Morning Glory

"The Coming of the Lord Draweth Nigh" — James 5:8 EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • July 2011

Spurgeon Took a Stand

purgeon was a fundamentalist. He not only believed the great fundamentals of the Faith, but he fought for them.

1. The great English prince of preachers took his church, the largest Baptist church in the world, out of the British Baptist Union because of proven modernism and unbelief of some of the members.

2. He said, "as soon as I saw, or thought I saw, that error had become firmly established, I did not deliberate, but quitted the body at once. Since then my counsel has been, 'Come ye out from among them.'" That was October, 1887.

3. The principal Baptist leaders, including Dr. Gill, the president, and Dr. Alexander Maclaren, who wrote the seventeen-volume set *Exposition of the Holy Scriptures* which are used around the world, led the fight against Spurgeon. The Union voted publicly to censure him, with only seven men failing to vote for the censure.

4. Spurgeon was shockingly slandered, misunderstood, misquoted. He lost friends of a life time. His principal financial supporter forsook him.

5. The abuse and grief of the persecution broke his heart, and he said it hastened his death. But he never wavered.

Mr. Spurgeon did not say that all of the members or even the majority of them denied the Bible, but he said that some persons are allowed to remain in the Union who were guilty of these offences, denying the fundamentals of the Faith.

In *The Sword and the Trowel* later, Mr. Spurgeon said:

I have taken a deep interest in the struggles of the orthodox brethren, but I have never advised those struggles nor entertained the slightest hope of their success. My course has been of another kind. As soon as I saw that error had become firmly established, I did not deliberate, but quitted the body at once. Since then my counsel has been, "Come ye out from among them."

The Bible says that the Christian ought not have fellowship with the unbeliever and the believer has no business fellowshipping with infidels.

The Bible says, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate." So Spurgeon came out.

Spurgeon, speaking on "Our Urgent Necessities: (Spurgeon: An All Round Ministry, The Banner of Truth Trust Publishers) on page 311 says:

As to yourselves, I would recommend entire separation from those who would be likely to injure your spiritual life. I would no more associate with one who denied the faith than with a drunkard or a thief. I would guard my spirituals as jealously as my morals. A loyal man is not at home in the company of traitors. There are associations with the ungodly into which we must needs go, unless we get out of the world altogether; but there are others which are optional, and here we should dare to be scrupulous. A godly minister once said of a certain preacher, "I would not permit such a man to enter my pulpit. I am as jealous of my pulpit as of my bed." I do not think he was too rigid. We should guard ourselves against compromising the truth of God by association with those who do not hold it, especially at such a time as this. ...

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad; for

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Table of Contents

Spurgeon Took a Stand
The Bible
Man Reaps What He Sows
The Patience of Love
Editorial
Proper Roles
From Our Fellowship Circle • Read Esther 8-10
The Message of our Lord about the Scriptures • The Indwelling Holy Spirit
Mrs. Kari Nyhus (Newhouse) • Wiser With Age!9
Death by Sin • Concerning Love Toward Enemies
Believable Yet Unbelievable
Answer to a Reader Worried About Debt • True Confession
Your Best Ministry Yet
Beyond SufferingGlory
An American Heritage for My Grandchildren • The Blood15
UpDate

great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Dr. John R. Rice

Selected

THE BIBLE

This Book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's Map, the pilgrim's Staff, the pilot's Compass, the soldier's Sword and the Christian's Charter.

Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened and the gates of Hell disclosed.

Christ is its grand Object, our good its design and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently and prayerfully. It is a Mine of wealth, a Paradise of glory and a River of pleasure.

It is given you in life, will be open in the judgment and will be remembered forever.

It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

Unknown

Man Reaps What He Sows

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked. For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth unto his own flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth unto the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not be weary in welldoing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Gal. 6:7-9

There is a comforting promise for the people of God in these words; but there is also a warning of responsibility and judgment to all men.

No one is relieved of the responsibility by refusing to do anything either good or bad. Whether we want to or not, we are all sowers that scatter handfuls of seed in the large field of life. If the man is good, he will scatter good seed; but if he is wicked, the seed will also be so. We ourselves, as well as others, reap the results of our sowing.

The most notorious thief in prison today possibly began his career of stealing by taking cookies from his mother's pantry. The sinful seed of thievery grew until he became a reckless robber.

This inexorable law is operative in all areas of life. He who begins to use foul words will soon have his mouth full of profanity and obscenity. Before long he will be a slave to habit and will not even be aware of his filthy speech. If a man reads nothing but lewd novels and licentious literature, he will become a part of what he reads. Loose speech and vile reading result in immoral living. The first glass of liquor was the seed that developed into drunkenness. He who loiters on the street corner to stare at the immoral woman is standing on the brink of a grave; unless he hastens away he will soon be lying in it.

When I was a boy I heard much corrupt talk. These words have followed me until today and will probably do so until my dying day. I may think I have forgotten them completely; then all at once they bob up into my conscious mind. They even dart into my quiet moment in the prayer chamber when I in a special way want to be alone with God.

Where does all this wickedness reside in us all the while it seems to have vanished? Alas, it is lodged in the soul; without warning it comes to the surface and tempts us to sin. Our soul is a marvelous mechanism. It is like a recording machine which catches every sound. Every experience we have is ineradicably inscribed on the sensitive receptor of the soul. Years later the "music" is played back to us; at times it is played in the presence of others, and thus it is inscribed in their souls also. It is a serious matter to be a human being.

Tremendous powers are concealed in the waterfall; where has it all come from? It has been made by the water which drop by drop has fallen from the sky.

Our life is made up of "drops" which have been "dripping: into our soul, one by one. In time they become a powerful force for good or evil. "*Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*"

If we look at life in city and country we see the same law at work. The strongest of the young people sets the pace for the others; the rest will become as he is. The leaders set the example, and the others follow. Examples are contagious; there is a great truth in the old adage, "Tell me who your friends are, and I will tell you what you are." The Bible puts it this way, "*Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*"

If all those people who live their lives in sin and godlessness would consider this truth seriously, they would surely begin to feel some of the responsibility that is theirs. Perhaps it might even lead them to repentance and a new life.

We have more than a reminder of responsibility in our text; it also contains words of comfort. The comfort is that if we persevere in good work we shall reap fruit. It is not only evil which grows; God has promised that the good shall bear fruit in us and through us.

You Christian fathers and mothers, you who try as best you can to make the way of salvation plain to your children: You have a right to claim the promise that your work shall bear fruit and that your children shall be saved...

There is a story of a mother who was on her deathbed. When she realized that her hour of departure was near she called her children to her bedside and told them that she had a treasure hidden in a small box; it was her wish that they should divide it among themselves. "Mother!" exclaimed the children; "Have we not always been poor? What treasure is this of which you speak?" "It is my Bible," replied the mother. "I have moistened every page with my tears."

She was the mother of Bartholomew Ziegenbalg, one of the first Lutheran missionaries to India.

Many a mother with the Bible before her has shed tears over herself and her children. Such have not wept in vain. Perhaps you are one who has had such experiences; if so, do not lose hope. God has given you a great promise. Let not your courage fail as long as He is faithful who has promised. Ziegenbalg's mother went to her grave before her son was saved; but He who promised that whatsoever a man sows that shall he also reap was still living. He is as strong and gracious as ever.

Perhaps these words will reach a Christian father or

mother who just now are discouraged and bear a heavy burden in their heart because of their children. That which presses most heavily upon your heart is that you did not do as much as you might have done for the spiritual welfare of your children. That is indeed a crushing burden, and guilt is most certainly there. But as a child of God you have asked and do ask forgiveness also for this sin of omission; that God will forgive you is beyond doubt. Therefore you must not let the judgment crush you when God has removed the guilt by His forgiveness. Continue to place yourself and your children on God's shoulders; they are strong enough for any burden...

The promise of fruitfulness in God's Kingdom is woven together with the warning against becoming weary in well-doing. A good beginning is like a fresh shoot with a good root; a good ending is the full-grown ear of grain. Many began well, but became tired and gave up; the stem was broken just when it was becoming strong. May not that be your and my fate. May we rather stand erect in God's field until we are garnered into His granary.

There is still fertile soil in the souls for the seed of life. Sinners will still listen to the proclamation of the gospel; we have no reason to be discouraged on that score. As long as God has not removed the candle-stick from us we work to do and a promise of fruit.

Take courage, faint hearts! Do not become weary of well-doing! Continue to work in your corner! The day of grace is still here, but "*the night cometh when no man can work*." Our Lord and Savior will then take His faithful servants to their rest with Him.

Work, for the night is coming, Work through the morning hours; Work while the dew is sparkling, Work 'mid springing flowers; Work when the day grows brighter, Work in the glowing sun; Work, for the night is coming, When man's work is done.

Taken from "Spirit and Power" by Ludvig Hope; Translated by Dr. Iver Olson

REMEMBER FREEDOM IS NEVER FREE!

Shake a veterans hand and don't forget to <u>thank them!</u>

The Patience Of Love

By T. F. Lockyer

Bishop Simpson relates a remarkable instance of the work of a young man who started an institution for the care and improvement of poor imbecile children. Among those brought to him was a little boy, five years of age, who had never made a voluntary movement, had never spoken a word, and had never given any look of recognition to a friend. He lay on the floor, a mass of flesh, without even the ability to turn himself over. Such was the child brought to this school.

The teacher made effort after effort to get the slightest recognition from his eye, or to produce the slightest voluntary movement; but in vain. Unwilling, however, to yield, he had the boy brought to his room, and he lay down beside him and read to him every day for half an hour, hoping that some favorable indication might occur.

One day, at the end of six months of unavailing effort, he was unusually weary, and did not read. He soon discovered that the child was uneasy, and was trying to move himself a little. The thought flashed across his mind: "He misses the sound of my voice." He brought his mouth near the child's hands, and, after repeated efforts, the little one succeeded in placing his fingers on the teacher's lips, as if to say, "Make that sound again." The teacher felt that from that moment his success was assured. And, as the narrative goes on to relate, only five years after that time the child stood on a platform, in the presence of interested spectators, and answered with ready accuracy the questions of a public examination.

The "*patience of love*" had conquered. There is something for us to remember. This emphasis on love in the New Testament is not idle chatter – it works! Perhaps this is the best strategy of action we have as Christians – the *patience of love* can heal the wounds of a sick world.

Taken from "Grace Broadcaster"

Light on the Trinity

Tell me how in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the Trinity – the mode of the divine existence.

John Wesley

Editorial

RES Ignorant?

"Lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices."" 2 Corinthians 2:11

Behold, there is a whole 'sermon' in this one phrase! Notice to whose advantage 'ignorance' is in Spiritual warfare!

Unfair, but some times we possibly identify 'ignorance' with a 'problem child.' Now the dictionary explains 'ignorance' as: "The condition of being ignorant; lack of knowledge." But one definition of 'ignorant' is "Unaware or uninformed." You see a 'problem child' is not one who can not learn, but refuses to exercise/practice the knowledge this person has.

Actually a 'wise person' is just the opposite, as they make use of the knowledge they possess. For example: A 'believer' knows that they have a continual NEED of forgiveness of their <u>sin</u> from a thrice HOLY GOD and *if they are not willing to forgive others*, **neither** shall they be <u>forgiven</u>. Spiritually, according to GOD, a person who does not exercise/practice what they know is God's will; in His vocabulary is a 'fool' or 'foolish'. **Matthew 7:21-28 & Luke 12:13-21.**

Keeping the 'text' in mind we are to be merciful and tender towards those who are truly a penitent, repentant sinner. It is so easy to be cold, rigid and severe! Also otherwise possibly Satan should get an advantage against the penitent (Matthew 3:9,Acts 26:16-20; 20:17-24), by driving him to despair. Satan is a subtle enemy and we should not be ignorant of his devices.

One of the first things Satan wants us to do is to <u>ra-</u> <u>tionalize</u> sin and to look at sin *lightly* and make fun or sport of sin & Satan; which Almighty God never intended us to do.

Most certainly it is Scriptural to take a vacation (doesn't have to be lengthy or expensive) or periods of time to relax, as Scripture is very clear we need times to 'come apart and rest'; BUT Satan <u>never</u> takes a vacation as he knows his time is short – so he is working overtime! **Revelation 12:12.**

Certainly in our own strength we are no match to Satan and he is energetic in stabbing at faith and scattering doubt. This he is accustomed in doing as we find the same way back in Genesis chapter three.

BEING he can no longer get at **JESUS**, he is focused on under mining HIS WORD and/or the children of God. *"If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righ-* teous do?" Psalm 11:3; BUT "Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides, They continue this day according to Your ordinances. For all area Your servants. Unless Your law (Editor: WORD) had been my delight, I would then have perished in my affliction. I will never forget Your precepts (Editor: WORD), For by them you have given me life" Psalm 119:89-93, 160, Proverbs 30:5-6, Isaiah 40:8 & 1 Peter 1:23. He seeks to get 'us' to focus on 'our' feelings and experiences in themselves and to get our focus on other things than JESUS, who is the Author and Finisher of the Faith. YES, Scripturally we are to personally examine ourselves to be sure we have a right relationship with JESUS, but our Salvation rests in Him who said "it is finished!"

As stated earlier, being Satan can no longer get at JESUS, he harasses the children of God with <u>nagging</u>, <u>driving and accusing</u>; as he is the accuser of the brethren. **1 John 2:1-2.** He (the Devil)<u>drives</u> while the Holy Spirit <u>draws</u>, and with the conviction of sin, He points 'us' to the crucified and risen ONE!

Just because something is 'miraculous' does not necessarily mean is is of God, as Satan is the father of lies and the master of deception. Satan can counterfeit to deceive the very elect *if possible*! **Revelation 12:9 & Matthew 24:3-14 & 24.** When God states the 'whole world', this most certainly includes 'you and me'. But Martin Luther states: "A layman armed with Scripture is mightier than the mightiest Pope without Scripture."

Some leaders of a 'congregation' with likely the 'pastor' were discussing earnestly *if* 'laymen' should be permitted to stand behind the 'pulpit' and preach the WORD or not. Finally one of the 'laymen' firmly stated: "Since the church is willing to entrust 'us' with the 'furniture', they should be able to entrust 'us' with the <u>Goods</u> as well. The New Testament says: 'and they [common people] preached the WORD'! (Years ago it was the conviction of some Haugeans that when 'personal testimonies' were left out of the Worship Service, that congregation was losing the anointing/power of the Holy Spirit).

When you are being challenged with a 'message/tes-

timony' and something just doesn't seem right, but you don't know what it is; just *listen/obey* to the Gentle Holy Spirit. You don't have to know the reason why as we walk by faith, "For we walk by faith, not by sight" II Corinthians 5:7 You know it is so close to the Truth, but something seems 'array'. "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transforms themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works" II Corinthians 11:13-15, Galatians 1:6-12 & Acts 20:26-32. Satan is our enemy and he is out to kill you and me. In a 'brief' summary we know with **absolute certainty** that Satan has a three fold cause for his kingdom: "'The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. "John 10:10a. BUT "'I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly'" John 10:10b.

Therefore "above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" Ephesians 6:16-17. To my understanding this descriptive text in Ephesians 6:10 - 20 is so intense and fierce that is it like Military combat with hand to hand combat! He is out to shut down a Biblical evangelistic ministry. This purpose or attack is not only 'personal', but collective as well! No doubt the attack against the Morning Glory/Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation and other ministries of a kindred spirit and purpose are experiencing the same. The devil and innumerable evil angels would rejoice with glee if they could shut down this ministries and others similar. ANY person, congregation, free movement, etc. that adheres to the entire Bible and seeks out of LOVE to **Obey** is a prime 'target of Satan and his hosts. How we need to use Hebrews 4:16.

Notice also that there is no covering for the back in this spiritual armor as 'battles' are not won in retreating – but offensive. God has **never** blessed *compromise* and won't in these 'perilous times' either. <u>Any</u> individual or group that seeks to 'straddle' the *fence* is definitely displeasing to our God. "'No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other, You cannot serve God and mammon.'" Matthew 6:24. Even more plainly our Savior states 'we' are for Him or against Him.

Thus: "Study (Be diligent) to shew (present) thyself as approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, righty dividing the word of truth" II Timothy 2:15.

This is 'another' reason we need Christian Fellowship and especially so in these 'perilous times' – God said so and HE knows best! "As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend" **Proverbs** 27:17, Hebrews 10:19-25.

'WE' **need one another,** those who are of kindred spirit in the army of God. We are to prepare, train, equip, and do *battle together* as soldiers of the cross. Keep in mind that greater is He who is within you, then he that is of the world! **"And they overcame him by the blood** of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death" Revelation 12:11.

'WE' know for certain that GOD wants Souls be 'born again' and Christians strengthened and nurtured in the true and living faith in these days of Apostasy. YET in Luke 18:8 He states: "'I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?'" Still HE WANTS 'us' to occupy till HE comes! It is not 'popular' (by the Grace of God) to stand squarely and firmly in compliance to the inspired Word of God! May 'we' be found true and faithful unto HIM!

As with ALL Scripture please read prayerfully: Hebrews 5:5-14, "For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the words of righteousness, for he is a babe. But sold food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil (EXERCISED), I Corinthians 2:11-14, Deuteronomy 29:29.

> <u>PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS MINISTRY</u> <u>AND FOR US!!!</u>

Proper Roles

Many of the social, family, economic, and spiritual problems that exist today may be traced to the failure of women to properly understand and carry out their scriptural roles. Sadly even many Christian women, deceived by the temporal and often illusory status that they may gain in the world, have forfeited fulfillment of their special and pivotal place in God's plan. It's so easy to exchange the truth for a lie. -TBC

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18

Taken from "Apples of Gold"



Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Shoreview, MN Thank You for printing the <u>Truth</u> - God Bless You!

D. & N. F.

Rudd, IA

Enclosed is a gift for your ministry. Reading your publication is a good monthly Bible Study. Thanks for your inspiring and timely messages.

Editor's Note: In print, what a golden opportunity to share what JESUS has and is doing in your life and being a blessing to hundreds of readers; by <u>briefly</u> stating the same in the 'Fellowship Circle' of the *Morning Glory!*

Remember a Christian's <u>testimony</u> is not to bring attention to *myself*, BUT to glorify GOD by telling what JESUS has done and **is doing** in and through your life. Scripture in a number of 'ways' challenges 'us' (anchored in and with the Word of God, the Bible) to tell! Who have you told lately? **Let the 'redeemed' of the Lord say so! For example Romans 10:9-10.**

* * * * * * * * * *

Read Esther 8 - 10

Haman's astrologers had *cast Pur* (meaning "cast lots") to determine the most favorable time for the execution of all Jews (Esther 9:24). Haman's "lucky day" fell on the thirteenth day of the last month. However, Haman did not realize that God is in control of the affairs of earth, and even though *the lost is cast into the lap, the decision is wholly of the Lord, even the events that seem accidental are really ordered by Him* (Proverbs 16:33).

Man's extremity again proved, as it always does, to be God's opportunity. The determined day of execution, known as Purim (Lots), was turned from death to deliverance. Purim falls on the 14th and 15th day of Adar, a month before the Passover. The 13th day is a day of fasting to commemorate Esther. This was followed by a great celebration. And every year since that time, the 14th and 15th are days of great joy and feasting among the Jews.

As the Book of Esther is read aloud each year at the Feast of Purim, all the people boo and hiss when Haman's name is read and they shout for joy each time Mordecai is mentioned. It is a testimony to the fact that what seems to be chance and good luck is really the work of the Almighty. God uses faithful servants to change world affairs. In days of peace and prosperity, we are not often conscious of the presence of God. But when persecution seems to overwhelm us and He wonderfully intervenes to uphold, protect, and provide for us, we see His hand and praise and magnify Him.

No one can gain God's best without first "paying a price." Unlike Esther, the rich young ruler who had far less to lose (Luke 18:18-30) was a "good man" who could have been a disciple - possibly an apostle - for Jesus loved him and said: *Sell everything that you have ... And come follow me.*" Yet he was unwilling to take the risk. Many today are just as determined to maintain their goals for success, financial security, and worldly esteem rather than "pay the price" to live to please Christ.

The Book of Esther is secular, in general, for it makes no mention of the name of God. Yet, the sovereignty of God permeates every chapter. It points out that in a secular society dominated by the luxury of an oriental court, the tyranny of rulers, the emptiness of regal prominence, the plotting of politicians, and the misery of oppressed people, even nations outside the influence of the covenant people of God, our God is still Sovereign. *When the king's command and its edict was about to be executed, on the very day by the enemies of the Jews it was turned to the contrary and the Jews had rule over those who hated them* (Esther 9:1).

The peace and satisfaction enjoyed by Mordecai and Esther can only be known by those who surrender to the King of Peace, who soon will bring about universal peace throughout the earth and *good toward men* (Luke 2:14).

Taken from "Bible Pathway"

Editor's Note: We are told to '**pray for the peace of Jerusalem'.** <u>Are the Jewish folk on your prayer list?</u>

Have a great day, and don't forget to <u>thank</u> the **One** who gave it to you!

The Message of Our Lord About the Scriptures

by Howard Vos

Since none of the New Testament books was written until at least a decade after the death of Christ, the Scriptures to Him were the Old Testament. For these He had a high regard. On several occasions, He gave witness to the historicity of Old Testament characters or their acts. Some of these have been doubted by modern critics.

He alluded to Jonah's having been swallowed by a whale and to the repentance of Nineveh (Matt. 12:40, 41), to the Queen of Sheba's Jerusalem visit (vs.42), to David's having eaten the showbread in the house of God (vss. 3, 4), to conditions in the days of Noah (Luke 17:26), and to the destruction of Sodom (vs. 29).

Second, Christ's attitude toward the Scriptures is seen in His frequent reference to fulfillment of prophecy. To Him, fulfillment naturally followed prophecy, and His feeling in the matter therefore demonstrated His high regard for Old Testament predictions.

The scope of Old Testament prophecy to which He referred included His ministry in general (Luke 24:44), opposition to His ministry (Matt. 13:14, 15; 15:7, 8), His rejection and triumph (21:42); Luke 20:17, 18), the ministry of John the Baptist (Matt. 11:10) and the teaching ministry of God (John 6:45).

Third, Christ treated the Scripture as authoritative. To Satan during the temptation, He said, "It is written" (Matt. 4:4, 7, 10). To the Jews, He said, "Scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35). On another occasion, Christ alluded to a commandment in the Law as a commandment of God (Matt. 15:4). Again, Jesus testified to the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch (Mark 1:44; John 5:46, 47, 7:19) – a view denied by many. And, lastly, our Lord even referred to the canon as a whole. In Luke 11:50-51 He said:

"That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation; From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation."

This is tantamount to saying, "From Genesis to Malachi," because the slaying of Abel is recorded in Genesis 4 and the slaying of Zachariah in II Chronicles 24:20, 21. In the arrangement of the thirty-nine Old Testament books of the Hebrew Bible, II Chronicles comes last. Moreover in Luke 24:44, Jesus spoke of the Law, Prophets and Psalms – the three division of the Hebrew Canon of the first century A.D. Of course, the third section included more than the Psalms. Since it was the largest book in the section, it was used to stand for the section as a whole.

Taken from "Sword of the Lord"

The Indwelling Holy Spirit

"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." Romans 8:9.

Note that in this one verse the Holy Spirit is called both "the Spirit of God" and "the Spirit of Christ."

Thus the two terms are synonymous, which means that Christ is God, and so is the Holy Spirit.

Note also that we "have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father" Romans 8:15. In fact, our text assures each of us that we are actually living "in the Spirit," because He has come to "dwell in you." All of this has come about "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy,...by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" Titus 3:5. This glorious new birth, with sins forgiven and eternal life, is accomplished by the Holy Spirit in response to our faith in Christ as Savior and Lord.

But also note that "if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." It is absolutely vital that we have the Holy Spirit, "for as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" Romans 8:14. The question is, just how do we know that we have the Holy Spirit?

The answer is, because His Word says so! "He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me," said Jesus, "hath everlasting life" John 5:24. Furthermore, we have the testimony of internal peace and assurance. "The Spirit (Himself) beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" Romans 8:16.

Finally, the indwelling Spirit will increasingly be growing His eternal fruit in our lives – the nine-fold fruit of "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" Galatians 5:22-23, and this will testify to others also that we do indeed have the holy Spirit. HMM

Taken from "*Days of Praise*" by Institute for Creation Research Copyright 2011, Permission Granted

Mrs. Kari Nyhus (Newhouse)

This blessed Lydia of the early Haugeans most certainly deserves a little memorial wreath. Her log house and her hearth were always open to God's people and to God's messengers. There they were at home and felt at home. She kept a little Bethany for the servants of God, where they could find love and refreshments for body and soul. When they left her home, she knew by instinct how much food they would need to take with them, and how far they would have to go, and how hungry they would be before they reached their destination.

It was Christmas time in 1843, Erik Morstad declares. Elling Eielsen and his friend Peter Thompson had walked far and it was getting dark. It was slushy weather and they were wet, cold and stiff. They had left the home of Kari Nyhus in the morning and still had her good lunch with them as they looked for a place to stay over night. They saw a light, found a log hut, which they were permitted to enter – but only to eat the lunch and get a little water. The lunch Kari Nyhus had sent along certainly tasted good. Her wonderful love and hospitality stood out in sharp contrast to this house where they in a very cold spirit hardly were permitted to sit down and eat their lunch and certainly not allowed to stay over night.

However, they took their overcoats off, warmed themselves a little, sat down, thanked God and began to eat. When through eating these refreshments of love Kari Nyhus had sent along, Elling said to his friend: "Per, now you must sing." "I don't feel as though I am able to sing now," Per said. "I want you to sing, I tell you," Elling answered. "I knew it was of no use to say 'No' to Elling," Peter Thompson continued, "so I sighed to God for courage, for we were in the home of an American family who did not understand Norwegian. But Per sang and Elling joined in:

"Av hoiheden oprunden er En morgenstjerene saa klar og skjaer," etc. *"The Day star from on High has come."*

The Spirit of God worked as they sang. The man and especially his wife were deeply touched. She broke out weeping, though she could not have understood a word. It was the Spirit. She then made her confession, that she once had been a Christian but had backslid. Elling dealt with her about her soul. Of course, now that the hearts were opened the home was opened too and they were invited to stay over night. They were given the very best bed in the house.

We can discern the shining "lower light" behind it all the hospitality, love and good lunch Kari Nyhus had sent along. Without that, this spiritual incident and many others could not have occurred.

Kari Nyhus stands as a specimen and pattern of all the fine hospitable women, who during these 100 years have helped the Haugean Revival movement along more than any one of us realize. Without such hospitality and open home and willingness to serve, the Haugean movement cannot prosper nor can the local societies. I believe we all realize it and appreciate it, and are very thankful for it.

Blessed be the memory of Kari Nyhus and all the other women of her type who have helped, served and befriended the people of God.

Taken from "The Hauge Movement in America"

Editor's Note: Our wonderful Savior tells 'us' that not even a glass of cold water given in His Name shall loose its reward. Also they shall know we are His disciples as they see how they love one another and we know we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren.

Wiser With Age!

We went to breakfast at a restaurant where the special was two eggs, bacon, hash browns and toast for \$1.99.

"The special sounds good," my wife said. "But I don't want the eggs."

"Then I'll have to charge you \$2.49 because you're ordering a la carte," the waitress warned her.

"You mean I'd have to pay extra for not taking the eggs?" my wife asked incredulously. "I'll take the special."

"How do you want your eggs?"

"Raw and in the shell," my wife replied. She took the two eggs home.

Selected.

IF SOMETHING IS RIGHT, IT IS RIGHT; AND IF IT IS WRONG, IT IS WRONG. AND NO AMOUNT OF RATIONALIZING, WISHING OR EVEN PRAYING CAN CHANGE IT!

Death by Sin

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Romans 5:12.

This very important verse conveys several vital truths. First of all, death came into the world only when sin came into the world. Suffering and death of conscious life, whether animal or human, were not a part of God's "finished" and "very good" creation (Genesis 1:31-2:3). There was an abundance of food and all other provisions for both people and animals. There was certainly no "struggle for existence" or "survival of the fittest," for every creature was created "fit" for its own environment.

When Adam sinned, however, it became necessary for God to bring the curse of decay and death not only upon Adam, but also upon all his dominion (Genesis 3:17-20; see also Romans 8:20-22, 1 Corinthians 15:21-22).

Furthermore, there remains no warrant for the notion that "Adam" is simply a generic term representing the human race. He was "one man." In fact, he was "the first man" (1Corinthians 15:45), and Eve was "the mother of all living" (Genesis 3:20). There was certainly no population of evolving hominids becoming "Adam." In fact, Christ Himself made it clear that Adam and Eve were there "from the beginning of the creation" (Mark 10:6, quoting Genesis 1:27).

The entire argument here in Romans 5:12-21 becomes irrelevant if the Genesis record of the creation and Fall of Adam did not happen precisely as recorded in Genesis 1-3, and this would mean that there is no reality in the saving work of Christ, either.

Such a rejection of the Christian faith is hardly warranted by the fragmentary fossils that have been alleged to support the notion of human evolution. No one should stake his eternal soul on such a will-o'-the'wisp as that! HMM

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Concerning Love Toward Enemies

"Then came Peter unto him and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee until seven times; but, Until seventy times seven" Matthew 18:21-22.

There is perhaps no duty in life so hard, and yet for the Christian so indispensable, as that of forgiveness. The world will hear to nothing of the kind. Its principle is retaliation, which according to its reasoning is not only no sin, but often a duty. A person who attempts to live up to the teachings of Jesus, and instead of avenging suffers and forgives, it pronounces at the mildest a weakling. Nor is it only the world about us, but also the world within us, this natural heart of sin, that rises in rebellion against this duty. The old self recoils from such a demand, exclaiming, "I cannot and dare not allow myself to be insulted."

But if men laugh at you for forgiving an enemy, you may calmly ask, Was he who commanded this, and practiced it, a weakling? Was it not almost the highest revelation of his divinity, when he prayed for his executioners, "*Father*, forgive them, for they know not what they do?"

Yes, replies the old, unforgiving self within us, that was an act divinely great; but can you expect from us who are so unlike him, us mere men, such heights of graciousness? To which it may be replied, that there have been hundreds in whom the spirit of Christ has dwelt, and who by that spirit have been delivered from the world and its reasoning, so that they have realized this grace of forgiveness and have thereby proven themselves Jesus' disciples. Go, thou who wouldest become his disciple, go thou and do likewise. For the disciples of Jesus there is but one model, even he whose name they bear.

But suppose it should some time happen that a person grievously wronged me, not only seven times, but oftener, repeating the injury again and again, must I time after time forgive him? That is what the Master requires of us, and this is the plain teaching of that parable which he spoke in this connection, the parable of the unmerciful servant, from which we are to understand that if we are not willing to forgive those who offend us, even to seventy times seven, neither may we expect the forgiveness of our far heavier account with God.

But suppose the offender should spurn my forgiveness, and it have no effect upon him. In such a case we may fall back upon the words of St. Paul, "As much as in you lieth, live peaceably with all men," (Rom. 12:18). We, at least, are clear of blame. However aggravated the case may be, if we mean to be true disciples of Jesus we dare not forget the words and the example of the Master: Love your enemies, bless them that curse you; do good to them that hate you; pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you; that you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven," Matt. 5:44-45.

Ever patient, gentle, meek, Holy Savior, was thy mind; Vainly in myself I seek; Likeness to my Lord to find. Yet that mind which was in Thee, May be, must be formed in me.

Taken from "Follow Me" by Benevolus

Editor's Note: "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32. **Please PRAY** specifically for ALL the aspects of the <u>Morning Glory/Hauge Lutheran Innermission</u> <u>Federation</u>. **Thank you** and then take notice what the LORD is **doing!**

Former Chaplain Warns Freedom of Military Chaplains is Under Attack!

Former Navy Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt was honorably but involuntarily discharged from the Navy in 2007 after facing court-martial for praying "in Jesus name" while in uniform, but was later vindicated by Congress.

Today Klingenschmitt leads the Pray in Jesus Name Project which, among other matters, seeks to promote freedom for military chaplains now serving our armed forces.

Chaplain Kingenschmitt recently warned that "the Obama Administration is officially on record as pressuring chaplains to quit the service if they cannot reconcile with homosexual sin that violates their Christian conscience." He cited the case of one Army National Guard officer who was relieved of his battalion-level commanding officer job after stating his conscience would not allow him to participate in "re-education" training that will soon force young Christians to learn how to respect homosexual sin.

In a recent communication to his supporters, Klingenschmitt quoted from a letter to Stars and Stripes: The Defense Department is proposing to let people who choose to live a homosexual lifestyle serve 'openly' in the armed forces, but won't allow Christians such as myself the freedom to 'openly' share the good news of Christ with our co-workers.

Military chaplains who teach that homosexuality is antithetical to and incompatible with Christianity can either muzzle their objections or 'leave,' but gays will be permitted to parade their lifestyle choices in front of all?

Bottom line: So I'm free to express myself if I'm a homosexual, but not if I'm a Christian? What disgraceful hypocrisy. Department of Defense? More like the Department of Double Standards.

Lt. Col. Stacy L. Maxey, Afghanistan The Vine and Branches

Home Depot Joins Another Group Urging Homosexual Marriage

Home Depot's web site now states the company's support for "Out and Equal Workplace Advocates," a gay political activist organization heavily promoting legalization of gay marriage and gays in the military, and celebrating activities such as Transgender Remembrance Day.

American Family Association

Natural Gas Should Reach Israel's Shores by 2013

One of the largest gas fields in the world, discovered two years ago off the coast of Israel, should bring much needed fuel to the shores of Israel by 2013, according to a report in the *Jerusalem Post*. The head of the company developing the project, Yitzhak Tshuva, said: "In 2013, the gas will arrive on Israel's shores. We will supply all the needs of the state." Tshuva also urged the nation to use natural gas for its autos and industry in order to save money and keep the money at home rather than rely on foreign sources. Presently, most of Israel's natural gas is purchased from Egypt, where political unrest has threatened its disruption.

The Vine and Branches

King James Bible 400th Anniversary

It's been 400 years since the King James Version of the Bible was first published. It has outsold every other book published in the English language. The King James Bible was commissioned by King James I in 1604. The assembled scholars worked on it from 1605 -1610, and the first edition of the KJV came off the press in 1611.

The Geneva Bible, which was the most widely read among Protestants prior to the King James Bible, was the firs to use numbered chapters and verses. It greatly influenced the King James Version. The Geneva Bible remained the translation of choice for decades even after the King James Version was published. The Geneva Bible was brought to America and used by the Puritans and Pilgrims. However, the first Bible to be printed in America was the King James Version.

The most widely sold English translation in America today is the New International Version, while the second most sold is the King James Version. But read what is happening to the New International Version!

The NIV Goes Gender-Neutral

The politically correct culture has caught up with the translators of the New International Version of the Bible, released a few weeks ago. Actually, it caught up with them in 2005 when they released Today's New International Version (TNIV), a non-sexist version that was soundly rejected by many evangelicals, including the Southern Baptist Convention, because it took so many liberties with its translation of Scripture.

A spokesman for the NIV said their goal in the publication of the newest version is "to articulate God's unchanging Word in the way the original authors **might have said** it if they had been speaking in English to the global English-speaking audience today."

The 2011 NIV does not change pronouns referring to God. They still use "He" and "Father," but they do avoid the use of "he" or "him" in reference to an unspecified person.

Randy Stinson, dean of the School of Church Ministries at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary said, "Evangelicals believe in the verbal plenary inspiration of Scripture. We believe every word is inspired by God, not just the broad thought. So if the original text reads 'brothers,' many evangelicals believe the English translation should read 'brothers'"

The Vine and Branches

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Answer to a Reader Worried Over Debt

By Dr. Curtis Hutson

The most common cause of depression and stress is worry. And, of course, when we worry, we are not trusting; and that gives Satan a chance to tempt us even more.

I can understand your sad situation of being head-over-hells in debt, but for your own mental health's sake, you can only put it in the hands of the Lord and refuse to be burdened down. Philippians 4:6-8 gives the recipe for victory over worry.

1. "Be careful for nothing."

We are told here just simply to refuse to worry, that we should not worry about one single thing. God has promised in His Word over and over again to take care of the Christian.

We are told not to worry about food or raiment, but simply to trust God to provide our needs. The promise in verse 19 is this: "*But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*"

As Christians, we are children of the King and the King is rich. Our Father knows all about us. He even knows the number of hairs we have on our heads. He understands our troubles. So we are not to worry about even one thing.

2. We are to pray about everything.

When you have a desire to worry and when you are tempted to worry, go tell the Lord about it. First Peter 5:7 says, "*Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*"

Take everything to the Lord. Tell Him about your worry, about your care. Let your requests be made known to Him, ask for His help in overcoming the worry habit and take every single care to Him.

3. Be thankful for everything.

It is difficult to worry about something when you are thanking God for it.

One of the greatest cures for worry I have ever known is simply to count your blessings - to get up in the morning thanking God for air to breathe, for what health you have, for eyes and ears to see and hear, and to go to bed at night thanking Him for the food you have eaten during the day, for His protecting hand upon you and, above all, for His salvation.

Now this recipe will work. God's promise is this: *And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus*" (Phil. 4:7). You will experience the very peace (quietness of spirit) that God Himself has. If you will be careful for nothing, prayerful in everything, thankful for anything, God's peace will surround you like a little army of marching soldiers.

Taken from "Sword of the Lord"

Editor's Note: For a child of God to <u>worry</u> is to SIN! WHEN 'we' worry; notice 'we' *think* we are in charge!

* * * * * * * * * *

True Confession

It is hard for me, O God, to confess my sins and not merely repeat well-worn phrases with which I try to cover my real guilt.

I am a sinner. Why is it so difficult for me to see that, Lord? Why am I so bothered with a few things I do wrong while I think nothing of my lack of trust in You? Why do I feel guilty when I do not live up to my own standards but hardly blush when I fail You? Why do I imitate unholy men instead of following the Christ? I must confess it is because I follow my own desires, because I am weak in the face of temptations, and without You I am nothing.

All I can do is plead mercy, O God. I cannot even hold up the honesty and fullness of my confession. All I can do is trust Your love in Jesus Christ. I surely cannot trust my love for You or for Him. Hear me for the sake of Jesus Christ, who lived for me and died that in Him I might live.

Forgive me, Father! Forgive me even this, my poor confession. I need Your forgiveness for Christ's sake. Amen.

Taken from The Lutheran Book of Prayer1970, Concordia Publishing House

Your Best Ministry Yet

Chuck Dake

Power in Prayer

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of," wrote Alfred Lord Tennyson. We've seen that famous quotation crocheted on pillows and wall hangings and give tacit approval to it. "Prayer is important," we agree. But do you know how the quotation continues? "Therefore let thy voice rise like a fountain for me day and night." Tennyson links the great power and importance of prayer with the need to pray for others, specifically him! The Apostle Paul does the same thing when he shares what he prays for the church to which he is writing and then says, "*Pray also for me*", Ephesians 6:19. Paul clearly recognizes the great power of prayer and how necessary it is to have others praying for him and his ministry.

Prayer Improves with Age

As we age, our abilities to do many ministries diminish. Not too many people in ... are going on mission trips, working with youth group or teaching Sunday School as they may have done when they were younger. (*Editor:* Though <u>remember</u> there is no such thing as <u>retirement</u> on this side of ETERNITY in '*work*' in the Kingdom of God!). However, there is a vital ministry which can improve with age, a ministry which we may now have more time for than at any other time in our lives. It is a ministry that unleashes the power of God to transform lives - the ministry of praying for others. It is our best ministry yet. James encourages believers with the following words, "*The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective*" James 5:16.

<u>The early church</u>: *"All joined together constantly in prayer"* Acts 1:14.

<u>Paul instructs</u>: "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints" Ephesians 6:18.

Prayer for Others

Prayer for others, which theologians call "intercessory prayer," can be done in many different ways. Some like to pray spontaneously when they are prompted by the Holy Spirit. There are exciting answers to prayer from the battle field or a far off land as the Spirit awakens believers who cry out to God on behalf of those in danger. Throughout the day as these intercessors are in tune with the Spirit, they shoot up "arrow prayers" for those who come to mind.

How to Pray

But most of us are not gifted like that. Yet all of us are instructed to pray for others. So how do we do it? It is very helpful to make lists of those on your heart for whom God is directing you to intercede. Your family, friends, your church and your church's ministry are good places to start. You may want to divide your lists into days, praying. ... With the turmoil in the world today, you may get further ideas about which to pray from the news, or as you also pray for our president, legislators, governor and all in authority over us. "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" 1 Timothy 2:1-2.

The Holy Spirit will help you know how to pray for each person: "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will" Romans 8:26-27.

As you read your Bible, note Spirit-inspired prayers as models for your requests for others. For example, in Paul says, "I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ" Philemon 6.

That is a great, Spirit-inspired request you can pray directly for your family and those in your church. One pastor began praying regularly for each person in his congregation, using Paul's prayers as a model. A few years later, a friend with whom he had never discussed this, said to him, "You pray a lot for the people of your church, don't you?" "How did you know?" the pastor asked in amazement. "I can sense it each time I come to church here," he replied.

Prayer Teams

Much intercession is done one on one with the Lord. But it is very encouraging to form a prayer team and pray together for others. As you see God answer your prayers, everyone is energized to keep on praying as you, "*Sing for joy at the works of Your hands*" Psalm 92:4. ...

> Elim Care Spiritual Life & Enrichment, Eden Prairie, MN

Beyond Suffering ...Glory!

A Radio Message by Wilbur E. Nelson

Paul uses his familiar expression, "I reckon," to introduce a most heartening and blessed thought in Romans 8:18: I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to usward."

When Paul wrote about suffering, he could write out of experience, for certainly few, if any, have ever suffered greater – either physically or emotionally and mentally – than this brave man who gave so much and received so little so far as the things of time are concerned. He lived in perils constantly such as perils from his own countrymen, from false brethren, and from the forces of nature. He suffered a continual and persistent thorn in the flesh, which the Scripture describes as the messenger of Satan to buffet him. His bodily presence he describes as "weak" and his speech "contemptible." He faced Satanic opposition on a scale which few men have ever encountered. But he did not brood over the sufferings which came to him and he does not give us excuse for brooding over ours. He states, with sunny faith and optimism, "These sufferings are not worthy to be compared with that which awaits us."

Paul's words certainly have bearing upon our time. Men about us are unable to understand – that is, they cannot understand apart from faith – how to reconcile the pain and misery of the world with a God who is loving and mighty. Ours is an age sensitive to pain – an age which seems to feel that pain is inconsistent with the love of God. Some scholars have said that the Christian creed must be rejected because the God of nature is not the God of infinite love which the Gospel presents to us.

Well, Paul would be the last to deny pain. In fact, he presents it as an absolutely indisputable, inevitable fact. But he does not attribute pain and evil to the Maker of the world. He charges it to the sin and the depravity of man. As Professor F. F. Bruce has said, "The doctrine of the cosmic fall is implicit. In the Biblical record, from Genesis to Revelation, man is part of nature, and the whole nature, of which he forms part, was created good but has been subjected to frustration and futility by sin, and will ultimately be redeemed. The Christian will neither hold that at present all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds,' nor will he write the world off as belonging to the devil. The world is God's and God will yet be glorified by all His works. The grace of God has already begun to work in the lives of the justified. Its continued working is sufficiently evidenced by the indwelling of the Spirit and it is the same grace which on 'the day of Jesus Christ' will bring to completion the divine work so well begun. This is the hope of the people of God. This hope enables them to accept the trials of the present so that by patient endurance they may win their lives. It is, along with faith and love, one of the crowning graces which are the distinguishing marks of the Christian."

Paul says elsewhere, "We know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." And this man, who knew the whole world's anguish, nevertheless declares throughout the whole epistle that God is love.

The world is a problem and a mystery, and not a very simple one. There is both justice and injustice, pain and joy, agony and love, and we have to account for all of the facts. How shall they be reconciled and what shall we say – that God is working out a glory in comparison with which the sorrows of this present are not worthy to be compared? Or shall we say that He is what someone has called, "infinite indifference," who has created the world, wound it up and set it going and cares little about what happens to it or to man who inhabits it.

The world is full of beauty and joy but full of suffering and pain. It is the spirit in which we live and face what comes to us that counts. We may suffer in such a spirit of rebellion, such an angry feeling of helpless despair that it blights every part of our being. Or we may suffer so that even our darkest moments are times of victory, so that out of the pain and anguish comes God's beautiful gifts that can turn sorrow into joy.

Paul sets over against the sufferings the glory that is to be revealed. Admittedly, we do not now know very much about this glory. As we often quote Paul, "Now we see through a glass darkly," and John – "It doth not yet appear what we shall be." We do know that the glory that awaits us is the complete triumph over sin – not only over its power but from its very presence. Beyond that, the glory which await us is the glory of complete and perfect conformity to Christ, entering into the fullness of His strength and beauty, His freedom and eternity, claiming in the fullest sense that which is indicated by Paul's expression, "we are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ."

This is a truth we should take with us always and of which we should never lose sight. The unfathomable blessedness of being altogether one with God, sharing His glory eternal will most certainly prove, as the old song says, that "<u>the toils of the road will seem nothing when we</u> get to the end of the way."

Taken from "Grace Broadcaster"

Editor's Note: Remember it is not Paul per say: BUT **inspired** by *the Holy Spirit*, as is the *whole* **BOOK!**

An American Heritage For My Grandchildren

By Pastor David R. Barnhart

One of my deepest concerns is that my grandchildren may never know or experience the America I knew in my youth. America was not perfect then by any means, but its foundational values were still based on Judeo-Christian principles. My heart would rejoice if my grandchildren could know:

1. An America patterned after the vision of our founding fathers, when "<u>In God We Trust</u>" was not only engraved on our coins, it was also engraved on the hearts of our citizens.

2. An America where daily Bible reading and prayer in public schools we viewed as essential steps to shape moral character and build a sure foundation for successful living.

3. An America where patriotism, honoring the flag and showing respect for those who served in the military were all expressions of genuine gratitude for living in this great and free land.

4. An America where respect for parents, teachers, police officers and those in authority were both taught and practiced.

5. An America where the Ten Commandments were displayed openly in public places, because they were part of the fabric of our nation's life and law.

6. An America where the concept of the family – father, mother and children – was based on the teachings of Scripture and established in law.

7. An America where the unborn were protected by law from abortion; the sick were protected from assisted suicide; and where the elderly were protected by law from euthanasia.

8. An America where illegal drugs in schools were nearly unheard of; where drugs were prescribed by doctors and distributed by pharmacists, not drug-pushers.

9. An America where Christians were at liberty to openly speaking public about their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

10. An America where the airwaves were free from cursing and filth, and the book shelves were free of pornography.

11. An America where children played and walked in their neighborhoods without fear of being kidnapped or molested.

12. An America in which pastors and churches were considered a vital part in establishing the nation's culture and values.

Taken from 'The Vine and Branches'

The Blood

"....And through Him to reconcile all things unto Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross." Col. 1:20

AT present perhaps more than at any time in the past there is in mode of thought and view of life an aversion to the teaching that the blood of Jesus is ground for atonement and the forgiveness of sin. Men tell us that a God that demands blood before He can be atoned is a remnant of paganism.

But in the Word of God we read; "Apart from shedding of blood there is no remission." Right from the first book of the Bible, where we read of Abel's blood, and to the last where the song of the Lamb peals forth, the Word of God says that our only basis of salvation is He "who purchased us unto God with His blood."

As blood is the life of the human body, so blood is the life in the Bible, too. If we take the blood out of the Bible, it is without life from God. But not only that. These who consider themselves Christians without faith in the blood of Christ do not possess the life in God. The multitude which no man can number, those who stand saved in the presence of God, out of all races and peoples and tongues, they are all there because they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

In the degree that the word of the blood is separated from life, teaching, and faith, in the same degree the Christian life in us and about us becomes pale and dies. In place of living Christianity we get "religious unrest." Let me say to you who desire to get to heaven, that you must never let go your faith in the blood that has reconciled us to God, and that cleanses from all sin.

Sweet the moments, rich in blessing, Which before the cross we spend; Life and health and peace possessing, From the sinner's dying Friend.

Truly blessed is this station, Low before His cross to lie, While we are divine compassions Beaming in His gracious eye.

Taken from "*Thy Kingdom Come*" by Ludvig Hope Copyright 1939, Special Permission granted by Augsburg Publishing

UpDate

ARE <u>YOU</u> GLAD OR DISTURBED?

Certainly in these <u>'perilous times'</u> a person NEEDS to be in much **prayer** as to *where* the LORD wants you to invest your earthly possessions (stewardship/finances) in the lasting work of the Kingdom of GOD. As <u>you</u> are very much aware of there are ever so many 'challenges' of seeking <u>your</u> assistance in a given cause: and likely you can't give to them ALL! Even as some of them are very worthy.

As <u>you</u> know JESUS talks much about 'giving/investing' <u>your</u> finances as it clearly gives an indication of where <u>your heart is!</u> Jesus talks about 'money' because 'money' matters!

I believe that 'prayerfully' a person is to invest the same with 'ministries' that basically are in agreement with a persons convictions/doctrines, etc. Thus 'prayerfully' <u>give</u> as the Lord has entrusted to <u>you</u>.

Naturally *if* you are not *blest* through this ministry nor in agreement with the same; certainly 'we' do not expect you to support this ministry financially. Just do as the LORD lays on your heart as you it is in the Lord's Hand's and HE primarily uses people and 'we' believe this ministry is important and time is running out! *Souls are at stake*!

Granted one of (if not the most) economical means of getting the WORD out is the printed page. This 'free movement' is named after Hans Neilsen Hauge who was more concerned about getting the WORD out than the attractiveness of the paper it was printed on.

Today we have approx. 1,600 people on our mailing list (which should be enlarged, especially in Lutheran homes); but *if* each 'newsletter' has 3 readers each that makes a congregation of almost 5,000 precious Souls! And as you study (2 Timothy 2:15) the New Testament; you will note time and time again they 'preached the Word'!

Thank you for letting me be very 'frank' with you as the <u>need is real</u> and as a 'ministry grows', so do the expenses. Please remember this ministry in <u>PRAYER</u> and rest assured **all gifts are appreciated.** Are *you* <u>glad</u> that you can give OR disturbed?

By the GRACE of GOD we make no apologies for the old time Christianity and seek to follow the same.

By the way the old time Christianity worked before and it works today as well - Isaiah 55:11 & 8:20.

May Income for Morning Glory was approx. \$1370.

The actual cost of publishing and sending each issue (month) of the *Morning Glory* is app. \$2,300 <u>plus</u> considerable other expenses.



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