

MISSING the Mark of GOD

Athens Greece, 2004...

With one bullet left to shoot, all Matt Emmons needed was a score of 7.2 to win his second gold medal of the Olympic Games. On his first nine shots in the finals, Emmons' lowest score was a 9.3. He took careful aim, fired ... bull's eye.

Only Emmons' shot pierced the wrong target — known as a crossfire —
resulting in a score of 0.

Instead of gold, Emmons, 23, of Browns Hill, N.J., was left trying to explain the rare mistake that left him in eighth place.

William Tell had one chance...don't miss the shot!

HOW HAVE WE missed the goal?

Rhembrant painted the handwriting on the wall

Daniel said to king Beltshazzar

Daniel 5:25-²⁵ “This is the inscription that was written:

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN ²⁶ “Here is what these words mean:

Mene: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

²⁷ *Tekel*: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

Church buildings -

The world's largest church building is over 457 ft tall, has over 162,000 square feet and seats up to 20,000 in one service. If we compare our modest local church to this by size, then surely we've missed it.

Mark 13:2 - Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

Crowds -

The largest crowd on record for a religious service was 12 million 700 thousand in 1977. A Hindu crowd came for baptism in the Ganges river, and again by

comparison, we probably come up short.

[Mark 3:7-8](#) Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples; and a great multitude from Galilee followed; and also from Judea, and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great number of people heard of all that He was doing and came to Him.

[Luke 11:29](#) As the crowds were increasing, He began to say, "This generation is a wicked generation; it seeks for a sign, and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah.

worship music -

In the early church, believers sang from the Psalms and were accompanied by music. The New Testament even says that the disciples sang hymns (Matt 26:30). As religious church services became more organized and formal, the music took on more of a ritual characteristic. Responsive singing, like echoes, preceded the style known as chants. Pope Gregory created the first written chants and were thus called "Gregorian chants". In the middle ages, special Catholic Masses were held seasonally to celebrate certain feasts called "Holy" days. This was the birth of the cantata. The singing became more rehearsed and performance oriented as the congregation became spectators. Soon afterwards the pipe organ became popular in religious worship. Many are still used in today's churches including the world's largest. It is 64 feet long with over 30,000 pipes and cost \$105 million dollars.

John 4:24 – in spirit and in truth

Biblical Teaching -

Mormons, Jeh witnesses, easy believism - Titus 2:1 – teach what is according to sound doctrine,

2 Tim 4:3 – the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine

Making Disciples –

Follow me as I follow Christ... what you see in me, DO this, and you will please God...

JOHN 15:15, 16 - ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last

The mark of Holiness and sin –

Heb 12:14 – Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord

1 Peter 1 :15,16 - But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do

Past –(Salvation) our righteousness is like filthy rags / rom 3:23

Present – (Sanctification) Rom 7 - I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. ¹⁹ For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Future (Glorification) Rom 5:9 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

We will be glorified! - WE WILL REACH THE MARK !!!

John 7:39 - By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

John 11:4 - When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it."

John 12:16 - At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

John 12:23 - Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

John 12:28 - Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again."

John 13:31 - When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him.

John 17:1 - After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.