

# THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK

Volume 2, Issue 2

July 2008

## It Has Been A While!

Practical Christian Living Centre started with the intention of coming along side of churches, especially around those in the Quinte area in Ontario. We have travelled far and wide bringing our message that people need to be disciplined. People need to know if they are actually saved vs thinking they are because they prayed a simple prayer many years ago. This very Biblical message has gone over very well in most cases. In some cases where easy believism is preached and taught the message was hard to take. Despite this, the Lord has shown Himself strong especially in the past year as we have grown by leaps and bounds.

On another front, if you take a glance every once in a while at our web site, you will know that God has created the amazing opportunity to startup the Ministry in the US as well. This decision was not taken lightly and caused us to seek the Lord's will and direction over a 5 month period. In the end, we knew

that God's hand was in this direction and we have launched full force in getting the Ministry up and running in the Chicago area.

More details will be coming for sure!

As always, **Thank You** for your prayers and practical support. We truly could not continue without both of these!



### Inside this issue:

The immutability of God	2
Hearing From You	2
Who We Are	3
The immutability of God Continued.	3

## ON THE GO...

I am always amazed at how no matter how much things change the more they stay the same. Doing street witnessing in the small town of Milford Ontario or downtown Chicago Illinois, the story is the same for the people I talk with. They have no concept of who the

God of the Bible is. And it seems that the worst understanding comes from those people who would generally call themselves Christians. I have heard all sorts of unbiblical and unbelievable junk. We who have a passion and burden for the lost need to get out

there even more to make sure that everyone has a clear understanding of the Gospel. What ever it takes to make sure no one has a false understanding of the Gospel and more important that there are no false converts within our reach.



## THE IMMUTABILITY OF GOD

A Sermon Delivered on Sabbath Morning, January 7th, 1855, by the REV. C. H. Spurgeon At New Park Street Chapel, Southwark

"Christians BELIEVE that while Jesus was here on earth, that he committed sin, just like every other human! And we wonder why things are the way they are. The following is an "I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."—Malachi 3:6

t has been said by some one that "the proper study of mankind is man." I will not oppose the idea, but I believe it is equally true that the proper study of God's elect is God; the proper study of a Christian is the Godhead. The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy, which can ever engage the attention of a child of God, is the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings, and the existence of the great God whom he calls his Father. There is something exceedingly improving to the mind in a contemplation of the Divinity. It is a subject so vast, that all our thoughts are lost in its immensity; so deep, that our pride is drowned in its infinity. Other subjects we can compass and grapple with; in them we feel a kind of self-content, and go our way with the thought, "Behold I am wise." But when we come to this master-science, finding that our plumb-line cannot sound its depth, and that our eagle eye cannot see its height, we turn away with the thought, that vain man would be wise, but he is like a wild ass's colt; and with the solemn exclamation, "I am but of yesterday, and know nothing."

No subject of contemplation will tend more to humble the mind, than thoughts of God. We shall be obliged to feel—

"Great God, how infinite art thou, What worthless worms are we!"

But while the subject *humbles* the mind it also *expands* it. He who often thinks of God, will have a larger mind than the man who simply plods around this narrow globe. He may be a naturalist, boasting of his ability to dissect a beetle, anatomize a fly, or arrange insects and animals in classes with well nigh unutterable names; he may be a geologist, able to discourse of the megatherium and the plesiosaurus, and all kinds of extinct animals; he may imagine that his science, whatever it is, ennobles and enlarges his mind. I dare say it does, but after all, the most excellent study for expanding the soul, is the science of Christ, and him crucified, and the knowledge of the Godhead in the glorious Trinity. Nothing will so enlarge the intellect, nothing so magnify the whole soul of man, as a devout, earnest, continued investigation of the great subject of the Deity. And, whilst humbling and expanding, this subject is eminently *consolatory*. Oh, there is, in contemplating Christ, a balm for every wound; in musing on the Father, there is a quietus for every grief; and in the influence of the Holy Ghost, there is a balsam for every sore. Would you lose your sorrows? Would you drown your cares? Then go, plunge yourself in the Godhead's deepest sea; be lost in his immensity; and you shall come forth as from a couch of rest, refreshed and invigorated. I know nothing which can so comfort the soul; so calm the

swelling billows of grief and sorrow; so speak peace to the winds of trial, as a devout musing upon the subject of the Godhead. It is to that subject that I invite you this morning. We shall present you with one view of it,—that is *the immutability of the glorious Jehovah*. "I am," says my text, "Jehovah," (for so it should be translated) "I am Jehovah, I change not: therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."

There are three things this morning. First of all, *an unchanging God*; secondly, *the persons who derive benefit from this glorious attribute*; "the sons of Jacob;" and thirdly, *the benefit they so derive*; they "are not consumed." We address ourselves to these points.

I. First of all, we have set before us the doctrine of THE IMMUTABILITY OF GOD. "I am God, I change not." Here I shall attempt to expound, or rather to enlarge the thought, and then afterwards to bring a few arguments to prove its truth.

1. I shall offer some exposition of my text, by first saying, that God is Jehovah, and he changes not *in his essence*. We cannot tell you what Godhead is. We do not know what substance that is which we call God. It is an existence, it is a being; but what that is, we know not. However, whatever it is, we call it his essence, and that essence never changes. The substance of mortal things is ever changing.

Continued on Pg. 3

## WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The staff here at the Practical Christian Living Centre would love to hear from you. Emails, snail mails and/or phone calls.

If you would like to submit an article to be posted on our website for all to read, then please email it to:

articles@PracticalChristainLivingCentre.org

If you wish to submit pieces for this newsletter (we hope to initially publish every quarter, but moving to monthly in the



future) please send them in as well.

If you have comments about our website, both good and bad or items you would like to see added or enhanced.

If you would like to subscribe to received this newsletter in order to receive it your email in box, please email us at:

subscribe@PracticalChristianLivingCentre.org

We look forward to hearing from you!

## PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN LIVING CENTRE

173 Scotts Mill Road  
P.O.Box 142  
Milford, Ontario  
Canada  
K0K 2P0

Phone: 613-471-1520 Ext. 1  
Fax: 613-471-1520 - Call ahead  
E-mail: [Info@PracticalChristianLivingCentre.org](mailto:Info@PracticalChristianLivingCentre.org)

*Living The Word of God Without Compromise*



The Purpose of this Christian Ministry is to teach and help Christians live a fulfilling life based upon Biblical principles.

In a word **DISCIPLESHIP**.

Over the years we have seen far too many Born Again Believers make wrong choices based on their lack of knowledge of the scriptures. The aim of this ministry is to bring to light what the Word of God says about living the Christian life.

Over the coming months, we will be publishing discipleship material to be used to help both young in the faith and the not so young in the faith understand the wonders of walking hand in hand with Christ, our risen Lord!

Currently we offer training in Basic & Intermediate Evangelism (8–90 minute sessions), a 1 day (4 hour) crash course on evangelism (perfect for youth groups), a 10 week Biblical Financial Freedom (10–2.5 hour sessions) and a Financial Stewardship (4-90 minutes sessions).

As this ministry grows our prayer is that many will come to a deeper understanding of the scriptures and as a result, a deeper love for God.

May God richly bless you as you begin this journey in walking closer with God.

Have a great and wonder-filled day!

Practical Christian Living Centre



## THE IMMUTABILITY OF GOD

Continued from Pg 2

The mountains with their snow-white crowns, doff their old diadems in summer, in rivers trickling down their sides, while the storm cloud gives them another coronation; the ocean, with its mighty floods, loses its water when the sunbeams kiss the waves, and snatch them in mists to heaven; even the sun himself requires fresh fuel from the hand of the Infinite Almighty, to replenish his ever burning furnace. All creatures change. Man, especially as to his body, is always undergoing revolution. Very probably there is not a single particle in my body which was in it a few years ago. This frame has been worn away by activity, its atoms have been removed by friction, fresh particles of matter have in the mean time constantly accrued to my body, and so it has been replenished; but its substance is altered. The fabric of which this world is made is ever passing away; like a stream of water, drops are running away and

others are following after, keeping the river still full, but always changing in its elements. But God is perpetually the same. He is not composed of any substance or material, but is spirit—pure, essential, and ethereal spirit—and there-

The fabric of which this world is made is ever passing away...

fore he is immutable. He remains everlastingly the same. There are no furrows on his eternal brow. No age hath palsied him; no years have marked him with the mementoes of their flight; he sees ages pass, but with him it is ever *now*. He is the great I AM—the Great Unchangeable. Mark you, his essence did not undergo a change when it be-

came united with the manhood. When Christ in past years did gird himself with mortal clay, the essence of his divinity was not changed; flesh did not become God, nor did God become flesh by a real actual change of nature; the two were united in hypostatical union, but the Godhead was still the same. It was the same when he was a babe in the manger, as it was when he stretched the curtains of heaven; it was the same God that hung upon the cross, and whose blood flowed down in a purple river, the self-same God that holds the world upon his everlasting shoulders, and bears in his hands the keys of death and hell. He never has been changed in his essence, not even by his incarnation; he remains everlastingly, eternally, the one unchanging God, the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, neither the shadow of a change.

**To Be continued in Next Issue**