



# Weekly Sermonette

**From Living Word Church  
You've Got To Be Perfect!**

Ask any 100 persons off the street if they believe that they will go to heaven when they die, it's probable that 90 or 95 of them will answer, "Yes" or, at least, "I hope so."



## Making Sense of it All

"Mmm...must be a television. There's the screen. I wonder where Mom and Dad put that movie thingamajig."

Though our toddlers and older children appear to be becoming increasingly intelligent at an earlier age, they do not have the wisdom and the learned logic they need to make sense of it all. Many of us have learned from experience that curiosity and immaturity can be dangerous partners...even more so in today's society as information becomes more accessible though alarmingly uncensored.

How can we help our youngsters make sense of it all? Parents must begin early to teach their children right from wrong and show them by example the basic principles of responsibility and Christian living. Yet, no instruction is complete without regular family worship. We read in Psalm 22:27...30, "And all the families of the nations shall worship before Him...men shall tell of the Lord to the coming generation."

Won't you use the most reliable resource available to give your children the future they deserve? Let God help you and your family make sense of it all as you attend your local house of worship each Sabbath.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Micah	Zephaniah	Zechariah	Malachi	Malachi	Luke	Luke
5:2-15	3:14-20	9:9-17	3:1-7	4:1-6	3:1-6	3:7-20

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society  
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A critical follow-up question then needs to be asked, "Why do you believe that?"

The top five answers might be like these: (1) "I'm as good as the next guy," (2) "I've always tried to be a good person and do what is right," (3) "I've gone to church all my life," (4) "I believe in God," and (5) "I don't believe God would send anyone to hell, except for someone like Hitler, of course."

And therein lies the problem. Not one of these answers is the "correct" one. If you are relying on what you have done or on incorrect belief, you are in mortal danger.

Jesus spoke of this problem in Matthew 5. Basically, he said if you are only as good as the next person, what do you hope to gain? Speaking about doing good to those who are good to you, He said, "What are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?" And then he spoke these crucial words, "Be perfect, therefore as your heavenly Father is perfect."

That is God's standard for you and me, "Be perfect." The bad news is, as you recognize, that standard is utterly unreachable in our humanity. We are as imperfect as we can get! We are sinners hopelessly unable to do what is right in God's eyes.

The width of the chasm between God and us is too immense even to measure. It is impassable. His dwelling place is holy, perfect, glorious and utterly untouched by sin. Not one of us is worthy or able to live with Him as we are. We cannot reach God.

But He, in His great love for us, has reached over that gulf to us. God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, left the glorious perfection of heaven and humbled Himself, taking on the form and likeness of a man. While on this earth, He was "tempted in every way, just as we are yet was without sin." Completely faultless, He gave His life as the perfect sacrifice for our sin.

When we believe and trust fully in Jesus (and in Him alone) for our eternal salvation, He becomes our perfection. When we receive Christ by faith, when we receive His forgiveness for our sins and continue to abide in Him, we will then stand before the final judgment and God will look at us and see His perfect Son in us. We will be judged perfect and made truly perfect because of Him! And that, my friend, is the only way we will ever gain heaven because, "He is able to save completely (forever) those who come to God through Him (Heb. 7:25).

"Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await Him."

# WILSONVILLE

By VELMA HOLTZE

Brandon Orrutt, son of Laura and Robert Ritter of Selden and grandson of Dale and Theda Stanley, is attending Hutchinson Community College, where he plays on the Blue Dragons football team.

He and his teammates had the honor of competing at the "Valley of the Sun" Bowl game in Glendale, Ariz., on Dec. 6. Their record (7-3) ranks them nationally. Brandon, a freshman, is majoring in communications.

Several from this area drove to Grand Island Sunday to attend "The Living Christmas Tree" presented at the Evangelical Free Church.

Velma Holtze was one of those attending and fully enjoyed it. However going to the car she fell and is very much incapacitated with a cracked rib and her right arm in a sling.

Weekend guests in the Dale and Theda Stanley's home over Thanksgiving were their children and grandchildren: Laura and Robert Ritter and children, Devin, Morgan, Nolan, and Noel of Selden; Tim and Ellen Meissner, and their family, Kaylee, Kelsey and Keenan, McCook; Jay Stanley, Troy Stanley, Michelle Reeh, Adaline Stanley and Tony Gaetta all of Omaha and Brandon Orrutt, Hutchinson.

### Wilsonville Public Library

Librarian Laurie Laws, was invited to attend the Royal Neighbors of American Christmas luncheon. The group presented the library with a matching funds check for \$1,236 for the haunted house and bake sale held in November.

Last Wednesday, the library Board met with board members, Connie Holliday, Nancy Knutson, Connie Wilson, Pat Yost and Librarian Laurie Laws. The Christmas Gift Basket was discussed and Mrs. Laws told the board she hoped to dispense more tickets. Mrs. Laws also gave Treasurer Connie Wilson the check from the Royal Neighbors.

Danielle Steel's book "Safe Harbor" was donated in honor of Merna Haught's birthday by Pat Yost.

### Double 8

The Double 8 Club met Dec. 3 at the Heritage Plaza for its annual Christmas party with Adeline Ballou as hostess. Fourteen members, two associate members, Norma Kasson, North Platte, and Laurie Laws, Wilsonville, and three guests, Myrna Harper, Indianola; Joan Mowry, Arapa-

hoe; and Jo Schwartz, Kearney were present. After dinner the members enjoyed a Christmas program. Mrs. Ballou's daughter, Jo Schwartz, read a short story entitled "I Knew You Would Come". Laurie Laws read the Christmas story from the Bible. Adeline's granddaughter Katie Ballou played a medley of Christmas songs on the piano. A gift exchange was held after the program. Everyone enjoyed refreshments of Christmas cookies and cider or coffee.

### Baptist-Christian Women

Seven members and one child were present at the Baptist-Christian Women's Fellowship on Dec. 4. The worship table displayed a beautiful nativity setting.

President, Avis Wolfe opened the meeting with prayer and a thought for the day, which was especially timely as the roll call was "Us Girls" articles for girls. Mrs. Wolfe served a Christmas lunch.

### Royal Neighbors of America

Royal Neighbors of America met Dec. 1 at the Cambridge Senior Center for the Christmas dinner with members of Norcatur, Oberlin, Clayton and McCook Camps. Other guests were Ryan Ruppert, Lincoln, and guests from Cambridge, Wilsonville and Indianola, making the total 36.

Before the dinner Oracle Myrna Harper led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the blessing by Chancellor Marilyn Wolzen. Following the meal Happy Birthday was sung to those with birthdays the latter part of November and December. The matching fund check was presented to librarian Laurie Laws by Ryan Ruppert and Myrna Harper.

Door prizes were won by George Thompson, McCook, and Norma Smith, Cambridge. During the business meeting members voted to donate to the Dogs for the Deaf and the Nebraska scholarship fund. The group was invited to be guests of the Oberlin Camp at a Christmas dinner at 6 p.m., Dec. 18 at the Gateway. Esther Zuehlsdorff will host the next meeting Jan. 5 at her home in Hendley. Chancellor Wolzen closed the meeting with prayer.

### Hospital Patients

Norma Jean Frandsen is recuperating at Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln having had a heart valve replaced on Thursday.

Leon O'Brein is a McCook hospital patient with pneumonia.

Becky Holtze is a Kearney Hospital patient with pneumonia and other complications.

# NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

Darlene Wallace, Denver, visited her brother, Dennis Dwyer on Nov. 18-19.

Nov. 26, Father Vincent celebrated Mass of the Vigil of Thanksgiving. It also honored Rose Stephens on her 80th birthday and celebrated the 40th anniversary of Roger and JoAnn Long.

Mrs. Stephens grandchildren read a poem written in her honor. The Long's grandchildren sang a song composed in their honor. Stephanie (Long) Kirk played the organ and Joannie (Long) Winkel was song leader. Long's granddaughters, Bethany Winkel, Brooklyn Winkel and Lindsey Cella read the readings. Jack Cella, Joseph Cella, Ed Schuster and Daniel Schuster were the ushers. Altar servers were grandsons, Jonathon and Phillip Kirk.

Home for the Thanksgiving holidays with Roger and JoAnn Long were their daughters and families Renee and Jack Cella and family, Denver; Stephen and Brian Kirk and boys, Henderson, Texas; Joannie and Darin Winkel and girls, Norton; and Roxie and Ed Schuster family, Milford, Ohio.

Fred and Carol Long and Katie, St. Elizabeth, Mo., spend Wednesday through Saturday at his parents, Marion and Lorraine Long's home. On Thanksgiving, Doyle and Imogene McDougal and Sheila, Lexington, Neb.; Leonard and Joan Long, Zack and Alaina, Logan joined them for dinner. Thanksgiving evening, Tom and Jan Long, Hays, visited. On Friday evening, Gary and Carolyn Long, Adam and Traci ate supper with them. On Saturday, Bill and Rita Barker, Hays, and Donna Lehmann and friend, Tom Skanga, New York, were visitors.

Family coming to the home of Jean Nickelson for Thanksgiving were Jerry and Carol Nickelson, Hill City; Steve and Rhonda Shepard, Collyer; Shawn Shepard, Garden City; and Scott Shepard, Quinter.

Celebrating Thanksgiving at the Russ and Marcia and John Vahling home were Jeff and Kathleen Vahling, Sidney and Allison, Hays; Missy and Nicole Vahling, Lenora; and Jeremy Rumback, Lenora.

Family coming to the Alfred and Betty Otter home for Thanksgiving were Mike Otter, Cimarron; Rina and Will Ritter and Allyson, Olathe; Tom Otter, DeSoto; Mark Otter and family, Ulysses; Jim and Jolene Moss and family, Jewell; Karl Otter, Great Bend; Charles and Jeni Otter and family, Salina. Joining the family for dinner was Hazel Bates, Norton and Gary and Roberta Bruinekool and Renee, Lenora. In the evening, Arthur and Karen Bates, Edmond, Okla., came for a visit.

On Nov. 29, the Edwin Slipke celebrated Thanksgiving. Those present were Michael and Kathy Slipke and Sarah, Downs; Linda and Ron Baumberger, Heather and Kendra, Salina; Raymond and Bonita Slipke and family, Lenora; William and Michelle Slipke and family, Hoxie; Alan and Phyllis Slipke, Topeka; and Mary and Marvin Wutke, Norton. Later in the afternoon a surprise 40th birthday party was held for Raymond Slipke. It was a surprise, since his birthday was still a few days off.

On Nov. 26, Sophia Otter celebrated her 97th birthday. Alfred Otter, Francis and Phyllis Otter, Lenora; Mary and Mike Schamberger, Hoxie; and Gilbert Otter and Mary Schulze joined Mrs. Otter at dinner at the Andbe Home.

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