

# F. Y. C.

**For Your Consideration**

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❖ DECEMBER 2016 ❖

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## **The WHOLE Story**

The birth of Jesus was an important event.

His birth made it possible for God to live in the flesh.

Living in the flesh made it possible for Him to die on the cross.

His death made it possible for Him to come forth from the grave.

His ascension into heaven to reign made it possible for Him to offer salvation to all men.

Each is an important part of the whole story.

No part is more important than the others.



## **Our Access to the Tree of Life Regained**

Rejoice in the fact that He came—and consider the reason He came.

Adore the Christ-child—and worship the Christ-lord.

Enjoy visions of a baby in manger—and submit to a king in heaven.

He was born in the flesh that we might live in the spirit.

He died on the cross that we might die to sin.

He was resurrected that we might be raised to walk in newness of life.

## **The Message for You and Me**

The Good News: We can find rest for our soul by coming to Him.

We can be cleansed of the guilt of sin by baptism into Him.

We can show our love for Him by obeying his commandments.

We can have all spiritual blessings in Him.

## **His Promise**

*“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.”*

Revelation 2:7

*Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.*

Revelation 22:14

# Have a Better Day by . . .

## **AVOIDING PETTINESS**

To be impatiently displeased over trivial matters can ruin your day. Such slights (real or imagined) need to be overlooked. Dwelling on them and nurturing them will only produce discord even among the best of friends.

*A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression.*

Proverbs 19:11



## **TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR ACTIONS**

Accept responsibility for your actions. Do not attempt to unload your responsibility onto others. Do not blame circumstances, or any other external element for your inappropriate behavior.

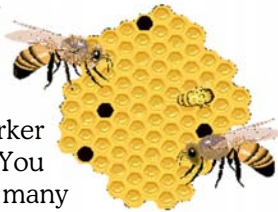
*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*

2 Corinthians 5:10

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## **WORKER BEES**

There is much work that needs to be done in a congregation by both men and women that is not the work of it's elders and deacons. Individual members doing what they can by putting their ability to work. The congregation that has many busy "worker bees" is truly blessed. (You can tell if there are many worker bees in a congregation by the buzzing sound made by all the activity.)



*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.*

1 Corinthians 15:58



## **WORD STUDY**

enhance your  
Bible knowledge

## **GIFTS OF THE MAGI**

### **Frankincense**

**(Greek: libanos)**

is a vegetable resin, bitter and glittering, obtained by incisions in the bark of the arbor thuris, "the incense tree." It was used as incense at sacrifices, (Exodus 30:7) or for perfume, (Song of Solomon 3:6).



### **Myrrh**

**(Greek: noun, smurna)**

is a gum resin from a shrubby tree. The fruit is smooth and somewhat larger than a pea. The color of myrrh varies from pale reddish-yellow to reddish-brown or red. The taste is bitter, and the substance astringent, acting as an antiseptic and a stimulant. It was used as a perfume (Psalm 45:8), It was one of the ingredients of the "anointing oil" for the priests, (Exodus 30:23); for embalming (John 19:39).



### **Myrrh**

**(Greek: verb, smurnizo)**

is used transitively in the NT, with the meaning "to mingle or drug with myrrh," (Mark 15:23); the mixture was doubtless offered to deaden the pain (Matthew's word "gall" suggests that myrrh was not the only ingredient). Christ refused to partake of any such means of alleviation; He would retain all His mental power for the complete fulfillment of the Father's will.

— VINES EXPOSITORY DICTIONARY

# PERSONAL ID

Personal ID is used to prove you are who you claim to be. Claiming to be someone is not enough. And claiming to be a Christian is not enough. A Christian is not identified by outward appearance, adornment, social status, religious, church going, etc., but by how the Bible identifies a Christian. A Christian is more than a good moral person. A Christian is identified as one who is a:

**DISCIPLE:** One who willingly and eagerly embraces the teachings of Jesus.

*The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.* Acts 11:26

*"My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.* John 15:8

One who has obeyed the Gospel.

**A disciple who strives to learn and follow his teacher.**

**SAINT:** (Sanctified: Set apart; holy.)

*"... To all the saints in Christ Jesus"* Philippians 1:1

*To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.* 1 Corinthians 1:2

*"If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.* John 15:19

**One set apart (from the world) unto God.**

Living in, but not of, the world.

*"One who marches to the beat of a different drummer [Jesus]."*

**CHILD:** Of God.

*But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.* John 1:12

*For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.* Galatians 3:26-27

**A member of God's family; sons and daughters of God.**

**PRIEST:** One who offer up sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving.

*"... you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.* 1 Peter 2:5

*"... and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father--to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."* Revelation 1:6

**One who serve the Lord, offering up spiritual sacrifices.**

**BRETHREN:** Gk: adelphos (brother)

**One united by a common calling:** common faith, confession, purpose, hope, salvation.)

## GOOD QUESTION

*"If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict?"*

**Anger, uncontrolled, gets us into trouble, and it's *pride* that will keep us there.**



## Ponder This

## TELL AND SHOW

Most parents are aware of a school activity called “Show and Tell.” What each Christian needs to be aware of is the activity of “Tell and Show.” What do I mean?

Christians need to:

### TELL

**others about the good news of the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the new life one may have in Him.**

*For the grace of God has appeared,  
bringing salvation to all men.*

Titus 2:11

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*

John 3:16

*But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.*

1 Peter 3:15

### SHOW

**others what the new life is all about.**

*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

Matthew 5:14-15

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## IF ONLY WE COULD SEE OURSELVES

**If our daily activities  
were video recorded,  
watching the replay  
just might be an  
eye-opening experience.**

*(It's what others and God sees.)*

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*For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.*

James 1:23-24



## Past, Present, Future

The past needs to be a  
**springboard**  
to spur you on — not an  
**anchor**  
that holds you back.

*Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 3:12-14

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Someone once said “The past is a nice place to visit, but don't stay too long.” **Learn from the past, live in the present, and prepare for the future.**

F.Y.C. is a monthly publication by Ron Adams.

Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

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