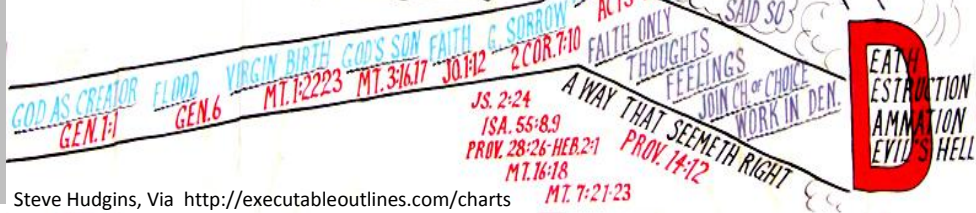
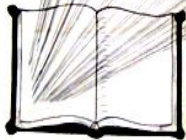


# WHERE MILLIONS MISS THE WAY

MT. 7:13,14 - JO. 14:6  
MT. 7:21

...HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.



Steve Hudgins, Via <http://executableoutlines.com/charts>



## SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." -Acts 17:11

Volume 9, Number 30

August 18, 2013

### BACK-BITERS & BITE-BACKERS

Michael Pickford

The tongue can be the determining factor in where we will spend eternity. "For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned" (Matthew 12:37). In dealing with backbiters and bite-backers, consider the concepts of...

**VILENESS.** "Backbiters" are included in that list of sins that caused God to give a society over to a debased (Vile, reprobate) mind (Romans 1:26, 30). Backbiting is a vile use of the tongue. A backbiter is one who speaks disparagingly of another's character. One who "Runs them in the ground." We do this to those we don't like, but the Bible says to "Love your enemies" (Matthew 5:44). Sadly, it's often those closest to us, our friends, our family, or our brethren, that we find ourselves slandering. James wrote, "Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not be so" (James 3:10). It is inconsistent to praise God out of one side of the mouth and then curse man, who was made in God's likeness, out of the other side of the mouth (see James 3:9).

**VENGEANCE.** These are the "Bite-backers." Those who bite back! Those who seek revenge when they

hear that someone has done them wrong, or spoken evil of them. If you learn that someone has spoken evil of you, your response should be to "Love" and "Pray" for them, for their souls are in jeopardy for the sin of slander. Love "Keeps no account of evil" (1 Corinthians 13:5 - see footnote in NKJV beside "Thinks no evil"). The idea is that when a loving person is wronged, he does not "Mark it down" and then seek for an opportunity to balance out the books by doing a wrong turn to the one who did them wrong. It hurts when we hear that someone, especially a friend, has said something bad about us, and the temptation to respond in an unholy manner is strong, but we must not retaliate! Vengeance belongs to the Lord (Romans 12:19).

**VICTORY.** How can we gain victory over sinful uses of the tongue? James wrote, "But no man can tame the tongue" (James 3:8). So why try? James isn't saying that I can't learn to control my tongue. The idea is that no "Man" by his own strength can do so. But through the strength of Christ I can take control of my words, and speak things that are graceful and edifying. "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10).

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[www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



## COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00  
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- Children's Class: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 5:30 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.

# LIKE A TREE

Jesse Flowers

In three very important areas the Bible reveals that the godly individual is "like a tree."

**1) The man who meditates day and night in God's law "shall be like a tree" (Psalm 1:2-3).** When we consistently spend time studying and reflecting upon the Word of God it makes us stronger in our faith and knowledge (2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Peter 3:18). This regular meditation in inspired Scripture will cause fruit to be born in our lives (v. 3; Luke 8:15; John 15:2). Reading and applying the Bible will cause our way to prosper (v. 3; James 1:25). So are you "like a tree" in this way? Do you have spiritual strength and deep roots of faith because your "delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law" you meditate "day and night"?

**2) The man who trusts in the LORD "shall be like a tree" (Jeremiah 17:7-8).** God stated in the previous verse that "the man who trusts in man...shall be like a shrub in the desert" (vv. 5-6). What a difference it will make in our lives if we make flesh our strength or

the God who created all things! We need to heed the admonition given in the Book of Proverbs. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths" (3:5-6). Are you "like a tree" or "like a shrub" in the desert? It depends on where you've placed your trust.

**3) The man whose hope is in the LORD "shall be like a tree" (Jeremiah 17:7-8).** To hope in anyone or anything else in this life is futile. There is only "one hope" (Eph. 4:4). It is a hope that will not disappoint (Romans 5:5). This hope is "an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" (Hebrews 6:19). This hope that we have in the Lord will help us to maintain purity in our lives (I John 3:3). Heaven is the most important goal of all, so let's "lay hold of the hope set before us" (Heb. 6:18). Is your hope in the Lord? If it is not, then you are without hope! May each one of us be "like a tree" in these three vital areas! -|

# SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

STUDY DAILY!  
Acts 17:11

## The Truth About John 3:16

Introduction:

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

### DUTY LIST...

#### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Frank Anderson  
Reading: Numbers 21:4-9
- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Opening Prayer.....Ben Green
- Lord's Table:  
Lead.....Kenny Johnson  
Serve.....John Nelson  
Serve.....Robert Johnson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

#### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Lord's Table.....Kenny Johnson

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Invitation.....Kenny Johnson

Home Bible Studies Available Upon Request!

### GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!

### THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE FOR OUTSIDE SIGN

(Thanks to anyone who can stay after services tonight and help change the sign.)

#### BOTH SIDES:

SALVATION REQUIRES REPENTANCE  
ACTS 2:38

