"The Coming of the Lord Draweth Nigh" — James 5:8

**EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP** 

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • April 2017

# **The Resurrection**

#### By Dr. O. Gornitzka

hrist Arose! – See 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, & 21-22.

**I.** According to the Scriptures. Twice reference is made in the Scriptures when the Apostle restates the Gospel. What has happened to Jesus was foretold by the Spirit in the Old Testament. Read in this connection the conversation between Jesus and the two disciples on their way to Emmaus. Luke 24:17-35. Their assurance was to rest, not first of all upon a bodily manifestation of Jesus to their physical eye, but upon seeing the truth in the Scriptures. Therefore Jesus first opens their eyes that they might understand the Scriptures. To see in Christ the literal fulfilment of O. T. prophecy concerning the Messiah results in a <u>"burning heart"</u> warmed by a God-given faith. He rose according to the Scriptures. For another unfolding of this truth read Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, Acts 2:22-36.

2. "He appeared." Vv. 5-11. Next the fact is established through reliable witnesses. The Apostle selects six appearances to prove the fact that Jesus literally rose from the grave. Two of these are of special importance. He had appeared to more than five hundred brethren at once "of whom the greater part remains until now." That is, at the time when Paul wrote the epistle he could call on the witness stand a host of men who had seen Jesus after His resurrection. It was an event which had transpired within the lifetime of his generation. Those who denied the truth had opportunity to investigate for themselves as to the veracity of the message. The Christian message is not taken out of the air but is built on facts of history. This because God in His infinite love and wisdom became a man and lived His life among men. In the second place it is important to note the words: *"To me also."* Christ had in a special way appeared also to Paul. And that changed his life to the extent that the persecutor became the persecuted for Christ's sake. Nothing less than the truth of this statement by Paul can explain the life and work of this one time zealous Pharisee and persecutor of the Church of Christ.

Therefore the positive and emphatic statement in v. 20: "*But now hath Christ been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of them that are asleep.*" It is not in vain to put one's trust in Him.

II. The order of the Resurrection, vv. 20-28. Read also vv. 50-52.

The three main groups are indicated as to the order in which the resurrection of the body takes place:

*a. Christ the first-fruits, v. 20 and 23.* The term "<u>first-fruits</u>" is taken from the ingathering at harvest times. Some sheaves were brought in first, giving promise of the general ingathering to follow. In the O.T. the first-fruits were brought as an offering unto God. The resurrection of Christ was not a unique event in the sense that it was to apply to Him only. His resurrection is both the promise and the prophecy that through Him shall all be raised from the dead.

This is true because of the relationship of Christ to the human race. Through Adam as the father of the race came sin and death upon all. Christ came in the flesh and became the second Adam. He conquered sin and death

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and as such has become the life-giving spirit, v. 21, 22 and 45.

#### b. "Then they that are Christ's at His coming."

Read together with this statement also 1 Thess. 4:13-17. According to the comforting teaching of these passages the following will transpire when Christ Jesus comes again. First shall those who died in Christ be raised from the dead and meet Christ in the air. Then shall those, who, at that time are alive and belong to the Lord, be changed and together with those who have been raised be with the Lord. See also 1 Cor. 15:50:50-54. All must be changed because flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Our bodies must be adapted to the heavenly sphere. That change takes place as we see Him as He is. 1 John 3:2.

# c. "Then comes the end."

This refers to the end of this age which follows the finished work of redemption as now the last enemy, death, has been destroyed. Until then Christ reigns in and through the ministry of the Church, which is His body, by the means of grace. Now He turns everything over to the Father who from eternity had purposed to restore all things through the Son, and for which purpose "all power in heaven and on earth" had been given unto Matt. 28:18; John Him. 17:2; Eph. 1:19-23; Col. 1:20. Paul does not, in this chapter, deal specifically with the resurrection of the unsaved as Jesus does in

John 5:29. In the light of the rest of Scripture that event, however, is involved in the great events at "the end." Read Rev. 20:11-15. Thus the last enemy to be destroyed is death. "For God has put all things in subjection under His feet."

#### *III. The Nature of the Resurrection Body, vv. 35-58* a. A Description, vv. 35-49

<u>"How are the dead raised? And with what manner of</u> body do they come?"

An analogy is taken from nature to illustrate the answer given to this question. The rain is put into the ground and it dies, but from that dead body of the grain rises another body according as God gives it. It is God who gives the bodies within the vegetable kingdom as well as within the solar system. We are therefore to remember these two statements; *"God giveth it a body even as it pleased him and to each seed a body of its own."* V. 38. And: *"So also is the resurrection of the dead."* V. 42.

A glorious description is then given in vv. 43, 44 of the kind of a body God will give to each of us:

1. "It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption."

Corruption is a result of sin and results in sickness and death. With the death of sinful flesh corruption has finished its work. When God raises the body it is free from sin as well as its results.

2. "It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory." Sin has dishonored the body even to the last of earthly life, but when raised by the power of God no sin shall dishonor it any more. It is a glorious body even like unto the body of our glorified Savior. Phil. 3:20-21.

**3. "It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power."** How often the saints of God have grieved over the weaknesses of their bodies here. They have desired to serve God but under many limitations. Let us rejoice, then shall we serve in bodies never failing in strength.

4. "It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body."

The natural body was adapted to this earth with its limitations of time and space; our new bodies shall be fit for the eternal abode. Comp. vv. 46-50.

#### b. The Necessity, vv. 50-54.

The Kingdom of God, in its glory state, cannot be inhabited by flesh and blood, that which is corruptible. For that reason, not only shall the dead in Christ be raised incorruptible, but the living saints shall also be changed and put on immortality. Only then is death swallowed up in victory.

#### c. The Song of Triumph, vv. 55-57.

The Christ who first conquered sin, which is the sting of death, has now also shared with us the victory over death. Redemption is complete to the praise and glory of God through Jesus Christ.

#### d. The Admonition, v. 58.

This song of triumph has, however, a very practical aspect. It is followed by the admonition in v. 58. In view of this glorious truth, it is **"not vain"** to serve the Lord. In fact, it is the only thing that is worth while.

Memory Verse:

<u>"Wherefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast,</u> <u>unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord,</u> <u>for as much as ye know that your labor is not vain in the</u> <u>Lord.</u>" I Cor. 15:58.

A Study Guide, 1 CORINTHIANS, by O. Gornitzka, Bible Banner Press, Copyright – 1930.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# The Talking Tree

(Please read Colossians 1:15-20)

# *"He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross."* 1 Peter 2:24

**One of the earliest** Christian poems in English literature is "The Dream of the Rood." The word <u>rood</u> comes from the Old English word <u>rod</u> or <u>pole</u> and refers to the cross of which Christ was crucified. In this ancient poem the crucifixion story is retold from the perspective of the cross. When the tree learns that it is to be used to kill the Son of God it rejects the idea of being used in this way. But Christ enlists the help of the tree to provide redemption all who will believe.

In the Garden of Eden, a tree was the source of the forbidden fruit that our spiritual parents tasted causing sin to enter the human race. And when the Son of God shed His blood as the ultimate sacrifice for all of humanity's sin, He was nailed to a tree on our behalf. Christ *"bore our sins in His body on the cross"* (1 Peter 2:24).

The cross is the turning point for all who trust Christ for salvation. And ever since the crucifixion, it has become a remarkable symbol that represents the sacrificial death of the Son of God for our deliverance from sin and death. The cross is the inexpressibly wonderful evidence of God's love for us.

*Lord, may* my heart give You praise whenever I see a cross, For You gave Yourself for me in love.

#### Christ gave His life on the tree for our salvation

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# As God's People, This Is Not A Time To Let Our Guard Down

January 16, 2017

Dear Friend,

Many have prayed for America to be given that opportunity, and God answered prayer.

Donald Trump, like all leaders, is not without flaws, but I believe he will be willing to listen. That's important. He has already made several good Cabinet choices that will help bring strong leadership to our nation. I have known Mike Pence, the new vice president, for some time—he has a deep faith, with a firm commitment to God and His Word. I pray that these two men will stand up to the secular humanistic agenda that has been taking hold in this country.

As God's people, this is not a time to stand down or drop our guard. Powerful forces are opposing any change of direction. Our new leaders need wisdom, strength, and guidance from Almighty God. The Bible says, *"Pray without ceasing"* (1 Thessalonians 5:17, NASB). For our nation and its future, that admonition never had more urgency. <u>Our faith and hope is in God</u>, <u>not human leaders.</u>

In the Bible we read of a pattern that repeated itself over and over in Israel's history. The nation would lose its focus on God and became accommodating toward sin. That led to God's judgment and troubled times. When the people humbled themselves, repented, and cried out fervently to God in prayer for help, He responded by giving them a fresh opportunity. But before long, the people of Israel would relax and once again lose their focus on obedience to God.

Let's not allow that cycle to develop on our watch. We must keep praying not only for America and its leaders, but also for our churches, for spiritual awakening across the land, and for people who need Jesus Christ. And we must make sure our own hearts and lives are fully committed and obedient to God.

The Bible promises that "*The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much*" (James 5:16). We can easily overlook the first part of that same verse, which begins, "*Confess your sins* …"

<u>As I write this letter, I am returning from Iraq, where</u> <u>Christians have suffered greatly</u>. The brutal murder of believers has become commonplace, and hundreds of thousands of Christians in Iraq have been forced to flee their homes in the last few years because of the actions of fundamentalist Islam. Sobering new study reports that around the world, in just the last 12 months, 90,000 believers have been killed because of their commitment to Jesus Christ – that's one person every six minutes. Vastly more believers are being persecuted in ways that seldom or never get much news coverage. Another study reports that half a billion Christians today live in circumstances where they are prohibited from freely expressing their faith.

Although many people in America are hopeful about the political change that began with the recent elections, what America ultimately needs is spiritual change – transformation that starts in individual hearts.

May God richly bless you, Franklin Graham, President

> Excerpts taken from *Billy Graham Evangelistic* Association newsletter

> > \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# **HERE IS LOVE**

A professed Christian was taken seriously ill. He became troubled about the little love he felt in his heart for God and spoke of his experience to a friend. This is how the friend answered him:

"When I go home from here, I expect to take my baby on my knee, look into her sweet eyes, and listen to her charming prattle. And, tired as I am, her presence will rest me; for I love that child with unutterable tenderness.

"But she loves me little. If my heart were breaking, it would not disturb her sleep. If my body were racked with pain, it would not interrupt her play. If I were dead, she would forget me in a few days.

"Besides this, she has never brought me a penny but is a constant expense to me. I am not rich, but there is not money enough in the world to buy any baby.

"How is it? Does she love me, or do I love her? Do I withhold my love until I know she loves me? Am I waiting for her to do something worthy of my love before extending it?"

This practical illustration of the love of God for His children caused the tear to roll down the sick man's face. <u>"Oh, I see,</u>" he exclaimed. <u>"It is not my love to God but God's love for me that I should be thinking of. *Oh, I do love Him*!"</u>

*"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us."* 1 John 4:10

#### Gospel Herald

Editor's Note: "...and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." "We love Him because He first loved us." 1 John 4:10b & 19.

# **Editorial**

RES

# Pliable Clay OR Hardened Clay?

"And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make. 'O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?"" (Jeremiah 18:4 & 6a) (Please prayerfully read Jeremiah 1:4 – 9 & 18:1-12)

Almost 'always' in God's inspired Word, the BIBLE; the word '<u>hear'</u> means more than just 'listening' with the physical ear – but <u>obeying</u> both physically and spiritually in a 'believers' heart and life!

GOD 'always' wants the best for you and me and HE makes no 'mistakes', nor does anything catch HIM by surprise! Imagine the 'fact' that even before the 'world' was framed, HE had you in mind and a precise plan for your life also. BUT 'we' do have a limited 'free-choice' both while 'we' are spiritually dead and in rebellion towards God; BUT much more as a follower of JESUS! EVEN Adam and Eve had a 'free-choice' in the Garden of Eden; before cunning and crafty Satan tempted them to SIN in order to become 'proud-full'. (p r I d e)

Notice in 'our' text for this 'editorial' the importance of not only hearing physically God's WORD – but 'obeying' it – as always. Also God using a 'vessel' by the name Jeremiah. Jeremiah 'listened'. "But now, O LORD, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter;" Isaiah 64:8, also Isaiah 45:9.

'Hearing' was put into action by faith!

As you know, if you are truly save,: you have been "redeemed" by the Blood of JESUS and now are the temple (indwelling place) of the Holy Spirit. Thus you are not your own.

Eating right, if health permits – exercising regularly, and sleeping adequately – these are the ingredients of a physical healthy life; while neglecting to read/mediate and study the WORD of GOD will bring a person's own deficient Spiritual health! While God's Word states: "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers" III John 2. Read also 1 Timothy 4:8, Romans 12:1-2. Why is it that some think they know better than God, as God wants only the best for us in this life and the life to come?

Pursing this a little further, it appears to me that what is right and wrong have exchanged places and that 'truth' and 'judgment' have fallen in the street! For example: NOW both what I will be sharing with you is wrong and is definitely sin. IN 'our' area there is a lot of advertising that 'smoking' tobacco is dangerous – yes; but how about alcohol which in-directly kills more innocent people on the 'highways' then smoking tobacco does! OR judgment of is more severe on pornography then a murderer who kills an 'infant' in their Mother's womb or on the street! Examine what Isaiah 59:14-16a says.

'WE'- you and I - are in a 'spiritual battle' that definitely influences the secular world; The 'decks' of restraining outward sin - Standard towards sin have broken down and the 'flood-gates' of sin have been re-opened. Some of the spiritual stalwarts of yester year, God has taken Home and where is their replacement? Notice: GOD looked for a 'standard' to counteract the enemy (flood-gates) and found none and HE was displeased! Are YOU willing to help fill-in the 'gap' and raise of a <u>'standard'</u> (boldly the Bible) against the enemy? HE saw their lack of "justice" and "no man" an intercessor"! Every 'member' of the body of Jesus Christ has a place to full-fill OR the 'body' can not function as God intended it to function. Are you and I guilty of the 'sin' of OMISSION? Jeremiah 18:12 & 15. Jude 12-25.

One of the 'greatest' needs of today, is for 'us' to let the Holy Spirit create in 'us', as Christians, a *renewed* hunger for His Word and Christian Fellowship and a zeal/urgency to serve our risen Savior – out of obedience to His Word, through Calvary's LOVE.

Physically, many years ago the 'Carrier Pigeon' was so 'vital' in military warfare; as the 'Carrier Pigeon' would carry the 'message' to other soldiers; even at the cost of its life. Training/molding of the 'carrier pigeon' was essential and crucial. So the POTTER wants to re-design 'us' (Revive) in obedience in and through His Word., even IF HE must 'chasten' 'us' in His Agape LOVE! Scourging/chastening is not pleasant in 'our' journey as foreigners in this present world; but 'our' Citizenship is in Heaven whose Founder and Maker is GOD. No 'branch' (vessel) that <u>is not abiding in the VINE</u> will produce 'fruit', but ... John 15:1-20.

How little did the disciples know what Jesus would or

could do with only <u>five</u> loaves and <u>two</u> fish (A boys' meal)! YET there were thousands that were fed and nothing was to be wasted, so the disciples gathered up twelve baskets of leftovers!

Maybe when you give to a biblical church or the *Morn-ing Glory* ministry, as an example, you are thinking, "I can only give/invest..." In obedience to the Holy Spirits' prompting – Give in obedience, faith and love and let JESUS multiply it! As a blood-washed 'vessel', you are an ambassador for Jesus – II Corinthians 5:14-21.

Nothing takes 'our' living Savior by surprise, so when the future is unclear in this world, God is with those of us who are trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord, and the Holy Spirit indwells 'us', as we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. So no matter what the future holds for you and me – no matter what today holds for you – you do not face it alone if you know Jesus as your personal Savior.

Artists for hundreds of years have tried to draw/paint pictures of what they think JESUS looks like; but the truth is, we don't know.

Each true 'believer' will know/experience what the risen Christ looks like (& experience), someday we will enter into His eternal presence forever. And when we do, the Bible say, "Beloved, now we are children of God and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is" 1 John 3:2.

With somewhat a fine line people have different reasons for rejecting Jesus as their personal Savior, such as: Some laugh, make light and scoff this Priceless Gift (the Pearl of Great Price), as there is a way that seems right unto man. Some just delay and thus 'gamble' with their Soul, with the intent of getting things right with our Holy God later in life, and then there are those who know they will seem foolish in the eyes of the world and fear peer-pressure as it would place them with that Blessed Little Flock that JESUS calls His own and place them with the minority, and taking up their personal 'cross' daily, is too expensive.

Nation against nation, which also means literally race against race; but it could it be also in the secular realm: the embattlement of the 'leftist (liberal – re-defining and re-interpreting the USA Constitution) against the rightist (conservative – Patriotism following the USA Constitution)?

In His Generous GRACE; every limb/part of the body is IMPORTANT! In His (God's) 'generous' GRACE HE doesn't give/entrust, to be wasted; but to be utilized unto His Honor and Glory! When one part of the body hurts: either another member has to be overloaded or seeks to manage without!

Don't minimize what God has 'given'(entrusted) to you; but use it to the 'fullest'; as using the same is like putting money in a 'bank' and getting 'interest' on it!

Are you going through the 'furnace of affliction'; branch 'pruning' by the VINE DRESSER in order that you may do the following – MALACHI CHAPTER THREE?

# The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Please read: 1 Samuel 20:35-42

#### "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." Hebrews 11:5

*A dear friend of mine* sent me a text message that said, <u>"I'm so glad we can tell each other the good, the</u> <u>bad, and the ugly!"</u> We have been friends for many years, and we have learned to share our joys and our failures. We recognize we are far from perfect, so we share our struggles but we also rejoice in each other's successes.

David and Jonathan had a solid friendship too, beginning with the good days of David's victory over Goliath (1 Sam. 18:1-4). They shared their fears during the bad days of Jonathan's father's jealousy (18:6-11, 20:1-2). Finally, they suffered together during the ugly days of Saul's plans to kill David (20-42). Good friends don't abandon us when external circumstances change. They stay with us through the good and the bad days. Good friends also may point us to God in the ugly days, when we may feel tempted to walk away from our Lord.

Real friendships are a gift from God because they exemplify the perfect Friend, who remains loyal through the good, the bad, and the ugly days. As the Lord reminds us, "*Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you*" (Heb. 13:5).

*Dear Lord,* I thank You for the good friends You have placed in my life but above all, I thank You for your friendship.

## A friend is the first person who comes in when the whole world has gone out

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# **From Our Fellowship Circle**

#### H. & D. L. & family,

Luverne, MN

Enclosed is a donation in memory of Arnold & Bertha Eggen and Adolph who all went to meet the Lord and Savior during this cold time of the year.

# W. & S. L.

#### Byron, MN

Trust your Christmas was a happy and Blessed one with your Family. We had a good time with our family also. THE LORD IS SO GOOD!

Thanks for the *Morning Glory*. It is a very good magazine. It blesses our Souls.

Enclosed is a check to be used where most needed...

We've been doing well this winter.

The Lord's Blessings .....

#### P. L. M.

# Dayton, Ohio

Please send a copy of the Morning Glory to ...

...My heritage is all German. I'm ... years old and back in my parents' house after living in St. Paul, MN from 1980 to June, 2006; when I returned to Dayton to care for Dad who died in .... Until being in Minnesota, I had never heard of Hans Neilsen Hauge and Rosenius.

"Experienced Salvation" is not heard here in the ...Lutheran Church. One Pastor here refused to talk with me about some of Hauge's words on true faith that I had shown him.

## Mr. & Mrs. G. H.

# Waverly, IA

May God continue to bless the ministry of the *Morning Glory*. Galatians 6:9: "*And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart*".

A gift is enclosed in memory of our brother, Reuben.

## **W. B.**

## LeRoy, MN

Christmas finds many people filled with joy as we celebrate the birth of Jesus with family and friends Though I am celebrating the season with loved ones, I find myself in a thoughtful place as I reflect on the life of my mother,

... She had a powerful walk with the Lord until her death on October 31, at the age of 92.

My mother was a faithful giver and prayer warrior. She found much joy in serving her Savior in these ways. She set aside hours each month to complete her ministry contributions, and when she was unable to complete them on her own, she enlisted my help. Working with her the last seven years of her earthly journey, we faithfully gave to roughly ... ministries a month. Please recognize this check as a final gift to one of her favored ministries. ... Please remove my name from your mailing list as well. ... Thank you.

# V. & J. V.

#### Hetland, SD

Just a gift to share our Christmas blessings.

We are blessed by your Morning Glory and every issue.

*Editor's Note:* You may wonder why this editor encloses letters from the Christmas Season?

Well, one basic reason is that for a born-again person who is walking faithfully with JESUS, Christmas is a marvelous truth that JESUS WAS BORN TO DIE FOR ME, <u>every day of life</u>: even now during Advent, the Easter Season and on!

# **God's Love and Judgment**

Imagine what the world would be like if God were only a God of love, who never judged evil or tried to stop it. Evil men (all – humans) could carry out their plans without fear. They would never have to worry that God would judge them or try to stop them.

Now imagine what the world would be like if God were only a God of judgment, who punished us every time we did wrong. If God were like that, none of us would ever have a chance, for we sin every day. Sometimes, however, God does correct and discipline us – not because He hates us, but because He loves us and wants us to turn from the destructive path we are on.

#### *The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger.* Psalm 145:8

Wisdom for Each Day, © 2008 Billy Graham, Mfd. For © 2011 Day Spring Cards, Inc.

# Despite Criticism, Faith Leaders Embrace New Planned Parenthood Facility

More than 20 local faith leaders came together January 10 to pronounce blessing (on Planned Parenthood's) newest... clinic in Washington, D.C.

Planned Parenthood of metropolitan Washington opened its new health center in the northeast section of the nation's capital in September, after outgrowing the downtown facility in which it operated for more than 40 years.

...The dedication service was organized by ...Christine and Dennis Wiley, co-pastors of Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ, a predominantly African-American congregation listed as a member of the Alliance of Baptists and District of Columbia Baptist Convention...

People attending the event represented Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, and Christian traditions...

Wiley succeeded his father as pastor in 1985. In 2004 his wife joined him as co-pastor, making Covenant the first black Baptist congregation in the Washington metropolitan area to call a husband and wife team to serve together as pastors, sharing equal authority and responsibility.

The congregation joined the United Church of Christ in 2010.

#### Baptistnews.com

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: The United Church of Christ is very likely the most liberal of liberal denominations in America. Furthermore, the Bible is quite clear that a pastor is to be "the husband of one wife," not the wife of one husband (1 Tim. 3), which makes the pastoral office a distinctly male role.

This endorsement of Planned Parenthood is a ghastly expression of this off-the-biblical-track, liberal church. It is what happens however, when the culture, the trends and the polls get a foothold in a church. Shameful! Disgusting! Wicked!

Sword of the Lord

# Ben Carson Insists Homosexuals Don't Get Extra Rights

Dr. Ben Carson reiterated at his confirmation hearing... that individuals identifying as LGBT shouldn't get special rights.

All Americans deserve protection under the law, Carson said, but no one is entitled to "extra rights."

Trump has appointed Carson as Housing and Urban Development (HUD) secretary.

Questioned during the hearing by Ohio Democrat Senator Sherrod Brown on whether he would enforce protections for LGBT Americans in public housing, Carson reconfirmed his previously stated belief.

"Of course, I would enforce all the laws of the land," Carson said. "Of course, I think all Americans should be protected by the law."

Then he added, "What I have said before is I don't think anyone should get 'extra rights.""

Lifesitenews.com

# Grandmas Start New "Grandmothers for Abortion" Group to Promote Aborting Grandkids.

A group of elderly women wearing yellow T-shirts with the word "GRR!" splashed across the front gained public attention recently at the Maine state capital as they advocated for abortion, the <u>Free Press</u> reports.

GRR! Stands for "Grandmother for Reproductive Rights." The group seeks to educate women at the local level about the pro-abortion agenda and encourage women to speak with their local government officials about supporting abortion and other reproductive health issues...

Jody Kahrl founded the group...

Kahrl's father, Dr. Clarence Gamble, associated with Procter and Gamble, graduated from Harvard Medical School... (and) was "good friends" with Margaret Sanger, the founder of the Planned Parenthood abortion business, according to the report.

LifeNews.com

# Apology & Correction

Trusting that many of our *Morning Glory* readers caught the error on the front page of the February, 2017 issue, we issue our apology and correction. It should have read: *"The Friend of Publicans And Sinners."* Sorry for the misprint!

# The Pilgrim's Progress From Earth To Heaven

Under the Similitude of a Dream

(By John Bunyan. Written in Bedford Prison 1660 – 1672)

STATION 1. *"The City of Destruction* where the awakened soul, clothed with rags, with his face from his own house, a book in his hand, a burden upon his back, is weeping and trembling and groaning – <u>"what shall I do?"</u>

The sinner in his awakened condition has lost all the pleasures of life. Nobody understood him, and many thought he was mad. Then came Evangelist, exhorted him to flee from the wrath to come, and pointed him to the Narrow Gate and to the Calvary light. <u>"Keep that light in your eye and go directly,"</u> he was told.

The awakened soul began to run through many, even his own family, wanted to hold him back, but he put his fingers in his ears and ran on, crying: "Life! Life! Eternal life!" So he ran and looked not behind.

STATION 11. The Slough of Despond. Obstinate and Pliable had run after the Pilgrim, who is now called Christian, to fetch him back. But he met Obstinate with: "I have laid my hand to the plough and I cannot look back, far less go back." Pliable, always quick to change his mind, was greatly impressed with the Pilgrim's stand and went with him. But he just wanted to hear about the sweet things in Christian's life and about heaven. Before they knew it, they bumped into a dreadful slough. Pliable, "the stony ground hearer," now gave up, saying, "Is this the happiness you told me of?" -and went back to the world. He was tested but found wanting. But Pilgrim struggled on and on. He would have sunk in the slough if Help had not pulled him out. "Why did you not look for the Steps, the precious promises of God," he said. "I was so beset by fear," Christian answered.

When the sinner is awakened to see his lost condition, doubts and discouraging fears will arise with attacks by the devil, so the poor soul will often get away from the STEPS, the Promises and fall into this Slough of DESPOND.

STATION 7. *Calvary.* Now the Pilgrim came to a hill where there stood a cross and a little below it – a grave. Just as he came up to the Cross his burden loosed from off his shoulders, fell from off his back and rolled into the grave and "*I saw it no more.*" The burden had been most felt when the release was near at hand.

Christian had looked unto the crucified Redeemer and was released. Happy and lightened he confessed with joy: "He hath given me rest by His sorrow, and life by his death." He stood still and wondered at what had happened—that just the sight of the cross should have given him release. He looked and looked and looked again, Zech. 12:10, till the fountain of tears opened—looking and weeping for joy.

Now three Shining Ones arrived, saying, "Peace be to thee." Then the first one said: "'Thy sins be forgiven thee." The Second stripped him of his rags, and clothed him with Christ's righteousness. The Third one set a mark on his forehead, and gave him a roll with a seal Zech. 3:4, Eph. 1:13, which was the Holy Spirit of promise, saying: "You must often look upon this roll with its seal as you run and give it in (as a credential) at the gate of the New Jerusalem." The shining Ones then left. Christian was now so happy he gave three leaps for joy and went on his journey singing:

"Thus far did I come loaden with my sin, Nor could aught case the grief that I was in, Till I came hither: What a place is this! Must here be the beginning of my bliss? Must here the burden fall from off my back? Must here the strings that bound it to me crack? Blest Cross! Blest Sepulchre! Blest rather be The Man that there was put to shame for me."

STATION 21. *Land of Beulah.* This is the Land of the fullness of the blessing of Christ. The air was sweet and pleasant. They heard the singing of the birds continually and the flowers and trees were in bloom. The sun was shining night and day. They were through with the Valley of the Shadow of Death. They are out of the reach of Giant Despair. They did not even see Doubting Castle. They were now <u>in heaven's borderland</u>. The contract (Ed. Covenant) between the Bridegroom and Bride was here renewed. Here they rejoiced in hope, and the peace was like a river. They could see the New Jerusalem in the distance. *Hopeful* even cried out: If you see my beloved, tell Him I am sick of love." He was so homesick for heaven. <u>"I don't</u> feel at home in the world anymore."

STATION 22. *The River of Death.* They came walking through the King's Garden and down to the River of Death. But it was the only thing that separated them from the Heavenly City. There was no bridge across this River and it seemed to be very deep. They were now to encounter their last enemy, Death. They asked, "Is there no other way to the City?" "Yes, but only Enoch and Elijah have been permitted to reach the City without going through the River. But the angels will help you through, and the water will be deeper or shallower according to your faith." But Christian sank deeper than Hopeful. "I am sinking in the waters," he cried. "Be of good cheer, my brother, the bottom is good," said Hopeful. But Christian had a sore conflict; so many sins came back to him both before and after his conversion. But Hopeful, as he saw his brother's sore conflict, held his head up and cried into his ears: "Jesus Christ maketh thee whole! Be of good comfort." Then the dark cloud broke and Christian called out: "Oh, I see Him again. He tells me, *"When thou passeth through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers they shall not overflow thee'.*" And now the river became shallow and they got across. On the farther bank of the River they were met by two Shining Ones that were to escort them home to the heavenly city. They welcomed them and told them they were ministering spirits sent forth to minister to them who are to inherit salvation So they went on their way through the air to the city, having left their old garments in the River of Death.

STATION 23. The Heavenly City. They went on through the regions of the air sweetly *conversing* with the glorious companions who told them: "Now we are coming to Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem, the innumerable company of angels and spirits of just men made perfect. We are coming to the Paradise of God where you can walk and talk with the King of Glory every day throughout eternity. There shall be no sorrow, affliction or death. You will soon be in company with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the saints. There you shall reap the fruit of all your prayers, tears and suffering for the King. There you shall see Him as He is. There you shall enjoy your friends who have gone before you, and you shall with joy receive everyone that comes after you. At last you shall sit in judgment with Him over all the enemies and return to glory and be with Him forever."

As they were drawing near to the Gate of the City, a holy company came out of the City to bid them welcome shouting: "Blessed are they that are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb." Rev. 19:9. Some of the King's announcers also came out to announce their coming with the blowing of the trumpets. They also saluted them with "Ten thousand welcomes from the world." It was as if heaven itself had come to welcome them—some going ahead and some following after in a holy procession as they approached the gate of the City. All the bells of the city now began ringing their welcome to them, and they began to realize that "half was never told," no "eye hath seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things that God has prepared for them that love Him."

Over heaven's gate was written in letters of gold: "Blessed are they that do His commandments that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14.

When the pilgrims came up to the Gate, they delivered the certificates they had received at Calvary. These were taken to the King. The King then commanded to open the gate; that the righteous ones might enter in.

As the two pilgrims entered the City they were *trans-figured* and their garments became like shining gold and harps were given them for praise, and crowns for honor. Then the bells of heaven again rang for joy, and it was said: **"Enter ye into the joy of the Lord."** Then they began to sing the new song: <u>"Blessing, and honor and glory</u> and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb forever and ever."

As the pilgrims entered, the city shone like the sun and they walked upon the golden pavement with crowns upon their heads, palms in their hands and with golden harps. Then the angels were singing, **"Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord."** Then the gates were shut and I wished myself among them.

But now I saw Ignorance come to the River side. He had no trouble with the ferryman, Vain Hope, helped him across. He even came to the gate of the City, but met with no encouragement. He began to knock, saying; "<u>Open up to me. I have eaten and drunk in His presence and He has taught in our streets.</u>" Then he was asked for the Calvary certificate. He fumbled in his bosom, but found none. "<u>Have you none?</u>" they asked. He remained speechless.

The King then commanded the Shining Ones to take him, bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. They took him and put him through the side door to hell where the hypocrites entered. Then I saw that there was a way to hell, even from the gates of heaven, as well as from the City of Destruction.

*INNERMISSION CHURCH HISTORY*, By P. Ljostveit, Published by Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, 1948.

## Queen Victoria

It is told that occasionally Queen Victoria would go into the slums of London. One day she went into a home to have tea with an older lady. When she rose to leave, the Queen asked, <u>"Is there</u> anything I can do for you?"

Seriously, the elderly lady responded: <u>"Yes,</u> <u>Your Majesty. You can meet me in Heaven</u>." The Queen turned to her and said softly, <u>"*Yes, I'll be*</u> <u>there, but only because of the blood that was shed</u> <u>on the cross for you and for me.</u>"

"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence... who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." 1 Timothy 2:1-4.

# **Religious Devotion**

# *"For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law."* (Rom. 3:28)

This is the third in a series of articles about the conversion of Martin Luther. The year 2017 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, and we want to emphasize how Luther was converted, for you will see elements in Luther's conversion that are lacking in most Christian circles today.

At this point in Luther's life, he has been struck with conviction of his sins, and then the question arises as to what to do to obtain forgiveness. The monastic order, of which he was a member, described various religious works of devotion that were supposed to offset the balance of your life before God. These included not simply charity, sobriety and love, but chastity, poverty, obedience, fastings, vigils, and mortification of the flesh. If you did enough good and denied enough of yourself, in its evil ways, then the balance of heaven would tip in your favor. Whatever good works a man might do to save himself, these Luther was resolved to perform.

"He fasted, sometimes three days on end without a crumb. The seasons of fasting were more consoling to him than those of feasting. ...he laid upon himself vigils and prayers in excess of those stipulated by the rule. He cast off blankets permitted him and well nigh froze himself to death. At times he was proud of his sanctity and would say, 'I have done nothing wrong today.' Then misgivings would arise, "Have you fasted enough? Are you poor enough?" He would then strip himself of all save that which decency required. He believed in later life that his austerities had done permanent damage to his digestion.

"I was a good monk, and I kept the rule of my order so strictly that I may say that if ever a monk got to heaven by his monkery, it was I. All my brothers in the monastery who knew me will bear this out. If I had kept on any longer, I would have killed myself with vigils, prayers, reading, and other work.

"All such drastic methods gave no sense of inner tranquility. The purpose of his striving was to compensate for his sins, but he could never feel that the ledger was balanced." <sup>1</sup>

#### The Trip to Rome

It was thought, by the Church in that day, that the goodness of previous dead saints could be transferred to

living people. The Church associated the dispensing of the merits of the saints with visitation of the relics of the saints. The greatest collection of these relics was in Rome.

"Rome had [supposedly] a piece of Moses' burning bush and three hundred particles of the Holy Innocents. ...Rome has the chains of St. Paul and the scissors with which Emperor Domitian clipped the hair of St. John. ...A church had a coin payed to Judas for betraying our Lord. ...still another church possessed the twelve-foot beam on which Judas hung himself. ...In front of the Lateran [Palace of the Popes] were the *Scala Sancta*, twenty-eight stairs, supposedly those which once stood in front of Pilate's palace. He who crawled up them on hands and knees, repeating a *Pater Noster* [Our Father] for each one, could thereby release a soul from purgatory.

"[Luther] was climbing Pilate's stairs on hands and knees, repeating a *Pater Noster* for each one and kissing each step for good measure. Luther regretted that his own father and mother were not yet dead and in purgatory so that he might confer on them so signal a favor. Failing that, he had resolved to release Grampa Heine. The stairs were climbed, the *Pater Nosters* were repeated, the steps were kissed. At the top, Luther raised himself and exclaimed, not as legend would have it, "The just shall live by faith!" – he was not that far advanced. What he said was, 'Who knows whether it is so?"<sup>2</sup>

Dear reader, are you trying to appease God's wrath against you by your religious devotion? Do you think that your attendance in church, your giving of money to the church, your reception of the sacraments, your being good and doing good to others will somehow tip the scales of God and outweigh the evil you have done?

Perhaps you believe: "All that God expects of me is that I do my best." Well, if you really believe that, have you really done that? Have you really done your absolute best with your entire life? Have you even approached the level of devotion that Luther attained? Have you really fasted, prayed, confessed, given away all but the bare necessities, read, prayed, witnessed, been kind enough, been good enough, denied yourself enough? Have you really put your entire life, and all it contains, into your devotion to God? Is every waking moment of life consumed with your good works to God? If it isn't, then you are not doing your best for God.

This is the approach that is natural to fallen people. "You get what you earn in this world. If you are going to make it to God, you must do enough yourself to earn God's favor." When Adam and Eve sinned against God,

<sup>1</sup> Here I Stand by Roland Bainton. Nashville: Abington Press, pg. 34

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, pgs. 36-38.

and realized they were naked, they "sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings." (Gen, 3:7) This appeased their conscience, but it did not appease God. "And the Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them." (Gen. 3:21) Their attempt to cover their nakedness before God didn't work.

If you have tried to earn God's favor and forgiveness by your good works and goodness of life – then you will find the same answer that Luther found. You might appease your conscience for a time, but you will never have inner assurance that this is true; because the nagging question will remain: "Have I done enough? Am I good enough?" If you witnessed to five people today, did God want six? or seven? or twenty? How much good do you have to do in order to make yourself holy in the eyes of God? Are you sure? Like Luther, your answer to these questions will be this: "Who knows whether it is so?"

> Pastor Jim Haga Shoreview, MN

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# **Altar Building**

"And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him." Genesis 12:7

This is the first reference to Abraham building an altar in Scripture. Building an altar and making sacrifice to God denotes total dependence and reliance on Him. It implies saying no to self and yes to God – in effect presenting one's self in submission to God as a sinner trusting him for gracious handling of one's sin, and discounting one's value apart from His work. Building altars became a habit with godly Abraham, the "<u>friend</u> <u>of God</u>" (James 2:23), and he practiced it many times during his life (see also Genesis 12:8, 13:4, 18).

We can surmise that at an early age, Abraham's son, Isaac, was taught this same practice. It doesn't seem that Isaac misunderstood or debated the situation even when he himself was identified as the sacrifice to be slaughtered (Genesis 22:9). He fully trusted and worshiped the same God, and evidently agreed with Abraham's obedient act. Later, Isaac himself practiced altar-building at least once on his own (26:25).

Compare Abraham and his family to Lot and his family. Nowhere in Scripture does it say that Lot built an altar and recognized God as worthy of worship. No doubt as a direct result, Lot's wife, sons and daughters totally rejected these ideas, preferring the sinful practices and mentality of Sodom. Lot was a true believer (2 Peter 2:7-8), but his lifestyle and lack of "altar-building" rubbed off on his family, to the detriment of himself and the people of God ever since.

Here is the question: Do we want to be Christians who ignore proper worship and total submission to God and have families who do likewise? We don't build physical altars today, but we do need daily times of family prayer. John D. Morris, Ph.D.

> Days of Praise, Institute for Creation Research– Copyright © 2016, Permission Granted

*Editor's Note:* We need to keep in mind and heart that literally 'altar' means "killing place" and 'sacrifice' is given to please the one it is given unto, and the sacrifice has no 'return' plans!

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, ..." Romans 12:1 & 2a.

# The church of Satan

Satan does not often build a church of his own and call it the First church of Satan, as he is far too clever for that as a 'deceiver'. Instead, he tries and does infiltrate the theological Bible Schools and <u>Seminaries</u> and the PULPIT through the Pastor and other religious leaders! YES, invading/deceiving folk under the cover of an orthodox vocabulary – but emptying sacred terms of their true biblical meaning or denying their truth.

The Sword of the Spirit – the Bible—is the weapon God has provided for us to use in this battle between truth and deception.

Thus you who know '<u>eternity</u>' is too long to *gamble-on*; use this entrusted weapon, the BIBLE, in wielding the Sword of the Spirit (Bible) skillfully! God's followers need to know the truth He sets forth in His Word so that we can confidently discern between His truth and Satan's lies.

Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, But inwardly they are ferocious wolves. Matthew 7:15

Please prayerfully read: Matthew 24, II Timothy 3 & 4:1-8.

P. S. In a *sense*, we are not to be comparing ourselves with one another and what others are doing or saying (the same is true in regards to congregations etc.), BUT what does the Eternal Word of God (the Bible) say? That is the absolute STANDARD/ PLUMB LINE!

# The Devil Never Rests

"And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Job 1:7

This remarkable scene in heaven provides us a striking picture of Satanic activity. The devil, in his opposition to God and His program of salvation, evidently never rests. He is not omnipresent, like God, because he is a finite (though very powerful and brilliant) created being. To accomplish his goal therefore, he is never at rest but keeps going from place to place and working deception after deception, bringing everyone he can under his influence (Ed. along with a 'host' of fallen/evil angels).

Therefore, God urgently warns us: "*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour*" (1 Peter 5:8).

The same is true of the demonic spirits (Ed. angels) who have followed the devil in his rebellion against God. They never rest until they can take possession of some person's body and mind and then control that person's behavior. "When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out" (Matthew 12:43-44).

This restlessness that characterizes the devil and his demons often also manifests itself in the unsaved, and this will be the ultimate state of those who yield to the pressures of these evil spirits. *"They have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoso-ever receiveth the mark of his name"* (Revelation 14:11).

True rest of soul is found only in Christ, with His forgiveness, cleansing, and guidance: "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you

Martin Luther was again definitely correct when he wrote:

"The property of faith is not to be proud of what the eyes sees, but to rely on what the Word reveals." rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls" (Matthew 11:28-29).

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

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# The Unstoppable Evangelist

"Nor do I count my life of value to myself, so that I may joyfully finish my course and the ministry which I have received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the Gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:24.

I once heard about an unstoppable evangelist from Africa. In order for him to not be able to spread the Gospel, the Muslims cut off his feet just about at the ankle bone. He is not able to walk at all. An African missionary showed me a picture of this man, which I showed to my family.

He was sitting on a donkey, and I asked the question, "Does this man walk on those stubs?" "No, he can't do that. He crawls." And then I focused my attention on his knees. If you have ever seen a big, old oak tree with thick bark with crevices all over, that is what that man's knees looked like.

I remember a number of weeks later, it was raining one Thursday night when our family as a rule goes out and shares the Gospel with others. It was raining, and I said to my daughter, "Are you going out tonight in this rain?"

And she said, "If that man can crawl on his knees, I can go out in my car in the rain."

We should not allow obstacles to prevent our service for Christ.

When we consider that Jesus voluntarily suffered so horribly for us, then we should pray for the ability to follow through on our obligations.

Lord, give me strength for today to spread Your Word. Forgive me for allowing petty obstacles to keep me from doing what You have called me to do. Please, bless richly those who suffer for You who never shrink back from their Christian duty...

BY GOD'S STRENGTH, WE CAN SERVE HIM DESPITE SETBACKS.

Strength for Today, D. James Kennedy & Jerry Newcombe, Copyright © 2017 D. James Kennedy Ministries.

# FOR THE CONCERNED READER:

The following information is especially for *the concerned reader* of the Morning Glory.

The following is brief information of the objectives and ministries of the HAUGE LUTHERAN INNERMISSION FEDERATION/ MORNING GLORY:

While the Federation has enjoyed a long history (officially organized in 1920) among Lutheran Christians in many areas of this Country, there are those, especially of the younger generation who are quite unfamiliar with the movement. The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation is...

<u>Primarily</u> a FREE MOVEMENT AMONG LUTHERANS FOR SPIRITUAL LIFE. It is not to be confused with any church body or synod. Rather, it is a fellowship of Lutheran Christians working for revival and spiritual life within the existing church/congregation and throughout the Community. The "Hauge connection" identifies the movement historically with the Haugean revivals in Norway which had such a powerful impact upon that Nation (Norway) in the early nineteenth century. The HLIF today exists as a REVIVAL MOVEMENT, stressing the desperate need of spiritual awakening and new life in Jesus Christ. This movement is not only biblical and Lutheran, but pietistic and conservative, which operates by FAITH.

A LAY-WITNESS MINISTRY IN THE HAUGEAN TRADITON. Following his conversion to Christ as a young farm gentleman, Hans Nielsen Hauge promptly felt the call from God to be a witness for Christ He began at once sharing the Gospel with his family, neighbors and friends, and ultimately throughout the length and breadth of Norway. The Hauge Federation today is essentially a lay-movement encouraging spiritual life and leadership among the lay people. While the involvement of pastors and of church leaders <u>always</u> <u>welcome</u>, the work is directed largely by laymen.

A RESOURCE MINISTRY OF NURTURING FELLOW BELIEVERS (Christians) AND FOR EVANGELISM. The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/Morning Glory desires to be a spiritual resource providing assistance to pastors and congregations in their nurturing/evangelistic efforts. As an inter-Lutheran fellowship, the Federation is not bound by synodical affiliations but is supportive of all Lutheran church bodies that are faithful to the Inspired Word of God, the BIBLE. Basically the current ministries include; Hauge Bible Conferences, Evangelistic meetings, Christian Literature and encouraging local testimony and fellowship gatherings. For example: In the Literature department, we have a classic sermon, *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God* by Jonathan Edwards; *Mirror of the Heart*, author unknown, which a smaller book on the hidden forces of both God and Satan and their work on the heart of man, and a daily devotional book called *Altar Steps* by Pastor R. P. Haakonson.

NATURALLY A PUBLISHER of the Morning <u>Glory</u> - twelve issues per year (Which subscription price is a 'free-will-donation' at a minimum of ONE dollar per year - as required by our USA Gov't, for a non-profit Christian organization) for the home and family. We trust by the Grace and Empowerment of GOD, a refreshing Christian witness in print, featuring the best in devotional reading, evangelistic messages, religious and secular news, which every concerned person should be interested in, and a Trumpet Sound. We are seeking to be faithful in and through the INFALLIBLE BIBLE MESSAGE, which is forever settled in HEAVEN! AS concerned folk, we encourage YOU also with your donation(s), to also include names and addresses of others whom you are concerned about. Send all correspondence to:

Morning Glory, 508 – 5<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Dilworth, MN 56529-1127.

# **Mount Zion**

## "THOSE who trust in the LORD Are like Mount Zion. Which cannot be moved, but abides forever" Psalm 125:1.

Mere mortal power shall fade and die, And youthful vigor cease; But we that wait upon the Lord Shall feel our strength increase.

# "He who trusts in his own heart Is a fool, But whoever walks wisely Will be delivered.

Proverbs 28:26, Selected

# All Too Human

(Please read Romans 7:14-25)

*The trouble is with me, for I am all too human.*" Romans 7:14 NLT

British writer Evelyn Waugh wielded his words in a way that accentuated his character flaws. Eventually the novelist converted to Christianity, yet he still struggled. One day a woman asked him, "*Mr. Waugh, how can you behave as you do and still call yourself a Christian?*" He replied, "*Madam, I may be as bad as you say. But believe me, were it not for my religion, I would scarcely be a human being.*"

Waugh was waging the internal battle the apostle Paul describes: "I want to do what is right, but I can't" (Rom. 7:18 NLT). He further explains, "In my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me...Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?" (vv. 22-24). And then the exultant answer: "Thanks be to God who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (v. 25).

When we come in faith to Christ, admitting our wrong-doing (Ed. SIN) and need of a Savior, we immediately become a new creation. But our spiritual formation remains in a lifelong journey. As John the disciple observed: "Now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But...when Christ appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is" (1 John 3:2).

*Father, we* bring our struggles (Ed. 'struggles' between the old nature and the NEW nature) to You because You know all about them, yet You love us anyway. Teach us to rely on Your Holy Spirit. Make us more like Your Son each day.

*To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you.* C. S. Lewis

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# FORGIVENESS! Marvelous GRACE

AMAZING GRACE: As sinners that continue to sin (*maybe especially the sins of OMISSION*) can be and ARE forgiven, because of the Atoning Blood of Jesus Christ; as we repent of our sin and confess the same before a Thrice HOLY **God. Thank God** that <u>through and</u>

<u>under</u> the BLOOD of JESUS we are totally forgiven and justified in the realm of our Sovereign GOD: in the eternal realm, which is all-important. "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:7 & 9. "<u>I, even I, am He</u> who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins." I Isaiah 43:25, for example also: 1 John 2:12.

<u>BUT</u> there is a condition on our part as we pray in <u>"The Lord's Prayer.</u>" **"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**" Matthew 6:14-15. There are other Scripture portions that state the same Scriptural truths.

The command to forgive as we have been forgiven can be at times very difficult to obey, but must be followed through.

Isn't it good that 'forgiveness' is a matter of a person's WILL and not 'our' emotions/feelings? When the 'will' is definitely 'willing' and practiced, the 'good-feelings' may follow!

If we are at fault in any way we need to face it honestly and seek God's forgiveness. Then we need to ask the person to forgive us as well – even if they may refuse.

"Bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do." Colossians 3:13.

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# **CHAIN REACTION**

If we become tolerant of those who are tolerant of compromise, we will finally so regard the compromise itself. Then we will embrace the very compromise we once opposed. Once compromise becomes our posture, the things of sin will shortly become our portion.

Christians are far more likely to drift into sin than fall into it.

Think About it. — Selected

"Since you were precious in My sight,... And I have loved you; ..."

Isaiah 43:4.

# **UpDate**

#### **FLOOD GATES!**

Please read the entire chapter of Isaiah 59. *"When the enemy comes in like a flood."* 

*Some* may say that the following is 'negative' and that is okay; for then JESUS and HIS WORD are in definite 'harmony' with the same!

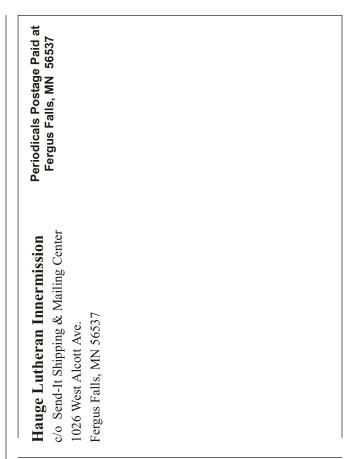
It appears to me that the 'flood-gates' of SIN have become rampant in these very days you and I are living in! AND if the "Standard" (the BIBLE, Law and Gospel) is not boldly proclaimed, SIN and all its' co-horts will win! *Hardly anything is called by its' name today as SIN; unless openly ensnared as SIN;* But God never changes His mind in regards to the same: Galatians 3:24 – "Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith." <u>ROMANS 7:7-14</u>.

Many years ago there was a devoted leader to the good cause under the title: 'WCTU'. He reprimanded me for not being more involved in the same. AND my response was somewhat the following: As good as the cause is, it is significantly more important that we seek to have the whole person changed: and given a NEW HEART by GOD! The worthy cause of the WCTU is good only for the secular/physical behavior; while a heart-transplant is good for time and Eternity! Herein is where the vital necessity of sharing God's Law and Gospel (In Calvary's Love) is so important by 'individuals' like you and me and from behind the sacred desk (pulpit) for the betterment of our great USA and wherever you may be! You and I may be a Blood-bought 'vessel' in doing the same by personally, together in spreading God's Incorruptible SEED (Isaiah 55:1-11, 1 Peter 1:23-25) through the local congregation, printed word (Morning Glory) etc.

Will YOU help us to maintain the same by your prayers, financial gifts and encouragement as a Christian 'team mate'? I am sure that, for each true 'believer', when 'we' meet JESUS face to face, 'we' want to hear the words from 'our' *Savior, "Well done, good and faithful servant"*!

February's income for the *Morning Glory* was approx. \$2,165.00.

The cost of publishing and mailing the *Morning Glory* each month is approx. \$2,100. In addition to the above costs, there are administrative costs so it takes about \$3,600 per month to keep the *Morning Glory* and the Hauge Lutheran Innermision Federation alive financially, and then additional expenses for Hauge Bible Conferences.



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# Summer Bible Conference Of The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation

The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/Morning Glory will hold a Summer Bible Conference on at Bagley, Minnesota. The dates are June 23-25.

The current scheduled guest speaker is Dr. Craig Jennings. Additional speakers are still pending at this time.

Pray that people will come from near and far with a hunger for the WORD of GOD and Christian fellowship, and that <u>Christ may be glorified</u>!

We are looking forward to seeing YOU in attendance, and please pray specifically for this Hauge Bible Conference.

#### WELCOME!