

The Book of Luke 2Q 2015 Lesson 10

Following Jesus in Everyday Life

Report from Australia / New Zealand Trip:

First, thanks to Wendell Moses, Russell Atkins and Lori Atkins for teaching class while I was away. People came up and told me in Australia what a great job all three of you are doing!

Thanks to this class for your support. It is you, this core class who has come to love this message about God, and who has stuck together over the past five years – yes it has been five years since we founded Come and Reason Ministries. And it is because of your love for this message that the trip to Australia, New Zealand and so many other places, along with all our materials to share has been made possible!

And Thanks! To all our online family and friends, who as you have heard this message, have joined with us and share it in your community, keep us in your prayers and financially support in creating all the materials we give away. All of you are part of this movement which is having a HUGE impact on Christianity. I can't tell you the number of places this message is now being taught – schools, doctors, nurses, churches of multiple denominations – people coming back to church who have left, people accepting God who never had before. So thank you each and everyone for your support, for the experiences I am about to share from our trip would not have been possible without all of you!

We want to express our **overwhelming appreciation** for Simon Harrison, our manager in Australia who has worked tirelessly to bring off this entire event. I wish all of you could meet Simon. He is an amazing Christian gentleman, humble, gentle, faithful, diligent, immaculate attention to detail, seeks only to give glory to God, a great father to four beautiful children. He just does a fantastic job of representing us and this message down under. For those going to the GC in July you will get a chance to meet Simon as he will be helping us out at our booth.

We flew into Brisbane Friday May 1, and were scheduled to speak that evening, but Brisbane experienced extreme rain of over 3 inches per hour, causing flooding so we had to cancel the Friday evening meeting. But, it all worked out because we did that program Sabbath morning and during our Sabbath program had over 700 people, standing room only at the Springwood SDA church.

We met so many wonderful people. The message was enthusiastically received. We want to tell our new friends hello:

Pastor Kendal Cobbin and his lovely wife Lenelle
Pastor Cara Dale
Don & Deanna Pitchford
Pastor Mike Brownhill

The Big added bonus was that Louis Johnson, who did all the artwork and music score for *Journal of the Watcher* flew in from Dubai to spend the weekend with us. Louis is such an amazing talent and uses his abilities to bring glory to God and share this message of God's character of love. We are truly blessed to have Louis as part of our international family.

We presented Sunday at an Anglican Church in Brisbane, and one of the conference officers for the Anglican church, Ralph Bowles introduced me telling his audience he had read *The God-Shaped Brain* and he really loved the view of God it presented. There were multiple priests and educators present who all expressed appreciation for the message and we gave away our DVDs which were enthusiastically received.

We drove to Toowoomba and spoke to the community, which was overwhelmingly positively received. And really

enjoyed ourselves with our new friends there:

Arlagene and Daryl Groves
Adrian Fitzpatrick (Darling Down Christian School Principal)

We next flew to Perth, the other side of the country, where I presented to an inter-denomination group of Christian counselors, doing an all day seminar. Again, overwhelming positive response and they have already invited me back. I also spoke at Livingston and Freemantle SDA church, again with very positive responses. We gave away our DVDs at every one of these events.

Hello and a big thanks to:

Christian Counselors Assoc. Team & Keren Masters
Pastor Paul Goltz (Livingston SDA)
Pastor Clem & Julie Van Ballegooyen (Fremantle SDA)
Jan Chapman
Nathaniel Harrison
Jeanelle and Keith Hockley

We were blessed to get to spend some time with Simon's children, Maddie, Christian, Kyra and Daniel, and his mother Shirley and her husband John, brother Nat & Julie and their children. And a BIG thanks to Wendy for her friendship, time, energy and support!

On Sunday we flew to Melbourne where we held a three day seminar for a inter-denominational group of Christian counselors. Again extremely well received. Want to say a big thank you to Tamara Auora for all her help in organizing the Melbourne event.

And thanks to Emanuel & Nada Millen and Emanuel's parents, and William and his wife and daughter!

Thursday we flew to Sydney where we did a TV interview for Adventist media, thanks Kent Kingston (Adventist Media Centre) which is to be broadcast on the Hope channel in Australia and USA. Then on to the San, which is the Adventist Hospital in Sydney. We presented the God Shaped Brain lecture and it was very enthusiastically received, and was given a tour of their new facility – amazing new hospital. Thanks to Dr. Alex Currie (SAH) and Suzanne Hadfield.

Thursday and Friday we presented at Avondale College, then an all day seminar in Maitland. We really appreciate Wayne French, chaplain at Avondale who helped coordinate the event and picked us up from the airport. And Rick and Darlene Sharp, the pastor at Maitland who has been such a big supporter of this picture about God. Also, we are thankful to Brenden Wooley, who has loved this message and purchased given away over 200 of *The God-Shaped Brain* he was kind enough to drive us from Maitland to Sydney, a two hour drive.

We also want to thank:

Matt & Heidi Thompson so enthusiastic in sharing this message with young people
Pastor Bradley Rea (Interview for You Tube Channel)
Brad Horne (Who helped organize our resources)

Our final Sunday we flew to Auckland, NZ and spoke at the *Our Feet on the Rock* Australian/New Zealand SDA Education Summit. We had such a wonderful reception and fellowship with the teachers and church leaders there. We want to especially thank:

Daryl Mudoch, National Director Adventist Schools Australia

Rosalie MCFarlane, Director Education New Zealand Pacific Union Conference
Lyndon Chapman, Associate Director Education Adventist Schools Australia
Ken Weslake Director for Education Pacific Division
And all the wonderful teachers, principals, church officials who made our reception so wonderful.

And a special thanks to Stephen Davies, who took us in his private plane for a flight over Auckland and the surrounding countryside.

And on Tuesday evening we spoke to the community in New Zealand, who filled the auditorium and just loved this message about God. Thanks to Terry and Richard Marsters who love this message and worked for weeks organizing the event and then showed us around New Zealand before we flew home yesterday.

And, if I forgot to mention someone – please forgive me as I am still jet-lagged as I write this just getting home after 29 hours of travel.

SABBATH

Read memory text: “And the apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith’” (Luke 17:5, NKJV).

What does this mean? When you hear the word faith what comes to mind? Does it mean: a religious organization such as a system of belief or confidence and trust?

I think the text is speaking of confidence and trust. How would Jesus do this? From where does faith originate?

From what is faith based and what increases it?

- Evidence (truth)
- Experience
- Trials that put the truth/evidence to test and results in confirming outcomes and strengthen our confidence i.e. our faith

Is this how you have been taught to experience faith, through experience and evidence? How much of Christianity is declarative – believe, why? Because I said so, the Bible says so, the church says so, God says so...? Trust the Bible because it is inspired...

Does God want us to believe on declarations? On the road to Emmaus what method did Christ use?

We give our children didactic education, i.e. education on stories in the Bible, memory texts, doctrines and supposed rationales for those doctrines, but do we, after didactic education, have specified applications, in which the children go out and practice applying what they were taught in lecture?

Isn't this what Christ did? He taught them, then demonstrated in action what He taught, and then sent them out to get experience relying upon Him, practicing His methods, teaching His truths.



In the military soldiers are given lectures, and then taken out into the field and given opportunity to practice, whether it be with a weapon, or how to navigate using a compass, or how to stop a wound from bleeding or how to apply a field dressing, or how to load and unload a stretcher onto a jeep, or helicopter etc.

In nursing school, medical school, dental school, students are given lectures and then given opportunity to practice applying what they have learned in real life.

What would happen if soldiers or health care providers only got lectures, no hands on application of what they heard in lecture and then found themselves dealing with real world problems?

Do our children struggle to apply God's truth in real life because it has been didactic, theoretical, without real world application?

We met some wonderful people in Australia who have developed an entire new Biblical educational plan for children in Adventist Education, (Lenelle Cobbin was one of a group who helped develop this) which is now being implemented in North American schools. It focuses on Head, Heart, Hands, Feet, meaning, after teaching a concept they focus on making that truth about God real in the experience of the child, then applying that truth in action with doing for others and then sharing that truth with others. And the overwhelming emphasis is on God's character of love!

Read first paragraph, "Though a great teacher..."

If Jesus didn't establish a school of theology and philosophy, what did He establish? A Remedy! Which consisted of what?

- The truth about God & Himself to win us to trust them
- The truth about sin to reveal it is the deviation from God's design law of love and causes death
- The truth about Satan to sever trust in him
- A new perfect humanity, a human character perfected by the choices made with a human brain – The human brain of Jesus Christ!

As the lesson states, He did reveal the truth about God's character, why was this necessary?

What is meant by the language, "He also paid the penalty for sin so that human beings, despite their fallen nature, could be redeemed."?

Do you see a contradiction in the statement? Note how the lesson rightly identifies our problem, our "fallen nature," but then confuses the solution with some legal payment. That would be like saying, He paid our speeding fine so that despite having leukemia we could be redeemed.

It is the confusion that comes from accepting Imperial Rome's change to God's law that Daniel



prophesied about and thus failing to diagnose properly our condition.

It would be better to leave out the legal language, or clarify it. God and Christ paid a high price to fix the damage Adam's sin did to humanity. That price is what was needed to reveal the truth, destroy death, restore humanity back to God's ideal and expose Satan as liar and fraud.

Read the third paragraph, "The call to be part..." thoughts? What is the point the lesson is trying to teach in this paragraph?

It on the surface almost sounds right and good, but perhaps weaves a subtle message that Christ would not prefer be sent. It sounds, like the lesson is suggesting as we surrender to Christ we stop thinking for ourselves, we become mindless slaves living to hear what He says so we can do it, no questions. If that is what is being suggested, do you think Jesus wants that?

What does it mean, "what He says becomes the disciple's law of life." What do you think of this phrase "law of life"? What is the law of life? It is the law of love. And is it the law of life because Jesus says it, or does He say it because that is the way life actually works?

When they use the word law and law of life, what do you hear being described? A law that is the protocol upon which God constructed reality to operate, or do you hear something that sounds more like a ruler dictating rules and requiring obedience from subjects. Is this God's desire for us, or does God want friends, who when they don't understand will actually question Him?

In the OT who are the two people identified as God's friends?

Moses and Abraham – and what did both of them do? Both questioned God. When God sounded as if He was going to destroy Israel, Moses questioned Him, and God didn't destroy them. And when God told Abraham He was going to destroy Sodom and the cities on the plain, Abraham questioned Him, and negotiated what Abraham thought was a sure deal that would avoid the cities being destroyed.

God didn't get offended by this, but was quite pleased to have thinking friends, who loved Him and loved their fellow human beings and wanted to protect and save others. This is God's heart. God is love and He always wants to heal and save.

What is allegiance to Christ and His will? Is it allegiance to power? To position? What is our allegiance to Christ to be based upon, power, force, threat, coercion or love?

SUNDAY

The lesson asks us to read Luke 11:37-54, from *The Remedy*:



³⁷When Jesus had finished speaking, a legal theologian of the Pharisee sect invited him home to eat; so Jesus went and reclined at the table.³⁸ But when Jesus didn't first do a ceremonial washing of his hands before the meal, the Pharisee was shocked.

³⁹So the Master tried to enlighten him and said, "You legal and behaviorally focused Pharisees work so hard to make yourselves look good on the outside, but the inside, the heart, is full of selfishness, arrogance, and greed.⁴⁰ You really don't understand God's kingdom of love! Did not God, who crafted your outside in his image, also design your inside, your heart and character, to be like him?⁴¹ So give from your inside, your hearts, to help the less fortunate, and then everything about you will be clean.

⁴²"Misery is yours, you who teach a legal religion, you Pharisees! You proudly pay a pre-tax tithe and even give a tenth of the herbs in your garden. But you fail to do what actually matters, to do what is right because it is right and live in harmony with God's law of love, his design for life. You should have lived lives of love for others without neglecting the simple instructions of God.

⁴³"Misery is yours, you legal theologians, you Pharisees, because you love to put yourselves at the center. You seek the most important places, and crave adoration, whether at church or the marketplace.

⁴⁴"Misery is yours, you legal theologians, Pharisees; you're like unmarked graves, appearing inviting like a lawn but beneath the surface is death and decay."

⁴⁵One of the Supreme Court lawyers challenged him. "But Doctor, don't you realize what you're saying is rude and offensive? You insult us."

⁴⁶Jesus answered him, "And misery is yours, you lawyers, because you create a false legal religious system with so many imposed rules. You burden people needlessly with guilt and fear, and you won't make any effort to help them.

⁴⁷"Misery is yours, you who teach a legal religion. You build tombs and memorials to God's spokespersons, but it was your ancestors who killed them.⁴⁸ Thus the memorials you build are a witness against you for your hearts are no different than those who killed them.⁴⁹ Because of your false remedy and penal legal trickery, God in his wisdom said, 'I will send them my spokespersons, instructors and Bible scholars; some they will execute, others they will persecute.'⁵⁰ Understand then, this generation is responsible for rejecting the witness of every prophet who has been killed since the creation of the world,⁵¹ from the murder of Abel to that of Zechariah, who was killed in church right at the altar. I tell you truly, this generation is responsible for rejecting all the evidence those righteous witnesses gave.

⁵²"Misery is yours, you lawyers and legal theologians. You have the Scriptures, the keys to the knowledge of God's kingdom of love. But you have refused to understand it and have created a false legal interpretation that prevents others from understanding it."



⁵³When Jesus left that place, the legal theologians of the Pharisee sect and the lawyers aggressively opposed him and followed him berating him with questions, ⁵⁴trying to trick him into saying something they could use against him.

Read third paragraph, “For example, while tithing...”

- What are the demands of love and justice?
- Are love and justice different?
- What does love demand?
- What does justice demand?
- What is justice?
- Do you get a different justice if you change the law?
- What does justice look like if the law is the law of love, the protocols upon which life is designed to operate?
- If someone breaks design law protocols, like hanging themselves, what is the justice action to take when dealing with them?
- What does justice look like when one thinks through imposed law constructs?
- What is God’s justice?
- What was the justice God taught in the OT?
- What does it mean then when we hear justice requires God inflict death?

Seventh paragraph states, “Meanwhile, the Pharisees honored the prophets no longer alive but worked against the living ones.”

Do we have this problem today, honor God’s dead spokespersons but working against those who are carrying His message forward today?

What is the reason?

MONDAY

Read first paragraph, “Fear God and give glory to Him...”

What does this mean? I am genuinely unsure of what the authors are trying to convey? If they are trying to convey admiration, awe, overwhelming humility at the wisdom of God and the awareness of His infinite goodness and knowledge, then yes, I agree, this leads us to trust Him and want to following Him and stand with Him.

But, if they are suggesting that God is powerful, and is our rightful owner and thus claims our loyalty to Him because of this, and that having fear of God involves mindless loyalty and blind acceptance of His decrees then I would disagree.

How would you state the first of the three angel's messages?

Read second paragraph, "The passage..." It seems very much like a contradiction from the first paragraph, in the first paragraph they said "fearing God is not being afraid." Rightly so, but in this paragraph, they say "We need not fear forces that can only affect our body in the present world. Instead, we must fear and obey God because in His hands is our eternal destiny."

Any concerns about this?

Does it sound like terror-based theology? Be afraid of God because He can not only hurt your body but also destroy your soul?

But is this what Scripture actually teaches? Is our eternal destiny decided by God? No! God has already chosen us. He has chosen every human being for salvation in Jesus; the determination of our salvation is now up to us whether we will choose Him!

This smacks of the penal/legal theologies, which put God in role of arbiter and imposer of punishments and leads people to be more afraid of God who is trying to save them than sin that is destroying them.

Read third paragraph, "While Jesus refuses..." Why is the 10th Commandment relevant? What makes it relevant?

Why is it perhaps the most relevant of all the commandments?

Romans 7:7-12 from *The Remedy*:

⁷What shall we say then? Is the law evil and selfish because it increases the amount of evil and selfishness we see? Absolutely not! I would not have known what evil and selfishness looked like if it wasn't for the diagnostic efficacy of the law. I would not have realized that coveting was evil and selfish if the law didn't say, "Don't covet."⁸ But selfishness, taking advantage of the fact that the law is only a diagnostic instrument and not a Remedy, magnified every covetous desire within me. For apart from the diagnostic ability of the law, sin is unrecognizable.⁹ Once I thought I was healthy and free from the infection of distrust, fear and selfishness, but then the commandment examined me, exposed how utterly infected I was and diagnosed me as terminal.¹⁰ I discovered that the very commandment given only to diagnose my condition I had unwittingly attempted to use as a cure, and thus my condition only worsened.¹¹ For selfishness, taking advantage of the fact that the commandment could only diagnose and not cure, deceived me into thinking I could be cured by working to keep the commandments, but instead my terminal state only worsened.¹² So understand this: the law diagnoses perfectly, and the commandment is the standard of what is right and good, set apart by God to reveal what is evil and destructive.



Why is the commandment not to covet relevant? Because it is the only one of the 10 Commandments that cannot be done behaviorally, it is the one that makes it clear that all 10 Commandments are diagnostic and intended to reveal the condition of the heart and are not a remedy to be applied to behavior.

TUESDAY

The lesson asks us to read Luke 12:35-53, let's read it from the NIV first, discuss it and then from *The Remedy*.

35“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, **36**like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. **37**It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. **38**It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. **39**But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. **40**You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

41Peter asked, “Lord, are you telling this parable to us, or to everyone?”

42The Lord answered, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? **43**It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns. **44**Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. **45**But suppose the servant says to himself, ‘My master is taking a long time in coming,’ and he then begins to beat the other servants, both men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk. **46**The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the unbelievers.

47“The servant who knows the master’s will and does not get ready or does not do what the master wants will be beaten with many blows. **48**But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.



49“I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! **50**But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! **51**Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. **52**From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. **53**They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

What is the lesson? What does it mean beaten with many blows or few blows? This is often used by those who want to teach God is the source of inflicted suffering and punishment.

The lesson states, “An neglect of faithfulness on the pretext that ‘My master is delaying his coming’ is placing oneself under the severest form of God’s judgment.”

What does this mean? Do you understand these passages through imposed law models and then teach God will make the severest judicial finding against you and inflict the severest punishment on you?

Does such a teaching reduce fear of God and instill trust? No, it destroys trust, destroys love and incites rebellion. This is a subtle lie about God, based on accepting lies about God’s law, which people put forth in the guise of sounding righteous but which actually obstructs the work of God in people’s lives.

Here is from the Remedy, design law lens, expanded paraphrase, see if this changes our understanding to see God as love:

³⁵“Be dressed and prepared to serve; keep your minds alert and your hearts burning with the desire to help,³⁶like people eagerly anticipating their lord's return from a wedding reception, who, when he knocks, they instantly open the door for him.³⁷It will be a joyful day for those servants who are prepared and watching for their lord to return. The truth is, he will have them sit at the banquet table and he will serve them.³⁸It will be a joyful day for those servants who are prepared and ready when their master arrives, even if he arrives in the middle of the night.³⁹Understand the importance be being ready: if a homeowner knew the exact time a thief was coming, he would not have been unaware and his house would not have been burglarized.⁴⁰You must live in a state of readiness because the Son of Man will return at a time you don't expect.”

⁴¹Peter asked, "Lord, did you tell this parable for us, or for everyone?"

⁴²Jesus gave this answer. "Who then is an intelligent and wise manager, one qualified to share the Remedy effectively in order to nurture the master's staff? ⁴³It will be the most awesome experience for that aide when the master returns to find him or her reliably doing so.⁴⁴Truly, that aide will be trusted with all the master possesses.⁴⁵But what if the master's aide is self-centered and says to him or herself, 'The master has been gone a long time, who



knows when he will return,' and rather than nurturing the staff, he berates, abuses and misleads them and then goes and uses the master's resources to party with gluttons and drunkards.⁴⁶ That aide will be totally surprised, caught completely unaware, on the day his master returns. The master will let that wicked servant go, cutting their relationship and casting him out with all the other counterfeits and frauds who have peddled false remedies.

⁴⁷"The aide who understands the Master, his design, the problem being addressed, how to apply the Remedy, and either doesn't do so or applies a false remedy, will suffer many blows - a guilty conscience, warped character, damaged reason, broken relationships and ultimately a destroyed soul.⁴⁸ But the one who doesn't know about the Remedy or how to apply it and therefore doesn't do so or applies a false remedy will suffer few blows - regret, disappointment, and grief. The more you are given, the more you have to share with others; the greater your abilities, the more you have to give away.

⁴⁹"I have come to ignite the fire of truth and love upon the earth, and oh how I wished it was already an inferno!⁵⁰ But I have a mission to complete, and the pressure on me to complete it is overwhelming.⁵¹ Do you think I have come to make peace with this selfish world? Absolutely not! I have not come to make peace with selfishness but to cut selfishness out of the hearts of men.⁵² From now on, those who choose the Remedy will cut dysfunctional family ties, and a family of five will be divided two against three and three against two.⁵³ Love will free a son from selfish loyalty to his father's ambitions and feuds, and a father from the selfish exploits of his son; love will sever a daughter from the control of an oppressive and manipulative mother, and a mother from the selfish demands of her daughter; love will cut through the fear and hostility a daughter-in-law has toward her mother-in-law, and mother-in-law toward daughter-in-law."

Read the last paragraph, "The ancient prophet's..." What kind of war are we in? Where is the battlefield? The mind, what are the weapons of God, truth, love, freedom, forgiveness, repentance, prayer, God's Word...

What do you think of the last sentence, "Only by continual faith in the Christ of the cross can one win the final victory."

True – yet can even the Christ of the cross be misunderstood and misrepresented? Can even Christ be represented as being killed by His Father, to appease His Father's wrath and thus is in heaven pleading to His Father to protect us from Him? If we worship such a God is our faith strengthened or undermined? Is love built up or fear?

Yes, we must come back to the Christ of the cross, but only when rightly understood through the lens of design law. Christ fulfilling God's purpose to restore this creation back to His design of love! Christ is not working on God, but working for God, to reveal God and accomplish God's purpose of healing and saving this creation.



WEDNESDAY

Read first paragraph, “The Father, the Son...” Can the cross be presented in a way that is actually bad news rather than good news?

How so? And what underlies such views?

The second paragraph says we are to be Jesus’ witnesses, to witness what?

So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. Rev 12:17

What does this mean? The answer is found in Rev 19:10:

Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Well what is the spirit of prophecy? It is the spirit that inspired the prophets. In other words, the testimony of Jesus is the truth about His Father that Jesus Himself revealed, and is the same truth the Spirit inspired the prophets to tell. Those who are the remnant, that Satan hates, are those who live in harmony with God’s design law, and tell the truth about God’s character of love as Jesus did.

Thus, Rev 12:17 from *The Remedy*:

Then the dragon was frantic with hate and rage at the woman and went off to make war against the remnant of her children, the end-time people who still embrace and practice God's methods of love and hold true to Jesus' testimony about his Father.

THURSDAY

Read first paragraph, “Jesus’ answer is unique in the history...” Do we believe Jesus? Do we believe Jesus does not rule by coercion, by threat, by intimidation, by the infliction of pain, suffering, punishment?

Then why does almost all of Christianity teach that Jesus is coming back with a rod of iron to take vengeance on His enemies?

Will the exercise of power get God what He wants? First, what does God want from us? Our love and trust, which causes us to open our hearts and then our healing and transformation back to His design in order to prevent us from dying from the terminal condition with which we were born.



Can God get love and trust by the exercise of might and power? Zech 4:6 “not by might nor by power but by my Spirit says the Lord.”

And how does the Spirit work? Love and truth.

Do we have evidence to support this declaration of Scripture?

What happened in history when God used power?

- An angel with flaming sword barred the way to the tree of life
 - They rebelled into violence
- The flood
 - Built tower of Babel
- Sodom
 - Moabites and Ammonites
- 10 Plagues of Egypt
 - Worship golden calf
 - Murmur against God
- Thunder at Sinai
 - Grumble against Moses
 - Complain about the diet want meat
 - Hardened hearts 40 years in desert
- Mt. Carmel
 - Persistent rebellion and idol worship
 - Eventual captivity

Love and trust cannot be commanded or engendered with threat, use of power or punishment. Thus the entire penal presentation of God is *proved* to be false.

Even someone as corrupt as Napoleon Bonaparte understood this:

I know men and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Between Him and every other person in the world there is no possible term of comparison. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have founded empires. But on what did we rest the creation of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded His empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him.

FRIDAY

Read and discuss questions 1, 3, 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Remedy – Dr. Jennings’ New Testament Paraphrase is now available on our website, BOTH the Android and Apple Version is not Available! First update for Apple Version now available – most glitches fixed, but if not let me know.

- This is a **FREE** app
- Please read the preface to understand the approach to this paraphrase
- We have cards available to share with others and will ship them at no cost
- Also, if you find typos please email those to us so we can fix any missed typos

CARDS – If you have any of our ministry business cards please check to see if they have our current address: PO Box 28266 Chattanooga, TN 37424. If they are the old ones please discard them. We will be happy to send new ones, just email us. Thanks!

Prayer Request:

Please Pray God will bless our efforts to share this beautiful message about Him at The General Conference of SDA in San Antonio Texas, July 1-12, 2015. Our booth is A481 and we are giving away DVDs and books. Pray God will make this an amazing event for the advancement of the truth about Him!

New Mailing Address: PLEASE UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS BOOK:

Come and Reason Ministries
PO Box 28266
Chattanooga, TN 37424

The Journal of the Watcher:

The Journal of the Watcher is an illustrated ebook available

For ANDROID in the APP

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- Tell friends at church
- Hand out the *The Journal of the Watcher* postcards (email us a mailing address and we will ship them to you at no cost, they come in packs of 100)

Come and Reason Ministries FREE APP is now available for ios and android. The app allows access to our materials on your smart phones and tablets. Please download the app! **Be sure and type in Come and Reason Ministries** and search in your app store as another unofficial app with our logo is out there.

Distribution: Our materials now are available in South Africa. To request materials in South Africa email comeandreason.sa@gmail.com Thanks to Samuel Jacobs who manages distribution for us.

And in Australia email australia@comeandreason.com and Thanks to Simon Harrison who manages our ministry down under.

June 20, 2015: JFEST, Come and Reason Ministries will have a booth at JFEST to give away our materials. JFEST is at Camp Jordan. We will have class at our normal time on June 20. We need some volunteers to work our booth that day – please let us know if



you are local and can help out.

July 1-12: GC session at San Antonio. Come and Reason will have a booth in the exhibit hall, booth A481. Please come by and see us if you are there. We will have class at our regular times here in Collegedale.

August 1: Dr. Jennings will be speaking to the Petaluma, CA SDA church.

September 3,4: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Baptist Boomer's Conference in San Antonio, TX.

September 12: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Vallejo Dr., CA SDA church.

September 23-26: American Association of Christian Counselors World Convention at Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Nashville TN. Come and Reason will have a booth in the exhibit hall, and Dr. Jennings will be doing a preconference workshop and regular conference presentation, as well as commencement speaker for Light University graduation.

October 24: Dr. Jennings will be speaking in Puyallup, WA.

AMAZON Smile: Amazon now has a program that a percent of all your purchases will be donated to support a charity. Come and Reason Ministries is a registered Charity. So, you can select us, and whenever you shop in their [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) site a portion of your purchase will benefit this ministry.

NOTE: WARNING: There is another ministry with a similar name called "Come Reason Ministries" and they are located in California. Please be sure and select **Come AND Reason Ministries Located in Collegedale TN.**