

Becky Combee Ministries, Inc.

September 2017

IT'S A DONE DEAL

By Suzanne D. Williams

For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed... (2Ti 1:12)

I had a BBQ sandwich for lunch – sliced ham slathered in sauce, French fries, green beans, and hush puppies with a bowl of homemade pickles. I sat at an over-varnished picnic table in a down-home local restaurant between “good ol’ boys” on their lunch break and enjoyed every bite.

No one anywhere can tell me I wasn't there and didn't eat it. For one thing, I have the receipt. For another, there are witnesses who'd remember seeing me at the table in the corner. My daughter, who sat across from me. The waitress who will recall taking my order. The girl at the register

who'll say I paid for the meal.

It's equally ridiculous for anyone to say God doesn't exist, and Jesus didn't die on the cross. I've experienced both. God is real to me. Jesus lives in my heart. **Those are absolutes.**

You can't tell me God doesn't save anymore. He saved me. You can't tell me God doesn't heal anymore. He healed me. You can't tell me God doesn't rescue or deliver. He delivered me from paralyzing fear. You can't tell me God doesn't prosper and provide for physical needs. He's provided for mine many times.

You can't convince me there's any “good” to walking in the darkness when I've already experienced the light.

No man can undo how I've lived. I did get married in 1989. I did have a daughter in 1993. I buried one of my beloved grandmothers in 2008. I published my first book in 2011.

And yesterday, I had BBQ. It's a fact. **A done deal.**

A GUIDE INTO TRUTH

By Becky Combee

Someone once said that I was “old school”. I wasn't sure what they meant, but over time, I began to understand, and now I completely agree with them. I confess there are certain principles I will not surrender. They may be old school, but they have formed and completed my life. They are “who I am.”

Some of these principles might be a matter of trivia and personal opinion, but others are the foundation of “Christ in me.” They are my response

to what I believe about God, and my commitment to them is unquestionable! Yet, I should not say they are simply my response. The word “response” projects the idea that I was compelled, cornered, or coerced. I was not! I chose!

I have been a Christian since I was nine years old. In church, I learned to read my Bible daily. Sometimes the current of life tries to rush us past this time with God. **We must grab ourselves by the collar and resist the temptation to give priority to other things.** Some things may be very important, but certainly, they cannot compare to God's Word.

Reading God's Word every day has always

(Continued from IT'S A DONE DEAL)

So is the work of Christ in my heart. Oh, I mess up frequently. I'm short-tempered and impatient with others. I must repent daily and lean on God's mercies. But there isn't a doubt in my mind where I stand in Christ. (Php 3:9)

My mother used to tell me, whenever I'd come home from school complaining about something this friend or that friend said, she'd say, "But they're wrong." That has solved more things in my life over the years.

Because the fact is, if you try to tell me God's a myth, you're wrong. If you try to say He doesn't love everyone, you're wrong. If you try to say my prayers aren't heard and I shouldn't expect an answer, you're wrong. These are things I've already proven.

No government, political party, misled celebrity, confused Christian, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature can separate me from the love of God, in Christ. (Rm 8:38-39)

I've sat at the table. I've eaten the meal. I HAVE THE RECEIPT. Written in the blood of Christ,

paid for when He hung on the cross, sealed when He rose from the dead. I have witnesses, a cloud of them in heavenly places.

And here's the best part – if you can't say that, God is standing here with an outstretched hand waiting to do the same for you! Anyone who comes to Him, He won't cast out. (Jn 6:37)

I'll take it even further. You don't think you need Him. You've lived your life minus God this far. Perhaps, you're the person trying to convince me to give up, to turn loose, to let go, to realize how wrong I am. I'm wrong frequently and have to admit it. I'm a work in progress, learning every day to be a better person than I was the day before, but in this – in God's salvation – I'm not wrong at all.

I've already been there, hand-in-hand with Christ when He raised me from the lowest place. It wasn't a freak accident. He didn't do it for me because in my delusion I needed something to worship. He did it because He's alive. He did it because He's willing and able. He's infinite unfathomable love.

All God, all powerful, all day. You can count on it.

(Continued from A GUIDE INTO TRUTH)

been a priority. One night as a teenager, I crawled into bed and remembered I had not read my Bible that day. Because I was raised on the legalistic side of everything, I quickly checked the clock to see if it was past midnight. When I discovered it was still "today", I leaped out of bed to read my Bible.

For me, daily Bible reading is more than a habit. It is a lifeline of communication. It is God speaking to me. Some things are as plain as the words on the page if we would read them. Often, we fail because we do not read God's instructions.

Years ago, a very loud and disturbing argument occurred in a former church. I thought it was wisdom to ask the participants to step outside, so Wayne politely spoke to them. Together, they bombarded him until he became the offender. Later, a friend, who witnessed the fiasco, gave us a Scripture reference from Proverbs that would have ordered our footsteps differently. It would have been great to have that wisdom

ahead of time. Ignorance is not a friend!

Yet there is good news! The Holy Spirit lives in every believer and He is our Teacher. He guides us into truth and brings all things to our remembrance. This means that the more we read, the more He can teach us. Although I've grown a lot over the years, I am still on a quest to know more.

Thankfully, there are many Bible translations and commentaries to help us. What great learning tools! The Holy Spirit often uses them to open my heart to truth. I am grateful for every inspired word from man, but ultimately, I depend on Him.

In the end, I believe I am old school. I adhere to many ideas and concepts that are important – some of them just important to me. But this one thing I know. God will communicate with me through His Word. It is my first priority. As the songwriter said, "'Look and live,' my brother, live. Look to Jesus now, and live. 'Tis recorded in His word, hallelujah! It is only that you 'look and live.'"¹ Start today!