

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

Volume 12

November 26, 2023

Number 47

## THERE COME IN ONE THAT BELIEVETH NOT

Nicolas Edwards

This statement is found in 1 Corinthians 14:24, *“But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is judged of all.”* When the church is assembling and an unbeliever or unlearned person comes in, what would they see? Would they see:

### THE WORD PREACHED?

Paul charged Timothy, *“Preach the word”* (2 Tim. 4:2). *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God”* (2 Tim. 3:16). It is *“the law of the Lord”* that converts the soul (Ps. 19:7). The word is *“able to save your souls”* (Jas. 1:21). Would they hear the word or would they hear *“smooth things”* (Is. 30:10)?

**REVERENCE?** In a lot of places, reverence is not seen! *“God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him”* (Ps. 89:7). Would the unbeliever see reverence in our dress, conduct, attitude, speech, etc?

**INTOLERANCE OF FALSE BRETHREN?** There is a lot of compromising and sin tolerating going on in places today. Paul said concerning *“false brethren...To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for*

*an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you”* (Gal. 2:3-4). Would an unbeliever see this same intolerance among us?

**UNITY?** We are commanded to *“...speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment”* (1 Cor. 1:10). Would an unlearned person find this among us?

**CARE?** Sometimes people can get to wondering if anyone really cares. Paul said, *“...that the members should have the same care one for another”* (1 Cor. 12:25). Would he see care? Would care be expressed to a visiting unbeliever?

**GREETING?** Greeting is often mentioned in the Bible. *“Greet one another with an holy kiss”* (2 Cor. 13:12). *“Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you”* (Phil. 4:21). And many more. Would this visitor see any greeting? Would he be greeted? There are some members who come in at the last second and leave as soon as they can, without greeting all of the brethren or visitors. This is no good!

**REJOICING?** We are told, *“Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice”* (Phil. 4:4).

Would an unbeliever see rejoicing among God’s people? Would an unbeliever want to be joined with a people who are slow, draggy, down, and gloomy all of the time? Being in the Lord is cause for rejoicing always!

**OLD PATHS?** It is written, *“Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein...”* (Jer. 6:16). In a lot of places, the old paths are going extinct and being forgotten. There are many people who desire to *“tell, or to hear some new thing”* (Acts 17:21). Would an unlearned person find the good way among us?

**HYPOCRITES?** There are members of the church who are hypocrites. *“This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me”* (Mt. 15:8). Would they see members of the church say, sing, pray, preach one thing, but go out and live, practice, do another thing?

**THOSE FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING?** When an unbeliever comes and visits, would they see you here? Would you have some part in encouraging them to obey the gospel or would you, by your absence, hinder such encouragement?

## SORRY FOR MY SIN

John Edwards

The Psalmist made this admission, *"For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin"* (Ps. 38:18). Two things stand out: (1) Confession of sin — *"I will declare mine iniquity"*; and (2) Contrition for sin — *"I will be sorry for my sin."* One who is truly sorry for his sin will declare his iniquity.

**CONTRITION.** The concept of contrition for sin is expressed in the various translations of the text: *"I will be sorry for my sin"* (KJV), *"I will be in anguish over my sin"* (NKJV), *"I am troubled by my sin"* (NIV), *"I am grieved for my sin"* (DBY), *"I am deeply sorry for what I have done"* (NLT). A contrite heart is of great value. *"The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit"* (Ps. 34:18). *"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise"* (Ps. 51:17). *"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble,*

*and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."* Do you want to dwell with God? Develop a contrite heart, one that is very much crushed and broken very small by your sin.

**DAVID'S GRIEF OVER HIS SIN.** There is no question David was troubled by sin he committed. *"Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly. For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed....I am like a broken vessel"* (Ps. 31:9-10, 12). *"There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin. For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me. My wounds stink and are corrupt because of my foolishness I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart"* (Ps. 38:3-8). If you had been David, would you have been in anguish

over your sin?

**WHY BE SORRY FOR MY SIN? *Knowing that I have sinned against God.*** *"Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight..."* (Ps. 51:4), said David unto the Lord God of Heaven. ***Considering that Christ suffered for my sins.*** Christ bare our sins in His own body on the tree (1 Pet. 2:24). Reading the crucifixion scenes in the gospel accounts and considering that my sin put Christ on the cross is deeply troubling! ***Reflecting on the hurt that I have caused others.*** Sin hurts those who have been sinned against! *"Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor..."* (Ps. 52:2). Ever been cut by a razor? That hurts! Do you hurt for those you have hurt by your sin? ***Thinking of the damage I have done to myself.*** *"From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores..."* (Is. 1:6). This is what we do to ourselves when we sin!

Contrition for sin should cause us to confess and forsake our sins. *"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy"* (Prov. 28:13).

**The Terre Haute **SPEAKER**** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

### Assembling At:

4017 E Margaret DR  
Terre Haute, IN 47803  
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,  
W on Margaret DR approx. 1 mile]

### Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

***Come be with us!***



***We Speak Where the Bible Speaks.***

***We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.***

***We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.***

**[www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com](http://www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com)**