



SAINT PATRICK

INTRODUCTION

This presentation is made available as a public service due to its Biblical and historic value.

The presenter should become thoroughly familiar with material before presentation. If time permits, schedule a follow-up period for questions and discussions.

IRISH HUMOR

- ❖ What do you call an Irishman who knows how to control his wife?
- ❖ A bachelor.

RULES ARE RULES

- ❖ Hospital regulations require a wheel chair for patients being discharged. While working as a student nurse, I found one elderly Irishman already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet, who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital. After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator.

RULES ARE RULES

- ❖ On the way down I asked him if his wife was meeting him.
- ❖ 'I don't know,' he said. 'She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown.'

HEARING AID

- ❖ An elderly Irishman had serious hearing problems for years. A doctor fitted him for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%.

HEARING AID

- ❖ The elderly gentleman went back to the doctor and the doctor said, 'Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.'
- ❖ The gentleman replied, 'Oh, I haven't told my family yet.'

HEARING AID

- ❖ I just sit around and listen to their conversations.
- ❖ I've changed my will three times!

WAL-MART HEARING AID

- ❖ An Irishman was telling his neighbor, 'I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me two thousand dollars, but it is state of the art. It's perfect.'
- ❖ Really, answered the neighbor. What kind is it.
- ❖ “Twelve thirty.”

MARCH 17TH

- ❖ Saint Patrick died on March 17th, ad 461
- ❖ March 17th is celebrated today as Saint Patrick's Day
- ❖ Some call it Shamrock Day
- ❖ Others call it St. Paddy's

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

- ❖ Proud day for People from Ireland
- ❖ Wearing green, coloring things green
- ❖ Eating Corned Beef and Cabbage
- ❖ Drinking green beer and other strong drink
- ❖ Talking about Leprecans, Patrick chasing snakes out of Ireland, and other stories.



THE IRISH PEOPLE

- ❖ 6 million in Ireland
- ❖ 34 million in the U.S.
- ❖ 24% of population of Massachusetts are Irish (double the national average)

GREEN, GREEN, GREEN

- ❖ On Saint Patrick's Day the emphasis is on everything being green – clothing, decorations, food and drink, etc.
- ❖ The Chicago River is dyed green each year for the St. Patrick's Day celebration.



FAVORITE ST. PATRICK'S DAY MEAL

CORNERED BEEF AND CABBAGE

- ❖ “Corning” is a form of curing; it has nothing to do with corn. The name comes from Anglo-Saxon times, before refrigeration. In those days, the meat was dry-cured in coarse salt, the size of kernels of corn, rubbed into the beef to keep it from spoiling and to preserve it.
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THE IRISH FLAG (SINCE 1921)

- ❖ Green color in the flag represents the Catholics of Ireland.
- ❖ Orange represents the Protestants (William of Orange defeated the Catholic Armies in 1690).
- ❖ The white depicts the desire for unity of the countries two major groups.

CATHOLICS VS. PROTESTANTS

- ❖ For many years, the Catholics and Protestants of Ireland have been enemies.
- ❖ Catholic vs. Protestant conflicts have claimed 2600 deaths since 1969.
- ❖ One time a man asked me who was right, the Catholics or Protestants?
- ❖ I said: Both are wrong. Read I John 2:9

DRINKING ON ST PADDY'S DAY

- ❖ DUI's and auto deaths spike on Saint Patrick's Day
- ❖ The study by the Auto Club of Southern California found the risk of being involved in a drunk driving accident jumps by 64% on March 17th.

ALCOHOL ONCE BANNED ON S.P.D.

- ❖ The original Saint Patrick's Day was celebrated only as a religious holiday.
- ❖ It became a public holiday in 1903, with a law requiring the pubs to be closed on March 17.
- ❖ That provision was repealed in the 1960s. So the emphasis on drinking alcohol is relatively new.

Reference: National Post, online

U.S.A. TODAY 3/18/2005

❖ “I do find it ironic that St. Patrick had a mission to evangelize and convert people and our St. Patrick's Day doesn't reflect any of that Christian heritage. It's just an occasion to go out and get absolutely hammered,” said Ray O'Connor of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association.”

PATRICK NOT KNOWN TO DRINK ALCOHOL

- ❖ There is no record that Saint Patrick ever drank.
- ❖ He preached and taught the Bible, which is clearly against drinking alcohol.
- ❖ Proverbs 20:1

THE TRUE PATRICK

- ❖ Patrick's own testimony of faith is preserved in five manuscripts: one in the *Book of Armagh*, the second in the Cotton Library, a third in the French monastery of St. Vedastus, and two more in the Cathedral Library of Salisbury. These authenticated documents are the main source of facts about Patrick, including his gospel of salvation by grace.

SCOTTISH, NOT IRISH

- ❖ Patrick was born in Scotland. His father was a deacon but Patrick was not saved.
- ❖ At age 16 he was taken captive by pirates and sold as a slave in Ireland, very pagan.
- ❖ He was a shepherd boy for 6 years. He ran away and took a ship to France.
- ❖ He was influenced by Christians and accepted the Lord.
- ❖ In 405 he returned to Ireland as a missionary. (back to Pagans, slavery?)

PATRICK HELD UP THE SCRIPTURES

- ❖ “Patrick never mentioned the Catholic Church or the Pope.”
- ❖ His references were to the Holy Scriptures as the authority for matters of faith.
- ❖ He preached before the Church of Rome took over religion in Ireland.

Reference: History of the Christian Church, by Schaaf

PATRICK'S TESTIMONY

- ❖ An historical document from Patrick's own hand is his letter to Coroticus.
- ❖ "I Patrick, a sinner, a most simple countryman, the least of all to many and of the most contemptible to some. Thus I am a servant of Christ to a foreign nation for the glory of eternal life that is in Christ Jesus."

PREACH & TEACH THE GOSPEL

- ❖ Patrick travelled throughout Ireland preaching and teaching the gospel and establishing churches.

THE TRINITY

- ❖ In his effort to win the two daughters of Leoghain to the Lord, he used a three leaf clover to explain the Trinity.



THE TRINITY

❖ Genesis 1:26

❖ “Let us make man in our image”



THE TRINITY

- ❖ Matthew 28:19
- ❖ Baptizing in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



THE TRINITY

II Corinthians 13:13-14

- ❖ Father – Grace
- ❖ Son – Love
- ❖ Holy Spirit – Communion



THE TRINITY

- ❖ The Father is God
- ❖ Hebrews 1:8 Son is God
- ❖ Acts 5:3-4 Holy Ghost is God
- ❖ I John 5:7 And these three are one



ROME FOLLOWED PATRICK

- ❖ When news of Patrick's Christian success reached Rome, Pope Celestine then sent Palladius as a bishop to bring the churches under the control of the Papacy.
- ❖ It was in ad 432, at least 27 years after Patrick's commission from God, that Palladius was sent to Ireland from Rome.

AFTER PATRICK

- ❖ Roman invaders brought the religion of Rome to Ireland.
- ❖ The State Church persecuted and drove out non-Catholic Christians.
- ❖ Today Ireland is about 88% Roman Catholic.

CATHOLIC SAINTS

- ❖ In 993 AD the Catholic church began the practice of naming special “Saints”.
- ❖ The Pope had Saints for various needs and circumstances. Rome called these specialists “Patron Saints”
- ❖ Patrick was canonized a Saint on May 29, 1954 by Pope Pius X.

FROM A SAINT TO A SAINT

- ❖ Patrick spent 1500 years as Patrick the Evangelist, a saint in the sense that all born again believers in the Bible are called saints.
- ❖ He has spent 55 years as Saint Patrick, having been canonized by the Catholic Church in 1954 as The Patron Saint of Ireland.

CHASING OUT THE SERPENTS

- ❖ Legend says that St. Patrick chased the snakes out of Ireland.
- ❖ There were no snakes before Patrick and there are no snakes in Ireland today. Many of the world's 19,000 Islands have no snakes, e.g. Hawaii, New Zealand.
- ❖ He did not chase the serpents themselves out, but he did help sinners to repent of their sins and quit following "that old Serpent, the Devil".

THE SERPENT

- ❖ In Genesis it was **the old serpent Satan** who caused Adam and Eve to Sin.
- ❖ Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Romans 5:12
- ❖ In Revelation 12:9 **Satan is called the old serpent** which deceived the whole world.

PATRICK “CHASED OUT THE SERPENT”

- ❖ As Patrick preached and taught the gospel, people were born again.
- ❖ Many left the pagan Druid religion to accept Christ.
- ❖ The Druid Symbol is The Serpent.
- ❖ The word serpent means “Fiery One”
- ❖ Patrick tried to chase the serpents out of Ireland with the Gospel.

DRUID SYMBOL – 7 POINT STAR



“HE DROVE OUT THE SNAKES”

- ❖ Numbers 21:5-9
- ❖ People sinned
- ❖ Serpents bit the people
- ❖ Those the serpent bit died
- ❖ God gave a plan of salvation for all who were snake bit (dying in sins)

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

- ❖ Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole
- ❖ Everyone bitten by the serpent who looks upon the pole will live.
- ❖ Did your religion save you?
- ❖ Did your good deeds save you?
- ❖ Did your education save you?
- ❖ Did your social status save you?

MANY REJECTED GOD'S PLAN

- ❖ Some said: “I don't need to be saved. If my good works outweigh my bad works, I will go to heaven.”
- ❖ These people died in their sins.

MANY REJECTED GOD'S PLAN

- ❖ Some said: “I have been a member of the church all my life. My grandparents, my parents and me were raised in the church. Our religion will get us to heaven.
- ❖ These people died in their sins.

MANY REJECTED GOD'S PLAN

- ❖ Some said: “are you fanatics going to take the plan of salvation literally? With my advanced education, that plan of salvation does not make sense.”
- ❖ These people died in their sins.

MANY REJECTED GOD'S PLAN

- ❖ Some said: “You and your simple “easy-believism” plan of salvation. There has to be more to it than that.”
- ❖ These people died in their sins.

GOD'S SIMPLE PLAN OF SALVATION

- ❖ Those who looked to the serpent on the pole lived. Those who rejected the plan died. It was simple.
- ❖ Jesus said: “Except ye become as a little child, ye cannot enter the Kingdom of God.”
- ❖ Little children don't understand theology but they can “Look to Jesus and live.”

GOD'S SIMPLE PLAN OF SALVATION

- ❖ II Corinthians 11:3
- ❖ Paul feared that the church at Corinth would be turned from God's simple plan of salvation to Satan's counterfeit religion.

GOD'S SIMPLE PLAN GOT COMPLEX

- ❖ Man quickly perverted God's plan of salvation.
- ❖ II Kings 18:1-5
- ❖ Break in pieces the brazen serpent that people had made to worship.
- ❖ Got rid of incense and the images
- ❖ Hezekiah destroyed the man-made religion that Satan gave them to replace God's simple plan of salvation.

THE SERPENT ON THE POLE

- ❖ Ephesians 2:4-9
- ❖ The serpent on the pole was nothing in itself.
- ❖ It was a picture of the future Christ on the pole, bearing the sins of the people who were snake-bit by that old serpent Satan.
- ❖ Whoever trusts in God's plan of salvation has a serpent antitoxin (Christ's blood).

A PICTURE OF CHRIST

- ❖ John 3:14-16
- ❖ As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up.
- ❖ Why?
- ❖ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life.

THE SAME YESTERDAY AND TODAY

- ❖ In the Book of Numbers, God so loved the world that he provided a plan of salvation for the snake bitten sinners.
- ❖ In the New Testament, God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- ❖ I Peter 2:24

MULTITUDES SNAKE BITTEN

- ❖ 10 million plus alcoholics Proverbs 23:31-32
- ❖ 3.6 million plus drug addicts
- ❖ 1.0 million persons of ill repute
- ❖ 1.0 million abortions per year

MULTITUDES SNAKE BITTEN

- ❖ 1,108,374 new cases of STDs in 2007
(7.5% increase over 2006)
- ❖ 3.2 million plus addicted gamblers
- ❖ 2.3 million in prison
- ❖ Many crooked CEOs; corrupt politicians.

ALL HAVE SINNED

- ❖ The Bible says: None are righteous. All have sinned.
- ❖ We have all been “snake bitten”. Some a little; some a lot.

SERPENT BRINGS SIN & DEATH

- ❖ Whether a “small sinner”, bitten by a small serpent, like a one foot long coral snake



OR A “BIG SINNER”

BITTEN BY A LARGE SNAKE

❖ Indonesian snake 49 ft long, 992 pounds



ALL ARE SNAKE-BIT; ALL HAVE SINNED

- ❖ Whether “a little snake-bitten” or “a lot snake-bitten”; whether having little sins or big sins, the Bible says all have sinned.
- ❖ The wages of sin is death, regardless of the size of the serpents or the amount of sins, all are snake bitten.
- ❖ “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” “The wages of sin is death.”

FIERY SERPENTS

- ❖ Why in the Bible were fiery serpents used as an illustration of sin causing death?
- ❖ The wages of sin is death and one day death and hell will be cast into the lake of fire.
- ❖ The serpent Satan and all his serpents fallen angels and all those who reject God's simple plan of salvation will be in a fiery eternity.

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

- ❖ Romans 3:23 All have sinned; all have been bitten by the “old serpent, Satan”
- ❖ Rev. 12:9-10 old serpent Satan
- ❖ Romans 5:12 death by sin for all
- ❖ I Peter 2:24 he bore our snake bite, that we being dead, should live unto righteousness
- ❖ Whoever trusted in God's plan of salvation has a serpent antitoxin (Christ's blood)

PATRICK TOOK THE GOSPEL TO IRELAND

- ❖ John 3:14-16 As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness (remedy for all who had sinned and been snake bitten)
- ❖ II Cor. 11:3 Satan beguiled Eve and he wants to beguile the whole world, by corrupting the simplicity of the gospel.
- ❖ Mark 7:13 Making the word of God of no effect through man's traditions
(St. Patrick's Day included?)

HISTORICAL SAINT PATRICK

- ❖ From Christian Family in Scotland
- ❖ Missionary to Ireland
- ❖ No record of drinking alcohol
- ❖ No record of wearing green
- ❖ He did not hate Catholics
- ❖ He preached the Bible, Salvation by grace
- ❖ He converted pagans
- ❖ He established over 300 churches
- ❖ Died at age 90 (very, very rare in his day)

IN SUMMARY

- ❖ May you Saints see March 17th as a time to remember a brother, Saint Patrick, who helped others that were snakebit with sins.
- ❖ Help drive the spiritual snakes out of our land, through the Gospel.
- ❖ Help others who are snake bit, to avoid a fiery death - look to look to the Lord and live.