

Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • December 2018

The First and Second Advents

D. James Kennedy, Ph.D. &
Jerry Newcombe, D. Min.

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:10-11.

During the Advent season – Christmas time – we remember the Advent of the Son of God. The term advent is taken from the Latin, adventure, which means “to come to.” We remember that over 2,000 years ago, the eternal and uncreated Son of God came to this world, which He had fashioned with His own hands.

At Advent, we are reminded that there is another Advent of which the Scriptures speak. He who came once will come again. He who came as a tiny and weak babe in a manger will come as a conquering King with clouds of glory. He who came in humility, seen only by a few shepherds, will one day come in great splendor and majesty and every eye shall see Him. This is a great truth of the Scripture.

We live between the first and second comings of Jesus Christ. Note how He impacts history. We count time according to how many years ago He was born, and history is marching toward His return – the climax of all history.

At the first coming we see His humility. At the second coming, we will see His glory. As we go through the Advent season, which calls to mind His first coming, let

us also remember to prepare ourselves for His Second coming.

QUESTION TO PONDER: How does His Second coming add meaning to Christ’s First coming?

Looking Unto Jesus

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. And through the river, they shall not overflow you.”
Isaiah 43:2.

In Matthew 14, the disciples were in the boat on the Sea of Galilee, and they saw Jesus walking on water. They were terrified! They thought they had seen a spirit and they cried aloud. Jesus said, “Lord, if it is You, bid me come to You on the water.”

And Jesus said, “**Come.**”

Peter slipped first one foot and then the other out of the boat and found that he was walking on the surface of the waves. His eyes were full on the eyes of Jesus. Step after step he took on top of the water. Suddenly, a blast of wind stirred the waves into a frenzy. Looking down at the waves and the water that threatened to swallow him up Peter began to sink. He cried out in terror, “Lord, save me!”

Instantly, Jesus reached out His hand and set Peter again on the surface of the water saying, “*O you of little faith, why did you doubt?*” (Matthew 14:31).

As long as Peter kept his eyes on Christ, he walked above the problems created by the waves and the water beneath. As soon as he took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the boisterous waves he immediately began to

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sink. ...

Born of a Virgin

But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Listen, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son and shall call His name JESUS.” Luke 1:30-31.

The Bible tells us the miraculous birth of Jesus, of how He was born of a virgin. There are many modern, liberal theologians who deny the reality of the virgin birth. Does this theological debate matter?

We believe in the Virgin Birth of Christ because it is essential for the Atonement and the Redemption of mankind. It’s necessary because of the sin of Adam, our first parent, which descended down through the whole human race, corrupting mankind. Therefore, the Atonement for sin had to be pure and without corruption, without guilt; it could not partake of the sin of all men. And so it was someone separate from that, someone pure and perfect, whose Atonement could be accepted by GOD that was necessary.

JESUS was both the Son of Man and the Son of God. He was the infinite God-man, born of a Virgin.

QUESTION TO PONDER:

Do you think it matters that Jesus was born of a Virgin?

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The Awesomeness of God!

New Living Translation used

Isaiah 48:12b-13. "I alone am God, the First and the Last. It was My hand that laid the foundations of the earth. The palm of My right hand spread out the heavens above. I spoke, and they came into being." He is the creator of all things.

Colossians 1:15-17. "Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before God made anything at all and is supreme over all creation. Christ is the one through whom God created everything in heaven and earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—kings, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities. Everything has been created through Him and for Him. He existed before everything else began, and He holds all creation together." What an awesome God!

Joshua lead the people of Israel into the promise land while fighting the Amorites; Joshua 10:12-13. "On the day the LORD gave the Israelites victory over the Amorites, Joshua prayed to the LORD in front of all the people of Israel. He said, 'Let the sun stand still over Gibeon, and the moon over the valley of Aijalon.' So the sun and the moon stood still until the Israelites had defeated their enemies." Just think, God stopped the earth from rotating 3,959 miles an hour on its axis. The day was prolonged by a miracle, and they won over their enemies.

The great king of Assyria, Sennacherib, came to fight against Hezekiah the King of Jerusalem. They had a vast army that had conquered many lands and now they also wanted Jerusalem. 2 King 19:35. "That night the angel of the LORD went out to the Assyrian camp and killed 185,000 Assyrian troops. When the surviving Assyrians woke up the next morning, they found corpses everywhere." Heseekiah didn't even have to lift his sword, nobody did. The LORD took care of it all.

So many other miracles could be mentioned. Sarah gave birth to Isaac at the age of 90. That's miraculous! The Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years and their clothes never wore out! Another miracle is that God caused the sun's shadow to move ten steps backward on the sundial during Hezekiah's reign. Awesome!

The greatest miracle that this awesome God does is when "He who knew no sin became sin for us." He forgives us our sin when we confess them before Him. Then He gives you His Holy Spirit. You become born again or born from above. Think of this verse as I conclude. Psalm 27: 8: "My heart has heard YOU say, come and talk with Me. And my heart responds, 'Lord I am coming'." Do so right now!

One of His servants,
Rev. Willmore Gundersen

Who sinned, this man, or his parents, that he should be born blind? John 9:2

IF a special misfortune overtakes someone, people consider that this is punishment for a special sin. This manner of reasoning is so deep-rooted in our nature that it seems almost impossible to think otherwise. Call at a few homes, see how people are getting along, and hear what they say!

In one place you will find that the child the father and mother has pinned their hopes on has become helpless for life. In another place you will find that the father, who was relied on to provide food for many mouths, is no more, and mother has lost her health. Many who laid their child up to the heart of Jesus before it was born, now that the child is grown up, spend their days and nights waiting for this child to come home. They know that their child is lost in sin and shame, and they know the child will not come home, but nevertheless they wait. This and much more you will see and hear.

Then comes the question; "Am I worse than others, since God must strike so hard?" The heart says YES, and neighbors and acquaintances say *Yes*. But Jesus says *No*. Wonderful Man! Does He not know the laws of Moses and the laws of heredity? O yes, but He also knows God's love and grace. There have been many, very many who in thoughtless pride said "No" to Christ in the good days, who came when God chastised them. When the child lay in the coffin father and mother lay at the Cross. What God was unable to give us His children in good times, we accepted when He punished us (Ed. For a child of God, God does not 'punish' us; but He definitely chastises us, BECAUSE **HE loves us!** Chastening is for our benefit, for correction for the future, and punishment is judgment for the past; particularly for an unconverted sinner!) So when the Lord sees that He can give us eternal happiness through a misfortune that lasts but a moment, He lets the misfortune overtake us.

***On this ground thy anchor cast;
Safe thou art, in Christ confiding;
All the griefs which here thou hast
Are but shadows un-abiding,
Soon thy cross shall pass away,
Joy shall come that lasts for aye.***

Thy Kingdom Come, by Ludvig Hope, © 1939
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Editor's Note: The cross we are to take up daily and follow Him is voluntary in obedience to His Word and out of love for JESUS. Thus it is the splinters/persecution we receive for obeying, but rest assured it will be worth it all in the Day of Reckoning!

Bringing Light

By Michael Youssef, Ph.D.

“You are my lamp, O LORD; the LORD turns my darkness into light.” 2 Samuel 22:29

Today, reliable reports show that approximately 90 percent of Americans know their astrological sign, while 70 percent consult their horoscopes regularly. A pseudo-science at best, astrology attempts to satisfy our sinful craving for control, guidance, and help. It claims to give us insight by observing the movements of the stars and planets, explaining aspects of our personalities or predicting significant events in our lives. It maintains that the stars desire to speak to us.

But this is darkness. Sadly it seems that more people listen to the stars in the sky than to the One who aligned every star in its orbit, the One who calls each star by name (Psalm 147:4).

Read Matthew 2:1-12. Around the time that Christ was born, an unusual star was present in the night sky. In response to this rising, Magi from the East came to Jerusalem and asked. “*Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him*” (v.2).

The mysterious star burned brightly at the birth of the Messiah because “the true light that gives light to everyone had come into the world – the one who “wraps Himself in light as with a garment” had been born as a baby (John 1:9 and Psalm 104:3, respectively). **The presence of this special light, this star announcing Christ’s birth, was no accident.** It was pregnant with meaning, for it declared the advent of the Divine.

Light is a symbol of both purity and holiness. In Revelation 22:16, Jesus proclaims, “***I am the Root and the Offspring of David and the bright Morning Star***” (emphasis added). Jesus calls Himself a star, for as God incarnate, He emanates the most powerful light in the universe. We get a glimpse of His brilliance at the Transfiguration when “*His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light*” (Matthew 17:2).

Jesus, who had been living in unapproachable light from all eternity had come to earth, and to announce His first coming, God flooded the night sky with light. God manifested His glory in the galaxies, using His Creation to bear witness to the birth of the Morning Star. The light to the Gentiles had finally come (see Luke 2:32).

On that first Christmas, a star spoke a message that continues to have eternal significance for every man, woman, and child. For through its light, it revealed who we truly are – sinners in darkness, in need of rescue.

This Christmas, may we listen to the message of the Morning Star – the message of Emmanuel, God

with us. Even now, His light shines into any darkness in our lives, calling us afresh to repentance and faith. His Message is always true and will never mislead. Therefore, as we celebrate His birth and our salvation, let us walk in the light of His presence where we will find eternal blessing (see Psalm 89:15). And let us fervently intercede for the lost that God would deliver many souls from the kingdom of darkness, bringing them forevermore into His marvelous light.

From *My Journal* by Leading The Way
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* * * * *

“Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us” Hebrews 12:1.

IT is always an advantage when one sets out on a difficult and dangerous road, to know that someone has traveled it before us, and has arrived at his destination. Every wise traveler makes inquiries of those who have traveled the road he is to take, but is not acquainted with. One of the secrets of Roal Amunsen’s successful expeditions over ice and ocean was that he always studied carefully the reports of those who had tried to get through before him. A Christian will always benefit by listening to those who before him have traveled the road that leads home to God.

The first big lesson we must learn from those who already have won the prize of victory is to lay aside every weight. He who fills his mind with love for this world with money, finery, honor, and power – he will be left behind. The Israelite, who wishes himself back in Egypt, will never reach Canaan.

The cloud of witnesses that we read about in Hebrews 12 saw the heavenly fatherland before them, and longed for the city that God had prepared for them, and they arrived. Let us try to have the same mind and we too shall win the prize. If we believe in Jesus and long for and desire the Heavenly City we shall not come short of it.

***Ye saints who here in patience
Your cross and sufferings bore,
Shall live and reign forever,
When sorrow is no more.
Around the Throne of glory
The Lamb ye shall behold,
In triumph cast before Him
Your diadems of gold!***

Thy Kingdom Come, by Ludvig Hope, © 1938,
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Editorial

RES

XMAS – Removing the Reason for the Season

“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

(Matthew 1:21)

“A good name is to be more desired than great riches, Favor is better than silver and gold.” (Proverbs 22:1)

Remember Mark Twain’s observation? “The difference between the almost right word and the right word is really a large matter – ‘Tis the difference between the Lightning-bug and the Lightning.”

Have you noticed that the general public will state that GOD was with them through very difficult circumstances; but not mention the personal name of **JESUS**?

Many years ago the word ‘Xmas’ began *creeping* into public correspondence and advertisements! It was a little thing, hardly noticed by a very few folk, but it set the stage for a profound movement away from “**JESUS**” in any public discourse. **X** set the ‘stage’, of course, the universal symbol for the *unknown*.

As an example: Could it be that they set the stage for the legal and governmental attacks against Christianity, the words and the symbols of the Gospel Message are being purged from open expression.

Handel’s Messiah was performed in Holladay, Utah during the Christmas Season, for which the City moved a “discount to the choral and orchestra for the use of government facilities.” Strong letters were written and the city leaders caved in: No more Messiah in city venues.

Another example: A public school in Connecticut was using an evangelical chapel for graduation ceremonies. Some teachers, parents, and students complained that they were “forced” to view a large cross and hear music that spoke of JESUS and Salvation. This was very “offensive” to them. The result: lawsuits and judgments declaring unconstitutional the use of “religious” venues for public school ceremonies.

Basically, these rebel against the wonderful plan of Salvation through JESUS; insist that they are “only” defending the Establishment Clause of the USA Constitution, and that all individuals are free to worship however they wish – just don’t try to do so on any public or government property.

President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton used the words: ‘*freedom of worship*,’ instead of

“freedom of religion.” Thus that ‘*minor*’ change has implications: **Freedom of religion** implies your freedom to assemble, proselytize, and conduct your personal life in a manner reflective of your religious beliefs. Freedom of worship is and can be limited to mere personal and private expressions of religious beliefs, negating all public demonstrations of what one believes.

No doubt you have noticed the change of the difference between “Holy Day” and “Holiday”!

“Holy” has very little to do with “Holiday.” We are conditioned to think of weekends as “regular holidays” and the “special holidays” as mere extension of free time in which we can do pretty much whatever we want to do & for the employed possibly extra financial benefits.

Halloween has been prostituted from the original All Hallows Eve in which one was supposed to prepare for ‘worship’ the next morning on All Saints Day (Martin Luther – Reformation Day)! But the ‘eve’ has become a mischievous license and the most glaring promotion of wickedness and demonic representation – in the name of ‘fun’ and ‘celebration’.

Would/Could the following Bible verse apply here? **“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”** Isaiah 5:20.

CHRISTMAS has become for many folk and even possibly for some ‘Christians’, the exchanging & giving of ‘gifts’; then **“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift”** II Corinthians 9:15. HIS name is **JESUS!** Matthew 1:21, James 1:17. The PEARL of great price! Maybe churches all across the Great USA, Canada, etc. will host organ recitals and promote cantatas, dramatic extravaganzas and musical productions that stress entertainment more than the Eternal Message of forgiveness, salvation and the coming KING.

May I suggest that likely most of us need to spend time with our families teaching them the wonder and majesty of God’s Incarnation.

ALL too often the baby JESUS is left cute and cuddly

among the barn animals. OH YES, we repeat the song of the angel chorus and tell of the Wise men who came from afar to give the gift of honor to the newborn **KING!** The actual birth of JESUS was as absolutely ordinary in every human way, EXCEPT the **miracle of conception**, which GOD only can perform! The ‘miracle’ was the conception. The ‘good tidings’ were that God had become man to **“save His people from their sins”!**

EVEN the Calendar year and time are based on the **INCARNATION OF JESUS!** If YOU are guilty of putting X for Christmas – *please take it out!* What is the ‘sign’ before Your life? Is it “No Room personally” for JESUS? **Isaiah 9:6-7, Luke 2:1 – 20**

ON behalf of the members of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation along with their Spouses with the Editor and his wife Barb; May you truly experience the Joy of knowing JESUS this Advent Season. May you experience the JOY of knowing the “birth-child” Jesus on this Birthday (Incarnation) of CHRISTmas. May you also experience strength and other rich blessings in walking in a Living Faith, with JESUS in obedience out of love to HIM!

May the King richly bless YOU and Yours in order that YOU may become an even richer blessing unto others!

For RICHER, for POORER

By Henry Morris the IV

These four little words in traditional wedding vows carry great significance. Unless they live in poverty, most newlyweds don’t enter marriage expecting to stay poor or become poorer. Rather, couples hopefully expect to prosper over time through hard work and perseverance.

These words also reflect a central issue in charitable giving. One of the most common struggles people have in their giving decisions is an uneasy sense of loss at what is being given away. Some feel if they give, they will become “poorer” while the recipient becomes “richer.” Instead of giving with a cheerful heart for the Lord’s work (II Corinthians 9:7), the cost of giving is carefully weighed based on how much they feel they can afford to lose. The question “How much poorer am I willing to become?” becomes the determining factor in deciding how much (or even if) they are willing to give.

Scripture teaches a similar approach but with a completely opposite focus. To begin with, you and I don’t really “own” anything. If God created the world as He claims in Genesis 1, He is the sole and rightful owner of the entire cosmos and everything in it. All things that exist – and all things we have – come from the God who **“gives to all life, breath, and all things”** (Acts 17:25, emphasis added). But we are God’s stewards (Genesis 1:28). God has temporarily entrusted a portion of His resources into our care to accomplish His work here on Earth. And as the great Creator-Owner, God is just, and right to expect an accounting one day (1 Corinthians 3:10-15).

But a marvelous part of the Message of Scripture is that we, as God’s stewards, are privileged to participate with God as His “fellow workers” (1 Corinthians 3:9).

And as co-laborers with God, we are promised great rewards for the work we do for Him. The Lord Jesus said as much when He counseled the disciples to *“lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven”* (Matthew 6:20), which Paul echoed when he commanded rich believers to be “ready to give, willing to share” to store up “for themselves a good foundation for time to come” (1 Timothy 6:18-19).

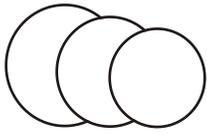
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Luther on Assurance

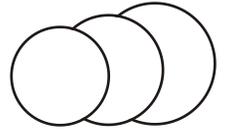
“You have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.’ This crying (Abba Father) is felt when one’s conscience, without wavering and questioning, conceives a staunch boldness to be quite certain, not only that his sins have been forgiven, but also that he is a child of God, assured of his salvation and may with a cheerful and assured heart and with all confidence call God his dear Father and cry to Him. Of these things he must be more certain than his very life, and must be ready to suffer every kind of death, and hell in addition, rather than allow this assurance to be taken from him by yielding to doubt.

“True, there may come a strife in a Christian causing him an anxious feeling leading him to think he is not a child of God, and to imagine and feel that God is an angry, stern judge, as happened to Job and many others. But in a conflict of this kind, childlike confidence, though trembling and quaking, must conquer in the end or everything is lost.”

Luther’s Commentary on Romans 8:15



From Our Fellowship Circle



Abiding Word Ministries (D.M. B.) Melbourne, FL
Just a short note to say ‘thank you’ for re-printing the ... articles from ‘The Vine and Branches’ that you used in your recent ... Morning Glory which ...

We are trying by God’s Grace and help to reach the people in the pew and on and that is your desire as well. ... Blessings!

M. J. Northfield, MN
I am Grateful & Thankful to be able to receive such a Publication as the *Morning Glory!* The Articles are so Profound, Timely & Meaningful.

God bless you in His work and efforts and I pray for the financial support.

G. R. Killdeer, ND
Thank you for being so good in sending the *Morning Glory* to me... I am in a nursing home and I would like to send more They treat me so good here!

I love to read the Morning Glory and share it with those who are interested in the same also.

So God Bless you and Thank You.

M. H. Bottineau, ND
Tank you for putting out the *Morning Glory*. It is a great blessing and find enclosed \$... to help with expenses.

May God bless you all each and every day and may He, in His marvelous Grace, keep us ready and waiting until HE comes!

A.G. Karlstad, MN
This world is most certainly in very difficult times (Perilous times) and I am looking forward to leaving it and being Home with Jesus.

In the mean time we need to pray much for those who are Godly men in our Government. They need much ‘wisdom’ to serve us and also protection.

Just celebrated my Ninetieth Birthday. I am grateful for all the ‘blessed’ reading what you give us!

May God Bless you and all the work you are doing to provide it. Blessings in Jesus.

R. & C. H. Inver Grove Heights, MN
We appreciate the section: “Believable ... Yet Unbelievable” as well as other sections ... So Biblical. God Bless You!

* * * * *

This Storm Will Pass Away, Too

Author Unknown

*If I can survive for a moment,
When my world is so shaken torn,
And muster the courage to “Stay with the ship,”
Regardless how rough be the storm.*

*If I can remember that song in my heart,
Which sustains me for all I’ve been through,
That comes from my Father, and just be content,
That this tempest will pass away too...*

*Then I have no reason to worry,
That my Father will cease to provide.
Or, that “In the valley of the shadow of death,”
He’s walking with me by my side.*

*For He knows my strength and my weakness,
And what I am able to bear.
And, nothing can come which He doesn’t allow,
For I’m under His own special care.*

*So I must continue on living,
With that song in my heart and a smile,
Lamenting not over the reason,
I face this particular trial.*

*And look for my Father’s direction,
Through prayer, and His Word that’s so true.
Knowing all storms last but for a moment,
And that this storm will pass away too.*

Poem taken from “Hope For Your Heart”

Editor’s Note: Personal note: Several days before I copied this biblical poem, I had a ‘heart attack’ and very fortunately with minor heart damage, for which we thank our Living Savior for.

That is, it was ‘Father filtered’ (*permitted*) in HIS unconditional LOVE; for my benefit as HE chastens those HE loves in this ‘earthly journey’.

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio banned Students for Life leaders from an on-campus event that was described as open to the public.

On Sunday, October 14th, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio hosted an event at the publicly-funded Ohio State University called “Stand Up, Speak Out” training, billed as training women for advocacy and running for office, featuring abortion queen Cecile Richards as one of the keynote speakers. Reading the event description one would think this was just about women who wanted to learn about how to run for office. Nay.

Furthermore, Planned Parenthood harassed Megan Ryser, OSU Students for Life president, who wanted to attend the event to ask Cecile questions and hear from another speaker.

Here’s how Ryser described what happened:

“I took a seat at a table and was just making casual conversation with the other people there. About 15 minutes in a woman in all black (presumably the head of the event) came over and asked if I presented my ID. I said the girl at the table said it was okay that I didn’t have it, but I would be happy to go and get it if they needed it. She asked me to get my ID. I grabbed my stuff, found Dusty, and got my ID. I went back to the registration table and I handed them my ID. The woman who asked me to leave took my ID and read my name. She then asked how long I had been President of the school’s pro-life Club, I said for a about a year. At that point I was somewhat surprised since I didn’t recognize any of the people there and believed they had no way of knowing such a personal detail about me. She asked why I wanted to go to this event. I stated that I was interested in Cecil Richards’ talk, but also their other keynote speaker who runs a trafficked women’s shelter in Columbus. At that point she asked if I had registered for the event and I said yes, I had that morning. She then said I would not be allowed to enter the event because I was a “safety concern.”

After a back and forth where Ryser points out she wants to learn about running for office, Planned Parenthood admitted the real issue.

“Finally the woman asked, “how would you pro-life people feel if Cecile Richards came and sat in one of your events?” and I said ‘honestly, I feel like we would love it. Most of the pro-life people I know would feel like it was a huge win if Cecile wanted to come to an

event.’ At that point she scoffed and asked me to leave. I asked if she was going to call security. She said she would gladly do it if I walked away and came back with another SFLA leader.” ...

Kristan Hawkins, president of Students for Life of America said in response, “Planned Parenthood is right to be afraid of the Pro-Life Generation asking the tough questions about Planned Parenthood’s corruption and the waste of taxpayer dollars that the mainstream media will never ask. I’m proud that all my speaking events are open to the public, and in the past several years I’ve taken numerous questions from pro-choice students at my speaking events. Maybe Cecile knows that she’ll be confronted with tough questions about Planned Parenthood’s misdeeds that she’s been largely able to duck, thanks to a sympathetic pro-choice media that doesn’t want to ask too many questions.”

A similar situation happened in February at [Penn State University](#), when several members of Penn State Students for Life were prohibited from entering an event with Cecile Richards that was also advertised as open to the public.

Lifenews.com
Oct. 23, 2018

Overrule Roe v. Wade

Today, in a fetal-homicide case decided by the Alabama Supreme Court, Justice Tom Parker urged the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the Roe v. Wade abortion decision as it is a “constitutional aberration” that hinders ‘the states’ ability to protect the God-given respect and dignity of unborn human life.”

In [Jessie Phillips v. State of Alabama](#), the Alabama Supreme Court unanimously affirmed the death penalty sentence for Jessie Phillips, a man convicted of capital murder for killing his wife and their unborn child, Baby Doe. Phillips had argued that he should not get the death penalty for killing his unborn child because he said the child was not a “person” under Alabama law. The Court rejected Phillips’ arguments and held that, under Alabama law, Baby Doe was a full “person” and that “the value of the life of an unborn child is no less than the value of the lives of other persons.”

Referring to the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court abortion decision in Roe v. Wade, Justice Parker in his special concurrence wrote, “I urge the United States Supreme Court to overrule this increasingly isolated exception to

the rights of unborn children.”

Justice Parker wrote separately to emphasize how broadly and consistently the law and judicial decisions in Alabama and around the country protect the rights of unborn children. This, Justice Parker said, contrasts with “the continued legal anomaly and logical fallacy that is *Roe v. Wade*.”

In his opinion, Justice Parker calls on the Supreme Court to act: “It is my hope and prayer that the United States Supreme Court will take note of the crescendoing chorus of the laws of the states in which unborn children are given full legal protection and allow the states to recognize and defend the inalienable right to life possessed by every unborn child, even when that right must trump the ‘right’ of a woman to obtain an abortion.” By ensuring broad legal protections for unborn children, including under Alabama’s capital murder statutes, Justice Parker writes that “we affirm once again that unborn children are persons with value and dignity equal to that of all persons.”

Liberty Counsel
Oct. 19, 2018

Editor’s Note: Will you join with me in prayer that legalized abortion in this country be eliminated?

Pennsylvania school district attacked over ‘gender transition plans’: no parental consent, privacy violations

The school district of Haverford Township has a harmful policy that permits school staff to facilitate so-called “transition plans” for gender-confused students using taxpayer funds and without parental consent. Policy 259 was adopted by the Haverford Township School Board in 2017 and, as addressed in Liberty Counsel’s letter to the school board, has violated the law.

Policy 259 and its administrative regulation permit school staff to create a social and medical “transition” plan for students who are gender-confused and want hormone drug injections and “gender reassignment” surgery. This policy permits the school to coordinate with health care providers and licensed professionals, seek Medicaid funding, and file “health insurance claims,” all without informing parents until it is too late to reverse. School personnel are generally forbidden from disclosing information about a minor’s asserted “gender identity” to the student’s own parents/guardians, without the consent of the child.

Policy 259 also permits gender-confused students to force other students into opposite-sex rooming arrangements on overnight trips, without notice to or consent by

other students or their parents. It also allows gender-confused students to use the restrooms, locker rooms, and showers of their choice. Students, teachers, and employees are also forced to adopt the beliefs of others about sex and gender, and to speak using only gender pronouns consistent with other people’s beliefs, instead of objective reality.

Liberty Counsel

Obama claims credit for Donald Trump’s ‘economic miracles’: ‘Remember who started it’

Former President Barack Obama took credit Monday for what he called the “economic miracles” happening under President Trump.

In a speech to Nevada Democrats, Mr. Obama derided Mr. Trump, without naming him, as merely being handed off a booming economy by the previous president and contrasted that with his own inheritance on the economy.

“By the time I left office wages were rising ... poverty was falling and that’s what I handed off to the next guy,” he said before chuckling. “So when you hear all this talk about economic miracles right now. Remember who started it. Remember who started it! C’mon!”

gopusa

So You Got Shingles!!!

More and more hospitals are running their businesses like an assembly line. One fellow walked into the emergency room, and the nurse asked him what he had. He said, “Shingles.” So she took down his name, address and medical insurance number and told him to have a seat.

Fifteen minutes later, a nurse’s aide came out and asked what he had. He said, “Shingles.” So she took down his height, weight and a complete medical history and told him to wait in an examining room.

A half-hour later another nurse came in and asked him what he had. He said, “Shingles.” So she gave him a blood test, a blood pressure test and an electrocardiogram and told him to take off his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later, the doctor came in and asked him what he had. He said, “Shingles.”

The doctor asked, “Where?”

He said, “Outside in the truck. Where do you want ‘em”?
Selected

PLAYGROUND or BATTLEGROUNDS?

By Pastor Steven Lombardo

FIGHT THE RIGHT FIGHT

Evangelist Vance Havner used to say that in a fight a bull-dog will always beat a skunk, but it just isn't worth it. There are some fights that just aren't worth it, some battles that aren't worth the effort. But the Book of Jude challenges the church to fight the right battle. The Christian life is not a playground. The Christian life is a battleground and, increasingly we see this in our culture. The fundamental principles of the Word of God are assailed today. Many people have discarded foundational biblical truths. Even a sizable number of churches have rejected the Word of God for the word of man and sin keeps flourishing. What is it to fight the good fight? Jude provides some answers.

CONTEND EARNESTLY

Jude begins in verse 3, "*Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.*" Jude thought he was going to write a letter to the church which would be a letter for declaring the delight of salvation. But Jude didn't do that. The Holy Spirit directed him to another area. Instead of writing about the wonder of God's salvation, which is a rather easy thing to do, Jude was called to the very difficult task of defending the faith and calling the church to "contend earnestly" for the faith. Those who call the church to battle do not have an easy task. Those who call the church to battle are often not liked or appreciated. But there is always a need for watchmen to sound forth the warning.

Jude says, "I exhort you to contend earnestly for the faith." The word that is translated "contend earnestly" is a word that was used to describe athletes who were in the contest and who were doing their best, trying very hard, exerting all kinds of effort and energy to win. It's a word from which we get our English word agonize. To contend earnestly for anything is to "agonize over it," to give it everything you have, to put your best into it like the prize-winning athlete. Jude says, "I exhort you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." The faith is complete. There's nothing to add to it; it's the sound doctrine of the death burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The proclamation that life is only to be found in Him, as the Bible says, "*He who has the Son, has life. He who has not the Son of God has not life*" (1 John

5:12). It's that body of truth called "the faith" for which Jude says the church is to earnestly contend. To "contend earnestly for the faith: is to proclaim the truth, live it and never compromise. It isn't to beat someone over the head with the Bible, but it is to speak the truth in love.

FALSE BELIEVERS

Why contend? Because there are dangers that the church must address. They were there in Jude's day and in ours as well. Please note the three dangers that Jude presents in verse 4 of the text. He says, "*For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation ungodly persons.*"

The first danger to the church is the "presence of ungodly persons," people who had "crept" into the church. One translator used the phrase "wormed their way in." They came in secretly. They infiltrated the church and they were "ungodly." That is, they were "without worship." They did not have reverence for God, and they did not worship the Lord even though they professed to be believers. They were "without worship." Here is a very important question: Are you a true believer or are you "without worship"? Many people believe they are honoring God the Father, but they do not know Jesus Christ. "*He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him*" (John 5:23). These ungodly persons, Jude says, came in without reverence for God even though they appeared to be Christians. This is one of the reasons why the church in every age has to be vigilant, as the presence of ungodly persons can be leaven that permeates the whole fellowship and causes nothing but spiritual disaster.

IMMORALITY ACCEPTED

Also, these ungodly persons are characterized by an absence of sexual or moral restraint. This is the second danger. They pervert the grace of our God into licentiousness, literally "blatant immorality." It's an interesting word that is translated here, licentiousness or sensuality. There are people who, when they sin blatantly, seek to cover their sin. But this word does not refer to people like that. This word refers to people who do not hide their sin. They have no sense of biblical morality. But God's grace is never a license to sin!

May I ask you, are you accepting things that perhaps you wouldn't have accepted five or ten years ago? Have you lost a sense of shame? Jude is very concerned here for the church to be alert to the seriousness of sin. But ironically in our culture, there are many who blush to speak Jesus' name – many who are ashamed of Jesus

but precious few who are ashamed of their sin.

We have children growing up who do not know right from wrong. They need to know what sin is and the Savior Who died for their sin. They must know of their accountability to God. According to a study published in the journal of the American Medical Association, more than one in four teens are engaged in sexting. This is using social media or any electronic form to send sexually explicit images, videos, or messages to another person. The heading in *The Washington Post* (Eli Rosenberg, 2/27/18) is even more disturbing: "Relax, researchers say, it's mostly normal." It is a sad commentary on our culture when perversion is now called "normal."

Who will teach the children the seriousness of sin and the sweetness of Grace? It won't be education, it won't be the government; it won't be the politicians. It will only be the church of the Living God, the church of Jesus Christ. It will only be the church that is anchored on the Word of God proclaiming truth that sets people free!

THE ULTIMATE DENIAL

Jude at the end of verse 4 refers to a third danger: "*These people deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.*" The essence of unbelief is denial of Jesus, that He is, in fact, "***the way, the truth, and the life and no one comes to the Father but by Him***" John 14:6.

These are days when national tragedies occur on a regular basis. Right is wrong and wrong is right. Jesus Christ is blasphemed by politicians and entertainers alike. What will it take to turn things around? Things will only change when people's hearts are changed by the living God, by the Lord Jesus Christ. We can't look for help any place else. It is only changed hearts that evidence changed lives. This through the **blood of Jesus Christ** shed on the Cross for sin and for sinners. If Jesus is denied, there is no hope. People deny Jesus to their own destruction in hell!

SET THE WORLD ON FIRE

It was John Wesley, the itinerant preacher of over two centuries ago, who said, "Give me three hundred men who fear nothing but God, who hate nothing but sin and are determined to know nothing among men but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and I'll set the world on fire." Are **you** willing to be one of these persons who fears nothing but the Lord, who hates nothing but sin, and is determined to know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified? Or would you deny Jesus?

THIS IS YOUR WAKE-UP CALL

Jude's message is a wake-up call to the church. We

sing "*Onward Christian Soldiers*" in our worship services. But D. L. Moody did not want his soloist to sing this hymn in his evangelistic services because he believed the church was anything but a victorious army marching into battle. Rather, it was weak and timid. What would he think of today's church? Soldiers are supposed to be alert, eager to show courage for their commander in chief. Are you willing to be such a soldier in the Lord's army? Of course, we know our courage is because of the ONE who lives in us.

GOD PLEASERS

We contend with His strength! His WORD is the sword we wield! The Holy Spirit is the power we unleash! Not everyone will agree with you. There will be those who will be upset, offended by you. But it is the Gospel that offends, for it slays human pride and points to the Cross. People will write you off as judgmental or intolerant. But what does God say? We are not called to please people; we are called to please Him, to fight the good fight as the Apostle Paul did (2 Timothy 4:7). To do so with love and conviction, in the power of the holy Spirit. The Glory of the Lord Jesus Christ and the salvation of souls is, indeed, worth the battle!

The Vine and Branches, Fall 2018

Editor's Note: Martin Luther said: "If I profess with loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except that little point which the world and the Devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefield besides is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point."

* * * * *

The Victory

When you need:

The wall to fall

The sea to part

The mountains to move

The rain to start

The chains to break

The enemy to flee

The storms to cease...

Unknown

The Burning Bush – Part IV

This is the fourth and final article in a series about the encounter of Moses with God at the Burning Bush in Exodus chapter three. This encounter will show us the character and nature of God. This should be the goal of every true Christian – To know God for Who He is in His fulness – as expressed in John 17:3, *“And this is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.”*

In the Hebrew culture, the names given to people and things represent what they are (or should be). The name Jacob meant Supplanter or deceiver, but was changed to Israel (meaning Wrestler or contender with God) when he wrestled with God. Elimelech means “My God is King,” Elijah means “My God is the Lord,” and Bethlehem means “House of Bread.” In Exodus 3:14-15, God reveals His Name for all time: **God’s Name is I AM.**

God’s Name Stated

Moses has had this amazing encounter with the Lord. He has seen a bush ablaze with the glory of God – Burning and yet not consumed. He has heard the Lord speak to him to take off his sandals because he is on holy ground. He has heard the Lord respond to the cries of the people. All of this has happened when God commissioned him to be the Deliverer (v. 10)

All of the sudden the focus goes from the Lord to Moses! So Moses asks God two questions: 1) Who Am I? (v. 11) This is the natural response when presented with an impossible task in God’s Kingdom. Why should Pharaoh listen to me? This was my response when God called me to the ministry: “God, You’ve got the wrong address!” Well, God said that He didn’t have the wrong address. An attitude of humility is good to have before God.

God doesn’t answer this question of Moses. (v. 12) Don’t worry about who you are because the secret isn’t in your abilities, rather God tells Moses that He will be with Him. It will be God delivering His people, Moses will only be the human instrument

This then leads to the second question: 2) Who Are You? (v. 13) – What is your Name? Remember that the Name reflects the character. So when Moses is asking God His Personal Name, he is seeking to find out Who this God Is. Previous to this, God had been identified by different titles which reflected parts of His character. Elohim (translated as “God”) means the Strong One; El Shaddai is translated as “God Most High.

But now God is going to reveal what His personal name is: I AM WHO I AM (v. 14)

This seems strange to answer such a question this way. His name is not Bill, George or Ralph – But I AM. Remember that the Name reflects the character. So God’s answer isn’t just what we will address Him by, but Who He is in His Nature and Character.

God’s Name Explained

This answer reveals to us different facets of God.

1) He is Eternal. From eternity past to eternity future, God Was, Is and Ever shall be. He is “From everlasting to everlasting” (Ps. 90:2). This is a Personification of the verb “To Be” – an Eternal Present (Not I WAS). Our finite minds can’t really grasp that in eternity past – before the heavens and the earth were created – there was God. **He had no beginning and will have no end.**

2) He is Self-Existent – I am. He is Un-created. No one or no thing brought Him into existence like we have been. Everything in our dimension had a point in time when someone else brought things into existence. For us, it was our parents. The same happened with the animal life. Even in the natural world, trees and plants had a beginning when the seed sprouted. But not so with God – He is entirely Self-Sufficient. He is Independent of anyone else for being and existence.

3) He is Changeless – I Am Who I AM. He is continually the same. Everything today is changing. Just look around at what society is like today versus just a few years ago. Political candidates run on the platform that “We NEED A Change!” But not so with God: He is eternally the same – I AM WHO I AM. That is so good to know because what God has stated will always be the same for Him. Every promise recorded in Scripture will always be in force and the rules will never change. God will eternally stand behind every promise of Scripture with His immutable character. Think especially of the promise of salvation in Jesus: God stands behind that and never changes. Think what it would be like to get to the Judgment Day and God were to say, “Well, I changed my mind about salvation and it’s not just through faith in Jesus any longer!” You would miss it because God changed the requirements for salvation! That is why it is good to know that God is Changeless and so are His ways and His Word: It stands established forever and will never change – Because God never changes.

4) He Alone is the Source of all that is and has life, meaning and existence. God alone existed before anything else was. He alone is the creator of all things. Since He alone was present in eternity past, nothing can exist apart from Him. God has being in and of Himself

and is the source of all that has life today. In Acts 17:25-28 we read, *“He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things; and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation, that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist.”*

5) **God is Singular.** In the context, God is sending Moses to Pharaoh to confront him and his many gods. The Egyptians set much store in the names of their many gods. Ra was the Swift Sun God and Ammon was the Concealed God. In fact, every one of the 10 plagues was an attack upon one of Egypt’s gods. Over and against the multiple gods of the Egyptians is the God of Israel – I Am (Singular). We don’t have to seek out a different god to fit a different situation. Israel went after Baal for the crops and Ashteroth for fertility. We have the one and only true God, all others are false and powerless to effect real help. What a statement this is even to our culture today that believes that all religions and gods are equal and acceptable, when God states that He alone is the I AM.

6) **This Name also means that He is a Covenant-making God.** God has already stated that He will come to the aid of His people. (v. 7) He will enter into a binding relationship with His people which is called a Covenant. It will be this divine name that He will back it up with. Exodus 6:2-4 states, *“God spoke further to Moses and said to him, “I am the LORD; and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name, LORD, I did not make Myself known to them. And I also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they sojourned.”*

This statement of God **defies** the current scientific theory of the Big Bang and Evolution. Science says that before the Big Bang there was nothing, and nothing had “Spontaneous Generation.” That is absolute nonsense and is absolutely impossible for nothing to create something. But God says that before all things were there – I AM – God Was, and God brought all things into being. Keep in mind that this memorial name of God is uncertain in its pronunciation because of the way that original Hebrew was written. The vocalization of the Name has **been lost and is uncertain.** Some have guessed Yahweh or Jehovah, but since we don’t want to take God’s Name in vain, I feel it is best to leave it alone and call Him “The Lord.”

God’s Name Personified

This Personal Name of God – I AM – will be His personal Memorial Name to all Generations, (v. 15). When

Jesus showed up in the New Testament, He stated that He was THIS VERY GOD WITH THIS VERY TITLE! He said, *“Before Abraham was, I AM.”* (Jhn. 8:58) In fact, in the Gospel of John, Jesus stated 8 times directly that He was I AM. He also stated 7 times using the I AM in conjunction with other things, as “I Am the Bread of Life.” (Jhn. 6:35) The Greek construction shows us that Jesus used that great title in those kind of statements.

So all of the attributes of God’s Character and Nature of His I AM statements are now ours in Jesus. He is Eternal – Self-Sufficient – Changeless – The Source of all life and Hope. The very character and nature of God are all summed up in Jesus FOR US, because Jesus is “The One who was, and is and is to come, the Almighty.” (Rev. 1:8) He is not just an impersonal force or simply a “Higher Power,” He is the Living Almighty Lord and has the Power to save you to the uttermost and forgive your sins.

CONCLUSION

God’s Statement that He is I AM WHO I AM separates Him from everyone and everything else. He states that His eternal attributes and character are all summed up in this statement. This is realized ultimately in the person of Jesus Christ – The Great I AM in the flesh. He will be all of that to you if you have faith in Him.

Pastor Jim Haga
Shoreview, MN

* * * * *

**Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.
Thy righteousness is like the great
mountains; thy judgments are a great deep**
Psalm 36:5-6.

The psalmist praises the greatness of God. He considers His mercy, His faithfulness, His righteousness. Or to say it in others words, God’s love, God’s unchangeableness, God’s holiness, and God’s wisdom.

In splendid poetic pictures he describes God’s attributes. God’s unchangeable love is high as the heavens with its distant clouds. God’s righteousness and holiness are immovable like the great mountains. God’s wisdom is like a mighty deep.

We make our conceptions of God too small. We form Him in our own image. We do not see Him as He really is until we have caught sight of His greatness.

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

Dear Friends ...

“These are the times that try men’s souls!” When the great American patriot Thomas Paine wrote these words, our fledgling nation was seeking freedom from tyranny during the Revolutionary War. Paine’s words are just as appropriate today as they were when he first penned them in his famous work The American Crisis in 1776. The United States of America is being led to its demise and destruction by ungodly and wicked politicians whose core principles, values and beliefs are completely contrary to those held by our Founding Fathers. The United States Constitution, which should be revered by every person living in America is being unraveled, scorned and ignored by those who have sworn to uphold it. ***If ever there was a time for the American people to wake up, speak up and stand up, that time is now!*** ...

Most of the current political discussions are about how to save the economy.” As important as a sound economy may be, that alone will have little effect on the preservation of our nation, unless we do something about our spiritual bankruptcy. Nothing demonstrates our nation’s spiritual bankruptcy more than recent attempts by the ... and left-wing radicals to force women and children to share restrooms and locker rooms in schools and public places with transsexuals and other perverts. A (fairly) recent editorial in the Charlotte Observer declared that “little girls need to get used to seeing male genitalia.” The leftists have finally scraped the bottom of the cultural cesspool. Paul’s words come to mind: “Professing themselves to be wise, they have become fools...therefore God gave them” Romans 1:22-32.

“One nation under God” is not just a phrase in our nation’s pledge of allegiance; nor is ***“In God We Trust”*** simply our nation’s motto. Both must be lived out if our nation is to survive to the end of the present century. Deep within the heart of every true Christian beats the unceasing desire to see our nation repent and turn back to the God of our Fathers even as we earnestly pray that liberty, freedom and justice will be preserved for our posterity. But regardless of what happens, let us cling to the great promise of Scripture: ***“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind”*** 2 Timothy 1:7. NEVER FORGET, — With God we’re on the winning side of all things, all the time. ...

(Pastor) David and Mary Barnhart,
Abiding Word Ministries

Editor’s Note: I am in agreement with what has been stated in the above letter. With all that is happening to-

day in our USA and beyond and in many of the churches in our day, even among some ‘evangelical’ churches, we of the *Morning Glory*/Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation are committed in keeping YOU informed, encouraged and motivated to stand for the Truth when wrong is popular. However, we need your prayer and financial support to keep this faith ministry going. YES, in these critical days/time, feel free to use the enclosed envelope to make your tax-deductible contribution to Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation. Whatever the Lord leads you to give will be greatly appreciated. GOD BLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND BEYOND!

Co-Workers with God

(continued from last Morning Glory)

“For we are God’s fellow-workers; ye are God’s husbandry, God’s building.” 1 Corinthians 3:9

The very heart of our text seems to indicate that only a part of God’s people are His fellow-servants; the rest seem to be the field to be cultivated and the building to be built. This would be our conclusion if we had only one statement from the Word of God about it. We know from other verses in the Scriptures that every Christian is a co-worker with God. We shall quote only the well-known statement by Peter: *“But ye are an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of God’s own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light”* 1 Peter 2:9.

We are His people, a royal priesthood, that we may declare His wonderful work. All God’s children are called to be His co-workers. All of us have gifts of grace and gifts of nature with which we are to serve God in this world. He who buries his talent with the thought that he is thus free from responsibility shall one day discover that he was mistaken.

But how are we to understand the verse of our text which declares that the Christians in Corinth are God’s husbandry or tilled ground and God’s building?

We may perhaps most appropriately apply this statement to Christians who have just been blasted from the solid rock of heathendom. They are as the wilderness which has just begun to be plowed. To blast human beings from the rock of the world and build of them a house of God, to change the wilderness of the soul into suitable soil for the Gospel Seed, is a part of our task as fellow-workers with God.

The Corinthians were on such solid rock and wil-

derness soil when Paul and Apollos came to them. But they were transformed into living children of God and were built into a spiritual temple. Furthermore, we know that as we work together with God, He continues to work in us. We grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ. The branch that bears fruit He cleanses, that it might bear more fruit.

Spirit and Power, by Ludvig Hope,
1959 Copyright © HLIF

The PERFECT BALANCE Of Our SOLAR SYSTEM

By Frank Sherwin, M.A.

For decades it has been somewhat of a mystery to secularists as to why our solar system is structured the way it is; the four gas giants – Saturn and Jupiter, composed mainly of helium and hydrogen, and Uranus and Neptune – orbiting far away from the sun, and the four smaller rocky planets, the terrestrials – Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars – orbiting much closer to the Sun.

Astronomers are puzzled that other recently discovered planetary systems look so different from ours. An evolutionist stated, “There are so many surprises in this field – almost nothing is turning out as we expected.” Indeed, for the secular astronomer, basic planet construction is caught on the horns of a dilemma.

The predicament is this: Planet formation must occur quickly before the protoplanet is pulled into the star it’s orbiting, but getting tiny bits of protoplanet dust to join up into nice, round spheres and thence into a proper planet has not been found to work. Many stars in our Milky Way possess spinning disks of matter – orbiting gas and dust – but there are three significant problems in forming planets from these ingredients: death spirals, accretion (the gradual growth of planets by the accumulation of debris), and turbulence. The building of planets large and small is an enigma, and “many aspects of the formation of the giant planets remain unresolved.” An evolutionist writing in the prestigious Nature journal stated,

The discovery of thousands of star systems wildly different from our own has demolished ideas about how planets form. Astronomers are searching for a whole new theory.

But even if our neighboring planets somehow formed quickly from accumulating space dust, recently discovered exoplanets (extra solar planets) have changed secular solar system formation theory. Our is certainly unique: “Today we know that planetary systems are quite common, but in many cases the ones we see dif-

fer significantly from our own.” Finkbeiner concurs, stating, “Perhaps the biggest question is why our Solar System is so different.”

Exceptional star systems require, well, an exceptional star.

There are many factors that would make a star system too hostile for life to even get started, yet alone survive for any period long enough to evolve. So what sort of star provides the perfect conditions for a habitable planet elsewhere in the universe?”

It so happens our Sun provides the perfect conditions. It’s not too small (i.e., too dim or too cool) or too big (producing unfortunate charbroiled results from simply being too hot). Compared to the intense and violent activity seen on other stars, our sun is remarkably even-tempered and well-mannered – it doesn’t flare or pulse like other stars. When solar flares do occur, they are not so violent as to vaporize our oceans... or worse.

On the local level, our moon is equally amazing, leading two secular authors to ask “Who built the Moon?” Knight and butler state, “The Moon is 400 times smaller than the star at the center of our solar system, yet it is also 1/400th of the distance between the Earth and the Sun.” Consequently, the moon and sun appear exactly the same size in Earth’s sky – making precise solar eclipses possible. The authors also say, “By some absolutely incomprehensible quirk of nature, the Moon also manages to precisely imitate the perceived annual movements of the Sun each month.”

Acts & Facts by Institute for Creation Research & references omitted; December, 2015 © Copyright with permission.

MY GUIDE

*I know not the way I am going,
But well do I know my Guide!
With a childlike faith do I give my hand
To the mighty Friend by my side.
And the only thing that I say to Him
As He takes it, is, Hold it fast!
Suffer me not to lose the way,
And lead me home at last.*

Faith, Prayer & Tract League, Grand Rapids, MI

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/Morning Glory believes:

The Bible is the Inspired, Inerrant and Infallible WORD of GOD

“All Scripture is given by inspiration (in-breathed) of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” *II Timothy 3:14-15, – Psalm 119:89, II Peter 1:21, Proverbs 30:5-6.*

Jesus Christ is the Only Way of Salvation

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” *Acts 4:12, John 3:16, 14:6, 3:18, 36, Matthew 7:13-14.*

Christians are the Salt and Light in this Sinful World

“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the word. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.” *Matthew 5:13-14, ...*

We are a Pietistic, Lutheran & Free Faith Movement

Salvation is a Gift from GOD through His Son Jesus Christ. “For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” *Ephesians 2:8-9, – Titus 3:5, Isaiah 64:6.*

That GOD is one God, who is a Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Please note in Genesis 1:26 (let us). *Deut. 6:4, Is. 44:6, Is. 57:15, John 10:30, Col. 2:9, John 14:9, 16-17, 26 Acts 2:38-39, John 1.*

That Baptism is a work of God that provides salvation, but that this gift received passively in infancy must be personally accepted actively by the individual in a conscious, confirming way, at an early age called accountability, or the gift of Salvation will be lost! Notice also what age circumcision was to be in the Old Testament (eight days); but we are not under the Law nor is circumcision is Baptism! Baptism was not instituted as a Sacrament until after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and even before this Jesus would take ‘little ones’ in His arms and bless them – so why can they not receive more as a gift?

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Galatians 3:24, Acts 2:38-39, John 1:12-13, I Peter 3:21 Romans 10:13, Matt. 10:32-33. But please keep in mind that each person must consciously accept Jesus and His free gift for themselves or else all is LOST AS “**we**” Believe in:

EXPERIENCED SALVATION, CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

We are Seeking to be a ‘biblically’ based periodical. Will you help us get more subscribers on the mailing list of the Morning Glory?

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WHAT a “Christmas Gift” that goes on and ON with God’s Eternal Seed, as we water and plant and **GOD** gives the Increase!

Merry Christmas to you all!