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but the sustainer as well (Heb. 1:2; Acts 14:17). Man, therefore, must understand that God matters.

God matters because He is the Judge. God is the giver of the law of Christ (Jn. 16:7-15). All men will stand before God and be judged by Jesus Christ according to the law—the gospel (2 Cor. 5:10; Jn. 5:22; 12:48). Hence, God matters.

God matters because He is God. The very nature of God demands the conclusion that He is relevant. God is the Almighty (Gen. 17:1). He knows all things and with Him all things are possible (Psa. 139:7-12; Heb. 4:13; Mk. 14:36). He is self-existent and eternal (Ex. 3:14; Psa. 90:2). We know the President of the United States matters because He is the president. The CEO of a company matters to people in the company because he is the CEO. The God of the universe matters because He is God.

- Steven F. Deaton

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**Assemblies**

Sunday Morning	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.

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**Hebron Herald**  
Published by the Hebron Lane Church of Christ  
Shepherdsville, KY

Volume 29 Number 9

September 2005

**Blessed By “My Angel Mother”**

**Larry Ray Hafley**

She was five feet, five inches high, a slender, pale, sad and sensitive woman, with much in her nature that was truly heroic, and much that shrank from the rude life around her. Said he of her, “All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother -- blessings on her memory!” “No one is poor who had a Godly mother.” Her death occurred in 1818 when her son was nine years old. They laid her to rest under the trees near their cabin home, and, sitting on her grave, the little boy wept over his irreparable loss (J. B. McClure, *Abraham Lincoln’s Stories and Speeches*).

If you have been privileged to have “an angel mother,” be thankful. Jezebel’s children did not have one and neither do multiplied millions today. Yes, every child has a mother. That is a biological necessity. How many women who have given birth, though, are mothers in the truest sense of the word (Prov. 31:10-31; Titus 2:4, 5)? I was so blessed. If you have been, thank God, and praise him for his gift to your life.

That they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

- Titus 2:4, 5

We have a number of little girls and young ladies in this congregation. Are they being prepared for the role of wife and mother? Are they equipping themselves for that noblest of all responsibilities? Are you, young ladies? There is a “maternal instinct.” Women want to have children. How many, though, want to be caretakers, nurturers, nurses, teachers, guidance counselors, directors, protectors, and providers for children? All those things, and more, are part of what is required for one to be a complete and competent mother (1 Tim. 5:10, 14). Do not give birth if you are not desirous of those

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loving, challenging titles which are all summed up in one wonderful and precious word, “mother.”

Oh, how I would love to see my dear, sweet mother one more time and tell her how much she means to me, but, I can no longer do so. However, if you are able to, do not hesitate to arise now and call her blessed (Prov. 31:28-31).

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## The Law of God Stands

God gave a law to Moses and the children of Israel at Mount Sinai. The law essentially began with the Ten Commandments and went on with detailed instructions (Ex. 20; Lev.). The law given at Sinai governed Israel for centuries to come. For instance, God told Israel not to intermarry with pagans, lest they turn Israel’s heart away from God (Ex. 34:16). When Solomon was on the throne four hundred years later, this was still God’s law (1 Kgs. 11:1-4). Five centuries after Solomon, during the time of Nehemiah, God still required the Jews to remain separate from the idolatrous people around them (Neh. 13:23-27).

Further, God prohibited men from touching the ark. He gave this law at Sinai and it still stood in the time of David—as Uzzah found out (Num. 4:15; 2 Sam. 6:6, 7). God commanded the Israelites to observe the Sabbath (Ex. 20:8-11). He expected this to be

“All flesh is as grass,  
And all the glory of man  
as the flow of the grass.  
The grass withers,  
And its flower falls away,  
But the word of the Lord  
endures forever.”

honored as long as the Law of Moses stood (Neh. 13:15-22). When God gave the Law, no man could ignore or alter it in any way. What was true when it was given was true 100, 200, or 1,000 years later.

While man could not alter or do away with the Law, God could—and did—because He is the Law-Giver. He removed the Law of Moses to bring in the Law of Christ (Col. 2:14, 15; Eph. 2:14, 15; Heb. 7:12-14; 2 Cor. 3:3-13). God gave a new law, the New Testament, through

- 1 Peter 1:24, 25  
Jesus Christ (Matt. 26:26-28; Heb. 8:10-12). It was given in the first century A.D. Though it was given long ago, it still stands and will until the end of time.

What God said about belief still stands. We must believe in God and His Son Jesus Christ (Heb. 11:6; Jn. 8:24). We will be held accountable to this truth even though we may ignore it—even though it is 19 centuries later.

What God said about baptism still stands. He said we must believe and be baptized to be saved (Mk. 16:16). Through Peter He said we must repent and be baptized to have our sins remitted (Acts 2:38). Again, He said through Peter that baptism saves us (1 Pet. 3:21). No man or group of men can alter or ignore this truth without coming under the wrath of God.

What God said about the church still stands. He said the church is the body and there is only one body (Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:16; 4:4). He said there is peace in this one body (Col. 3:15). There is no peace with God outside of that one body. There is no other body in which to find fellowship with God. No denomination or religious organization other than the church of the New Testament is acceptable to God—regardless of what men say. In other words, not all churches are right—only one, the church of Christ (Matt. 16:18; Rom. 16:16).

What God said at Sinai was true 1,000 years later and had to be observed by Israel. What God said in the first century is still true today and must be honored by all men. The Law of God stands!

- Steven F. Deaton

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## Why God Matters

Does God matter? Some behave as though He does not. They live their lives in their own way. They curse, drink, gossip, lie, cheat, steal, or commit fornication. To them, God does not matter. However, logic and the Bible, which is eminently logical, teaches that God does matter.

God matters because He is the Creator. He made all things through His Son (Gen. 1:1; Jn. 1:1-3; Col. 1:16, 17). Being the Creator, He is superior to the creature, man (Gen. 1:26, 27). He gave man life, breath, and all things (Acts 17:25). He is not only the giver of life,

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