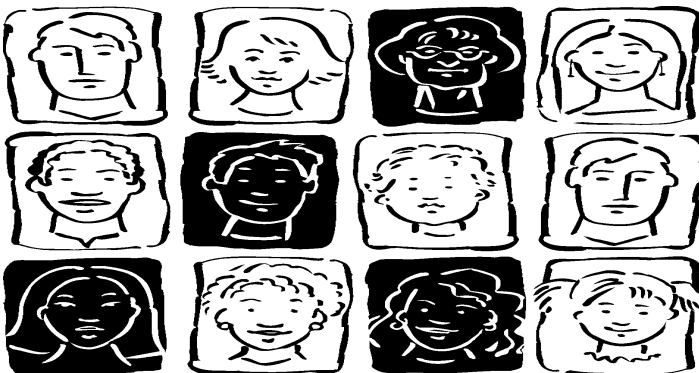
it isn't possible to prove the will of God on earth as it is in heaven unless we are completely plugged into the primary mission God gave us. Let me put it this way—There is no Co-mission without Sub-mission to the primary mission.

Gene R. Brown, Associate Pastor





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**FOR ALL WHO ARE  
LED BY THE SPIRIT OF  
GOD ARE CHILDREN  
OF GOD.**

ROMANS 8:14, NRSV