WHOLE WHEAT

The truth is simple...just simply not known.

A PUBLICATION FOR BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING

Live Only to Please God

The Bible is a life and death book that reveals who will eventually be saved and who will be destroyed in the judgment (Rev. 20:12). The Bible is the most sold book in the history of the world. It is the least read, and the least understood, book ever sold. It is a book of which more people have opinions about - people who don't even study or obey it - and yet they ridicule it and scoff at it. In spite of all this, it is the book which Jesus Christ says will judge all those who have lived in the world, to determine whether they shall be thrown into the lake of fire, or found worthy for eternal life.

There are thousands of different faiths or beliefs in the world, but only those who do the Will of the Father in heaven will abide forever (1 John 2:17; Matt. 7:21). The Will represents the words of Jesus Christ (John 8:51). That is why Jesus said, "If anyone is willing to do His Will [the Will of God], he will know of the teaching [understand His teachings]" (John 7:17). We are not to be conformed to this world any longer, but rather we are to transform our lives to God by renewing our minds (Rom. 12:2). So we are not to remain foolish, but **understand** what the Will of the Lord is and do that Will by performing it in our lives on a daily basis (Eph. 5:17). How? By proving what the Will of the Lord is inthrough studying God's word and finding out what is good, acceptable behavior and perfect in the sight of God, then performing only righteousness in Jesus Christ's name for

the glory of the Father (Col. 3:17). We are all children of God—of our Father in heaven. Our Father wants to be shown daily respect from His children on earth. Jesus our Lord wants us to be good, by doing good and overcoming our evil natures by continually showing allegiance and respect to Him.

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ii = link to more information

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Live Only to Please God

We are to continually discipline our <u>ibodies</u>, our <u>iminds</u>, our thoughts and our words, until they are all taken captive to the obedience of Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 10:5). In other words, we are to <u>idiscipline ourselves</u> for the very purpose of godliness (1 Tim. 4:7). We are to practice deeds of kindness and charity continually, until Jesus Christ transforms our hearts and instills His perfect nature in us (Acts 9:36; Matt. 5:20; Eph. 6:6; Gal. 4:19). This is practicing righteousness before God, and this is true <u>irepentance</u> before God and man.

lives for Him and let Him live through our bodies. He can only do this when we live the Way of life as He did, by being servants to others in love. Just like the athlete, we must practice the Will of our Father in heaven to understand the teaching (John 7:17).

'You must discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness, so your old nature can die.'

If you want to be a good athlete then you must practice diligently and persevere. You must know the rules of the game and practice them diligently. You can't really know the game unless you play the game. You must continually discipline yourself to play by the rules and not bend them.



'How come so many call Jesus Christ Lord, and yet they do not do what He told them to do through the Bible?'

How come millions in the world today do not know the rules, live by the rules, or adhere to the rules and the precepts of Jesus Christ? Not many even seem to care. How come so many call Jesus Christ Lord, and yet they do not do what He told them to do through the Bible (Luke 6:46)? Jesus Christ laid down His life for us, that we might lay down our old

What is being said is certainly not hard to understand. It is only our hardened hearts that do not want to change, that makes the message hard. That is why God's word says to 🗊 make yourself a new heart (Ezek. 18:31). Let Jesus Christ into your heart. He will help us make new hearts if we repent and

obey Him and live our lives to please Him daily. Our Father wants the best for us and that is why He declares that His Ways are best. When we know His Ways and keep His Ways, then we are walking with God as Enoch, Noah and Abraham did.

There are two principle ways in which we obey God and keep His New Covenant. One is to practice irighteousness and the other is to practice justice. We must, however, know what these two words mean in the word of God (Psalm 33:5). The first, practicing righteousness, is not only helping the widow and the orphan in their affliction, but helping anyone who is in need (James

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1:27). That means anyone who is in need of clothes, food, or a place to stay; anyone who is in need of cheering up, like people who are shut-ins. Visit the sick and go to the aid of anyone who has no helper. Always practice hospitality by having others over for dinner or lunch—especially the lame (Luke 14:13). These principles are not difficult, but you will have to force yourself and discipline yourself to do these things, for the Father in heaven, because human nature is selfish, uncaring, inconsistent and evil (Gen. 8:21; Psalm 51:5). You must discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness, so your old nature can die (1 Tim. 4:7; 6:3; Titus 1:1; 3:8; 2 Thess. 3:13).

'Speak only what is right and do only what is right.'

The second principle, practicing ijustice, means to be honest in all your dealings with Diligently pay others what you owe men. Use just (honest) weights and them. Do not steal, murder, rape, measures. commit fornication or adultery (1 Tim. 1:10; 1 Cor. 6:9-10), for these things are not doing unto your neighbor as you would have him do unto you. They do not glorify God but self, which is worldliness (Matt. 6:1). honest with your mouth. Speak only what is right and do only what is right. overcharge people for rent (Amos 5:11). Do not underpay your employees, thereby oppressing them as wage earners (Mal. 3:5). Do not sue anyone without a just cause. Do

not steal from the poor by financial trickery. Do not charge exorbitant interest (Ezek. 18:12-13).

Anyone who will practice these principles for God daily is certainly not God's enemy, but ■ God's friend (John 15:14). ■



Are You Convicted?

Jesus was a fully convicted person. He lived only to please the Father, by being a servant of others in love. Jesus Christ, as well as many of the apostles, gladly laid down their lives for the brethren because He was fully convicted (John 10:11, 15).

As we look into the meaning of conviction, we will begin to see that it is conversion. To be in a fully converted state one must be in a fully convicted state of mind—one that is not "carried away by every wind of doctrine," as God's word puts it (Eph. 4:14).

'The reason for studying your Bible is so that you become fully convicted by it, and thus become fully converted in the process.'

Study to show yourself approved to God—be a person who needs not be ashamed and who handles the word of God accurately (2 Tim. 2:15). The reason for studying your Bible is so that you become fully convicted by it, and thus become fully converted in the process. If you are continually in God's word, you are continually being convicted by its words, which are true (Heb. 6:18).

Have you ever wondered why there are no collection plates spoken of in the Bible? There is no mention of weekly collections made by the apostles for the support of the apostles or for a building fund. However, there is mention of a collection for the poor saints in Jerusalem, which consisted of money, food, and clothing (1 Cor. 16:1-4). It shouldn't even need to be said that every last cent collected went to the needy in Jerusalem and not to the apostles for salaries.

Then how were the apostles supported? How, for that matter, was Jesus supported? Jesus had responsibilities. He had to teach the twelve

apostles how to live. He also taught them all the words He heard from the Father. All this took over three years. He was constantly helping others, showing His disciples the "Way." He also had to support His mother and His four brothers and His sisters, because He was the eldest. "Isn't this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James, Joses, Judas and Simon? Aren't His sisters here with us?" (Mark 6:3). He had a home, and with every home comes expenses (Mark 2:1).

How, then, was Jesus supported? Simple: He was supported by those who were fully convicted. He was supported by people such as Joanna, the wife of Chuza, King Herod's right hand man. Susanna and many others were contributing to the support of Jesus and the twelve disciples out of their own private funds (Luke 8:3). These women were helping to support them out of their own means. When you are convicted, you simply continually act on your conviction.

'So they remained hearers of the word and were never convicted, and they never became converted to God.'

Surely there were many who never began to live the new life, called the Way of righteousness. Also, many did not take the message of the truth to heart. Some probably were zealous at first, but when they began to be persecuted by others for living this Way, they fell away as it is mentioned in Matthew 13:20-21. Also, there had to be those who wouldn't prove all that they heard, by looking it up in the Scriptures like the Bereans did (Acts 17:11). So they remained hearers of the word and were never convicted, and they never became converted to God (James 1:22).

Are You Convicted?

"...How can you believe unless your Spirit has been convicted?"

One definition of faith is "that which is believed." But how can you believe unless your Spirit has been convicted? Now to strengthen the Spirit, we all need to be continually fed from God's word, to prove all things and hold fast with conviction those things which we know and have proven to be true. That is solid faith! That is unwavering faith!

Many are going to fall away from the faith because of lack of conviction. Their faith, as a result, will be weakened and continue to be weakened by their continued lack of conviction. Studying God's word daily and continuing to do acts of ikindness and charity daily will keep your conviction strong. The answered prayers you will continue to receive, along with healing and miracles, will keep your conviction strong.

'The message is quite simple, so you can see many are simply not convicted yet.'

If you cannot convince another of the truth from God's word, you are still not convicted yourself. The message is quite simple, so you can see many are simply not convicted yet.

When a person hears a vacuum cleaner salesman give his convicting story, many are convicted enough to buy the vacuum immediately. Their conviction in the product automatically gave them faith in the salesperson. They were sold! This is exactly what happens when Jesus preached the truth from God's word. People believed Him and, as a result of that belief or faith, many were healed (Luke 8:48). Many, however, did not continue in that truth by putting Jesus' words into daily practice. They forgot His words. As a result,

they lost their belief, their faith and their conviction.

Those, however, who immediately put their hands to the plow and didn't look back, continued to feed their conviction and fortified it with daily Bible study, good works and prayer. They kept learning, so they kept growing. As they were continually convicted by their reading, they automatically began to bring these convictions forward into their daily walk with God. When these new convictions were put into practice and thoroughly tested, they became fully convicted because they proved God's word was right after all.

One area where God wants you to test Him is in giving. Notice what the Lord says in Malachi 3:10: "...test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until there is no more need." The people who were convicted by the truth and began to live it gave money to the poor or needy (Acts 10:2; 9:36). They also supported Jesus Christ. Jesus took that support money and at times gave to the poor. "For some were supposing, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus was saying to him 'Buy the things we have need of for the feast,' or else, that he should give something to the poor" (John 13:29).

'Conviction, then, is not only faith but faithfulness.'

Conviction, then, is not only faith but faithfulness. What would have happened if people were not faithful to Jesus Christ in supporting the truth and getting it out to others, who were being called into the faith, to be saved? Well that didn't happen because they stayed convicted, and as a result, they remained faithful to God's harvest.

Woman to Woman

Baking With Whole Wheat 6



As homemakers, we have choices when we cook and bake things for our families and others. We have a variety of sweeteners such as sugar, honey, maple syrup, and molasses. We have a variety of flours such as bleached or unbleached white flour, rye flour, or whole wheat flour. We can choose from fresh, frozen, or canned fruits and vegetables. Quality is our choice.

Quality is our choice when it comes to the way we live spiritually, as well as physically. Jesus Christ tells us about the most high quality bread of all—the "bread of life." In John 6:35 He says, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me (obeys, trusts and has faith in) shall never thirst." This is an awesome spiritual bread that so completely satisfies all aspects of our lives. This bread Jesus Christ was speaking of is the Way of life we share with you in every Whole Wheat issue.

Whole Wheat newsletter is the product of a vision a man had when he approached my husband. The man saw loaves of bread, whole wheat bread, stored up and waiting to be shared with the world. The man was awestruck at what he saw. Little did he realize that my husband had been writing researched Bible study articles for years, and he eagerly desired to share them with the world. These articles explain clearly that

Jesus came to show us how to be wheat instead of tares. In the parable found in Matthew 13:24-30, the wheat and tares grew together until harvest. At harvest time, the tares were removed and burned. The wheat was bundled up to be saved and stored in the barn. God will spare us, too, if we are wheat (righteous, godly, good for something). By living His Ways, we become fully converted and become whole wheat who live to please God by serving others daily.

In Luke 11:3, we are taught to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Our spiritual daily bread is allowing the Lord to teach us by studying His word daily—the bread of God which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world (John 6:33). The bread of life (Jesus Christ) gives life (a Way of life) to the world. This Way of life is full of blessings, instead of curses, because we put Jesus' words into action.

What is the big bonus for eating of this "bread of life," or living to please God every day? John 6:51 says, "I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever."

Do you want to live forever? Do you want to be blessed? Do you want to be happy? The key to eternal life, blessings, and happiness goes back to fulfilling the basics:

- Study God's word daily!
 - Pray for others and your own needs!
- Live to please God by serving others continually, especially the less fortunate!

These are ingredients for a quality life, made of wholesome ingredients...so let's get cooking!

Your Sister in Christ,

Karren

i For a special collection of 'Woman to Woman' articles click here.

Letter From the Editor

Dear Whole Wheat Readers,

Our founder, Ron, always said we need to develop a stand alone faith. This issue of *Whole Wheat* has the exact directions on how to have that kind of faith. After all, it's not how we start out in life that is important...but how we finish! Our feature article, *Living to Please Only God*, is the perfect place to start. After all, it is where it all begins.

Webster's 1828 Dictionary says, that wise is properly having knowledge to discern and judge correctly, between what is true and what is false; between what is fit and proper, and what is improper. Wisdom is using or exercising that knowledge to accomplish an honorable end.

We are born with a human nature, which, at its core, wants to find the least path of resistance out of life's problems, despite the long term consequences. When we do this we are stunting our growth and not using godly wisdom. In the same way, if there is always someone there to help, comfort and solve life's challenges for us, then we are not growing and becoming spiritually mature, using the wisdom God has given us. We need to learn to stand on our own two feet, in God's Ways, to develop that stand alone faith.

As we live God's righteous way of life, and put it into practice, the only attitude to have is to be all in, and fully convicted, as our article Are you Convicted speaks of. This life is to be lived with all of your heart, mind, soul and strength. Then, we are truly living life to the fullest.

When we live this Way zealously and wholeheartedly for God, we will reap all of it's benefits and inherit all the promises of God.

It's all about being able to transition from a crawling faith - one of a babe - to that of a walking, running and even jumping faith! To come into a full maturity in our spiritual walk with God, being fully convicted and convinced. We all need help and support now and then. However, the more we are able to stand on our own, the better, stronger and the more lasting faith we will develop, which, will carry us to the end.

This life is to prepare us for the next life. God is calling us to positions of authority in His Kingdom. If we have not gained the knowledge or wisdom of His Ways, then how can we rule with Christ? This life is our practice run, a school of learning for the Kingdom to come.

As you strive for that stand alone faith, be sure to use all that we offer to support you on wholewheatonline.com. It is an invaluable resource available to you 24/7, that will help you become more spiritually mature, and as you do, watch the windows of heaven open up in your life (Mal. 3:10). For this righteous way of life makes the impossible - possible (Luke 1:37)!

In His Love,

Scott

To support the work of Whole Wheat, and help spread this precious truth that changes lives, you may make a donation via credit card or PayPal by clicking the donate button below:

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Or mail to: Whole Wheat, P.O. Box 26217, Minneapolis, MN 55426

Let's Play By The Rules

"He who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber" (John 10:1). Jesus Christ is the "door" (John 10:7). He is the Way. He is the one you should listen to. Those who do not preach His pure, complete message are blind guides of the blind, ministers God did not plant; they are Satan's ministers disquising themselves as ministers of Christ (Matt. 15:13-14; 2 Cor. 11:13-15). They promise people freedom when they themselves are

servants of corruption. "Go not after them," Christ says (Luke 21:8). They keep you on a guilt trip while **11the** message of Jesus Christ frees you from all the religious deception that grips this world. The message of Jesus Christ brings you into the abundant life (John 10:10).

Jesus Christ was righteous,

because He kept His Father's sayings (John 12:47, 50). Jesus Christ would not have been righteous if He refused to keep His Father's savings. The Father's sayings are righteous and Jesus Christ subjected Himself to that righteousness (Rom. 10:3). God's righteousness became Jesus Christ's righteousness (Heb. 5:9). Then Jesus Christ's

righteousness became the Apostle Paul's righteousness, because Paul imitated Christ and taught others to do the same (1 Cor. 11:1).

God is reproducing Himself. He is making more sons of righteousness. You are born again when you practice irighteousness (1 John 2:29). Practicing righteousness is what makes you righteous in God's eyes (1 John 3:7). Doing righteousness is how you glorify God (Matt. 5:16).

> Christ is making righteous people for Himself (Titus 2:14).

> You cannot grow weary in doing good deeds unless you are God (1 Peter 3:13)? Your nature!

doing good deeds (Gal. 6:9; 2 Thess. 3:13). Who is there to harm you if you do not prove zealous in doing good deeds for

We are our own worst enemy (Gen. 4:7). If we are not living for God every day, we are by nature, living for Satan (2 Tim. 2:26). Let God put him to death for you and make you a son of His (Rom. 16:20). Learn to play by God's rules! Live a life of righteousness daily for God's glory!□

Check out our newest inspirational poster and video here!



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