

The Terre Haute **Speaker**

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

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There Are Two

John Isaac Edwards

As we make our study of the word of God, we come across some things of which there are two.

Covenants. We have been told by some today that there is just one continuous covenant throughout the entire Bible. The Bible teaches there are two covenants. “For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second” (Hebrews 8:7). How many covenants are in that verse? One or two? Again it is written, “Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second, By the which will we are sanctified...” (Hebrews 10:9-10). If you can count to two, you should have no difficulty understanding the fact that the Bible reveals two covenants. The first covenant was between God and the nation of Israel (Deuteronomy 5:1-3). The second covenant is between God and all men everywhere (Mark 16:15). The first covenant was “abolished” (2 Corinthians 3:13). The second covenant “remaineth” (2 Corinthians 3:11).

Births. There is a birth that is of earthly parents, and there is a birth that is spiritual in nature. John 3:3-5 states, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time

into his mother’s womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” As one obeys the truth, he is born again (1 Peter 1:21-23).

Deaths. Just as the Bible mentions two births, there are two deaths described in the word of God. There is a physical death which occurs when one’s spirit departs (James 2:26; Ecclesiastes 12:7). “And as it is appointed unto men once to die...” (Hebrews 9:27). And there is the second death, which will take place when the spirit of man is eternally separated from God in hell. “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:14-15). Those born but once will die twice. Those born twice and remain faithful will die but once.

Ways. The Lord taught, “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:13-14). The broad way is the way of many and leads to destruction. The narrow way is the way of the few and leads to life. Which will you choose?

Attitudes in Giving

Johnie Paul Edwards

It is difficult to have right attitudes toward people, self, and material things. Possessions seemingly take first place in our lives. Attitude comes to its true test when we speak of giving.

The churches of Macedonia exemplified an excellent attitude toward giving in the contribution for the needy disciples of Judea. Notice their attitude (2 Corinthians 8:1-5).

Their Poverty Abounded unto the Riches of Their Liberality. The Macedonian churches, in spite of their poverty, gave a liberal gift. The churches exhibited, while under Roman persecution, joy and liberality.

Beyond Their Power, They Gave of Their Own Accord. The willingness of the Macedonian Christians exceeded their power to give. Paul did not have to pressure these churches

to contribute. They gave of their own free will.

Beseeching Us in Regard of This Grace. The giving of these Christians was purely voluntary. They urged Paul to let them share in this matter of grace. This indicated their sincere interest in helping the needy of Judea.

They Gave Their Own Selves to the Lord. Paul had expected some financial aid, but these Christians had gone beyond what Paul expected by dedicating themselves to the Lord. They put themselves in a place of continual service for Jesus. This was the crowning point of their generosity.

The example and attitude of the Macedonian Christians ought to stimulate us to liberal giving. Paul said, "Or he that exhorteth, to his exhorting: he that giveth, let him do it with liberality..." (Romans 12:8).

Find One

After learning about Jesus, the first thing Andrew did was to find his brother and bring him to Jesus (John 1:40-42). We encourage you to find one who needs to obey the gospel and set up a home Bible study with them. We have the material and will help you teach it. "And the things that thou hast heard of me, the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2).

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Come Be With Us!



***The Bible Is Our
Only Guide!***

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