



# Morning Glory

*“The Coming of the Lord Draweth Nigh” — James 5:8*

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • April 2012

## The Glorious Fact Of The Resurrection

**T**HE CORRECT UNDERSTANDING of the resurrection is of great importance in a day when so many professing Christians differ as to its meaning and worth. We are to contend for the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9) and to separate from those who do not hold to that doctrine. The bodily resurrection of Christ is an indispensable part of the teaching concerning the Son of God. It is a glorious and essential fact. No true born again believer should be indifferent as to what the Bible declares to be the truth. The Word of God clearly states: “...if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins” (1 Corinthians 15:17). The fact that Jesus is God incarnate (made human flesh) requires the resurrection. God cannot be held in death; therefore, “...it was not possible that He (Jesus Christ) should be holden of it (death)” (Acts 2:24).

### **THE TESTIMONY OF CHRIST**

The indisputable fact of the resurrection can be seen in Christ’s own testimony. Concerning this, Jesus said, “*The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day*” (Luke 9:22). Jesus knew not only that He had to die as the sacrifice for the sin of the world but that He also would be raised again from the grave to reveal this was a work of God.

### **THE BIBLE**

Through its prophetic and direct statements, the Bible reveals the indisputable fact of Christ’s resurrection. Hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, the psalmist prophesied, “*For Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; nei-*

*ther wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One (Jesus Christ) to see corruption*” (Psalm 16:10). This prophecy was literally fulfilled when Christ was raised from the dead. There is no possibility of error in the interpretation of this prophecy. Under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the apostle Peter quoted this Old Testament prophecy in Acts 2:27 and said of the psalmist; “*He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that His soul was not left in hell, neither His flesh did see corruption. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses*” (Acts 2:31-32).

### **EYEWITNESSES**

The testimony of many individuals who saw the resurrected Christ gives us further undeniable proof of the resurrection: “*For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures; and that He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: after that, He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once...*” (1 Corinthians 15:3-6). The resurrection is the heart of the gospel message. The Apostle Peter preached the resurrection with apology (Acts 10:38-43). Paul, also, was unswerving in his proclamation of this glorious truth (read Acts 17:2-4). These eyewitnesses went out with boldness and joy because they knew that they served a risen Lord who perfectly fulfilled all He had spoken.

### **THE EMPTY TOMB**

Without question, the empty tomb shows that Christ rose bodily from the grave: “*And the angel answered and*

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said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come see the place where the Lord lay” (Matthew 28:5-6). This was not merely a “spiritual resurrection,” nor was it thievery or trickery; Christ had risen bodily as He had said. His own words in John 2:18-22 confirm this fact that He rose bodily from the grave. In verse 19, Christ says, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” In verse 21, this temple mentioned by Jesus is clearly “the temple of His body.” The disciples remembered this discourse after Jesus was risen and, therefore, accepted Christ’s bodily resurrection as fact (verse 22). The fact of the resurrection is established by Scripture itself. As Bible believers, we can rest in this blessed truth and contend boldly with any who would attempt to discredit this historical account. To the believer, the resurrection means so much. Because Jesus Christ rose from the grave, certain blessings and promises are afforded to those who have entrusted their souls to the living Savior.

#### PAYMENT ACCEPTED

The resurrection proves that Christ’s sacrificial payment for sin – our sin – was accepted by God the Father. Jesus Christ shed His blood as the payment for our sin: “*And He is the propitiation* (appeasing sacrifice) *for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world*” (1 John 2:2). The perfect sacrifice was offered in our behalf, and any lost sinner is justified, or made right with God, by trusting in Jesus Christ’s precious blood thus shed on Cal-

vary's cross ( 1 Peter 1:18-19). In Romans 4:25, God's Word states, "*Who (Jesus) was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification.*" We are justified by faith in His shed blood. God the Son was raised again because God the Father had accepted the Lord Jesus Christ's death and resurrection as the perfect and only basis for our justification.

### **LIFE-GIVING POWER**

The resurrection shows that the Lord has the power to give life to those who believe: "*And so it is written, 'The first man Adam was made a living soul, the last Adam (Jesus Christ) was made a quickening spirit'*" (1 Corinthians 15:45). The assertion of this Scripture is that Jesus Christ has the ability to "quicken" or to "make alive." In the Gospel of John, the Savior declares: "*For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom He will*" (John 5:21). We see, therefore, the resurrected Savior is the One who has this life-giving power. Today, He imparts life to all who believe on Him alone. "*But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name*" (John 1:12).

### **VICTORIOUS LIFE**

The resurrection also assures us of the power needed to live a victorious Christian life. God's Word says, "*And what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead...*" (Ephesians 1:19-20). There will never be a trial too great, any burden too heavy or any temptation too strong that cannot be met with the power of the Spirit of the resurrected Christ within. The same power that raised up Jesus is available to all who believe. As we learn to trust Him more and ourselves less, He will be able to display His mighty power in and through us. 1 Corinthians 4:7.

### **PATTERN FOR THE FUTURE**

Finally, the resurrection reveals the pattern of what lies ahead for the believer. Christ is the firstfruits, that is, the firstborn from the dead. He was resurrected from the grave, and the promise is that we will be raised in like manner. "*But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive*" (1 Corinthians 15:20-22). Because Christ arose, all who are His shall, at His appearing, receive new, resurrection bodies (see Philippians 3:20-21). Whether living or dead, "*...we shall all be changed*" (1 Corinthians 15:51). (Editor's Note: please read Job 19:25-27, Mat-

thew 5:30, Hebrews 9:27, 1 John 3:2 also) What a blessed future is in store for all who place their trust in the resurrected Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ – everlasting life!

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is a glorious fact. Jesus Christ lives today! He imparts life to lost souls who believe the gospel message. He empowers believers to live victorious Christian lives. Do you know the risen Lord as your personal Savior? He died to pay the penalty for your sins. He arose victorious from the grave! Trust him as your Savior today! This is the gospel, the "good news"!

*"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent; Because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him (Jesus Christ) from the dead"* (Acts 17:30-31).

*"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation"* (Romans 10:9-10).

*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16).

*"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life"* (John 5:24).     DWC

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*"If there existed only one man or woman who did not love the Saviour, and if that person lived amongst the wilds of Siberia, and if it were necessary that the millions of believers on the face of the earth should journey thither and every one of them plead with him to come to Jesus before he could be converted, it would be well worth all the zeal and labor and expense of all that effort."*                     Charles Surgeon

*Editor's Note:* Please 'pray' that precious **souls** would come to JESUS for salvation through the 'ministry' of the *Morning Glory/Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation*; and that many more 'believers' may be enlightened and nourished through the same: to the glory of GOD!

# Editorial

RES

## HOW GREAT THOU ART!

(Creator, Redeemer & Preserver)

*“Before ‘YOU’ read any further, please Prayerfully read **Isaiah 40:25 – 31.**”*

To the best of my knowledge; Biblically the setting for this text is that Israel is either in captivity OR will be in captivity and are/will be going through some very difficult times – maybe similarly to what ‘we’ call *perilous time!* YET **God** tells one of his prophets (Isaiah) comfort my people (v.1) for I am **thy God** who is both thy Creator & Preserver who *“neither faints nor is weary”* (v. 28). NOW as I understand the ‘word’ comfort means to **revive**. Thus before becoming ‘captives’, HE shares encouragement! YES, God’s people are given ‘orders’ to preach and publish the glad tidings of Redemption (v. 1-2). This is ‘good news’ is to proclaim by like a voice crying in the wilderness; which gives assurance that the struggles, difficulties will be over come; as that the Word of God will be established and accomplished/fulfilled (v. 6-8), a joyful prospect given for the children of God. Isn’t it good to be reminded, that as we spiritually, etc. see the storm clouds over the horizon; that HIS is Sovereignty and HIS power is available because of HIS mercy and GRACE for you and me! *“If we are faithless, He remains faithful;”* 11 Timothy 2:13.

AND yet GOD gives a ‘reproof’ to the people of God for their *fears* (v. 27-31).

Now as we look at just a few of His promises there is a real danger of wanting to follow Him for HIS provisions; instead of what HE came to be first of all and that is to be your personal SAVIOR. (John 6:66-75). You see the bottom line is that Christianity is NEED of *forgiveness from ‘our’ HOLY GOD and the assurance of eternal life!* In other ‘words’ I am trying to say there is a real danger to seek to follow HIM for HIS provision/gifts, instead that the realization that I need HIM so desperately as my Savior/Deliverer/Substitute!

(Psalm 104:28 *“What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good.”*)

(James 1:17-18.)

Now please look up the words of the wonderful song “How Great Thou Art” and carefully read the first two verses.

We have a GOD of precise and absolute orderliness and who is interested in the minute details as HE is the

**Creator and Preserver** of all that is good – even knows the number of ‘stars’ and calls them each by name! **Isaiah 40:26, Psalm 147:3-6**. At one time those who are in the know said there were at least 1 plus 21 zeros and now they know there is a multitude of more stars! Just imagine HE even knows the number of hairs on each head that is HIS own! Also it has been stated that the richest man in the world, does not have enough ‘money’ to buy enough food for all the birds of the world for one day!

Yes, a God of orderliness, for example: Eggs of a potato bug hatch in 7 days, Eggs of a Canary hatch in 14 days, Eggs of hen hatch in 21 days, Eggs of Ducks & Geese hatch in 28 days, Eggs of a Mallard Duck hatch in 35 days, Eggs of a Parrot & Ostrich hatch in 42 days and God Himself created this ‘world’ in six days and rested the 7<sup>th</sup> day seeing that it was good. (Seven in the Bible, symbolically stands for perfection, completeness).

The huge Elephant has its all four legs bend forward in the same direction and NO other quadruped animal is so made.

The ‘waves’ of the Sea roll in on shore 26 times to the minute in all kinds of weather!

**GOD in His Uniqueness, the Creator and Preserver** *“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being/ soul”* “ Genesis 2:7.

**Keep in mind** that you not only have a ‘soul’ BUT are a soul and can never divorce yourself from that fact.

*“I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You. When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me. When as yet there were none of them.”* **Psalm 139:14-16, Genesis 1:26, Jeremiah 1:5, Isaiah 40:21-24, 44:2, 43:1-3**. (The word ‘Redeemed’ means to be bought back, re-purchased). *“Your righteousness is like the great moun-*

tains; Your judgments are a great deep; O LORD, You preserve man and beast. How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light. Oh, continue Your lovingkindness to those who know You, And Your righteousness to the upright in heart” Psalm 36:6-10.

Now carefully please read verses 3-4 of **How Great Thou Art!**

Most certainly ‘we’ are NOT in the ‘camp’ of the religious ‘liberals’ for ‘Salvation’ is a personal acceptance of the GIFT that GOD provided through His Son, **Jesus**, and in a sense it is like a ‘check’ written out in ‘full’ for your ‘account’; but you must personally endorse it – for you to benefit by it! The blood atonement has been paid for my/your sin, the veil is rent, and the Son of God cried from Calvary’s Cross **“It is finished (completed).”** **One day** you will stand before this same ‘Holy, Awesome God’; then what will your verdict be?

*Praise God! YET* this same Holy, Unique, Awesome God says: *“But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away”* Isaiah 64:6. Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:10-20, 3:23, 6:23 & James 2:10. **YET HE lovingly** invites us *“‘Come now, and let us reason together,’ Says the LORD, ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool’”* Isaiah 1:18. Spiritually, symbolically we become like a snow flake before a thrice Holy God! Within every ‘snowflake’ there is a particle of dust in the atmosphere and as frost gathers around this particle it falls to earth and to our eyes appears ‘white’. Further it is stated that under a powerful microscope a ‘snowflake’ has numerous dazzling colors.

In Luther’s Small Catechism Explained the question is asked: “What is Justification?” “Justification is the gracious act of God whereby He for Christ’s sake acquits a repentant and believing sinner of his sin and guilt, and looks upon him in Christ, as though he had never sinned.” 1 Corinthians 1:29-31 *“that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God – and righteousness and sanctification and redemption – that, as it is written, ‘He who glories, let him glory in the LORD.’”* Matthew 6:30-34.

Martin Luther speaks of IF ‘we’ got what we deserved, we would be like a blade of grass – and I ques-

tion IF we would fair that well! Isaiah 40:6-8, 21-27 & Psalm 103:11-22.

According to GOD (no need to question, when God says something – in a sense it is as good as done) in verse 30 *“Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall.”* Many of the world ‘leaders’ in the ‘free’ world are much concerned about economy, along with many politicians and a multitude of others – rightly so; but it sounds like the era of what ‘we’ call the great depreciation! IN Luke 21:26 it states *“‘men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth.’”* “Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.” Psalm 20:7. God often uses what the world calls ‘foolish’ to confound the ‘wise’! **(1 Corinthians 1:18-29).** GOD will never ask you to do something that HE will not provide for!

**UNDERScore** verse 31: As I understand that word **wait** here is not only patience, but perseverance and *expediency!* *Not* only that, but means interwoven (like the twine in a rope), intertwined. An ‘eagle’ has among all fowl some of the strongest ‘wings.’ As you know when an **eagle** is confronted with a ‘storm’ its mighty wings lifts it higher and higher until it is above the ‘storm’ and then soars in ‘quietness’. Also an ‘eagle’ has some of the keenest eye sight among all of God’s Creation. (Psalm 18:28, Revelation 3:18-22, Proverbs 29:18 & **Galatians 6:9-10**).

Now carefully look at the words of the wonderful Gospel Song – *The Love of God!*

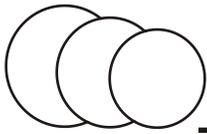
**ONLY** the **Creator of life** (Jesus is risen & coming again) could triumph over death, and He has been declared **Romans 1:4 & Revelation 1:18!!!**

In closing this ‘editorial’ let me ask you a question: What/Who makes a black & white cow, eat green grass and produces yellow milk? **Creator!**

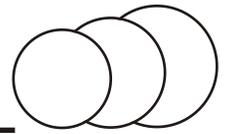
Isaiah 44:6-8

**YES** God will come to rule and judge all people. HE foretells a time when “Babylon” – the future evil world system – will be destroyed and the persecution of God’s people will end.

Being GOD is the Creator and Preserver, Almighty GOD, All Powerful GOD, Sovereign GOD, His people need never fear that their problems and difficulties are too much for Him to handle, and to His Children who lack both stamina and strength, he liberally grants all they need for their constant progress and spiritual attainment, provided they trustingly wait upon Him in expectation and prayer.



# From Our Fellowship Circle



**E. M. E. Moorhead, MN**  
Just a few words with my check for the ministry of the *Morning Glory*.

We finally got snow and it is good for many, but for others – I like to look at it in those tall Evergreen trees out my window. (Editor: Speaking of snow I often think of **Isaiah 1:18** when we receive freshly fallen snow – what a fantastic Bible verse – what mercy & what grace! Also how many years ago a fellow believer and I would often share this Bible Verse when we would meet walking to and from the local Post Office).

I want to share this good Bible verse with you: “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.” II Corinthians 3

**J. & G. Y. Webster, SD**  
We enjoy receiving and reading the *Morning Glory*, for these are great articles in your magazine to read.

We’re enclosing a gift to help you in your Great Work you do for the LORD.

May God Bless you immensely!

**T. S. Forest City, IA**  
Wishing you a very good year of 2012.

Time goes so fast it seems and we have had a very good January so I am thankful to the Lord for every new day He gives me.

I am sending some money for your work and I enjoy the *Morning Glory*.

**C. D. Minneapolis, MN**  
I received my first issue of *Morning Glory* and it is beautiful.

I am especially captivated by the article on Holiness by an ancient Scandinavian Pastor from his book.

Thanks heaps!

**A. G. Strandquist, MN**  
Greetings with “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and

show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not” Jeremiah 33:3. Along with many others, this Bible verse has been such a blessing and comfort to me many times.

Blessings on your faithful labor.

**J. B. Eden Prairie, MN**  
My father, Howard Graff, went home to be with his Lord & Savior Jesus Christ on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Alzheimers is a horrid disease and we need to pray earnestly for better treatment and a cure.

We were so blessed to have him near us for the last six years and two weeks before he left us, and we had a great visit(s) with him – children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters and brother-in-law. He told us all how much he loved us.

I will always remember that as a young girl of attending meetings in Minneapolis with my Dad & Grandfather and also at Medicine Lake. What a heritage we have! Dad enjoyed the *Morning Glory* and the many he fellowshiped with at meetings and conferences.

What a Joy & Comfort to know we will be together once again.

Thank you for all your work as you serve Him and thank you for the *Morning Glory*. Please accept this gift in memory of Dad.

Rejoicing in the love of Jesus!

**“Let us stand by our duty  
fearlessly and effectively. I am  
not bound to win, but I am  
bound to be true. I am not  
bound to succeed, but I am  
bound to live up to the light  
that I have.”**

Abraham Lincoln

# Jesus or the Devil?

Try Jesus, if you are not satisfied with Him the Devil will always take you back! This sentence is thought-provoking. I will mention several Bible verses that speak on this subject.

God's Word says in Psalm 34:8: "**Taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.**" God asks you to "taste". When you "taste" you will experience the following; "that the LORD is good." He never ruins a person's life. He gives us a life that "overflows." Yes, "my cup runs over." That was the expression King David used. This is how the LORD treats every individual who takes refuge in him."

Many people are bound with unnoticeable, hidden things that entangle them. Things like bad habits which they can't free themselves from, vices, worldly friends, cheating, dishonesty and falsehood. Just think of the many homes today where lives are destroyed because of drugs, alcoholism or immorality. They are walking on the broad road that leads them right into hell itself. There are only two roads in front of you. Which one are you walking on? One road leads to heaven, to the gloriousness of God himself. The other road leads to outer darkness where there is total despair and destruction. In reality it is separation from God. Each of us chooses daily. That's why you should choose to listen to what God's Word says. He asks you *to respond* to what he says. Matthew 7:13-14. "**Enter by the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.**"

What about you who read this article today? Have you responded to the plea of Jesus? He says in Matthew 11:28 "**Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**" I would like to repeat that sentence I started out with. Try Jesus, if you are not satisfied with him the Devil will always take you back. A very serious word is given to us in 1 Timothy 4:1. "**Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from what we believe; they will follow lying spirits and teachings that come from demons.**"

Are you aware of the fact that there is only one name in all of history that is above every other name? That name is "Jesus." He is able to set the captive person free because nothing else can free them. Jesus put it this way: John 8:34. "**...anyone who sins is a slave to sin.**" You cannot free yourself from your own sin. Sin will follow you like your own shadow. That is why I need outside help. We need a redeemer or a savior. Notice what Jesus told them in John 8:24: "**That is why I said that you will die in**

**your sins; for unless you believe that I am who I say I am, you will die in your sins.**" Jesus came to take your place and your sin. He died in our stead, because "he that sins must die." That's what God's Holy law proclaims and there is no way around it. This is the reason why Jesus came. He took your place and laid down his life for you. That is why he said: John 8:36. "**So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**" He alone can free a person from bondage or any kind of sin. He wants to free you from the power of darkness where the unsaved person lives. He will bring you from darkness to light. 1 John 1:7 "**But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.**"

Notice how the Devil wants to hinder you so that you do not come to Jesus. 2 Corinthians 4:4 "**Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who do not believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of (the gospel or) the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.**" Are you mislead and deceived like that? If you don't have fellowship or a relationship with Jesus then you're not a Christian! Jesus is alive in Heaven today. He is concerned about you. He is the one who calls you by his Holy Spirit. He wants to save your soul.

Just think, you can have *peace with God and a clear conscience!* That exceeds what we are able to write with words because it exceeds all understanding. This is what is called "freedom;" to live in daily forgiveness.

If you are not satisfied with Jesus, the Devil will always take you back!

The Devil desires to blind you so that you get so taken up with the world and the things of this world. You become so busy that you don't take time to read the Bible very often. You don't take time to pray either. You don't go to church regularly to hear God's Word proclaimed. You have become more and more indifferent. That's when it is easy for Satan to bind you with unseen bonds. Then sin gets a tighter grip on you. You become irritated easily, your feelings get hurt, you become mad and even bitter. Then hatred shows its ugly head, and things go from bad to worse. Hebrews 12:15 says, "**See to it that...no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.**" 1 Peter 5:8 "**Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.**" When the Devil and his spirit get a hold of you once again, then things become at least seven times worse than they were before.

Jesus speaks of it this way in Matthew 12:44-45. "**Then it (the unclean spirit) says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccu-**

**pied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation.”** When the Spirit of God no longer lives in your heart and life you become vulnerable. The unclean spirit has open access to that person because there is no resistant power present within him. That person is a backslider; a deceived individual and a worldly minded person.

After reading this, do you understand the meaning of this sentence any better? Try Jesus, if you are not satisfied with him the Devil will always take you back!

I don't want to conclude this article without making an appeal from God's Word in closing. Jeremiah 33:22. **“Return, faithless people; I will cure you of backsliding.”** It is the Lord himself that invites you when He says: “Return, faithless people”. It is only when the Spirit is near and calls you that you can come and get it right with God. If He is calling you today, “come in repentance.”

With prayerful concern,  
Rev. Willmore Gundersen

\* \* \* \* \*

## Loyalty To God Alone

By Dr. Bob Schuler

I have come, thank God, to where I believe I could stand up and vote my convictions if I were the only lonely man on my side of the question.

I recall one instance when one man, and one only, stood up and voted with me. I confess that it is more pleasant to be with the majority than with the minority, but the joy of taking a conscientious stand and feeling that you are right is far greater than the thrill of multitudes who agree with you.

I most certainly do not compare my humble battles with those of men concerning whom I now write. But I have read that Wesley was denied a church in which he might preach and was forced to make a platform and pulpit of his father's tombstone. He died an Episcopalian, but the problem then was to find an Episcopal clergyman who would conduct his funeral.

I might tell the story of friendless John Knox and Savonarola and scores of other immortals of the centuries whose friends, if they had any, deserted or stood dumb, as Peter, who denied Christ outside Pilate's court. They did not need friends so much as they needed to be right. And right they were!

Sword of the Lord

## Abortion Facts:

1 out of every 66 deaths in the world is an American abortion.

1 out of every 4 deaths in America is an American abortion.

Half of the deaths in the world are from abortions. Abortion is the leading cause of death in the world. It kills as many people as ALL of the other causes of death combined...

We have lost more Americans through abortion than we did in all of our wars (12 wars) combined. (64 times more to be more precise). Our world kills more people than that in just 9 hours through abortions.

America has lost 589 soldiers in its first year of fighting in the Iraq War. The world, however, kills more people than that in just 6 minutes through abortion.

Since 1973 over 49 million babies have been aborted in the United States alone.

Four out of every 10 unplanned pregnancies are terminated by abortion. ...

Selected

### Key to these alarming statistics in America was the work of Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun.

In 1973, Harry Blackmun authored the Court's opinion in *Roe v. Wade*, invalidating a Texas statute making it a felony to administer an abortion in most circumstances. Blackmun became a passionate advocate for abortion rights, often delivering speeches and lectures promoting *Roe v. Wade* as essential to women's equality and criticizing *Roe*'s critics. Defending abortion, in *Thornburgh v. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*, Blackmun wrote:

“Few decisions are more personal and intimate, more properly private, or more basic to individual dignity and autonomy, than a woman's decision – with the guidance of her physician and within the limits specified in *Roe* – whether to end her pregnancy. A woman's right to make that choice freely is fundamental.”

Blackmun died March 4, 1999.

I wonder what He thinks of his decision today?

# Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

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## (Editor Shocked!!!) **Wycliffe Bible Translators – Producing Muslim Friendly Bible**

Wycliffe Bible Translators is one producer of a modern Bible. This new Bible is being promoted as a Muslim friendly Bible where words and wording have been removed or changed that might be offensive to Muslims. They have eliminated any references to God as ‘Father’ or Jesus as the ‘Son of God.’

Jesus dying for our sins and His resurrection is offensive to Muslims!

Taken from Godfather Politics (filed under Islam, Liberalism, Religion), 2/2012

(*Editor:* Christianity and Islam Religion are completely incompatible!)

## **President Barack Obama**

President Barack Obama shares that he believes that Jesus would back higher taxes. He believes that it coincides with Jesus teaching that ‘for unto whom much is given, much shall be required’.

In Islamic Teachings, Jesus is often referred to as the Messiah of Allah, meaning he was 100% human and not God or part of the Godhead, which they also deny exists. Selected

## **ELCA Bishop To Be Keynote Speaker For Homosexual Activist Organization Lutheran Concerned North America. Bible Study Leader for the Event will be ELCA Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber.**

Mark Hanson, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, will be the keynote speaker at the biennial conference of Lutherans Concerned-North America (LC/NA), July 6-10, 2012 in Washington, DC. According to LC/NA, Bishop Hanson will be the first presiding bishop of any denomination to be their keynote speaker. The LC/NA was a powerful partner in influencing the ELCA in 2009 to accept practicing homosexuals onto its clergy roster, and it continues to help shape ELCA policy to accept and promote the homosexual lifestyle in its congregations as well as in society at large. Once again, Bishop Hanson will place his stamp of approval on the ELCA’s sanctioning of sin and acceptance of sexual

perversion as a normative lifestyle.

According to LC/NA’s promotional for this event, Bible studies for the event will be conducted by ELCA pastor, Nadia Bolz-Weber, a leading voice in the emergent church movement, “who has probably done more than any other pastor in recent times to poke therapeutic fun at the misdemeanors and flaws of overly churchd Christianity and Christians.” Nadia Bolz-Weber is known also for salty language from both her pen and her pulpit. She is the founding pastor of House for all Sinners and Saints, Denver, CO.

A featured event at the July LC/NA gathering will be the presentation of the James Siefkes award to a person or persons who have made significant contribution to advancing the cause of Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transsexual Lutherans. Bishop Herbert Chilstrom and his wife Corrine were among the most recent recipients of the Siefkes award.

The Vine and Branches, Mid Winter, 2012 – Issue 1

## **Obama Poured Over \$200 Million into Egyptian Elections**

Liberals in the U.S. referred to the uprising in various Muslim nations as the “Arab Spring,” but they have turned out to be the “Radical Islam’s Takeover.” That is especially true in Egypt, where the Obama administration spent over \$200 million to help liberal, pro-Western parties win the election. However, when the votes were counted, the Muslim Brotherhood had 37 percent and the radical Islamic al-Nour party had 24 percent.

What is likely to emerge in Egypt is what merged in Libya and what may emerge in Syria – a radical Islamic takeover. It means an anti-West, anti-Israel government will soon control the entire region. It is likely the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt will come to an end.

Selected.

## **Rare Finds Discovered Near Temple Mount**

Two rare finds have been made by archaeologists in an ancient drainage canal that ran from the Pool of Siloam to a garden near the Western Wall – an intact sword in a leather scabbard, and a stone tablet depicting the temple menorah. Both items are believed to be nearly 2000 years old.

It is believed that the sword may have belonged to a

Roman infantryman who was stationed in Jerusalem during the Jewish Revolt that began in 66 AD.

The stone with a carving of menorah is considered important because it was found so close to the temple.

Other items found include cooking utensils, coins and oil lamps. Archaeologists believe the canal was used by residents of the Old City who hid from the Romans during the siege of the city.

Information: *Israel Today* 11/11

## Islamic-Majority Countries Top 2012 World Watch List

The Open Doors 2012 World Watch List has a familiar look to it. North Korea tops the list for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight time as the country where Christians face the most severe persecution, while Islamic-majority countries represent nine of the top 10 and 38 of the 50 countries on the annual ranking.

Afghanistan (2), Saudi Arabia (3), Somalia (4), Iran (5) and the Maldives (6) form a bloc where indigenous Christians have almost no freedom to openly worship. For the first time Pakistan (10) entered the top 10, after a tumultuous year during which the nation's highest-ranking Christian politician, Cabinet Minister Shahbaz Bhatti, was assassinated for his attempts to change the blasphemy law.

The rest of the top 10 is composed of Uzbekistan (7), Yemen (8) and Iraq (9). Laos was the lone country to drop from the top 10 list, falling to No. 12 from No. 10.

While persecution has worsened due to persecution by Muslim extremists, without question North Korea once again deserves its No. 1 ranking. Defiantly communist, North Korea has built a bizarre quasi-religion around the founder of the country, Kim Il-Sung. Anyone with "another god" is automatically persecuted.

Christian Newswire

## Pro-Life Nurses Win Major Court Battle

Twelve nurses who sued one of (New Jersey's) largest hospitals after claiming they were forced to assist in abortions over their religious and moral objections reached a deal (December 22) with their employer in federal court.

Under the agreement, 12 nurses in the same-day surgery unit of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey can remain in their current positions and not be compelled to assist in any part of an abortion procedure.

OneNewsNow.com

## Motherhood, without a ring, steadily rising

By JASON DEPARLE and SABRINA TA VERNISE  
• New York Times

LORAIN, OHIO – It used to be called illegitimacy: Now it is the new normal. After steadily rising for five decades, the share of children born to unmarried women has crossed a threshold: More than half of births to U.S. women younger than 30 occur outside marriage. Once largely limited to poor women and minority members, motherhood without marriage has settled deeply into middle America. The fastest growth in the past two decades has occurred among white women in their 20s who have some college education but no four-year degree, said Child Trends, a Washington research group that analyzed government data. Among mothers of all ages, a majority – 59 percent in 2009 – are married when they have children. But the surge of births outside marriage among younger women – nearly two-thirds of U.S. children are born to mothers younger than 30 – is both a symbol of the transforming family and a hint of coming generational change. ...

The shift is affecting children's lives. Researchers have consistently found that children born outside marriage face elevated risks of falling into poverty, failing in school or suffering from emotional and behavioral problems. ...

Almost all of the rise in non-marital births has occurred among couples living together. While in some countries such relationships endure at rates that resemble marriages, in the United States they are more than twice as likely to dissolve as marriages. ...

Taken from *Star Tribune*, Feb. 18, 2012

"I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of the Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail".

Abraham Lincoln

# The Better Sanctuary

(Editor: Please prayerfully read *Hebrews 9:1-12*)

Here the same method is used of presenting the inadequacy of the first tabernacle in that it was only a type and not the real, the true tabernacle.

## The tabernacle of the first covenant.

The author mentions some of the details of the tabernacle which Moses built. It is evident that he has chosen those items which particularly and strikingly refer to Christ. In the holy place we find the candlestick and the table of showbread, which are types of Jesus as the Light of the world and the Bread of Life.

In the Mosaic tabernacle the golden altar of incense was also found in the holy place, but here in Hebrews 9 it is mentioned in connection with the holy of holies. This has sometimes been pointed out as a Biblical inconsistency. However, it is to be remembered that Hebrews 9 is an interpretation, and without a doubt the meaning is that the golden altar of incense was to be considered as belonging to the holy of holies, even though it stood outside of the veil. This is significant. If it had been within the veil it could not have been approached by the priests in their daily ministrations, in which case there could have been no intercession, but in His mercy God placed it outside in order that it might be approached. And there was a lattice work above the veil through which the smoke of the incense could pass beyond the veil into the holy of holies. This suggests that God was willing to hear the prayers of intercession before Christ came into the world, because He knew that Christ would come and would accomplish a saving work.

In the holy of holies were the following: the ark of the covenant, which is a type of Christ; a golden pot holding the manna, another type of Christ; Aaron's rod that budded, still another type of Christ; the tables of the covenant, which were fulfilled in Christ; also, above the ark, the mercy seat, which speaks very particularly of what we have in Christ.

Having mentioned these things, the author says, "*Of which things we cannot now speak severally,*" indicating that it would be possible to show how they all are a type of Christ, but it was not his purpose to do so. He was hurrying on to the point that he particularly wanted to make. It suggests to us, however, that we ought to study the tabernacle from this viewpoint for seeking to see our Lord Jesus Christ in all its various items. How wonderful that God should cause such an object lesson to be placed in the midst of the children of Israel to teach them what God would do for them in Christ. And now we may read the

detailed descriptions of the tabernacle and realize that God has recorded them in such detail in order that they might, even for us, cast a light upon our Lord Jesus Christ for our better understanding and appreciation of Him and His saving work...

The point, however, that the author particularly wants to make is that only the priests could go into the holy place and only the high priest could go into the holy of holies, and that only once in the year. And when he did so he had to bring a sacrifice of blood for himself as well as for the errors (Ed. SINS) of the people. This took place on the Day of Atonement, which was a day of confession and self-affliction for the people of Israel, for they were admitting that their sins closed them out from the presence of God and were taught to realize that even their religious services had defiled the very tabernacle itself.

Now we read that by this the Holy Spirit would signify "*that the way into the holy place hath not yet been made manifest, while the first tabernacle is yet standing.*" That is, there was a very restricted access to God and not a wide open way for everyone who wanted to approach and find fellowship with God. This shows that the sacrifices, too, were inadequate for they could not set men free in their conscience and "*make the worshipper perfect,*" but were "*carnal ordinances, imposed until a time of reformation.*" That is, they were outward sacrifices of animals imposed to teach a lesson until the time of reformation should come, in which a sacrifice would be made by Christ once for all.

Summarizing, this tabernacle of the first covenant was:

1. A material type
2. With restricted access to God
3. With inadequate sacrifices.

Over against these three shortcomings of the tabernacle of the first covenant the author sets forth the glories of:

## The Greater and More Perfect Tabernacle.

1. It is not of this creation, not made with hands, for it is in heaven itself.

2. Christ entered this holy place in heaven once for all. He does not have to enter every year to do over again that which He had done the year before, and the very fact that it was necessary to enter only once for all is the proof that Christ is "*a high priest of the good things to come.*" That is, that Christ as a High Priest can bring us into the possession of all those good things that were promised of old and all the good things that we shall know when we, too, enter into that same glory.

3. Christ's sacrifice was not the blood of goats and calves, but his own blood. The blood of goats and calves could never be a substitute for the life of all mankind. But

by His own blood Christ *“obtained eternal redemption”* through which we now have free access to the throne of grace. See Ch. 4:16; 10:19.

This brings us to the theme of the *better sacrifice*, in which the author will from many viewpoints show us how infinitely better was Christ’s sacrifice of His own blood than the sacrifice of the blood of animals in the old covenant.

Truly, if we study all these things prayerfully, we cannot escape the deeper appreciation of what we have in Christ, and we will pray earnestly for the grace to appropriate all this in order that we might experimentally love out in our lives that saving grace which is ours in Christ.

Taken from the book *“A Better Life”*  
by Samuel Miller, B.D., D.D.

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### Note Over Due!

This note is long over due (Editor also), and I don’t really know where to begin. My Dad, Clifford Thompson, Bottineau, ND, began his eternal journey on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011. It seemed as though he had a stroke in March and after several days in the Hospital, he was taken to the Good Samaritan home.

He had another ‘episode’ and it was determined at that time that he hadn’t had a stroke at all, but he had lung cancer that had metastasized to his brain.

My Dad was a very private man and this was very difficult for him since he was in his right mind and was aware of every thing that was going on. ...

I went to Bottineau and had the opportunity to spend the last earthly week of his with him. He kept telling me, “I just want to be done. I want to go home.”

On Friday, I read to him some and I said to him, “Oh Dad. You just want to go home, don’t you?” He said

A.W. Tozer wrote the following over fifty years ago. “There are millions who cannot live without entertainment. For centuries the Church stood solidly against every form of worldly entertainment. But of late she appears to have decided if she cannot conquer the great god entertainment she may as well join forces with him and make use where she can of his powers. So today we have the spectacle of millions of dollars being poured into the unholy job of providing earthly entertainment for the so called sons of Heaven. Many churches these days have become little more than poor theaters.”

Selected.

“Home to the LORD” and to that I responded, “Oh Dad. Where would we be without the LORD?” and he said, “I’ve been there and it isn’t good. I’m prepared.” What a gift/blessing he left with me in knowing that he is now Home with the LORD and I know that knowing the same ‘Savior’; one day I will see him again and perhaps soon! ...

I want you to know that my Dad loved the *Morning Glory* and he would read it from cover to cover! ...

My Dad had a hard life – a lot of choices he made were not good, but God got a hold of him and changed his direction from hell-bound to Heaven-ward. I am so thankful that he finished well, and was trusting Jesus to come and take him Home when his time on earth was done.

He missed his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday by only 16 days....

God is so good and we praise Him for all that He has given to us as well as what He has withheld from us! We are so richly blessed!!! He is Faithful and it’s good to be able to say with all sincerity, “Our Father Knows Best”!

... Thus we are sending a gift in memory of my dad – Clifford L. Thompson.

Wanda Hedland

\* \* \* \* \*

## Thy Kingdom Come

*Thy Kingdom come into our hearts this very day.*

*For this we most fervently earnestly do pray.*

*Come into our hearts with all Truth that Jesus taught.*

*Dispel the darkness that this world has brought.*

*Thy Kingdom come and change an evil heart to good.*

*Bring the Holy Spirit to teach us to do as we should.*

*Thy Kingdom come and make us fully thine own,*

*That Christ may be King, our hearts His royal throne.*

*Thy kingdom come with its pure love and joy.*

*All hatred and prejudice it will most surely destroy.*

*Come into our hearts with hope for each day.*

*Bring encouragement in our times of great dismay.*

*Thy Kingdom come lest our hearts fail from fear.*

*Come in the turmoil of this brand new year.*

*Though we grow older, feeble, weary and faint*

*Through the blood of Christ shed we are called a saint.*

*One day Thy Kingdom Eternal will be home evermore.*

*All of God’s children will no more suffering endure.*

*Throughout endless ages we will have perfect rest.*

*Through the grace of our Lord we “will pass the test.”*

By James M. Hite, Palmyra, Pa.

## Are We Living in Perilous Times?

2 Timothy 3

Paul warned the elders of the church at Ephesus of coming apostasy – departure from the faith (Acts 20:17-32). He had written the epistles of 1 Timothy and Titus for the purpose of giving guidance to churches – for church order, soundness in the faith and discipline. What may have been a minority (“*some shall depart*” in 1 Tim. 4:1) seems to have become a majority in 2 Timothy. Therefore, Paul instructed Timothy to have a personal walk and testimony of a true servant of Christ in a day of deviation from the standard of truth. He envisioned a rebellion against the truth toward the end of this age – people embracing religious teaching and secular philosophies, fueled by lying spirits. Today, we are seeing the Christian ethic in society replaced by a general secularization of mankind. “*Evil men and seducers (are) wax(ing) worse and worse*” (v. 13). Christian standards of morality and decency are being swept aside, and perversion is now flaunted unashamedly and boastfully. Courts, colleges, the media and even churches are increasingly biased against the Christian moral code.

What are we to do in the midst of such circumstances? First, we should expect these things to be so. Romans 1:29-32 compared with today’s text prepares us for the fact that the majority of the professing church will relapse into virtual paganism – so also belief in or worship of the God of heaven. Second, we must recognize the common denominator of New Testament passages on apostasy. Each of the following passages (1 Tim. 4:1-7; 2 Tim. 3:1-4; 2 Pet. 2:1-3; 3:1-9; 2 Thess. 2:1-13), when read carefully, disclose that God is the revealer of this lesson: We are living in perilous times. JED

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## Unhappy Because Loved Ones Are Unsaved

Dr. G. Campbell Morgan received a letter from a boy which began: “Dear Dr. Morgan, last night I received the Lord Jesus Christ in your meeting. I have been unhappy every since...”

Sadly, Dr. Morgan looked up from the letter. Then, re-

suming the reading, he observed with joy that the sentence concluded, “...because my father is not a Christian!”

Oh, that more of us were unhappy because loved ones and friends are unsaved! How few today can say with God’s ancient prophet, *Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for .....my people*” Jeremiah 9:1.

Selected

\* \* \* \* \*

## Carry a Little Honey

*And their father Israel said unto them, if it must be so now, do this ...carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey.”*

Genesis 43:11.

Honey was the sweetest and most delicious thing known before sugar was made. Therefore, things that were sweet, pleasant and agreeable are, in the Scriptures, often referred to as honey. The fact that frequently Scriptures refer to Canaan as a land flowing with milk and honey seems to indicate that honey was very common in that country.

“Carry...a little honey” is still good advice. Much “honey” or cheerfulness can be brought to the lives of the downtrodden, the shut-in, the lonely, the brokenhearted and others simply by greeting these people with a cheerful smile. A warm hand-clasp, a kind word, and other gestures of thoughtfulness spread “honey” around in areas where it is much needed.

“Carry some ‘honey’ where you work by having a grateful attitude for all to see. Count the blessings of your life – the privilege of being a Christian, an American, a happy, healthy free citizen, and other blessings you can name. Workdays are made easier when shared with folks who “carry...a little honey.”

“Carry ...a little honey” when you go home – not a gripe. Look for the good in your mate and children – not for their faults. Homes with “honey” are mere hotels, motels or restaurants that are cold, indifferent failures. “Honey” can save a marriage, give new courage and hope to children and be a blessing for all to see. Proverbs 16:24 says, “*Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.*”

“Honey” can make things easier when things are at their worst. Looking for a bright side even in the worst of tragedies may be the “honey” you need to make it through an hour, a day, or a lifetime.

A little bit of sugar helps the medicine go down. God meant us to be happy, to be comforted by His words, “*Lo,*

*I am with you always*” Matt. 28:20. And what better way to keep our perspective as God would have it than to think on the sweet and lovely things. (Phillipians 4:8).

People are appreciated for their sweetness of disposition, their genuine love for everyone, and their never failing love for God and His Word. I rather imagine that when it comes to remembering, long after the memories that appeal to the physical senses are gone, the people who have left memories of their spiritual sweetness will be remembered still.

“Carry...a little honey” and be a blessing to all.

Wilma Huffaker Selected.

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## Soul Winning

With Dr. Smith

*(Teaching Scriptural Soul Winning Illustrated With Real Life Experiences)* **Here, There and Everywhere!**

*“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Acts 1:8.*

If you went to the dinner table day after day and selected just one food but never considered eating anything else, (1) you would be viewed as a bit unbalanced, (2) you would likely develop some health issues, and (3) your life-style would soon show the effects of it.

In similar fashion, some of us do not have our Christian lives and our ministries in scriptural balance. The imbalance can often be seen in reference to our Great Commission responsibility.

Very pointedly, let me explain. We can be all about soul winning here at home but do little or nothing about missions around the world. Or we can be all about missions and never lift a finger to win souls in our own hometown. Even worse is the scenario where we are not involved in soul winning or in missions.

But this text says “Jerusalem” (that’s at home), “Judaea” (that’s our region), “Samaria” (that’s some area where the folks are despised or deserted, where no one cares), and “unto the uttermost part of the earth” (that’s seven continents wide).

So our assignment is not just *here*, and it is not just *there*. It is actually *everywhere*. That means our churches need soul-winning ministries locally where we can be hands-on in reaching people and a world missions program through which we can send others in our stead to countries around the world.

I would never want to discourage anyone from soul winning or from supporting missions. But neither do I want to be a party to encouraging you to content yourself with an imbalance.

There’s no excuse for not doing both, and there’s every good reason that we should do both. So why not do a reality check? Assess what you have done, and if the imbalance is showing, start the process to correct it. Make the decisions necessary. Plug in what is needed, and then move forward to do it.

When a church does its soul winning as it should, there will be no shortage of missionaries or money for missions.

It’s when a church is dried up and dead locally that the money dries up and the missionary candidates become scarce. If a church runs at full throttle locally and at the same time keeps its heart for the world, the balance is created that gets our Great Commission responsibility fully on the docket!

Jerusalem? Yes! Judaea? Yes! Samaria? Yes! The uttermost part of the earth? Yes!

The scriptural way is fully balanced - “here, there and everywhere.”

Taken from “Sword of the Lord”

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## Holy Life

Some church members have the idea that living a holy life is an optional matter. They deliberately keep on practicing their little sins, using the excuse that no one is perfect anyhow. They feel they are Christians because they have been baptized and they joined the church and are trying to keep the Golden Rule. But holy living is not optional; holy living is essential in order to experience Heaven after this life is completed. The Bible says, “*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord,*” Hebrews 12:14. Those who want to get to God’s holy City, must set out to live a holy life here and now.”

Harold S. Martin via Bible Helps.

**“Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him.”**

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

## Keep A Scriptural Watch In The 'Scriptures' And Then A Watch On:

**EYE** on Iraq (the ancient Babylonian Empire), Iran (the ancient Persian Empire), Syria (part of the ancient Grecian Empire), and Turkey (the ancient Eastern Roman Empire). *Likely* these are the major nations, along with some lesser nations, that are going to launch an attack against Israel.

**ALSO** *Russia* continues to pose one of the largest atomic weapon stockpiles in the world and the ability to launch them with precision at any spot on earth. China has one of the largest military forces of the world.

**We** are told from 'Scripture' to pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and that the LORD will bless those who bless the Nation of Israel and curse those who curse the Nation of Israel!!

**THEN** look up for 'our' Redemption is drawing nigh!

**It seems** that there will be a 'soon-coming' conflict between Israel and some of her Muslim neighbors; which Scripture foretells! *Maybe (??) keep a close watch on these 'neighbors' of Israel especially this late 'summer OR early fall??*

*Most certainly* 'we' are not nor can we set dates for when these events will occur, but I believe it could be soon!

**New Agers** believe that the time is soon to come to unite the world politically, economically, spiritually, socially and consciously. You are going to get tired of hearing 'New Agers' heresy!

**IN** the meanwhile stay in the Word, stay in Prayer, in close Christian Fellowship and Share your 'testimony' anchored in Scripture, and **keep** your **eyes upon JESUS!**

*"He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming quickly.' Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."* Revelation 22:20-21.

\* \* \* \* \*

### The Last Days

*1 Timothy 4:1-7*

Know and apply God's Word – understand the times in which you live; these are imperatives for the child of God today. The Bible speaks of "*the latter times*" (v. 1), "*the last days*" and "*perilous times*" (2 Tim. 3:1) - days when false teachers (2 Pet. 2:1) and scoffers (2 Pet. 3:3) will multiply. Paul carries it further, warning Christians of

the anticipated unfolding of events leading up to the rapture of the church and then the deluding of the world by the Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:1-13). Jesus and His apostles foretold the decadence of the very system which they came to introduce. They warned the early church that there would be a great departure from the truth and that increasing apostasy would be manifest until, eventually, a complete turning away from the faith would come on the part of many. Sadly, *the mystery of iniquity doth already work*" (2 Thess. 2:7), and empty, unscriptural teaching has penetrated the church. Departure from the faith, attention to seducing spirits, openness to doctrines of demons – these are all readily noticed in today's religious world. Can anyone who believes the Word of God doubt our being now in the very midst of these *last days*?

Paul describes the major features of these days in 2 Timothy 3:1-9, and the list of sins in the passage is very similar to the description of the ungodly heathen in Romans 1:29-32. The very conditions that exist among unbelievers characterize professing believers in *the last days*. It is no wonder that Paul speaks of *perilous times*. Persecution will come to the godly, yet we must continue in the things that we have learned, lay hold of the Scriptures and walk obediently in good works – preaching the Word. JED

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\* \* \* \* \*

### What Happened to the Honeymoon?

My wife, a registered nurse, once fussed over every pain or mishap that came my way. Recently, however, I got an indication that the honeymoon is over. I was fixing the attic fan, and as I climbed the ladder in the attic, I scratched my forehead on a crossbeam. Crawling along, I picked up splinters in both hands, and I cut one hand replacing the fan belt. On the way down the ladder, I missed the last two rungs and turned my ankle.

When I limped into the kitchen, my wife took one look at me and said, "Are those your good pants?"

Selected

## UpDate

### Money Matters!

Money Matters seem to be a very sensitive area; *even among a fair number of believers*: JESUS says that money matters – because money matters! As you read and meditate especially in the New Testament; you will see that frequently Jesus talks about MONEY - only because HE wants the best for you and I!

Money has been defined as that something which buys everything but happiness and takes a man everywhere but to heaven.

Years ago a famous preacher (Robert Hall) experienced a person who took exception to a statement that he had made in a sermon. Pastor Hall realized this ‘individual’ was captivated with ‘money’. Thus Pastor Hall took a coin out of his pocket and opening the Bible, pointed to the word “God.”

“Can you see that word?” he asked the gentleman.

“Certainly, I can see it.”

Then Pastor Hall laid the coin (half sovereign) over the word. “Can you see it now?” he asked.

There was no need for the man to answer. It was an unforgettable sermon.

Jesus says: “*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*” Matthew 6:19-21.

Without apology ‘we’ challenge you to specifically remember this ‘ministry’ (*Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/Morning Glory*) first in prayer before the **Throne of GRACE** and then ask the Giver of all good things IF HE wants you to support this ‘ministry’ with your money?

By the GRACE of GOD making no apologies for the Old Time Christianity or the Biblical, Pietistic Lutheran Doctrine; but seeking to present & practice it!

February’s Income for the *Morning Glory* was app. \$3,671.64

The actual expense per month of printing/publishing the *Morning Glory* is app. \$2,300, Plus considerable other expenses!

**May the Lord be permitted to lead & bless and make YOU an even greater blessing!**

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## For Your Prayerful Consideration!

*Lord Willing:*

The Annual Conference of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/Morning Glory will be held at Stavanger Lutheran Church of Garden City, Iowa on June 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012. As we share this announcement at this time, we trust it will give you ample time to prayerfully consider your opportunity to attend!

Please not ‘only’ pray about ‘your’ attendance, but also for the ‘conference’ as a whole, and seriously consider IF you should support the same ‘financially’ besides your ‘regular’ giving to this ‘ministry’?

Thank you!