



BIBLES *for* **AMERICA**

2016

What is BfA?

1) A response to Brother Lee's burden to spread the divine truths.

2) A service to the saints and churches who share in this burden to preach the high gospel, teach the deeper truths, and testify of the Christian experience.

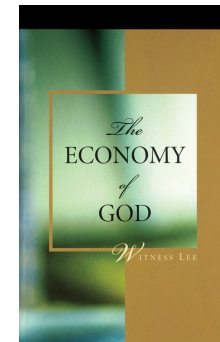
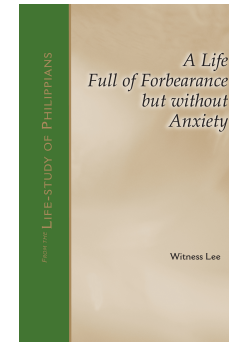
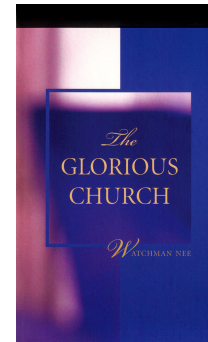
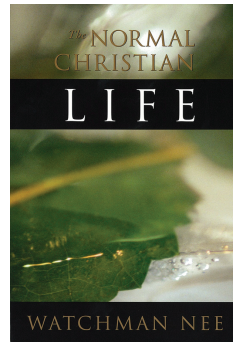
“I care for the spreading of the truths so that they can get into the needy hearts. If we spread these truths, we will become the faithful servants to serve food to the Lord’s people at the appointed time (Matt 24:45). Then we will fulfill the commission of the Lord’s recovery. This is where my heart is. I will die to this.”

Witness Lee, *Elders’ Training, Book 8*

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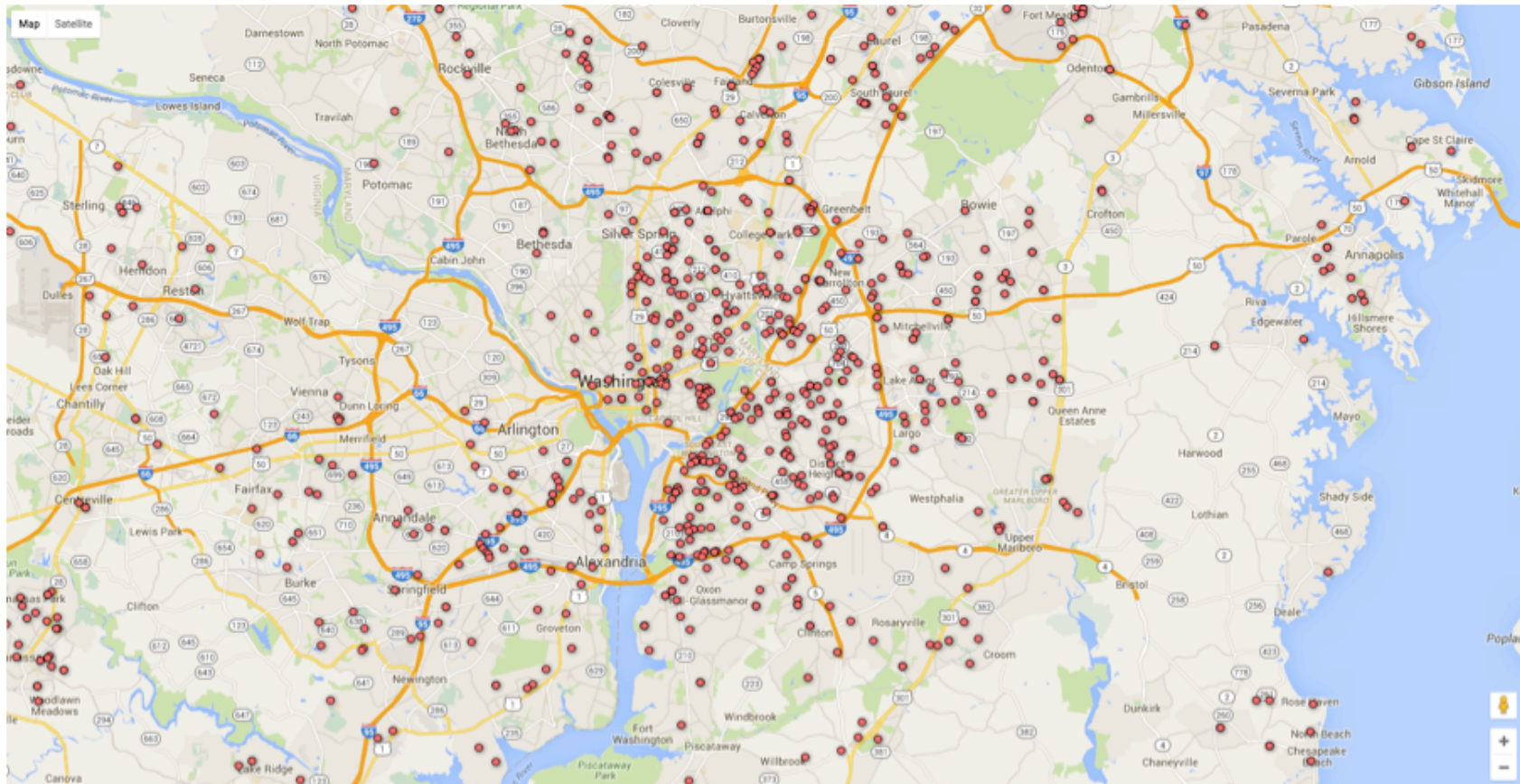
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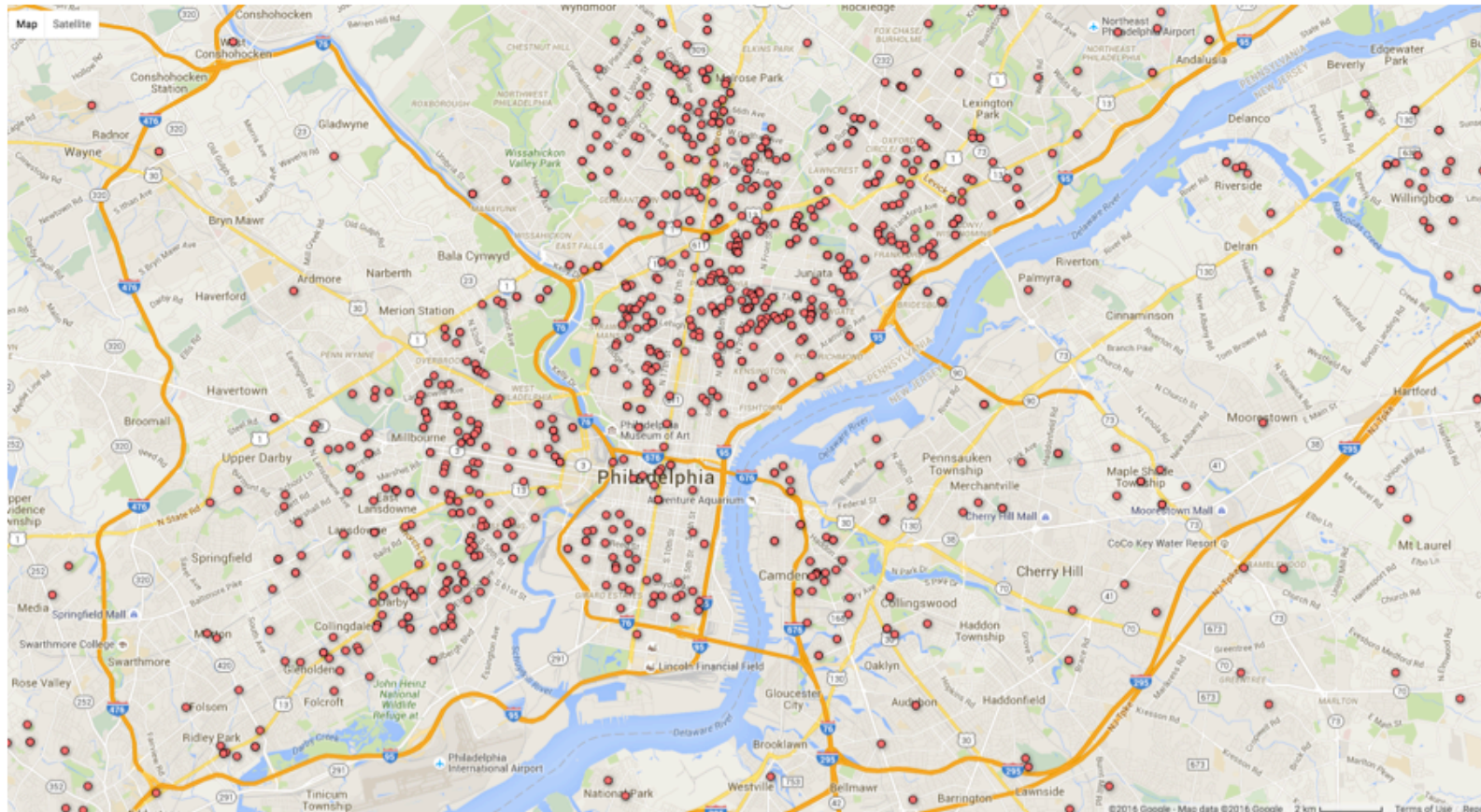
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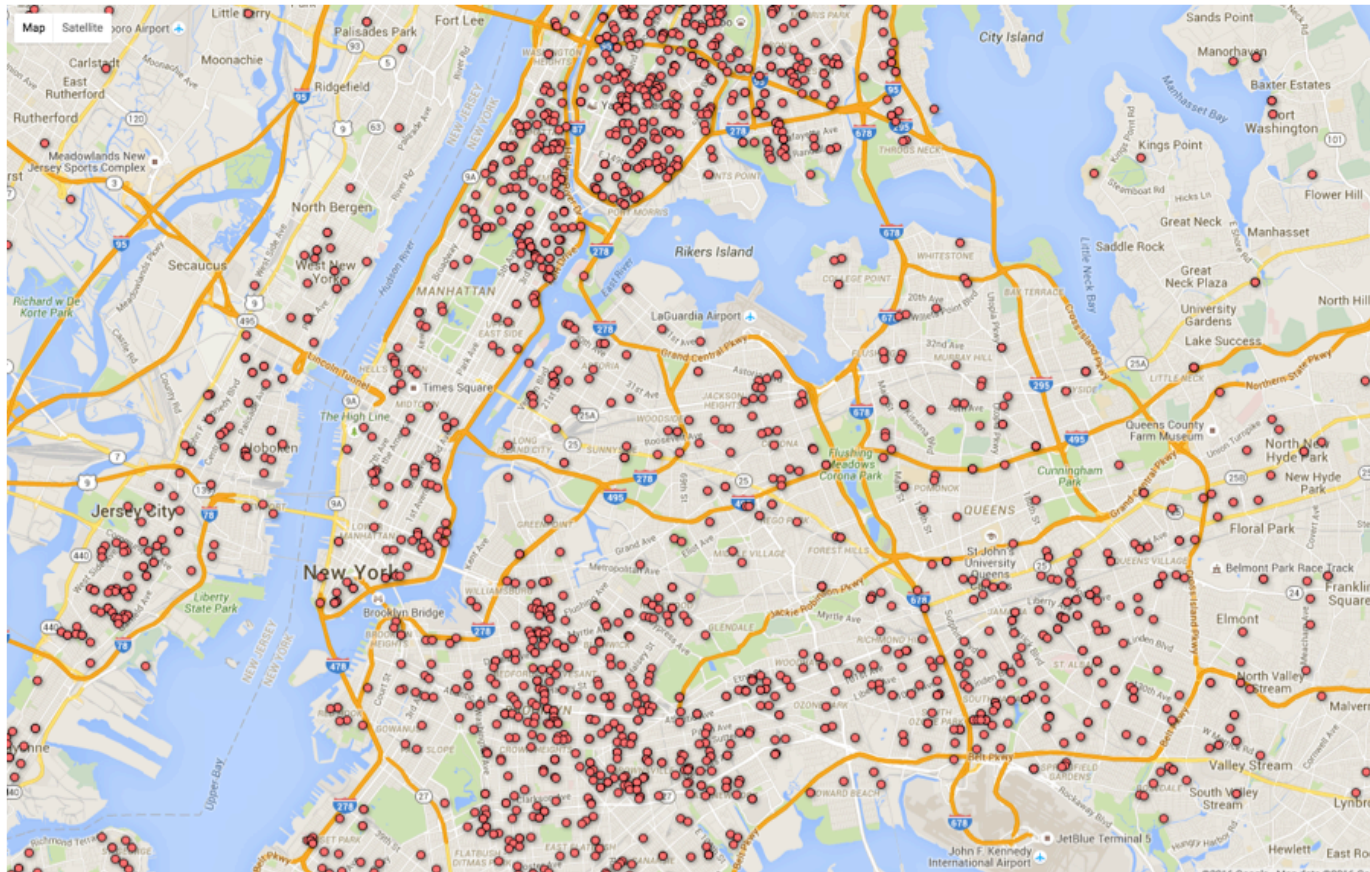
Washington, DC (1 Year)



Philadelphia, PA (1 Year)



New York, NY (1 Year)



Reader Comments

“I love your books. One I received really opened my mind to salvation and its reality, and I have been saved for many years.”

Nancy

“Thank you so much! The words have suddenly come alive!”

Merlene

“I so enjoy the readings that you have offered for those like myself who are searching for a deeper and more intimate relationship with our heavenly Father.”

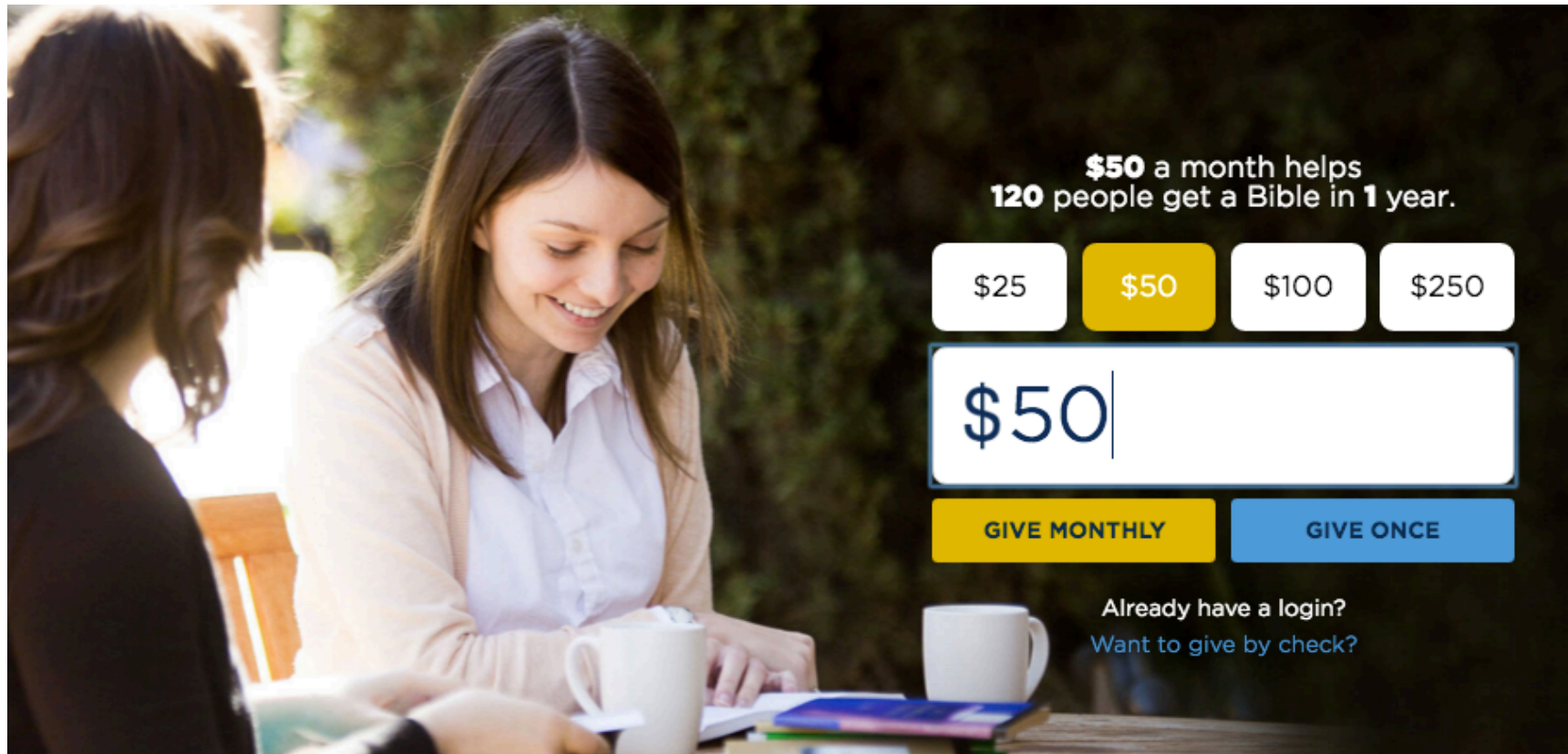
Shelia

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NO LONGER ENEMIES

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT, "Why do I EXPERIENCE SO MUCH UNEASE? WHY DO I FEEL AS IF I'M NOT AT PEACE WITH MYSELF?"



Although you try different ways to find a solution, the inner peace you yearn for seems unattainable. We've all felt this disquiet within, regardless of our background, education, or social status. Why is that? The source of this feeling is rooted in a fundamental problem—we're not at peace with God. And when we're not at peace with God, it's impossible for us to be at peace with ourselves.

The dichotomy between us and God is the result of sin. Satan, God's enemy, deceived and poisoned mankind with his evil nature of sin. And although God is truly loving, He's also righteous and holy. He can't simply ignore sin.

We may think, "I'm not such a bad person." But can any of us claim we've never had a sinful thought, spoken a lie, or done anything we felt guilty about? This is evidence that sin affects every one of us and makes us contrary to God. And in opposition to God, we reject Him, profane Him, and even dare to say, "There is no God." Sin estranges us from God to such an extent that we become enemies of God.

Perhaps we think that by doing good deeds we can offset our sins. But that's impossible. The poison of sin automatically causes all our thoughts, words, and actions to be something against God. The Bible tells us plainly, "There is none righteous, not even one." Our being is fundamentally in conflict with God.

THE WORD OF THE CROSS —FOOLISHNESS OR WISDOM?

"FOR THE WORD OF THE CROSS IS TO THOSE WHO ARE PERISHING FOOLISHNESS, BUT TO US WHO ARE SAVED IT IS THE POWER OF GOD." —1 CORINTHIANS 1:18



Written nearly 2,000 years ago, these words in the Bible address the attitude of certain Greeks in Corinth who prided themselves on their philosophy. They ardently pursued wisdom in an attempt to understand the universe and mankind. Yet, although their philosophy had not answered the questions concerning the problems of human nature or the meaning of mankind's existence, these wisdom-seekers rejected the word concerning Jesus Christ and His crucifixion, dismissing it as foolishness.

The Bible reveals to us that God created mankind with a purpose. He wanted to enter into man to be man's life, enjoyment, and everything. As a result, man would be God's expression. God and man would not be two separate entities, one far away, worshipped by the other, but the two would be joined together in a loving relationship.

Before this could happen, God's enemy, Satan, corrupted man and polluted him from the inside out. Man became sinful, dark both in deeds and thoughts, and thereafter struggled to overcome the inward evil and its consequences. He did not understand what God wanted or why He existed.

But God in His wisdom made a way of salvation: Jesus Christ and His death on the cross.

Jesus Christ, to outward appearances, was simply a good man who died an ignoble death by crucifixion at

FREED FROM THE FEAR OF DEATH

MOST OF US DON'T LIKE TO THINK ABOUT DEATH, LET ALONE TALK ABOUT IT. IT'S A FRIGHTENING SUBJECT. BUT AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER WE'VE ALL BEEN TOUCHED BY DEATH, SUFFERING THE LOSS OF A RELATIVE, FRIEND, NEIGHBOR, OR SOMEONE ELSE IN OUR LIVES.



Though we try to prolong life, no one can escape death. When death's final summons comes to us, everyone—rich or poor, strong or weak, famous or unknown—must surrender. Death is not only frightening in its inevitability and power but also in its mysteriousness. What happens when life as we know it ends? What awaits us in the great unknown beyond death? The Bible aptly says that all of our life long we're held in slavery by the fear of death.

Yet our loving Creator, the living God, did not intend for us to die. From the very beginning He wanted to share His eternal life with us.

Then where did death come from? Death is the consequence of sin injected into mankind by God's enemy, Satan. When God created man, He intended for him to receive His life. But before man could receive the life of God, the devil, Satan, deceived and poisoned him with his own sinful nature. As a result, our human spirit, created to contact God, became deadened; our human soul, especially our mind, became an enemy to God; and our human body, made by God as a pure vessel, became polluted with sin, doomed to physically die.

Physical death, however, is not the end. The Bible tells us it is reserved for men to die once, and after this comes judgment. What will we be judged by God for? Most importantly, we will be judged based on whether or not

AN UNKNOWN GOD

ATHENS, AROUND A.D. 58—LEADING CITY OF ANCIENT GREECE AND CENTER OF ONE OF THE GREATEST CULTURES THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN. YET IN THIS CITY FAMOUS FOR LEARNING AND PHILOSOPHY STOOD AN ALTAR BEARING THE INSCRIPTION, "TO AN UNKNOWN GOD."



Within every human being persists a desire to worship something. But without knowing what we are to worship, we may worship the wrong object, construct an object to worship, or like the Athenians, simply conclude that we worship someone, even though we don't know who it is we worship.

One day Paul, a man sent by God to speak the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ, came to Athens. He spoke to the Athenians to tell them that God is a knowable God.

What Paul spoke in Athens two thousand years ago is just as relevant to us today. Paul said that God is the One who made the world and everything in it. As the Creator, He is also the Lord, the owner, of heaven and earth. This living God does not live in a temple made with human hands. Nor is He a being that is according to the thought or imagination of man. Instead, as the giver of life and breath to all things, God is the source of life. God is also the Creator of every nation dwelling on the face of the earth; thus, He is the source of all mankind.

Moreover, Paul said that God set a day when He will judge the entire world by a man designated by Him, Jesus Christ. This Jesus is the very God who came to be a man, a God-man. Jesus lived a sinless life. He then died on the cross to take

IS JESUS IN YOUR "BOAT"?

JOHN 6:16-21 IS AN ACCOUNT OF AN EVENT THAT HAPPENED TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO. YET WE CAN ALL RELATE TO IT TODAY.



The night was dark. Jesus' disciples were alone in the middle of a rolling sea. The wind was blowing. The waves were tossing their boat, and there was no land in sight. For all their arduous rowing, they had advanced only three or four miles. To reach the destination seemed humanly impossible.

Such a setting depicts the all too familiar conditions of our human life. Most of us would have to agree that we are often beset with problems—relationship problems, family problems, school problems, work problems, financial problems, health problems, and so on.

Our troubles are like the churning of the sea. Yet, if that had been the end of the disciples' story, we also would be the most hopeless of people—putting on a brave front while struggling on, all the while inwardly aching, worn out, and discouraged. Into such a situation of darkness and despair, Jesus came walking on the sea and approached the boat. He is the unique One who can walk on the stormy sea of human life, ruling over all the waves. All the troubles are under His feet.

You may be afraid of Jesus, just as His disciples were when they first saw Him walking on the water. But then He spoke to them—"It is I. Do not be afraid."

THE HEALING TOUCH

AS JESUS MADE HIS WAY THROUGH THE THROUGHS OF PEOPLE SURROUNDING HIM, HE SUDDENLY STOPPED AND ASKED, "WHO TOUCHED ME?"



It seemed obvious to His disciples, so they answered that it was the crowds pressing upon Him. But Jesus insisted, "Someone touched Me." He knew a particular someone had touched Him, because at that moment, divine power had gone out of Him.

A woman stepped out of the crowd and confessed to Jesus that it was she who had deliberately touched Him, and something wonderful had happened to her.

For twelve long years she had been suffering from an uncontrollable hemorrhage, year after year, losing more blood. She had seen many physicians and spent all that she had, but nothing helped. She knew she was dying. Then she heard about Jesus. Desperately making her way through the crowd, she came close enough to touch Him, believing that if she touched even just His garment, she would be healed. And as she touched Him, her flow of blood stopped. His divine power had been transfused into her. With loving-kindness, Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be well from your affliction."

This woman is a picture of all of us, showing that we too are afflicted with a disease that will eventually issue in death—the inward disease of sin. How much suffering and damage this sickness has caused us! Try as we might, we cannot get rid of it. Nothing can cure us—no moral philosophy, self-help program, or

THE THIRD PART

HAVE YOU EVER FELT UNSATISFIED, LET DOWN, EVEN INEXPLICABLY EMPTY, AFTER YOU GOT WHAT YOU THOUGHT WOULD MAKE YOU HAPPY?



You're not alone. This perplexing feeling has been known to strike the most accomplished and wealthy people as well as the less accomplished and less wealthy. In fact, King Solomon had it all—a kingdom, untold wealth, and profound wisdom and knowledge—yet after pondering his life, he said that there was nothing new under the sun, and that everything was vanity.

It's as if something compels us to find the elusive missing piece that would bring lasting satisfaction. We may pursue a successful career, meaningful relationships, material possessions, or fun and entertainment. But nothing cures that mysterious empty feeling way down inside. Why do we feel this way?

It turns out that to have this sensation is to be human.

The Bible shows us that God created us in a certain way. We can easily realize we have a body, the part of our being that enables us to contact the physical world. But we're not just a physical being made up of so many atoms. We also have a soul, an inward part that enables us to experience things in the psychological realm. This, however, isn't all there is to us.

First Thessalonians 5:23 says, "May your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete." It is clear that besides our body and soul, God made every human being with a third part—our spirit—the deepest and most hidden part. This God-designed third part

LOST AND FOUND

HOW DID I GET HERE? THE YOUNG MAN TOOK A LONG LOOK AT HIS LIFE. HE WAS PINEAPPLE, HOMELESS, FILTHY, AND STARVING. YOU WOULD NEVER KNOW THAT HE HAD ONCE LIVED UNDER THE LOVING CARE OF HIS WEALTHY FATHER.



But he had left home, cut off his relationship with his father, squandered his inheritance on a life of sin, and ended up in this pitiful state. He finally came to his senses, and a deep feeling welled up in him: I need to go back to my father. But he was so ashamed. After all he had done, he wondered whether his father would even want him as a son anymore. In desperation, he decided he would return home and ask to be a servant.

He was unaware of the depth of his father's love. Little did he know that his father had been longing for him, waiting and watching for the day he would return. As the young man made his way home, his father spotted him, even when he was still a long way off, and ran to him, embraced him, and kissed him affectionately.

Filthy and ragged, the repentant young man confessed to his father his sinful life, telling him that he was no longer worthy to be his son. But his father responded by first clothing him with the best robe and then sacrificing the fattened calf to feed him. With rejoicing, he called for a feast for all to celebrate the return of his son, whom he declared had been dead and now lived again, who had been lost and was now found.



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