

Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • January 2011

Light in the Lion’s Den

By Troy Tysdal

Luke 17:26-37

On September 5th my wife and I celebrated the birth of our first child. I was overjoyed and relieved when I performed my first act as a father and counted the child’s fingers and toes. I marveled at God’s grace and mercy when the doctor declared we were the parents of a perfectly health little boy.

Three short weeks later I reflected on the doctor’s words as my wife and I drove our once declared perfectly healthy little boy from Fergus Falls to Fargo for emergency surgery. As we sat in the waiting room I remember being sure of two things. The first was that we live in a fallen world, a lions’ den, and the second was that I would trade places with my son if I could.

As my mind wandered it eventually landed in Scripture. I thought about our Father in Heaven and how he entered this fallen world to trade places with us, and I thought about his promise to one day come again.

Our child’s surgery was a success, and after a few long days in the hospital we returned home with a small scar on our once perfectly healthy little boy’s stomach to remind us that our hope is not in this world but the one to come.

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 17:26-37

Jesus said: *“Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.*

“It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.

“It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed. On that day no one who is on the roof of his house, with his goods inside, should go down to get them. Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything. Remember Lot’s wife! Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. I tell you, on that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left.”

“Where, Lord?” they asked. “He replied, Where there is a dead body, there the vultures will gather.”

In the lions’ den it is not uncommon for us to lose sight of our Lord’s promise to return. Our world is poisoned by sin and, outside of God’s Word, sin is all we know. We easily get caught up in our own desires and our own will, and we forget there was once a day when all things were in harmony with God’s will. The Bible tells us that God saw all that he had made and it was very good.

In this world we experience trials and tribulations. We see loved ones grow old, friends get sick, and we struggle with what it means to love our enemies.

As Christians, in the midst of our struggles, we look to the Lamb. The one who came and removed the sting of death by paying for our transgressions. We look to the Lamb and remember that he has promised to return as a Lion. On that day the dead will rise to join the living and those in Christ will live in his presence for eternity.

Morning Glory

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As we enter this season of Advent we remember the words of the Apostle Paul, “*The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed*” (Romans 13:11), and we look with hope to the day that Christ will return. A day that will be better than very good. It will be perfect.

Taken from ‘*Faith & Fellowship*’,
November/December 2010.
Permission Granted

*Are you placed
where others are
sitting down idly
doing nothing?
Raise to the work
with all your
powers; and when
the sweat stands
upon your brow and
you are tempted to
loiter, cry, “No, I
cannot stop, for I
am Christ’s. If I
were not purchased
by blood, I might be
like Issachar
crouching between
two burdens; but I
am Christ’s and
cannot loiter.”*

Charles
Spurgeon

The Loss of Holy Joy

Many people wonder why they do not have the same joy as their Christian friends. You do not need to go very far to find the reason. A prayerless Christian is a joyless Christian. You cannot laugh at the things of the world if you have the joy of the Lord in your heart. The joy of the Lord motivates, comforts and inspires you. The only way to get joy is by spending time with God in your prayer closet. If you do not pray much and are honest, you will confess that you have little joy. If you were to pray more, you would have more joy.

Can you imagine seeing someone returning from a meeting with God in the Holy of Holies saying, "I'm in a bad mood. I don't know what the big deal is. I don't know why everybody is so happy"? You may tell me that you have been praying, but it is obvious that you have not really been with the Lord, if you have an attitude like that!

When you spend time with God in real prayer, you will receive some joy in your heart and soul. It does not matter how many enemies, burdens and heartaches that you have; you can come out of your prayer closet singing, "I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart." Just as the song says, you can tell the Devil to go sit on a tack. (*Editor: Never make light of or sport of sin nor the devil*). You can be excited about what God is doing in your life.

How could we be awed by God's presence, His Son and the blood and still wish that our lives were better? How could we be unhappy or allow earthly problems to bother us? If you have that attitude, you do not really pray and enter the presence of God. Maybe you went through your Baptist "rosary" or through whatever you call your little exercise. If you actually go into the presence of God and know to whom you are talking, it will do something for you. It will transform everything about you.

You may say, "Well, you don't know how big my problems are." When you are in His presence, you are in the presence of the One who will make all things right one day. You are in the presence of the One who says that He is going to wipe away all tears one day. You should come out of the prayer closet saying, "I know that everything is going to be all right, because I have been in the presence of God." A defeated attitude stems from a lack of prayer.

Tom Neal, *What You don't Know About Prayer!*
Sword of the Lord.

* * * * *

In Thy presence is fullness of joy

Psalm 16:11

This passage offers me not only joy, but "fullness of

joy". It is to be found in the presence of the Lord.

Why is it found there? Because sin is brought into the light and is consumed in the light of His presence. However, while my sin is consumed, I receive mercy. Sin is my greatest misfortune and the cause of my greatest pain; mercy is my joy and my salvation. Should I not be joyful when the Lord makes His face to shine upon me and gives me peace? When I, a sinner, may confidently stand in His presence, should I not then possess fullness of joy?

In the presence of the Lord all my needs, all my sorrows, all that causes me pain and distress are revealed. There is a loving eye which sees through all this; there is One who forgives, understands, comforts, helps, and sustains me. There is One who smiles upon me when I am sad, who gives me courage when I am dismayed, who warns me when I stray from the right path, who counsels me with His eye when I am in doubt. There is One who only wishes me well. Yes, truly, in the presence of the Lord is fullness of joy.

Taken from "Rest A While" by Fredrik Wisloff

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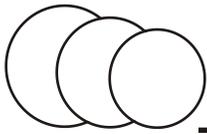
FAMILY

"Families must continue to be the foundation of our nation. Families – not government programs – are the best way to make sure our children are properly nurtured, our elderly are cared for, our cultural and spiritual heritages are perpetuated, our laws are observed and our values are preserved. Thus it is imperative that our government's programs, actions, officials and social welfare institutions never be allowed to jeopardize the family. We fear the government may be powerful enough to destroy our families; we know that it is not powerful enough to replace them."

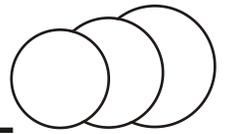
Ronald Reagan

"There are Givers and Takers in this world. The Takers might eat better, but the Givers sleep better at night."

Danny Thomas



From Our Fellowship Circle



R. S **Bottineau, ND**
Thank you for the *Morning Glory*. The ‘Truth’ of the Gospel is always presented.

My husband is now at Home with the Lord. He died in church one Sunday morning from a heart attack.

Editor’s Note: You have heard or read likely many times: “Life is fragile, handle with prayer”. A child of the KING is ‘ready’ for either life or death; so there is no person more ready to live than a child of God. Blessed Memories!

F. S. **Radcliffe, IA**
Praise Jesus for the Holy Spirit’s impact on the *Morning Glory* and on hearts far and near. I am sharing articles with my nephew ..., a soldier in Afghanistan.

Thanks for thinking B I G ! = Belief In God. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom!

G. & S. N. **Mill Creek, WA**
Thanks so much for your wonderful ministry that continues to proclaim God’s Word faithfully and accurately. May God richly bless you and may you have a wonderful ...!

C. M. **Rolette, ND**
I just received the issue of the *Morning Glory* and it’s such a blessing (*Editor: PTL*) I read it from cover to cover. I am soon 87 years old and do so appreciate reading the Word and being expounded upon, as I learned it many years ago.

I am concerned about the younger generations. (*Editor: And rightly so!*)

Mrs. T. T.
Keep those wonderful articles coming. I look forward to *Morning Glory* each month!

I remember my husband Spoke at one of your Hauge Meetings in Fergus Falls.

S. & L. T. **Radcliffe, IA**
We give God glory and praise for the faithfulness you have given to the writing and editing of the *Morning Glory*. Your boldness for standing up for Jesus and His Word is what the world needs to hear “in times like these.” God bless you as you press on to keep printing all the Truths that the Holy Spirit puts in your heart to pass on to us, your readers. He (Jesus) is coming soon - Praise Jesus and God loves you and so do we!

May our monetary gift given out of love to Him bring glory to His Name!

“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution” II Timothy 3:12. Praise His Name!

“Do it now!” Share Jesus with someone today - tomorrow may never come. Procrastination says power; completion gives relief. He is the Way, the Truth, and the life. nkj

E.S. **Wannamingo, MN**
The paper is so good to read every time it comes in the mail... This day is beautiful in this part of MN we are very blest... The crops here are wonderful...

There is but a step between me and death

1 Samuel 20:3

Only a step.

We attach but little importance to a step. Every day we take countless steps that are unnecessary. A step requires such small effort that we think nothing of it.

And yet, there is but a short step between me and the unknown called death. What a solemn thought! In view of this, what folly to live with unforgiven sins! Within a few minutes I may find myself standing before the throne of God!

Since there is but a step between me and death, there must never be a step between me and Jesus. I must live my life with Him and in Him - never separated from Him. Every day must be lived in the light of the accounting which I shall have to face in eternity. I must not set foot in any place from which I cannot joyfully take the next step into eternity. Lord, help me so to live this day.

Taken from “*Rest A While*” by Fredrik Wisloff

Editorial

RES

The RIGHT Beginning - Is Not The END!

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...”
“...Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.” (Hebrews 12:1-2a & I Corinthians 9:26-27)

Two believers were having a discussion in regards to a doctrinal issue & practice and finally the one believer shared a Bible verse that confirmed his ‘position’ and the other responded; ‘but that is only one Bible verse!’ In response the first said ‘how many times does God have to say something!’

Before we progress any further in this ‘editorial’; let me quickly state that GOD is not under ‘any’ obligation to we fallen, depraved sinners, but has in HIS grace, mercy and love provided.

In order to be a participant in an ‘official’ sport or activity a person has to qualify and God has certain ‘qualifications’ to the road that leads to eternal bliss in His Presence. First, you and I have to enter in and through the ‘narrow gate’ of Matthew 7:13-14. Being He is the Giver and Sustainer of the ‘gift’ of ‘eternal life’, He has the right to require absolute qualification. *“For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones’”* Isaiah 57:15.

NOW a lot of folk today would say as long as you were ‘baptized’ into the Triune God, everything will work out okay and when you die you will go to Heaven! Not TRUE, it is a LIE from the father of lies himself - Satan the great deceiver. (By the way: When did ‘Lutherans’ subscribe to ‘eternal security’ through Infant Baptism?) Don’t misunderstand me: I very definitely believe in Scriptural Baptism; which definitely includes “Infant Baptism”; but each ‘infant’ as it grows older must come to a conscientious *personal* relationship with JESUS before this life expires OR they will spend all eternity in total separation from GOD – **Hell**. When a ‘child’ is old enough to know what ‘sin’ is – that person is old enough to know JESUS personally also!

Now, a lot of Lutherans who adhere to the theology that ‘Baptism’ is enough, will point to John 3:3-8 where Jesus states what takes place in ‘Baptism’. Sorry friend: **Jesus**

had not instituted the New Testament Sacrament of Baptism yet: **HE** instituted New Testament Baptism just before HIS Ascension!

The story is told of little freckle faced Iodine who was a contestant in a ‘track’ race/sport. In order to ‘qualify’ she had faithfully practiced running (discipline); but on the day of the contest; she failed miserably. When questioned by her parents for the reason of such a performance, she stated that she had forgotten to take her ‘ankle weights’ off!

This ‘*race*’ that you and I are IN is so significant and **serious** that God tells ‘us’ to lay aside not only sin; but every ‘*weight*’ that besets us. In other words *if* we are carrying any ‘weight’(s) that hinder ‘us’ from running the *race* that ought to be laid aside also. (Remember the **pearl** of great price?) So the captain of our salvation is instructing ‘us’ not only to lay aside ‘ensnaring SIN’ (pet sin)(often concealed); but ALL sin so ‘we’ can freely run the race. (John 8:31-36)

Scripture instructs ‘us’ to ‘examine’ ‘ourselves’ to see IF we are in the faith? You see there are so many portions of ‘Scripture’ that states clearly that a ‘right beginning is not necessarily the end’, *but we are to continue, abide, remain, and return unto Me ye backslider, etc.* **NO** I am not questioning the ‘power of God’, but under scoring the ‘depravity of man’ (you & me) - *“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings”* Jeremiah 17:9-10.

“How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation” is a wonderful Scriptural challenge to share with the unsaved, but as you keep it in its context, it is directed specifically to ‘believers’: read **Hebrews 2:1-3.**

The beginning is not the end! In other words a ‘participate’ not only needs to listen to the Captain’s instructions, but to know to obey them as well. Faith is not only based on the ‘solidity’ of the Word of God; but ‘practiced/obeyed’ in obedience as well, for human reasoning

is the greatest hindrance to a 'living faith'. You do not have to do anything to **drift!**

Martin Luther is (by God's Grace) responsible in a large part for the Protestant Reformation, of which all evangelicals are inheritors. Luther was convinced that the Roman church had drifted from Scriptures – and thus into corruption – and that the common people desperately needed the Truth of the Word of God. Thus today, in days of apostasy, we need to get back to the sure foundation (Psalm 11:3) of the Word of God. Thus today the Lord has placed before us an "open door" as the ministry of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/*Morning Glory* which now is as vital now as in its scores of years in it's history - the ministry of 'contending for the faith' (Probably as crucial today as any time in Lutheran history). Today is a day when so many are taken up with emotions, feelings, entertainment and just a form of 'godliness'. A day when most disturbing, as Luther found, is the *drift* of the 'church' away from **Scripture**. "*Holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict*" Titus 1:9. A day when there are very 'few' absolutes anymore! "*Be diligent (study) to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (God)*" II Timothy 2:15. A day when each team member needs to listen carefully to the coaches guidance and directive – Psalm 25:4-12. A day when as 'contestants' we need to be careful in regards to our proper 'diet', discipline, exercise (Hebrews 5:14-16) and proper *rest* (Hebrews 4:9-16). This is true not only with regards to the first starting "TEAM", but as 'reserves' as well (practicing) together in encouraging and supporting 'one another'. (**Hebrews 10:24-25, 31-38, Colossians 2:1-10**) EACH member is important to the 'team/body' in order to function properly! In a day of apostasy/drift/falling away, we seek to "Hold the fort, for I am coming, Jesus signals still; Wave the answer back to heaven, "By Thy grace we will"". "**Remember Lot's**

wife" Luke 17:32.

We need to be sure, first that we are properly dressed (personally); then that others are properly dressed (II Corinthians 5:14-21 & Matthew 22:1-14); AND waiting, watching and occupying - Luke 21:33-36a. Lest 'we' become/are the following: *But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block (an enticement) to those who are weak. But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ*" I Corinthians 8:9 & 12.

IF you 'qualify' to run this race then keep this: "*Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal fro the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Remember we are strangers and foreigners in this present 'sinful' world)! "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself"* Philippians 3:13-14, 20. In other words, **Continue to Press On!** "*Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come*" Hebrews 13:12-13.

REMEMBER: You can not win the race unless you have 'started' as you do not just automatically receive the 'crown'.

JESUS Paid it ALL – ALL to HIM I owe!

"Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen" Hebrews 13:20-21.

He endured, as seeing Him who is invisible

Hebrews 11:27

"Seeing Him who is invisible" – this is the great self-contradiction and the glorious secret of the Christian life. This is something which a man of the world is utterly incapable of comprehending. Where unbelief sees only insurmountable difficulties, faith sees God's almighty hand. Where others saw only desert sand and the scorching sun, the people of God saw glory. Where others saw a hard rock, Moses saw a gushing fountain. Where others saw only impending death, God's Israel saw the land of Canaan. When unbelief saw *nothing*, Moses *saw God*. And therefore he

"endured;" for with the eye of faith he saw "Him who is invisible."

The spirit of discouragement often inquires; "Will I be able to hold out? Will my strength be adequate? Will the difficulties prove too great, the temptations too strong, and me too weak?"

At such a time it is important to focus one's eyes on Him who is invisible. Everyone can see the difficulties; only faith can see Him who is invisible. And he who sees Him shall never be overcome.

Taken from "*Rest A While*" by Fredrik Wisloff

For Youth And Older!!!

The Pollution Solution

“Whatsoever things are pure ...think on these things.” Philippians 4:8

The object sitting on Mr. Williams’ desk was a bit puzzling to his Sunday school class: a large piece of cardboard on an easel with a hand-drawn picture of a boy dressed in his Sunday-best clothes- suit, tie and polished shoes. Next to it was an empty trash can.

“This young man’s name is Box Boy,” the teacher exclaimed, pointing to the picture. “But there is something dreadfully wrong with him. You see, he is allowing you to see only what he wants you to see.

“Every evening, he completes all his chores at home, and he finishes his homework without being reminded. However, his reasons for being dutiful are both selfish and dishonorable.”

Polluted Eyes

“Box Boy likes to watch action -packed crime dramas on TV. His father gave his approval ‘as long as you remember that it’s all make-believe.’ In the beginning, he thought they were a bit gory, but the more he watched them, the less frightening they were. Eventually, he no longer batted an eye at anything he saw on these programs.

“He allowed rubbish to pollute his eyes,” Mr. Williams said, as he wadded up several large sheets of paper and threw them into the empty trash can.

Polluted Ears

“Box Boy’s ears were the next part of his body to become polluted. Hollywood added more to the gore - filthy language. He knew the words he heard weren’t the kind to which a Christian should listen, but he thought, *They make the story more believable.*”

Mr. Williams wadded up several more sheets of paper and threw them into the trash can.

A Polluted Mind

“With all the garbage Box Boy was seeing and hearing, it wasn’t long before his mind became polluted. Box Boy no longer wanted to play board games with his family. He thought they were dull and lifeless - no get-up-and- go action to hold his attention. He suffered through family devotions and then rewarded himself with his favorite TV entertainment.”

The boys watched as Mr. Williams wadded up more sheets of paper and tossed them into the trash can.

A Polluted Heart

“A year’s worth of gore and crime seen through his eyes, heard through his ears and then thought about in his mind soon entered Box Boy’s heart. He was impatient with his family, and he started doing poorly in school. The high point of his day was when he was viewing his favorite crime show programs, some of which aired several episodes each evening. He never saw his attraction to the gore and ghastly language as an addiction.”

The pollution in Box Boy’s life was beginning to fill the trash can.

A Polluted Mouth

“The pollution inside Box Boy’s body began to spill over, and its stench came out his mouth in the form of nasty words. Often, without warning and without his being able to control it, he spoke out loud what he was thinking in his heart. At first, his parents were shocked that one of their children even knew such atrocious words, let alone spoke them in anger; but like their son, they too had become addicted to the trash.

“Soon, family devotions ceased, wholesome family time was disregarded, and everyone gathered in front of the television after supper.”

Mr. Williams wadded up one paper sheet after another and threw them into the trash can, which now was filled to over-flowing.

The Pollution Solution

“Television programs used to scare folks with just a little ‘boo’ here and here, but today’s programs have gone way beyond boo, especially during ...! Commit Proverbs 4:23-25 and Philippians 4:8 to memory, and you will have the only viable solution to the pollution problem!”

With that, Mr. Williams picked up the trash can lid, slammed it on the can and locked it down tight!

Grandma Ruth
Sword of the Lord Publishers

Editor’s Note: Please read **Proverbs 4:20 - 27**. “*I will set nothing wicked before my eyes;*” Ps. 101:3.

“Brethren, pray for us.”

I Thessalonians 5:25

(The following is taken from
Spurgeon’s devotional book)

This one morning in the year we reserved to refresh the reader’s memory upon the subject of prayer for ministers, and we do most earnestly implore every Christian household to grant the fervent request of the text first uttered by an apostle and now repeated by us. Brethren, our work is solemnly momentous, involving weal or woe to thousands; we treat with souls for God on eternal business, and our word is either a savour of life unto life, or of death unto death. A very heavy responsibility rests upon us, and it will be no small mercy if at the last we be found clear of the blood of all men.

As officers in Christ’s army, we are the special mark of the enmity of men and devils; they watch for our halting, and labor to take us by the heels. Our sacred calling involves us in temptations from which you are exempt, above all it too often draws us away from our personal enjoyment of truth into a ministerial and official consideration of it. We meet with many knotty cases, and our wits are at a non plus; we observe very sad backslidings, and our hearts are wounded; we see millions perishing, and our spirits sink. We wish to profit you by our preaching; we desire to be blest to your children; we long to be useful both to saints and sinners; therefore, dear friends, intercede for us with our God. Miserable men are we if we miss the aid of your prayers, but happy are we if we live in your supplications. You do not look to us but to our Master for spiritual blessings, and yet how many times has He given those blessings through His ministers; ask then, again and again, that we may be the earthen vessels into which the Lord may put the treasure of the gospel.

Editor’s Note: How ‘wisely put’ as ‘we’ stand in need of your intercession and this mission = pray for Souls to be saved, believers awakened, edified, strengthened and encouraged. IN other words: PRAY for the success of the

**The one who will gossip to
you is the one who will
gossip about you**

printed page (*Morning Glory*) that ‘souls’ will be genuinely ‘saved’ and Christians equipped through the work that comes from here. May your experience be an ever-deepening walk with our Lord, and may this ‘newsletter’ be an impetus to holiness. *Thank you* and May the Lord richly bless you!

Another Gospel

“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.” Galatians 1:6-7.

Some have confessed difficulty with these verses especially with the words “another gospel: Which is not another.” This problem finds resolution in an understanding of two distinct Greek words which, unfortunately, are both here translated as “another” in this passage.

In verse 6 Paul uses the Greek word *heteros*, which implies something of a totally different sort altogether - something diametrically opposed to the one to which it is compared. But verse 7 he uses the word *allos*, which implies a comparison of two items of the same sort. The thought might be conveyed as follows: “You are removed from the true gospel of the grace of Christ unto a totally different belief system, which is not simply a similar but legitimate expression of the true gospel. Instead, it is quite opposite to the truth.” Paul goes on to teach that this “different” gospel is a perversion of the true gospel, and instead of bringing peace, it brings about a troubling of the mind.

The primary theme of the entire book of Galatians is salvation by grace through faith in Christ, as opposed to salvation by works and law. “No man is justified by the law in the sight of God.... The just shall live by faith” (3:11). This marvelous good news had been denied by many in the Galatians church, but Paul had received the message of grace “by the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1:12). Any mixture of works with grace constituted a perversion of God’s plan, and any who would teach such perversion warranted strong condemnation from Paul (*Editor:* GOD - Deuteronomy 4:1-2, Proverbs 30:5-6, Revelation 22:18-19) “*If any man preach any other (from the Greek word *para*, meaning contrary) gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed*” (1:9).

John D. Morris, Ph.D.

Taken from “*Days of Praise*” by Institute for Creation Research, copyright 2010 - Permission granted.

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Lids on the Minds of Others

“An experiment was done once with fleas and an ordinary canning jar. A group of fleas was placed in the jar and the lid was left off. After a short time, all the fleas had successfully jumped out of the jar. Another group was then placed in the jar, but this time the lid was placed on the top. For awhile the fleas consistently jumped high enough to hit the lid, but could not get out. Soon all of the fleas were still jumping, but they were jumping just short of the lid. Once this happened, the lid was removed. None of the fleas made it out of the jar. They had found their comfort zone and refused to challenge themselves. Many times we as Christians put lids on our own lives. Worse yet, we are sometimes guilty of putting lids on the minds of others.”

The Gospel Message/Hite's Home Mission Outreach

Homosexuality is Growing in Contemporary Christian Music

“Homosexuality is a growing trend with the contemporary ‘Christian’ music movement. It is not a new thing, but formerly it was fairly hidden.

In the 1997 edition of *The Gospel Sound*, which first appeared in 1971, Anthony Heilbut said, ‘The gospel church has long been a refuge for gays and lesbians, some of whom grew up to be among the greatest singers and musicians.’

James Cleveland's (the ‘King of Gospel’) homosexuality was an ‘open secret’ and he died of AIDS. Marsha Stevens, who wrote the popular song, ‘For Those Tears I Died’ and has been called ‘the mother of Contemporary Christian Music,’ was one of the first to come out of the closet. In 1979 she divorced her husband of seven years by whom she had two children, because she had ‘fallen in love’ with a woman. Stevens and her lesbian partner formed Balm Ministries (Born Again Lesbian Music) through which they produce praise and worship albums and conduct training seminars. Christian Century called her ‘a Jesus-loving, Bible Believing, God fearing lesbian Christian.’

Fundamental Baptist Information Service

(Where will it all end? BESIDES HELL?! James M. Hite)

U.K Population Control

“Apparently Speaker Nancy Pelosi isn't the only one

to blame big families for the world's woes. According to Britain's radical environmentalists, having more than two children is now ‘irresponsible.’ Jonathon Porritt, who chairs the Sustainable Development Commission, says he is ‘unapologetic’ about a new report that advocates abortion and contraception as the means for reducing his country's carbon footprint. Of course, the argument for population control is nothing new – nor is it unique to the U.K., as we saw (February, 2009) from Pelosi's ‘family planning’ stand. For decades, population control has been inextricably linked to the environmental and abortion movements.

Unfortunately, the religious left, is gravitating toward this ‘green’ crowd, is leading Christians by a world-view that is in direct contradiction with Scripture.”

Family Research Council

Catholic Hospitals Up for Sale, Pro-Abortion ObamaCare Blamed for Decision

When Congress initially considered a government-run healthcare system that eventually became the abortion-funding ObamaCare healthcare plan, the nation's Catholic bishops warned a government takeover of healthcare could result in closing Catholic hospitals.

At least one pro-life group argues that it is now taking place in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Mercy Health Partners CEO Kevin Cook announced three Catholic hospitals in northeast Pennsylvania are now up for sale. Cook admitted that “healthcare reform is absolutely playing a role” and revealed Obama's new healthcare law “absolutely” was a factor in the decision to sell the hospitals.

“Healthcare reform is absolutely playing a role. Was it the precipitating factor in this decision? No. But was it a factor in our planning over the next five years? Absolutely,” Cook said.

LifeNews.com

The Home Depot Gives Gifts to Thousands of Homosexual Activists

On October 9-10, the Home Depot sponsored the 2010 Atlanta Gay Pride Festival. As a sponsor, it gave gifts to homosexuals activists from a booth it set up on the festival grounds... that served as the official supplier of

the “Pride Map.”

The Home Depot paid to print thousands of color brochures with a schedule and map of hundreds of gay pride activities and booths.

The brochure prominently featured information about a gay marriage “Commitment Ceremony” at the event.

The brochure promoted associated festival events such as “Dyke March,” Trans(gender) March” and a “drag” celebration at the starlight Cabaret.

The Home Depot printed on the brochure that it “is proud to support the efforts of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC).” HRC’s top effort is to legalize, normalize, and force Americans to socially accept homosexual marriage.

American Family Association

Recent Studies Confirm Women Face Depression and Other Problems After Abortion

A new study of women having abortions, with a very limited sample of just 69, has received considerable attention for supposedly disproving the plethora of peer-reviewed studies confirming women who have abortions face both depression and other mental health problems.

Other recent studies from the last two years provide nearly irrefutable evidence that abortion affects women in a myriad of ways - making it so they face everything from depression and relationship problems to (post-traumatic stress disorder) PTSD and elevated risks for abusing drugs or alcohol.

An August study published in the *Journal of Pregnancy* and involving 374 women who had abortions - more than five times the number of women who appeared in the new study - found women having high rates of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms for women having both early and late abortions.

Approximately 52 percent of the early abortion group and 67 percent of the late-term abortion group met the American Psychological Association’s criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms (PTSD).

The authors of the study say those high rates are the result of women facing pressure or coercion to have an abortion or, at minimum, ambivalence about having it - showing more pre-abortion screening is needed to rule out abortion as an option for many women.

A May 2010 study put out by researchers at the University of Manitoba in Canada found women who have had abortions are about four times more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol as those who carried their pregnancy to term.

LifeNews.com

Evangelical Lutherans Receive Three More Lesbian Ministers

Three lesbian ministers were received (September 18) onto the official clergy roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Anita Hill, Ruth Frost and Phyllis Zilhart, who were ordained at least a decade earlier, beamed wide smiles after the “rite of reception” was complete.

The three are not newcomers to the church, noted ...Peter Rogness, bishop of the St. Paul synod. They are long-distance runners who have been part of the ministry for years. Only now, the ELCA is opening the door more widely and “drawing the circles of welcome more broadly,” he said before hundreds of people at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in St. Paul, Minnesota...

The three women’s reception...was made possible by the ELCA’s recent change in policy on clergy. Last August, the denomination’s highest legislative body voted to permit persons who are in “lifelong, monogamous, same gender relationships” onto the clergy roster...

The Minnesota rite of reception comes months after a similar ceremony in California, where seven gay ministers were received onto the roster.

The decision to recognize non-celibate homosexual clergy has prompted hundreds of congregations to sever ties with the ELCA...

The ELCA is the largest Lutheran denomination in the country, with 4.5 million members. It, however, has been experiencing continuous decline and last year saw its biggest-ever drop in membership.

ChristianPost.com

“I have read the Bible through many times and now make it a practice to read it through once every year...I pity the man who cannot find in it a rich supply of thought and of rules for conduct. It fits a man for life – it prepares him for death.”

Daniel Webster

Why Be So Negative?

NO DOUBT YOU HAVE HEARD people say, “Why be so negative all the time?” when you have tried to warn them about some false doctrine, teacher or compromising leader. It happens to us with increasing frequency. It may be in your mind, too, even though you may never have expressed it to anyone. So, perhaps a careful look at this question and the attitude of mind which prompts it is in order.

First, it is important to realize that if someone says you are too negative, he is by that very statement being negative toward you. We have often read or listened in amazement while someone has verbally ripped us up one side and down the other because we were too negative and unloving; yet, they were far more negative and unloving to us than we have ever been toward false prophets and compromising teachers. So often such people go on to tell us that we should not ‘judge’ but just preach a positive message and let the Lord take care of the wolves that are seeking to destroy the flock. Rather strange thinking and hypocritical, isn’t it? Don’t be negative toward the ‘wolves in sheep’s clothing’ but do be negative toward faithful undershepherds who seek to warn and protect the sheep. You can be sure of one thing - this is man’s reasoning and not God’s.

Second, why have we allowed ourselves to be brain-washed into believing that it is negative, bad and unloving to warn someone of potential or impending danger? Is it too negative and unloving to awaken a neighbor in the middle of the night if his house is on fire? If you are about to drink poison, thinking it is medicine, is it too negative and unloving if someone even goes so far as to snatch the bottle from your grasp and force you to examine the contents before drinking it? Do we consider dentists “too negative and unloving” when they warn against decay and infection and insist on good dental hygiene? You know the answer! In the physical realm, we appreciate and honor those who warn others of dangers of one kind or another. But strangely, in the spiritual realm, the exact opposite is true. Those who warn about the wiles of the devil and expose the wolves in sheep’s clothing are all too often labeled “too negative and unloving.” In the final analysis, however, the real issue is this: What does the Bible tell us to do? Are we always to be positive and never negative? Can we become too negative? Consider the fact that most of the Ten Commandments are negative, that is, “Thou shalt not.” Does that make God “too negative and unloving”? Jesus Christ had more to say about hell than about heaven. Does that make Him “too negative and unloving”? No one could have been more concerned about the spiritual welfare of all men than our blessed Lord. Yet, He used the strongest pos-

sible negative language regarding the false religious leaders of His day: “hypocrites, blind, blind guides, fools, whited sepulchers, serpents, generation of vipers,” etc. The Apostle Paul was one of the great missionaries, pastors and evangelists of all time. Yet, God used him to pen some of the strongest, most “negative” words in the Bible. Why? Because God knows that men need the negative as well as the positive. God knows what many people today have forgotten: that preaching only a “positive” message literally opens the floodgates of error and leaves the sheep defenseless against Satan and his “angels of light.” It is Satan who promotes the idea that a faithful undershepherd of the flock is “too negative and unloving” when he goes after the “wolves” and exposes the shepherds whose voices are either silent in the face of danger or who actually welcome the wolves, the false teachers, into the flock (Acts 20:27-31).

Of course we must be on guard lest we *do* become too negative about everything all the time. There are plenty of “positive” things on which to dwell, and we must always speak the truth in love. Yet, we must not forget that it was King Ahab’s sinning, not Micaiah’s “negativism,” which caused the wicked king to hate God’s faithful prophet. If we are living in the last days (and we believe we are), then we may expect sin to become more bold, more deceptive and more wide-spread. In such circumstances, it may indeed seem to some that we are “too negative.” But do we dare remain silent just to please our brethren, or must we answer to God? Of course, the spirit of our day is: “Be positive! Accept everyone’s teachings without question! Never pass judgment on anyone!” But this is a false, Satanic philosophy. The idea that “anything goes” is theologically and morally of the devil. And, if I have to choose between the person who is “too negative” or the one who is never negative, then give me the “too negative” person. He may offend me at times; he may even be wrong on occasion. But he may save my life or keep me from going up blind alleys. On the other hand, the person who is never negative may never offend me, but my house may go up in smoke with me in it while he goes on being “positive only.”

May God help us to be and continue to be negative about everything God says we should be negative about. May we not be doped by Satan nor cajoled by men into accepting the false philosophy of being always positive in order to “win friends and influence people.”

M. H. Reynolds, Jr., *FEA News & Views/Foundation*

The Scriptural Foundation

Lay Activity in the Early Church

We begin with miracle on Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came and glorified Jesus and led the disciples “into all the truth.”

Pentecost is our spiritual birthday. Christ became the real and living One. His disciples received a new vision, a new power and a new message. The unconverted fell under a deep conviction of sin. They “had crucified the Lord of Glory.” They cried to the brethren for help and to God for salvation, were saved and baptized –3,000 in one day.

May the fire of Pentecost be kindled in our hearts! May we carry that fire of the Holy Spirit out to all who are dead in trespasses and sins! That has been the aim of all living and God-inspired lay activity in all ages. ...

The First Christian Church

In the first Christian Church all were members of one family – the family of God’s people. All attended the Gospel meetings. They could not get along without the prayer meeting – even every day. They lived in the blessed and sweet fellowship of brotherly love. Souls came to the Lord every day. Their Gospel meetings, love-feasts, communion, prayer meetings, worship – all was done joyfully and in holy simplicity – no special vestments, no chanting, no high-church ceremonies. But the Spirit-filled prayers, simple songs of praise, and the testimony of God’s people could be heard on every hand. Acts 2:42-47.

All Inner Mission – and laymen’s work, is a returning to the old foundations. A return to the personal experience of conversion on Pentecost. A return to the love-life, Christian fellowship, the free prayer-meeting and testimony meeting and old-time simplicity of the first Christian Church. *Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord.*” But only the experience of new birth and personal faith in Christ led into God’s Church. How is it now?

We are in danger of getting stiff, stale and petrified. We have divisions and misunderstandings among the brethren; some of us are leaning toward high-churchism, others are getting over-critical. Selfishness, love of honor with its chilling breeze, and love of the world are getting in among us. Let us come back to the fountains of the Holy Spirit in a true repentance. May our impure and selfish hearts be thawed up by the grace of God, the Christian family fellowship be renewed, and sinners be converted.

Taken from “*The Hauge Movement in America*”
Published by ‘The Hauge (Lutheran) Inner Mission Federation’, 1941

Editor’s Note: The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation was officially organized at Osakis, MN in 1920.

The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation is a ‘free-movement’ that is Biblically Lutheran in doctrine, evangelistic, pietistic in practice and basically a layman’s movement (most certainly Pastors are very welcome also). By the **Grace of God**; we are seeking to follow the same ‘standard’ thus: Seeking to follow and making NO apologies for the ‘**old time Christianity**’! (The *Morning Glory* is a vital part of the same). “*Thus says the LORD: ‘Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls’*” Jeremiah 6:16a.

His Age-Long Imminent Coming

“*And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed*” Romans 13:11.

The apostle Paul wrote these words (*Editor:* God through Paul) these word over 1,900 years ago, and yet Christ still has not returned. The early Christians were looking for Christ’s return in their own day, and so have many believers in every generation since, yet we still wait.

This attitude of age-long watchful expectancy is both scriptural and salutary, for Jesus said: “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh” (Matthew 25:13). In fact it is impossible to correctly predict the date of His coming, for He clearly said: “*In such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh*” (Matthew 24:44).

In his first epistle, Paul reminded the believers how they had “*turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven*” (I Thessalonians 1:9-10). Years later he exhorted Timothy to “*love his appearing*” (2 Timothy 4:8). He had written Titus that each Christian should be “*looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ*” (Titus 2:13). To the Corinthians he said: “*We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed*” when Christ returns (I Corinthians 15:51), indicating he thought it possible that he himself might witness Christ’s return. “*We which are alive and remain shall be caught ...to meet the Lord in the air;*” I (Thessalonians 4:17) he had also said.

There are many other such references, so it is clear that the early Christians were indeed watching for Christ, as He had commanded. We must not set dates, and we must “*occupy till (He) come(s)*” (Luke 19:13), but we also must continue to watch, “*for yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry*” (Hebrews 10:37).

Taken from “*Days of Praise*”, Institute for Creation Research, Copyright – 2010; Permission Granted.

He Saw Their Faith

Luke 5:16-26

While Christ was ministering to the needs of the multitudes, four men had such compassion for a paralytic friend that they decided to carry him to the Lord Jesus so he could be healed. They realized the great need of this impotent man and knew that the Lord was the only One who could meet his need. Due to the gathering of the people around the door, they were unable to carry him to where the Lord Jesus was. But they did not give up. They climbed upon the housetop and let him down through the roof. Jesus Christ “*saw their faith*” (v. 20). He not only healed the man of his infirmity, but He also met his greatest need – the forgiveness of his sins.

All around us, multitudes of men, women and children are terminally ill with the disease of sin. Oftentimes we are discouraged by the slightest inconvenience or obstacle that hinders our witness. But the throng at the door did not stop the four men in our text from getting their friend to Christ. We must examine our own hearts as to whether or not we have a similar compassion for the lost. If we do, then surely we, by the power of the Holy Spirit within, will endeavor to turn our burden for lost souls into action.

We can talk about how important faith is, but unless we demonstrate our faith, then it certainly is not the kind of visible faith about which the Lord speaks in our text. Are we looking for opportunities to present the gospel of Christ to someone today? Witnessing for the Lord is worth any effort and even worth the disparaging comments we may receive concerning the “strange things” (v. 26). Rather than talking about what we have done or hope to do for God, what are we doing now? DWC

Taken from ‘*Feature*’, Fundamental Evangelistic Assn., Inc. Telephone 805-528-335

Editor’s Note: Very good devotional; **but SIN is not a disease!**

* * * * *

Let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind James 1:6

A wave of the sea is unstable and fluctuating. If the wind is strong, the wave is large; if it is still, only a gentle ripple is visible on the surface of the water. A wave moves in the direction in which the wind blows; it fluctuates constantly. A wave has no definite goal. A river, on the other hand, always flows toward the sea. In storm and in calm, night and day, through hills and meadows – always the river flows toward its goal: the sea. A wave, however, has no goal.

The sea is in constant motion, but it has no destination – forever restless, but going nowhere.

A person’s prayer-life can become like that, unless it is dictated by *faith*. It becomes unstable – sometimes vigorous and almost violent, but often listless and sluggish. One’s prayer-life may also be influenced by the direction of the wind of the times. He who prays without faith has something of hopelessness hovering over him. He is restless, like the wave of the sea. His prayer never reaches its goal and is never fulfilled.

Faith is: rest, confidence, surrender, willingness, stability. He who has faith is like a river; it always flows in the same direction. It has a goal: the sea, God. It is not influenced by the wind. It does not give up until it reaches the goal.

Taken from “*Rest A While*” by Fredrik Wisloff

Does God Fight for Israel?

“The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) was vastly outnumbered in its 1948 war for Independence, its weapons and equipment a hodgepodge of obsolete items Israeli agents had scrounged from the junk heaps and surplus yards of Europe after World War II. Yet despite simultaneous attacks by Egypt from the south, Syria and Lebanon from the north, and Jordan and Saudi Arabia from the east, the IDF held on all fronts and eventually pushed back. By the time of the final UN-brokered cease-fire on July 20, 1949, the new Jewish state had managed to secure almost all of its original territorial objectives.”

...“In 1967, Egypt directly threatened Israel by massing 1,000 tanks and 100,000 troops in the Sinai. With Dayan retired from the military but still very much in charge as minister of defense, the Israel Air Force (IAF) launched a massive preemptive strike on the morning of June 5 and virtually destroyed the Egyptian Air Force on the ground. By noon, just eight hours later, the Israelis had also eliminated the Syrian and Jordanian airforces. Once again, IDF armored columns thrust into the Sinai and to the banks of the Suez. Egypt lost some 15,000 soldiers killed, while the IDF lost 338 [between June 5 and June 10, the Six Day War].”

...“The Israel Air Force is the strongest in the Middle East, and its pilots are justifiably considered the best trained and most aggressive in the world. Since first flying in combat in 1948, IAF pilots have shot down 687 enemy aircraft in air-to-air combat, while only losing 23. This 30-to-1 victory ratio is rivaled only by that of the Finnish Air Force in World War II. 39 Israeli pilots have shot down five or more enemy aircraft to achieve ace status.”

Military History, February/March 2009

Satan Is Real

*There are those who will tell you
That Satan is not real,
Only symbolic of "some evil force"
or guilt that you can feel.
The Bible tells us Satan was
once an angel, high in respect.
But PRIDE caused him to lose all
that was true and correct.*

*The teachers today who deny
The reality of Satan and sin -
Are really his servants, who are
Full of deception within.
It makes Satan happy when individuals
Deny his power and might,
For he can persuade them to love
Darkness rather than light.*

*Jesus' temptation by Satan was,
without doubt, very real.
He severely tempted our Lord with
twisted quotes and a deal.
But, praise God, Jesus was triumphant,
Satan defeated forevermore.
And Christ shed his blood on the cross
to complete the score.*

*Those who make light of the blood
and Satan's reality deny,
Deny Hell and its horrors, and are
deaf to the sinner's cry.
Satan is very real and desires
to destroy all that he can.
Put your trust in the Holy Word of God,
not the words of men.*

By James M. Hite, Palmyra, Pa

Be Thankful unto Him

Psalm 100:1-5

Thankfulness is the inevitable result of a right relationship with God. Thankfulness is not dependent upon self, family, friends or circumstances. The Bible is filled with exhortations to *all* men to be thankful to God as Creator (vv. 1, 3), but those who have become "His people, and the sheep of His pasture" (v. 3) have special cause to be filled with thanksgiving. For every Christian, a thankful spirit should be the rule rather than the exception. In fact, a lack of praise in the life of a believer is actually an indication of a serious spiritual problem according to Romans 1:18-32.

Those who are truly thankful will not only *say* they are thankful, but their actions will *show* their gratitude. They will make a joyful sound (v. 1); they will serve the Lord with gladness of heart (v. 2); they will rejoice that He is their Father and Shepherd (vv.2-3); they will worship Him with thanksgiving and praise (v. 4); they will be thankful for His goodness and mercy; they will rejoice in the assurance that His truth will never cease to exist — it will last forever (v. 5)! Genuine thankfulness is spontaneous, not forced. In fact, it should overflow in our lives. This kind of thankfulness pleases God and is a blessing to others. Every Christian who lives in the free world should be overwhelmed with gratitude, and those who have faithful pastors and godly fellowships of which to be a part are doubly blessed. At the same time, even those who are all alone, physically speaking, can and should thank God for His presence and promises. Regardless of where we are in life, we have much for which to be thankful. May we take the time to remember to praise and thank our Lord for His goodness to us. MHR

Taken from 'Feature', Fundamental Evangelistic Assn. Inc. Telephone 805-528-3335

"Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, hath by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. His hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil." (Hebrews 6:17-19)

Soul Winning Behind Bars!

Dr. John R. Rice, who founded this newspaper (*Editor: 'Sword of the Lord'*), was a great man of God. He had a consuming passion for souls. Here is one interesting soul-winning experience in his own words.

The sheriff in Dallas County, Texas allowed me to visit the jail, where I preached regularly. I went one time to deal personally with any who wanted help to find God and forgiveness. Four stories high was the corridor, and in the four tiers of cells, one upon the other, were many, many prisoners in one particular section where I had often preached.

The burly jailer stood in the corridor and called, "Here is Brother Rice, and he wants to know if there are any here who would like to talk to him personally."

"I do," said two men, and they were brought outside the cellblock. One sat down with another preacher who was with me, and I took the other, a mere boy of eighteen. We sat on a bench together with the open Bible.

I began in chapter 3 of John and showed that all must be born again if they are ever to see God in peace, that all are sinners and so the first birth is not enough. We must have our hearts changed. "Do you understand that you are a sinner and that you need a new heart, that you must be born again?" I asked.

"Yes, yes, I understand that," he said.

Then I showed that creating a new heart was a miracle that only God could do, that we were to receive it without necessarily understanding all about it. Then I turned to the blessed John 3:16 and asked him if he believed that God loved us, and he answered, "Yes, of course I do."

"And do you believe that Christ died for sinners, that He even died for you?" I asked.

"Yes, I believe that; I know He did," he answered.

"Then are you ready today to trust Jesus Christ, to receive Him as your own Saviour and depend on Him to forgive you and make you God's child?"

"Yes, I am," he replied immediately.

With sudden indignation, I turned and said to him, "This is too easy! Don't you sit there and tell me 'yes,' 'yes,' 'yes,' to every question unless you mean it! If you go back into cell and tell these other men that you are saved, that you are a Christian, they will laugh at you and curse in your face.

"If you sit and read a Testament while they smoke cigarettes and play cards, they will call you a sissy, will call you 'mamma's boy' and 'preacher.' If you get down on your knees by your bunk to pray tonight, others who see will laugh at you, and somebody will throw a shoe at you if he can.

"I tell you, you are going to have to face the laughter

of those other men if you take Christ, and I don't want you to say 'yes' to everything I ask you unless you mean it with all your soul."

And that eighteen-year-old boy looked me square in the eyes and said, "Let them laugh! I listened to the laugh of that kind of crowd once before, and see what it got me! I have broken my mother's heart, I have cost my dad money and brought disgrace on his name, and now I am charged with a serious crime and faced with a possible term in the penitentiary."

"I listened to these other fellows and followed them. I didn't want anybody to think I was tied to my mother's apron strings. I was afraid to break with the crowd, and I listened to their scorn. Now I am a criminal behind the bars."

And then he said with some fire in his eyes and conviction in his face, "Let them laugh! This time I have promised God I will never cause my mother any more heartbreak. When I get out of here, I am going straight. I am going to live for God, and I plan to go to Heaven. Let them laugh!"

I saw the tears on his face and the set of his lips and heard his firm, bold statement, and with joy in my heart, I said, "Go to it, young fellow; you've got it!"

I beg you, dear friend; I wouldn't go to Hell for anybody in the world! Leave every friend you have, if need be, but, oh, make sure of salvation!

Sword of the Lord

A Blessing Being Blind?

The famous songwriter Fanny Crosby wrote more than 8,000 songs. When she was only 6 weeks old a minor eye inflammation developed. The doctor who treated her was careless and she became totally and permanently blind. Fanny harbored no bitterness against the physician. In fact she once said, 'If I could meet him now, I would say thank you over and over again for making me blind.' She felt her blindness was a gift from God to help her write the hymns that flowed from her pen. According to those who knew her, Miss Crosby probably would have refused treatment even if it would have assured her the restoration of her sight." Wiersbe concluded by commenting: "It was said of another blind hymnwriter, George Matheson, that God made him blind so he could see clearly in other ways to guide men. This same tribute could be applied to Fanny Crosby, who triumphed over her handicap and used it to the glory of God." Yes, this talented woman allowed her tragedy to make her better instead of bitter.

(Victorious Christian by Warren Wiersbe)

Update

MISSIONS

OFTEN when a child of God is 'searching for' a Bible based Church home OR is attending one; is this congregation/preaching etc meeting my Spiritual need and hunger! In other 'words' is this congregation/preaching pleasing to my Savior and thus in compliance with my 'doctrinal Convictions'; and rightly so. But also there is another 'question' that should be met! Is this in harmony with my Savior's Will that by His Grace I am to be a blessing . In other 'words' it is not only what am I receiving (vital); but what can I contribute?

IN regards to the same 'MISSION' I want you to ask yourself: Is the *Morning Glory* ministering to me and what can I contribute? You see this is a *faith mission/ministry* and we are dependent upon free will love gifts/donations given as unto the LORD! My personal conviction is that IF 'WE' don't keep 'the home front' alive and awake, foreign missions will gradually fade out of the 'picture' also!

The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation was 'born' out of a NEED and that 'need' is as great today as it was 90 years ago! Our ministry is to 'strengthen, nurture, encourage the 'believers', and we seek to evangelize the unsaved.

IF you are in agreement with such a proclamation: then I seriously ASK you to **pray re: your involvement** in this "Mission" (*Morning Glory/HLIF*). IF we are to 'continue' to move forward AS 'soldiers of the cross'; then most certainly 'we' would like to hear from YOU in supporting 'us' in PRAYER and *financially as the LORD lays upon your heart!* If this 'mission' is *wounded*: indirectly other 'missions' will be 'wounded' also! May "our" God be permitted to bless, lead, encourage and support to His Glory; as this is part of His Kingdom's Work, **through you**.

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Actual cost of publishing, S & H of each issue of the *Morning Glory* is approx. \$2,300. Other expenses with the HLIF are involved as well.

Thank you for your generous giving this past month and the Lord's richest blessings!

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CHRIST AS THE ONLY
WAY, THE TRUTH AND
THE LIFE TO HEAVEN,
AND THE BIBLE AS THE
HOLY SPIRIT INSPIRED
AND INFALLIBLE
WORD OF GOD!***