



# The Anchor



A Publication of Vaughan Baptist Church

Summer Issue

“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast...” Hebrews 6:19

July 2016

## From The Pastor’s Desk Pastor Bill Adams



The Bible is a book of contrasts. There are distinctions made between this world and the world to come; between good and evil; between man and woman; between the unsaved and the saved.

In this quarter’s edition, I want to write on the contrast of love in the last days as depicted between the lost and the saved. I’ve titled my article “**Last Days Love.**”

### THE LOVE OF THE LOST

Jesus described the end times in many different ways. There would be governmental, spiritual and climatic changes but also changes in man himself. He portrayed the unsaved as becoming very self-centered: “*And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold*” (Matthew 24:12). The Apostle Paul further described these days: “*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God*” (2 Timothy 3:1-4).

The unsaved, in particular, will be lovers of their own selves and lovers of pleasure; not lovers of God. These last days that we are living in are perilous

because people are self-focused, living for pleasure and prosperity. This kind of selfish living was to be contrasted by God’s people.

### THE LOVE OF THE SAVED

The New Testament of the Bible starts with the teachings of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the gospels. From there, Luke gives a history of the church in the book of Acts. These books are followed by the epistles, which were the applications of the Lord’s teachings written for the exhortation and instruction of the believers in local churches spread throughout the world at that time. The capstone was the Revelation given to the Apostle John.

There were six authors who wrote the epistles: Paul, Peter, the writer to the Hebrews, James, John, and Jude. Each of these six men appear to genuinely believe they were literally living in the last days and wrote to their readers how to live. They urged their readers to live holy, righteous, godly, unspotted, fruitful, disciplined lives. But, in contrast to the unsaved, they also exhorted the brethren to live

the Christian life with love – not to be selfish but to be selfless.

PAUL. Of the imminent return of Christ, Paul wrote: “*The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light*” (Romans 13:12); “*Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand*” (Phil.4:5). So, in light of Christ’s coming, Paul says love, not with a self-focus but with a sacrificial, self-denying spirit: “*Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law*” (Rom.13:8); “*For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another*” (Gal.5:13); “*With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love*” (Eph.4:2); “*And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment*” (Phil.1:9); “*And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you*” (1 Thes.3:12).

PETER. The Apostle wrote of the “last days scoffers” (2 Peter 3:3) and urged them: “*Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God*” (2 Peter 3:11-12).



Peter wrote: *“But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer”* (1 Peter 4:7). In light of Christ’s coming, the next verse gives his exhortation on love: *“And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins”* (1 Peter 4:8). He adds: *“Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently”* (1 Peter 1:22).

HEBREWS. This unnamed writer urges greater church attendance not lesser as some were doing in the last days: *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”* (Heb.10:25). So with Christ’s coming in view, what does he say, *“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works”* (Heb.10:24). He states further in his epistle, *“Let brotherly love continue”* (Heb.13:1).

JAMES. He exhorts, *“Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh”* (James 5:8). With this day in mind, he writes about their need to love: *“If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well”* (James 2:8).

JOHN. The Apostle warns his readers: *“Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.”* (1 John 2:18). So John urges loving actions: *“For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another”*; *“ We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death”* (1 John 3:11, 14); *“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love”* (1 John 4:7-8).

JUDE. He writes of these days: *“How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts”* (Jude 1:18). In contrast, Jude says, *“Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life”* (Jude 1:21).

There are some things we Christians are not to love. The Apostle John said it succinctly: *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever”* (1 John 2:15-17). John also wrote of those in the future who died for the Lord because: *“They loved not their lives unto the death”* (Revelation 12:11).

These last days are perilous because many will be thinking about themselves and not anyone else. In light of Christ’s imminent coming, we do not find the Scriptural writers warning disciples to build bunkers, store up ammunition and food, to fight against sinful governmental leaders, to form military societies, etc. Among other exhortations, what we do find is a common urging of the disciples to sacrificially and genuinely express and exhibit loving actions. This will stand in contrast to a last days, cold and callous world.

May God help us to be selfless, not selfish; not to use our last days for pleasures and prosperity but live loving lives to the honour and glory of our loving Saviour. Jesus prayed, taught, and lived in light of His last days, *“I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work”* (John 9:4).

May we surrender to the control of the Holy Spirit so that He can produce that fruit of love in our lives (Galatians 5:22). Let me close with a

word from the Apostle Paul that sums it all up: *“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus”* (Philippians 2:3-5).

## YOUTH CORNER

Pastor James Hird

### Our Spiritual GPS

*“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”* John 16:13

How many of you know what a GPS is? GPS stands for Global Positioning System. Many of us have a GPS in our car. If you have a smartphone, you may have a GPS application on it. When you want to go somewhere, you put the address of the place where you would like to go into your GPS, and it will give you turn-by-turn directions and put a picture on the screen showing you how to get there. Isn't that amazing? How does it do that? Well, first of all, the GPS device must have a map of the area where you are located installed. Then it connects to satellites orbiting the earth and the satellites send back information to the GPS which shows the directions on the screen.

That is amazing, but wait, there is even more. The GPS will help you find your way - even if you get lost. If you make a wrong turn, the GPS will adjust the directions to get you back on the right track. It tells you how fast you are going, how far it is to your destination, and what time you will arrive!

Jesus is speaking to His disciples. He is preparing them for His death, burial, resurrection, and return to Heaven. Most of John chapters 14 and 15 are Jesus preparing His disciples for when He would not be physically with them.

He wants to make sure that they understand that He was not leaving them alone. He would send the Comforter, as He is called in verse 7, to be with them. One of the purposes of the Holy Spirit is to guide the disciples as we find here in verse 13.

The Holy Spirit guides us where God wants us. He helps us to understand what God's Word is telling us. This is what Jesus meant when He said, "He will guide you into all truth." It is important for us to recognize that we need the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to truly help us understand what the Bible is telling us. Jesus said in John 14:26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." In this verse, we see Jesus telling us that the Holy Spirit will teach and bring to remembrance the things which we have been taught.

Paul writes this to the Corinthians in 1 Corinthians 2:10-13, "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual." Paul is telling us that we need the guidance from the Holy Spirit. He tells us that God reveals what He wants for us through the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is our GPS and the Bible is our Map. We need the Holy Spirit to guide us through this life. He will always do it according the Bible.

## **A Woman's Window**

**Mrs. Debbie Adams**

### **No Buyers Remorse**

**H**ave you ever made a purchase only to have buyers remorse? The item then finds its way to an attic or some closet. Eventually, it may go into the contents of a yard sale. Maybe it ends up at the dump!

There is something the Scriptures tell us to buy and not to sell at any price. It is the truth! In the fully packed verse of Proverbs 23:23 it says, "Buy the truth and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding." Though we could talk about the "also" things God tells us to buy and not sell, we'll just look at truth.

It happens all the time. We can know what God says in His Word (truth) but for different reasons we compromise! We can be deceived by Satan, worldly ways or our own sinful nature.

Selling the truth happens to men and women, in the home, marriages, child-training, to teenagers, in schools, the work places, and in churches. We've made a deal. Before we know what's happened, we've taken on a standard that is not the pure truth of God and we've sold it and we're doing things all wrong.

When truth is sold, undesirable consequences are left!

For the Christian gal, we need to buy the truth, embrace it in our hearts and put up a "Not For Sale" sign. And there will be no buyers remorse.

## **Foundations In Education**

**Daniel Bousquet**  
**VBCA Principal**

### **Have A Spiritual Summer**

**W**henver the school year comes to a close, students cheer a common refrain "No more pencils, no more books--" I'll stop there because the rest demeans my professional visage. While I understand the sense of relief that comes from the end of graded assignments and academic pursuits for a time, I would caution students—and their families—to be wary of an "ain't gonna learn nothin'" mentality over the summer. When we consider the question, "How would Jesus spend this summer?" We become aware of a deeper purpose than just sleeping in, playing video games, and going on vacations—in other words, checking out from life. We realize that a spiritual summer is God's intention for us. I would like to quickly give us four reminders that God would have us employ for a summer that glorifies Him. None of them are ground-breaking revelations—as a Christian you already know them—but what better time to delve deeper in your spiritual walk with the Lord than right now!

First, study the Scriptures this summer. 2 Timothy 2:15 tells us to "study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." And Joshua 1:8 commands,

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# THE VBC PICTURE



# GALLERY



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*"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."* Get in God's Word this summer! Try to go deep. Maybe do a thorough study of a New Testament book. Do a word study and see how and why it is used in Scripture. Maybe keep a journal; and whenever God touches your heart with a verse, write down the verse and how it spoke to you.

Try to put Psalm 119:11 in practice. It says, *"Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee."* Make a list of verses that you find empowering for combatting sin and memorize them, maybe one verse each day, over the summer so that you have an arsenal to fire back when temptation attacks.

Second, spend time in prayer. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 says to *"pray without ceasing,"* and Colossians 4:2 adds, *"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."* That means we don't get the summer off! In fact, many of us will find we have even more time available for deep, intimate prayer with our Great Saviour. Set a specific time each day that you will commit to prayer and don't let anything interfere with your conversation with God. If you don't already keep a prayer journal, let this be the summer that you start! Write down requests and answers to prayer. You can even write out your prayers, like a diary of your conversations with God. Later you can look back and see how He brought you through the situations and how His will unfolded.

Third, strengthen your church this summer. Many people will be going on vacations and enjoying times with family, which is exciting and understandable—but as much as possible, be in God's house this summer. We're familiar with the admonition given in Hebrews 10:25:

*"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some [is]; but exhorting [one another]: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."* While our church family goes on vacation, other vacationers and first-time visitors may visit our services. Who will be here to welcome them? Who will share the Gospel with them? Beyond attendance, find ways to serve your church. *"For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only [use] not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another"* (Galatians 5:13). James 1:27 adds, *"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, [and] to keep himself unspotted from the world."* What is something you could do that would bless the ministry here, that would bless your brothers and sisters in Christ? It could be helping in a children's ministry or straightening the hymnbooks after a service, cleaning the church buildings or coming out to work days, visiting a church member who is in the hospital or writing letters to our shut-ins or mowing the grass for a widow in the church—there are so many needs and opportunities just waiting for a church member to step in and be used of the Lord this summer.

Last, share the gospel this summer. 1 Peter 3:15 admonishes each of us to *"sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and [be] ready always to [give] an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."* Be ready to tell the world about your Saviour! Carry tracts with you on your summer outings. If you're not certain how to lead someone to the Lord, use this summer to learn. Take some time to memorize the "Romans Road" and other verses that relay the need for and method of salvation. Practice soul winning with your parents, Sunday school teachers, or other believers. But go. Give the gospel. Let the Lord use you to lead others to Him, bringing Him the honour and glory.

My prayer is that we will all put these reminders into practice as we seek to glorify God this summer.

## Inspiring Teenagers

### The Importance of Learning Work Ethic

David Kapauan

**W**ork Ethic: a belief in the moral benefit and importance of work and its inherent ability to strengthen character. Believe it or not, the Bible has a lot to say about work ethic. Although not much is revealed in the Bible about Jesus's teenage years, as the son of a carpenter (Matt 13:55 *"Is not this the carpenter's son?"*), I believe Jesus worked hard and learned a wage earning skill, most probably in carpentry. I'd like to challenge our teenagers to answer these questions honestly and reflect on the Bible verse after each. At home, at school, at work, how consistent is your work ethic?

- ◆ Do you often fail to take care of the things that have been provided for you?

(Pro 18:9 *"He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster."*)

- ◆ Are you constantly asking your parents to buy things for you?

(Pro 21:25 *"The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour. Pro 21:26 He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not."*)

- ◆ Do you make excuses to get out of doing your work?

(Pro 22:13 *"The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets."*)

- ◆ Is your bedroom untidy and unorganized?

(Pro 24:30 *"I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; Pro 24:31 And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof"*

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**Announcements and Events**

**VAUGHAN BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

On Sunday evening, June 19th, the grade eight graduation services were held. Three students were honoured as Pastor Adams preached from the book of Daniel. This summer additional renovations will be done to the third floor of the education building as we prepare for an increased enrolment. So far, there will be two additional students bringing us to a total enrolment of 16. If you have questions about placement for the Fall, 2016 semester, please call Principal Daniel Bousquet or go to the VBCA website at:

[www.vaughanbaptistacademy.org](http://www.vaughanbaptistacademy.org)



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, August 14th**  
**Friend Day and BBQ**  
 (no evening service)

**Tuesday, September 6th**  
**First Day of School**

**Sunday, September 18th**  
**25th Anniversary Service**



**Our Schedule of Services**

**MINISTRIES ON SUNDAY**  
 Sunday School  
     for all ages           10:00 am  
 Morning Worship           11:00 am  
 Evening Service           6:00 pm  
*We have fully staffed and supervised nurseries at all services.*

**MINISTRIES ON WEDNESDAY**  
 Bible Study and  
 Prayer Meeting           7:00 pm

*We are an Independent Fundamental Baptist Church, located in the heart of Woodbridge, Ontario, Canada. The Church is located 5 minutes north of Metropolitan Toronto and 20 minutes from Toronto Pearson International Airport, and only a 40 minute drive from downtown Toronto.*

**William E. Adams, D.Min.,**  
 Senior Pastor  
**James Hird, B.Th.,**  
 Youth Pastor

**THE ANCHOR**  
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Would you like to share your testimony? Do you have a special story, event, prayer request or any other information you would like to share with your church family?

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 was broken down.”)*

- ◆ Do you sleep more than is necessary?  
 (Pro 6:9 “How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Pro 6:10 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: Pro 6:11 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.”)
- ◆ Do you have to be reminded to do your simple daily chores?  
 (Pro 26:15 “The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.”)
- ◆ Do you have a lot of idle time? Do you watch TV or play video games too much?  
 (Pro 19:15 “Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.”)
- ◆ Do you work harder when a teacher is watching you?  
 (Pro 6:6-8 “Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.”)
- ◆ Do you look for reasons to put off doing a job?  
 (Pro 20:4 “The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.”)
- ◆ And finally, were you too proud to answer the questions honestly?  
 (Pro 26:16 “The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.”)

