

BASHAN COMMUNICATOR



"Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old." Matthew 13:52.

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WHO BELIEVES IT? WHO'LL PROVE IT?

RECENTLY I received the following proposition:

Postulate 1: God will grant any good request that conforms to His will.

Postulate 2: Overcoming sinning is a good thing that conforms to God's will.

Conclusion: Therefore if you ask God to enable you to overcome sin, He will do so.

Question: Can you refute this proposition? If you can, your refutation will make God a liar, and make you true, and exalt you to lordship over a carnal world—and perhaps Heaven, too.

But if you can't, then either you must surrender to the power of the Mighty One to keep you from sinning or that power in judgment will ere long forever put an end to your sinning.

It is just that simple and that absolute, Brethren.

“The thoughts of the heart are discerned of God. When impure thoughts are cherished, they need not be expressed by word or act to **consummate the sin and bring the soul into condemnation**. Its purity is defiled, and the tempter has triumphed.

“. . . It is Satan's act to tempt you, but your own act to yield. It is not in the power of all the host of Satan to force the tempted to transgress. **There is no excuse for sin.**”—4T 623:1, 2.

“The days of purification hasten on apace. God will have a people **pure and true**” (5T 80)—without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.

“The day of God's vengeance is just upon us. . . our own course of action will determine whether we shall receive the seal of the living God, or be cut down by the destroying weapons.”—5T 212:3, 4.

“Not one of us will ever receive the seal of God while our characters **have one spot or stain upon them**. It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of **every defilement**.”—Id., 214:1.

“God will accept nothing but purity and holiness; **one spot, one wrinkle, one defect in the character, will forever debar them from Heaven**, with all its glory and treasures.”—2T 453:1.

“... The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of man or woman of false tongues or deceitful hearts. All who receive the seal **must be without spot before God**—candidates for Heaven.”—5T 216:2.

“Only those who have **withstood temptation** in the strength of the Mighty One, will be permitted to act a part in proclaiming it [the Third Angel’s Message] when it shall have swelled into the Loud Cry.”—R & H, Nov. 19, 1908; 2 Ans. 13.

“**He that committeth sin is of the devil**; whosoever is born of God **doth not commit sin**; for his seed remaineth in him: and **he cannot sin**, because he is born of God.” 1 John 3:8, 9.

“We know that whosoever is born of God **sinneth not**; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one **toucheth him not**.” 1 John 5:18.

“**‘Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin.’** He feels that he is the purchase of the blood of Christ, and bound by the most solemn vows to glorify God in his body and in his spirit which are God’s. The love of sin and the love of self **are subdued in him**. He daily asks, ‘What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?’ ‘Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?’

“God has made ample provision that **we may stand perfect in His grace**, wanting in nothing, waiting for the appearing of our Lord. Are you ready? Have you the wedding garment on? That garment will never cover deceit, impurity, corruption or hypocrisy. The eye of God is upon you. It is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. We may conceal our sins from the eyes of men, but we can hide nothing from our Maker.

“... through Christ we may present our petitions at the throne of grace. Through Him, unworthy as we are, we may obtain all spiritual blessings. Do we come to Him, that we may have life?

. . .

“Experience is knowledge derived from experiment. Experimental religion is what is needed now. ‘Taste and see that the Lord is good.’ Some—yes, a large number—have a theoretical knowledge of religious truth, but have never felt the renewing power of Divine grace upon their own hearts. These persons are ever slow to heed the testimonies of warning, reproof, and instruction indited by the Holy Spirit. They believe in the wrath of God, but put forth no earnest efforts to escape it. They believe in Heaven, but make no sacrifice to obtain it. They believe in the value of the soul, and that ere long its redemption ceaseth forever. Yet they neglect the most precious opportunities to make their peace with God.

“They may read the Bible, but its threatenings do not alarm or its promises win them. They have proved things that are excellent, yet they follow the way in which God has forbidden them to go. They know a refuge, but do not avail themselves of it. They know a remedy for sin, but do not use it. They know the right, but have no relish for it. All their knowledge will but increase their condemnation. They have never tasted or learned by experience that the Lord is good.”—5T 220-222.

“While some . . . are wasting their powers in vanity and folly, others are disciplining their minds, storing up knowledge, girding on their armor to engage in life’s warfare, determined to make it a success. But they cannot make life a success, however high they may attempt to climb, unless they center their affections upon God. If they will turn to the Lord with all their heart, . . . they will have strength and confidence in God.

“ . . . When you determine to take Him as your friend, a new and enduring light will shine from the cross of Christ. A true sense of the sacrifice and intercession of the dear Saviour **will break the heart** that has become hardened in sin; and love, thankfulness, and humility will come into the soul. The **surrender** of the heart to Jesus **subdues the rebel** into a penitent, and then the language of the obedient soul is, ‘Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.’ This is the true religion of the Bible. **Everything short of this is a deception.**”—4T 623-625.

“ **‘Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not.’** 1 John 3:6. A mere profession of godliness is worthless. It is he that **abideth** in Christ that is a Christian. ‘For every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.’ . . . The only way a person can be pure is to become

like-minded with God. How can we know God?—By studying His Word. . . .

“It is through faith in Jesus Christ that the truth is accepted in the heart and the human agent is purified and cleansed. . . . Is it possible to be healed, while knowingly committing sin?—No; it is genuine faith that says, I know that I have committed sin, but that Jesus has pardoned my sin; and hereafter I will resist temptation in and through His might. ‘Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure.’ He has an abiding principle in the soul, that **enables him to overcome temptation.**

“‘**Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not.**’ God has power to keep the soul who is in Christ, when that soul is under temptation. ‘Whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him.’ That is, every one who is a true believer is sanctified through the truth, in life and character. ‘Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth [not professeth to do, but doeth] righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous.’ **‘Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin;** . . . because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil.’ Now mark where the distinction is made: **‘Whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God.’**” —*Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 297.

“External ceremonies and a theoretical knowledge of truth constitute a Pharisaical righteousness. . . .

“The greatest deception of the human mind. . . . [is] that a mere assent to the truth constitutes righteousness. In all human experience a theoretical knowledge of the truth has been proved to be insufficient for the saving of the soul. It does not bring forth the fruit of righteousness. A jealous regard for what is termed theological truth often accompanies a hatred of genuine truth as made manifest in life. . . .

“. . . Many take it for granted that they are Christians, simply because they subscribe to certain theological tenets. But they have not brought the truth into practical life. They have not believed and loved it, therefore they have not received the power and grace that come through sanctification of the truth. Men may profess faith in the truth; but if it does not make them SINCERE, KIND, PATIENT, FORBEARING, HEAVENLY-MINDED, **it is a curse to its possessor, and through their influence it is a curse to the world.**

“The righteousness which Christ taught is **conformity of heart and life**

to the revealed will of God. Sinful men can become righteous only as they have faith in God and maintain a vital connection with Him. Then true godliness will elevate the thoughts and ennoble the life. Then the external forms of religion accord with the Christian's internal purity. Then the ceremonies required in the service of God are not meaningless rites, like those of the hypocritical Pharisees.

. . .

“...Christ always separates the contrite soul from sin...He has made provision that the Holy Spirit shall be imparted to every repentant soul, to keep him from sinning.

“The tempter's agency is not to be accounted an excuse for one wrong act. Satan is jubilant when he hears the professed followers of Christ making excuses for the deformity of character. It is these excuses that lead to sin. **There is no excuse for sinning.** A holy temper, a Christlike life, is accessible to every repenting, believing child of God.

“As the Son of man was perfect in His life, so His followers are to be perfect in their life. . . .His character is to be ours. The Lord says of those who believe in Him, ‘I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’ 2 Cor. 6:16.

“...He bids us by faith in Him attain to the glory of the character of God. Therefore are we to be perfect, even as our ‘Father which is in Heaven is perfect.’

“The service rendered in sincerity of heart has great recompense. ‘Thy Father which seeth in secret Himself shall reward thee openly.’ By the life we live through the grace of Christ the character is formed. The original loveliness begins to be restored to the soul. The attributes of the character of Christ are imparted, and the image of the Divine begins to shine forth. **The faces of men and women who walk and work with God express the peace of heaven.** They are surrounded by the atmosphere of heaven. **For these souls the kingdom of God has begun.** They have Christ's joy, the joy of being a blessing to humanity. They have the honor of being accepted for the Master's use; they are trusted to do His work in His name.”—DA 309-312.

“...Those who decide to do nothing in any line that will displease God, will know, after presenting their case before Him, just what course to pursue. And they will receive not only wisdom, but strength. **Power for obedience, for service, will be imparted to them,** as Christ

has promised.”—Id., p. 668:4.

“All true obedience comes from the heart. It was heartwork with Christ. And **if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts** and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that **when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses**. The will, refined and sanctified, will find its highest delight in doing His service. When we know God as it is our privilege to know Him, our life will be a **life of continual obedience**. Through an appreciation of the character of Christ, through communion with God, sin will become hateful to us.”—Id., p. 668:3.

“... **If one sin is cherished in the soul, or one wrong practice retained in the life, the whole being is contaminated**. The man becomes an instrument of unrighteousness.

“All who choose Christ’s kingdom of love and righteousness and peace, making its interest **paramount** to all other, are linked to the world above, and every blessing needed for this life is theirs.”—Id., 313:1, 3.

“**Even one wrong trait of character, one sinful desire cherished, will eventually neutralize all the power** of the gospel. The prevalence of a sinful desire shows the delusion of the soul. . . . **Those who would rather die than perform a wrong act are the only ones who will be found faithful**.”—5T 53:2.

“Saint John spoke a hard saying, but by the Spirit of manifestation we are all taught to understand it: ‘**Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin**; for his seed remaineth in him and he **cannot sin because he is born of God**.’ (1 John 3:9). The seed of God is the Spirit, which hath a plastic power [to change us] into the image of the sons of God; and **as long as this remains in us**, while the Spirit dwells in us, **we cannot sin**; that is, it is against our natures, our reformed natures, to sin. And we say we cannot endure such a potion, we cannot suffer such a pain; that is, we cannot without great trouble, we cannot without doing violence to our natures; so all spiritual men, all that are born of God, and the seed of God remains in them, ‘**they cannot sin**,’ cannot **without trouble**, and doing against their natures and their most passionate inclinations. A man, if you speak naturally, can masticate gums, and he can break his own legs, and he can sip up by little draughts, mixtures of aloes and rhubarb, of henbane or the deadly nightshade; but he cannot do this naturally, or willingly, or cheerfully,

or with delight. **Every sin is against a [regenerate] good man's nature**; he is ill at ease when he has missed his prayers, he is amazed if he has fallen into error, he is infinitely ashamed of his imprudence; he remembers a sin as he thinks of an enemy, or the horrors of a midnight apparition; for all its capacities, his understanding, and his choosing faculties, are filled up with the opinion and the persuasions, with the love and the desires of God."—*Jeremy Taylor*.

Conclusively, therefore, "to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 1:27.

". . . It is not enough that the sinner believes in Christ for the pardon of sins; he must, by faith and obedience, **abide** in Him. 'For **if we sin willfully** after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, **there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins**, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.' Heb. 10:26, 27."—PP 517:3.

"God works by the manifestation of His Spirit to reprove and convict the sinner; and **if the Spirit's work is finally rejected, there is no more that God can do for the soul**. The last resource of Divine mercy has been employed. The transgressor has cut himself off from God; and sin has no remedy to cure itself. There is no reserve power by which God can work to convict and convert the sinner. 'Let him alone,' is the Divine command. **Then 'there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins**, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.' "—Id., p. 405:1.

To the contrary, praise God, "we know that **whosoever is born of God sinneth not**; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one **toucheth him not**." 1 John 5:18.

☆ ☆ ☆

DOESN'T STAND "LOGICALLY TO REASON"

Question: The Rod develops evidence that the ten horns of the scarlet-colored beast (Rev. 17:3, 12-14, 16, 17) are symbolical of the Communist powers. The question is, "Since Communism is atheistic and hence anti-religious, and since the woman, false religion, controls the beast, how does it logically stand to reason that the ten horns shall "with one mind . . . give their power and strength unto the beast," and thus agreeing, "give their kingdom unto the beast," when the beast is under the control of the woman—false religion?"

Answer: From the human point of view, it doesn't "logically stand to reason." It is an unnatural, strangely incongruous development occasioned by Divine influence.

As the Rod explains, "The 'woman sitting on the beast,' will meet its fulfillment when that religious federation shall make an alliance with the powers of the world. Such an act will give the woman **full control** of the **entire beast, horns and heads—the world.**"—12 Code 10:31:1.

"The crownless horns of the scarlet-colored beast . . . 'have one mind,' and 'give their power and strength unto the beast' (verse 13) while the woman 'reigneth over the kings of the earth.' Verse 18."—12 Tr. 33:1.

"The 'ten horns' of the scarlet-colored beast (the rulers which she dominates for an hour), ultimately 'shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire' Rev. 17:16. Thus at length they shall unseat her forever, and the system which she symbolizes, the 'image of the beast,' shall be demolished."—Id., p. 35:1.

"Again, the fact that the ten horns (kings) have one mind (unlike the toe-kings of Daniel 2:42, 43), but have no kingdom of their own, besides the fact that the woman rules the beast, and also the fact that the Communist leaders (crownless kings) of the nations have one mind (work together for one common cause)—all these facts show that though Communism appears to be the next power to rule the world, this symbolical prophecy points out that the world will next be ruled by an international religious system—by Babylon the Great, a rival of the religion of Christ, and a counterfeit of the woman in Revelation, chapter 12. The scarlet-colored beast, therefore, is the symbol of the world government into which the United Nations will finally evolve—2TG 18:20.

"...Babylon the Great...can endure but a short time—one symbolical 'hour'—and then she will be swept away by the crownless horns (Rev. 17:16), the resultant time of trouble finally culminating in the close of probation. . . ."—12 Tr. 56:1.

"...ecclesiasticism will be overthrown by the horns of the scarlet-colored beast (Rev. 17:16)."—Id., p. 90:2.

"...the fact that the horns have no kingdom as yet, while the woman rides the beast, also the fact that the woman rides it, rules it, is evidence enough that the world is next to be ruled by an ecclesiastical body, not purely by Democracy or by Communism."—2TG 36:6, 7.

“Although the crownless horns in unnatural agreement give their power and strength to the beast while the woman reigns over the nations, yet after the final, the eleventh (Matt. 20:7), symbolic hour (Rev. 18:10, 17, 19); they take up their power and, in bitter disenchantment, as previously pointed out, ‘hate the whore, . . . make her desolate and naked, . . . eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.’ Rev. 17:16.”—16 Tr. 15:2.

So it is clear enough that, like Balaam, the ten horns are Divinely influenced to do contrary to do what they would naturally do.



BACK TO THE SOIL

“Now when Noah had lived 350 years after the Flood, and all that time happily, he died, having lived the number of 950 years. . . and because [his] food was then fitter for the prolongation of life, might well live so great a number of years. . . .”—*Flavius Josephus*, Jewish historian.

Josephus was born in A.D. 37 and died in the year 100 A.D. He lived only about a sixteenth as long as Noah. Sixty-three years is certainly not a long time.

By his own observation, the quality and vitality of food during his time were inferior to Noah's. Why? Simply because the soil was inferior to that of the post-diluvian world. Think back even farther to the antediluvian world. It's soil, fairly oozing with vitality and life, was rich beyond our comprehension. Therein lay the secret of ancient man's unparalleled longevity.

The earth “had not greatly changed,” declares *Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 87:1. “There were evident tokens of decay, but the earth was still rich and beautiful in gifts of God's providence.”

Thus, earth's early inhabitants consumed food which was produced from a balanced, rich, and vigorous soil. The natural result was strength, vigor, and health—even though many were debauchingly indulging appetite and power of intellect and body never since seen.

What has happened? What has caused the ill-health, poverty, disease, feebleness, and premature death that is now accepted as such a routine occurrence?

Simply stated, man ruined one of his most precious and valuable gifts—his soil.

Consider Palestine. It had once been a forested land, its soil rich and hospitable, its streams and brooks strong and clear.

Then, as one wave of invaders after another swept through its confines, it gradually became a wasteland. It's hills denuded of the forest's protective cover, tremendous amounts of soil washed away. Slowly, many brooks and streams dried up. Much of Palestine today is a vast, shifting desert, mute testimony to man's compelling urge to destroy.

The same thing is happening to our agricultural system today.

Josephus was right. Our food is not fit for the prolonging of life.

Remember this about food: if it's alive, you'll thrive. For example, can you imagine taking your planting seeds, boiling them, then planting them? Of course, none would even sprout.

While we would never even dream of doing this to our planting stock, we persistently do it to our food.

We can and should eat much more of our food raw.

Grow Your Own Vitamins

In working toward this goal, grow something, however small and limited. If you can plant only one packet of seventy-nine cent seeds, do so—but try it.

One of the best sources of vitamin rich food is sprouts. You can sprout mung beans, lentils, alfalfa, peas, soybeans, and wheat. The most popular and most palatable is alfalfa.

How to Do It

“Sprouting is easy. You can use any wide-mouthed container, such as a large fruit jar, flower pot, or colander. Plug the drainage hole of a flower pot with a piece of crockery.

“Soak about a cupful of your seeds overnight in plenty of water.

[Seeds of various kinds can be found at any good health food store.] Then drain and wash them several times, discarding any broken or imperfect seeds. Put [the washed seed] in your container, covering it with a double layer of cheesecloth fastened with rubber bands. This will hold in the humidity, and by [thus] cutting down the light, prevent undesirable leaf growth.

“If you are using a container with no drainage hole, stand it up-side down on two small pieces of wood to get rid of excess water that would cause molding.

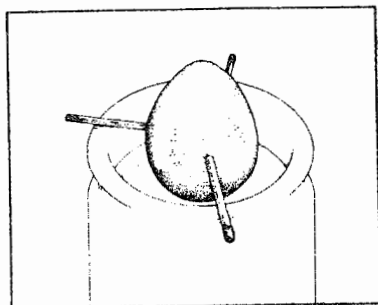
“Keep the container covered in a warm spot (near a radiator is good), and flush and rinse the seeds three or four times daily. A spray is handy for this.

“In three to five days, sprouts are ready to be removed and stored in the refrigerator. You can discard the loose skins if you wish, but they are fine roughage.”—*Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening*, pp. 1005 and 1006.

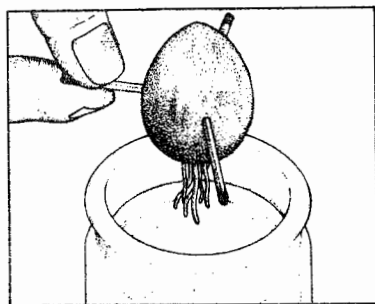
A Nifty Project

Here are three simple projects we are sure you will enjoy. Not only will the experience teach you the ways of plants, but you can save \$15 to \$25 by growing your own beautiful houseplants.

Growing an Avocado Plant From a Pit

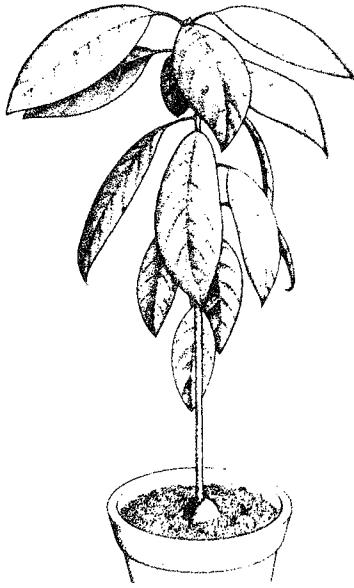


1. Insert matches or toothpicks into an avocado pit; suspend it over water.



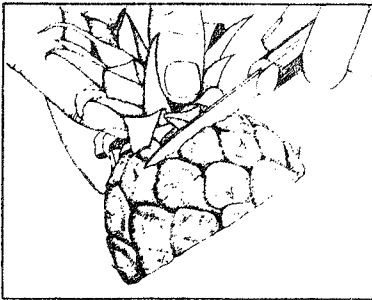
2. When roots appear, place pit in soil so that it is half covered.

To grow an avocado plant, first insert three matches (or toothpicks) halfway into an avocado pit. Suspend the pit by the matches across a jar of water so that the base of the pit just touches the water.

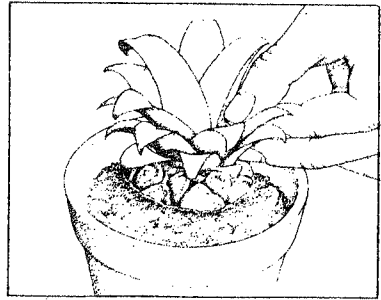


An attractive house plant will grow rapidly from the rooted avocado pit.

Growing a Pineapple Plant From a Fresh Top



1. Cut pineapple top so that a thin slice of flesh is attached. Dry the top.



2. Set top on a layer of sand in a pot of soil. Cover plant with plastic bag.

Slice the leafy top from a fresh pineapple, together with a thin slice of flesh containing the top row of "pips" on the skin. Dry this top for a day or two.

Fill a 3- to 4-inch pot to within $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of its top with moist potting soil; sprinkle a thin layer of sand on top. Set the pineapple top, leafy side up, on the sand, and sprinkle a little more potting mix over the fleshy portion. Cover the pot with a clear plastic bag, and put it in a shaded place at room temperature.

Roots will generally develop within eight weeks. When the plant shows signs of growth, remove the plastic bag and move the plant to a larger pot.

The plant may grow to 2-3 feet in height and may then be induced to produce fruit. To do this, seal it in a plastic bag with a ripe apple for about five days. (The apple produces a gas that stimulates fruiting.)



This tall, leafy plant was grown from the top of a fresh pineapple.

House Plants From Seeds of Citrus Fruits



A seed from a lemon can develop into a fine, glossy-leaved plant.

Attractive plants can be grown from grapefruit, lemon, and orange seeds. Plant such seeds as soon as they are removed from the fruits.

Fill a 4-inch pot to within $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of the top with a commercial soilless mix or a mixture of one part garden soil and one part peat moss. Water the mixture. Bury four to six seeds $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep in the mix. Cover the pot with clear plastic, secured with a rubber band. If kept out of direct sunlight and at about 70°F, the seeds should germinate within two or three weeks.

When the seeds have germinated, remove the plastic and gradually expose the pot to more light. After the plants have several sets of leaves,

move the plants singly into 3- to 4-inch pots. If pruned occasionally, these plants will grow into bushy, 3- to 4-foot specimens that can be used in bonsai projects.

Remember to put the Greatest Agriculturist into all your planting endeavors.

“The cultivation of land will bring its return.”—FE 317:0.

Success to you!

Jeriel E. Bingham



“LORD, HOW LONG . . . SHALL THE WICKED TRIUMPH?”
(Psalm 94:3)

DAVID cried out to God to deliver him from the wicked who were hostile to him and what he stood for. His cry was not in vain, God did deliver him. And that deliverance, a culminating type in the Davidian typology, carries the assurance that God will deliver David today from all who seek to cast him out and turn him away as in the following cases:

Experience in Neosho Church

Neosho S.D.A. Church is located about thirty five miles from Bashan. It is a newly-built church and sits by itself in a wooded area, a half city block or less off the paved road.

Although it is a modern, well-appointed church, only two dozen people or fewer attend. There are no young people, but occasionally two children attend with their grand parents. The same minister who pastors the Cassville church pastors the Neosho church. The church service is held first, then Sabbath school during the eleven o'clock hour, as the pastor must drive the forty miles or so to Cassville where he has the eleven o'clock service.

On Sabbath, December 12, 1981, four of us from Bashan—three sisters and one brother—went to Neosho to worship. When we arrived, there were several cars in the parking lot, and almost all who were going to be present were there. Just as soon as we entered and bowed in prayer, one of the officers approached and told us that he was delegated to inform us that we were not wanted there and that therefore we were being asked to leave. We told him that we were

there to worship, and that since we were not causing any disturbance of any kind, we were not (voluntarily) leaving. Whereupon, he went to the pastor's study. After some time there, he emerged with a triumphant look on his face.

In the meantime, we were sitting by ourselves on one side of the church. Sensing what they had done, we moved to the other side and sat among some of the members toward the back. The elders entered on the platform, and the service began. The offering was taken and the plate was passed to us. We put in our Church-expense offering, and no sooner had we done so, than we were approached by an officer of the law. He beckoned to Brother Gomez and asked him to leave, as the Church had reported that we were trespassing.

Brother Gomez was at the back of the church toward the entrance when the officer came to me. I asked him what we had done. He said that as far as he knew, we hadn't done anything, but it was reported that we were trespassing. In other words, as he explained, we were where we were not wanted. We protested the unrighteousness of such a report, but to no avail.

By that time, all present were looking back at us. We then got up and asked the people if it was their will that we should leave. No one answered. We then pointed out that being S.D.A.'s we were there to worship and worship only. Whereupon the head elder, a little feisty fellow, said we had passed out literature on another occasion (referring to one time when a sister gave out a tract to the pastor's daughter), and that they didn't want us there. A bit of commotion arose, so we decided to leave.

Outside, the Officer, a Baptist, was apologetic, but firm. He said that they have had to use similar measures to put dissident ones out of their church. So he really couldn't appreciate our position.

We left and went on for another 20 miles to the larger church in Joplin, now pastored by the former pastor of the Cassville church. The Sabbath School Lesson was in progress. Although they know us, they welcomed us along with the rest of the visitors. So whereas the one church called the law on us, the other extended the friendly handshake to us in a warm welcome! How true are the words of the servant of the Lord:

“The abominations for which the faithful ones were sighing and cry-

ing were all that could be discerned by finite eyes, but by far the worst sins, those which provoked the jealousy of the pure and holy God, were unrevealed. The great Searcher of hearts knoweth every sin committed in secret by the workers of iniquity. These persons come to feel secure in their deceptions and, because of His long-suffering, say that the Lord seeth not, and then act as though He had forsaken the earth. But He will detect their hypocrisy and **will open before others those sins they were so careful to hide.**

“No superiority of rank, dignity, or worldly wisdom, no position in sacred office, will preserve men from sacrificing principle when left to their own deceitful hearts. Those who have been regarded as worthy and righteous prove to be ring-leaders in apostasy and examples in indifference and in the abuse of God’s mercies. **Their wicked course He will tolerate no longer, and in His wrath He deals with them without mercy.**”—5T 211, 212.

☆ ☆ ☆

Our church had a meeting about letters they had received from Bashan and there was a big commotion over the matter. So they had a meeting about two weeks ago on the Sabbath and they all decided to keep _____, _____, and _____ out of the church for good. I was allowed to attend the meeting because they had not disfellowshipped me as yet. The whole church said, “Leave them in peace.” It was a very terrible meeting.

I attended the meeting after it had started. My brother-in-law told me that they had mentioned me, that I am a problem because I am _____’s wife, and they are not too sure about me. They also said that they think my husband will pull me to his thinking.

The Thursday before the meeting, the Pastor came to our house to ask me questions on what I believe. I didn’t give him the answer he wanted. He wanted me to make a decision on what I was going to do about my beliefs and about being disfellowshipped, but I didn’t make any commitment. Anyway, I told them I was studying the message. My husband came in later on and helped me out with some questions and answers. So now we are planning to visit another church about four streets away from our house. People are becoming curious about what is going on.

What hurt me the most was how people we thought were friends turned their backs to us, not knowing why they were doing it. (New York)

Christian greetings, hoping that all on the hill are preparing for the soon coming kingdom of peace. We had our meeting as usual, and I must say that it was good for us to be there. All five of us visited a church in the morning. It was really something: as the sister in charge saw us, she shouted, "The Shepherd's Rods are here." But poor soul, she could do nothing! So after we were seated, she tried to get the deacons to do their job, but before the deacons got going, there was a police brother seated there, so he was called to do the putting-out job. But he explained to them that his job does not permit him to do that unless we were misbehaving. She was not satisfied. She made the police know that the General Conference says they are to be put out. A home-guard, he then pulled his I.D. from his pocket, thus showing his authority concerning the law; but also he said that as we were already in, there was nothing he could do. So they are to leave us alone. Then he warned us that the church is a private place for special people. So if we return, we will be dealt with.

After the service was over, we started to give the message. Just then the pastor arrived. He took the members home in his car, making several trips. But thank God, in the meantime we got a few names.

We are enjoying the message. It is really soaking in our bones. (Jamaica)

☆ ☆ ☆

Here in these islands [the Leewards] the ministers do not openly attack the Rod. So I have a hard time getting it over to the people. They just act as if the Rod does not exist; and the people themselves are rooted and set in their blindness. They fail even to open their eyes to see what is passing by.

Many are tied to the hem of the ministers' garments. Others don't want to hear anything new; they want to be cradled along the way they have been going all these long years. Anything new is false doctrine. Yet the ministers are telling them that the church is almost dead, and needs to be revived, but they still do not want the instrument of reformation.

The pastor here, the same chap I met in St. Kitts, saw me. So he sat in the class where I sat. He almost took over from the teacher. I asked one question, and he answered it by asking one to his own satisfaction, then passed on without comment.

After the sermon, I tarried for quite a while to see if there were any

Nathaniels, but all with one accord shouted, "False prophet, we don't want to hear anything; we have the Bible." One young woman said, "_____ was here with the same thing, and we never bothered with him, so you can go, we are satisfied with what we have."

To question anything in the quarterly is to commit sacrilege, and to talk about more light and truth is to add to the Bible. So the situation here is a serious one. A harder and a more determined people I have never met, and still they know very little about the Testimonies.

All of the older folk whom I knew when I left here 38 years ago have with one accord turned down the message, and have branded me as a truant, a traitor, a false prophet, and all manner of ill names, but only the Lord knows how free I feel now, that He has helped me to take the message to them.

The very first brother whom I visited three days after I arrived in the State, asked me to leave his home, after giving me a glass of milk, etc. I left, but with a sad heart, and told him that this was the final opportunity the Lord was giving him to investigate and take hold of the saving truth. He told me that he was going to put the Pastor behind me. Whether he had time to do so or not, I cannot say, for very shortly he passed away, still rejecting the Present Truth, and leaving his wife (who also rejected the message) and six children.

One young lady promised to put out my eyes if I tried to show her anything from the Testimonies! She refused even to listen to what I had to say. Another asked me to leave her premises. I told her I would go, but I would like first to talk to her a bit about the message of the hour. Her daughter was sympathetic towards the message, and requested literature to read, but the mother protested and told her that she would not stay in the house if the daughter took that tract. So the poor child had to decline.

These are some of the experiences encountered. I hope and pray that it will not be long before these souls burst their chains and are set free. (Nevis, W.I.)

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These four similar cases give a sample of the hostile opposition that is being increasingly met with in the churches. We wonder, "Lord, how long wilt thou look on?" Ps. 35:17.

Take courage, Brethren, keep lifting your "eyes unto the hills from

whence cometh [your] help." Ps. 121:1. For the promise is: "Shall not God avenge His own elect which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily." Luke 18:7, 8.

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NEW CASSETTE STUDIES

SEVERAL new cassette studies are now available. Following is updated list No. 3:

No.	TITLES	TAPE-LENGTH
85	The living Spirit of Prophecy	90
86	A dead or living porter?	45
87	The bulls of Bashan	90
88	A noisy gong—a useless nobody? Or one who bears up under anything and everything?	60
89	Five typologically parallel characters to whom you must fit the face	60
90	Leviathan . . . red wine . . . chalkstones . . . rough wind. Isa. 28	90
91	God's will for us	60
92	Our greatest need and concern	60
93	The Lord's controversy with His people	60
94	Questions and answers	60
95	Questions and answers	60
96	Ten steps to being spued out	90
97	The unruly member	60
98	The Russians are behind us	60
99	A destructive sin that hardly anyone really thinks is a sin	60
100	Acceptance with God	60
101	"It shall speak, and not lie, . . . it shall surely come, it will not tarry." Hab. 2:3	60
102	Psalms 105, 106	90
103	Through much tribulation we must enter the Kingdom of God	60
104	I surrender. Part 1	60
105	I surrender. Part 2	60
106	I surrender. Part 3	45
107	The four horses among the myrtle trees	90

108	The trumpets. Part 1	90
109	The trumpets. Part 2	90
110	Isaiah 33	60
111	The discipline of the elect	90
112	The Gilead heresy	60
113	Doctrinal differences between Davidian and Laodicean Adventists	90
114	Final movements	60
115	The root of all virtue	60
116	Worm Jacob, worm David, and Jacob's ladder. Part 1	90
117	Worm Jacob, worm David, and Jacob's ladder. Part 2	90
118	The solemn assembly	90
119	Heaven's line of communication	90
120	Questions and answers (The Leviticus, Porter, President)	60
121	"Now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36	90
122	Bashan school of the prophets	60
123	How many ways, How many doors, What?	90
124	Go ye only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Why?	90
125	The Rod not contrary to established body	60
126	The mystery of the blasphemous head. Part 1	90
127	The mystery of the blasphemous head. Part 2	90
128	"Ye prisoners of hope." Zech. 9:12	90
129	V.T.H. article from an old Symbolic Code	60
130	"My Word . . . shall not return unto me void." Isa. 55:11	90
131	Micah 7; 1TG 28—The enemy	90
132	M.J.B. reply to Brothers Warden and Reichman's five questions	90
133	"Until the day star arise in [our] hearts." 2 Pet. 1:19	60
134	What makes the world wonder	60
135	Whence cometh the remnant of His heritage	90
136	The pattern of a true Davidian and blueprint of the house of David	90
137	A comparative study on Kingdom texts	90

With recording supplies having gone up like everything else, and postage even more so, it is necessary for the Association, in order to

break even, to revise the price list on tapes.

For U.S. and Canada (Postpaid)

90 minute tapes	\$2.00
60 minute tapes	\$1.50
45 minute tapes	\$0.75

For the West Indies (Postpaid)

90 minute tapes	\$2.25
60 minute tapes	\$1.75
45 minute tapes	\$1.00

For All Overseas Countries (Postpaid)

90 minute tapes	\$2.50
60 minute tapes	\$2.00
45 minute tapes	\$1.25

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SABBATH RADIO-LISTENING FOR NEWS

Question: Brother Bingham, I have something that has been bothering me for some time. I have an acquaintance who listens to the radio for news on Sabbath mornings, and if there is any news that seems outstanding, this person relates it in Sabbath School class.

Also, some of my Davidian brethren listen to religious radio programs on Sabbath mornings. The trouble is that the stations are not S.D.A. operated, and consequently there are always advertisements and announcements of a secular nature. My friends tell me that they turn the radio off everytime such advertisements or announcements come on.

It seems to me that the principle which should guide in this matter is whether or not the station we listen to is one whose Sabbath-morning programs are comprised of *nothing other* than sermons and hymns of truth. I'd like to know what is the Davidian stand on this question.

Also in the light of the message, what is to be said about the popular gospel songs that are current these days?

Answer: *True Sabbath-keeping* rules out *all* secular pursuits, pro-

grams, conversation, and interests. And that automatically rules out listening to the radio or viewing TV on the Sabbath for *anything secular*, news prominently included.

The same is true concerning Sabbath-listening to religious programs on stations carrying secular advertising.

My spiritual sensibilities find offensive the modern popular gospel songs. One has to be of the liberal left in Christendom to reconcile them with Christ's values and thus be able to accept and relish them.



Bashan News: Except for a spell or two, winter for the most part was mild until we were hit by the cold wave which struck most of the nation. The lowest the temperature dropped was below zero with wind chill factor of 30° below. We had a little snow fall, but no accumulation to date. Thanks to our wood stoves and the good supply of wood we have, all were kept warm and comfortable.

The deck on the north side of Bashan's house has been converted into a green house with windows, side and front. Those of you who have been here will remember the deck as a place where we had worship during the hot summer months before we had air conditioning. A wood-heating stove keeps it warm. Now we'll be planting mustard greens, tomatoes, radishes, onions, lettuce, green peppers, etc., for table use. We are praising the Lord for this addition, for not only will it provide fresh vegetables during the winter, but will save us dollars a week.

Risky roads forced Brother Jeriel to cut his mission some two to three weeks and twenty stops short. Now he is busy cutting and stacking wood, pruning, bulldozing, and taking care of other outside work as time and weather permit. He greatly appreciates all the hospitality and kindnesses shown him along those 11,000 miles he traveled during the past three months.

Remittances and Letters: For you who participated in keeping "meat" in the "storehouse" during the ending of 1981, you will find your receipts enclosed. May the Lord bless your stewardship and reward you accordingly.



As we have entered upon the new year, may the Spirit of Truth enable us to give heed to the following counsel:

“SPIRITUAL PROSPERITY AND CHRISTIAN LIBERALITY”

“In the name of the Lord, I beseech my brethren and sisters, at this crisis in our work, to come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty. Withholding from God always brings a curse. ***Spiritual prosperity is closely bound up with Christian liberality.*** Hunger only for the exaltation of imitating the divine beneficence of the Redeemer. You have the precious assurance that your treasure is going before you to the heavenly courts.

“Would you make your property secure? Place it in the hand that bears the nail prints of the crucifixion. Retain all in your possession, and it will be to your eternal loss. Give it to God, and from that moment it bears His inscription. It is sealed with His immutability. Would you enjoy your substance? Then use it to bless the suffering. Would you increase your possessions? ‘Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.’

“God calls for what you owe Him in tithes and offerings. He calls for consecration in every line of His work. Act faithfully your part at your appointed post of duty. . . . Give cheerfully, gladly, willingly, thankful that you are able to do something to advance God’s kingdom in the world. Empty the heart of selfishness, and brace the mind for Christian activity. If you are in close connection with God, you will be willing to make any sacrifice to place eternal life within the reach of the perishing.”—CS 49, 48.

Literature: Since we sent out the last BASHAN COMMUNICATOR, we have mailed 18,457 pieces of literature. The Lord is blessing the work, and one by one the Nathaniels are coming to light. Here are samples of some of the letters we have been receiving, which average about three a week:

My dear Christian friend: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus our soon coming King. I send you these few lines to let you know that I have received your booklets and am very satisfied in reading them, and would like for you to continue to send me the books I need to study. Please pray for me that God may help to me study harder, for the more I read, the more I am finding food for thought.

Enclosed you will find a check in the amount of \$_____.

May God bless and keep you all safe and sound is my prayer in Jesus name.

Also I am asking your prayers. I am yours faithfully, (New York)

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Dear Gentlemen: I would like to have a chance to study those things which your organization considers to be important truths.

Sincerely, (Missouri)

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Greetings from "down under"! I would like to know something about your group's history. Do you believe that the S.D.A. is the [church of the] Laodicean era?

Any literature you have on the "prophecies projecting purification of the church and sealing of 144,000." Please send. I'll pay.

I hope to hear from you soon. Sincerely, (Australia)

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Please tell me more about your group. Send me material on the Church Manual, "The Unerring Eye That Reads The Church Manual."

If you have other materials please let me know. How much does a case cost? I am a S.D.A. Please give me the cost each, and by the case, if it can be mixed. (Michigan)

☆ ☆ ☆

Gentlemen: Just this last Sabbath, I came across a publication of yours which was discarded in the waste-basket. The pamphlet, "The Unerring Eye That Reads The Church Manual," made such an impression upon me, both in its style and content, that I felt I should write this note requesting more information concerning your aspect of the work.

What I desire to know is the general nature of the Universal Publishing Assn. Is it an independent Adventist publishing Association? If so, how does it view its mission? I was quite impressed by the quote TM 407:1 on page 13 with regard to the function and role of the 144,000. Its

use, I felt, was most perceptive.

I myself, having come into the Advent Message some four years ago, am presently here at Andrews University studying for a Doctorate in Religious Education. My highest interest is the apocalyptic writings, especially Revelation 17 and 18 wherein the Loud Cry message is spelled out in more detail. Your use of TM 407:1 in context with the difficulties incurred by having a church manual, made me more aware of a spiritual awareness of practicality with which you seem to view [The Church Manual]—else the publication which I hold would not be in print. I felt a strong spiritual hand in your pamphlet when you tied 5T 137 and 5T 211 to TM 407:1.

It is for this reason that I am interested in developing a contact with your Association. Perhaps through such contact greater light may be shed in the area of the Loud Cry and the role of the 144,000.

Yours in the Holy Spirit, (Michigan)



Names and Addresses: All we can say again is “keep them coming.” You can see how important it is to do so. We need thousands of them, and we can depend only upon your faithful and energetic endeavor in the name-ingathering campaign.

Note to the Foreign Leaders or Treasurers: Because of the high cost of postage, we cannot mail the current publications by Printed Matter Airmail to each believer. So we send one or two copies to the leaders or treasurers to read and pass on to each one, or to read to the company, until each one receives his personal copy by surface mail.

Month-end Prayer and Fasting, and Mid-day Prayer Each Day: It is important to keep these appointments. As we pray, we must plead with the Lord to help us cast away all idols, to fill us with zeal to “work with earnest, ceaseless energy” (5T 187) to visit as many churches as possible, to become acquainted with the people, to get their names and addresses, to cease being argumentative in the Sabbath School classes, and to contribute to the Lesson study in a meaningful way. We find from our experience that as we do this, people are impressed with our comments (non-controversial) and talk to us afterwards. In this way, we are able to secure their names and addresses. (In one instance, one brother was so impressed that we were moved to ask him if we could study with him at his home. He consented, and during the course of the conversation, he offered us a directory! So put the Lord

in your work, and He will bless your efforts.)

And we also need to pray earnestly that the Lord will supply the means to build the urgently needed print shop. We have had two estimates on a metal building and one on a conventional wood structure. Both estimates were well over \$60,000. So only a miracle wrought by earnest prayers and faith will produce the building.

New Supply of Charts: We are happy to announce that the Rod charts in 8½" by 11" size are now available to all who have been waiting for them and to all others who will be eager to have them. They are enclosed in life-time plastic protectors in black binders. The price, post paid is \$7.50. (The \$7.00 price given in the October - December 1981, LIGHT AT EVENTIDE, did not include all of the postage.)

All who can afford these charts should have them for personal study and for home studies with interested ones.

There are many in the foreign fields who need them, want them, but cannot buy them. If all who can afford to do so will underwrite the cost of at least one set (some many be able to afford plural sets) that will make gift sets available to ones who will benefit most by them in Africa, South America, the Islands, the Philippines, and elsewhere. Some have already responded. We hope more will.

In thus putting these charts in the hands of those who will appreciate them and use them effectively, we have a signal opportunity to come to the help of the Lord in doing important missionary work at an affordable cost to the majority.

1981 Edition of T.G.'s: New edition (1981) of 1TG 5, 6 and 2TG 15, 16 are now available. So all who are missing these numbers may now receive them upon request.

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God's question to Bashan Davidians: who of you are going to be the Lord's "sharp sickles" under

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER?

"With the great truth we have been privileged to receive, we should, and under the Holy Spirit's power we could, become living channels of light. We could then approach the mercy seat; and seeing the bow of promise, kneel with contrite hearts and seek the kingdom of heaven

with a spiritual violence that would bring its own reward. We would take it by force as did Jacob. Then our message would be the power of God unto salvation. Our supplications would be full of earnestness, full of a sense of our great need; and we would not be denied. The truth would be expressed by life and character, and by lips touched with the living coal from off God's altar. When this experience is ours, we shall be lifted out of our poor, cheap selves, that we have cherished so tenderly. We shall empty our hearts of the corroding power of selfishness, and shall be filled with praise and gratitude to God. We shall magnify the Lord, the God of all grace, who has magnified Christ. And He will reveal His power through us, making us as sharp sickles in the harvest field."—R & H, Feb. 14, 1899.



1975 Fellowship Letter Reprint

(All Fellowship-Certificate holders—Old as well as new, and old even more than new—need searchingly to reflect upon the Fellowship message herein:)

Dear Brethren:

Enclosed is your Fellowship card. It isn't very big and doesn't cost very much. It's only a piece of cardboard, not worth even an inflated two cents.

And yet you want it. You apply for it. You make stringent commitments to get it.

Why? I wonder.

As I sign it, I ask myself anew what does my card really mean to me? What does your card *really* mean to you?

I wonder. . . . I wonder how God sees it. . . . I wonder how much more than a kind of status symbol it is. . . . how much it really means. . . . what it does for us. . . . not even an inflated two cents worth of cardboard. . . . I wonder about it. . . . and am troubled. . . . very seriously.

What am I signing. . . . really? a status card? certifying a Brahmin in a sort of caste-ridden divided Davidia? Or *truly a genuinely*

meaningful Fellowship Card, betokening whole-souled identification with Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life? genuinely certifying fellowship with those who not *only talk of* but *truly walk in* the Light?

“It is only *when one appropriates* the oil, the truth, to his *everyday living* that the oil *becomes transformed into light*. It is *when one pays the price*, and thus becomes eligible to receive a Certificate, signifying he has *complied with all the requirements*, that he *has* the light. Hence, though we can freely hand out tracts, we cannot freely hand out the Certificate of Fellowship.

“Studying and believing alone does not open the door. We must *comply with all the requirements—pay the price* in other words. And we cannot steal the oil. Those desiring the Certificate of Fellowship *must pay the price*.”—11 Code 3:11:2, 3.

If this imprinted piece of cardboard which I have signed by reason of your signing the Application for it, is for you *truly* what it purports to be, then memorize it, sign it, and catechize yourself with it frequently to keep your mind certain that your heart has lost no letter of it along the world-littered way [now of '81, nor will do so as you ply the way you pledge to go in '82].

God bless and keep you—and use you.

Sincerely yours to be able as a true Davidian to say with David, “Judge me, O Lord; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the Lord; therefore I shall not slide” (Ps. 26:1),

M. J. Bingham

NOTICE

IT is time to renew the Fellowship Certificate. Applications will be sent only to those who request them. Concerning the question, Who is eligible to receive the Fellowship Certificate? the Rod of God says:

“Those who have personally studied *all* the message and *believe* it; those *overcoming* temptation; those *complying with all the requirements*; those who put their treasure where moth and thieves cannot enter; those who *keep all* the commandments; those who are not

flesh-eaters, drunkards [users of spirituous liquors], or tobacco users; those who do not rob God of tithes [second as well as first] and offerings.

“We would freely give literature to those who ask for it, but that does not give the light. It is only when one appropriates the oil, the truth, to his everyday living that the oil becomes transformed into light. It is when one pays the price, and thus becomes eligible to receive a Certificate, signifying he has **complied with all the requirements**, that he has the light. Hence, though we can freely hand out tracts, we cannot freely hand out the Certificate of Fellowship.”—11 Code 3:11.

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Recipe from Bashan's Kitchen: In this issue, we want to share with you a Cookie recipe which is a favorite of everyone here at Bashan:

Carob Chip Cookies

1 cup margarine
¾-1 cup honey depending on taste
1 tsp. vanilla
2½ cups flour (May use w.w. pastry)
1 12-ozs. package carob chips
1 tsp. lecithin
½ cup sesame butter
¼ cup lemon juice
1 tsp. salt
1 cup chopped nuts



Cream margarine and honey. Add sesame butter and lemon juice. Mix well. Mix flour, salt and lecithin and add to mixture. Add carob chips and nuts. Put in refrigerator for at least 30 minutes. Then drop by teaspoons onto greased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees 7-10 minutes—longer if using w.w. pastry flour.

Note: You may substitute almond or peanut butter for sesame butter, and 1½ cup of raisins for carob chips.

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“But thou, O man of God . . . follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.” 1 Tim. 6:11, 12.

THE DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ASSOCIATION
BASHAN HILL
EXETER, MISSOURI 65647
U.S.A.



THE CANDLE OF TRUTH
Searching Davidian Corners

“The measure of a man’s real character is what he would do if he knew he would never be found out.”

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