

## The DEFENDER—January 2022



“. . . defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

A monthly publication of the  
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast  
and the Cub Hill Bible Presbyterian Church.



### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: Hitting the Iceberg

There came a point in time when the Titanic could not avoid hitting the iceberg. It's called the point of no return. There was nothing that the captain or the crew could do to avoid the impending disaster. The time had come when the ship was going down. That time may have come to America as well. The luxury liner which has become the most prosperous country in the history of the world is facing the inevitable. The sinking of our economy is a result of reaping what you sow, and whereas we have been sowing the winds of bad economics by bad, evil people, we're about to reap the whirlwinds of fiscal catastrophe unseen since the days of the Great Depression.

It was bound to happen. The Progressive Left is causing the country to be destroyed from within, effectively doing to America that which we always thought would be accomplished from without. They want to destroy capitalism and institute a socialist government. They want the political correctness of the cancel culture to divide the races, genders, and classes through the implementation of Critical Race Theory in our schools and businesses. It is an evil attack by evil people. Any hope of halting this plunge into the dustbin of history will necessitate hitting rock bottom, which seems to be where the Biden regime is taking us.

If we make it to next November, and that's a big if, the conservative turnout needs to be overwhelming as we'll likely need to overcome fraudulent voting again by the Democrat machine. Otherwise, we'll follow the path taken by every great nation or empire before us. It's a cycle of doom. Oxford anthropologist J.D. Unwin concluded that cultures go through four stages: Pain, Productive, Prosperous, and Promiscuous. Couple this with the spiritual declension in our society today and you can see that America is dying, or stated more succinctly, committing national suicide. As churches first fell prey to higher-criticism, which then morphed into Neo-Orthodoxy, the current apostate ecumenical movement couldn't help but follow. When any country turns away from the God of the Bible, and from the great truths the Bible reveals upon which their nation once rested, the same results that has fallen upon other nations will come to theirs. A nation that once knew the truth cannot turn away from it to an empty religion and expect the blessing of God upon it.

I don't see America anywhere in Bible prophecy, so any reprieve the Lord gives us may be our last breath of freedom on this earth. But to those trusting in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, we have a future freedom unimaginable to us. I'll let the apostle Paul take it from here: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (Roman's 8:18)...for eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for them that love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). Happy New Year everyone!!

Rev. David Lewis

## Spurgeon's Warning Against "Little Sins"

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892) was born in Essex, England and raised the son of a Christian Pastor and the grandson of a Christian Pastor. He was not converted until 1850, but later that same year he preached his first sermon to a gathering of farmers. In 1851, a village congregation called him to be their pastor at age 19. In 1854, he was again called to Pastor the "New Park Street Chapel" in London which later was renamed the Metropolitan Tabernacle. Soon thereafter, Spurgeon's sermons were published weekly from 1855 until 1916. Before long, Spurgeon was leading a congregation of upwards of 6,000 people each Sunday and wrote a monthly magazine (The Sword and the Trowel - Neh. 4:7-18). Toward his end and wracked with pain, Spurgeon preached the same simple gospel of Jesus Christ until his death in 1892, and he remained a prayer warrior of unquestioned faith in the boundless grace of God.

An example of both the simplicity "and" the profundity of Spurgeon's preaching is apparent in his sermon titled, "Little Sins" (which he based upon Gen. 19:20). He noted too that it was only a "little sin" that brought Adam and all his generation to ruin and eternal death under the just punishment of God's wrath (Gen 2:17; 3:1-7, 15-22). Ever since mankind's fall in Eden, the evil Father of lies has used many subterfuges to bring ruin to men's souls. To some he says, you come too early to Christ, to others, you are too late.

When any step off Christ's narrow way into the shallow waters of "little sins," it always leads into the deeper waters of rebellion against a holy loving God. Spurgeon's purpose was to work to put a biblical sword into believers' hands to resist Satan and his lies about "little sins" (Ep. 6:16-17; James 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8).

Spurgeon preached that the wisest of men were well aware of and duly on guard against the supposed littleness of sin. Holy martyrs of God stood ready to endure terrible torments rather than abandon the path of truth and righteousness. He mentioned some like Daniel who worshipped God at his window three times every day, even in defiance of Kings' decrees. He could have prayed silently or in an inner chamber instead of his open window, but Daniel would rather face lions than to dishonor or disobey God or go lead others astray.

Following Daniel came the three young Hebrews who would bow the knee to none but God. They refused to bow before and worship a lifeless golden idol. They would rather burn "FOR" God than turn "FROM" God. They would suffer and die but refused to bow in a "little sin."

Spurgeon spoke of early faithful Christians like the elder Martin Arethusa who led his people to pull down the Temple of idols in his city. The Emperor Julian commanded death if they did not rebuild the Temple, but Arethusa spoke against this false worship. He was offered his life if he would contribute but one penny to the rebuild. Martin refused to commit even this "little sin" against God to save his life.

Our Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed that He came "not to destroy God's Law" or the "prophets." "I am not come to destroy but to fulfill, for verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass not on jot

(period) or one tittle (punctuation mark) shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled” (Matt. 5:17-18). More than Jesus just restating God’s Ten Commandments, he added to and enhanced the power of them (Matt. 5:21-22, 27-28, etc.). Christ, then and now, calls His sheep to be “perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect” (Matt. 5:48). In another place, He noted that “with man this is impossible, but not with God” (Mark 10:27). We have the perfection of Christ (John 3:14-17) to cover “our sins” (Gen. 3:21; Is. 61:10).

The stealing of a single coin breaks the same commandment as stealing a trainload of coins. Whether little or large, sin must be repented of and forsaken. In either case, breaking the commandment is just as destructive and dishonoring to the Lord.

Adam was created capable of keeping his one commandment from God, yet he fell into a “little sin” of just eating one piece of fruit and therefore brought the judgment of death upon himself and all his descendants. The breach seems very small but was defiantly rebellious, nonetheless. From Genesis to Revelation, “little sins” remain monumental errors in God’s sight so that Jesus said, “Remember Lot’s wife” (Luke 17:32).

Satan tempts believers to think that some sins are too small to require sorrowful repentance, but we must refuse his lies that can mar our fellowship with our “Good Shepherd” (John 10:6-14). While truly regenerated sinners cannot lose their salvation or eternal life (1 John 5:13) they can lose rewards and peace and have God turn away from their prayers as David experienced (2 Sam. 12:13-23). Jesus bled and died for “ALL SINS” and taught, “If you keep my commandments and abide in my love ye shall have my Father’s love” (John 15:8-14).

There are professed Christians living in this last “LAODICEAN Age” (Rev. 3:14-22) as being worldly wealthy, “...and have need of nothing yet are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.” Christ says, “buy of Me gold tried in fire” and “white raiment” and “be clothed,” and “anoint thine eyes” and be “zealous and REPENT” (Rev. 3:16-19). None can be truly content without spiritually seeing the heavenly Father’s face. To attempt to hide (Gen. 3:7-9) whether behind a wall of huge boulders or one of tiny pebbles (“little sins”) the sad result is the same. The vast sea that divides us from our Lord Christ is millions of droplets of tiny sins. Sinners who will live and walk with Christ and have His Holy Spirit abide permanently in their hearts must beware of the “little foxes that spoil the vines” (Song. 2:15).

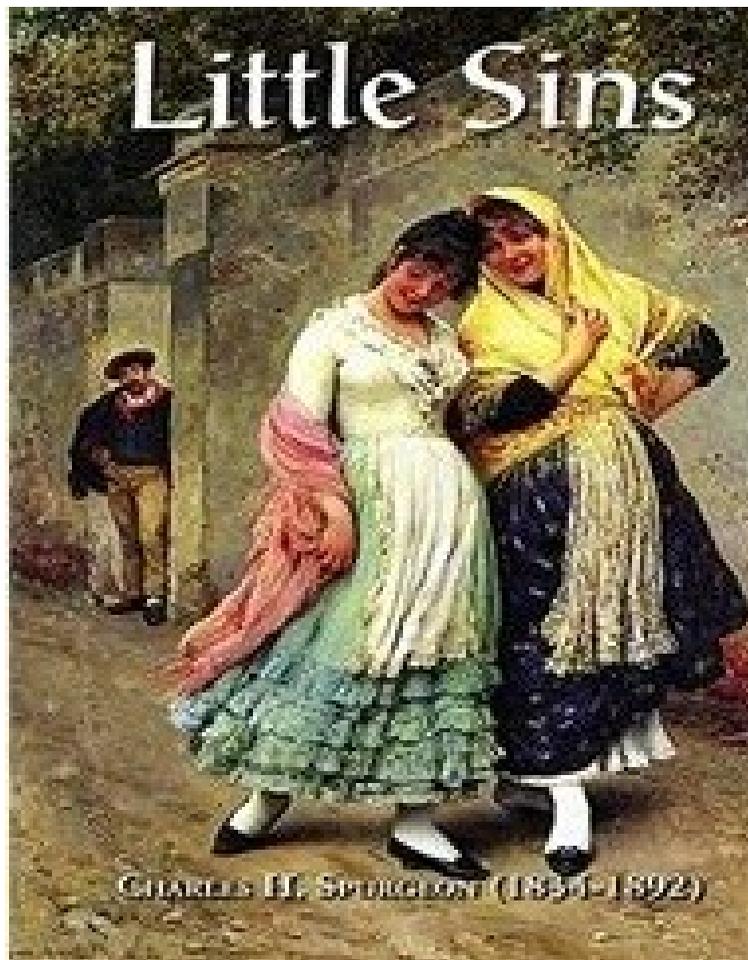
Satan often comes with the lying temptation, “Is it not but a little sin?” Yet to fall for a small petty theft is another deadly lie which once wantonly indulged in, stands in the way of an unbeliever’s salvation. “The Foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth (loveth) them that are His.” “Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity” (2 Tim. 2:19).

Christ reveals salvation to everyone who now hates “all their sins” even the supposed “little sins.” To harbor little sins is a sure block to Christ’s free grace and mercy and forgiveness. God cannot and will not be at one with any who rebelliously holds onto favorite sins. Little sins show the one holding on to them is yet “...in the gall of bitterness” and the “bond of iniquity” (Acts. 8:23).

Those who continue to harbor little sins are still not right with God and remain a stranger to divine grace. Wrath still abides on them until God changes their hearts. To remain unrepentant is not “little sin”, but little sinners end in the “Lake of Fire” also (Rev. 20:14-15).

And He said, "...I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end...I will give...the water of life freely...I will be his GOD and he shall be My son" (Rev. 21:6-8). And the Spirit and the bride say, "COME...TAKE the water of Life freely" (Rev. 22:17). Thank the Lord and Charles Haddon Spurgeon.

Keep looking up (Luke 21:28).



## **God Has a Plan for YOU**

**By Nancy Long**

*Psalm 37:23a – “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: ..... “*

*Proverbs 16:9 – “A man’s heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.”*

*Jeremiah 29:11 – “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”*

*1 Thess. 5:16-18 – “Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”*

*The birth of a new year usually brings with it a sense of anticipation, expectancy, high hopes, and even joy ..... looking to a new beginning ..... a fresh start. Resolutions, promises, and good intentions, are made in abundance. Determinations are in place, making firm in one’s mind, hoping, and perhaps even praying, that these vows and goals being fixed will make for better human beings. There will be a brand new year, an unspoiled new day, another opportunity to rid oneself of old bad habits and adopt new good ones. We can, and we will, (we say) ..... mend ourselves.*

*Mending, though, is not the answer. The fact is, states C.H. Spurgeon, “Mending will not answer; ‘you must be born again’ ..... What is wanted is that you should be made a new creature in Christ Jesus. You must be dead and buried in Christ, and risen again in Him, and then all will be well, for He will have made all things new.”*

*People can, and do, make plans ..... What must be remembered though, is that it’s God who determines the outcome. God has a beautiful and unique purpose for each one of His children ..... a perfect plan and design, a prearranged sequence of intentions. He knew us before we were even formed in our mother’s womb. We are indeed “fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:13-14).*

*All of us Defenders, I believe, desire a life that would be pleasing to God. Do we, though, have the faith, to not only believe in, but to trust in, His perfect plan for each of our days ..... the days He’s purposed for us to live here on this earth? Living a godly life was never promised to be easy or pain free. In fact, Scripture exhorts, “In the world ye shall have tribulations” but then, “be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33b). However, what we have been promised is that all things ..... grief, pain, suffering, tears, heartache, even persecution and/or death ..... “all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose” (Rom. 8:28).*

*God is sovereign over all things. God has created all things. God sustains all things. He is King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Master Designer/Potter, and He directs everything according to His own will and purpose. "We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath foreordained that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:10). He loves us! Let me say that again ..... He loves us!! Why would we not submit our lives to such a One as this?!*

*We, children of the Most High, thankfully, have not been called to stay on this narrow path in our own strength, but in His. The only way to endure the tests, trials, and tribulations He sends our way, and to stand strong when the storms of life begin to blow, is to know without a doubt, that we serve a God who is sovereign and in control. Just to reiterate, God loves us!!!*

*God is working in us believers to make us to be more like Himself, purifying our lives with those trials, as gold is purified when passing through fire.*

*God's eternal purpose is in place! May we, who name the name of Christ, relinquish any right we think we might have, or perhaps we think we should have, and yield to His molding and shaping ..... accepting and also expecting, His promised "perfect peace" (Isaiah 26:3).*

*As Christians we are called to walk in a manner, worthy of our calling (Eph. 4:1), not necessarily just to make resolutions at the beginning of each new year. We have been placed on a path (His path). We have been given the Holy Spirit, who lives within. God assures us that He loves us. His thoughts are good, precious, and ones of peace. He will never, no, not ever, leave or forsake His own, and He promises to stay with us until the end (Psalm 39:17, Jer. 29:11, Heb. 13:5b, and Phil. 1:6).*

*We have been given a wealth of knowledge, my Defender friends. I pray we use it to bless those whom we meet, and to be a testimony to help draw others to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Be grateful, and rejoice in each day He gives (Psalm 118:24).*

***"Every day I will bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name for ever and ever"  
(Psalm 145:2)***



## Thoughts for the New Year

By Hank Arthur

### Hope

Hope makes a heart to rejoice in anticipation of things yet unseen.  
It encourages faith in your future and gives something on which to lean.  
Knowing God and believing His promise to never leave, forget, nor forsake  
Gives strength to face the tomorrows with all of the courage it takes.

Hope is the Spirit of the Father walking with us down life's road.  
It's there during life's sickness and sorrow and stays with us in our abode.  
It sits with you during your dinner and watches over you while you sleep.  
Hope is leading and guiding you and helping your soul to keep.

When you place your unwavering hope in the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Ghost,  
You have the architect of the universe at your call when you need Him most.  
Accept Jesus as your Lord and Master, believe in the Father above,  
Hope for a better tomorrow, then bask in the Father's love.

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### Renewal

Would you like to live victoriously? Be in charge of every day?  
Well, you can, my friend, if you will live, the good old Christian way.  
Renew your mind, transform your life, make the Bible your Daily guide,  
Walk each day firmly believing that Christ is walking by your side.

Renew your speech, close your lips, don't let angry words get past.  
Reply in a gentle compassionate way. Remember, only love will last.  
Be careful where you spend your time, and who you call your friend.  
When living in a constant storm, even the mighty oak will bend.

Be not conformed to this world. Set your goals on a higher plane.  
Be willing to walk a separate path and suffer a little pain.  
Walk in faith and renew your habits. Victory may be over the next hill.  
Don't hesitate, just be willing to surrender to God's will.

*Have a blessed 2022!*

*Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.*

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#### **DEFENDER CONTRIBUTORS**

Rev. David R. Lewis, MDiv., Director, IDOT  
Robert Luthardt, Sr., Elder, CHBPC  
Nancy Long, Member, CHBPC  
Hank Arthur, Defender

#### **WRITE TO US!**

Rev. David Lewis &  
In Defense of Truth  
2927 Cub Hill Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21234

#### **Upcoming Events!**

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM