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Witnessing as a Christ-like Lifestyle

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4 **Graham F. Watts, Sr.**

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6 **VISION:** To hear the midnight cry, "The bridegroom comes, go out to meet
7 Him" (Matthew 25:6) and become like Him when I see Him as He is (1
8 John 3:2).

9

10 **MISSION:** Purify myself even as Christ is pure (1 John 3:3) to be glad,
11 to rejoice, give honor to Christ and be ready for the marriage of the
12 Lamb (Revelation 19:7).

13

14 **VALUES:** Follow the Lamb wherever He goes (Revelation 14:4), be without
15 fault before God (Revelation 14:5), be perfect even as my Father in
16 heaven is perfect (Matthew 5:48), wear the Lamb's fine, clean and
17 white linen (Revelation 19:8) do righteously (1 John 3:10) and walk
18 humbly with God (Micah 6:8).

19

20 **OVERALL AIM:** Studies presented here unveil Bible knowledge to
21 inquiring minds to prompt the following inquiries: "Are our feet on
22 the rock of ages? Are we one with Christ as He is one with the
23 Father" (John 10:30 in Evangelism, {Ev} 199.1)? Am I crucified with
24 Christ (Galatians 2:20)?

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26 **PURPOSE/REASON FOR/WHY**

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 28 This study reminds Bible believers about the hope of their calling:
 29 “[You] are my witnesses, [says] the Lord...” (Isaiah 43:10).

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 31
 32 **OBJECTIVES/WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH/THESIS**

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 34 At the end of this study, Bible believers will understand that
 35 effective witnessing is a state of being, that is, a way of life that
 36 can include talking, but is not confined or limited to speech.

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 38
 39 **SIGNIFICANCE: SO WHAT**

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 41 Jesus and the Holy Spirit are our best examples of witnessing. Jesus
 42 spoke His Father’s words and revealed the Father by the works He did
 43 (John 10:32-38; 14:10-11). “[And] ...when... the Spirit of truth...
 44 [came], ...He [did] NOT speak of Himself; but whatever He... [received
 45 from Christ], He [spoke]...” (John 16:13). “[The Holy Spirit is] the
 46 Comforter..., whom [Christ sent]... from the Father... [and the office or
 47 job description of the Comforter is to] testify, [that is, bear
 48 witness or give evidence] of [Christ]” (John 15:26).

49
 50 After Jesus’ ascension (Acts 1:9; Mark 16:19; Luke 22:69; Romans
 51 8:34) New Testament believers imitated the examples of witnessing.
 52 For example, Paul confirmed that “...The ministry... [he] received of the
 53 Lord Jesus [was] to testify, [that is, bear witness or give evidence]
 54 of the gospel of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24). Peter made a
 55 similar declaration when he said: “For we have not followed cunningly
 56 devised fables when we made known unto you the power and coming of
 57 our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his Majesty” (2 Peter
 58 1:16). The purpose of an eyewitness is to testify, to give evidence
 59 of what occurred, even when it concerns passage of old truths from
 60 one generation to the next (Jeremiah 6:16).

61 **BACKGROUND CONTEXT**

62

63 Staples Copy and Print Center has this message on their paper bags:
 64 "We're in the business to make you look good." Did this brief
 65 sentence communicate to you what Staples Copy and Print Center is all
 66 about? Let's look at another example. Harper Waldon and Craig law
 67 firm has this quote on their website: "Our firm was founded in 1984
 68 by a core group of litigators from one of Atlanta's largest and most
 69 prominent law firms. The firm was established with a singular
 70 purpose: *'To meet the special needs of insurance defense clients'*" ([http://www.hwc-](http://www.hwc-law.com/)
 71 [law.com/](http://www.hwc-law.com/)). Again, are you in doubt regarding what Harper Waldon and
 72 Craig's law firm is all about? This background provided the impetus
 73 for the study question that follows.

74

75 **STUDY QUESTION**

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77 Why do the followers of Jesus Christ exist?

78

79 **ANSWER SOURCE: HOLY BIBLE**

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81 1. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to be the light of the**
 82 **world.** "...Jesus... [is] the light of the world... [and whoever
 83 follows Jesus] shall not walk [or abide] in darkness, but shall
 84 have the light of life" (John 8:12 & 12:46). "[We] were
 85 sometimes darkness, but now are [we] light in the Lord [and have
 86 received His command to] **walk** as children of light" (Ephesians
 87 5:8). Walking as children of light is the embodiment of
 88 witnessing. We belong to Christ (1 Corinthians 3:23) and "We
 89 are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works,
 90 which God has before ordained that we should **walk** in them"
 91 (Ephesians 2:10). "[God has] saved us ["...thorough the grace of
 92 the Lord Jesus Christ..." (Acts 15:11 & Ephesians 2:8) and after

93 we have been saved, He] called us with an holy calling, not
 94 according to OUR WORKS, but according to HIS OWN purpose and
 95 grace..." (2 Timothy 1:9). "[Without question or contradiction,
 96 redemption is] NOT of works, lest any [person] should boast"
 97 (Ephesians 2:9 & Galatians 2:16), but the holy calling of God
 98 upon our lives reads this way: "...You are a chosen generation, a
 99 royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that you
 100 should show forth the praises of Him who has called [us] out of
 101 darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9). In view of
 102 these things, am I God's light beam in the world or am I part of
 103 the gross darkness which covers the earth (Isaiah 60:2)?

104

105 2. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to model holy living.** In
 106 this earthly life that does NOT belong to us and in which we are
 107 to glorify God in body and spirit (1 Corinthians 6:20), Jesus
 108 wants us to "...Present [our] bodies [to Him as] a living
 109 sacrifice, holy [and] acceptable unto God, which is [our]
 110 reasonable service" (Romans 12:1). In turn, Christ "...Presents...
 111 to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any
 112 such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish"
 113 (Ephesians 5:27). "...[Thus], the [people] of God [attains
 114 perfection in Christ] {Matthew 5:48}, that is they become
 115 ["...Complete in Christ" (Colossians 2:10) "...And [live] in all the
 116 will of God" (Colossians 4:12)], [being] thoroughly furnished
 117 unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:17 & 2 Peter 1:3). The
 118 blooming of these character traits is important because it is
 119 not enough to simply "...Profess that [we] know God... [and] in
 120 works... deny Him, being abominable, disobedient and unto every
 121 good work: reprobate (good-for-nothing)" (Titus 1:16) for
 122 "...anyone who belongs to Christ becomes a new person. The old
 123 life... [goes and] a new life... [begins]" (2 Corinthians 5:17,
 124 NLT), which testifies of the indwelling Christ.

125
126 3. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to be a pattern of what God**
127 **expects people to be in the real world.** "In all things, [we are
128 to] show... [ourselves] a pattern of good works: in doctrine
129 showing uncorruptness, gravity [and] sincerity" (Titus 2:7).
130 "As God said: 'I will live in them and walk among them. I will
131 be their God and they will be My people'" (2 Corinthians 6:16,
132 NLT). The imperative of living a life worthy of Christ is
133 summarized by the following acknowledgements: "For we must all
134 stand before Christ to be judged, where we will each receive
135 whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this
136 earthly body" (2 Corinthians 5:10, NLT). It is a sobering
137 reminder that "There are many... who... had the light of truth, they
138 knew their Master's will... but they had NOT corresponding works"
139 (Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 213 {5T 213.2}). **"Those**
140 **who have learned the truth and do not have works corresponding**
141 **with their profession of faith are subject to Satan's**
142 **temptations. They encounter danger at every step they advance.**
143 **They are brought into contact with evil, they see sights, they**
144 **hear sounds, that will awaken their unsubdued passions; they are**
145 **subjected to influences that lead them to choose the evil rather**
146 **than the good, because they are not sound at heart"** (Maranatha,
147 {Mar} 153.5). Although they had separated from the world and
148 were numbered with the followers of Christ, yet they were
149 foolish (Matthew 25:1-2) and slothful (lazy, idle and inactive)
150 servants (Matthew 25:26). So shout it on the mountain top: to
151 work the works of God we must believe in Jesus (John 6:28-29),
152 belief or faith that is productive because "...As the body without
153 the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead" (James 2:26
154 & 20). Brethren, after we submit to Christ, we cannot walk in
155 the vanity of our mind as Gentiles, with our understanding
156 darkened and alienated from the life of God (Ephesians 4:17-18).

157

158 4. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to "...Maintain good works for**
 159 **necessary uses, that [we] be not unfruitful"** (Titus 3:14 &
 160 Matthew 21:19). How do we do this? We maintain good works by
 161 "...Adding to [our] faith (Romans 12:3), virtue; and to virtue
 162 knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance
 163 patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly
 164 kindness and to brotherly kindness charity. [And] if these
 165 [attributes are] in [us] and abound; they make [us] that [we]
 166 shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our
 167 Lord, Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:5-8). Furthermore, we have this
 168 assurance: "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you;
 169 that you always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound
 170 to every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8); therefore, "Let your
 171 light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and
 172 glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). A life
 173 wholly dedicated to God is a powerful witness; which sanctifies
 174 the unbelieving (1 Corinthians 7:14); leading them to "Give unto
 175 the Lord the glory due unto His name..." (Psalm 29:2) "...And
 176 declare His praise..." (Isaiah 42:12).

177
 178 5. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to demonstrate "...The tongue**
 179 **of the learned.. [that] speaks a word in season to [them] that is**
 180 **weary..." (Isaiah 50:4).** Clearly, lifestyle is important for the
 181 Christian! Against this background, we are cautioned to "Let no
 182 corrupt communication proceed out of [our] mouth, but that which
 183 is good to the use of edifying that it may minister grace unto
 184 the hearers" (Ephesians 4:29). Furthermore, we are instructed
 185 to "[Have our] conversation honest among the Gentiles that
 186 whereas they speak against [us] as evildoers, they may by **[our]**
 187 **good works, which they shall behold**, glorify God in the day of
 188 visitation" (1 Peter 2:12). Let us make clear here that this is
 189 NOT righteousness by works, but rather it is God who works in us

190 both to will and to do of His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13).
191 Hence, "...Let [everyone] prove his [or her] own work" (Galatians
192 6:4) with the full awareness that "...God is able to make all
193 grace abound toward [us]; that [we] always [have] all
194 sufficiency in all things [and] may abound to every good work"
195 (2 Corinthians 9:8).

196
197 6. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to exemplify living faith.**
198 Faith in action (read Matthew 21:21) does not have to include
199 boasting (read Romans 3:27) or record keeping (read Matthew
200 25:43-45). Nevertheless, a Christ-based life is intentional,
201 purposeful and beneficial. For example, Paul chronicled the
202 reward of living for Christ in the following words: "...[God] is
203 not unrighteous to forget [our] work and labor of love, which
204 [we show] toward His name..." (Hebrews 6:10). And the importance
205 of Paul's reminder is amplified by the Revelator's message to
206 the church at Sardis, where John chronicled the following: "...I
207 know [your] works: ...[you] have a name that [you] live [but are]
208 dead. Be watchful and strengthen the things [that] remain that
209 are ready to die for I have not found [your] works perfect..."
210 (Revelation 3:1-2). Fellow believers, what we do for Christ in
211 this life to bring honor and glory to His name matters!

212
213 7. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to [be] "...Ambassadors for**
214 **Christ..."** (2 Corinthians 5:20). Effective witnessing has its
215 roots in being an ambassador. An ambassador is an official
216 representative, someone who speaks for another. We know that
217 "...God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself..." (2
218 Corinthians 5:19). In fact, He "...reconciled us to Himself by
219 Jesus Christ and... [gave] us the ministry of reconciliation" (2
220 Corinthians 5:18). In our capacity as ministers of

221 reconciliation, "[We] are [God's] witnesses... and... servants, whom
 222 [He] has chosen that [we] may [first] know and believe [Him] and
 223 understand that... He [is God and] before [Him] there was no God
 224 formed, neither shall there be after..." (Isaiah 43:10). If we
 225 are yielded to Christ, then are we servants of righteousness
 226 (Romans 6:16 & Isaiah 54:17), "...Ministers of Christ and stewards
 227 of the mysteries of God" (1 Corinthians 4:1) to "...Make known His
 228 deeds among the people" (Psalm 105:1).

229

230 8. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to be public servants.**

231 Jesus indicated this when He commissioned the disciples as
 232 witnesses. "And when [Jesus] had called unto him His 12
 233 disciples, He gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast
 234 them out and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of
 235 disease" (Matthew 10:1). He said: "As you go, preach, saying:
 236 The kingdom of heaven is at hand; heal the sick, cleanse the
 237 lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils; freely ye have
 238 received, freely give" (Matthew 10:7 & 8). The empowerment
 239 associated with the commission of Christ to His disciples was
 240 reminiscent of God's anointing of Christ as He set out on His
 241 Father's commission (Matthew 3:16-17 & Acts 10:38). When modern
 242 day disciples of Christ are thus prepared, "...[Our] preaching
 243 [will] not [be] with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in
 244 demonstration of the Spirit and power" (1 Corinthians 2:4) for
 245 "...The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God..." (1
 246 Corinthians 3:19).

247

248 9. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to emphasize the power of
 249 resurrection in their post-conversion experience.**

250 To be an effective witness, one must share in Paul's experience. "I am
 251 crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but
 252 Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I

253 live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave
 254 himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). This level of crucifixion and
 255 death to self-pleasing calls for "...[Sanctifying] the Lord God in
 256 [our] hearts and [being] ready always to give an answer to
 257 [everyone] that asks... a reason of the hope that is in [us]..." (1
 258 Peter 3:15). It calls for "...[Seeking] those things [that] are
 259 above, where Christ sits on the right hand of God; [setting our]
 260 affections on things above, not on things on the earth"
 261 (Colossians 3:1-2). When this level of crucifixion and self-
 262 denial is our daily experience, then we are ready to "...Deny
 263 self, take up [our] cross and follow [Jesus] (Mark 16:24); then
 264 we are ready to "...Press toward the mark for the prize of the
 265 high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14) and in
 266 ministry and testimony, our eyes will see that "...The word of God
 267 is quick and powerful; sharper than any two-edged sword,
 268 piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of
 269 the joints and marrow and is a discerner of the thoughts and
 270 intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). Anyone who experiences
 271 resurrection power with Christ is an effective witness (read
 272 Acts 10:34-35).

273
 274 10. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to reveal Christ**
 275 **likeness in thoughts, words and actions.** Too many people have
 276 only heard of and are familiar with theories of religious faith.
 277 Thus, there is a need to lift up Christ, who said: "...If I be
 278 lifted up from the earth, [I] will draw all men unto me" (John
 279 12:32). As witnesses to His majesty, we must understand that
 280 "...As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must
 281 the Son of man be lifted up" (John 3:14) in our daily lives. As
 282 children adopted into the family of God, He has sent forth the
 283 Holy Spirit into our heart (Romans 8:15 & Galatians 4:6) and
 284 "...[Our] lives are a letter: [an open book, which]... everyone can

285 read..." (2 Corinthians 3:2, NLT). "Through the tender mercy of
286 our God, ...the dayspring from on high [has] visited us to give
287 light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
288 to guide our feet in the way of peace" (Luke 1:78-79). Our work
289 as witnesses and servants of the Most High are these: to call
290 people to "...Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of
291 the world" (John 1:29 & 36); to call people to "...Taste and see
292 that the Lord is good..." (Psalm 34:8).

293
294 11. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to put God front and**
295 **center in their lives.** It is a truth that "...Men love darkness
296 rather than light..." (John 3:19), but the benefits of truth can
297 inspire men and women to turn to light. Egypt was on the brink
298 of disaster by famine and none but the man of God had wise
299 counsel for the ruling monarch. Upon receiving that counsel,
300 "...Pharaoh said unto his servants, 'Can we find such a one as
301 this; a man in whom the Spirit of God is'" (Genesis 41:38). "And
302 Pharaoh said unto Joseph, 'Forasmuch as God has showed thee all
303 this, there is none [as] discreet and wise as thou art'" (Genesis
304 41:39). "And Pharaoh... set [Joseph, a.k.a., Zaphnathpaaneah
305 {Genesis 41:45}] over all the land of Egypt" (Genesis 41:41 &
306 44). Those who witness for God draw attention to God (Genesis
307 41:16) and bring blessings to others (Genesis 41:49, 54-55).

308
309 12. **The followers of Jesus Christ exist to be sought out for**
310 **good.** We are not here on earth to compete with other believers,
311 but rather to unveil Jehovah, who lives in us by His Holy Spirit
312 (John 3:5; Romans 8:9) and to point men and women to Christ. An
313 example follows. God, who rules in the affairs of earth, spoke
314 to Nebuchadnezzar about the temporality of earthly kingdoms and
315 promised to supersede earthly dominions with His own kingdom in
316 the end of time. But to offer citizenship to Nebuchadnezzar God

317 brought him into contact with His witness, Daniel, whom the
318 Babylonian's called Belteshazzar. Unable to recall the dream or
319 to understand its message, Nebuchadnezzar said: "...Now... O
320 Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as
321 all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto
322 me the interpretation, but thou art able; for the spirit of the
323 holy gods is in thee" (Daniel 4:18). Those who need a witness
324 seek out those in whom the Holy Spirit dwells.

325
326

327 SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS: In this study, we examined key elements of
328 effective witnessing and documented 12 discoveries. Effective
329 witnessing involves: 1) being the light of the world, 2) modeling
330 holy living, 3) being a pattern of what God expects people to be in
331 the real world, 4) maintaining good works for necessary uses, 5)
332 having a tongue of the learned to speak appropriate words in season
333 to the weary, 6) exemplifying living faith, 7) being ambassadors for
334 Jesus Christ, 8) being public servants, 9) emphasizing resurrection
335 power in our post-conversion experience, 10) revealing Christ
336 likeness in thoughts, words and actions, 11) putting God front and
337 center in our earthly life and 12) being available to be sought out
338 for the good of humanity. From the foregoing we demonstrated that
339 witnessing is not an act to be choreographed like a screen play, but
340 a way of life. Because it is of little redeeming value to engage in
341 Bible Study merely for information, subsequent paragraphs follow that
342 make a practical application of the 12 key elements of effective
343 witnessing set forth here.

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345

DISCUSSION: WHAT DO THESE THINGS MEAN?

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348 Witnessing has little to do with who we are but everything to do with
349 who lives and reigns in us (read Ezekiel 37:23; Zechariah 8:8 & 2
350 Corinthians 6:16). Jesus reminded us of two salient facts about
351 witnessing when He said: "You are the light of the world. A city
352 that is set on a hill cannot be hid" (Matthew 5:14). He also said:
353 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, [s/he] that [believes] on Me, the
354 works that I do shall [s/he] do also; and greater works than these
355 shall [s/he] do..." (John 14:12). But to function at this level, we
356 must fulfill the requirements outlined in Matthew 17:15-21.

357
358 Effective witnessing is tied to an accurate understanding of our God
359 ordained purpose. A brief example follows! Paul thoroughly
360 understood the light of the world reality as witnessing when he said:
361 "For... me to live is Christ..." (Philippians 1:21). Can we say: For... me
362 to live is Christ? Do our lives say to the people of our age: "Be...
363 followers of me even as I also am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1).
364 "A Christian is to be constantly watching the Pattern and imitating
365 the holy example of Jesus. Then a right spirit will be infused into
366 the life and character of others" (Testimonies on Sexual Behavior,
367 Adultery and Divorce {TSB} 116.2). To witness or testify or declare,
368 we will; but the question becomes: what do our lives reveal? The
369 answer to that question has its roots in: "...To whom [we] yield
370 ourselves servants to obey, [that one's] servants [we] are...: whether
371 of sin unto death or of obedience unto righteousness" (Romans 6:16).
372 In that case, God grant that we have "...The heritage of the servants
373 of the Lord... [so that our] righteousness is of [the Lord]..." (Isaiah
374 54:17).

375

376

377 CONCLUSIONS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

378
379 Effective witnesses are like the moon. The moon does not generate
380 its own light and neither do we create truth. Sunlight reflects off
381 earth onto the night side of the moon and some of this light is
382 reflected back to earth; thus we see part of the moon illuminated at
383 nighttime (<http://home.hiwaay.net/~krcool/Astro/moon/earthshine/>).
384 Therefore, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, so we are
385 to reflect light or truth of the Son of God, which is Bible truth.
386 Examples of such reflections include relating to each other with
387 Christlike love (John 13:35); forgiving men their trespasses, so our
388 prayer life is not hindered (Matthew 6:14-15 & Mark 11:25) and not
389 avenging ourselves when we have been wronged (Romans 12:19). Are we
390 prepared and ready for this level of witnessing?

391
392
393 Good reflectors of God's attributes are constantly beholding the
394 glory of the Lord and are changed into that same glory by the Holy
395 Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:18). We must be God's holy people, who keep
396 His statutes for He sanctifies us (Leviticus 20:7-8). In that way,
397 our lived experiences, meaning our secret thoughts, cherished desires
398 and private behaviors will match our public speech and observable
399 behaviors. In other words, as "...The inward [being, that is: the
400 mind] is renewed day by day" (2 Corinthians 4:16) and "...Strengthened
401 with might by [God's] Spirit..." (Ephesians 3:16); our actions,
402 thoughts and feeling (ATF) are aligned with heaven to reflect "...The
403 light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus
404 Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6) just as Moses face shone with God glory
405 when he descended Mount Sinai (Exodus 34:29-30).

406
407
408 It requires more than mere outward conformity and outward correctness
409 of behavior to witness for God. Without inward transformation of

410 actions, thoughts and feelings, our witness will be false because we
 411 are required to know the truth and be set free by the truth that we
 412 know (John 8:32) to **effectively** present it to others. The effective
 413 witness has experienced change from the old, sinful nature to the new
 414 birth, the born-again experience (Ezekiel 11:19-20 & Hebrews 8:10-
 415 11). No deception works here for "Blessed are the pure in heart; ...
 416 [only] they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8). But we will end this study
 417 on a positive, upbeat note. "...God... commanded... light to shine out of
 418 darkness... [into] our hearts, to give us the light of the knowledge of
 419 the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6)
 420 "That [we] may be blameless and harmless, the sons [and daughters] of
 421 God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation,
 422 among whom [we are to] shine as lights in the world" (Philippians
 423 2:15) to be effective Jehovah's witnesses.

424

425 **CALL TO ACTION: WHAT SHALL WE DO?**

426

427 "Whether therefore [we] eat, or drink or whatsoever [we] do, [let us]
 428 do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). How do we do
 429 that? "...Draw near [to God] with a true heart in full assurance of
 430 faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our
 431 bodies washed with pure water" (Hebrews 10:22). "Let the words of
 432 Christ dwell in [us] richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing
 433 one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with
 434 grace in our hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16). Let the words of
 435 Christ abide in us as we abide in Him (John 15:7). Sit with Jesus
 436 for communion, instruction and healing (Matthew 15:30) just as He sat
 437 with His Father for the same (Mark 1:35). Meditate upon His precepts
 438 (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:2; 77:12 & 119:15) and hide His promises in our
 439 heart to avoid willful sin (Psalm 119:11). "...[Put on] the ornament
 440 of a meek and quiet spirit..." (1 Peter 3:4) and avoid rambunctiousness
 441 (being noisy and unruly). Set the affections on things above, not on

442 things on the earth (Colossians 3:2). Deposit treasures in heaven
443 (Matthew 6:20) and be dead to the invitations of the old-person but
444 resurrected with Christ (Colossians 3:3) to "...Seek those things which
445 are above, where Christ [sits] on the right hand of God" (Colossians
446 3:1). If we consistently submit our will to these things, witnessing
447 for Christ will be as natural as unassisted breathing and we will say
448 with Paul: "...As we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the
449 gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, [who tries]
450 our hearts" (1 Thessalonians 2:4).