

## Ins and Outs of Heaven

(continued from front page)

others "misses." Some will make it to heaven and some won't. Some will be "In" and others shut "Out." The Bible clearly confirms this truth.

**There are only two paths in life and eternity**, regardless of all the variations and shades... **and no one will make it to heaven by accident.** The only people who make it to heaven are those who purposely set out to go, and maintain that direction and focus; all the while "playing the game by God's rules."

**Some religious groups divert attention away from main issues.** For example, they argue against Dec. 25, rather than focusing on the fact and reason for Christ's birth. They argue over the shape of the "Cross" rather than the reality and purpose of it. Pitiful! As to "heaven," as long as Jesus is there in "the glory world" and I make it, too, I'll be happy—and in the meantime I'll be trying hard to help others to go there too! See inside top right page for quote from John 14:1-3. Jesus said He wants us where He is. **Super!**

If you study the Bible, you will be able to learn that it says much about heaven and hell and those who go to either...forever and ever. There is far too much to put in this brief paper. **To get an idea of who is excluded from heaven**, see some partial lists in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:5-8 and Revelation 22:14,15. Here we see that some will be "In" and others "Out"—some a "Hit" and others a "Miss." But Jesus says in one of His story-sermons that there is also **"a vast chasm immovably fixed"** between heaven and hell to keep cross-border invaders out. Last month I read of a Jamaican

"gangster" who was twice deported only to return under false names, and finally murder some family members! That will not happen in eternity. If you are out, you're staying out. It sounds to me like *now* is the time to get eternal matters settled forever, and keep up-to-date until you cross the bridge! And frankly, God couldn't be more pleased... that is, unless you realise how important it is to get

## Heaven: A Home, A Place, A Rest, A Sabbath

The subtitle above contains words used in the Bible to describe heaven. Jesus condemned the extremism of the religious fanatics whose "Sabbath keeping," like other of God's commandments, was abused and perverted by human substitutes and mere external show. On the other hand, modern Britain and America (for prime examples) have compromised, forfeited, given away God's Sabbath, though God had so highly blessed and honoured these countries. Many, if not most professing Christians, including evangelicals, have perverted this very "jewel" which is a Biblical symbol of where they say they want to go. If they cannot honour the Lord's Day properly here and now, it appears they have no real intention of having an *eternal* Sabbath! It was not Moses (the Law), nor Aaron (the priesthood), nor Miriam (mere emotionalism) that brought the Hebrews into God's promised Rest and Home, but Joshua. So also, *our* Joshua (Jesus—same word equivalent!) brings every person who truly desires into the promised "rest" of holiness now and heaven in eternity. God's grace to us comes through Jesus. That grace has power to change us instantly and continuously...until we enter "Home" with Christ!

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A paper for all people everywhere...  
and with a personal touch!

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# The London Christian Standard ...and Praise

**"Lift up a standard for the people." Isaiah 62:10**

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Ins and  
Outs of  
Heaven

Gabriel L. Mancino



We continue in this article and issue with more thoughts relating to what is called **The Lord's Prayer**; a prayer given by Jesus to His follower-disciples at *their* request, and which is **recorded in Matthew 6 and Luke 11**. Like the favourite 23rd Psalm, The Lord's Prayer is a very short Bible passage, yet full of "gold nuggets of truth." No intelligent person would be careless or idle if they became aware that a gold mine lay directly underfoot within their own property! Let's do some "digging"—it's a profitable habit.

**The London Evening Standard** sometimes has a line of photos of various models, and each picture will have either "Hit" or "Miss" written over it. It appears that *someone* is trying to dictate what you should wear if you wish to be in fashion. However, I

must refrain from comment about the emptiness, costliness and foolishness of following fads and fashions.

Nevertheless, I will comment about the standards, requirements and plans God has for each of us—and you never have to wonder if God has changed the pattern. **There are things, issues, etc. that are consistently "hits" or "misses" with God.** He never makes changes about

these matters, and *that* is amazing to consider. God, who made a universe (*which man will never find the end of, nor discover all the ins-and-outs of*), still has moral matters for Man which stand unchanged and unchangeable.

The little part of The Lord's Prayer which this article holds out for our thinking is where Jesus said that we are to say, **"Our Father in heaven..."** In last month's issue we made it clear that the Bible says that not everyone is a child of God in the spiritual sense. Jesus said so. In the Bible words above our attention is next drawn to *"heaven."* That word alone should cause every person to think and act. In connection to relationship with God and in association to **"heaven,"** some people (like those models) will be "hits" and

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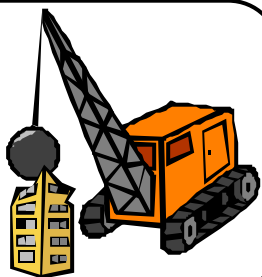
**Jesus Said Not to Fear Those Who Could Kill the Body and No More, but to fear God, who has power to send us to hell!! St. Paul said we can be "dead" to the world, so that it's allurements don't terrify us. BUT another concern is waking up people dead in sin! WE can't awaken them, but they, with God's help must awaken themselves (Eph. 5:14). Are YOU awake?!**

**This Issue Emphasises "Heaven" and the Second Coming of Christ**  
St. John says that the person who really *likes* to make it to "heaven" will be sure they are living and walking in a holy way after the pattern of Jesus (see John 26: 3:3; 4: 17). There is no doubt about it—Jesus loved sinners, but walked in holiness (see Heb 7:26).

# They Tore the House Down!

From The Lord's Prayer:  
"Our Father in heaven..."

by Gabriel L. Mancino



Just before Christ's crucifixion, He had entered the Temple and had driven out those who had made the Temple a **place of perverted profiteering**. Crowds had collected from far and near for the special religious festival, and the money-makers determined to make the most of it. Likely quoting Isaiah 56:7 and Jeremiah 7:11, Jesus protested, saying "*It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people, but you have made it a den of thieves*" (Matt. 21:13).

The little box on the back page states, Heaven is illustrated in the Bible as a **Home, a Place, a Rest and a Sabbath, etc.** Sufficient Bible verses could easily be given to show that God provides and requires holiness in us as that which fits us for life and service now, and for heaven later. The Bible also illustrates the Christian person, who is a lover and follower of God and of Christ, as a **soldier, a farmer, an athlete, a garden, a field and indeed a house or temple** in which God is to live. Of course, God's "house" in heaven is a holy place, but He demands the same here and now. He will only live in a human "house" He has cleansed and made holy.

**But those money grabbing profiteers cared little or nothing for those poor travellers** who came to the Temple, so Jesus literally "turned the tables" on them and drove them out. As the front page article says, we are either In or Out; both now and later... and later is forever. **I am sure those money makers had a very**

neat table on display, yet they were defiling the Temple, God's House. St. Paul uses strong words to emphasize the truth that our bodies are intended to be God's Temple; the dwelling place of His Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16,17; 6:19,20; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1). To "defile" God's Temple is

to "destroy" it, and all destroyers will be destroyed, and this does **NOT** mean that they will cease to exist (be annihilated).

**I am talking about heaven and how to get there.** If a person defiles the Temple which God has entrusted to them, then they place themselves in the most ridiculous, unnecessary and frightening trouble imaginable. It doesn't make sense, but after all, sin makes people stupid to the greatest degree. An airplane is intended to take us from Point A to Point B, yet the plane can be sabotaged so that it will be destroyed and go down with the saboteur and everyone else on board. If I sabotage the Temple which God has given me, I will go down and take others with me.

**So, what must a person do to "tear down" or "defile" God's Temple of their body?** The Bible verses above give only a partial list. Even before Man's first sin in the Garden of Eden, God's Plan for our recovery was already in motion, and did *not* merely start (as some suppose) with the New Testament and Christ's followers. All of us must ask if we are receiving the "cleansing of the Temple" which God intended from the beginning. **It is old and unchanged, yet as fresh as today's most beautiful flower.** Compared to this, all things from *drugs* to *degrees*—from the *worst* to the *best* of human substitutes!—ALL are a defilement of the Temple and will stand as evidence against us at the end. To obtain a house in heaven, we must be God's house in holiness today.

**"A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE"** These words of Jesus fit with the articles on both pages above. If we are God's "house," we are to be holy and we are to be concerned for the salvation of all others. The next thing I would emphasize, dear reader, is that Jesus loves you and died for you. Come to Him today, just as you are! You can be saved right now.

# Daily Bread of Heaven

More Thoughts From  
The Lord's Prayer

by Gabriel L. Mancino



This very brief prayer is a gold mine full of practical and spiritual meaning. Now let's focus on Jesus' words, "**Give us this day our daily bread**" (Matt. 4:4)

**One of Satan's "temptations" of Jesus** came in the words, "*If You are the Son of God, command these stones to become bread.*" Jesus didn't take the Devil's bait, but swiftly quoted the Old Testament in reply, "*It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'*" Those words were written by Moses in Deuteronomy 8:3, and referred to the hunger of the Hebrews and the miraculous "bread from heaven" called "**Manna**" which God sent down fresh every day except the Sabbath. Two days' worth of manna came down the day before the Sabbath, so they would respect the Sabbath and trust God. **Manna, if kept overnight on the other days, got wormy and started stinking.** What can we learn here?

First, let's look at the quote from Moses: "*So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.*" **The words "that He might make you know" are critical!** God allowed them to hunger physically, and then daily miraculously satisfied that hunger specifically so that they would always put pre-eminence on their spiritual union in loving obedience to God and His Word.

The person who rejects or refrains from feasting and being sustained on the "*living bread*" (John 6: 47-51) is **choosing a mouth full and soul full of the stones** of "this present world." Those stones are stones of immorality, of money, earthly security, popularity—the list is endless and so is the empty pursuit of them. Man is not intended to live merely by these things, though some of them are legitimate. Without eating daily of the "*living bread*," we are living on stones.

**Manna illustrates holiness of life, "day by**

**day."** As we have said before, holiness is a pre-requisite to get to heaven. God sent the Manna, or Living Bread of heaven in Jesus, so that we may receive Him, daily feast with Him and, as a result, join Him after this life is over. Jesus said, "*I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also!*" (John 14:1-3). The Psalmist was wetting our appetite when he wrote: "*O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusts in Him*" (Psalm 34:8). Pull up to God's table, and invite others to the meal!

## Christ's Second Coming: How to Speed It Up.

Besides things in nature, Jesus indicated two *human* actions that would hasten His return— 1) Co-operation *with* Him, and 2) Antagonism *against* Him. He said "*And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come*" (Matt. 24:14). In other words, those who follow Christ in obedience to His command to win others (Matt. 28:18-20), will hasten His return. However, Christ's "signs of the times" also clearly show that those who refuse to mind God will likewise speed His return. The first ones hasten His return for *glory*, and the others speed His return for *judgment* and *eternal damnation*. One outstanding example of the second group is sexual perversion, which is "bursting at the seams." Internet news and emails reveal that perversity of sex is an ever-increasing flood of filth. Huge corporations like Ford, Wal-Mart (connected to Asda), and many others are linking arms with this dreadful plague. Hollywood was full of it before I was born in 1954. Such perversion would not take over if the church was holy and busy in their Father's business, therefore, if "Christians" are not making it their business to live and walk in holiness and share the Gospel, then they, too, are in antagonism to the Saviour. To be fair, *violence* is another "sign of the times" for it is used to characterise the people of the days of Noah and of Sodom and Gomorrah. Today's violent crime is increased in the streets because it is increased in the heads and hearts. We will speed His return...one way or the other!

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** Our little leaflet is intended to bless, guide and encourage, as it keeps within the objectives stated in the Charity's constitution, which are patterned from the spirit and teaching of **early Methodism**. As another paper had as a motto for many years, we, too, are "Dedicated to the sanctified life and issues that vitally concern our times."