

WING JAMES BIBLE USED FOR ALL REFERENCES TO GOD'S WORD IN THIS NEWSPAPER

The Original BAPTIST OBSERVER



"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, and ye shall find rest for your souls..." Jeremiah 6:16

Sounding Out The Faith

August 2020

The Satanic Trinity

There is a common idea that the devil works only in the saloon, night clubs, and underworld. He already has those people in those places. His real work is in "high places", spiritual places. His strongest fortification is in the religious world.

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." II Corinthians 11:13-15

God is a Trinity and New Testament churches are commanded to baptize in the name of the Trinity.

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18-20

Satan also works as a trinity. Unlike God, Satan's trinity is not holy. Satan's trinity is unclean and unholy.

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet." Revelation 16:13

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations." Revelation 13:1-7

Satan is a counterfeit of God the Father. Satan's first sin was trying to be like God. He tried to usurp the place of God in relation to man.

"For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High." Isaiah 14:13-14

Satan is the god of this world.

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." II Corinthians 4:4

Satan has his children just as God has His children.

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44

"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:26

Satan has his angels trying to mimic God having His angels.

"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels," Revelation 12:7

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" Matthew 25:41

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The Anti-Christ is a counterfeit of Jesus Christ. The Anti-Christ will imitate the coming of Christ. Today, the Lord's people are looking for the return of Christ. However, the world is looking for a "super-man" to answer the problems of the world and to bring peace. The Anti-Christ will answer the world's idea of what "god" should be and they will accept him as their "savior".

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:" II Thessalonians 2:8

Satan will approve the ministry of the Anti-Christ as the Father approved the ministry of Jesus.

"Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders," II Thessalonians 2:9

"Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:" Acts 2:22

The Anti-Christ will imitate the death and resurrection of Christ.

"And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live." Revelation 13:3, 14

The Anti-Christ will be a king over kings trying to imitate Jesus' position as King of Kings.

"And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations." Revelation 13:7

"And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." Revelation 19:16

The Anti-Christ will demand to be worshipped even as Christ, who is God, deserves to be worshipped.

"And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?" Revelation 13:4

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:9-11

The Anti-Christ will bring in a "mock" peace trying to imitate the millennium where Jesus will rule and bring true peace to this earth.

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." I Thessalonians 5:2, 3 "And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand." Daniel 8:25

The False Prophet will be a counterfeit of the Holy Spirit. The False Prophet will glorify the Anti-Christ as the Holy Spirit glorifies Christ.

"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. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you." John 16:13-14

"And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed." Revelation 13:12

The False Prophet will counterfeit the work of the Holy Spirit in working miracles. The working of miracles was a spiritual gift given to the New Testament churches before the Word of God was completed in order to confirm the Word. The False Prophet will work miracles in order to deceive.

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." I Corinthians 12:13

"And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen." Mark 16:20

"And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live." Revelation 13:13-14

The False Prophet will have a "life-giving" power in imitation of the Holy Spirit.

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." John 6:63

"But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Romans 8:11

"And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." Revelation 13:15

The False Prophet will "seal" his followers imitating the sealing of the Holy Spirit.

"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Ephesians 4:30

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise," Ephesians 1:13

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:" Revelation 13:16 The doom of the Satanic trinity is foretold in the Bible.

"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." Revelation 19:20

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season." Revelation 20:1-3

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." Revelation 20:10

Will you be allied with the Divine Trinity or with the Satanic trinity?

The doom of the unsaved will be the same as that for the Satanic trinity.

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book opened, which is the was book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:11-15

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:25-28

Blind Children in God's Family

Salvation is equated to the "opening of blind eyes" and "shedding of light" in the Scriptures.

"And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." John 1:5

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." John 3.19

"Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him. And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth." John 9:35-41

So, this poses the question, would a blind man know that his sight had been restored? The answer, obviously, is yes, the blind would realize his sight had been restored. However, when we consider the work of the devil, it may be harder to continue to recognize the beautiful gift of "sight" that has been given to the blind.

Satan is always at work trying to keep God's children from following Him and growing in His Word. The devil wants nothing more than for God's children to be "stunted" in their growth.

"Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me." II Peter 1:1-14

Things of the Spirit are spiritually discerned.

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are All can know the way of salvation. Jesus offers salvation freely to all who will accept the Gospel message by repentance and faith.

"Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:" Romans 3:22

"Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." Acts 20:21

However, salvation is not all God wants us to have. You see, it is not enough to just "see". God desires that we would have "full vision" and "sight". After one is saved and given "sight", we must grow and mature and learn how to use this "sight" God has given us to the fullest potential.

This begins with Scriptural baptism after salvation and then uniting with a Scriptural New Testament church where we can learn and be taught to grow in this "sight" we have been given.

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." I Timothy 2:3-4

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18-20

Then one must study in order to grow in this "sight", salvation, we have been given. II Peter is clear that if we do not grow in our salvation by studying, we will be going back to that old "blind" way of life. The devil loves nothing more than to try to get us to live like the world in blindness, not using the "sight" God has given us. As a New Testament church member, the Holy Spirit is given as Comforter to guide us into all truth, and even the deep truths of God. This allows us to "see" the great beauty and love in the Word of God. If a child of God fails to study and grow, they will be as "blind" in their life for the Lord, never fully grasping the depths of His love.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15

"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

"But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." I Corinthians 2:10

"That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God." Ephesians 3:16-19

It is only after the inner man that one desires and delights in the Word of God and things spiritual. The outward man, carnal man, sees the things of God as

foolishness, as it was to us when we were lost. After we are saved, that new man, the inward man, must be fed and nurtured in order to overcome that old nature of ours.

"For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members." Romans 7:22-23

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." I Corinthians 2:14

As we feed the inner man, our "sight" becomes greater and we are able to grow. Our growth comes by adding, according to II Peter. We begin by adding to our faith, virtue, then to our virtue, knowledge, temperance to knowledge, patience to temperance, Godliness to patience, brotherly kindness to Godliness, and then love to brotherly kindness.

The definition of the word study implies to hurry and the need for urgency. In our spiritual lives we either are growing or we become stagnant, stunted in our growth. As newborn babes we are to desire the milk of the Word. If we do not "eat" spiritually, we will become stunted and our "sight" then becomes dim.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:" I Peter 2:2

We should not stay as babes, but we should be growing by studying and allowing the Holy Spirit to teach us more of the depths found in the Word of God.

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Hebrews 5:12-14

To lack this growth is to only see surface things. We cannot lose our salvation, "sight", but we can be blinded spiritually in the sense that we can only see a little bit. We will never know the beauty and depth of the riches of God's love if we continue in our "babe" state. God desires to have a mature relationship with His children in full fellowship. That can only happen when we grow out of our "babe" spiritual state and go on to continuing maturity in God's Word. As we mature, we will see new depths in God's Word as the Holy Spirit teaches us we will continue to grow until one day we are called home in death or raptured when Jesus returns.

There is no excuse for God's children to be "blinded" once again. He did not intend for us to be saved, given "sight", and then to be satisfied as a little "babe". God desires a maturity in His children that they might see His glory and wondrous works in full understanding of His sacrifices for us.

"And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God," Ephesians 3:9-10

What is the Bible?

The Bible is a library of books that were divinely inspired by God.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." II Timothy 3:16-17

None of its teachings is of private interpretation, but is written by holy men simply used as "pens" of God to record His words. It is a library of books spoken by the Holy Spirit through men.

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." II Peter 1:20-21

"Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus." Acts 1:16

"And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers," Acts 28:25

The Bible is a library of truth and contains no mixture of error. It is true. Because it is a library of books dictated by God in order to reveal God and God's will for man, it is not for man to add to it or take away from it.

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." Proverbs 30:5-6

"God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged." Romans 3:4

"Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever." Psalm 119:160

"And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." Revelation 22:19

The Bible is the only and sole revelation of God to man. The Bible will not pass away, it is eternal.

"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven." Psalm 119:89

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matthew 24:35

"For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Matthew 5:18

The Bible gives life and it converts lives to follow after God. The Bible is the revealed Word of God. It speaks to us of Jesus.

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." I Peter 1:23

"But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." Luke 22:32

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." John 5:39

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple." Psalm 19:7

The Bible is the standard for men's conduct because it is from God, the creator of mankind. The Bible shows us how to cleanse our ways. It is a guide for our pathway of life. It will furnish us for everything we need in this life.

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." Psalm 119:8-11

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105

"That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." II Timothy 3:17

The Bible shows Christ as the center of all things. Moses and the prophets were written concerning Christ. The Bible prophesies the ultimate purpose and accomplishment of Christ.

"Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." Luke 24:25-27

"And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures," Luke 24:44-45

"Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, vet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the

living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." Isaiah 53:1-12

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. . . . He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace." John 1:1-5, 10-16

The Bible will be the books out of which all mankind will be judged. The Bible will not only judge man, but it will accuse.

"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

"Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?" John 5:45-47

Last eve I stood before a blacksmith's door,

And heard the Anvil ring its vesper chime.

Then looking in I saw upon the floor,

Old hammers worn with beating years of time

"How many anvils have you had," said I,

"To wear and batter all the hammers so?"

"Just one," he answered, then with twinkling eye,

"The Anvil wears the hammers out you know."

And so the Anvil of God's Word,

For ages skeptic blows have beat upon.

And though the noise of Paine, Voltaire, was heard,

The Anvil is unworn, the hammers gone.

Apprentice blows of ignorance for sooth,

May awe with sound, and blinding sparks death hurled,

The Master holds and turns the iron, His truth,

And shapes it as He will to bless the world.