



THAT WE MAY PRESENT EVERY MAN PERFECT IN
CHRIST JESUS (COL 1: 28)

VOLUME : 9

NO : 2

APRIL-MAY-JUNE 2005

THE CEYLON PENTECOSTAL MISSION

INDEX

THE DOCTRINE OF VANITY 1
CROSSWORD FOR KIDS 5
THE RISEN CHRIST 6
YOUR FULL REWARD 9
REDEEMER, SAVIOUR, FRIEND 12
BEHOLD THE LAMB! 15

CEYLON PENTECOSTAL MISSION - DOCTRINES

We preach Christ. His birth. His works. His teaching. His crucifixion. His resurrection. His ascension. His second coming. His millennial reign. His white throne judgment and the new heaven and the new earth, when He shall have put all enemies under His feet and shall reign eternally.

REPENTANCE towards God, Acts 20:21. Repentance is godly sorrow for sin. It is the outcome of a broken and a contrite heart before God. 2 Cor:7:10; Ps: 51: 17

RECONCILIATION- Our Lord's teaching on this is - First be reconciled to thy brother, who hath ought against thee and then come and offer thy gift before the altar. Matt 5:23,24; Matt 18:35.

JUSTIFICATION is that act of God's free grace by which we receive remission of sins. Rom 3:24; 5:1.

SANCTIFICATION- We are sanctified when we are truly yielded to God's written word. John 15:3; 17:17; Acts 20:32.

WATER BAPTISM- by immersion. Jesus went into the water and came up out of the water giving us an example. Mark 1:9,10. The Lord's command is to baptise believers, Mark :16:16; Matt: 28:19 Examples Acts 2:37, 41; 8:12,37,38; 10:48 1 Peter 3:21.

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT is the endowment of power- Luke 24:49 Acts 1:4, Matt 3:1 John 7:38,39 At the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, He comes to abide with us forever John 14:16.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is evidenced by speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. Mark 16:17; 1 Cor: 14:21 22 Examples, Acts:2:4; 10:45, 46; 19:6.

DIVINE HEALING - Our sicknesses and our infirmities were borne by Jesus. Matt 8:17, 1 Peter 2:4. Christ healed the sick and commissioned His disciples to do the same. Matt 12:15, 10:8, Luke :10:9 Mark 16: 18, James 5:14-16. All people of God received healing in answer to prayer. Gen: 20:7, 17:18; Num: 12:13-15, 1 Kings 13:6, 2 Kings 5:10-14, Ps 103:3, 28:8.

THE LORD'S SUPPER- Jesus instituted the Lord's supper that we might "show His death till He comes" 1 Cor. 11: 23-26, Luke 22:17-20. It brings healing to our bodies if we discern the Lord's body. (1 Cor 11:29,30).

DEDICATION OF INFANTS - When parents brought their little children to Jesus, He took them up in His arms put His hands upon them and blessed them. Mark 10: 16, We do likewise at infant dedication. Luke: 2: 27,28.

"And He led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation."

The Doctrine of Vanity

"Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way."

(Psalms 107:7 ; Psalms 119:37)

The Right Way

The Lord is leading us in the **right way**, to reach the city of habitation. While being led in this manner, we must keep our eyes only on the Lord and ask the Lord to keep us from **beholding vanity**.

In Jeremiah 10:8, we read "**But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock is a doctrine of vanities.**"

This *doctrine of vanity* started right in the Garden of

Eden, precisely when satan brought the wrong doctrine to Eve. God had given the first man and woman His counsel to teach them what they should do and what they should not. Nevertheless, the devil in his subtlety gave them a



different doctrine. By telling Eve something very contrary to what the Lord had said he succeeded in turning her vision away from God and placing it on the fruit instead. The rest is history. She coveted it, took it, ate it and gave it to her

husband, thus causing mankind to fall into sin. If we consider the circumstances under which this incident took place, they were within the Garden of God and had sweet communion with Him. Yet, a little negligence gave way to this vain teaching or *doctrine of vanity*, taking control of their lives. In the New Testament the scriptures speak clearly concerning vain doctrines or false teachings. In II Peter 2:14-19, we read "Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls; an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbade the madness of the prophet. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. For when

they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error."

Wrong teachings

People who spread the "Prosperity Gospel" say that since we are kings, we must be great in this world ... but Jesus left us the example of a simple life.

In the last days, many teachers will come up with doctrines, which will cause us to err from the right way (verse 15). We see these words being fulfilled right before our eyes today. People who spread the "Prosperity Gospel" preach that the Lord wants us to have the best car, the best houses, the best clothes and live in luxury. If we consider what Jesus taught the people during his tenure on earth, we see that He said nothing of this sort. His desire was that we should only live an upright, clean and holy life. These doctrines: the doctrine of Balaam, the doctrine of Jezebel, have all entered the church these last days, to make us forsake the Right Way. But the Lord wishes to make us walk in the right way, that we may reach the city of habitation.

Vain words

We read "For when they speak great swelling words of vanity...". **Vain words** – these are words that will not build us up or take us to the city of habitation, but words that will make us go astray. We see St. Paul admonishing Timothy concerning these vain words, vain babbling, and vain thoughts that may mar our vision. In I Timothy 1:4-6 we read "Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do. Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling". Meaningless thoughts and questions will crop up in the last days. Therefore we should be very careful and avoid fellowship with people who believe in and run after vain things. In I Timothy 6: 20, we

read concerning "vain babbling". Here again we see that we must be very careful in listening to conversations that do not edify or build up our spiritual lives. In II Tim 2:14-16 we read of "words of no profit" and about "foolish questions" in Titus 3:9. In these last days, we need a life of separation and keep our distance from these vain doctrines, thoughts, conversations and questions.

Our companions should be those who prioritise spiritual things. Such a fellowship will help us to grow in love, holiness, prayer, and consecration and in perfection too.

Wrong Company

David says that he never "sat with vain persons"(Psalms 26:4). It is true that when we see people who are seemingly holding onto this "vanity", we must not condemn them or judge them. Yet we must be wary of such people and make sure that their lives don't influence us. We must pray for them that God should change them. In Proverbs 28:19, the Word of God says that poverty will come to those who go after "vain persons". We become spiritually poor when we attempt to compromise with people who are vain (they that follow vain teachings).

Concerning this, parents should be careful in their children's choice of friends. Young people are easily influenced by their friends and excessive fellowship with people who are vain will strip them bare of all their spiritual riches.

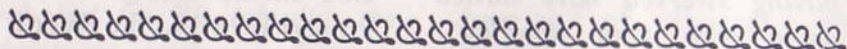
There are some others in this world who fail to value the right things. They don't seem to realize the worth of important spiritual things. We should not be close to such people either. In Malachi 3:14, we come across a group of people who didn't value the things of God and went up to the extent of saying "It is vain to serve God". These were rebelling against God. Serving God is the greatest and the highest privilege any individual can receive, and anyone who neglects God's call to serve Him, will not be blessed.

The Word of God says that those who hate Zion will be confounded and put to shame. Although we can take this particular verse in relation to the consecrated ministry, we must make sure that we must not belittle serving God, in any capacity.

"The worst man on earth is one who is called by God to serve Him, and yet denies to serve Him."

These people spoken of in Malachi are a group of "vain persons" who didn't value the right things. A pastor once said "The worst man on earth is one who is called by God to serve Him, and yet denies to serve Him." Reading further in Malachi 3, we see that the Lord says that when He returns, He will discern between "him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not".

(To be continued in the next issue)



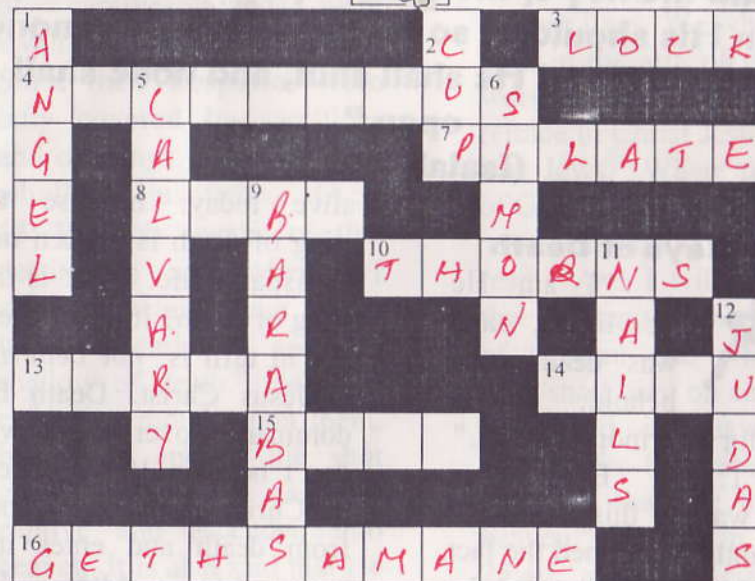
THIS IS ACROSS
T H E
SEE IF
COMPLETE

Cross

TUALLY A
WORD ON
CROSS!
YOU CAN
it.

TEST YOUR
EDGE ON THE IN-
TOOK PLACE ON
DAY WHEN JESUS
FOR YOUR SINS

BIBLE KNOW-
CIDENTS THAT
THAT FATEFUL
WAS CRUCIFIED
AND MINE.



DOWN

1. Strengthened Jesus
2. Jesus asked His father to take this away.
5. Gave His life here
6. Carried Jesus' cross
9. Crucified with Jesus
11. Hands and feet driven with -----
12. Denied Jesus

ACROSS

3. Crew thrice
4. Embalmed Jesus
7. Washed his hands
8. Soldiers cast-----
10. Jesus wore a crown of
13. ----- men were crucified on Golgotha's hill.
14. They pierced His -----
15. Rent from top to bottom
16. Garden of -----



“ I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”

(Rev 1:18)

The Risen Christ

“And the key of the house of David will I lay upon His shoulder; so He shall open, and none shall shut; and He shall shut, and none shall open.”

(Isaiah 22:22)

1. The Keys of Death



“I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen.” (Rev 1:18). Even when Jesus was on this earth, He constantly mentioned the fact that He would die and be resurrected on the third day, to His disciples. He did so because He was very certain of His resurrection. If Christ did not rise up, Christianity would have been dead a long time ago. Nevertheless Christianity is very much

alive today, because the sting of death is broken in a Christian's life. What is this sting of death? It is sin itself. Sin in turn is, *not believing* in Jesus Christ. Death has dominance over those who don't believe. If we believe in Christ Jesus, we depart from death and enter into new life. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples many times through different ways. His appearances to them before His ascension greatly strengthened them and they became mighty witnesses for Him. Perfect grace rested

upon them and later on grace completely reigned their lives (Rom. 5:21). When grace reigns us, our faith is strengthened.

2. The keys of hell



Jesus descended into hell in order to redeem a group of captives who were awaiting their liberation. Since their trespasses were only covered by sacrifices and offerings, they were not wholly justified (Acts 13:39). Job speaks of this destination as “whence I shall not return, even to the land of darkness and the shadow of death.” Hell had closed its mouth upon them, but Jesus opened the shut gates, carried captivity captive and ascended into heaven. It is also said that He gave gifts unto men. Ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, He sent down the Holy Spirit to His disciples who were waiting for this promise, according to the Word of God. This became the landmark for the establishment of God's church on this earth. They all

lived in one accord, being filled with the Holy Ghost. It is concerning this church it is said that the gates of hell will not overcome it. Unless a person receives the anointing of the Holy Spirit, he cannot become the member of the body of Christ, that is, the church. If you haven't still received the Holy Spirit, the true meaning of Easter is lost in your lives. We who do not trust in the arm of flesh, but worship in the spirit and rejoice in Christ Jesus are the true Jews. “Where the Spirit of God is; there is liberty”.

In Matthew 16:19, we read, “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Again in Exodus 25:40, we read concerning the construction of the tabernacle, “And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.” God needs people with consecration if He is to build a church, pertaining to heaven, on this earth. Only consecrated people can

www.missionary.com

receive deeper revelation concerning the church from God and lay down their lives for the church. God desires that we should live a heavenly life while on earth itself. The gates of hell will never be able to overcome the church that is built upon revelations received from the very throne of God.

3. The Keys of the House of David



The Keys of David show victory and rest (II Samuel 7:1). David fought many battles in his life. The significance of his battles was that all of them were the Lord's battles. David was also a man who fasted and prayed. Praying people are those who are able to

**Christ hath risen! Hallelujah!
Blessed morn of life and light!
Lo, the grave is rent asunder
Death is conquered through His might.**

overcome the enemy and also give victory to others too.

One of the final battles fought by David was against the Jebusites, where he was able to capture the stronghold of Zion. In order to achieve this tremendous victory, we see that he went through the gutter. Gutter speaks of humility. Our Lord Jesus also humbled Himself, right unto the death of the cross. Now, He has opened up a new and a living way for us and He is in Zion. (Isaiah 28:16, Phil. 2:8-10).

Only he who prays, overcomes and rests in the Lord can open the gates to Jerusalem and enter into Zion. Remember that Jesus went through all the doors and finally reached His place above all heavens. Let us follow Him.

Your Full Reward!

"Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things, which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward."

II John 8; I Cor 3:14.

Joab cast a fleeting look at Amasa's body lying in a pool of blood. His fingers trembled as he replaced his sword in its scabbard. He had no time to waste. He had another mission to complete. Sheba, Bichri's son, had to die that day and he would see to it.

Tired but triumphant he returned later from the battlefield with Sheba's head. Yet within himself Joab was a troubled man, clutching desperately at his position as David's Commander-in-Chief. He, Joab, was not going to give it up without putting up a fight. It was his life. His head was heavy with thoughts and he gritted his teeth as he remembered the landmarks of his life. David, Israel's king was, in fact, his uncle and he had backed him up, right throughout his life, from the time when David was running for his life, from Saul, with a pack of society's outcasts for company.

He thought back of the initial days of David's dominion soon after Saul's miserable death. Saul's clan and the whole Benjamite tribe were rebelling against David's rulership and with them was Saul's Chief-Commander, Abner. David wanted to win their hearts, but he, Joab, had an easier solution. Without consulting the king, he killed Abner. Abner posed a threat to Joab's position, if the Benjamites were to be won to David's side by peaceful means. He remembered the time he risked his life to get the stronghold of Zion, from the Jebusites, for David. Later, he had defeated Syria, Edom and Ammon for the king. Even when Absalom had rioted, once again, he had finished him, although it was against the king's wishes. And finally he had put an end to Amasa, Absalom's chief man and the man who David would have found as good

replacement for Joab's position, if he falls from his favour. Now he could heave a sigh of relief, as there was no one threatening his position. The King's son Adonijah, was his favourite and his heart was towards him as David's heir.

* * * * *

David sighed as he heard of Amasa's murder. These sons of Zeruiah! How they wearied him! They were simply too much for him. His nephew Joab was the only one left of the three. Yet, in spite of all the valuable battles he had fought for him, in spite of all the support he had given David, to establish his throne in Israel, David knew that Joab would act impulsively for his own selfish gains and thus destroy all David's carefully laid out plans and delicate long-term strategies within moments. He had done it once by killing Abner, while David had tried his best to win the Benjamites' hearts. Now it was Amasa, the one he had wanted to place in Joab's own position.

* * *

Time had passed and Israel was going through a comparatively peaceful phase in history. David who was old and weak decided that it was high time for Solomon's coronation as heir to the coveted throne. It was at this time that news came to him about Adonijah's coup-d'etat to seize the throne. It was Joab again, who had supported Adonijah's schemes, but David saw to it that

Solomon was crowned as Israel's rightful new king and Joab's plans ended in failure.

It was after this drama that David called Solomon and started talking to him about what he should do to Joab. Joab had vexed the king's heart and David told Solomon **"Moreover thou knowest also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, ... shed the blood of war in peace... Do therefore according to thy wisdom, and let not his hoar head go down to the grave in peace."**

Looking at the life of Joab, we see he was a man who persevered so much, yet lost his final reward! What happened? Consider the key verses again **"Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things, which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward."**

"If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward." We should be careful about every action, word and thought of ours till the **very end**. Our work should abide upon what we have built. God is not going to cancel present unfaithfulness against past achievements. No! Dear child of God you can't entitle yourself to a little moral "holiday" just because you've worked hard and been true to God all your life. In Ezekiel 33:13, the Word of God clearly says **"When I shall say to the righteous, that he shall surely live; if he trust to his own**

righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousnesses shall not be remembered; but for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it."

Despite all what Joab did for the king, he had an adamant, selfish, nature which propelled him to do His own will against the king's, at some of the most decisive moments of his life. David's accusations against him was that he broke peace - "shed the blood of war during peace" - and therefore he commands Solomon not to let him die in peace. When we have every opportunity for peace and yet trouble others for our selfish gains, it is a grievous sin in God's eyes. Yes, we too may do many mighty things for the Lord, but remember all that matters at the end, to receive our full and final reward, is doing His will and His perfect will alone, everytime, till the very end. It may be very painful and humbling at times. For Joab, the man who had practically established the throne for David, losing his place to people like Abner and Amasa was something that wasn't simply going to be done. This was the driving force behind his disobedience to the King's will. In the same manner, doing God's pleasure may hurt our pride and self, but remember it will earn us our **full reward**.

Whether it is loss, shame or sorrow, remember it is temporary and make a decision to do only God's will. Don't destroy all what you've built with momentary disobedience.

By walking according to our own ways, rather than God's, we disturb his eternal plan or strategy concerning us. At the end we will only lose our King's pleasure, break peace and finally become abominable in His sight.

Reading about Joab's end, we see that although he too held on to the horns of the altar, he found no mercy and he had to die pathetically, at Solomon's command. Horns represent salvation. Giving room to self-will may finally cause us to lose even our salvation, although we may have worked all our lives for God.

Dear child of God! Jesus has promised saying "Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Our reward is "coming with Him". When He comes, we, who are going to meet Him in the Mid-air, are going to receive it there!

So don't let Satan trick you into losing this glorious final reward by instigating you into making some momentary allowance for your self-will at any point in your life. Do only God's pleasure and the reward is yours forever!!

I was born and brought up in a devout Hindu family. By the time I reached ten years of age, I was full of zeal for my

Redeemer ~ Precious ~ Friend

religion. As a result, early in the morning, before I went to school, I used to make a detour to first visit the Hindu temple close to our house. I used to sweep the temple-yard, clean the temple, garland the idols, worship them and then proceed to school. As I grew up, I was very much involved in various other activities pertaining to Hinduism.

Suddenly, my simple lifestyle was disturbed by an ailment that began to agonize me. I used to be suddenly afflicted by an acute stomachache, which would make me unconscious for at least four hours. Since the time of the attack was unpredictable, I used to fall down unconscious at school, at home and some times even on the main road. Many times I have regained consciousness only at the hospital. I visited many famous "holy places" of worship and performed vows to the gods I worshipped, in the hope of

finding a cure, only to realize they were all of no avail. I was bitterly disappointed and thereafter I decided that it was

not worth living anymore. One day I myself prepared a poisonous concoction, by which I meant to end my life. I was waiting till the other members in my family were asleep to commit suicide. When the opportunity finally arose, I found that the mixture I had prepared was not in the place where I had hidden it. While I was fumbling in the dark, looking for it, the room was, was suddenly bathed with a glorious light. I also heard a voice resounding within my ear saying, "doctors have forsaken you, even the gods in whom you trusted failed you, but you will find true deliverance if you would come to the place of worship that I would show you". I also saw an old lady dressed in white, standing in the room. With this the vision ended. When I related my experience to my family members, they refused to accept it.

At this time, a certain lady who attended the Ceylon Pentecostal Mission met me and invited me for services. Since my parents were staunch Hindus, they disapproved of me going to a church, but allowed me to attend the devotional service, in the hope of finding healing for my sickness. Nevertheless, they were not interested in the salvation of their souls or mine. At the end of the service, there was an altar call, I was one of the people who went forward, to receive healing. The pastor who conducted the service laid hands on me and prayed for me. Immediately I felt a power, like an electric current passing through my body and my body being relieved of a burden. I realized that I had experienced a touch from God and that I was healed.

Since I had sought the Lord only for healing, after this incident, I continued going to Hindu places of worship, but I also made it a point to attend the devotional services on Sundays at the Ceylon Pentecostal Mission. The Lord began dealing with me and He revealed His deeper truths to me through dreams and His Word.

Finally I decided to obey the Word of God in the Waters of Baptism. At this time the Lord also graciously bestowed the Holy Spirit upon me, with the evidence of speaking in tongues. The night prior to the day I was to take Water Baptism the Lord showed me a vision where I saw all my sins written on a board. It was then that I was convicted of my sins. The next day the Lord helped me to confess my sins with true repentance and obey His word in the Waters of Baptism.

I have experienced the Lord as my Divine Physician in many ways, throughout my life. At one instance I fell down and injured my jaw. I was bleeding so profusely, that I lost consciousness for hours. When I finally revived, other complications arose within my body and I also had breathing difficulty for two weeks. At the end of two weeks, a doctor who saw my condition said that multiple sutures were needed to heal my jaw. However, miraculously, within 2 days after this, the Lord completely healed my injured jaw. The following Sunday, I completely abandoned myself to the Lord's hands, saying that I will do His

WKS
SCL
LIS
OF
FORM

perfect will. At that very moment, I was empowered by the Holy Spirit and the Lord completely healed my weak body.

In 1994, although I was unworthy of receiving such a great privilege, the Lord enabled me to surrender myself to this glorious full-time ministry.

While I was serving the Lord, one day a wood splinter fell into my left eye and went right into my pupil. There was no way of bringing it out without any form of medical aid and the pain was unbearable. I cried out to God, saying I needed the vision of my left eye, to serve Him. After a month and 3 weeks, pus oozed out of my infected eye, bringing a 1/2 inch-splinter out with it! Not only that, my Divine Physician also saw to it that I was restored perfect vision in my left eye.

For many years, I was suffering from an ailment within my body, where my big toe would swell and cause unbearable pain. Once, my toe started swelling and I suffered excruciating pain for 3 continuous days. On the 3rd day, unable to bear the pain anymore, I cried to the Lord to heal me and then went to bed.

Early next morning, at about 3 am, a blinding light filled my room. At the same time, the room was also filled with the smell of roses and I was able to hear the strains of a sweet melody. This music lulled me into a daze-like state. Yet, I could clearly see 3 angels standing in the room. One stood beside me, laid hands on my body and prayed for me. The other two were near my feet. Although I didn't get up from my bed, I heard the sound of scissors being used. After this I slipped from my semi-conscious state into a deep sleep. When I woke up again, it was 4:30am. Immediately I realized that the pain had completely left my body and I felt refreshed. I looked at my toe and, to my amazement, I found it bandaged up! Truly, the Lord had sent His angels and performed a minor surgery in my body, to heal me that night!

My unchanging God is still the same today. He gives me strength to go through life's journey leaning only on Him and I have the assurance that He will lead me to the very end and enable me to see His glorious face.

Sis. Chandramalar Selliah
Mattakkuliya



Behold the Lamb!

In John 1:6-8, we read about the commission of John the Baptist.

“There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.” He came not for himself, but to prepare the way for Jesus. His calling was to reveal Jesus as the Son of God.

The world found the Messiah's birth in the sleepy little hamlet of Bethlehem, so uncharacteristic of that of the Son of God, that even the Magi, contrary to the leading of the star, looked for Jesus in Herod's palace. This was indeed the Messiah: God in human form – what humility divine! He was

born, simply because it was the Father's will to send Him to this world as its Saviour. John the Baptist was sent to this world to introduce Jesus as the Messiah.

After Jesus was baptized, His Father and the Spirit of God witnessed concerning Him, as the Son of God. Apart from this, the life of Jesus was itself a great testimony to this world that He was the Son of God. When Jesus approached John the Baptist, he was able to proclaim that Jesus was the “Lamb of God”, simply from the way Jesus walked. (John 1:36). Two of John's disciples who saw the way Jesus walked, immediately followed Him. Then they accompanied Him to His dwelling place and even there they were able to see that He was the Son of God. It would have been a serene place filled with the glory and presence of God. (John 1:37-39)

Nathaniel realized that Jesus was the Son of God through His words. His words were full of grace.

From John 5:36, we understand that all His works proved that He was the Son of God. Concerning John the Baptist, we see, although while at the heights of revival, he

vehemently proclaimed that Jesus was the Son of God. Nevertheless, at the time of trial, when Herod imprisoned him, he sends his disciples to Jesus asking Him whether He was truly the Messiah, or were they to look for someone else. At this instance, Jesus replied "Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them." Thus His own works testified concerning Him.

When Jesus was a 12-year-old boy, we see Him in the midst of the doctors in the temple at Jerusalem, hearing them and asking them questions. When His parents came looking for Him, His reply was "How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Right from His boyhood, His work on this earth, which was the fulfilment of His Father's will, was foremost in His mind. Through His obedience He proved that He was the Son of God (Luke 2:51). Jesus was under subjection to His earthly parents too.

Even while He was hanging on the cross in agony, bearing the sins of mankind, His life was a beautiful testimony of the love God had for vile man. In the midst of all the pain and agony that He underwent, He had the heart to forgive His enemies, saying that they were crucifying Him in ignorance! Those who witnessed His death were able to say that it was truly the Son of God Himself.

Finally during His ascension, in a very triumphant way, He was able to once again manifest Himself as the Son of God, to this world.

Consider our Saviour, Jesus Christ: everything about Him revealed the Father in Him. Is the same true for you and me? Are we revealing Jesus through our lives, to others? Does the way we walk, our speech, our abode and our behaviour in general, reveal Christ? Or, on the contrary, is the name of Jesus being put to shame by our life? God's will is that we should be shining witnesses and true lights that reveal Him, to this dark world. To what extent are we fulfilling His objective through our lives? Let us prayerfully make a decision to reveal Jesus.

MINISTRY - Ministers of the Gospel cannot have any inheritance in the world. The Levites had no inheritance. Because, they bear the ark of the Lord (Deut: 10:8-9) Christ said "whosoever forsaketh not his all cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:33) The purpose for such a consecration is clearly set forth in Lk 12:33-34. This ideal is imperative for ministers of the Gospel (See Matt. 8: 19-20). (Matt 19:21) see also (2 Tim:2:4).

NO DIVORCE - Marriage is binding for life, Under the Law of Christ there is but one cause for separation - adultery - and a person has no right to marry again while the first companion lives, Matt 5:31-32 Matt 19:9, Rom:7:3.

SECOND ADVENT OF CHRIST - The return of our Lord is just as literal as His going away. (Act 1:9-11) It is in three parts.

FIRST - He will descend to the air, to catch away His waiting Bride, the perfect in Christ. (Col: 1:28; I Thes 4:15-18; Rev. 12:5-6) This is called the rapture of the first-fruits. (Rom:8:23). He will appear only to those who "eagerly wait for Him" (Heb: 9:28).

SECOND - The catching up of those who remained faithful unto death in the great tribulation. This is called the harvest - (Rev:14:14-18; 7:9-14 Matt: 24: 29-31).

THIRD - Revelation. He will come to the earth to be seen of every eye (Rev 1:7) to establish His kingdom on the earth, and execute judgment on the ungodly. (Zech 14: 4, 5; 2 Thes 7:10).

MILLENNIUM - Is the 1000 years reign of the Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints on the earth which would be renewed and restored. During this time the devil will be bound. (Rev 20:2-4).

GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT - The general resurrection will take place after the Millennium, when God shall judge the quick and the dead according to their works. Rev 20:11-15; Act 10:42.

NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH - At the end of the Millennium, this heaven and earth shall pass away, and God shall usher in a new heaven and a new earth Rev 21:1-3. There shall be no death (vs 4) or curse there (vs 3).

NEW JERUSALEM AND ZION - The New Testament saints who have attained the Christ like perfection and lived an overcoming life will inherit New Jerusalem (Rev: 21:2). The servants of God who have lived a consecrated life and done the perfect will of God will inherit Zion. (Rev:14:15)

ETERNAL HEAVEN AND ETERNAL HELL - The righteous go into everlasting life and the wicked to everlasting punishment. The punishment of hell will be of the same duration as the bliss of heaven. Matt: 25:45; Rev: 14:10-14; Matt. 13: 42.

The Superlatives in John 3:16

This wonderful verse has been spoken of and written about, perhaps more than any other verse in the Scriptures. Dying men have been known to enter their eternal rest with the blessed hope of eternal life, simply because someone quoted this verse to them, before they yielded their spirits. How blessedly simple is the Gospel of God as addressed in this Scripture.

Someone once pointed out the superlatives found in this verse:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| For God | -The Greatest Lover |
| So Loved | -The Greatest Degree |
| The World | -The Greatest Company |
| That He gave | -The Greatest Act |
| His Only Begotten Son- | The Greatest Gift |
| That Whosoever | -The Greatest Opportunity |
| Believeth in Him | -The Greatest Attraction |
| Should not Perish | -The Greatest Promise |
| But | - The Greatest Difference |
| Have | -The Greatest Certainty |
| Everlasting Life | -The Greatest Possession |