The Spiritual Quest for Salvation

Thank you for promptly printing my letter...

Many individuals, who love God and are honest hard working people, are seeking to express their spiritual quest for salvation and service to God.

Cornelius was one such man and a non-Jew. Saul, later called Paul, was one such man and a Jew.

Now God calls all of us, as Jesus stated, to love God with all our heart, soul and mind (Matthew 22:37, 38).

Cornelius expressed his love by being devout, God-fearing, giving generously to the needy and praying (Acts 10:1-48).

Apostle Paul expressed his love by persecuting those who were following Jesus and seeking them out to have them killed (Acts 8:1-4; 9:1-31).

Both Cornelius and Paul lacked the ability to love God with all their mind because they did not fully know and understand God's written word and the good news or gospel of Jesus Christ.

In Cornelius' case an angel of God appeared to him and told him to send for the apostle Peter who then came and explained to him the good news of how we can have peace with God through Jesus Christ. When Cornelius heard the word he also received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

In the Apostle Paul's case he was really persecuting Jesus but Jesus appeared to him and blinded him and sent a man named Ananias to restore his sight. Paul also received the Holy Spirit and spent some time with the disciples in Damascus.

An individual must combine the hearing of God's word with faith to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 11:16; Romans 10:17; 2 Corinthians 3:14-4:6).

Jesus said we must be born again (John 3:1-8).

Peter wrote that we are born again through the word of God (1 Peter 1:22-25) as preached through the gospel.

The marriage season is upon us.

Jesus calls the church His bride. Only the bride gets to go home to live with the groom. Please come. (Revelation 22:12-17, 21)

Gary Westgerdes, Celina, Ohio Letter to The Editor: The Evening Leader 5-21-08 <u>www.thekeysofheaven.com</u>