

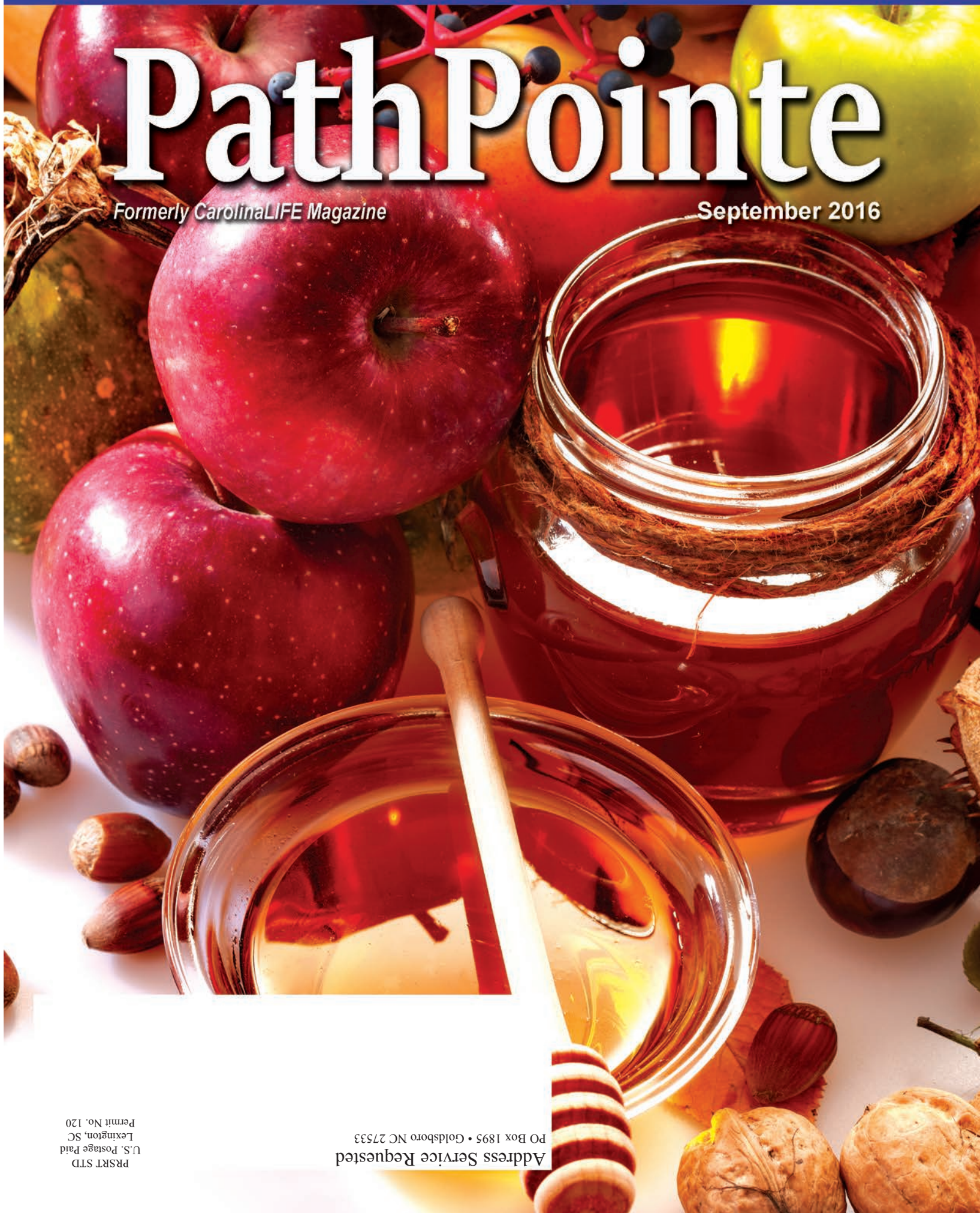


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Every parent knows about the phenomenon known as the “*terrible twos*.” It is the season of life when many children seem to be constantly getting into mischief and can seldom be satisfied no matter how hard the exasperated parent may try. We are told this is normal for children as they struggle between reliance on their parents and desiring to be independent. Hopefully, they will outgrow these frustrations, tantrums, and episodes of mayhem, but what if they don’t? Then we end up with a society much like the one we have today; a society where children *and* adults seem to have a permanent case of the malignant terrible twos.

What is causing this age of rage? Maybe it is the chemicals in our food. Some blame it on the economy. Others say it is religion or racism. Fact is, it can be anything. We are a paranoid generation. We think everyone is out to get us, attack our religion, belittle our heritage, and judge our gender. It seems as if the whole human race thinks they are circling the drain, and no one knows how to stop it.

People just don’t seem to handle conflict very well today. Losing your job, being bullied, being suspended from school, divorce, financial problems, or real or perceived persecution can lead folks to go ballistic. People can even get angry about relatively inconsequential things. What was once recognized as a lack of emotional maturity is now considered a disorder.

Now, it is important to differentiate anger and aggression. Anger is an emotion which may not necessarily trigger a violent outburst. This is usually considered a mature way of dealing with anger. On the other hand, you can be aggressive toward someone without actually being angry at them. A guy who mugs you may have no personal anger toward you; he just wants your money. This form of aggression is obviously wrong, but it is not to be confused with the violence generated when anger and aggression are combined to form *rage*.

Rage may display itself in words or actions. It also appears to the

governing principle of those who delight in murdering innocent people. We’ve seen it displayed around the globe dozens of times over the past few weeks. Here at home, our police officers are massacred on the streets and shoppers are murdered in our malls. Many of our larger cities have been turned into little more than war zones.

How did we get here? Although it is no longer politically correct to identify and name our real enemies, we must recognize we cannot understand this age of rage unless we first comprehend the source of all the hate and venom. Our politicians can’t seem to find an answer. Our law enforcement officers are powerless to bring it to an end. Although our military may kill or capture terrorists, they cannot begin to explain or curtail their violent or extremist ideologies. Even our theologians seem to come up short.

America has been divided into two segments. The smallest segment comprises those who are basically content with their lives. The other group which is far larger in number is

the victims. These are the folks who see themselves as oppressed in some manner. The interesting thing is that most folks would rather be victims. Perhaps it is so they can use their perceived misfortune as an excuse to mob, malign, or murder the contented. After all, they believe everyone is supposed to be miserable so they absolutely hate those who actually feel good about life.

As you might expect, I believe the Word of God provides instruction and real answers. The Bible offers in-depth insight into why people think, communicate, and behave the way they do; and why they increasingly commit bizarre acts. Of course, most people are not interested in the real answers when it is much easier to keep passing the poison to the next generation.

First, Man Has Misplaced His Trust.

The reasons for our increasing rage reflect a frustration with those around us, especially those who promised to make everything right. We believe we have the right to expect things to go well, and when reality falls short of these expectations, we feel that we have the right to get angry about it. After all, we have been promised by politicians, advertisers, educators, and businesses that if we would give them our trust, they would make things right. So, if they break their word, we feel we have the right to get annoyed, demand redress, or maybe even commit murder. Man has always wanted things to go his way. This is not new, but today he actually expects it to happen. After all, *it is* what we have been promised.

Society has also given man a mixed picture of hope. It is easy to see

the stunning achievements man has made in technology, medicine, and engineering. Our standard of living and life span reflect the great advancements we have made. But, man has never been able to solve his worst problems: crime, poverty, starvation, violence, racism, perversion, and war. *These are often the things that ignite the fires of rage.* Donald Trump has risen to the political forefront because people are frustrated that government has not fixed these things; *but government cannot fix these things.* These are character issues. Government can certainly do more than it is doing, but it does not have the answer! What man has missed is that these problems are spiritual; meaning they cannot be solved through political, legal, military, or physical solutions.

I am reminded of a master politician named Lucifer; he also believed that government could fix anything, as long as he was the head of that government. He lusted for additional power, a higher position and actually convinced a multitude of angels he could make things better. Lucifer became Satan, and the rebellious angels became demons. Now, he continues to influence the world by disseminating the four major tenants of his nature into the carnal mind: *vanity, jealousy, lust, and greed.* These constitute the foundation of our age of rage.

Second, We Have The Element of Religious Furor.

Although there are some dark chapters in all religious history, including Christianity, Islam is rare among religions in its propagation of continual violence. We can even see this violent history back in the days of Thomas Jefferson and the Barbary Wars when American naval vessels

were attacked primarily to capture Christian slaves for the Muslim-Arab slave market in northern Africa. Today, *radical* Islam has become as glue uniting fractured societies into a framework of terrorism. It has proven to be a powerful banner to rally rebels. Islam reminds its followers of lost Islamic glory. Muslims are painfully aware that while Europe was in the dark ages, the house of Islam was the seat of world enlightenment. And while it is understandable that the Muslim world may justly be angry at its oppressors, this anger became aggressive, and then was allowed (*by some*) to turn blatantly evil.

Religion has offered little hope in curbing the age of rage because of the multitude of differing and competing religious movements, each professing to be the right way to God. Sadly, as you Biblically examine much of their theology, you can easily prove that these belief systems do not represent God. But, this false faith contributes to creating and enabling the age of rage by not teaching the truth about the missing component man needs to make him spiritually complete: A relationship with Jesus Christ.

Of course, this is exactly the way Satan wants it. While the world's "experts" offer their professional





advice on dealing with the age of rage, the Bible, God's instruction manual to mankind, is ignored.

Signs of the Times.

Any assessment of the age of rage must include the acknowledgement that the Word of God tells us the character of society will worsen in the last days. God forewarned us of man's evil nature during the end of the age. We are told these would be "perilous times". The word "chalepos" was used, which means "troublesome, dangerous, harsh, fierce, and savage." How true of modern society!

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent (without self-control, people known to fly off the handle), fierce (savage, untamed, wild), despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady (rash, reckless, headstrong), highminded (the Greek word used here is typhoo, related to typhoon, and it defines being puffed up to the point of being so blinded with pride or conceit that one is rendered foolish or stupid. Such people, in effect, come off as disastrous storms, which

endanger the peace, security and lives of others.), lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof."

II Timothy 3:1-5

So, what is the meaning behind this age of rage and how did we get here?

First, man is frustrated because certain problems have not been fixed. Man wonders how can we be so advanced in technology and yet governments have not fixed our basic core problems. Man's carnal mind, often empowered by false religion, does not and cannot realize these problems are spiritual problems and cannot be fixed by military force or legislation.

Second, Satan, as a masterful politician, wants to rule the earth. So, he utilizes the four major traits of his nature: **vanity (pride), jealousy, lust and greed** to create and enable today's age of rage.

Third, these perilous times were clearly foretold and defined in the Word of God.

Fourth, man has neglected the answers found in the Bible. For example, Romans 12 presents wisdom that surpasses any advice this world's experts could offer:

"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another...Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not...Recompense [repay] to no man evil for evil...avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, says the Lord. Therefore, if your enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing you shall heap coals of fire on his head.

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Vs. 10, 14, 17, 19-21

With the Spirit of God working within us, Christians can conquer the carnal nature and employ these verses.

So, whenever the stresses of life start to build, we must examine ourselves for signs of **pride, jealousy, greed and lust**, the characteristics of Satan that can lead us to emotionally melt down and commit vile acts. We must remember **"the carnal mind is enmity [naturally hostile] against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be"** (Romans 8:7), the carnal mind can easily succumb to **pride, jealousy, greed and lust**, and cause us to bend to the pressures of the age of rage. Furthermore, we must allow the Holy Spirit to produce and empower the fruits of the Spirit within us (Galatians 5:22-23).

We are living in an age of satanically inspired rage. He is the adversary who **"deceiveth the whole world"** (Revelation 12:9). He is Apollyon, the great destroyer who is the grand architect of the age of rage. Indeed, the perilous times foretold in the Bible are already here, and they will continue to worsen. But, as children of God we must not fall into the trap of allowing angry and foolish knee-jerk reactions control our lives. Remember, we are to be controlled from the inside by the Holy Spirit, not from the outside by the forces of the world.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry forty years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries.



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Time Management

“I just don’t have enough time to do all the things I need to do. There are never enough hours in the day to get everything done.”

We’ve all said these statements before. The to-do list is long enough to keep ten people busy, but there is only one person to do it. It’s easy to feel overwhelmed as we are caught up in the hectic pace of this world. In a sermon about this subject, the late Dr. Adrian Rogers had this to say about time;

“There is enough time in every day to do everything God wants you to do and to do it gracefully. It is an insult to God to say you don’t have enough time. If you don’t have enough time, you are doing something that God did not intend for you to do. It is something you have imposed upon yourself or something you’ve allowed others to impose upon you... Most of us don’t need to learn to work harder; we need to learn to work with more power and more effectiveness.”

allow Him to direct your steps. God has equipped us with the tools we need to be successful for Him.

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

II Timothy 3:16-17



One of the main points of his sermon was the importance of beginning each day by spending time in God’s Word and in prayer. By doing so, you have God’s guidance to fill up your to-do list with His priorities before your own. Be empowered by the Holy Spirit every day and

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In Residence

“What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

I Corinthians 6:19-20

We all have bad days. Sometimes, especially as we grow older, it is hard to get moving. However, if you are a Christian it doesn’t matter how broken down you may feel, you are still God’s dwelling place. He has declared, *“You are my house. I dwell in you.”* The flesh sometimes rebels against it, and the devil can lie all he wants; but if you are saved, you are still the Lord’s dwelling place:

“Christ...whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.”

Hebrews 3:6

Do you remember the history of Fort McHenry and the story of the “Star Spangled Banner”? The

anticipation of who occupied and controlled the fort was the focus of Francis Scott Key. And then, after a terrible night of battle in the light of early morning, he saw the Stars and Stripes. Then, he knew the fort still belonged to America!

At Windsor Castle in England, a flag flies atop the flagpole each time the queen is in residence. Now, the same is true at our King’s residence. Isaiah tells us, *“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.” (Isaiah 59:19)* God’s flag of ownership flies above us continually. It is both a declaration of His presence in us and a warning to the enemy.

Beloved, we are not to live in fear of Satan anymore. Rather, we are to rejoice, walking in confidence and the joy of the Lord. God has removed all judgments against us. He has hoisted His standard above us declaring, *“The King is at home. He is in residence here. This house belongs to Him.”*

The Time Is Now!

Mrs. Sherry Worthington



Where does time go? I catch myself daydreaming and thinking of how time just seems to be fleeting. It is hard to fathom I have nine grandchildren and one on the way. I still remember the first date I had with my husband. It is like it was yesterday. We were all grins. As time passed all we could think of was how much we loved each other and looked forward to growing old together. After we got married, life became very busy.

My husband and I thought when we got older that life would slow down a bit. Well, it hasn't. In fact, it has gotten busier. Pathway Ministries has grown from a small church and school to a ministry with a church,

school, eight full power radio stations, a college, a Bible college accrediting association, and a full color magazine. Our immediate family has grown from five children to ten children and soon to be ten grandchildren. The needs of our extended family as well as our own physical needs for rest and recovery have grown.

Don't get me wrong. There is never a dull moment, and life is full and rich. It seems if I am not careful, I will lose focus and get distracted with the right now moments. I tend to set the important things aside and do the urgent. What is today's deadline? With the best of intentions, I am likely to miss a beautiful moment with my husband or a special time with my grandchild.

I guess I might compare with Martha in some ways. She was probably a better housekeeper than I, but she was always busy doing something, whereas Mary was commended for taking time to learn from the Master.

Scripture tells us that time is precious and we should use it wisely. It warns us it can be wasted.

Ephesians 5:15-16 states ***“See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”***

We must be careful to listen to the Master concerning how we should use the time He has given us. First and foremost, we know we need to set aside

time to pray and study God's Word. That is a given. Most of us don't make prayer and Bible study a priority. It is sad that the God of Heaven is pushed aside for the things of the very world He created.

As Christians we are blessed with the spiritual gifts the Lord has given us. Are we using them as He intended us to use them? If we were, no one in the church would be overburdened, and a few would not carry the weight of the entire church. As many have said, the church is not intended to be a spectator sport.

The Christian community is busy doing lots of things, but how many are lasting and have eternal value? Are we redeeming the time?

When we look around us, we see our world decaying. The morals and values that precipitate our world are anti-God. We are busy having fun or doing the mundane while the world is going to hell in a hand basket. The saddest part of all is the devil is taking our children, and parents are handing them over. It reminds me of the passage in the Old Testament which admonishes the people for sacrificing their children to false gods. (*Ezekiel 16:20-21*) Are we going to look back and realize we did not redeem time with our children? Have we sacrificed them to our full schedules and lack of priorities?

I understand how busy life can be. In many cases, both parents have to work to make ends meet. Often times this is due to getting in too deep financially, whereas other times it is just to keep food on the table. Life has changed from days gone by.

One of the most precious gifts God has given mankind is our children.

We have a responsibility to raise them in the admonition of the Lord. One of the things we cannot do is go back in time. All of us have things we would like to go back and change. Time past is forever gone. For those of us who have children at home, be so careful. The time we have with them now is very important. The example we set, the things we teach them, and the relationship we have with them is forever etched in their minds.

The people our children have contact with will influence them as well. If your



child is school age, the time they spend at school exceeds the time they spend at home during the school year. What are our children learning at school? We can't help but be alarmed by the new bathroom bill in our government. Our president has made an executive order that all public schools will allow students to go to the bathroom of their choice. If that is a rule at school, what else is being pushed into our children's minds? It is a scary thing.

I would encourage everyone to look into Christian education. There was a day when our children may have been

able to make it in a government school. Even with the few Christian teachers ministering in the government schools, the warped ideals of our government show that it cannot be trusted with the most precious valuable we have, our children.

Make every minute count with our children. It is difficult to grow up in a world where all types of sin are at our fingertips with this electronic age. Our children have instant gratification. Our children's parents are pulled in every direction. It is difficult to know who to let your children be around for fear of what they might be exposed to. Raising children has always been difficult, but it is much more difficult than it was even twenty years ago.

We can't go back and change how we raised our children. Once they are grown, it is too late. I would encourage each of you to take a good look at where your children are headed. Look into options and see how you can protect them from this evil world. I see the students at our school and the struggles they face. They are fortunate they have Christian teachers looking out for them and teaching the same values their parents hold dear.

I have a few regrets and wish I could do some things over, but I will never regret the time and the money spent on Christian education. Together we were able to provide protection, principles, and priorities for our children. It is well worth the investment. Please look into your options today!



Mrs. Worthington has five children and nine grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.

A Problem With The King



Rev. Jason Sherman

“And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment.”
1 Kings 3:28

Have you ever paused to ask yourself, *“Why are people so angry and aggravated with the Lord Jesus?”* Think about it for a moment: tally in your mind all the

different types of ways people are showing hatred toward the person of Jesus Christ today. We have already seen prayer removed from the public schools and, quite literally, from almost every area of public life. If there is a board of commissioners or a board from a large corporation which meets and wants to open their session in prayer, there is normally a group who will protest it and wish to stop it. Even at high school

graduation services where students are speaking, there always seems to be a liberal commotion warning all valedictorians and salutatorians to not mention Jesus Christ or a personal “religious” testimony within their speeches.

As has been stated on numerous occasions, it can’t be genuine unbelief at the bottom of these attacks. If these individuals truly

felt in their heart Jesus doesn't exist or He's not the Son of God, they wouldn't worry with Him. He would be no more of a threat to them than Mickey Mouse. I haven't seen any "Freedom from Mickey Mouse Clubs" springing up yet (*give it time I guess*). No, he is known to only exist in fantasy and poses no threat to real life at all.

Yet now we look at Jesus: The God-man, the Saviour of the World, the only way to Heaven, the God-sent sacrifice for sins. He is much more than Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, or any other fictional character. In fact, Jesus said men would always hate Him because of His Holiness, His strong Words, and His ultimate standing in the hierarchy of Heaven. Please notice our Lord's Words on this very subject:

"The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil."

John 7:7

In this passage Jesus explains exactly why individuals are trying to silence His message on this earth. May I say it's not a pretty sight when we start to dissect how someone could hate such a loving Saviour!

Some Hate Jesus Because They Have A Sin Problem.

Maybe you can remember a particular teacher from your school days who wouldn't put up with any nonsense at all. I can remember one who was famous in the Smithfield area because of her strictness and ability to make students feel about three inches tall after she was done with them, yet she ran an orderly and productive classroom. I can also remember in fourth grade, we

started out with one older teacher at the beginning of the year and once we arrived back from Christmas break, we had a much younger, first year teacher for the remainder of the year. Needless to say, the older teacher was a billion times more strict (*no exaggeration*) and those of us who liked to cut up enjoyed the younger teacher better. This is the exact reason why sinners don't like even the mention of Jesus or His Holy Word. They resent how holy He is and how unyielding His standards are; they don't want to "behave."

Sadly, they actually end up reacting in the same manner as demons when they crossed paths with Jesus while He walked down here on the earth. See if this doesn't sound familiar:

"And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not."

Mark 5:2, 7

Because of his evil position and disposition, this demon was tormented by the very presence of Jesus Christ. It is a sad commentary that many individuals react the same way today towards the Saviour.



Some Hate Jesus Because They Have A Self Problem.

One plague our society is suffering with is the plague of extreme selfishness. It is prevalent as you look around in America today. One cause of this plague is the influx of sin in our culture. Another fountainhead for this evil "me-first" attitude is the lax and enabling parenting today that hasn't realized the merit of discipline and the power in the word "no".

A very troubling side effect of this extreme selfishness is that these individuals are much harder to reach with the Gospel. Now, I realize God can get anyone's attention, even if for a short moment. However, the lasting impressions which really stir a soul and cause us to look to our eternal needs, are ignored by those who are selfish and self-serving.

The main issue self-absorbed people have with Jesus Christ is that self-denial is at the very core of the Gospel. Listen to our Lord's statement concerning this awesome eternal truth:

“And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.”

Luke 9:23

The rich, young ruler we find in **Mark 10:17-22** walked away sorrowful because he loved his riches more than eternal life. He was willing to trade his eternal soul for whatever possessions he had at that time. No wonder the Bible states the young man “went away grieved” as he walked away, shunning the Saviour and eternal life that day.

If by chance you are one of those who love self more than the person or idea of Jesus, I have a quick question for you: What will you give in exchange for your soul? Whatever it is that's keeping you from surrendering your life to Christ, that is exactly what you are willing to trade eternity for! One day, should you not repent, you'll find yourself in Hell with neither Heaven nor the thing you selfishly clung to accessible to you. Talk about hopelessness!

Others Hate Jesus Because They Have A Substitute Problem.

Today there are millions of people worldwide who believe in something

or someone other than Jesus Christ for salvation. When confronted with the message of Christ and hearing *(sometimes for the first time)* His message that He is the only way to Heaven, many become offended.

the only way, you must either submit to His command of surrender or you will be eternally punished for it. My, that's pretty narrow-minded, isn't it? Truth always is.



Right now there is a battle going on for the souls of humanity. Satan is muddying the waters and distracting men and women today with lesser things. His desire for them is that they die lost and suffer for eternity. Christ comes in and intersects our life with love and truth. In times gone by, when individuals were confronted with truth, they were receptive and changed their lives accordingly. These days, if people don't like what they hear, they silence it.

Are you one of those individuals whom the Gospel angers? Do you try to keep Christian

Some wish to hear more as they are genuinely searching for truth while others get angry, defensive, and try to shut up the message and the messenger.

Here's the thing: when God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit sat down and determined the method of salvation for the human race, they didn't ask for feedback or opinions. The Trinity carefully mapped out salvation according to *the only way* redemption could be offered to humanity: through the offering of Jesus Christ. God is wise and efficient enough that if there were any other way besides Christ dying on the cross, He would have provided it. However, since Christ is

friends from witnessing to you? Please know that no matter how much you repress the truth, you will be held accountable for hearing it nonetheless. My prayer is you will allow God's love and truth to penetrate your heart. Look unto Jesus today: rather than seeing a threat to your existence, please note Him as being exactly what He is: a love gift provided so that all could go to Heaven! Let's not hate the One who loves us so much.



Rev. Sherman serves as an Administrative Assistant at Christian Bible College. He and his family reside in Snow Hill, NC.

And Finally...



My Grandparents...

My maternal grandfather was a real character. It must be where I get my sense of humor. I have dozens of stories I could share, but one stands out above the rest: Picking corn in the fall would be a cold job. I'd help my grandpa unload the wagons. Between loads, we'd warm ourselves over a fire in a metal 55 gallon barrel. One of his favorite tricks would be to throw in a live .22 shell in the barrel, then walk away. It would explode, I'd jump, and he'd be off to the side snickering. When Grandma complained that someone (me) could get hurt, he'd explain that the lead bullet was much heavier than the casing, and if anything ever did fly out of the barrel, it would be the relatively harmless shell casing. I still laugh every time I see a fire barrel.

R. D.

I have so many wonderful memories with my maternal grandparents. They lived very close, and I was fortunate to be able to spend almost every day with them until I married. My grandfather was a prankster and a big kid at heart, so there was never a dull moment with him. My grandmother was more serious, and I spent most of my time with her. It didn't matter what we did, I just loved being with her. She always made time for me no matter how busy she was. Most will say that nothing is perfect, but in my eyes she was perfection. I miss them both dearly.

M. S.

My granddad was a dairy farmer who farmed the old way with horses and such, and I spent every available moment at the farm. I think one of my fondest memories of him was when I was 5 years old. He was hauling hay, and I was riding the wagon, probably just getting in his way. He then had me stand at the front of the wagon and handed me

the reins for the horses. He said, "If you're going to be in the field, you've got to work. Drive the team!" That day I learned how to drive a team of work horses. Now keep in mind Grandpa still had total voice command over the horses if a problem should arise, but I sure felt like I was on top of the world.

L. P.

I used to love to hang around in the kitchen with my grandma. She taught me how to catch and clean a chicken, cook, and can fruits and vegetables. My fondest memories of her were late in the evening just before bedtime. Grandma never had a haircut in her life, and she always wore her hair up in a bun. In the evening she would sit on a dining chair in the kitchen and let her hair down. It would reach the floor! I used to sit behind her and comb it out while Grandpa played on his fiddle.

J. A.

"Giving Thanks"

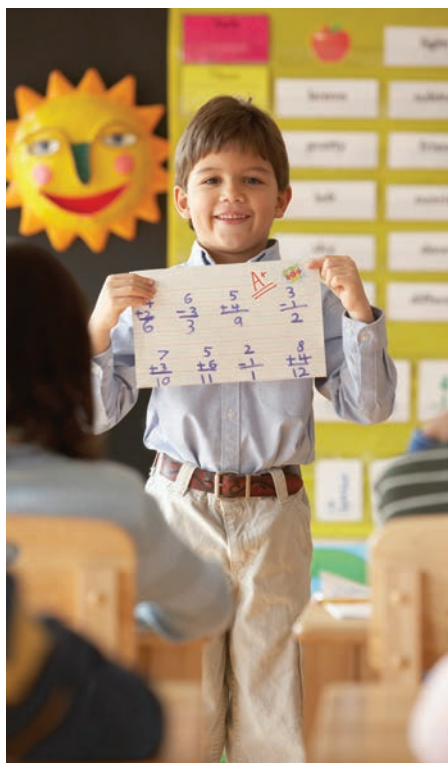
We'd like your help for an upcoming edition of "And Finally..."

Thanksgiving is in November! Write to us in 150 words or less and tell us what you are thankful for this year. The deadline for submission is September 20th, 2016.

You can send an email to: Attn: PathPointe
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