


A PURE LANGUAGE

Michael Pickford

God wants His people unified! He doesn't put His stamp of approval upon the denominational philosophy of "Unity in diversity." For years, we have pointed out from the New Testament the prayer for unity (John 17:20-23), The plea for unity (1 Corinthians 1:10), and the plan for unity (Ephesians 4:1-6). But we also have a prophecy about unity...

For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, that they all may call on the name of the lord, to serve Him with one accord."
-Zephaniah 3:9

Zephaniah is prophesying here about the faithful remnant. He utters words of joy and peace for the future church. Gods will restore a pure language. His Old Testament people was Israel, who was carried off to Assyria, then to Babylon, and scattered abroad to many nations. Succeeding generations spoke various different languages. But folks from every nation under heaven became part of the church (Acts 2:5), and were unified, despite their language barrier. 

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:**

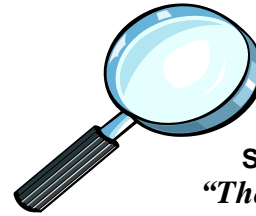
- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



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

- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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

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LEARNING FROM FELIX

Larry R. Ping II

Some phrases in the Bible "pop off the page." They are profound in nature — deep with meaning. In the New Testament, one is hard-pressed to locate a more weighty statement than "*Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee*" (Acts 24:25).

These words, of course, were uttered by Felix, governor of Judea. Accurate historical reports say he had been married several times, and that his current wife, Drusilla, may have been married to another man (while at the same time she was married to Felix). Clearly, his moral and ethical compass was tainted. Yet, he and his wife "*sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ*" (Acts 24:24). They most likely, for curiosity sake, desired to hear Paul talk of spiritual things. Even if Paul thought their motive was insincere, he taught the Gospel nonetheless. Paul spoke of three topics.

Righteousness — the ability to know and do those things which are right according to God and His Word. This was strike one against the man who seemingly was doing things which were right in his eyes.

Temperance — the ability to exercise self-control. This was strike two against a man who had been married numerous times and may have been living openly in adultery.

Judgment to come — the subject concerning the end times when Christ will judge all who have ever lived. This was strike three for Felix, who surely and certainly knew he would be lost if he maintained his current sinful state. This led Felix then to utter those famous words concerning a "convenient time." We are left to wonder whether or not Felix came to such a time.

On this day, we need to learn from Felix. Learn that the season for obedience is today. Learn to never put off important things such as salvation. Friends, if you garner nothing else from this short article today, please acquire this thought — convenient times and seasons usually do not come along. Do what is right — right now! -

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www.defendthegospel.com

ANSWERING BIBLE QUESTIONS

Michael Pickford

Question: "Are we still waiting for the Anti-Christ to appear?"

Since I was a young child, I've heard a great many things about "The Antichrist." Everyone from Hitler to Atilla to Stalin has been accused of being "The Antichrist." I can remember when Ronald Reagan was running for President. I was a very young boy and my friends were convinced, and had convinced me, that Ronald Reagan was "The Antichrist," and that if he won the race, we would all be doomed. I must admit, I was "scared to death." Each time there is a tumult in the Mid-East, or another part of the world, someone is accused of being "The Antichrist." When the Gulf War began, several books were published by religionists on the Revelation of the Bible. Saddam Hussein, of course, was portrayed as "The Antichrist," and thousands of people in our great nation were terrified.


After reading some of these books, these "Bible teachers" would have us believe that the Antichrist was mentioned on every page of the book of Revelation. The truth of the matter is, the word "antichrist" isn't even found one time in the book of Revelation. You can read it for yourself and see that this is true. In fact, the word "antichrist" is found only FOUR times in the entire New Testament. It is found three times in John's first epistle, and once in his second epistle. Allow me to quote the references so that you can learn some facts for yourself about what the Bible teaches about "The Antichrist."

1 John 2:18-19 "Children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us."

1 John 2:22-23 "Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also."

1 John 4:2-3 "By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world."

2 John 1:7 "For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist."

Notice that an antichrist is defined as one who denies that Jesus was the Christ. Secondly, there were many antichrists living on the earth when John wrote those words almost two thousand years ago. This contradicts the teaching that there is only one "Antichrist," and that he is someone who will appear in future events. An antichrist is anyone who opposes Christ in any way. The word's definition is: "Anti" meaning "against," and "Christ," meaning "Christ." Against Christ! Even modern day Jews are antichrists because they clearly deny that Jesus was the Christ. Ever since Christ lived, there have been many antichrists, and sadly, there shall be many more. Don't you be one! 

SERMON NOTES

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

Title: _____

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Glenn Isbell
Reading: Habakkuk 3:1-4
- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Kenny Todd
Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Sam Miller

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table.....Michael Pickford

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

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; 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!

Thank You For Serving!

*Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!*