

The

FORERUNNERS

MARK 1:2-8



Sharing the  GOSPEL



JOHNNY APPLESEED.
from "A History of the Pioneer and Modern Times of Ashland
County" by H. S. Knapp (1862).

John Chapman, better known as **Johnny Appleseed**, was born on September 26, 1774, in Leominster, Massachusetts. Chapman was an eccentric frontier nurseryman who established orchards throughout the American Midwest. He became the basis of the folk hero Johnny Appleseed, who has been the subject of countless stories, movies and works of art. Chapman died on March 18, 1845 in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

John Chapman traveled widely, particularly in Pennsylvania and Ohio, pursuing his profession. While the legend of Johnny Appleseed suggests that his planting was random, there was actually a firm economic basis for Chapman's behavior. He established nurseries and returned, after several years, to sell off the orchard and the surrounding land.

The trees that Chapman planted had multiple purposes, although they did not yield edible fruit. The small, tart apples his orchards produced were useful primarily to make hard cider and applejack. Orchards also served the critical legal purpose of establishing land claims along the frontier. As a consequence, Chapman owned around 1,200 acres of valuable land at the time of his death.

Chapman was a follower of the New Church, also known as the Church of Swedenborg. He spread his faith while traveling to establish orchards, preaching to both Anglo-American and indigenous people he encountered along the way.

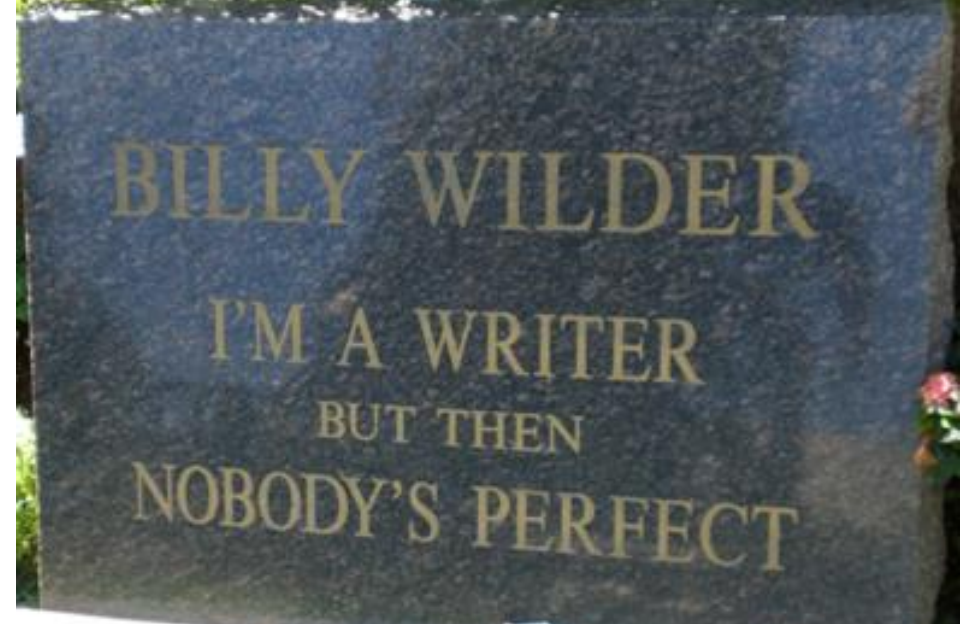
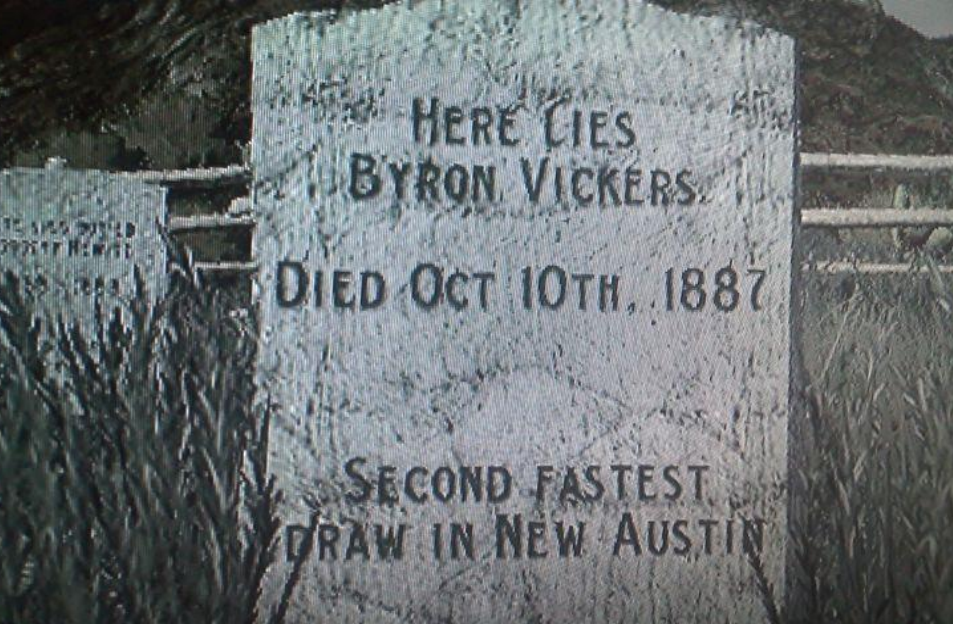
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ESV Luke 7:28

I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

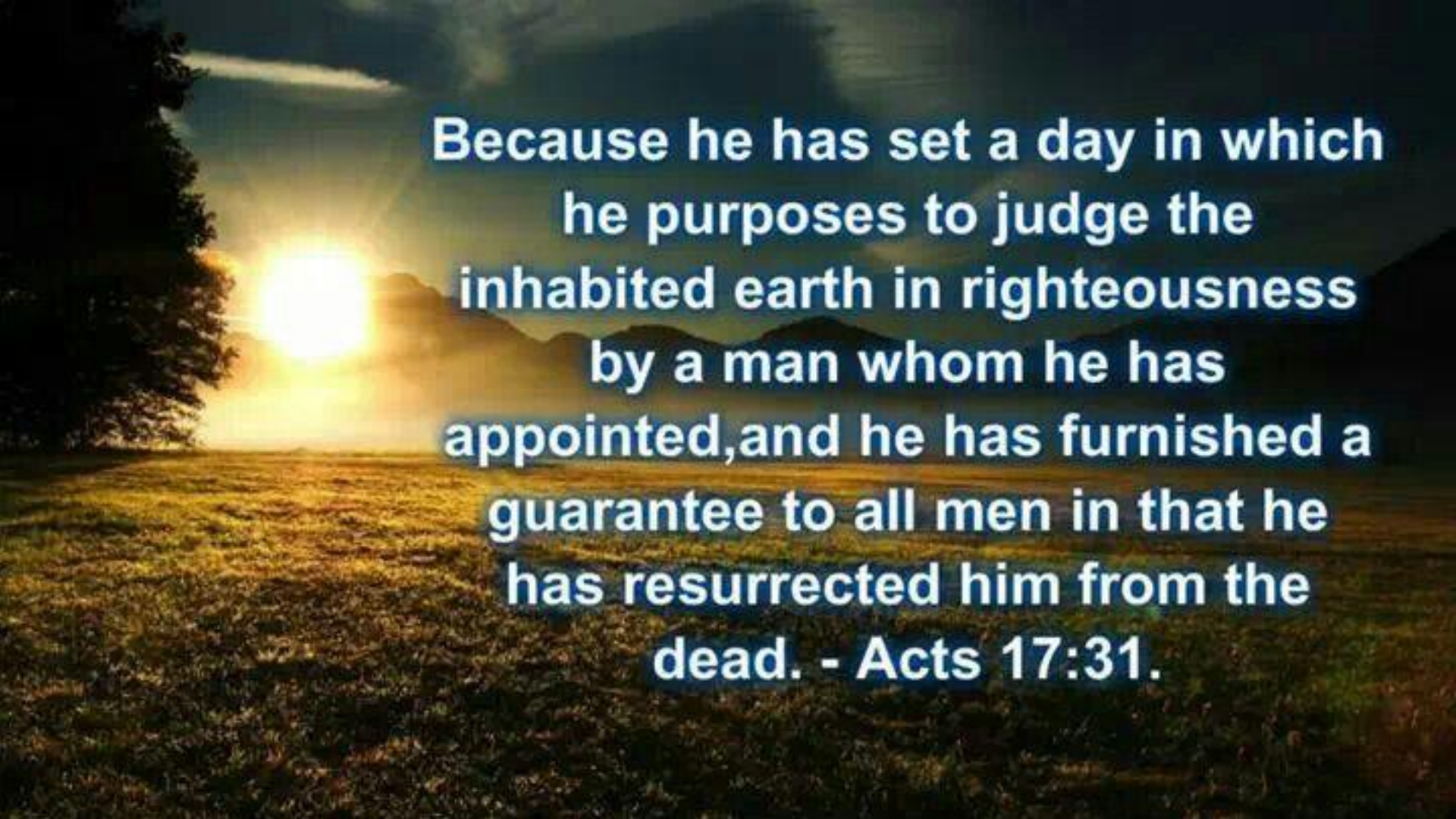
¹⁵ "For he (John) will be great in the sight of the Lord, and he will drink no wine or liquor; and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, while yet in his mother's womb. ¹⁶ "And he will turn back many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God.

¹⁷ "And it is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous; so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."



You and I will be remembered for something...





**Because he has set a day in which
he purposes to judge the
inhabited earth in righteousness
by a man whom he has
appointed, and he has furnished a
guarantee to all men in that he
has resurrected him from the
dead. - Acts 17:31.**

**Jesus spoke often of His coming again
to judge the world in righteousness**

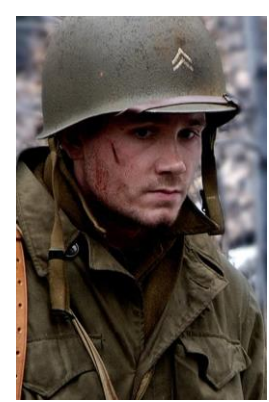
JOHN 14:1-3

“LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED: YE BELIEVE IN GOD, BELIEVE ALSO IN ME. IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE ARE MANY MANSIONS: IF IT WERE NOT SO, I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU. I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU. AND IF I GO AND PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU, I WILL COME AGAIN, AND RECEIVE YOU UNTO MYSELF; THAT WHERE I AM, THERE YE MAY BE ALSO.”

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¹ I solemnly call on you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who is going to judge those who are living and those who are dead. **I do this because Christ Jesus will come to rule {the world}**. ² Be ready to spread the word whether or not the time is right. Point out errors, warn people, and encourage them. Be very patient when you teach. ³ A time will come when people will not listen to accurate teachings. Instead, they will follow their own desires and surround themselves with teachers who tell them what they want to hear. ⁴ People will refuse to listen to the truth and turn to myths. ⁵ But you must keep a clear head in everything. Endure suffering. Do the work of a missionary. Devote yourself completely to your work.



GI Generation - Born 1901-1926

Children of the WWI generation & fighters in WWII & young in the Great Depression...all leading to strong models of teamwork to overcome and progress. Their Depression was The Great One; their war was The Big One; their prosperity was the legendary Happy Days. They saved the world and then built a nation.

They are the assertive and energetic do'ers.

Excellent team players. Community-minded.

Strongly interested in personal morality and near-absolute standards of right and wrong. Strong sense of personal civic duty, which means they vote.

Marriage is for life, divorce and having children out of wedlock were not accepted.

Strong loyalty to jobs, groups, schools, etc.

There was no "retirement" you worked until your died or couldn't work anymore.

The labor-union-spawning generation.

"Use it up, fix it up, make it do, or do without."

Avoid debt...save and buy with cash.

Age of radio and air flight; they were the generation that remembers life without airplanes, radio, and TV.

Most of them grew up without modern conveniences like refrigerators, electricity and air conditioning.

Sometimes called The Greatest Generation.



Mature/Silents - Born 1927- 1945

Went through their formative years during an era of suffocating conformity, but also during the postwar happiness: Peace! Jobs! Suburbs! Television! Rock 'n Roll! Cars! Playboy Magazine

Korean and Vietnam War generation.

The First Hopeful Drumbeats of Civil Rights!

Pre-feminism women; women stayed home generally to raise children, if they worked it was only certain jobs like teacher, nurse or secretary.

Men pledged loyalty to the corporation, once you got a job, you generally kept it for life.

The richest, most free-spending retirees in history.

Marriage is for life, divorce and having children out of wedlock were not accepted.

In grade school, the gravest teacher complaints were about passing notes and chewing gum in class.

They are avid readers, especially newspapers.

“Retirement” means to sit in a rocking chair and live your final days in peace.

The Big-Band/Swing music generation.

Strong sense of trans-generational common values and near-absolute truths.

Disciplined, self-sacrificing, & cautious.



Baby Boomers - Born between 1946 and 1964.

Two sub-sets: 1. the save-the-world revolutionaries of the '60s and '70s; and 2. the party-hardy career climbers (Yuppies) of the '70s.

The “me” generation. “Rock and roll” music generation. Ushered in the free love and societal “non-violent” protests which triggered

violence. Self righteous & self-centered. Buy it now and use credit. Too busy for much neighborly involvement yet strong desires to reset or change the common values for the good of all. Even though their mothers were generally housewives, responsible for all child rearing, women of this generation began working outside the home in record numbers, thereby changing the entire nation as this was the first generation to have their own children raised in a two-income household where mom was not omnipresent. The first TV generation. The first divorce generation, where divorce was beginning to be accepted as a tolerable reality. Began accepting homosexuals.

Optimistic, driven, team-oriented. Envision technology and innovation as requiring a learning process. Tend to be more positive about authority, hierarchal structure and tradition. One of the largest generations in history with 77 million people. Their aging will change America almost incomprehensibly; they are the first generation to use the word “retirement” to mean being able to enjoy life after the children have left home. Instead of sitting in a rocking chair, they go skydiving, exercise and take up hobbies, which increases their longevity. The American Youth Culture that began with them is now ending with them and their activism is beginning to re-emerge



Generation X - Born between 1965 and 1980*

The “latch-key kids” grew up street-smart but isolated, often with divorced or Career-driven parents. Latch-Key came from the house key kids wore around their neck, because they would go home from school to an empty house.

Entrepreneurial. Very individualistic. Government and big business mean little to them. Want to save the neighborhood, not the world. Feel misunderstood by other generations. Cynical of many major institutions, which failed their parents, or them, during their formative years and are therefore eager to make marriage work and “be there” for their children. Don’t “feel” like a generation, but they are. Raised in the transition phase of written based knowledge to digital knowledge archives; most remember being in school without computers and then after the introduction of computers in middle school or high school. Desire a chance to learn, explore and make a contribution. Tend to commit to self rather than an organization or specific career. This generation averages 7 career changes in their lifetime, it was not normal to work for a company for life, unlike previous generations. Society and thus individuals are envisioned as disposable. AIDS begins to spread and is first lethal infectious disease in the history of any culture on earth which was not subjected to any quarantine. Beginning obsession of individual rights prevailing over the common good, especially if it is applicable to any type of minority group. Raised by the career and money conscious Boomers amidst the societal disappointment over governmental authority and the Vietnam war. School problems were about drugs. Late to marry (after cohabitation) and quick to divorce...many single parents. Into labels and brand names. Want what they want and want it now but struggling to buy, and most are deeply in credit card debt. It is has been researched that they may be conversationally shallow because relating consists of shared time watching video movies, instead of previous generations. Short on loyalty & wary of commitment; all values are relative...must tolerate all peoples. Self-absorbed and suspicious of all organization. Survivors as individuals. Cautious, skeptical, unimpressed with authority, self-reliant.



Generation Y/Millennium - Born between 1981* and 2000*. Aka “The 9/11 Generation” “Echo Boomers” America’s next great generation brings a sharp departure from Generation X. They are nurtured by omnipresent parents, optimistic, and focused. Respect

authority.

Falling crime rates. Falling teen pregnancy rates. But with school safety problems; they have to live with the thought that they could be shot at school, they learned early that the world is not a safe place.

They schedule everything.

They feel enormous academic pressure.

They feel like a generation and have great expectations for themselves.

Prefer digital literacy as they grew up in a digital environment. Have never known a world without computers! They get all their information and most of their socialization from the Internet.

Prefer to work in teams.

With unlimited access to information tend to be assertive with strong views.

Envision the world as a 24/7 place; want fast and immediate processing.

They have been told over and over again that they are special, and they expect the world to treat them that way.

They do not live to work, they prefer a more relaxed work environment with a lot of hand holding and accolades.



Generation Z/Boomlets - Born after 2001

In 2006 there were a record number of births in the US and 49% of those born were Hispanic, this will change the American melting pot in terms of behavior and culture. The number of births in 2006 far outnumbered the start of the baby boom generation, and they will easily be a larger generation. Since the early 1700's the most common last name in the US was 'Smith' but not anymore, now it is

Rodriguez. There are two age groups right now:

(a) Tweens.

(a1) Age 8-12 years old.

(a2) There will be an estimated 29 million tweens by 2009.

(a3) \$51 billion is spent by tweens every year with an additional \$170 billion spent by their parents and family members directly for them.

(b) Toddler/Elementary school age.

61 percent of children 8-17 have televisions in their rooms. 35 percent have video games.

14 percent have a DVD player. 4 million will have their own cell phones. They have never known a world without computers and cell phones. Have Eco-fatigue: they are actually tired of hearing about the environment and the many ways we have to save it. With the advent of computers and web based learning, children leave behind toys at younger and younger age. It's called KGOY-kids growing older younger, and many companies have suffered because of it, most recognizable is Mattel, the maker of Barbie dolls. In the 1990's the average age of a child in their target market was 10 years old, and in 2000 it dropped to 3 years old. As children reach the age of four and five, old enough to play on the computer, they become less interested in toys and begin to desire electronics such as cell phones and video games. They are Savvy consumers and they know what they want and how to get it and they are over saturated with brands.



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<http://www.marketingteacher.com/the-six-living-generations-in-america>

BELIEVERS
&
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²⁶ “But his master replied to him, ‘You evil, lazy slave! If you knew that I reap where I haven’t sown and gather where I haven’t scattered, ²⁷ then you should have deposited my money with the bankers. And when I returned I would have received my money back with interest. ²⁸ “So take the talent from him and give it to the one who has 10 talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have more than enough. But from the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. ³⁰ And throw this good-for-nothing slave into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’



Matthew 25:26-30 (HCSB)

MATTHEW 15:8-9

(Jesus said) “These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.”

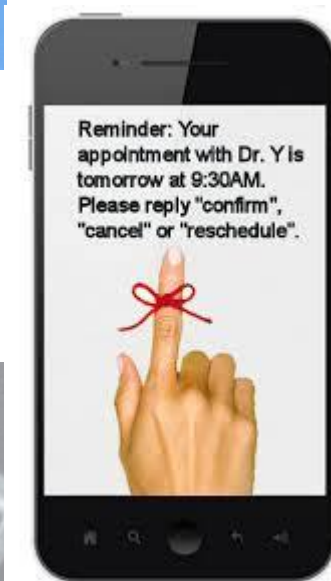


COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

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2014 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®
NATIONAL GOAL: \$175 MILLION

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS • NOVEMBER 30–DECEMBER 7





*Keep watch,
because
you do
not know the day or the hour.*

Matthew 25:13

Matthew 25:1-13

The Parable of the wise and Foolish Virgins



² As it is written in the Prophets: *"Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You."* ³ *"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'* " **⁴ John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.** ⁵ Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. ⁸ I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



Making Disciples

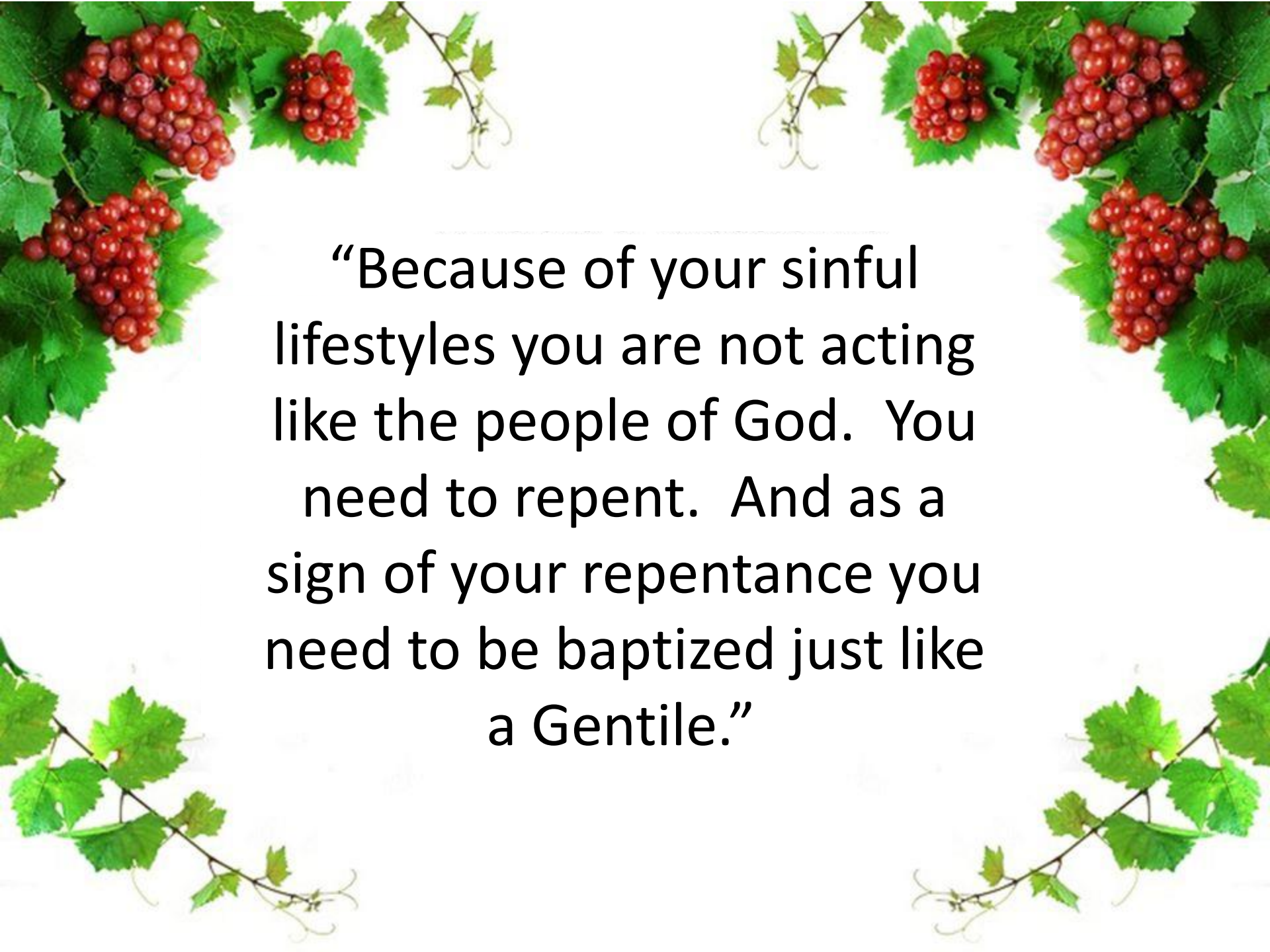
Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28: 19 - 20

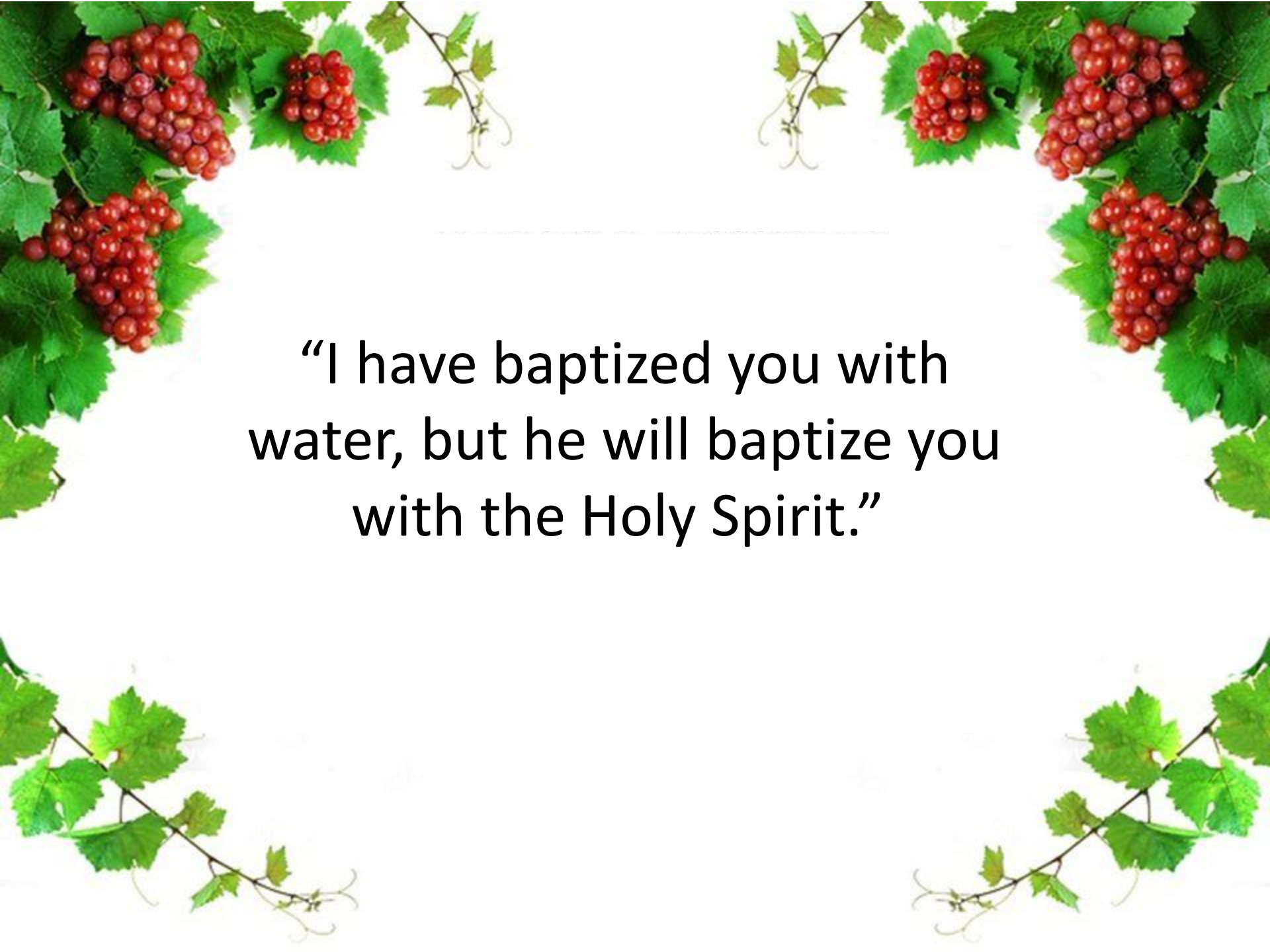


Matthew 3:9

And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our **father**: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.



“Because of your sinful lifestyles you are not acting like the people of God. You need to repent. And as a sign of your repentance you need to be baptized just like a Gentile.”



“I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

A decorative border of red grapes and green leaves surrounds the central text. The grapes are clustered and the leaves are vibrant green, with some showing signs of being eaten or damaged. The border is composed of several clusters of grapes and leaves, arranged in a roughly rectangular shape around the text.

Ephesians 2:8 (NKJV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God,

**Less than 10% of
born-again Christians
will share their faith
before they die.**

the

FORERUNNERS



club

