

The Bible Banner

June 2019



DARE TO BEWARE

"Grandma," said 10-year-old Donald, "you are always reading your Bible.

Why do you keep reading it day after day?"

"Well, dear,"—and Grandma smiled—"you might say I am studying for my final examination."

Our duty is to study the truth so that we can detect counterfeit in the final test. In Matt. 24:3,4 Jesus first warning for those at "the end of the world" is "Take heed [Beware] that no man deceive you."

Nutmeat Bites

1/4 cup Sesame Seeds
1 cup Hot Water
1 1/2 TBSP Mock Aminos
1/2 tsp Salt
3/4 cup Quick Oats
2 TBSP Chia Seeds
1 TBSP Nutritional Yeast
1/2 cup Gluten Flour

1/4 cup Walnuts
1 TBSP Beef-like Seasoning
1 tsp Garlic Powder
2 TBSP Olive Oil
1 tsp Italian Seasoning
2 tsp Onion Powder
1 tsp Wright's Liquid Smoke*

Blend sesame seeds, water and walnuts together. Pour in bowl and add the rest of the ingredients, saving gluten flour until last. Using a cookie scoop, place small portions on a baking sheet. Flatten. Bake at 350°F (180°C) until partially crispy on the outside. Often we make these and then fry them up for breakfast, slice for fajitas or even make larger "burgers" for sandwiches.



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*Wright's Liquid smoke contains only water and vegan smoke flavor. Other brands may contain vinegar or other chemicals. If you cannot obtain this brand, you might try adding Pero or another caffeine-free cereal coffee powder.

"Beware of no man more than yourself; we carry our worst enemies within us."

Quotable Quotes

**"I have a great need for Christ.
I have a great Christ for my need."**
Charles Spurgeon

PROFITABLE TRADITIONS—Cultivating Practical Mathematics Skills with True Education

Ratio and Proportions – Read the measurements for a Bible structure (Noah's Ark, Wilderness Sanctuary, New Jerusalem, etc.) and build a to-scale model.

Geometry- Build a Lego blocks room/house including cabinets/appliances, with your children. Using area and perimeter measurements have them figure out how many tiles it will take to tile the floor, how many concrete blocks to build the walls, etc.

Fractions-Have your children learn to cook following a recipe with fractions. Have them learn to double and triple the batch for additional company or cut it in half or fourths for a smaller batch. Fractions may also be used with measuring the Lego house.

Accounting- Create a simulation of a bank account. Using play money, checks, debit cards, and deposit slips, have your children receive a paycheck and pay their monthly bills. They must save to buy a car or make a down payment on a house, share an apartment, etc. Make sure they learn to pay tithe and taxes, as well as required auto insurance, etc.

Percentages – Have your child "shop" for needed clothing. Price the items on sale with a certain percentage off. Have them figure out how much the item will cost and how much "money" they are saving.



Child of the Devil

At one time Mr. P.T. Barnum, head of the great Barnum & Bailey Circus, invited Charles Spurgeon, a well-known conservative Protestant pastor of London who drew large crowds, to speak in the large tent at his traveling circus. He made every concession to make the offer attractive to Spurgeon. Barnum would provide the musical talent, unless Spurgeon wished to provide his own. He would provide any equipment or manpower Spurgeon desired. Spurgeon could speak as long or as short as he wished. There was only one basic stipulation! Barnum Circus Association would take the gate receipts and pay Spurgeon one thousand dollars per lecture. This was a generous offer in Spurgeon's day. Many would doubtless have said, "What a wonderful opportunity to reach people with the Gospel!" But not Spurgeon.

Knowing it would be wrong to join hands with the world, he sent a reply to Mr. Barnum:

Dear Mr. Barnum: Thank you for your kind invitation to lecture in your circus tents in America. You will find my answer in Acts 13:10.

*Very sincerely yours,
Charles H. Spurgeon*



If Mr. Barnum looked up Acts 13:10, he found these words: "*O full of all subtlety 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?*"

Spurgeon recognized the spirit that was behind the man who was tempting him to link up with unbelievers. To some, this reply may seem a little harsh, but men are the most dangerous animal in the Bible. It warns, "*beware of men...*" Matt. 10:17; "*beware of evil workers...*" Php. 3:2; "*Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*" Col.2:8

The words of 2 Cor. 11:13-15 make it clear that Satan's evil angels may choose to come and tempt in the form of men. "*For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*"

Christ also recognized that the tempter can come in the form of men, when they gave the devil a foothold in their lives. "*When ...the Saviour commanded, 'Get thee behind me, Satan'* (Matthew 16:23). Satan was speaking through Peter, making him act the part of the tempter. Satan's presence was unsuspected by Peter, but Christ could detect the presence of the deceiver, and in His rebuke to Peter He addressed the real foe. On [another] occasion, speaking to the twelve, and referring to Judas, Christ declared, 'One of you is a devil' (John 6:70). Often in the days of His earthly ministry the Saviour met His adversary in human form, when Satan as an unclean spirit took possession of men". {2SM 353}

The sad effect is described thus... "*Satanic agencies were incorporated with men. The bodies of human beings, made for the dwelling place of God, had become the habitation of demons. The senses, the nerves, the passions, the organs of men, were worked by supernatural agencies in the indulgence of the vilest lust. The very stamp of demons was impressed upon the countenances of men. Human faces reflected the expression of the legions of evil with which they were possessed. Such was the prospect upon which the world's Redeemer looked. What a spectacle for Infinite Purity to behold!*" {DA 36.3}

We will again see evil spirits in the form of men as we enter the last days of earth's history. 1Timothy 4:1 states, "*Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing {Strong's Concordance--(by implication) an impostor} spirits, and doctrines of devils,*"

But one must be aware that Satan doesn't always make those who are his subjects look wild and crazy. (Luke 8:29;9:42) Sometimes, he uses a more musical voice, like he used through the serpent in Eden. He will make use of apostatizing pastors, selfish businessmen and leaders, spiritualistic healers and teachers, infidel and compromising writers and authors, etc. We can see this in Rev. 16:13,14 where the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet are used to represent three different classes of people. The words coming out of their mouths are "the spirits of devils". "*And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.*"

However evil spirits appear, even if they appear as our friends, the intent is always the same. These evil agencies can be recognized by their message of doubt and misinterpretation and undermining of the scriptures. Like Satan, when he spoke through the serpent, their message is "*Yea, hath God said?*" Gen. 3:1 "*Satan will use every opportunity to seduce men from their allegiance to God. He and the angels who fell with him will appear on the earth as men, seeking to deceive.*" {LDE 160.2}. "*Evil angels in the form of men will talk with those who know the truth. They will misinterpret and misconstrue the statements of the messengers of God.* . . . {3SM 411.1} "*Evil angels in the form of believers will work in our ranks to bring in a strong spirit of unbelief...These powers of evil will assemble in our meetings, not to receive a blessing, but to counterwork the influences of the Spirit of God.*" {LDE 161.1}

God has given us the scriptures as a safeguard against evil spirits, even those disguised as men. "*And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.*" Isaiah 8:19 ,20

"The visible and the invisible world are in close contact. Could the veil be lifted, we would see evil angels employing all their arts to deceive and destroy. **Wherever an influence is exerted to cause men to forget God, there Satan is exercising his bewitching power.** All who venture into scenes of dissipation or irreligious pleasure, or seek the society of the sensualist, the skeptic, or the blasphemer, by personal intercourse or through the medium of the press, **are tampering with sorcery.** Ere they are aware, the mind is bewildered and the soul polluted." {LP 140.1}

The apostle's admonition to the Ephesian church should be heeded by the people of God today: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." {Eph. 5:11}

Prophetic News Notes -- Traditional Family under Attack

Confusion ensued when a "man arrived at the hospital with severe abdominal pains" and "a nurse didn't consider it an emergency, noting that he was obese and had stopped taking blood pressure medicines. In reality, he was pregnant — a transgender man in labor that was about to end in a stillbirth."¹

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Nurse mistakes pregnant transgender man as obese. Then, the man births a stillborn baby

states four times "*For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife*" Mark 10:7 (Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5; Eph. 5:31) The relationship between a man, a woman and the possible addition of children was made to provide for our social needs. Psalm 68:6 states that "*God setteth the solitary in families.*" God set up the family structure to provide stability and to protect society from demoralization. (1 Cor. 7:2; Heb. 13:4) But today man is trying to change that. Perhaps we should consider Proverbs 24:21 that states, "*My son, fear thou the LORD ...and meddle not with them that are given to change:*"

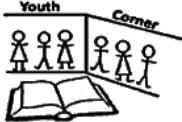
And now, in addition to hormones to "create" a different gender than what God authored, transplants of the womb are also taking place. An article in the Guardian states, "*Births resulting from uterus transplants have been happening since 2014....*", "*By making pregnancy potentially available to trans women and even to cis men (with hormone treatments), uterus transplants could challenge social norms and preconceptions, just as IVF [in vitro fertilization] has done by creating new family structures.*"²

This is as Satan would have it, because changing the traditional family structure into something vile* ruins the beautiful biblical picture of Christ and the church. "*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;*" Eph. 5:25 It also shows that we are in the last days of earth's history, for God declares, "*Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*" (Ex. 20:12) Thus, when society ceases to honor "father" & "mother," our days are numbered.

1—<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2019/05/16/pregnant-transgender-man-births-stillborn-baby-hospital-missed-labor-signs/3692201002/>

2—<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/06/live-birth-dead-donor-definition-motherhood-transplants-pregnancy> *See also Lev. 20:13, 18:23; Rom. 1:26,27; Deut. 22:5

Deadly Decision



"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, **beware** lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness." 2 Peter 3:17

A party of young men hired a guide and hiked up to the crater of a semi-active volcano. Then they climbed down among the lava rocks to the lowest ledge that was considered safe. "I'm going farther down," said one adventurous young man.

"No, you're not," said the guide. "It is too steep and it isn't safe."



"But I brought a rope for this very purpose, and I am going," persisted the young fellow.

. "No, you're not," said the guide. "Those ashes and lumps of lava look cold, but you can never tell; maybe some of them were erupted just before we got here"

But in spite of all that the guide and his friends could say, the young fellow tied one end of this rope around a good strong rock, the other end around his waist, and lowered himself carefully and slowly down the steep side of the crater. His friends held their breath as they watched him go down, down, farther and farther. It looked so thrilling. But some of the pieces of lava were recent, and they were hot, and soon a tiny spark had started eating into the rope. The young fellow couldn't see it; his friends above couldn't see it; but all of a sudden the rope parted—and the young man was instantly hurled into the depths. What a price to pay for disregarding counsel. Yet, how many today do the same thing—Instead of believing God when He tells us in His word that something is unsafe, they follow their own ways and the end thereof is the way of death. (Prov. 14:12) Wouldn't it be better to follow God's way and avoid a deadly decision?

The Crazy Mechanic

We were stopped at a gas station and the car wouldn't start again. The last time, a kind farmer had been there to help and jumped the battery to get the car started, but this time we were on our own. We were certain the problem was with the battery again since, at the very least, the connections were corroded. My son looked at me with a mischievous grin and said, "I know how to fix it."

"How?" I inquired.

"Just get rid of the battery—after all that is what the problem is," he replied, with a laugh.

Now this may sound silly to a good mechanic. You don't fix a car with a flat tire by removing the tires and driving on just the rims. You don't fix a clogged fuel filter by simply removing the filter so there is nothing to clog—you would ruin the engine. And you don't fix a car that won't start because of a battery problem by removing the battery. That's insanity!



It is of interest to note however, that this is exactly what portions of the modern medical industry do today. It seems lately I've heard more and more about people with mysterious diseases affecting parts of their body and instead of getting to the root of the problem, doctors just cut out the affected part--splenectomies, appendectomies, mastectomies, hysterectomies, tonsillectomies, etc. I've even heard of people having their stomachs, gall bladders or portions of their intestines removed. * Worse yet, now some people are deciding to have parts of their bodies removed as a preventative measure so they won't get cancer in that area.

For years, parents had children get routine tonsillectomies just so they couldn't get tonsillitis. "Medicine" had decided that tonsils weren't used for anything anyway, so you might as well cut them out. Today, we know that the tonsils are an important part of the immune system guarding the digestive track from "invaders" that may come through the mouth.

The concept that there are useless parts in the body is not Christian doctrine; it actually comes from evolutionary theory. For example, my medical book states, "*Although the appendix is a vestigial organ, with no known function, it can become diseased.*"¹ The dictionary states that a vestigial part or vestige is "*a bodily part or organ that is small and degenerate or imperfectly developed in comparison to one more fully developed in an earlier stage of the individual, in a past generation, or in closely related forms.*" In other words, the word "vestigial" suggests a body part left over from a previous evolutionary stage.

Christians have no business believing worldly theories like this, for 1 Cor. 12:21, 22, 26 states, "*And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: ...And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.*"

It turns out that "*the... appendix contains lymphoid tissue, suggesting an immunologic function...[and] at least one recent report postulates a survival advantage conferred by the appendix: In diarrheal illness, the appendix may serve as a bacterial reservoir to repopulate the enteric bacteria for those surviving the initial phases of the illness. Moreover, its twisted anatomy provides a haven for the accumulation and multiplication of enteric bacteria*"²

Science Focus, an online version of BBCs Focus magazine states, "*new research by scientists in Australia and France suggests that this little-appreciated part of your gut might not be quite as pointless as once thought. Their study, published in Nature Immunology, shows that the appendix may in fact act as a reservoir for 'good bacteria'. These bacteria contribute to keeping the gut healthy and helping you recover from infections. The study's findings contradict a commonly held belief that the appendix has no function.*" Yet the article states, "*Around 40,000 people in the UK are hospitalized with appendicitis each year, and appendix removal is one of the country's most common surgical procedures.*"³

Another medical article more simply explains the importance of the appendix by stating, "*researchers say sometimes the bacteria die off or are purged from the intestines as in diseases such as cholera or dysentery. According to the researchers, the appendix's job is to 'reboot' the digestive system when that happens with the bacteria safely harbored in the appendix*"⁴

So your appendix parallels the hard drive needed for rebooting after a "computer crash". The spleen might be compared to a fuel filter since it "filters" blood-born pathogens, etc. Just as we realize only a crazy mechanic would fix a flat tire by removing all the tires -- because tires are necessary parts for a car, those who believe in a designer for the human body should realize that God didn't make useless parts in our body either. Anytime something is removed, potential problems loom in the future. A hysterectomy patient may learn too late that other organs and their placement in their body are negatively affected by the removal of the uterus.

A tonsillectomy patient may learn the painful lesson that you don't have to have tonsils in order to get a sore throat. And that "Tonsils ...are important in developing immunity to oral pathogens"⁵

The fact that many people still live on, despite removal of some important parts of their body, is not evidence that the parts were not needed or useful, but instead, it is evidence of a loving Creator who made our bodies to heal and even to amazingly adapt when portions of them are removed. It is evidence that God in His love designed man much more skillfully than any car. Truly, "*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

- 1- (Johns Hopkins Symptoms and Remedies—The Complete Home Medical Reference, pg. 338) 2-- (Openstax College Anatomy and Physiology, pg. 1066) 3-- <http://www.sciencefocus.com/news/what-does-appendix-do-lot-more-we-thought%E2%80%A6> 4-- <http://www.news-medical.net/news/2007/10/08/30907.aspx>
5-- Openstax College Anatomy and Physiology, pg. 941

*Note: I do not deny the fact that occasionally accident may cause removal of an organ to be necessary, but the fact remains that organs are removed far more often than necessary.



God's Amazing Creatures

Red foxes live on every continent except for Antarctica and South America, although they aren't native to Australia. The red fox is capable of jumping over fences that are almost 7 feet (2-meters) high, and it can swim well. Red foxes have really good hearing. They can hear the squeaking of a mouse all the way across a field or about 100 metres (330 ft) away. They eat mostly small animals, although sometimes they may also eat fruits and vegetables like berries, and even grapes. King Solomon talked about foxes. He said "*Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.*" (SS 2:15) Fox burrows are holes that are often dug on hill or mountain slopes, in ravines, bluffs, ditches, and in rock clefts. Baby foxes are called kits. Even when they are a little older, the previous young foxes remain with their parents to help care for new baby foxes called kits.

Just like the young foxes help their parents, we should help our parents too!



"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."
Exodus 20:12

Can you find the lizard in the picture?

Christian's Daddy told him to be careful because there was a bee's nest close by. Christian obeyed and played far away from the bees. The bees didn't sting Christian and he even found a striped lizard to play with. Christian was glad he obeyed.



Carnal's Daddy told him to be careful because of the bee's nest too. But Carnal disobeyed and threw rocks at the bee's nest instead. Carnal got stung by lots of bees. It hurt and Carnal wished he had obeyed.



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Study to Show Thyself Approved-- The Character of Christ in His Commandments

"BEWARE that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day." Deut.8:11 **"God's law is a transcript of His character."** {PUR, December 17, 1903 par. 10}

Since God's law is a transcript of His character, in essence, when we forget God's law, we forget God.

Commandment	Explanation of Christ's Character in the Commandment
And God spake all these words, saying, I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. —Ex.20:1,2	God's law is about freedom in Christ Jesus. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?— Romans 6:16 The "perfect law of liberty" is a blessing. (James 1:25)
#1 Thou shalt have no other gods before me. —Ex. 20:3	When we understand God's unselfish character of love, we will love Him most of all—more than a house, or a car, the TV, a food, an amusement, or any person even ourselves, etc. We love him, because he first loved us.— 1 John 4:19 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish....— John 3:16
#10 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. —Ex. 20:17	
#2 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath... Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children ... of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. Ex. 20:4-6 #9 Thou shalt not bear false witness.... —Ex. 20:16	Jesus is the Truth, anything less than an ever-present, all-knowing, Almighty, merciful God is an idolatrous lie. Jesus saith ..I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.— John14:6 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever...— Rom. 1:25 ... we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. -- Act 17:29 (Deut.4:28)
#3 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. —Ex. 20:7	When we recognize the amazing magnitude of God's Name, Jehovah (literally, "self-existent") we will not want to take it in vain by our words or actions "for in Him we live and move and have our being" — Acts 17:28, "I am Jehovah, this is My name..."— Is. 42:8 (Young's LT) "I am...the life"—John 14:6
#4 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. —Ex. 20:8-11	When we recognize that God is Creator of the universe and we are only the Creator's living "clay models", we will REMEMBER to worship Him on the day of His choosing. Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and <u>worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.</u> — Rev. 14:7 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.— Luke 4:16
#5 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.—Ex. 20:12	God is our Father (Is. 9:6), His love is even greater than a mother's. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.— Is. 49:15 ...his commandments are not grievous.—1 John 5:3 (Eph. 6:1)
#6 Thou shalt not kill. — Ex. 20:13	God has no pleasure in death.... As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?. —Ezekiel 33:11
#7 Thou shalt not commit adultery. — Ex. 20:14	Our emotional needs are met by Christ's perfect love for us – For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.— Isaiah 54:5 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.— John 15:13 If ye love me, keep my commandments— John 14:15 (Eph. 5:25)
#8 Thou shalt not steal -- Ex. 20:15	No need to steal, God can supply all. "God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."— Php. 4:19

