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"REMEMBER LOT'S WIFE!" LUKE 17:32

By Gordon F. Nelson

"Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it."
Luke 17:33.

These verses, taken in context, concludes that the word LIFE means family. Lot's wife's theology was that there was no reason for LIFE, except she be united with her two backslidden daughters and her grandbabies. *"And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. but he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law."* Gen. 19:14. Two of the daughters of Lot had married Sodomites. This ungodly marriage sent two of the daughters of Lot to hell! *"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers!"* 2 Cor. 6:14.

If these two daughters had disobeyed their unsaved husbands, they would have gone to heaven! Women are not committed to obey a man simply over a "third leg" between his legs! As Christians, we are all committed to following Christ. Only as your husband is surrendered to Christ as his HEAD, do you obey him. The best of Christians are all messed up on this one! By obeying an unsaved husband, you could be on a path of destruction. In some cases, even submitting to prostitution with your husband being the pimp. Do you really believe you are following Christ obeying such a critter?

The scripture tells of the vulnerability of a woman to deception. This is one reason our founding fathers did not believe in Woman's Suffrage. She is caught up in a world of beauty. "Mirror, mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?"

With Elvis (the pelvis) Presley, we saw the female population go berserk over his body gyrations, screaming hysterically for their god of rock 'n roll. With this mentality at the polls, John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton are shoo-ins because of their good looks!

If the Apostle Paul ordered women to keep silent in the churches (1 Cor. 14:34); how much more in the realm of politics? As in the natural, so in the spiritual. Janet Reno, as chief law officer in the land, due to her gender, can be compared to Herodias, as the chief executioner in defending her king, Bill Clinton. Any man in Congress, on either side of the aisle, would be committing political "hara-kiri" if he dared to be a John the Baptist. Patricia Ireland of NOW, would instantly denounce him before the electorate of his state. Women, by their sheer numbers, rule the church of God as well. The church has long been regarded as a women and children's institution, particularly in Pentecostalism.

I believe Satan capitalized on a woman's susceptibility to beauty in his greatest victory over the human race. *"And no marvel: for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."* 2 Cor. 11:14. Satan had the power and the choice to choose the great deception act! This was his greatest moment! This may shock you to learn, Satan did not appear as a serpent to Eve. Women are frightened of just a

single garter snake! He was called the Serpent in scripture, simply because God knows the end of the story. Judas was named Judas, but in reality didn't become Judas until Satan entered his body. *"Then entered Satan into Judas,"* after taking the sop. Lk. 22:3.

The Serpent did not go on his belly until the expulsion from the garden. *"And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this...upon thy belly shalt thou go!"* Gen. 3:14.

My question to you is this, what form was the Serpent prior to being cursed to go on its belly? The Bible actually gives us some clues as to his "pre-belly" form. First off, he must have had legs and lost them in the curse. Why was the Serpent compared to beasts? Why not the bird family, or mammals? *"Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field!"* Gen. 3:1. Why the comparison to a specific family of beasts--CATTLE--*"thou art cursed above all cattle"* (Gen. 3:14)--Satan must have transformed himself into a young beautiful calf that could talk.

This interpretation, also provides substance to why Aaron chose a molten calf as Israel's god. In addition, it reveals how quickly the children of Israel accepted this molten calf as an object of worship. *"And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together (a real democracy) unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us!"* Ex. 32:1. The calf was an acceptable god of Egypt. The Egyptians could have known in what form Satan chose in his greatest deception to become the *"prince of this world."* Jn. 14:30. Did Aaron know? Anyway, Aaron's golden calf proved the beauty of a young bull calf as the children of Israel worshipped this molten beast. *"These be thy gods that have brought you up out of the land of Egypt."* Ex. 32:8. How quickly are the people removed from the truth to follow human leadership they have selected?

Beauty is beholden to beauty. Eve was the most beautiful woman God ever created. She was stark naked in the presence of the most beautiful creature she ever met. We see in Exodus 32 the affect a molten image of a young bull calf has upon the children of Israel. Is it any wonder we are forbidden by the Ten Commandments, *"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth."* Ex. 20:4.

Patty is a six-month-old baby Christian. I told her that her images of Buddha had to go now that she had accepted Jesus Christ as her personal savior. We had a Buddha breaking party during my stay in San Diego. There is a revival of Tibetan Buddhism and Hinduism in America today that is acceptable to New Agers.

Eve and the Serpent needed no introduction. The "serpent to be" breaks the silence by implanting a doubt of God's Word. It has been the message of the Serpent ever since, *"Yea, hath God said?"* To get one to question what God hath said, has never ceased from the earth. These New Age Bible versions of the Holy Bible all inflict a doubt (snake bite) relative to the authenticity of Mark 16:9-20. Some versions eliminate it entirely on the basis of the most ancient manuscripts. *"Yea, hath God said, Mark 16:9-20?"* They know full well every manuscript omitted something. The Bible is a compilation of several manuscripts.

Returning to our main text--

"Remember Lot's wife."

It is an end of the age warning in conjunction with, *"And as it was in the days of Noah."* Lk. 17:26. *"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot."* Lk. 17:28.

"Remember Lot's wife."

One thing we observe from this story is that Lot's wife was disobeying a godly husband. We would not know this except for one scripture: *"And delivered just Lot."* 2 Pet. 2:7. Men, your wife can backslide and go to hell, but He will deliver you. Your salvation is not based on her religion.

God knows the end from the beginning. God knew Judas would become a Jew who loved money. A real Judas Jew is a threat to every freedom a Christian has shed blood to protect; The Bill of Rights and our Constitution. The cry of a real Judas Jew is still, *"His blood be upon us, and on our children."* Mt. 27:25. A Jerry Falwell, telling you of revival in Israel is a big lie! It is in Jerusalem that the two witnesses are slain. *"And their dead bodies shall be in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt."* Rev. 11:8. The believing Jews have already escaped this wicked city at the sign of the Abomination of Desolation. Matthew 24:15-22 records the believing Jews flight into Jordan to a city called Petra to escape the wrath of Antichrist. *"And to the woman (believing Jews) were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness (Petra in Jordan), into her place."* Rev. 12:14. True Israel is loved of God and by Christians! *"For they are not all Israel which are of Israel,"* Rom. 9:6. But, all true Israel shall leave the wicked city and only Judas Jews will remain, who accept the sodomy lifestyle of the rest of the world.

In a similar manner, God knew that regardless of the form Satan choose for the deception of Eve, he would be eventually condemned to crawl on his belly; *"Upon thy belly shalt thou go."* Gen. 3:14. Man's religious lie of God having to use evolution in creation, can't accept instant change from "legs to belly" in one hour, simply because God said. How do they manage to accept, *"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."* Gen. 1:3. Why can't you believe God said to the serpent in judgment, "The 'legs' dispensation is over. Now it is 'Upon thy belly shalt thou go' dispensation!" The snake still retains some beautiful lines in the body, even in its "fallen state."

"And Adam was not deceived." 1 Tim. 2:14. The Adam's are not deceived as to the character in the White House right now, *"but the woman was deceived."* She is the one being deceived right now with Barbara Boxer and Diane Feinstein leading the way, both of whom should be impeached for accepting bribes from China. Feinstein plans on running for Governor of California. Her husband, a Judas Jew, has huge investments in China. Feinstein would be financed by China to secure the USA as a territorial conquest guaranteeing China's preferential treatment.

Last month, according to a KGO 560 AM radio news report, Bill Clinton allowed Russian war planes to fly over the US taking pictures of all our military protected nuclear sites. All we need to assure our complete surrender to Communism, is for Diane Feinstein or Al Gore as the next President of the United States. Of course, our own CFR (Council on Foreign Relations) controlled news media will play

its part in targeting the women's vote. Nothing has changed since the garden of Eden. Adam, seemingly, is tranquilized and has to endorse Eve's plot to surrender our country to foreign agents. Eve destroyed the first civilization. We are all eye witnesses to the death of our nation since the passage by an all-male Congress granted Women's Suffrage. It was named correctly; all have "suffered" ever since. Satan was again in power through CFR policies to deceive the elect. The ploy by the mass news media is to deceive Eve; just as she was deceived in the garden.

The jury is the women voters of America. The prosecuting attorney is our own mass news media. The defendant is the USA. The jury finds the defendant guilty by the election of Diane Feinstein. When the prosecution pointed to the evidence in the Mena Airport report in Arkansas, it was interpreted as slander to Bill Clinton's wavy hair and most beautiful smile! Besides the Dow Jones is up, and let the good times roll! was the final verdict!

"Remember Lot's wife," is also an indictment against the church's lie that your entire family will go to heaven! It is as false as the present day "prosperity message"!

"Whosoever shall seek to save his LIFE (or family) shall lose it!" Lot's wife sought to save her entire family, and lost her own life. If one member of your family chooses hell instead of heaven, does that give you license to choose hell? Indirectly, you're calling God a liar. Lot's wife refused to serve a God that couldn't, or wouldn't, save every baby coming out of her stomach. She listened to the preacher, instead of reading God's Word for herself. You (is implied) *"study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* 2 Tim. 2:15. Pulpit preaching is the worst kind of Bible study. It is designed for "itching ears" that makes its appeal through your own "lusts" (2 Tim. 4:3) for "health and wealth," or else the doctrine of the Black Widow. *"Thy and thy house shall be saved."*

Jesus Christ never promised to save every baby coming out of her stomach. Esau was hated before he was ever born. Rom. 9:13. But, Lot's wife believed in this lie! Since the Roe vs. Wade decision made by our Supreme Court, humanism was born. By this interpretation, every woman is a god, possessing the powers of life and death over human beings. In seeking to preserve LIFE, she has rather chosen death.

"But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth...The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep." Jn. 10:12-13. The hireling never worries over the sheep. The wolf was a type of C. (for Cash) Thomas Patten, who ravished the sheepfold, stealing from the elderly and raping the choir girls. The entrance of the wolf never caused a "hireling" to lose one night's sleep. He just runs! Where does a hireling run? Why, of course, into the waiting arms of like-minded hirelings. In fact, they form their own organization for the protection of hirelings, called the Assemblies of God.

This was brought close to home through my first friend in the Gospel, Rev. John F. Smith, ordained Assemblies of God minister. He baptized me in Lake Michigan. As a new convert, I became my pastor's shadow. We were inseparable. Even came to California together.

In the attempt to purchase our church from the Hawkinson's, two brothers who claimed ownership of the church, we discovered as we searched the court records that we already owned the church! Naturally, in the face of such extortion, we excommunicated the Hawkinson's from the membership. The Hawkinson's were a type of the wolf whose only interest in religion is *"to steal, to kill, and to destroy."* Jn. 10:10.

We kicked the wolves out of our church, only for them to be accepted in good standing by another Assemblies of God church. You who think the Assemblies of God church is the church described in scripture as *"not having spot, or wrinkle,"* (Eph. 5:27) are under a very strong delusion. My pastor decided this was like a slap in the face by a fellow brother minister in the very same organization. Of course, his shadow came along, namely me.

The Illinois district superintendent was a very godly man, having spent most of his life as a missionary to China. I regret that time has erased the name of this saint of God from my memory, but his words would burn like fire and set a course for my life that I'd never swerve from.

This giant of a man said he fully understood our remorse and feeling of being rebuffed, or insulted. As an ordained minister of the Assemblies of God, you have the legal right to bring charges before the presbyters at the next camp meeting. The District Superintendent, however, advised against it because *"we'd only be hurting ourselves. I've had a lot of experience with this sort of thing! Who is right or who is wrong will not even be a consideration. The final determination will be in favor of the preacher who has been in the district the longest, and who has the largest church!"*

There it was! Right from the horse's own mouth. I then asked the D.S., *"How can you, knowing of this evil, remain with the Assemblies of God?"* *"I've lived my life as a missionary to China,"* he said. *"I'm in retirement now, and feel I can best serve God at this post for my remaining years on earth."*

Hireling doctrines prepared America to accept Roe vs. Wade and euthanasia. The hireling never cries wolf! The hireling only has to see the wolf coming and he flees! They are a lover of peace, even while the sheep are being devoured in his presence!

"Watchman, what of the night?" Isa.21:11.

"But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand." Ezk. 33:6.

The RIVERBANK NEWS continues to scream out in the night! *"The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will enquire* (Heb.-desire earnestly, ask), *enquire ye: return, come."* Isa. 21:12. After you have inquired (you're inquiring every time you read RBN), come home! Return unto the God of your salvation, Jesus Christ.

"Remember Lot's wife." She was left! *"Whosoever shall seek to save his LIFE (flesh family) shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his LIFE shall preserve it. I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left."* Lk. 17:32-35.

Lot's wife, who was turned into a pillar of salt, was left! Lot made no attempt to preserve his LIFE (flesh family). The wicked men of Sodom said, *"Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out onto us, that we may KNOW (Heb.-make self-known + be learned + lie with man) them."* Gen. 19:5. Lot does not spare his own daughters to protect his angelic guests! Lot had four daughters in Sodom. Two were taken and two were left.

Do you know when Mrs. Lot fell out of love with her husband? It was when Lot offered up his two daughters. *"I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly. Behold now I have two daughters which have not known man: let me I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes."* Gen. 19:8. Now, just what do you think Mrs. Lot was thinking at this time? All right for you to speak, but those two daughters didn't come out of your stomach. A woman who has lost her first love for her husband, views life from a different perspective. Her LIFE is the product of her womb.

Incidentally, these two daughters that escaped Sodom, committed incest with their father to continue the seed. *"Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him that we may preserve seed of our father."* Gen. 19:32. Lot *"dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters."* Gen. 19:30.

Lot escaped only because he did not hearken unto his wife! The entire family could have been saved had they hearkened unto Lot. Why didn't Lot's wife obey her husband? She had lost her first love. The love she had was transferred to her children. She was still in remorse over Lot offering her two virgin girls to those Sodomites!

Once this happens in a marriage, the mate is only viewed as "fodder" to feed the young. Why do men die so young? How come they wind up on Skid Row with only a bottle to cuddle at night? Psychologists also tell us that if a woman marries a man for any other reason than love, say, security, etc., she will transfer the love that should go her husband to the oldest born male child. There need not be any actual sex transpire, rather a doting upon the child. Dressing and undressing in the child's presence. Undo protection of her child from her made up enemy; the child's own father. It affects the child in his identity of sex and causes him to disrespect the opposite sex.

No woman in Old Testament scripture ever lived longer than her mate. But that was a patriarchal society; we are living in a matriarchal society. Men are not faring too well! Does the Bible give any wisdom to change the odds?

Solomon instructed, *"Go to the ant thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise."* Prov. 6:6. The ant doesn't help us much to comprehend Lot's wife, hence we'll go to the black widow spider for answers. The black widow's chief concern is her flesh family. In the mating of the black widow, the male often becomes fodder for the young. He has only one chance to escape! If he lingers around after mating, he is one dead spider. The young will feed on his carcass as soon as they are hatched.

In a marriage, this transition of the female often goes undetected. What happened? All he gets from the Christian community is that he did not "love his wife as Christ loved the church." Serves him right! The hiring invariably sides with a woman's version of scripture. By the way, this is the theme song of the Promise Keepers! All males are responsible for every broken home; he just didn't have enough love.

The “hirelings” have been saying the same thing to their predominately female congregations. Preachers know who butters their bread.

Do you know that God knew the condition the world would be in at the very end of time? Did He, the Alpha and the Omega, know the “Women’s Lib” and the “Promise Keepers” would be existing when He uttered those three words, *“Remember Lot’s wife.”* Beware men! the “Promise Breakers” are planting the wrong kind of seed; seed that will produce as a crop--guilty! Remember the words of the Preacher, *“Behold, this have I found, saith the preacher, counting one by one, to find out the account (Heb.-reason): which yet my soul seeketh, but I find not: one man in a thousand have I found; but a woman among all those have I not found. Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright.”* Ecc. 7:27-29. Is it any wonder then that women love us?

Are you familiar with the term “Judas goat”? It is a goat placed in among the sheep that will simplify the slaughter of the flock. The sheep cannot detect that this is a goat. The sheep will follow this goat up the ramp, single file to their death.

As a church, we followed Jim and Tammy Bakker into a world of prosperity and wealth. They filled a vacuum in each of our lives that we wanted to believe in. Many of the “Word-Faith” still labor under this doctrine. Next, Pat Robertson, the son of a famous senator, became converted to Pentecostalism out of the Southern Baptist Church. The Assemblies of God has long had an affinity to this church, ever since the printing of the first Scofield Bible. It wasn’t until a document created by Fr. Richard John Neuhaus and Chuck Colson called Evangelicals and Catholics Together: The Christian Mission in the Third Millennium, did we discover where Pat Robertson was leading the church; back to Rome.

In Hitler’s day, Jews would climb aboard trains thinking they were going to a place of destiny, but wound up in ovens.

Bo Gritz, is repeatedly in the news due to being a war hero, but spiritually he is a Mormon. You’d be following a Judas goat by following this misguided man.

Don’t you, as a Christian, ever tire of Mormons and Freemasons saving the church? In Freemasonry, women are sent off into the Eastern Star. Mormons and Freemasons have always taught male domination. Do we have to be taught by a Colorado football coach what the Bible plainly teaches.

I’ve heard there are over 200 twelve-step programs. Every sin known to man is simply solved by 12 steps! Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) being the most heralded. Yet Jesus Christ is completely rejected as “the” God. Bill McCartney now gives us a 7-step program of salvation.

William Randolph Hearst, a Freemason, projected Billy Graham into prominence. Who or what is projecting Bill McCartney? It is of the writer’s opinion that Bill McCartney is a Judas goat that will further lead the church into one world religion. The news media, after the successful 700,000 Promise Keepers march on Washington DC, asked him if he would run for President if the opportunity was there. Bill McCartney’s response was, “Yes.”

Did this all-white male march on Washington DC provoke the Nation of Islam leader, Louis Farrakhan, to announce Thursday, October 16 as a “day of atonement” to warn America that the whites can no longer take African Americans for granted?

Farrakhan, interviewed on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” predicted millions would participate in the observance. “We believe it will be practiced in over 100 cities in America and it will grow from year to year,” he said. “The day (Oct. 16), coming on the second anniversary of the ‘million man march’ in Washington that Farrakhan organized.” Sacramento Bee 10/13/97.

Jesse Jackson led a few thousand people to cross the Golden Gate Bridge in protest to affirmative action and Proposition 209. Jesse Jackson is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) out of New York City. This secret organization controls all our politicians and news media. Doors mysteriously open on their behalf because they are members of the right club (CFR), dedicated to One World Government. Who knows the long range plans of the Trilateral Commission, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Bilderbergers of Europe for our world?

You may ask the question, “How come you know so much about Judas goats?” A Judas goat preaches one thing, but leads you in an entirely different direction. The “lords over God’s heritage” in Pentecostalism, preach about the kingdom of God, but in reality it is their own kingdom. I had to put a Judas goat behind bars in San Quentin prison. C. (for Cash) Thomas Patten, preached the kingdom of God, but used the Holy Ghost as a tool to promote his own kingdom. Pentecostals love their Judas goats, and will in no way admit they’re not sheep.

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” Matt. 7:21-23.

In interpreting scripture: *“For precept must be upon precept (Heb.-commandment) line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.”* Isa. 28:10. Then too, *“Knowing this FIRST, that no prophecy of scripture is of any private interpretation.”* 2 Pet. 1:20. In a typical “hireling” congregation of ninety percent women, the scriptures are “rightly divided” when the women emerge with one isolated scripture that instills the “black widow doctrine” that the entire house shall be saved. The Apostle Paul spoke these words to the Philippian jailer in response to his inquiry, *“Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”* Acts 16:30-31.

If taken literally, this was not the experience of *“just (Gk.-innocent, holy, righteous) Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked.”* 2 Pet. 2:7. Lot had four daughters who lived in Sodom; two were taken out, and two left. If you read Luke 17:32-36 in context, *“I tell you there shall be two men (Strong’s does not give you the Greek word so translated “men”),”* but in context they were brothers. Any other interpretation you have of two gay men sleeping in the same bed, in such a case, both would be left. Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance fails to give you the Greek word so translated “women.” *“Two women (sisters) shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”* Lk. 17:35.

Richard Roberts, son of the famous evangelist Oral Roberts, has a brother in the drug traffic. The brother is *“dead in trespasses and sins.”* Eph. 2:1. What is there to discuss about a dead man? *“She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.”* 1 Tim. 5:6. Richard Roberts’ brother is a dead man, but his burial has been delayed a little.

“Two men (brothers) shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.” This interpretation is apparent in the lives of the two brothers, Jacob and Esau. Both are of the loins of Isaac. God is on record of having said, *“Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.”* Rom. 9:13. Imagine being hated by God before you are ever born. *“For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth.”* Rom 9:11.

The “Black Widow Doctrine” is contrary to the teaching of our Lord. Jesus declared the flesh family would be the real battleground. God is not at all as much concerned over the natural family, as perpetrators of the Black Widow Doctrine would have you to believe. If you live for God, Jesus said, *“And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household.”* Matt. 10:36. I had one daughter that hated me all of her life. I never could figure out why? What came perfectly normal for me, drove my daughter completely up a wall. The unpardonable sin was that I had ruled over her mother! Did you know Genesis 3:16 will literally drive family members insane?

“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace (or the Black Widow Doctrine), but a SWORD (Gk.-war, judicial punishment). For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law.” Matt. 10:34-35. Can you imagine having a family reunion in the midst of a war zone? But this is where you are tested to see where your real devotion is. Would you sacrifice two of your virgin daughters to these wicked men of Sodom? Lot did, and in so doing, Lot placed a higher priority on the kingdom of heaven than life (earthly family). *“And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.”* Matt. 10:38.

The weighty scriptures are on the side of “The Sword.” Matt. 10:34. The “Black Widow” (Acts 16:31) interpretation has been *“weighed in the balances and art found wanting.”* Dan. 5:27.

If you still insist on the Black Widow interpretation, then you have no cross. This *RIVERBANK NEWS* represents my cross that I proudly bear. I admit it is an ugly old cross! It is only precious to me because it is mine. *“He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”* Matt. 10:37. Lot loved his two virgin daughters, but not more than God! It’s in the family where every spirit is tested to see if he is even worthy of a cross to bear. *“And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.”* Matt. 10:38.

In carrying my cross, the day my son turned 18, God gave me a dream to move him to my father’s house. I told my father and he said, “Come on over and we’ll see if it is possible.” Strangely, his house was like on a second floor, with only studs and supports on the first floor. With a few sheets of sheetrock to enclose an area under my Dad’s living quarters, my son had his new home. He was at that age of total

rebellion! The dream became my cross to teach my son responsibility. Paul, later paid me the greatest compliment I ever received in thanking me for the way I raised him.

“I don’t understand, son, the moment you were 18, I kicked you out of the house.” I had two younger daughters coming on behind him. I felt the responsibility of raising them. My son then said, “That’s what I mean, Pop! By kicking me out the way you did, I had to learn responsibility for myself. I’m not like my buddies who lean on their parents for everything. I’m different!” Then he told me what all his total independence taught him. He was totally happy, excited, over his new life and the way I raised him. Wow! My own son had blown my mind! *“Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken (Heb.-give heed [cause to] hear) than the fat of rams.”* 1 Sam. 15:22.

My son, recently married to a beautiful young lady, will soon be retired from the San Francisco police force with a Sergeant’s pension. God can do a better job raising your children than you can!

Hannah, the mother of Samuel the prophet, prayed that God would give her a child. If He did, she would never claim that child as hers! *“And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a MAN CHILD, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.”* 1 Sam. 1:11. This represented the Nazarite vow unto the Lord! Hannah was faithful to her vow, and Samuel was born.

Perhaps, we make our gravest error trying to raise children in the traditional family name, so we can glory in their flesh. Give them to God! *“That no flesh should glory in His presence...He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.”* 1 Cor. 1:29,31.

In summation, let me say this of the Black Widow doctrine. We do not have a right to “pick and choose” in interpreting the scripture. In this apparent contradiction, who is right, Jesus’ war (Matt. 10:34) or Apostle Paul’s “thy and thy house shall be saved”? Acts 16:31. I believe the answer to this dilemma is 1 Corinthians 7:14, *“else were your children unclean, but now are they holy.”* Apostle Paul was addressing a male head of a family, the Philippian jailer. While his children remained in his house, they were holy. But the moment they come out from under the parents jurisdiction they are on their own to be justified before God. It is then that the war Jesus spoke of begins!

“For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.” Psalms 132:13-14