

While blood oozed from His pores as sweat,  
He prayed with loud cries and tears,  
He prayed in sorrow and distress,  
And was heard for His godly fear.

Where Christ oft met His disciples,  
Within that refuge garden,  
Judas Iscariot arrived  
Because his heart was hardened.

The traitor brought a multitude  
Carrying torches, clubs, and swords.  
He greeted his Rabbi with a kiss  
To be paid in silver rewards.

Peter cut off Malchus's ear,  
But Jesus said to sheathe his sword,  
And healed the high priest's servant,  
For this was the will of the Lord.

Jesus asked, *"Whom are you seeking?"*  
He was the One who stepped forward.  
They said His name and He claimed it.  
Then, they staggered – the cowards.

Though under arrest, Christ held control,  
Telling them, *"Let these go their way."*  
*"Then they all forsook Him and fled."*  
His friends lived to see another day.

Ready now to drink the cup,  
The Savior let them bind Him,  
*"That the Scriptures might be fulfilled,"*  
And there we can still find Him.

(Matthew 26:36-56; Mark 14:32-50; Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-12; Hebrews 5:7)

## GOPHERWOOD OR GOPHER FOREST?

James Hahn

In seeking to impress upon the minds of individuals the importance of respecting the authority of God's word, we use the example of God commanding Noah to build the ark of gopherwood (Genesis 6:14). When God commanded Noah to build the ark of gopherwood, we note, and correctly so, that Noah would be in rebellion to God if he used any other wood to build the ark. As simple as this illustration may be, we still find many who ridicule the example.

In November 1976, F. L. Lemley wrote an article which appeared in "Integrity" magazine entitled "The Law of Exclusion," in which he rejects and ridicules the idea that when God authorizes a particular thing, then anything other than that authorized would be displeasing to God. In an effort to prove his point, he uses the example of Noah.

He says, "the assumption that gopherwood was a specific variety of wood cannot be proved" and "Some translate 'gopherwood' as 'resinous wood,' which is not a specific variety, but would include cypress, redwood, or other varieties." He goes on to say that one person had suggested that "it could mean wood from a nearby forest known as Gopher."

What Mr. Lemley fails to note is if what he says about gopherwood is true, the example remains the same. If gopherwood simply means "resinous wood," then for Noah to obey God, he could only use "resinous wood." To use non-resinous wood would be disobedience to God. Suppose gopherwood referred to wood from a forest by that name. Would that change the force of the argument? Certainly not! It would simply mean that Noah was to build the ark of wood from "Gopher Forest." Wood from any other source would not be acceptable.

Let gopherwood mean whatever you want it to mean, but the fact still remains that God told Noah to build the ark of gopherwood and, had he built it of any other kind of wood, he would have been in rebellion to God. We can't justify rebellion to God by making foolish quibbles.

***"WHAT MUST I DO  
TO BE SAVED?"***

***ACTS 16:30***

**LEARN THE GOSPEL**

John 6:45; Romans 10:17

**BELIEVE IN CHRIST**

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16

**CONFESS CHRIST**

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

**REPENT OF SIN**

Acts 3:19; 17:30

**BE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST**

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6

**REMAIN STEADFAST**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

***"THE ASSEMBLING OF  
OURSELVES TOGETHER"***

***HEBREWS 10:24-25***

**SUNDAY**

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

Studies @ 11:45 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

Studies & Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

75 Sherrod Boulevard  
Belén, New Mexico

**Seekers Welcome.  
Members Expected.**

***"IF A MAN IS OVERTAKEN IN  
ANY TRESPASS...  
RESTORE SUCH A ONE"***

***GALATIANS 6:1***

**CONFESS TRESPASSES**

James 5:16; 1<sup>st</sup> John 1:9

**REPENT OF SIN**

Acts 8:22

**PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS**

Acts 8:22

**REMAIN STEADFAST**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

***"A WORD FITLY SPOKEN IS  
LIKE APPLES OF GOLD IN  
SETTINGS OF SILVER"***

***PROVERBS 25:11***

"People resist change because they focus on what they have to give up instead of what they have to gain."

***"WHOLE COUNSEL"***

***ACTS 20:27***

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**GETHSEMANE**

Bryan Matthew Dockens

Upon the Mount of Olives,  
In the garden Gethsemane,  
Jesus brought Peter, James, and John,  
Telling them, *"Watch"* and *"Pray with Me."*

But their eyes were heavy, and  
The disciples were found sleeping.  
Sorrow exhausted them all  
While the anguished Lord was weeping.

A stone's throw away from there,  
He went on to a lonesome place.  
Stooping with exceeding sorrow,  
The Master fell upon His face.

With an angel giving Him strength,  
*"Abba, Father,"* Jesus did pray,  
*"Not as I will, but as You will,"*  
*"From Me, take this cup away."*

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