



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • August 2018

Reaching a GEN Z

Why Atheism is Growing Among Generation Z —
and What We Can Do About It.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO CONCOCT A RECIPE FOR THE REJECTION OF THE REDEEMER—AND IT’S POISONING A NEW GENERATION.

RULED BY EMOTIONS, GENERATION Z (Gen Z) is MADE UP OF INDIVIDUALS born between 1999 and 2015, is the most nonreligious generation in America yet, according to Barna’s new study of teens 13-18 years old. While the trends are not necessarily stunning — given this age of anything goes, Lady Gaga, and dozens of new gender pronouns—they are alarming. These young people are our children, our grandchildren, and their peers. They are critiquing the church more than any generation before—and we need to understand why.

“The percentage of Gen Z that identifies as atheist is double that of the U.S. adult population – Barna”

Gen Z is growing up in a culture that values emotions over facts. They have become comfortable with the message of relativism so often preached by our culture—a message that values tolerance over Truth. What matters more to this generation is honesty and authenticity.

They trust their heart, which is “deceitful above all things” (Jeremiah 17:9). And they are embracing atheism more than any other generation in history.

While it’s tempting to respond to these findings with the old dictum “Kids these days...”, we must realize that before God opened our eyes, we were just as lost. Equipped with God’s wisdom, compassion, and love, we can reach this growing mission field and lead them in the

Truth of Christ.

ENGAGING GENERATION Z

It’s easy to see that our society is not training the next generation to think critically. How could they when our culture no longer values Truth? But, according to our youth, the church isn’t doing any better. Here are some critiques offered by churchgoing teens today:

49% say “the church seems to reject much of what science tells us about the world.”

38 % believe “the church is overprotective of teenagers.”

27% claim “the church is not a safe place to express doubts.”

24% find church teachings to be “rather shallow.”

Far from being offended, we must learn from these findings. We can’t dismiss our youth and expect them to respect us for it. We must engage them and their questions.

3 CRITICAL QUESTIONS

When I first read these new statistics, the information was interesting—but it didn’t hit home for me until I realized two of my own children fall in the Gen Z age group. Though my kids are not yet teens, this group represents the trends of their peers. Am I leaving the next generation and the next-next generation to be raised by their surrounding culture—or by the wisdom of God?

Here are some important questions to ask ourselves:

1. Are we too busy to be bothered?

Our lives are filled with devices, work, sports, lessons, time with friends, and a little sleep thrown in if all goes according to plan. It’s easy to fall into a rhythm of just checking the boxes, neglecting the best thing while trying to

Morning Glory

Volume C – Number 5
August 2018

MORNING GLORY (ISSN0745-5968, USPS 887-740) is published in January, March, May, June, August, September, October, November and December, by the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, 508 5th St. NE, Dilworth, MN 56529, and printed by Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center, 1026 West Alcott Ave., Fergus Falls, MN 56537. Periodicals postage paid at Fergus Falls, MN 56537.

POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to: Morning Glory, c/o Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center, 1026 West Alcott Ave., Fergus Falls, MN 56537.

Editor: Pastor Rodney Stueland
508 5th St. NE, Dilworth, MN 56529
email: haugerep@midco.net

Send Announcements, Contributions, and Subscription Renewals to:
Barbara Stueland, 508 5th St. NE, Dilworth, MN 56529

Internet Web Site: hauginnermission.com.
Facebook: [Facebook.com/Haugeinnermission](https://www.facebook.com/Haugeinnermission)

Electronic version available – Send email to: morningglorymagazine@gmail.com

PUBLICATION OFFICE:
HAGA PUBLISHING, 808 Martha Lake Court, Shoreview, MN 55126-5856

OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION

President: Wayne AlmlieDes Moines, IA
Vice President: John MonsenBurnsville, MN
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CONTRIBUTIONS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation is registered with the Department of Internal Revenue as a non-profit religious organization. Contributions for all phases of the Hauge Federation are deductible for income tax purposes.

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ensure the good, but not needful, things are accomplished. It’s time to look up—to relate—to listen intently and speak wisely.

2. Are we modeling for the next generation how to pursue Truth?

When our children or grandchildren ask difficult questions, it can be convenient to sweep them away. But this kind of attitude often communicates that we are afraid of how Scripture will hold up under scrutiny. It gives the impression that we are not confident in the Word of God—and maybe even ashamed of His Gospel.

3. Do we act as though God is boring?

When God is not our focus and delight, we are telling Gen Z that they are right—God is boring. Yet He is anything but! Are we captivated by His goodness or distracted by earthly pursuits? Are we trusting God to do the impossible in our lives—or are our lives as ordinary and mundane as the nonbeliever?

WE HAVE WORK TO DO

What can we, God’s church, do to counteract the trends that Barna has brought before us? We can:

Read and relish God’s Word.

Pray and dig deep into our faith.

Serve and engage the next generation, reaching out in love and hospitality whether in our neighborhoods, churches, or larger communities.

We must allow God to work through us by living intentionally for Him. As we delight in Almighty God, worshipping Him, growing in faith, and proclaiming His Truth, He will soften hearts and draw Gen Z into His Kingdom.

“MY JOURNAL Leading the Way” by Leading the Way Editorial Team Copyright

* * * * *

Persevering with Peace

I lie down and sleep; I wake again because the LORD sustains me. V. 5 — Please read all of Psalm 3

As I continue trusting God through my struggles with chronic pain even the simplest setback can feel like a fierce enemy attacker. Problem One jabs me from the right. Problem Two shoves me from behind. Problem Three punches me square in the nose. During these times, when my strength wanes and immediate relief evades me, running and hiding can seem like a good idea. But since I can't escape my pain, change my circumstances, or ignore my emotions, I'm learning slowly to rely on God to carry me through.

When I need encouragement, comfort, and courage, I prayerfully read through the songs of the psalmists, who honestly bring their situations to God. In one of my favorite psalms, King David flees from Absalom, his son who wanted to kill him and take his kingdom. Though David lamented his painful situation (Psalm 3:1-2), he trusted God's protection and expected Him to answer his prayers (vv. 3-4). The king didn't lose sleep worrying or fearing what could happen because he trusted God to sustain and save him (vv. 5-8).

Physical and emotional pain can often feel like aggressive adversaries we may be tempted to give up or wish we could escape when we're weary and can't see the end of our current battle. But, like David, we can learn to trust that God will hold us up and help us rest in His constant and loving presence.

Lord, thanks for giving us rest in the peace of your constant presence and assuring us of the victory you've already won.

God offers us peace as He holds us up and carries us through every trial.

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This Graduation Letter from the 1930's Would be Banned from Schools Today

A Yearbook from 1936 was discovered while cleaning an attic. The Graduation Address from that year will

blow you away.

The man who discovered it, Hank Wallace, explained that he was sorting through his late mother's estate when he came across it.

He gave a quick snapshot of what the world then looked like at the time before sharing the address itself.

In 1936, things were changing quickly. A picture of the principal of the school in the yearbook shows a black telephone on his desk, certainly a status symbol of the day. The Depression was wearing on, with New Deal socialism widely welcomed. Hitler was chancellor of Germany, and the Dachau concentration camp was open, both for over three years. Appeaser Neville Chamberlain was a year from becoming prime minister of the UK. And while slavery was gone, "separate but equal" was in force and racial division was the norm. (Source: *American Thinker*.)

And here is the speech he found inside:

"My Dear Friends:

"You are living now, not simply preparing to live. You can never turn back the page. The years will only provide opportunity to live more effectively. But the past can become inspiration, equipment and direction. The earth transmutes the foliage and flowers of the past into the beauty and fruit of the present.

"I wish for each one of you the finest that can be achieved in life, and the largest service possible to your capacity.

"Always be open to truth. Wherever you find it recognize it as the manifestation of God. There has never been, nor will there ever be, any conflict between science and religion. All come from the same heavenly Father. A child knows there is a difference between his father's pencil and his watch, but never doubts that both belong to his father. Never be afraid of any truth.

"Be sure you do more than seek truth. Find it. It is not the search for food that builds the body, but its assimilation. It is imperative that you believe some things so firmly that they become a part of you. Stability is rooted in integrity. Honor, virtue, courage and faith are eternal virtues, and without them your life will be a compromise.

"I believe you have as fine qualities as ever gave surety to the hopes of any generation. You face the world at a period of arresting questions, difficult problems and a restless social order. Yet, it is a period of growth, holding before you the challenge whose terms demand your best.

"Let that singing line from Tennyson's idylls of the king stay with you – "O Loyal to the royal in thyself."

"Sincerely your friend,
Richard S. Owens"

Clash Daily with Doug Giles, Published on May 26, 2018, Copyright

“The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.” (Psalm 41:3)

This word speaks of him whose heart is right with God. In times of sickness God will be especially near to him. *“He will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing.”*

The one who is ill may feel that he is set aside. The physical strength is small, and fear rests heavily upon his heart.

But God will not leave him. *“Thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.”* God takes away fear and gives him quiet peace. The heavenly Father presses His sick child to His bosom. The pains are changed into a source of praise, and the bed of sickness becomes a place where the believer rests in the love of God.

The same holds true with all other tribulations. The Lord will strengthen His children. He changes the tribulations into wings which bear the soul closer to God.

Streams of Gladness, Fredrik Wisloff, Augsburg Publishing House, © 1958.

Meeting With One Another

“They that feared the Lord spake often one to another...” Malachi 3:16.

A faithful Christian went to visit a brother who had not been attending church. After listening to absentee attempting to justify why he had missed the meetings, the visitor picked up the tongs from the hearth and lifted a piece of hot and glowing coal out of the fire and left it on the hearth. Alone on the hearth the glimmering coal soon lost its radiance and heat. After it became black and cold the Christian absentee remarked, “Don’t say any more. I know what you are saying. I’ll be at Church on Sunday morning.”

Any Christian excluding himself from fellowship will soon become cold and useless. We need each other. Malachi (Ed. GOD) tells us that God remembers, records and rejoices when the saints meet and engage in true communion. What does God remember and record?

He remembers the company in fellowship. *“They that feared the Lord.”* In Malachi’s time the people of Israel had become indifferent to God and to public worship. Only a faithful few took time to remember God. God recorded who they were and exclaimed, *“They shall be mine...”* He still records our gatherings and knows when we are present or absent.

He remembers the character of our fellowship.

“They that feared the Lord.” To fear the Lord is the highest mark of character. We begin to build character as we learn to fear God. The lowest mark of character is when there is no fear of God. The fear of God is simply love on its knees in worship to God.

He remembers the communication of our fellowship. *“Spake often one to another...and thought upon His name.”* God listened and a book was written. God has many books. The Bible is God’s book of revelation. There is also the **“Lamb’s Book of Life”**, but here God writes in His book of remembrance. He is not recording our sins. He keeps our tears in a bottle. He keeps account of our tithes and offerings and He records our thoughts and meditations on His name.

**Christ is the silent Listener
when we meet in His Name.**

A Word for Your Way, by Victor Maxwell, ©
Copyright Victor Maxwell October, 2014.

Repentance

“As I live,” says the Lord God, “I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live” Ezekiel 33:11.

When the city of Nineveh was threatened God changed his course of dealing with the inhabitant when they fell at His feet in repentance and in prayer for mercy. A comparison of God’s warning to Nineveh is that of His warning to a sinner with the admonition that he humble himself in repentance. When the sinner comes to repentance God stands ready to pardon.

The sorcerer Simon, who *“was in the bond of iniquity,”* was given opportunity to hear the Apostle Philip proclaim the way of truth in Christ. The result: *“Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip:”* (Acts 8:13). The door of grace was standing ajar for him.

Such examples show how God desires that the sinner repent and seek His grace. It is impossible to have sinned so grievously that the blood of Christ could not counter-balance and cleanse away a person’s sin. Then all can be well again.

“We’ve a message to give to the nations,

That the Lord who reigneth above
Hath sent us His Son to save us,
And show us that God is love.” (Colin Sterne)

PRAYER: How great Is Your grace, O Lord, that no sin can overbalance the weight of Christ’s atonement through Calvary. Make my life what it ought to be in responsive living, recognizing such love and mercy offered freely. Amen.

The Lutheran Colportage, Inc.

Editorial

RES

Be Specific

“What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?”

(Luke 18:41)

So easy as we pray, to just say, “God bless our Pastor, family, missionaries, etc.” Now we know that IF this request truly comes from your heart and that you are on praying ground; then most certainly it is accepted before the Throne of GRACE!

BUT there is so much for us to learn with our walk of faith with JESUS! AND **GOD** clearly tells us in His Eternal Word (the BIBLE), that we should definitely pray specifically also! See James 4:3.

In the text that we have before us today; there is no doubt that JESUS already knew what this gentleman wanted and needed, but He asked him to exercise specifically what his request was; not only for his benefit, but for yours ALSO! Just like the very ill lady who had spent all her money in seeking doctors advice/wisdom/remedy for healing for a twelve year period.

The old saying goes, “Practice what you preach,” and in God’s provided GRACE, I am.

Seeking to do just that, we go through the school of *hard-knocks*, and the school colors are **back and blue!** The very significant truth though is when we don’t even know how to pray; and the Disciples of Jesus requested ‘teach us how to pray’, and they had walked with JESUS for a period of time already! Then JESUS gave them, and us, what we call ‘The Lord’s Prayer’. In reality, this was an example for the disciples to use, because the specific prayer of the Lord Himself is found in John 17. Genuinely, what we call the “The Lord’s Prayer” can only truly be prayed by born-again folk, or those who truly want to be ‘saved’, for it is addressed to “Our Father” and asks for the furtherance of the ‘Kingdom of God’ and the ‘forgiveness of sin’ etc.

In our text, a blind man (v. 35) cried and in the Greek it means “a cry for help,” and he addressed Jesus with a proper title (Lord). This ‘cry’ also means a “loud cry” and caused a disturbance. In other words, it was a ‘desperate-need’.

ALSO, in what we call ‘The Lord’s Prayer’, we find Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication and Intercession, which equals **A C T S I**.

It is MARVELOUS that we have the Holy Spirit seeking to lead us, and HE makes even our groanings

to be acceptable and in “harmony” with the Father’s Will. ***“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us: with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God”*** Romans 8:26-27.

Please don’t use this precious promise as an alibi to pray carelessly, indifferently or as an excuse, as the Holy Spirit will teach us how to pray if we are willing to listen and apply. One thing is for sure that we can pray for – and that is the Salvation of precious Souls as we know this is definitely in harmony with the will of God. ***“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth”*** 1 Timothy 2:3-4. IF, on a very, very rare occasion we come across a person whom God has given up on, the Holy Spirit will so lead and the direction would be so otherwise. You know that Jesus shed His Blood for the sins of the whole world and the unsaved are yet in the camp of the enemy – Satan, the deceiver and thief.

At the time I was working on this editorial, some hours ago the Underground Map predicted a fair quantity of rain (100%). Now it did not materialize exactly as predicted, which reminds me of Jude verse 12 & 13 as both the percentage and amount is down considerably. Our privilege and challenge is this: ***“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; praying in the Holy Spirit ...vv. 16-25.***

The story is told (which in our immediate area, at the present time are experiencing a semi-drought weather wise), but at the time of this story taking effect, it was more than ‘semi’. So a special prayer meeting was set in place to definitely pray for rain! An elderly Christian lady came with an umbrella and she was asked why in such warm, sunny dry weather why she brought that to the ‘prayer-meeting’? Well, no doubt you know the answer, because they were praying specifically for “rain”! – EXPECTANTLY!!! *Why worry when you can pray or why pray when you can*

worry?

BUT you know for a lot of us Christians – we generalize in our prayer life, and so JESUS asks the question: “*What do you want Me to do for you?*” even though HE knows before-hand!

How we need to get back to preaching and practicing the “old-time Christianity,” where God’s Law is preached in its fullness (naturally in LOVE) – because we care about where precious SOULS (individually) will spend all Eternity!

We are living in what is called “Perilous times”, which

means ‘very difficult times’. I am convinced it not only includes in the religious/Christian world but also in the natural, AND *Need* is the very essence of PRAYER: Some examples are: Forgiveness, Salvation, for our community and country, discernment, hunger for the Word of God, preachers sharing God’s LAW in LOVE, The ministry of the Morning Glory, Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, we of the HLIF Board & Spouses, etc.

“A little while, and ye behold Me no more; and again a little while, and ye shall see Me.” John 16:16

A CHRISTIAN cannot live in this world exclusively in light, prosperity, and good days. If any one of us should be so “unfortunate” as to encounter nothing in this life except what we call “good fortune,” he would be badly off. Those who must fight their way through opposition, storms, and darkness have the happiest and most healthful Christian life, and their condition is most conducive to growth and fruit-bearing.

Therefore God has not promised His people only good days. On the contrary, He has said that we must enter into the kingdom of God through many tribulations. When darkness envelopes us on the way that we are compelled to take, then we realize how helpless we are; but is also then that the Lord is our light. When the burden gets too heavy, we must get someone else to carry it for us. He who does not feel his helplessness needs no help.

When Jesus hides, we understand most clearly what we have lost by His absence; and when He reveals Himself anew, we learn to thank Him a little better than before. A Christian has no reason to lose courage if a dark cloud hides the sun of his life. The sun is not gone; a cloud has hid it from view. In a little while we shall see it again.

That is God’s way with His people.
Thy way and all thy sorrows
Give thou into His hand,
His gracious care unfailing,
Who doth the heavens command;
Their course and path He giveth
To clouds and air and wind:
A way thy feet may follow
He too for thee will find.

Thy Kingdom Come, by Ludvig Hope, Copyright
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Accidental Wisdom

Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable...think about such things v. 8.

Please read Philippians 4:4-9

A few years ago, a woman shared with me a story about finding her preteen son watching news coverage of a violent event. Instinctively, she reached for the remote and changed the channel. “You don’t need to be watching that stuff,” she told him rather abruptly. An argument followed, and eventually she shared that he needed to fill his mind with “*whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely...*” (Philippians 4:8). After dinner, she and her husband were watching the news when suddenly their five-year old daughter burst in and turned off the television. “You don’t need to be watching that stuff,” she declared in her best “mom” voice. “Now, think about those Bible things!”

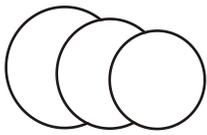
As adults, we can better absorb and process the news than our children. Still, the couple’s daughter was both amusing and wise when she echoed her mother’s earlier instructions. Even well-adjusted adults can be affected by a steady diet of the darker side of life. Meditating on the kind of things Paul (God) lists in Philippians 4:8 is a powerful antidote to the gloom that sometimes settles on us as we see the condition of our world.

Making careful decisions about what fills our minds is an excellent way to honor God and guard our hearts as well.

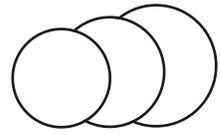
Father, open our eyes today to what’s beautiful.
Teach us to mediate on You.

*What we let into our minds
shapes the state of our souls.*

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From Our Fellowship Circle



P. S. **Viroqua, WI**
Sorry to hear you dropped the April publication. Hope people will chip in to help.

KFC **Sebring, FL**
Thanks so much for all the wonderful news. Keep the Word alive as Jesus is.

May we all be His light shining bright to all we meet—helping all we can for more to be saved.

SCK **Vader, WA**
Please accept this donation and add us to your mailing list. *Morning Glory* is a beacon of light in these times of compromised truth. Thank You.

* * * * *

God's Provision

“But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” Phil. 4:19

Paul writes here that God will give us all that we need. Do you think we can depend on that?

The story is told of a Quaker minister in a small town who did not have any salary, but just got along on what people gave him. His daughter needed shoes for school, and so they went to the store to buy her a pair. Looking up into his face, she asked, “But have we money to buy them today?”

He pulled out the empty lining of his pocket and said, “God always has been sufficient for all the needs, daughter.”

But can father buy shoes without any money in his pocket, wondered the little girl.

A block from the store a member of their congregation met them, talked a while; then he shook hands with the minister. The child heard her father give thanks to God as they proceeded on their way. The he opened his hand and showed her the folded money which the man had slipped into his hand when he said goodbye.

“You see, child, God always finds a way if we have faith in Him,” the father said. The little girl never forgot that incident.

God has riches in Glory and He will supply all our needs. Let us thank Him and pray.

Dear Lord Jesus, we thank Thee that Thou always cares for our needs. Remove our sins from us, Lord, and help us to trust Thee as our Father, In Jesus' name. Amen.

My Father is rich in houses and lands.
He holdeth the wealth of the world in His hands!
Of rubies and diamonds, of silver and gold,
His coffers are full,—He has riches untold.
I'm the child of a king, the child of a king!
With Jesus, my Savior, I'm the child of a king.

From *Altar Steps* By R P Haakonson

* * * * *

The Return You Get

“But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves (bond-servants) **of God, the return you get is sanctification and it's end eternal life**” Romans 6:22.

A child of God does not have the worst of worries, that of resolving his guilt because he has been set free from his sins. Now he can follow joyously in the footsteps of Jesus. As it was his life and food to do the will of his Father, so the child of God must strive to do the Father's will.

Being a child of God one becomes a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16). That same Spirit dwells in the Christian as was in Christ, and he will not put the Dove to flight. A Christian will not defile and destroy the temple of God with attention to the desires of the flesh. He will endure suffering rather than go against the Spirit of God.

Christ was obedient in every situation for the sake of the Father's good pleasure. A child of God, too, will be obedient in his situation, and the displeasures that come shall be lost in God's good pleasure toward him.

“Living for Jesus a life that is true,
Striving to please Him in all that I do,
Yielding allegiance, glad-hearted and free,
This is the pathway of blessing for me.”

T. O. Chisholm

PRAYER: The return I get, O Lord, in multiplied blessings and eternal life, are beyond my comprehension; but I pray that these mercies shall be preserved in my heart and life, wherefore cause me to be faithful in all things. For Christ's sake. Amen.

ROSENIUS' DAILY MEDITATIONS, by Carl O. Rosenius, Lutheran Colportage Service, Inc.

Believable ...Yet Unbelievable

Israeli Archaeologists Find 2,700 Year-Old Artifact That Backs Biblical Record

Dr. Shlomit Weksler-Bdolah, excavator of the Israel Antiquities Authority, holds a stamped piece of clay from the first Jewish temple period that belonged to the “governor of the city” of Jerusalem, about 2,700 years ago. The piece of clay was excavated at the northwestern part of the Western Wall plaza in Jerusalem’s Old City....The extraordinary find is a lump of clay, stamped and preferred, measures 13 X15 mm and 2-3 mm thick. The upper part of the sealing depicts two figures facing each other, and the lower part holds an inscription in ancient Hebrew scrip.

Icon Wolf, theblaze.com

Netherlands Euthanized More Than 6,500 People Last Year

The Dutch NL news is reporting that the Regional Euthanasia Review Committee’s annual report was released indicating that 6,585 assisted deaths were reported in 2017, increasing by eight percent from 6,091 reported assisted deaths, in 2016...

In January 2017, a Netherlands Euthanasia Review committee decided that the death of a woman with dementia who died by euthanasia against her will was done in “good faith.” The woman was held down while the doctor lethally injected her.

Lifenews.com

Wheaton College Wins Legal Battle; Won’t Be Forced to Pay for Abortion Pills

The Christian Post reports a district court judge granted Wheaton College in Illinois relief from the mandate on (February 22), ending a five-year legal battle.

Like many other religious employees, Wheaton objected to the mandate that employers cover all forms of contraception, including types that may cause abortions, in their employee health plans...

In the ruling, the judge said forcing Wheaton to comply with the Obamacare mandate violates federal civil rights laws. The order permanently forbids the government from forcing the mandate on the college.

Lifenews.com

U.S. Fertility Rate Below Replacement for Ninth Straight Year

The total fertility rate of the United States fell below the replacement level for the ninth straight year in 2016, according to the final birth data report for that year published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The last time it was above the replacement level was 2007...

At the same time, the Central Intelligence Agency’s World Factbook ranks the total fertility rate of the United States at 143rd in the world...

According to the CDC’s historical data, the U.S. total fertility rate (TFR) has now been below the replacement level in 43 of the last 45 years. The only two years during which it reached slightly above the replacement level were 2006 and 2007.

Terence P. Jeffrey, cnsnews.com

Winter Olympics Promotes Homosexuality

Olympic skater Adam Rippon and skier Gus Kenworthy are promoting homosexuality as normal behavior. They are the first openly gay Winter Olympians from the United States. They have been verbally attacking Vice President Mike Pence. Kenworthy recently appeared on the Ellen Degeneres show criticizing Pence...

“Adam Rippon and Gus Kenworthy will be used by the Olympic Committee and the press to further the sin of homosexuality,” states 4 Winds Christian Athletics president Steve McConkey. “The Olympic Committee has promoted transgenders, intersex athletes without proper testing, and same-sex marriage.

“Olympic athletes are encouraged to support the LGBT community according to Principle 6. If Christian athletes say homosexuality is a sin, they could face consequences. The press tried to destroy a prominent gold medalist for saying homosexuality was wrong. There were talks that the person could lose their Olympic Ambassadorship.”

In December 2014, the International Olympic Committee unanimously passed Principle 6. All athletes, coaches, and host cities are expected to follow Principle 6.

Christiannewswire.ccsend.com

Editor's Comments: Principle 6 is a "discrimination" tenet which includes "sexual orientation." Political correctness again! Sword of the Lord.

Editor's Note: Keep in mind that 'we' live in a very sinful world; but every true born-again believer is to be a standard-bearer, even in these days of Apostasy!

* * * * *

Boldness

Let us therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help us in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)

IT is when need knocks at our door that we may knock at the door of grace. No matter how self-evident this may seem, it is nevertheless just then that we have our greatest doubts that we will be welcomed. We have gone to that door so many times before: dare we go once more?

Is not that sinning on grace?

What makes you feel sad and heavy is that you think there is so little fruit to sow for all that you get. With all the grace that you have received to this day, you should be a different kind of person. Your grade is poor on patience, love, and Christian disposition. Your life does not measure up to what you should be as a Christian. Your victories are few, and often you get nowhere. This causes you to doubt, and makes you discouraged.

If this is your condition, you are surely in the right in all that you accuse yourself of. He who is not ashamed of his own folly, is of all people worst off. But our sin and shame should not constitute a reason for doubt in Him who sits on the throne of grace and who has promised us "*mercy and grace to help us in time of need.*"

Wherefore draw near with boldness (Ed. Childlike confidence) unto the throne of grace, all you tired and worn Christians! There is your place; it has been given you by God Himself. Sinai is too steep for you, and your knees are too weak; but at Golgotha everything that you need is given to you without money and without price. Lay hold of grace today also as you did the first time, and you shall become strong in the Lord.

Rich Thy mercy – strangely good!
O how oft have I offended!
But, through Thy redeeming blood
All my fear of wrath is ended:
Yes, I now can witness give:
Jesus sinners does receive!

Thy Kingdom Come, by Ludvig Hope, Copyright © 1939, Augsburg Publishing House, Permission Granted.

Dining With Jesus

"There they made Him a supper...Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with Him."

John 12:2

EATING plays a large part in our lives. Food is not just necessary and nourishing, but at mealtimes we make or strengthen our friendships and enrich family ties. Our Lord Jesus, the supreme Teacher, frequently transformed dining rooms into classrooms where He gave His most significant lessons. Jesus had meals with friends, families, foes, Pharisees and even with publicans and sinners.

Jesus manifested His glory at His first miracle at a wedding reception in Cana of Galilee. He performed the most public of His miracles when He fed a great multitude with a boy's five loaves and two fishes. There was a memorable moment in Martha's kitchen when He had to cool her simmering frustration and much running around to teach her the importance of sitting at His feet. Later, at Simon's house, He gave a lesson on the value of true worship when Mary anointed Him with her costly spikenard perfume while His disciples sat as onlookers around the meal table.

One of the most famous meals was the Passover Meal when Jesus gathered His disciples around a table and transformed the Passover meal to the remembrance feast of the Lord's Supper that we still observe today. It was in that upper room that Jesus taught His disciples the unforgettable lessons of servanthood, leadership. His great love and the importance of loving one another. The nourishment of that meal would have to last those scattered disciples through the hungry and horrible days ahead until after His resurrection when they would sit down with the Saviour again on the shore of Galilee.

Looking down the road into the future, we see another meal in the Scriptures, the glorious "*Marriage Supper of the Lamb.*" On that day, the Lord Jesus will serve His bride at the table and believers will join Him in a celestial celebration that will last forever. What a meal that will be!

He brings us into His banqueting house and His banner over us is "Love."

A Word for Your Way, by Victor Maxwell, © Copyright Victor Maxwell October 2014

I wonder how so many present day Christians can consider an hour of worship Sunday morning as adequate adoration of the holy God who created them and then redeemed them back to Himself.
A. W. Tozer

STRONG IN BATTLE

“Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Wherefore take up the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand.”

Ephesians 6:10-13.

For a Christian, life is a battle. No one who is desirous of doing the Lord's will can go through life without meeting opposition. The powers which still rule in and about the earth are enemies of God's people. The Bible admonishes us to fight the good fight so that we may stand after having emerged victorious over all opposition. *“He that overcometh shall thus be arrayed in white garments; and I will in no wise blot his name out of the book of life, and I will confess his name before my Father, and before His angels.”* (Rev. 3:5).

It is possible that at times the Christian life has been pictured as being nothing else than toil and tears. But we should also remember those other times when all strife has been forgotten and there has been only joy, rest, and thanksgiving. It is so easy to go from one extreme to another; it is much more difficult to be normal and keep to the way that is true and sound.

If we would read the Bible and Church history with an honest mind, we would see that it is impossible for a Christian to get through this world without conflict; least of all would it be possible for those who are the best Christians.

No one will reach that sweet haven of rest
Who earnestly presses not in.
He who will fight for the faith that at last
Will bring him to heaven shall win.

It is perhaps altogether too true that not all Christians are equally victorious in their battles. Many suffer crushing defeats; others “withstand on the evil day” and go forward in the power of God. He who suffers defeat is not privileged to taste the joys of victory. He walks about as David did when he fled from his own son. It is quite different with him who wins in the battle. He discovers some of the greatest treasures a Christian can find here below. When a soldier returns home with victory he is happy even if he still has many painful wounds from the battle. It is the same with the

victorious Christian.

In 1 Samuel 14 we have the story of Jonathan who together with his armor bearer, went against the enemy. By the help of God they defeated the enemy, but the battle was both long and hard. In the course of the battle they passed through a forest where there was honey both upon the ground and in the honeycomb. Jonathan put forth his rod into the honeycomb and tasted of the honey, and it is written that “his eyes were enlightened.”

Many a Christian warrior has found life's sweetest honey in the midst of battle. He has been given a clearer vision, a new fire in the heart and a new power in his life. I dare say that if you want a Christian full of fresh vigor and with an unimpaired spiritual vision, search among those who have been in battle and have returned with victory. They have tasted the honey of life and their eyes have been enlightened.

The greatest joy and purest gratitude is found in the heart of a Christian who has been in battle and has won the victory. It is not in times of peace that a Christian comes closest to his God, but in the victorious battle. If this were clear to all of us, many problems would be solved, many tears wiped away, and many a discouraged soldier of the Cross would wield his sword with greater vigor.

The battle is not against flesh and blood. It is not a war among people as we usually think of war, such as... It is a spiritual warfare. No cannon is seen or heard, no sabre glitters in the sunshine, and no bayonet is used against the enemy. But it is war nevertheless; anyone who is anxious to save his soul will soon discover that.

The hosts of wickedness arrayed against the Christian can possibly be divided into two groups. The one group is described in our text as principalities, powers, and world rulers of this darkness. This must be those people who live outside of fellowship with God.

It is still true that in most places on this earth true Christianity has not penetrated very far into the life of the people. Those who rule are usually worldly people. They have the power in this age, and it is likely that we shall have no change until Christ returns. Only rarely do they rule in harmony with God's Word and Spirit. The spirit of the world is like a boa constrictor that is ready to crush its victim; Christians meet it on every hand. As long as there is a spark of spiritual life in your and my heart we shall have a battle against this evil spirit; if we do not, our Christianity will soon be a thing of the past.

The Christian needs to be clad in the full armor of God at all times; his battlefield is in the worldly home, the worldly business places, in worldly society, in town hall or the halls of Congress. Briefly, a Christian must be prepared for war wherever he is. He who thinks him-

self spiritually secure will soon discover that the world is a strong and dangerous enemy of everything that is from God.

Christians of a generation or two ago were very much afraid of keeping too much company with worldly people; possibly they went too far in that direction. They forgot that it was not human beings they were to turn away from, but the spirit which dominates in the world. It may be that we have gone to the opposite extreme; Christians today do not think of the world as being particularly worldly. Christianity has been made to fit into the scheme of things in the world. Christians of the present day are not afraid of being associated with worldly people in business or politics. When worldly people are reasonable in their attitudes, as they frequently are, it is so easy for the Christian to lay the sword aside. But then he does not have to go much further before he is a friend of the world and an enemy of God.

The friendship of the world is enmity with God.

It appears so innocent to be friendly with the world; it looks so refined too. But it is not long before the friendship of the world is found to be more delectable than the company of Christians. When that happens we are on slippery ice; only God's grace can keep us from falling. As a fly is caught and loses its life in a web of exceedingly fine threads woven by the spider, so have many Christians been caught in the web of worldliness and have lost their lives. They died quietly, yet so surely. They forgot that they were at war; this was the tragedy that spoiled their doom.

Here – precisely here – many present day Christians are in great danger; many have already been deceived perhaps even without knowing it. While they are boasting of having progressed far beyond the gloomy spirituality of the pietists they have landed in a veritable black death; they have pinned a Christian badge on the lapel of a worldly spirit. They still want to be known as Christians. This hum-bug is frequently paraded as Christianity that has been liberated from ignorance and superstition; it is Christianity that has grown to maturity.

"Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."

**To resist with all might
On every hand
Is both proper and right
For him who will stand.
But it takes more than this a wreath to win,
Persistency alone will conquer sin.**

Spirit and Power, by Ludvig Hope, Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, © 1959

Editor's Note: And this continues to be one primarily

conviction and purpose of the HLIF/MG, as a Faith Lutheran Pietistic Free Movement; to biblically equip fellow-believers in encouraging, edifying, nurturing, evangelizing and trumpet bearing in these Apostate days before the Trumpet Sound that only the saved will hear! – that is, those who were walking by faith with JESUS when they physically died and those who are walking with JESUS and are now physically Alive!

What a day that will be, when my JESUS I shall see, when I look upon His Face, the ONE who saved me by His GRACE!

JESUS says: OCCUPY TIL I COME!

Rejoice Always

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice" Philippians 4:4.

When speaking about salvation the Apostle Peter (Ed. God inspired/in-breathed Peter) added these words, *"In this you rejoice, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials"* (1 Peter 1:5, 6).

There are smarting pains in our suffering, but in all of life the Word of God encourages us in this vein: rejoice, you are God's children, even though you suffer. You are traveling heavenward. Rejoice! (Ed. Provided you know Jesus as your personal Savior, and not *necessarily* in your circumstances). And when there is rest and respite between trials we receive this with joy.

It is well that we prepare for encounters with bitter experiences. Children of God shall meet trying times, even as Jesus said, "In the world" (John 16:33). But let us remember, God will not fail us as we pass through the dangers of this life and its trials on our pilgrimage to heaven.

*"Yea, though the storm lash loud and long, unending,
Thy stillness is my calm, my trust, my peace;
Thy strength becomes my strength defending –
Thine be the triumph till all conflicts cease."*
(R.F.P.)

PRAYER: O Saviour, You who healed all manner of disease, never delighting in the suffering of any, lead through the times of stress and trial, giving grace to claim the assurance that Your grace is sufficient. Cause blessing to come through the trials as only You are able to do. Amen.

The Lutheran Colportage, Inc.

Divine Moments in Our Nation's History

*Abraham Lincoln, the Infidel Who Found God and
Changed a Nation*

By Rick Barnhart

Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, the Day the Light Broke Through

After four devastating years of war, the nation had suffered more than a half million casualties as a result of the war to that point. On March 4, 1865, Lincoln made his second inaugural address. Rain and dark clouds hung low over Washington, DC that morning as a large crowd eagerly gathered to hear words of desperately needed perspective and hope. As the tall slender president rose to give the address, suddenly the rain stopped, and the sun broke through the clouds and shone brightly on the assembly during the message. It was as if God Himself was giving a sign of hope that the clouds of war would soon depart from the nation, and a new day would begin. This was one of Lincoln's most memorable addresses, and many say it more resembled a sermon than a political speech. Reflecting on his deeply held faith, Lincoln indicated that it was God's judgment against slavery that brought on the Civil War. He further said of the war,

"If God wills that it continue, until all the wealth piled up by the bond-man's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk and every drop of blood drawn with the lash, shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said "the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." Lincoln was not bitter, but gracious toward the southern states. He famously concluded saying, "with malice toward none, and charity toward all... let us strive to finish the work that was begun, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for the (soldier), his widow and his orphan... and work to achieve just and last peace. He ended by requesting that Americans pray that the seasons of judgment would pass quickly.

The End of the War and the End of a Life

National corporate repentance and prayer played a key role in bringing an end to the scourge of slavery in our nation and thus opened the way for the war to end. Amazingly, only a month after the inauguration General Lee surrendered to Grant at the Appomattox Court-

house, bring the four-year-long conflict to an end. And then only five days after Lee's surrender, on Good Friday, the president's life was taken by an assassin's bullet. It is said that his last words were telling his wife he wanted to go to Jerusalem and walk in the Savior's footsteps. Although it ended in this national tragedy, the long and bloody war had come to an end and slavery was finally and fully abolished.

Public recognition of God

Most of us don't realize that Lincoln actually instituted many forms of public recognition of God that we take for granted today. The holiday of Thanksgiving became a national holiday only after Lincoln's proclamation in 1863. Through the Coinage Act of 1864, Lincoln was also responsible for putting "In God We Trust" on our coins and currency. As one of the greatest presidents in our history his image has been rightly honored and commemorated on some of our coins and currency. The Lincoln Memorial has a prominent place in Washington, DC.

Excerpt taken from *The Vine and Branches*

I Wonder Why

*I wonder why the Lord did ask
For tithes from you and me,
When all the treasures of the earth
Are His – eternally.*

*And why should He depend on us
To fill His house with meat
When we have so very little
And His storehouse is replete?*

*But He said to bring our little
And He would add His much;
Then all the heavenly windows
Would be opened at His touch.*

*And blessings running over –
Even more than has been told –
Will be ours; but there's no promise
If His portion we withhold.*

*Are we afraid to prove Him?
Are our faith and love so small
That we tightly grasp our little,
When He freely gave His all?*

Roselyn C. Steere

A Word Fitly Spoken

By Ted Camp

The final Sacrifice

Please complete this statement: If I died today, I would go to **H...**

How and why do you know you will go to Heaven? What are you trusting? You cannot save yourself. Bad news: The Bible states that through Adam all inherit the curse of sin. All have sin (Rom. 5:12).

Good news: Through Jesus Christ the curse of sin is removed (vss. 12-17). God has provided only one solution for our sin. He sent His only begotten Son as the one perfect Sacrifice and Substitute for the sin of man (John 3:16). The cross the perfect Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, became the final Sacrifice and Substitution for Adam's sin. He alone was the Lamb of God to take away the curse of Adam's sin (1:29). "*So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of man*" (Heb. 9:28).

On the cross, He saw His mother with the beloved John, but they could not help Him. This was something only He could do – alone! God the Father loved Him, but He could not help. Jesus cried, "*My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*"

He was forsaken because he alone was bearing our sins. "*But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God*" (Heb. 10:12).

Finally, He cried, "***It is finished***" (John 19:30).

The Gospel: In the manger Jesus was born as the Son of God. On the cross Jesus died as the final Sacrifice for sin. In the tomb, Jesus was buried as the Substitute for our death. His resurrection validated Him as the risen Saviour.

No more sacrifices for sin. "It is finished!" In my simple Southern words, "He done did it! What has been done cannot be undone or done again. What is done is done!" As my granddaughter says, "ALL DONE!" Sin is taken away. No more sacrifices! "All done!" A risen Saviour now offers the forgiveness of sin to whosoever (including you) will believe and receive Him as Saviour (1:12). You cannot save yourself or pay the penalty for your sin.

ONLY His sacrifice for sin can restore and reconcile you to God (14:6). No one can go to Heaven without Christ – no one. Without Christ there would be no Christianity. Only Christianity has a risen Saviour!

Sword of the Lord

Have Faith in God

"And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God." Mark 11:22

Faith is like an arm with which to reach out for God. The more we dare to reach out to God, the more God will bless us.

Two men came waking up to the garden gate one evening as two children passed them. One man said to the other, "watch the difference in these two boys."

He took one of the boys in his arms, and stood him on the gatepost. The man stepped back a few feet, folded his arms, and told the little fellow to jump. In an instant the boy sprang toward him and was caught in his arms. Then turning to the second boy, the man tried the same experiment. But in the second case the result was different. The child trembled and refused to move. At last the man had to lift the boy down from the post and let him go.

"What makes such a difference in the two?" asked this man's companion.

The man smiled and said, "The first is my own boy and he knows me. The other is a stranger's child whom I have never seen before.

By faith we learn that God is able and willing to help us.

Oh, God, let us trust Thee more than we have ever done. We want to reach out and trust Thee in life and in death. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Trusting Him while life shall last,

Trusting Him till earth be past:

Till within the jasper wall:

Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Trusting as the moments fly,

Trusting as the days go by:

Trusting Him what'er befall,

Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Taken from *Altar Steps* by R. P. Haakonson

Our churches are cold, our hearts are cold, our prayers are cold. The Bible has become a dull Book. The ministry has become a thankless task – a burden to be borne. Our services are mere form, our songs meaningless. We feel the parching drought of worldliness. Our souls long for a breath from Heaven. We need a rain of the Holy Spirit upon us and upon our people. We are carried captive by our sins and crushed by the world about us. O GOD, MERCY DROPS ROUND US ARE FALLING, BUT FOR THE SHOWERS WE PLEAD. – John R. Rice

Open – Air Preachers

Sidney W. Hunter

Our Lord preached His Sermon on the Mount in the open air. Peter, Paul, Stephen, Moses, Ezra, Elijah, and other Bible preachers conducted open-air meetings

John the Baptist preached on the riverside, Paul on Mars' hill, Elijah on Mount Carmel, and Stephen in the streets

John Wesley exclaimed. "The world is my parish" and preached in the open air.

Whitefield and others were noted open-air preachers. They didn't wait for the people to come to them; they went where the people were and preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The man on the street heard the Gospel whether or not he received it. The results were always the same. Some were indifferent, some became angry; but, praise God, some believed and were saved.

As a result, the open-air preacher was loved by some, hated by others, but heard by all.

Selected

Editor's Note: I believe there were many others also: like Martin Luther, Hans Neilsen Hauge, Ole Barnes, Johnny Apple-Seed. Just keep on 'sowing' God's Incorruptible Seed in concern and prayer AND God says it "will not return unto Him void"!

* * * * *

Whom Do You Believe?

Ralph Neighbour

My father-in-law had a girl come to his Sunday school class who rebuked him for mentioning that there is a Hell. She said she didn't believe in Hell, that Judge Rutherford (Jehovah's Witnesses) had taught her better.

When he asked her to please read to the entire class Revelation 14:10 and 11, she did so. Then he asked her whether she would rather believe God or Judge Rutherford. She said she would rather believe what God has to say.

That is it, friends. I would rather believe God than man. He is the only authority on Hell. I don't profess to be an authority on agriculture; don't ask me my opinion on it. I don't profess to be an authority on medicine, don't ask me my opinion on your physical ailment.

I don't profess to be an authority on Hell. I have never seen Hell; neither have you or Judge Rutherford or anyone else who is living. Therefore, our opinions are worthless. It doesn't matter what you think or what I think. We do not know. God alone is an authority on

that subject; you have heard what He has to say about it.

Man may say that he will just be burned up and that is all there is to it, but God says the smoke of their torment ascends up for ever and ever and that they have rest neither day nor night.

Many men say that Hell doesn't burn with real fire. But God says that it burns with fire and brimstone. If you don't know what brimstone is, go down to the drug-store and buy a Sulphur candle and set it on fire. You will find what the smoke of Sulphur is.

The Sword of the Lord

* * * * *

"A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked." Psalm 17:16

Desire holds a tremendous power over us. Before we realize it, we may become the slaves of desire. From that moment we will never be satisfied, will never find rest. Desire always cries for more, no matter how much we have attained.

"I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Philippians 4:11. Here lies the secret of a happy life. Anyone who is not satisfied with what he has, will never be satisfied, though he gained the riches of the whole world. If dissatisfaction is permitted to take root in the heart, it will stay there no matter how much one attains.

"A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked."

Give thanks to God, and be satisfied.

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delighteth in his way." Psalm 37:23

Faith makes for Christian character. Doubt makes a person vacillating, worldliness divides his mind, secret sin saps his strength.

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord."

Even the person who by nature is wavering and weak-willed may be made firm and strong by the Lord. If that is to come to pass, we must be constantly on guard. No sins, not even those we call little sins, must gain entrance into the heart. The thoughts must be controlled by God, or they will pollute the personality and prepare the downfall. In no area of life must compromise with evil be tolerated. The power of God, which alone can make a steadfast Christian character, must be permitted to do its work without hindrance.

Both articles taken from *Streams of Gladness* by Fredrik Wisloff, Augsburg Publishing House, © 1958.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Matthew 28:18-20

First of all, be sure that you are a ‘member’ of God’s Infantry, because if you aren’t, your future looks very bleak with Eternity in view! The “Commander-in-Chief” has no doubt called you, and is calling you, but you must volunteer in admitting you are now in the ‘enemy’s- camp’ and as such LOST!

Then, willing to be instructed in ‘basic-boot camp’ and continuing to listen and obey the “Commander-in-Chief’s directions and OBEY! There is no doubt HE has the best instruction for you and me; both for this physical life and for the goal of Eternity. HE leads all in the same instructions and direction; but naturally some are further in the training and growing process towards maturity.

Onward Christian Soldiers Marching as to War, for we are in a Spiritual ‘battle-field’ and the battle is becoming more intense. ALSO notice in the ‘warfare’ in Ephesians 6:1-10 there is no covering for the back of the Armor; *because there is no looking back* – Philippians 3. It is not an ‘individual’s battle’ but a ‘Team-mate’ effort (fellow soldier’s/Team-mates’), as a ‘team’.

The Commander-in-Chief instructs us to begin at Jerusalem (home-area) and then to go to the utter most parts of the world; but Jerusalem (home-base) is especially where the ministry of the Morning Glory and Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation comes to play – for where the camp-fire is not kept burning (alive), eventually other missions will fail as a result. We are living in a dry-eyed Christianity TODAY as the spiritual soil is ‘parched-soil’, as we have become Gospel-hardened. We just received a ‘scam-phone-call’ stating that either you respond in twenty-four hours or the Police will come and get you. (By the way the USA-IRS does not threaten you by telephone). But the greatest “**Commander-in-Chief**”, in HIS infinite **LOVE**, urges us to be available to spread His Good News to everybody! A misconception today is to wait for the Holy Spirit to direct you and in the meantime build a bridge of friendship with the unsaved world. (Most certainly I am not against biblical friendship). But give me a few or opposing Bible Verses in comparison to what many vessels did in the Old and New Testament, in love and obedience to the Great Commander-in-Chief, who is the SAME yesterday, today and forever! Where there is **no vision** the people perish (Proverbs 29:18) and we are told to cast the bread upon many waters! Often when the Holy Spirit lays a certain burden/concern upon your heart; HE also wants to use the same ‘blood- cleansed’ vessel to at least in part to fulfill that vision/command.

Where there is not a respect/loyalty of different ‘po-

sitions’ in the Infantry of Soldiers of the Cross there will be chaos and confusion.

I would like to have you notice in Matthew 28:18-20 the three “ALLS”

Don’t forget: “*And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, ‘ Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem... ’*” Luke 24:45-53.

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS THE STRENGTH OF THY SALVATION, but without godly repentance, an individual will never experience the fullness of the LORD!

The Gospel has a big “GO” in it!

* * * * *

“All that believe are justified.” – Acts 13:39

The believer in Christ receives a **present** justification. Faith does not produce this fruit by-and-by, but **now**. So far, as justification is the result of faith, it is given to the soul in the moment when it closes with Christ, and accepts Him as its all in all. Are they who stand before the throne of God justified now? Yes, and so are we, as truly and as clearly justified as they who walk in white and sing melodious praises to celestial harps. The thief upon the cross was justified the moment that he turned the eye of faith to Jesus; and Paul, the aged, after years of service, was not more justified than was the thief with no service at all We are today accepted in the Beloved, today absolved from sin, today acquitted at the bar of God. Oh! Soul-transporting thought! There are some clusters of Eshcol’s vine which we shall not be able to gather till we enter heaven; but this is a bough which runneth over the wall. This is not as the corn of the land, which we can never eat till we cross the Jordan; but this is part of the manna in the wilderness, a portion of our daily nutriment with which God supplies us in our journeying to and fro. We are **now** – even **now** pardoned; even now are our sins put away; even now we stand in the sight of God accepted, as though we had never been guilty “There is therefore **now** no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus.” There is not a sin in the Book of God, even **now**, against one of His people. Who dareth to lay anything to their charge? There is neither speck, nor spot, nor wrinkle, nor any such thing remaining upon any one believer in the matter of justification in the sight of the Judge of all the earth. Let present privilege awaken us to present duty, and **now**, while life last, let us spend and be spent for sweet Lord Jesus.

MORNING & EVENING, by Charles Spurgeon, ©
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UpDate

URGENCE!

“We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: ‘In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation (the word ‘salvation’ means ‘deliverance’) *I have helped you.*”

Most certainly we want to thank all of you who have faithfully supported this portion of the Lord’s Ministry here on the planet Earth! Likely your support means more to us than you think, as it allows us to carry on this publication, etc. May our crucified and risen SAVIOR richly bless YOU in return for your faithful support.

YET there should be a sense of urgency of the necessity of strengthening ‘Soldiers of the Cross’ and reaching the unsaved; as even nature itself could be trying to tell us that maybe the ‘Trumpet Sound’ might soon be at hand – regardless we are to occupy until HE calls us HOME!

It is not news to you, but this world needs many little Martin Luthers and Hans Neilsen Hauges today. WE desperately need one’s like Luther and Hauge to lift the banner of the Gospel high, to shake worldly evangelicals out of their blind spiritual stupor and to declare war on the devil in Christ’s Name and reach a dying world. We are seeking to fulfill the open-door the Lord has placed before us with your help. YES, definitely today is the day to stand on God’s timeless Word and seek to boldly proclaim the Gospel to a lost, dying and fear-filled world, as today is opportunity to sound a Biblical voice of hope in our broken culture.

BUT we must do this together!

With your support and by God’s abundant GRACE, we want once again to thank you, and may the Lord bless you all abundantly and strengthen you to faithfully carry the love of the Lord to this needy time in the history of humanity! As a Christian person stated: The Lord does not need my money, HE wants my obedience!

The approx. Income for the month of May was \$2,565.00.

The cost of each issue of the Morning Glory is approx. \$2.75 delivered to your door. Can you help defer these costs?

Periodicals Postage Paid at
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Hauge Lutheran Innermission
c/o Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center
1026 West Alcott Ave.
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Volume C • Number 5 • August, 2018
(USPS 887-740) Dilworth, MN 56529

Evangelistic Meetings

Faith Lutheran Church of Running Valley of rural Colfax, Wisconsin, in conjunction with the Hauge Innermission, will be conducting Evangelistic Meetings. Pastor Jim Haga will be the speaker, along with special music each night. The meetings will be at the fairgrounds in Colfax. The dates for these meetings are August 26-29, 2018 and they will start each evening at 6:30 p.m.

Please consider who you might personally invite to attend with YOU and hear the WORD of God! Even if you can’t personally attend, please undergird these meetings with prayer beginning now, and at the very time they are happening. Thank you for your faithful intercession.