

The DEFENDER - August 2021



“... defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

A monthly publication of the
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: American Christianity

Western Christianity, specifically the American version, is imploding quicker than a woke Rino at a Green New Deal gathering. The reasons are varied, but what it ultimately comes down to is compromise, which to a born again believer is anathema. The same strategy that has been used so effectively by the Left in the political arena is getting the same results by the liberals in the religious realm. Their strategy has always been to agree to make concessions for the purpose of meeting in the middle, knowing full well that they are relinquishing very little of a worldview that means nothing while a true evangelical risks twisting an orthodoxy which is immutable. Just as the wearing of a cross doesn't make one a Christian, neither does the incompatibility of syncretism. Yet those are the depths of deception to which the church has sunk.

Christianity in America is rotting from the inside out. With all the subtlety and deception of the devil himself, the adulterations currently being prostituted as the gospel have some Christian elements in them but they're not biblical, ergo not Christian. Some have catchy names, like Chrislam and Marxianity, while others, like the Prosperity Gospel and Churchianity seem less syncretic but are just as toxic. America's religion is no longer “the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3).

Twenty four hundred years ago, Alexander the Great had a soldier in his army whose actions brought shame to the king and his troops. The ruler took the soldier—also named Alexander—aside, and bellowed, either change your behavior, or change your name! These same words need to be shouted from the pulpits of America today. For too long Bible believing pastors have been too quiet. And their silence has been mistaken as a license for the corruption of Christian orthodoxy to continue. It's almost as if western Christianity is building a church for non-believers. It's one thing to welcome in an unbeliever with whom to share the gospel. It's quite another to offer him a voice in the teaching department. That is directly opposed to the very meaning of the word church, which comes from the Greek word ecclesia, meaning a particular body of faithful (believing) people; 'called out' ones. Only true believers, called out of the world to serve Christ qualify for that designation. We disciple and train believers for the purpose of taking the gospel message into the world, converting sinners to Christ, not compromising to the intolerance of moral relativism and multiculturalism.

But that's where we find the church in America today. The Light of the world will never be extinguished, but many candlesticks in our nation are beginning to flicker. Many who are called have not yet sold out to Christ. Elijah asked, “...how long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him.” As God's ecclesia, we, like Joshua, only have one acceptable answer: as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Rev. David Lewis

The Prayers God Answers

Part III – The Biblical Basis of Answered Prayer

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

George Mueller's prayers saved the lives of thousands of orphans, and he was also used by the living God to save the SOULS of untold other thousands in the world by his preaching and missionary ministries in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Mueller wrote as early as 1842 that his gift of faith (Ep. 2:8-10; Rom. 6:23) was not anything unique to him but was the birthright of every born-again believer. He further wrote: "I desire before God that all His children who read of His work through our orphanages be led to ... simple confidence in our almighty God ... to greater encouragement in prayer ... for conversions of family and friends ... to support God's evangel at home and abroad and to "fear not to fight the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 6:12; Ep. 6:12).

God's Word informs ALL His children (Ep. 1:3-12) to cast all their burdens on Him (Ps. 55:1) trusting Him for every breath, every beat of our heart; for all in this life and the one to come (Ps. 37:3-5; Prov. 3:5-6).

Key elements in George Mueller's prayer life including first knowing that he was praying in the will of the Lord also included to not doubting but to rather "expect" God's blessing. Many times, Mueller wrote, spoke and demonstrated that "God-gifted faith" yields open-hearted belief and genuine expectation that God not only hears but will answer EVERY biblically framed petition before His throne.

We are to trust in and claim His promises such as for "our daily bread" (Luke 11:3; John 11:22) and all else needed (Matt. 21:22).

We may not each be called to establish orphanages or faith-based institutions, yet we are to exercise confidence that God's gift of faith is for all believers. We are everyone told to "cast thy burden upon the Lord" (Ps. 55:22) and to "commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass" (Ps. 37:3-5; Luke 11:9). We must study (2 Tim. 2:15) to know and then to claim God's promises since we all receive the gift of faith (Rom. 6:23) once born again by the work of God's Holy Spirit (John 3:7-8) and we are no longer in the flesh but in the Spirit ... if Christ be in you, you are an adopted Son of God (Rom. 8:15-16) and are to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thes. 5:17) expecting God will hear and answer our prayers.

As to our sins, we do best to keep short lists with God. The moment even an errant thought comes, confess it and abandon it and seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

All may claim God's promise to "freely give us all things" (Rom. 8:32). This promise always kept Mueller's soul in peace about financial needs or the spread of scurrilous lying reports, etc.

The "mountains" we are enabled to move are those lurking in our natural hearts and the strength to do so increases as our love for Christ grows into that "... peace that passeth all understanding" (Phil. 4:7). Mueller reminded himself daily of God's promises such as "...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard,

neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for those who love Him" (1 Cor. 2:9).

Mueller asked all believers to pray for him that God would increase his faith. Like all other believers there were times to pray for everyday things like misplaced keys or for God to make difficult verses clear and to expect God's answer in His time. Mueller wrote "Stand still in the hour of trial and you will see the help of God."

How is a believer's faith strengthened? By God's promise that, "Every good gift ... is from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17). And the increase of faith is definitely a good gift from God. "Ask and ye shall receive" (Matt. 21:22). Mueller suggested the following means for an effective prayer-life: As soon as possible begin to carefully read, study, and meditate on the Word of God. As we think about the Divine character and attributes of the living God, we see beyond His perfect justice and holiness to His nature of love, light and mercy as our Father in heaven. God's care for His children is fully revealed throughout the Bible in the examples of those God led safely home.

We should try to maintain uprightness in heart and a good conscience to please the Lord avoiding everything we know that is contrary to His Word and His will. No one can expect confidence and faith to increase when the old sinful nature and self-dependence is still stronger than dependence upon God. Our natural inclination is to remain in our sinful habits (Jer. 17:9) and to shrink from God, from looking to and depending upon Him alone. The faith we begin with can only grow if we do not shrink from the testing situations and circumstances God sends to every believer to enhance and strengthen that faith.

As with all God's called out adopted children, God leads gently, gradually, and patiently. Like a loving Father, He helps us to take our first steps in learning to walk. He gives us only what we can bear. "There hath no temptation [or testing] taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will ... make a way to escape ... to bear it (1 Cor. 10:13). When our faith is tested, we are to "stand still and see the salvation of the Lord" (2 Chron. 20:17).

As Christians it is right to prepare for our last earthly "YEARS," but it is eternally more important to prepare for our last earthly "HOURS": by reading and memorizing scripture and thereby strengthening our faith; and God will never leave us (Heb. 13:5): nor will our Savior Jesus Christ: "Verily, Verily, I say unto thee, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life ..." (John 5:24); "Jesus saith unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life ..." (John 11:25).

Mueller and his orphanage staff endured many testings of their faith. On September 18, 1838, all food was consumed with nothing left even for tomorrow's breakfast. All went to prayer with Mueller praying most of the night. Mueller remarked that God had never allowed them to go hungry, so the tables were set for tomorrow's breakfast. As they sat praying and giving thanks to God, a knock came at the door. A local baker was outside with wagonloads of freshly cooked, ready to eat provisions. The bakery owner related the following: "I was awakened much earlier than usual with a burning desire to bake and send food to the Bristol orphanage. I went about rousting my workers to come early to make food for the orphans. Such gifts of God coming just when needed became a regular occurrence and another test of God's promises met and that further strengthened the faith of all involved.

Having seriously outgrown the facilities at Wilson Street, Mueller and associates began to pray for a more suitable location. Mueller heard of reasonably priced land at Ashley Down. Mueller viewed the land and later that day called at the home of the owner. The owner was gone to his place of business and still having time, Mueller made his way there only to just miss him again and now the hour was late. "I judged it best not to force the matter," but to "let patience have its perfect work" (James 1:4).

The next morning, I saw the owner who by now knew I was seeking his land for my new orphanage. The owner related the following: "I awakened at three in the morning and could not sleep again until five. My mind was preoccupied with the land you need for your orphans. He now determined that if I applied for it, he would not only let me have it, but would charge only 120 an acre instead of the advertised price of 200 dollars an acre. "Note well the hand of God in my NOT finding the owner at home last evening."

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son" (John 14:13).

Keep looking up (Luke 21:28).

Chief Sources:

George Mueller / My Journal
George Mueller / Convictions and Teachings

Publisher:

Chapel Library
2630 W. Wright Street
Pensacola, FL 32505
chapel@mountzion.org
www.chapellibrary.org
800.438.6666 (fax: 850.438.0227)



Be Anxious for Nothing

By Nancy Long

Phil. 4:4, 6, 7 & 8 – *Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice*

Be careful for nothing, but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

I once read a sermon, written by the late Charles H. Spurgeon, entitled, “Joy, a Duty” that began this way, “*There is a marvelous medicinal power in joy* Most medicines are distasteful; but this, which is the best of all medicines, is sweet to the taste, and comforting to the heart.”

I remember at the time, this particular title drawing me in, with a desire to read more. Even today, my mind is moved to thinking about all the anxiety and worry plaguing our nation today, and sadly, it seems Christians are not exempt from this so called malady.

Repeatedly we are told in the New Testament that one of the distinctive characteristics of a Christian’s life should be a joyful spirit. “*Rejoice evermore*” (1 Thess. 5:16). “*Count it all joy*” (James 1:2). “*Rejoice and be exceeding glad*” (Matt. 5:12). “*Believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory*” (1 Peter 1:8). “*These things write we unto you, that your joy may be full*” (1 John 1:4).

Spurgeon again writes, “*This is a delightful thing. What a gracious God we serve, who makes delight to be a duty, and who commands us to rejoice! Should we not at once be obedient to such a command as this? It is intended that we should be happy. That is the meaning of the precept – that we should be cheerful; more than that, that we should be thankful; even more than that – that we should rejoice.*”

The joy and rejoicing of which is spoken in the above verses of Scripture is not associated with any of the circumstances, or situations, of life, but is joined, and connected with, and rooted in, an invincible and unchanging relationship to a Sovereign God.

Paul’s brief Epistle to the Philippians is best known for its theme, “*contentment and joy*”, and the short prepositional phrase, “*in the Lord*”, making clear the sphere in which the believer’s joy exists. Isn’t this a wonderful thought?! We, who are the children of God, are able to rejoice any time, anywhere, and in any situation the Lord providentially provides. First and foremost we should rejoice for who He is, and that He, because of His great love, has put in place a plan (before the foundation of the world, I might add) to save us from our sins, so as to reunite us with God, and bring us into His presence one day. Amen?!

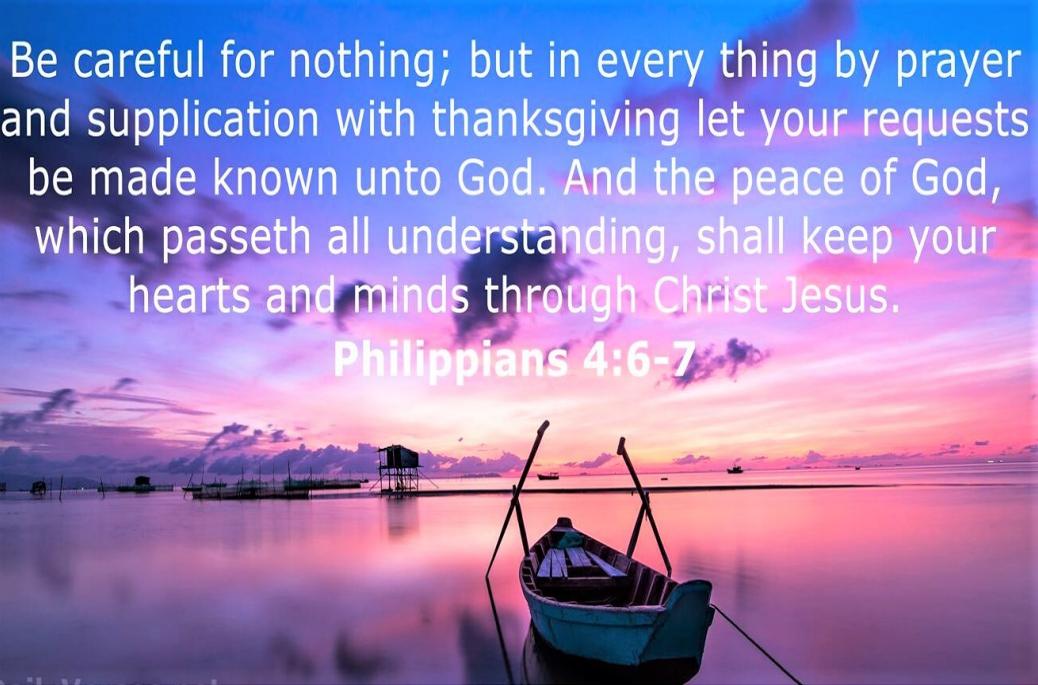
I ask this question: How does your heart respond to the confused and uncertain state in which we find ourselves today? This beautiful country of ours was built on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. It has grown and thrived because God has blessed it. Somewhere along the way we’ve lost our moorings and fallen away from the Biblical truths on which our forefathers were willing to give their lives, and on which our nation was built. Today we find ourselves surrounded by decline on every level:

economically, morally, and spiritually. Do you sometimes feel as though your world is falling apart? Do you become anxious, worried, or stressed, about possible future happenings?

I began this article with two verses of Scripture, the first being: *“Rejoice in the Lord **always**”* (forever, all the time, constantly, without ceasing, and continually). And the second: *“Be careful for **nothing**”* (naught, zip, zilch, nil, not anything).

The exhortation of Jesus is to *“take no thought for the morrow, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?”* (Matt.6:31). Worry not, for it’s only an exercise in futility, and in reality only demonstrates a lack of faith and trust. The Bible plainly teaches that our lives are in the hands of a Sovereign God, and we have absolutely no control over what He has ordained. Our heavenly Father governs fully and completely, and lovingly tends to all His creation, including those of us who are blessed to be His children. He holds the keys to life and death, and has an eternal purpose for everything He does. Think on Romans 8:28: *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.”*

I believe the answers to all of life’s problems, including anxiety and worry, and distress, is to truly accept divine Providence. Only then will we be able to have complete joy in our hearts, and live at peace with God, man, and ourselves. Let’s pray for each other, Defender Friends, commit to put **His** kingdom first, delight in **His** ways, and set affections on eternal things (Matt. 6:33, Psalm 37:4, Col. 3:2). Then His promised perfect peace, joy, and contentment in all things, will be ours (Isaiah 26:3)!! That’s His promise!



Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Recent Moments of Truth

Is it white privilege—or is it half-black discrimination?

Tim Tebow is a white football player who is getting a second chance in the NFL at age 33.

Colin Kaepernick, also 33 and only half white, is not getting the same opportunity. Both players have been shunned for kneeling—Tebow in prayer and Kaepernick in political protest.

But the outcry over Tebow's perceived white privilege is coming from the race hustlers who see Kaepernick as the victim of racist animus because he's black. Why don't they recognize that Kaepernick—like Barack Hussein Obama—is also white? Bi-racial people now make up about 15% of the U.S. population—2% more than blacks. But recognizing people or accomplishments that can be attributed to whiteness doesn't fit the Marxist narrative of division and destruction.

I prefer the narrative found in the Bible. God has made men from all nations out of one blood—one race.

We'll find peace amongst ourselves when we follow the Prince of Peace—and not the prince of darkness.



Over the last 75 years, the Supreme Court has imposed a secular theology through our government-run schools that violates the Constitution's Establishment Clause prohibiting government from imposing religious beliefs.

They've done this by removing prayer to Jehovah God. Removing Bibles. Removing the 10 commandments. Aborting unborn babies by unlawfully passing *Roe v. Wade*. Remember—the courts don't make laws in America. Only Congress can do that. They also illegally codified same-sex marriage and promoted and glorified it in the public schools.

All of these actions support the religion of humanism—and to teach it at taxpayer's expense through the government schools is antithetical to the precepts that our founders gave us in our founding documents. It is also offensive to the God who has blessed us from our humble beginnings. The last thing America needs is to fall into the hands of an angry God.

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

The Defender is available, free of charge, on audio CD.
Please contact us if you would like to receive a copy by mail.

FIND US ON THE WEB AT
www.indefenseoftruth.org
& www.facebook.com/cubhillchurch

FREE APPS NOW AVAILABLE
for **Android Smartphone & iPhone** users.
Go to your App or Play Store, and type in
"**Cub Hill Church**" and/or "**Evangelism Radio**"
and download!

In Defense of Truth can be heard online
at www.evangelismradio.com:
Sunday-Friday from 6:30-7:00 PM
and on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore every Sunday from 6:30-7:00 AM

Listen also to IDOT's "Moment of Truth"
airing Monday through Friday
on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore.

DEFENDER CONTRIBUTORS

Rev. David R. Lewis, MDiv., Director, IDOT
Robert Luthardt, Sr., Elder, CHBPC
Nancy Long, Member, CHBPC

WRITE TO US!

Rev. David Lewis &
In Defense of Truth
2927 Cub Hill Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21234

Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM
Summer Movie Night (August 27th)	8:30 PM