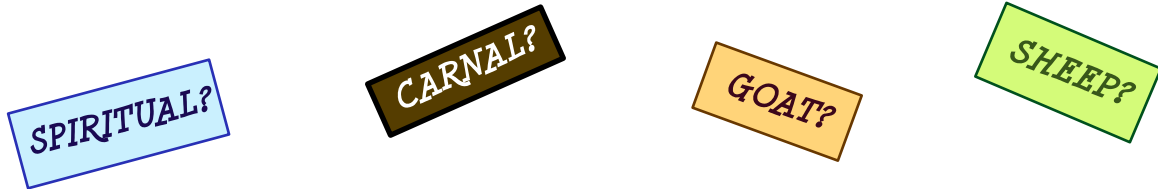


WHERE ART THOU?

Text **Genesis 3:9: In the Garden of Eden**
And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

If you had been there - which crowd would you be with? The Gospel is a separating place between the goats and the sheep. The Full Gospel is a separation again between the spiritual and the carnal. Our heart condition places us in one or the other group.



- ▶ The Prodigal son is inside where they are singing, dancing, and feasting. The prodigal brother is outside, grumbling, angry, and despising.
- ▶ David is dancing and leaping while bringing back the Ark. Michal, watching him, is scolding in her heart and receives the curse of God.
- ▶ Peter, with the eleven, is acting like a drunk; they are having a time in God. The mockers -- speaking evil of this Way -- are saying "they are drunk, mad, crazy, full of the devil."

I have seen many who claim to be saved and sanctified, who get angry and pout, or persecute those who are enjoying Jesus. Which group would you have been in?

Those speaking in the Spirit, or those speaking against the Spirit-filled?

Matthew 10:25: If it is enough for the disciple to be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more they shall call them of his household.

The devil may stir good-meaning people to persecute those who are more spiritual. The devil lied about Job (Job 1:11), and about God (Genesis 3:4-5), and he will lie about every true follower of Jesus. Jesus said:

John 15:26a, c: When the Comforter is come, ... He [the Holy Spirit] will testify of Me:

John 16:14: He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.

Whenever you hear people praising, worshipping and exalting Jesus, this is the moving of God. Whenever you hear people praising their preacher or a movement -- and not Jesus -- this is carnal, the old flesh, and is not of the Spirit of God. Jesus says, "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw only Baptists or holiness pentecostal folk unto me"!?

God pity such narrow mindedness.

Some 'has-beens' of the pentecostal folk may go to the devil, as Judas went from Jesus when he sinned against great light. There were others: Ananias and Sapphira, Simon the faker, Demas the world lover. That is no sign that Pentecost is all wrong and of the devil. Those who fight God's people for speaking in tongues have need of reading their Bibles.

Whenever you hear people praising their preacher or a movement -- and not Jesus -- this is carnal, the old flesh, and is not of the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 14:5:

I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

1 Corinthians 14:39: Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

Many fight what they call 'falling on the floor', or 'falling under the power'. Before showing God's answer from the Word, let us see how scriptural we really are in other things in our churches. Nowhere does it say people knelt at an altar for salvation or sanctification. (*Acts 2:2*) *They were sitting*. Why don't people just sit to get salvation or sanctification, if anyone is going to use this as an argument against 'tarrying' meetings.

Acts 9:4: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?

Later this same Paul is down again when he was caught up into the Spirit (*Acts 9:18*), as well as when he was under the power of the Spirit so that he did not know whether he was in the body or out. (*2 Corinthians 12:1-4*) Are you sure Peter was sitting when in a trance on the housetop, when the voice said: "Rise"?

- **Luke 5:2 - A leper falls down on his face before Jesus.**

- **Matthew 17:6** - Peter, James and John are lying down on their faces.
- **Matthew 26:39** - Jesus falls on His face to pray
- **Revelation 1:10** - John, under the power of the Spirit, falls at Jesus' feet.
- **Genesis 17:3** - Abraham fell on his face and God talked with him.
- **Numbers 20:6** - Moses and Aaron fell on their faces when the Glory of the Lord appeared unto them.
- **Joshua 5:14, 7:6** - Joshua fell on his face to the earth and did worship.
- **Ezekiel 1:28, 3:23, 11:13, 43:3, 44:4** - Ezekiel fell upon his face.
- **Daniel 8:17-18; 10:8-9** - Daniel fell upon his face
- **2 Chronicles 20:18** - All Judah and the inhabitants of her fell before the Lord.
- **Leviticus 9:24** - All the people shouted and fell on their faces.
- **1 Kings 18:39** - When all the people saw it they fell on their faces.
- **Revelation 4:8-11; 5:8-14; 7:9-17** - The four and twenty elders fall down before Him.
- **What about those in C. G. Finney's meetings, falling in every direction?**

Many who write against Pentecost and speaking in tongues -- what they do they should not do, for how can one not having the experience tell him who has had it what not to do? Would you accept one's teaching on salvation who was not saved or on healing who never experienced healing but found fault with those who did?

One man said, "There are only three recorded instances of speaking in tongues given." How many times must the Scripture say a thing before it is true? There are only two on anointing with oil, and two on being born again. Paul laid his hands on a dozen men and they began to speak in tongues. Would you go hear him preach? Would you allow him in your church, you who fight the ministry of the laying on of hands?

***How many times
must the
Scripture say a
thing before it is
true?***

The crowd cried out: "*They are drunk on the day of Pentecost. What meaneth this?*" This is what it means: They are not themselves; they are not responsible; they are drunk.

I wonder if any would come to our quiet services, so sedate, orthodox and refined, so smooth and beautiful, and say: "They are drunk." I wonder if any could say that about our ministers -- that they are all drunk today. If it were so, it would not be likely that they are drunk on the Spirit. The fact is -- we are all too sober, all trying to avoid anyone saying anything nasty about us. We are afraid of fanaticism -- but we need to be more afraid of dry rot. We like to hear folks say, "That is just beautiful." They will not say that if we are on fire for God.

That very service was a surgical operation which the apostles, as drunk men, were in -- and the hearts of everyone that heard them were cut to the deep as they cried out, "*Men and brethren - what must we do?*" I never heard anybody say they enjoyed a surgical operation. That is what every sermon should be. It ought to pierce to the quick. It ought to be a stirring of the man of God first. It ought to make us feel that the Judgment Day has already come.

These men were so absorbed in glorifying God and were lost in the Spirit. They had tarried until soaked and saturated with the Spirit, until they acted like a drunken bunch of fools. Have any of you gotten so much of God, so much of the Spirit of Jesus, so lost in His work, and so Christlike that the crowd would call you "beside yourself", or "insane"? They said this of Jesus when He forgot to eat bread.

***If you
can't be a
booster,
don't be a
knocker.***

They said, "*These men are drunk on new wine.*" This is the first picture we have of the early church -- God's ideal church, as it ought to be. Put the church of today alongside that one, and you will see there is not much alike -- but only in profession.

We have not the power, nor the results they had either. If you can't be a booster, don't be a knocker.

Acts 14:19-20: ¹⁹ And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, dragged him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. ²⁰ Howbeit, as the disciples stood around about him, he rose up, and came to the city.

Paul's brethren did not forsake nor desert him in the crisis hour. They did not go over to the enemy's side because they were more in number, but were loyal to

their leader. They formed a circle about him, and then he arose, strengthened and encouraged; and on in the battle for Christ he went. Which side would you have been on that day? The stone throwers and mud slingers; or with those who love the Lord's followers? All around us are faithful warriors for Christ, fighting at times a discouraging battle. Shall we leave them to be stoned to death, or shall we form a circle about them?

Church members who are carnal, full of self and sinful desires, and living in secret sin, are the ones who fight the movings of the Spirit and the Spirit-anointed leaders or warriors of Jesus Christ. It was sin that rent asunder the happy home of Eden, and cost the lives of many in the battle at Ai. An Achan in the church will do more harm than all the sinners and enemies of Christ on the outside.

"Am I my brother's keeper?" We certainly are, and are accountable at the Judgment of how we treat those who belong to Christ.

Church members who are carnal, full of self and sinful desires, and living in secret sin, are the ones who fight the movings of the Spirit and the Spirit-anointed Leaders.

Judges 5:23: Curse ye Meroz and the inhabitants thereof, because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Israel won because Aaron and Hur held up his hands when Joshua was fighting a losing battle in the valley.

Nehemiah, brutally attacked by enemies, had an encouraging host of faithful men forming a circle as each stood faithfully in his place, working with his sword at his side, neither taking off his clothes to sleep; they were ready workers.

Lastly, where are you traveling tonight, on the broad road or the straight and narrow? This is a land where plain speaking is allowed, mostly because people are doing plain things. This message concerns your spiritual and eternal welfare, so give earnest heed. Only weigh sincerely your actions and deeds tonight, for if I speak the truth in Christ by the Word of God, and you reject it, you do so at your own peril. For as you shall answer before God, the Great Judge of Heaven, it will go hard with you on that day.

Where are you traveling tonight, on the broad road or the straight and narrow?

Jesus said:

Matthew 8:11-12: Many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven. ¹² But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

One portion of this Scripture is very agreeable; and the other very unpleasant and perilous. Yet both are true, so they must be preached.

The first is a glorious promise. It tells what kind of place Heaven is, and gives a wonderful hope as a place of rest. **Many shall sit down** - sweet thought to the weary toiler who wipes the sweat from his face no more. No longer the tired and sleepless nights from such weary limbs and aching back. Toil is not known in that fair city with its walls of jasper, gates of pearl, and streets of pure gold.

Immortal souls are yonder, redeemed by the blood, who have continued in the Word of Jesus and in the faith, rooted and grounded.

We shall enjoy most elite, royal company and know each other there - Moses, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. Heaven is a place of reunion.

Furthermore, Jesus said **many shall come**. Some are narrow-minded bigots who think only their denomination is going to be there. Jesus said, "*In my father's house are many mansions.*" He also said: "*They shall come*" - the certainty of being there.

Some are narrow-minded bigots who think only their denomination is going to be there.

Lastly, there are many who will not be there: the fearful, unbelieving, liars, murderers, hypocrites, adulterers, and -- a heartbreaking word -- the children of the kingdom. They will be cast out into -- and this is God's truth, for Hell is as real as Heaven -- outer darkness, a place of no hope - no hope of dying - forever. What are they doing? Weeping, and gnashing teeth!

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