

THE BIBLE VIEW

Large Print Edition

Volume: 186 January 22, 2009

No New Thing

Bill Brinkworth

Most feel that mankind today is more advanced than its ancestors. Granted our technology is far superior to that of earlier days, but really, man's nature has not changed from when he was first created over 6,000 years ago. He may dress differently, talk differently, ride different transportation, have different entertainment, and do different things, but there are some things in man that will never change. Today, man's similarities with people of the past include:

The same things happened to people then and today.

Mankind has the same feelings, same crimes, same defeats, and same problems. There have always been bullies, fears, heartbreaks, divorces, temptations, discontentment, unfaithfulness, dishonesty, and other sins, and there always will be.

Same depraved nature. No matter how educated, "advanced", and wise man thinks he is, man will always have a part of him that will sin. There were adultery, coveteousness, dishonesty, disobedience, lust, and thievery thousands of years before Christ, just as there is today. Since Adam and Eve's first sin tainted the human race, every one of us has been born with a heart that will sin. The true nature of man has never really changed.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
Romans 3:23

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" *Jeremiah 17:9*

Same consequences for sin. No matter when or what sin is committed there is a price tag for it. The people of Noah's day, Lot's day, and even nations of the past, reaped the consequences of their sin. Just as no one got away with sin then, they do not get away with it today!

Sin's crop always comes after the iniquity was committed, usually produces more than was sown, and its harvest comes when least expected. Cheaters still get caught; as do liars and thieves. Adulterers and the coveters, even if they think they "got away with it", still reap the consequences by having an uncontent, unfulfilled life.

Sin can carry its side effects into eternity. For the saved person, not having total obedience to God's commands will cost him eternal rewards. For the unsaved soul, it will cost him dearly in an eternal Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:14). Sin carries a tremendous price tag. That is why God has done all He can to warn us about being involved with it.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Galatians 6:7-8

Same God. Just as God hated the sin of those in Old Testament times, He hates our sins that we commit during these times.

Although we are not under the laws of the Old Testament, those laws still show what God likes and dislikes. God has not changed!

"For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Malachi 3:6

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Hebrews 13:8

Nothing has changed since the first man. The troubles you are going through are not unique. Many have gone through the same trials in the past. The good news is the same, unchanging God, that helped them through their valleys can help you and I today. He is the same God with much experience!

“God hates the sin, but He loves the sinner.” — D. L. Moody

If They Read Their Bibles

Bill Brinkworth

One of the most powerful, guiding, and life-changing books ever written is the Bible (KJV). If people would just read it, believe it, and obey it, this world would be much different. Here are some of the things that would happen.

- More people would be saved and trust God’s only way to heaven.
- There would be less sin. Crime would diminish. Fear would be less, as citizens would feel safer. People would want to do right!
- Less governmental laws would be needed, as people would have God’s law instilled in them. They would naturally be more considerate of others, honest, and good citizens.
- Jail expansion would not be necessary, and not as many police, welfare, and other government jobs would be necessary.
- There would be less heartache and fewer ruined, broken lives.
- Bible-believing and Bible-living churches would be full and expanding.
- Churches that teach doctrines and traditions of man would be empty. Preachers that did not believe or preach the whole Word of God would be looking for honest jobs, because people would know what the Bible’s truth was and would

refuse to listen to the false teachings spewed out by unbiblical preachers.

- Cults would wither up and no longer spread their false teachings.
- God would be pleased!

Sound utopian? Yes, it does, but the Word of God is powerful. Obedience to it has changed countless lives. Because of those obeying God's commands: drunks have become sober; angry people have lost their rage; wife and children abusing husbands and fathers have become wonderful fathers and husbands; adulterers have become faithful, loyal spouses; criminals have become outstanding citizens. There is no life that would not be changed if they would only follow God's commands and warnings preserved for them today in His Book, the Bible.

“In this little Book will be found the solution to all the problems of the world.”

— Calvin Coolidge

Sin

Thomas Guthrie

Sin is a debt, a burden, a thief, leprosy, a plague, a poison, a serpent, a sting. Sin is the sexton that digs men's graves. Sin is the painted temptress that steals virtue. Sin is the sorceress that first deceives, and then damns a soul. O, let sin be your deepest sorrow, your heaviest grief, the spring of many tears, the burden of many sighs, the occasion of daily visits to the throne of grace.

“Sin and dandelions are a whole lot alike. They're a lifetime fight that you never quite win.” — William White

Too Close

Author Unknown

After the First World War, the young people of Brest, France, were greatly enjoying themselves dancing at one of the large American barracks near a town that had been deserted. Unknown to them, there were a large number of boxes and cases containing deadly explosives piled along the walls. On the boxes were the warning words, "Dynamite," "Lyddite," "Gun-cotton," and "Detonators." As the words were in English, the dancers were unaware of their danger. Police officials soon put a ban on the dancing in that place. When examined, officials found the floor, all about the boxes, covered with cigarette stubs, stubs of cigars and empty bottles. Sin is deadly whether we know it or not.

In the Tiger's Mouth

L. L. Wightman, Gospel Herald

As a part of a circus act, a man placed his head in a tiger's mouth. He advanced to the tiger, and the tiger opened its mouth. While the crowd watched in breathless wonder and horror, the man thrust his head in the open mouth, paused a moment, then slowly withdrew his head from the place of danger and backed from the cage. As he shut the door, the tiger leaped against the bars with terrific force.

Such a foolhardy stunt was sure to attract much attention, and many prophesied that some day that man would pay for his foolishness. Their utterance was fulfilled. In a small town in northern Pennsylvania, the man met his doom. While his head was in the tiger's mouth, those powerful jaws closed on him, and before several bullets ended the tiger's life, the man was a corpse.

This takes us in thought to two verses in the Epistle of James: "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own

lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.” (James 1:14-15)

Don't Touch It!

Sunday School Banner

Some years ago, in India, a little girl whose parents were missionaries came running excitedly to her daddy early one morning. “Oh, Daddy! Come quickly,” she said. “I have found the most beautiful string of jewels lying in the grass.”

The parents had wisely taught this little girl that she must never touch anything that did not belong to her without first asking permission. The father followed the little girl to the dew drenched grass, and she pointed out to him the string of glistening jewels. The “jewels” happened to be a deadly coral snake whose bite would have meant certain death. The only safe thing was not to touch it even though it was beautiful. Sin must never be played with. In its most harmless form it is deadly and venomous. The only safe thing is not to touch it.

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