

**Today's Order of Worship**

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Greg Lowery

On the Table: Head - Ralph Burleson  
Servers - Josh Berryhill  
Gary Addison  
Lannie Key

Closing Prayer: Al Corkren

Preparing the Lord's Supper Amelia Key

**Weekly Service Times**

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am  
Morning Worship 10:45 am  
Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

**Visit Our Website**

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

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Leonard Key / David Key

Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

Minister: Greg Lowery

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# Treasuring The Amazing Grace Of God



*The  
Brilliant  
Beacon*



**But God**

By Winfred Clark

We are told that this phrase will appear nearly 160 times in the Bible. Among other things, this phrase will say, “until you have seen what is said here, you do not have the whole answer”. There may be a number of statements made, or there may be a number of claims uttered, but until one has seen what God has to say, he does not have the final word.

For the next few weeks, we plan to look at some of these phrases. They should help us to see some things of our God.

**I. Luke 12:20**

But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

You will recognize this language. You will know that this is God’s statement to the rich farmer in the parable our Lord used. But what was the occasion? Why would the Lord present God in this fashion? What would prompt God to make such a statement?

In the context, there was a man who had opportunity to listen to the Son of God. But he was more interested in things like lands than about the Lord. He would, thus, make a request that Jesus talk to his brother. He said, “Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me“ (Luke 12:13). His main concern would center on material things and not on things that would concern the soul. He would use the Lord to try and gain such. You will note that Jesus would not allow himself to be used in this way. He said, “Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you“ (Luke 12:14)? Jesus knew that this man’s problem would involve more than the divisions of lands. He would warn against the matter of covetousness.

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Faye Cotton: please continue to pray that she continues her fight against cancer and that she will win

Danny Berryhill: having trouble with blood clots, please pray that he can receive help with this problem

Laraine Foss: please be praying that she has good days and good nights and keep Arlen in your prayers also while they are undergoing this very difficult trial

Dewight Kitchens: (Al’s Boss) has been diagnosed with colon cancer, please be praying that this cancer can be treated

Alice Foster: was diagnosed with congestive heart failure and having problems with her lungs, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Rainey: she has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Maylene McWhirter: her blood gases are showing signs of myeloid leukemia, please be praying for her and her family

Chad Henderson: this young man is battling cancer, please pray that he will be able to receive treatment that will help him in his fight with this terrible disease

Jack Waldon: {Linda’s Brother-In-Law} he is under hospice care, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Billy Lee: {Carolyn’s Brother} diagnosed with renal failure, please keep him in your prayers

Connie Autrey: recent scans show that the cancer is shrinking, please continue to pray that the treatments will continue to work in defeating her cancer

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Arthur Ewing: has lung cancer, please pray that he will be able to receive treatment that can help him

Robeana Green: has been diagnosed with cancer, please be praying that with treatments that this cancer can be defeated

Jamie Long: his liver is failing him and he is on the list to receive a liver transplant, please be keeping him in your prayers

**Upcoming Events**

|                        |                                       |          |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Today                  | Nursing Home                          | 2:00 pm  |
| April 15 <sup>th</sup> | John O’Neal<br>{ Missionary Report }  | 10:00 am |
| April 15 <sup>th</sup> | Fellowship Meal                       |          |
| April 15 <sup>th</sup> | Bible Bowl<br>{ Berea }               | 2:00 pm  |
| April 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Dorian Flynn<br>{ Missionary Report } | 10:00 am |

The Lord would speak of a farmer whose ground produced more than was needed. But rather than using it to aid other people, he would use it all for himself. In fact, he made plans and said, “Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry“ (Luke 12:19). It is against this sort of a background that you have the statement “but God”. What God has to say about the matter will differ largely from what that fellow has to say. It is then that we begin to see what “but God” will mean in this passage.

For one thing, it will mean GOD KNOWS WHAT MEN THINK AND SAY. You will notice that it says of the farmer, “And he thought within himself” (Luke 12:17). You will see that it also says, “and he said” (Luke 12:18). So we know what he thought and what he said, but we know it because the Lord told us. He knew it before it was revealed to us.

We can be assured that God is aware of all the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do (Heb. 4:13).

Nothing will escape the notice of the Almighty. Didn’t the Psalmist know this? He said, “Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off“ (Psalm 139:2). There is not a movement made by man that God does not know. There is not a thought in the mind of which God is not aware. So this kind of thing would cause the writer to say,

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:  
And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting (Psalm 139:23-24).

We would have to say there is a great difference between the psalmist and the rich farmer. He does not act as if God is aware of such knowledge. Such would cause him to be more careful with his mind and what he would think. He would be more cautious about what he had to say. If that was true of him, surely it should be with all of us.

In the second place, this phrase will mean GOD WILL ALWAYS HAVE THE FINAL SAY. Yes, we are aware of what this rich farmer would have to say. But he does not have the last word. He can say what he will about the matter. God will have the final say. Jesus would reaffirm this when He said,

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day (John 12:48).

When men have made all their plans and have said all they have to say, God will have the last word. The final conclusion has not been reached until we hear what God has to say. When God said, “this day is thy soul required,” that was the final verdict. It would not make any difference how many plans had been made nor what the man might say.

Since God is to have the last word, then surely a man should see the importance of paying attention to what God has to say before he makes his plans. Should God have been consulted by the rich farmer before he made his plans? If God is going to have the last word about our plans, then surely they ought to be submitted to God beforehand. To do otherwise is to act as this man.

In the third place, this means GOD’S WAYS ARE NOT LIKE MAN’S. God didn’t think like this man. But that should come as no surprise (Isa. 55:8-10). The prophet has already told us this. This means that I ought to change my thinking to be like God’s.

*Expositions of the Expositor*, vol. 2, p. 498-500.

## **Bible Reasons For Christian Living**

By Winfred Clark

We live in a day and age when people are looking for reasons. That is good. Such an approach will cause one to act in a fashion that is intelligent. There are also cases where one may be told to do, or not do a thing. That person may respond by saying “Why?”. That is, they want to know the reason. If you take the time to look at your Bible, you will see some reasons outlined as to the “why” people ought to live right.

### **1. To Save The Lost**

This is clearly spelled out. Peter speaks to the wife who has the husband that is not a Christian. She is told to, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. (1 Peter 3:1-2). Notice that the wife is told what to do, and she is also told why she is to conduct herself in that way. In short, her life is to be lived in such a way that she may be a Christian influence and save the husband.

### **2. To Silence The Opposition**

This is surely seen the language of Paul to Titus. Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you (Titus 2:8). The man that is a Christian is to so speak and so act that nobody can have any real reason to speak a word against him. He may not agree with what he believes but he cannot deny the kind of life he lives. This was true in the case of Daniel.

### **3. To Support The Truth**

Listen to the language of Paul, “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ” (Phil. 1:27). This passage calls for a life that will support the gospel. It will be a life that attracts people to the gospel rather than having them repulsed by such. One would not listen to one like the priest or Levite that passed by on the other side of the road. He would however pay some attention to what one like the Samaritan had to say. Surely the gospel would make one more like the Samaritan than the priest and Levite. Yes, there are reasons for living the life a Christian is to live.

*Expositions of the Expositor*, vol. 1, p. 469-470.