

# They Say He Is a Liar

My friend had an “experience” — “better felt than told” — he “got” something. Some people tell my friend he has allowed his imagination to deceive him; that he had no feeling, no experience. Some even accuse him of faking the whole story. This makes my friend very unhappy. He doesn’t like to be called a liar. He says, “I know what I feel.”

By Robert Turner

not this just as well mean his sins were multiplied??

Now I believe my friend. I know him to be an honest man. If he tells me he “felt something” I will not deny this.

But sometimes I try to check his unwarranted conclusions concerning the meaning of these feelings. My friend assumes that because he “had a feeling” his sins are forgiven. Why could

God alone can forgive sins; and His Word states the truth concerning such matters as these (**John. 17:17**). When my friend says he knows his sins are forgiven because he “felt something” I must remind him that the Bible allows no such evidence. It even warns us that feelings can be deceptive (**2 Thess. 2:10-12**).

Christ is the author of eternal salvation unto all them who obey Him (Heb. 5:9). And Christ teaches us to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**). How do you feel about this?

### Classes This Week

<b>Tuesday 8 PM</b> Truth-seekers in Student Center Rm 2310	<b>Thursday 7 PM</b> Men's Class at the House's
--	--

Brad Marshall (Allie Hosey's Cousin)	Jesse Godwin (Troy's father and Mac's grandfather)	Frank Hand (Laura Humphrey's dad)	Louise Pack (Anna and Christopher's grandmother)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	David Hartsell (Holly and Brad's Father)	Wanda Price (Ada Owen's sister)
Betty Mcareavey (Mary Ann Roberts' mom)	Audrey Barnett (Joanetta's sister-in-law)	Betty Bradford	Hazel Gilliland and Sherry Carroll (Toni's relatives)
Tom Davis (Walker Davis' Uncle)	Joy Powell (Tori Luther's grandmother)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	William Smith (Ken Sullivan's brother)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	<b>William Herd</b>	Rebecca Davis (Chuck Hahn's Niece)	Ray Humphrey (Seth's dad)
John M. Rhodes and Bonnie Rhodes Kirkley (Toni Herd's family)	Joe Perkins (Scott Perkin's Dad)	Aubrey Meeks (Toni Herd's Nephew)	Eleanor McKay (friend of Erica)

### December Birthdays

- 2-Debbi Coleman
- 6-Troy Godwin
- 6-Bridgette Borden
- 7-Amy Godwin
- 8-Ashley Miller
- 9-Darla Hahn
- 9-Casie Spencer
- 11-Andrew Hahn
- 12-Randal Porterfield
- 13-Toni Herd
- 13-Emerson Daniels
- 13-Dylan Bartlett
- 13-Ronaldo Henriquez
- 15-Jon Hornback
- 16-Nicole Pender
- 16-Victoria Dunaway
- 16-Alexander Dunaway
- 23-Mary Ann Roberts
- 24-John Burns
- 25-Olyvia Winslett
- 25-Silas Weldon
- 27-Scott Fowler
- 28-Will Harris
- 30-David Simpson

### News and Notes

- ☒ - Gerald White was moved out of ICU this week and continues to improve!
- ☒ - Larry Lauderdale had successful surgery on wed and remains in the hospital.
- ☒ - We Extend sympathy to the family of Alex Dobbins in the loss of her grandfather, Jim Corum.
- ☒ - Jon Coleman's father, Gerald "Brub", was able to come home from the hospital this week and is improving.
- ☒ - Please continue to pray for little Jordan Alexander (friend of Sheryl Fowler) as she recovers from heart surgery and has weakened lungs.
- ☒ - Audio CDs are provided at the end of every service. Also audio is immediately posted to [www.auchurch.com](http://www.auchurch.com).

A weekly publication of the University church of Christ in Auburn, Alabama

# The Auburn Beacon

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (**Matthew 5:16**)



Volume 6, Issue 52 November 1, 2015

## Horns of Destruction

By Connie W. Adams

LET YOUR  
**FAITH**  
be bigger  
THAN YOUR FEARS

### Thoughts to Ponder

In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? (**Psalm 56:11**)

God often revealed His will to prophets through visions. Such was the case in **Zechariah 1:18-21** when the prophet saw four horns. In answer to his question "What be these?" the Lord replied: "These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem." The word 'horn' was used in the Old Testament as a symbol of power and often of destruction. Obviously, the horns of the prophet's vision referred to the nations that had perplexed and scattered God's people, Israel. In the same vision, the prophet is assured that these powers shall be justly punished for their havoc and destruction, for he is told that the four carpenters or smiths "are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it." (**Zech. 1:21**) These horns had reference to nations, thus designating evil and harm to Israel from external forces. However, many of Israel's troubles came from within. There were several "horns" or powers of destruction which ultimately led God's family down the trail of sorrow and ruin.

Underlying the evils already mentioned was an attitude which led to many abuses, There was a change in attitude toward God and His laws. God has always employed understandable terms in dealing with men. They knew what God wanted but substituted their own intentions in its place.

decline, and to show that these same features can produce harm and possible ruin in spiritual Israel, the church. It is in this sense that the expression "horns of destruction" is herein used.

### Horns Of Destruction For Fleshly Israel

1. Israel succumbed to a common weakness, that of a desire to be popular. They had not enjoyed the blessings of the land of promise long, before there arose a clamor for a king. God had arranged for them to be governed and that in His own appointed way. But that did not please them. They said "... we will have a king over us; that we also may be like all

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Elders**  
Walker Davis  
(334) 703-0050  
Larry Rouse  
(334) 734-2133

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**  
Sunday

Bible Class .....9:30 AM  
Worship .....10:20 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**

Bible Classes.....7:00 PM

E-Mail:  
[larryrouse@aubeacon.com](mailto:larryrouse@aubeacon.com)

**Larry Rouse**  
Evangelist and Editor

Find us on the Internet: [www.auchurch.com](http://www.auchurch.com) and [www.aubeacon.com](http://www.aubeacon.com)

(Continued from page 1)

the nations." (1 Sam. 8:19, 20) A consciousness that they were different from other nations seemed to disturb them. They were not concerned about having a king in order to please God, but wanted one in order to be like other nations. Their motive in this was certainly faulty. They were warned of the consequences of their choice, but to no avail. A king they wanted, a king they would have. That was the beginning of innumerable sorrows for Israel.

2. Another "horn" that worked from within to destroy Israel was the corruption of its leadership. When they were granted a king they were told that God would be with them only when both they and the king obeyed the voice of the Lord, but that if either they or the king disobeyed, evil consequences would follow. (1 Sam 12:14-25) First Samuel 15 relates the story of Saul's disobedience when he refused to destroy all the Amalekites and their cattle as he was commanded to do. God rejected him for his disobedience and the people suffered the consequences along with Saul. Solomon bowed before idols ere his reign was done and that brought harm upon the people as well as upon himself. The reign of the other kings show a deepening of corruption that always affected God's people.

3. Underlying the evils already mentioned was an attitude which led to many abuses, There was a change in attitude toward God and His laws. God has always employed understandable terms in dealing with men. They knew what God wanted but substituted their own intentions in its place. They became indifferent to God's desires. What difference did it make that God had established judges to lead the people? After all, did they not have a right to their own choice? Their attitude toward God and His will was basically wrong.

### Similar Horns Of Destruction In Spiritual Israel

1. If fleshly Israel was engulfed in a desire for popularity, the church of our day is no less affected by this monster. Whence comes a desire for huge and elaborate cathedrals and temples costing tremendous sums of money and rivaling every sectarian-owned building in town, if not to be "like the other nations"? Who will be facetious

enough to claim that spires and steeples costing thousands of dollars and which serve no purpose except to attract attention and to extract the praise of the world, are erected for any other purpose than to be like the nations about us? This craze for popularity has made inroads into the pulpits in a good many places. Ear-scratchers and back-patters may please luke-warm brethren as well as the world, but they do not please the Lord. Congregations which resort to all sorts of church-supported social fan-dangos, for which some have even been known to sell tickets, had better ponder seriously the consequences of their desire to "keep up with the Jones'."

2. A corruption of leadership in the church has led to many evils. Elders and deacons who are more concerned about the affairs of the world than the work of the church are a discredit to the Lord's body. Many are asleep or at least totally unaware of the great responsibilities that are theirs. Those who serve as "examples to the flock" would do well to constantly keep before them Paul's charge to the Ephesian elders, "take heed unto yourselves . . ." (Acts 20:28) A corruption in leadership can only lead to corruption on the part of those who follow. It is not here charged that all elders fit into this category, for certainly all do not. Perhaps only a few will fit, but the warning is timely nonetheless.

3. Perhaps one of the greatest "horns" confronting the Lord's church is a change in attitude toward the truth. In the past we have been readily recognized because we called for "a thus saith the Lord" in everything pertaining to religion. Some have lost that attitude. The cry for "positive preaching" has produced an apologetic, half-hearted, Dale Carnegie-approach that in no way resembles the plain, understandable kind of teaching that sparked the restoration movement. Many now are quick to come forth with their "I think so's" in matters that are of the utmost importance. Some are even willing to "quarantine" those who are "impudent" enough to request a "thus saith the Lord." Whatever work the church undertakes, let it be done in consideration of the Book we claim to honor and respect. Without the proper attitude toward God's will, there is little hope for spiritual Israel.

That these horns of destruction may be avoided by God's church is the fervent prayer of this writer. - **The Gospel Guardian, March 10, 1955**



# How to Avoid Divorce

By Morris D. Norman

"If you marry a child of the devil you are likely to have trouble with your father-in-law."

The divorce rate has risen tremendously in the last 100 years. In 1870, 1 out of 34 marriages ended in divorce. By 1900 it was 1 in 12, by 1940 1 in 5, and in the 1970s it was 1 in 3. The world seems to care little of the right or wrong of divorce, but the child of God must see it as sin. Marriage is indissoluble before God save for death or immorality (see **Romans 7:1-3; Mt 19:3-9**). God hates putting away (**Mal 2:12**). Unscriptural divorce and remarriage makes one an adulterer (**Romans 7:3**) and the adulterer cannot inherit the kingdom of God (**1 Cor 6:9-11; Gal 5:19-21**).

The way that a Christian can avoid (at least lessen the chance of) divorce is to marry another Christian. The whole tenor of God's admonition to His people since the beginning has been to marry among the children of God. Israel was commanded to not marry the people of the land for they would be turned away unto idols (**Deut 7:1-5**). Solomon is a prime example. He married strange wives who turned his heart away from God to go after other gods. This was greatly responsible for the idolatry of Israel in the generations to come (**1 Kings 11:1-8; Neh. 13:23-27**). Paul claimed the right to lead about a "sister, a wife" (a believer) (**1 Cor. 9:5**).

One preacher kept files on 49 couples he married where one was not a Christian. Out of the 49, 28 became unfaithful. 21 remained married but only 12 of these were able to convert their mates. This means that 2 out of 3 lost their mates to the devil and 4 out of 7 lost their own souls. This may not impress you too much unless you happen to wind up as one of the 4. How tragic such statistics are!!!

The four major causes of divorce have been listed as: sexual incompatibility; financial irresponsibility; alcoholism and religious discord. There is no iron-clad guarantee that there will be no divorce when one marries a Christian, but the possibility is greatly lessened. Records show that divorce is smaller among those who marry within their religion and are faithful to it. There are enough problems in marriage without adding religious division to it. Where both parties are FAITHFUL children of God the four major causes become practically nil.

**1. Sexual incompatibility.** When both companions are under the rule of Christ this problem is solved. There will

be a great deal of affection and closeness which tend to solve the need of passion. Each will respect God's law and the companion's needs by rendering to the other their due. Each will realize that neither has power over his/her own body, but that the body belongs to the other, and that neither has the right to defraud the other in this right (**1 Cor 7:1-5**). If both are Christians and deeply concerned for the rights of marriage, this problem is solved.

### 2. Financial Irresponsibility.

When both are Christians they will learn to be content with what they have (**Phil 4:11**).

They will practice temperance (**Gal 5:23; 2 Peter 1:6**) and not spend frivolously. They will not be taken up in the easy credit of the day and obligate themselves beyond their ability to pay. There is not much of anything that will put more strain on a marriage than being under obligations that never let up. Be financially ready for marriage by being able to earn a good living and then learn to live within your means.

**3. Alcoholism.** Again, when both are Christians, this problem will be solved. We are not to look upon wine when it is red (**Prov 23:31**) for wine is a mocker (**Prov 20:1**). "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink... and maketh him drunk also" (**Hab 2:15**). Social drinking is condemned (**1 Peter 4:3**, "banqueting"), and the drunkard has no place in the kingdom of God. Alcohol will be no problem.

**4. Religious discord.** When both mates are Christians, they will be united in truth and will work together in the most important work in this life, the cause of righteousness. Both their wills will be God's will. As with all Christians, religious differences will be settled by their devotion to let truth reign.

There are other problems that will cause divorce, these are the major ones. ANY problem of life can be solved if all concerned are Christians. True, not all claiming to be a Christian is really one, and will act like one. So be sure the person you plan to spend your life with is a Christian in every sense of the word.

"If you marry a child of the devil you are likely to have trouble with your father-in-law."

