

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • June 2015

# An Edification

t was in a farm house. The preacher was a plain, straightforward farmer. First they sang an old hymn, then one offered a prayer, and then the speaker arose, opened the Bible and read a portion of the prophets. This he applied metaphorically and started his speech from this point, but didn't, however, keep to the text.

The speech was an earnest, loving admonition to seek the salvation of their souls; each admonition he supported with a scriptural sentence; he was remarkably well acquainted in his Bible. The words streamed quickly and with warmth from his lips, and he concluded thus:

"And now you aged, you who are on the verge of the grave, oh, consider your souls' salvation! The young one may die, but the old ones must die. Perhaps there are only a few days between you and the grave; you can yet save your soul, today is the time of grace, but it may soon be too late.

"Too late, oh, that is a terrible word. There was a man who often had had a calling from God; but he didn't obey. Then death came. Then he cried in despair: Too late, too late! And with that he died. Friends, friends, it is terrible to be thrust into the eternal fire. Repent while it is still time.

"You fathers and mothers, who perhaps have a flock of thriving children around you, who have men and women servants, have you considered that you shall have to give an account of those souls? Imagine, you mother, if your child on that day shall step forward against you and say; 'Now I suffer in the eternal fire because you, mother, didn't show me the way.' Imagine if the child you love some day should talk to you like that. Bear that in mind, you fathers and mothers, seek salvation for your own souls, that you also might save those who are entrusted to you, so you on that day may step forward and say; 'Lord, here I am and those you gave me.'

"And so, you young people, you dear, dear young people, oh, how my heart burns for you. Don't let the world and the vanity's pleasures entice you! It is a severe slavery, the slavery of Satan. I have also in my youth been his obedient servant, but I was not comfortable. Do you know how I fared? I would not listen to God's Word, but my wife loved the Lord. She asked me to go along to edification. I did so because I loved her, and there the Lord found me. Oh, if it would be likewise with you, my dear young people! You could also be found and be won; it is blessed to belong to Him, and do you know whether even you may lie cold and pale tomorrow? *"Seek the Lord while He is to be found, call on Him when He is near."* 'Today is the time of grace. Today you may find God. Amen."

When he had finished the whole crowd wept; many were deeply touched. The words came so fresh, warm and simple from the heart and could not help but go to the heart. Thereafter prayer was offered by a third layman, and a hymn was sung. The crowd did not arise, however. People remained seated as though they expected something more. Then the lay preacher arose, went down among the listeners and said:

"I must still talk a little with you. I knew some women; when they gathered together they used to have so much to tell each other about their husbands, how bad they were and how they themselves suffered. Then they were converted to God, and afterwards when they met they had

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so much to tell each other about how God mercifully had led them, and all they did was to give praise to God. When you get together, dear women, what do you have to talk about? Is it praise and thanks to God you bring to each other? Oh, what a blessing you could be to each other when your conversation would consist of praise to God for His mercy."...

After the song was sung most of the people left, while some intimate friends stayed to have supper with the strangers. They went across the hall into a side room, and here the private conversation about God's Word and spiritual experiences continued. Here are a couple of samples:

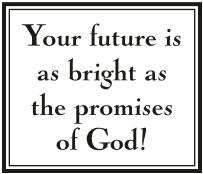
"How is it, is there still fighting?" the layman asked of one of those present. "Yes, each day new struggle," was the answer.

"But every day new grace, isn't it? Is this a sister?" he asked as he turned to a young girl.

"Yes, she is."

"God bless you on your way. But, dear sister, begun is not fulfilled. He who laid his hand on the plow should not take it back again. It is important to fight forward."

Taken from Hans Nielsen Hauge: A Short Account of the LIFE AND WORK OF HAUGE; By C. B., 1890



# WHY I'M GLAD I'M A CHRISTIAN

By Pastor R. Norheim

We read about the Rich Young Ruler that <u>"he</u> <u>went away sad, for he had great possessions."</u> There are more sad rich people than we can imagine. But we also know there are many glad rich people. They are not glad only because they are rich, however, because they have something money can not buy.

"Money", said Gorborg, the great Norwegian writer, "has no value in itself, but is valuable to those who use it right. We can buy food but not appetite, medicine but not health, comfortable beds but not sleep, knowledge but not wisdom, beautiful clothes but not beauty, a show of splendor but not comfort, fun but not peace. The outer shell of it all can be purchased with money, but not the heart of it all – that money can not buy."

And so the Rich Young Ruler went away sad. He chose the chaff instead of the wheat; and that couldn't satisfy. In just a few years he probably was still a rich man, but not a rich YOUNG man! Life is like a brief, warm breeze – gone almost as fast as it came. In a few moments, he, too, was gone; but his riches didn't go with him. "A pauper he stood in the Judgment, his debts were too heavy to pay. What a tragic mistake he made that day when he went away sad from Jesus! How we wish we could read in Mark 10 – "He went away glad, for he had just accepted Jesus as Saviour and was now "rich in God."

#### It Can Be Yours

In this brief message I want to tell you "<u>Why I'm Glad</u> <u>I Am A Christian</u>." I came to Christ when I was fourteen years of age and went away following a *glad* young man! I could, if I would, turn and go back to my old life in sin. But, "I'd rather walk with Jesus than roam the paths of sin. I'd rather have His friendship than earth's best honors win. My one desire: to please Him as daily paths I trod; and so I'm a Christian. And I want to tell you why.

1. First of all, the sin question is settled. My past is under the blood of Christ, shed for me. Could this experience make anyone sad, long-faced and miserable? Does it take years from your life? Of course not! "In Thy presence is fulness of joy." Ps. 16:11.

2. Secondly, my present salvation is pleasant and profitable. I say so because the Bible says so. It's now my most precious book, because its' author is my dearest friend! Jesus my Saviour! What does it say about my present life? *"The Lord is a sun and a shield: He will give* 

grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." Psalm 84:11. What more could you want than this? Christ is my sun, to quicken, warm and sustain me; my shield to protect and comfort me. He gives grace that is greater than all my sins, and glory! Not only future glory but for now to. Oh, yes. "It is glory just to walk with Him." And then add this sweeping statement: "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." That's what my insurance man calls "Full Coverage." Only he promises it for the future, while God gives it daily. No wonder Solomon said "His ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace." Yes, salvation is pleasant in this present life; but is also profitable. "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." Many will agree that it's profitable for some things: it will keep you out of jail, give you good company, etc., but that it's profitable unto all things, that's beyond carnal comprehension, and I don't expect unsaved people to understand this, but Praise God, millions have tested, trusted and tried our Jesus for generations and discovered that the Godliness He gives has made life richer, in deeper, fuller measure! "For all that I want is in Jesus. He satisfies, joy He supplies; life would be worthless without Him, all things in Jesus I find." By way of contrast: "What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and lose his soul?" Matt. 16:26. That certainly is not profitable, while godliness is!

3. Finally, I'm glad I'm a Christian, because as Hudson Taylor said, "<u>Our future is as bright as the promises of</u> <u>God</u>." Some of you are afraid of the future; afraid that you'll go down defeated. Listen: IF you really are right with God, if your past is under the blood of Christ, and if today you are walking in the Gospel light, then, in Jesus Name: **FEAR NOT!** Your future is as bright as the promises of God! And then, when life's day is o'er and victory is won, we shall receive the best last: forever safe with Christ; no more sin, sorrow, death, and forever we shall sing, "<u>Glory to the Lamb that was slain and has redeemed us to God by His blood.</u>" Oh, what a day! Surely, I'm Glad I'm a Christian.

The Lamplighter, July-August, 1986

<u>Fascism</u> is a system of government where the party in power forcibly suppresses opposition and criticism.

# Job or Ministry?

Some people have a job in the church; others get involved in a ministry. What is the difference?

If you're doing it because nobody else will, it's a job. If you're doing it to serve the Lord, it's a ministry.

If you'll do it only so long as it doesn't interfere with other activities, it's a job. If you're committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it's a ministry.

If you do it because someone else says it needs to be done, it's a job. If you do it because you are convinced it needs to be done, it's a ministry.

If your concern is success, it's a job. If your concern is faithfulness, it's a ministry.

It's hard to get excited about a job. It's almost impossible not to be excited about a ministry for our Lord. People may say, "Well done," when you do your job. The Lord will say, "Well done," when you complete your ministry.

An average church is filled with people doing jobs. A great church is filled with people who are involved in ministry.

If God calls you to a ministry, don't treat it like a job. If you have a job in the church, give it up and find a ministry. God doesn't want us feeling stuck with a job, but excited and faithful to Him in a ministry.

Selected

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

#### I seek not yours, but you. II Corinthians 12:14b

The Apostle Paul had poured his life into the lives of the Corinthian Christians, first as an evangelist, then as a teacher, but most of all, as a spiritual father. Their questioning of him and his authority left him grieved. Often we can be engaged in the life of the church or individuals within the church, or even our own family, and yet there seems so little to show for it. Like Paul, we may feel aggrieved because our service is unappreciated (vv. 11-13), our life is unreciprocated (vv. 14-18), and our expectations are unfulfilled (vv. 19-21). Don't give up dear servant. Our part is to remember the One we are serving – and keep our spirit strong towards those we are serving.

Norman Craig Funston

*O may all who come behind us find us faithful; May the fire of our devotion light their way.* – Jon Mohr

### President's "High Horse" a Low Blow to Christians!

The 63<sup>rd</sup> National Prayer Breakfast on February 5 in Washington, D.C. became a center of controversy because of the remarks of the President of the United States.

The Christian Post reported that <u>President Barack</u> <u>Obama said he rejects the notion that the war on terrorism is</u> <u>any kind of "religious war" against radical Islam...</u>

The president acknowledged that they are doing damage in a lot of countries around the world.

"But it is absolutely true that I reject a notion that somehow that creates a religious war, because the overwhelming majority of Muslims reject that interpretation of Islam," he said.

Instead of contributing to the intent and purpose of the "prayer" breakfast, the president used his time at the microphone once again to lean toward Islam and to lean away from Christianity.

Tony Perkins of the Family Research Council was present and gives this account:

NASCAR hall-of-famer Darrell Waltrip drove home the gospel message... at the 63<sup>rd</sup> National Prayer Breakfast. To a crowded room, he shared his testimony about how a serious accident "knocked him conscious" of his spiritual state of being lost. In a moving testimony, Waltrip said he asked Jesus to forgive his sins and become his Saviour, a decision that transformed his life.

President Obama followed the NASCAR legend on the program, and the cautionary flags came out almost immediately. "We see faith driving us to do right," he said. "But we also see faith being twisted and distorted, used as a wedge—or worse, sometimes used as a weapon... We see ISIL – a brutal, vicious death cult that, in the name of religion..." IF the president had stopped there or juxtaposed the present fruit of Islam with that of Christianity, we could have ended on a high note. <u>But he didn't.</u>

In a speech that I can only describe as surreal, the president went on to liken Christians to the monsters behind ISIS and American racism. "And lest we get on our high horse and think this is unique to some other place, remember during the Crusades and the Inquisition people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ. In our home country, slavery and Jim Crow all too often was justified in the name of Christ."

First of all, the Crusades were almost a thousand years ago. ISIS is killing today. What's more, every true follower of Christ condemns the acts of barbarism committed under the mast of religion – in Medieval or American history. The teachings of Christianity do not call for, nor do they condone, brutality or bigotry. Can the same be said of Islam? Are Muslims around the world denouncing the ruthless and inhumane actions of ISIS?

Excerpt of an Editorial by Dr. Shelton Smith, *Sword of the Lord*.

# **Editorial**

# Accurate Meteorologist

"And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold" (Matthew 24:12)

As you read/meditate and listen to the Holy Word of GOD (the Bible), you can be absolutely sure that what God has said will take place just as HE said! In one sense what HE foretold/foretells will be as certain as though it has already happened.

WHEN the 'blind' are leading the 'blind', both fall into the ditch. This is true spiritually/religiously and 'secularly' also. It is ridiculous when USA leaders state that Global Warming/Climate Change is as certain as "Gravity". "Gravity" has been around since the time of Adam and Eve and even a little before. They then state that those who oppose 'Climate Change' are *'mindless'*.

WHY is it that either the North Pole OR South Pole Glaciers have grown <u>more</u> in the year 2014 than the account reveals for years before?

NOW be absolutely sure there is coming a time of Global Warming/Climate Change: "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" II Peter 3:10 – please read on. Before that this will take place, read Romans 8:12 – 25 and especially verse 22 at this time!

Be assured we are nearing time of the "Trumpet Sound" as we see increase of wars and rumors of wars, weather changes (frequency), nation against nation (race against race), false prophets, deception and the list goes on.

As I briefly have mentioned a few 'signs of the times, please keep in mind and heart that 'Christianity' is motivated by LOVE; whereas ISIS is driven by hate and fear. Prayerfully read (as always) Revelation 17; which is the apostate church (False ecumenical movement) Harlot; which includes one and ALL that minimize the BLOOD ATONEMENT OF JESUS. Then read Revelation 18 of the 'Anti-Christ'. Could this *possibly* be the Muslim Movement?

Don't give up, but look at what one sinner saved by GRACE/Faith and <u>God did</u>. HIS WORD is <u>forever</u> settled in Heaven! Elijah a person just as physical as you and I are! "<u>Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three year and six months, And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit" James 5:17-18.</u>

Another very interesting, profound word: "Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil" Ecclesiastes 8:11, Psalm 98:8.

Before YOU lose heart in this article let 'us' go back to the 'original' text: "<u>And because lawlessness will</u> <u>abound, the love of many will grow cold</u>."

ONE very clear 'ear mark' of belonging to the 'family of God' is this: "We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren" 1 John 3:14a. Do YOU love to attend the Prayer Meeting, Testimonial gatherings, etc.? God says: "'By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another'" John 13:35. Also He says: 'See how they LOVE one another'!

IN 'our' day there is often a misconception of what LOVE is. Often love is expressed as emotions, feelings, etc., which is true in one sense; but LOVE is commitment, devotion, involvement and loyalty.

Have you noticed that 'today' it is so easy to become irritable, indifferent and carelessness among the <u>brethren as</u> <u>it appears so easy for</u> each one go their own way? You know the thinking today is: "I want to have my own way." This is EVEN true among the 'household of God'!

YES there is a difference in the 'family of God' of spiritual age, growth and exercising discernment but: "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you" Ephesians 4:32, Colossians 3:12-17, 1 John 4:11, Galatians 6:3, 1 Corinthians 8:2, Proverbs 6:19. OH, how 'we' need to make a clear distinction between personalities and principles (Doctrine) – Romans 16:17, II Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15. YES 'we' are to <u>strive</u> to keep the **unity** of born again folk; but the Holy Spirit makes the original 'unity' take place; so be careful that 'tolerance' doesn't become 'treason'.

Sad but true; but being a true 'conservative' OR a Biblical pietistic person is much of the past; which doesn't make it right!

At this point, I have a personal question to ask of YOU: Can a true 'believer' be too careful in regards to their walk/talk WITH **JESUS**, with <u>eternity</u> in view??? WE find in Scripture the prayerful request for God to 'cleanse me', 'search me', even including presumptuous

## (hidden) SINS.

WHEN we speak of the 'love of/for the brethren', it goes beyond denominational differences. IF the 'fellowship' is correct between you and GOD (vital); you will find 'fellowship' beyond secondary doctrinal differences as long as they are truly under the BLOOD of the crucified, risen and coming again **ONE** (In the *family of GOD*)! Have you let "*lawlessness*' become a 'factor' in your LOVE for fellow 'believers'?

There are 'many' <u>excuses</u>/reasons why Hebrews 10:25, Proverbs 27:17, and Psalm 133:1 are not 'practiced <u>to-</u><u>day!</u> (By the way, children, business and prior (flexible) plans are <u>often</u> used as *reasons for* NOT seeking out Christian Fellowship) Would you like to have GOD take these 'reasons' away? Would YOU use the same reason for not attending a given sports activity, musical concert, Birthday Party, etc. that you would like to attend? WHO or what gets the priority in your agenda? A good question for one and all 'children of God' to ask themselves when choices have to be made is this: WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

As you search the 'Scriptures' you will notice that JESUS preached to the multitudes, spent a fair amount of time with the 'Apostles' and especially with the 'three'. He most certainly ALWAYS ministered personally.

"'If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor'" John 12:26.

The <u>Marvel</u> among marvels is that GOD created mankind with the purpose of 'fellowship' with Himself! Thus He also created man with a NEED of 'fellowshiping' with other fellow-believers in a *foreign* land!

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin" 1 John 1:7. Are YOU making use of this privilege and right?

"Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hears is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me." John 13:24-25. Notice that it is an elective command (John 13:15)! "'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. "" John 13:34-35. God NEVER ask anything of you and I that HE will provide! <u>Hebrews 10:20-25</u>, <u>Psalm 133:1</u>, <u>Proverbs 27:17</u>, <u>Malachi 3:16</u>. **"We know that we he passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death**" 1 John 3:14, Galatians 6:10.

IF you are too busy to seek out Christian fellowship; then you are busier than God intends for you to be!

"<u>Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not</u> <u>do it. To him it is sin</u>" James 4:17. This is a sin of '*omission*'.

UNITED 'WE' STAND, DIVIDED 'WE' FALL! A threefold cord is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:12

"Together Shem, Ham, and Japheth stood with their father against a wicked society and built an ark. Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah strengthened each other to remain faithful. Peter, John, and James were companions in intimacy to the Lord. Joab, Asahel, and Abishai were united in fierce devotion to David. A popular Bible teacher says that big battles are won by teams. The Lord says, "*Where two or three are gathered together in My* <u>name, there am I</u>" Matthew 18:20..." Marilyn MacMullen.

The day will come when ALL Believers will enter the presence of the Lord and live eternally in Perfect Harmony. UNTIL then, let 'us' strive to live in 'harmony' and 'supportive' of one another.

**P.S.** IN Scripture we see the symbol of the Person of the Holy Spirit as a <u>Dove</u>. To my knowledge, a dove is gentle and *easily* driven away. May we not be guilty of grieving or quenching the gentle 'dove' of the Holy Spirit.

In concluding this editorial, let me share with you two very important Biblical sermons in **7-seven** words,

**"Remember Lot's wife."** – "Enoch walked with God"" (Luke 17:32, Genesis 5:22, 6:9, 17:1, 40:15)

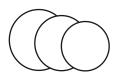
**P.P.S.** In the month of June (traditionally) there are a lot of 'Marriages' that take place, but *remember* that is the very beginning of a journey of a life TOGETHER. One Male united with one Female until death separates the same! Men should ALSO <u>remember</u> that it is YOU who your "bride" married and it is YOU that she <u>wants</u>; hopefully not the just the benefits that you may provide for her, <u>but you</u>! Naturally the visa versa is equally TRUE.

The five-year-old boy was busily drawing, and his mother inquired what it was.

"I'm drawing a picture of Adam and Eve," said the boy.

"But nobody knows what Adam and Eve looked like," said the mother.

"They will when I get through."



# From Our Fellowship Circle

#### С. К.

### Forest City, IA

Enclosed is a gift to help with the *Morning Glory* publication.

I look back many years and rejoice that through the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation; in the 40's - 50's my family and myself came to know Jesus Christ in an intimate way. The many Christian friends in those growing up years helped me as a teen to grow in Christ as well.

Now I am among the "older ones" and pray God is using me to reach out to others with God's Plan of Salvation and encouragement in their Christian Walk.

I find the *Morning Glory* encouraging and pass it unto others.

### P. M. H. Fergus Falls, MN

Enclosed is a check for *Morning Glory* or the <u>Hauge</u> <u>Federation</u>.

We have received the 'Morning Glory' for many years and have certainly enjoyed receiving the same.

My husband, ... went to be with the Lord 6 months ago. I miss him so much but we have the wonderful hope of meeting again because of Jesus. I overheard my daughter-in-law tell someone "We know where he is and we know how to get there." What a blessed hope we have!

Thank you again.

#### **M.** A.

### Eden, SD

As I walked up to my mailbox a couple of days ago, it dawned on me that I wasn't receiving the *Morning Glory* edition any more. So I called ... to see if she was receiving it and she said yes! Then the light went on - oh, oh, my subscription had run out!

I am so sorry this has happened as I certainly enjoy reading the *Morning Glory*. ...

...Brought me a few back issues to Church on Sunday and I read them all and would certainly love to receive it again! ...

I am looking forward to Spring – it has been a long cold Winter, but thankful we haven't had much snow.

#### \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### "Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord." Isaiah 2:3

IT is exceedingly beneficial to our souls to mount above this present evil world to something nobler and better. The cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches are apt to choke everything good within us, and we grow fretful, desponding, perhaps proud and carnal. It is well for us to cut down these thorns and briers, for heavenly seed sown among them is not likely to yield a harvest; and where shall we find a better sickle with which to cut them down than communion with God and the things of the Kingdom? In the valleys of Switzerland many o the inhabitants are deformed, and all wear a sickly appearance, for the atmosphere is charged with miasma, and is close and stagnant; but up yonder, on the mountain, you find a hardy race, who breathe the clear fresh air as it blows from the virgin snows of the Alpine summit.

It would be well if the dwellers in the valley could frequently leave their abodes among the marshes and the fever mist, and inhale the bracing element upon the hills. It is to such an exploit of climbing that I invite you this evening. May the Spirit of God assist us to leave the mists of fear and the fevers of anxiety, and all the ills which gather in this valley of earth, and to ascend the mountains of anticipated joy and blessedness. May God the Holy Spirit cut the cords that keep us here below, and assist us to mount! We sit too often like chained eagles fastened to the rock only that unlike the eagle, we begin to love our chain, and would, perhaps, if it came really to the test, be loath to have it snapped.

May God now grant us grace, if we cannot escape from the chain as to our flesh, yet to do so as to our spirits; and leaving the body, like a servant, at the foot of the hill, may our soul, like Abraham, attain the top of the mountain, there to indulge in communion with the Most High.

# GOSPEL TENT Available

This is a glorious time for Evangelistic Outreach in *making use* of the Hauge Gospel Tent! IF you are interested, please <u>contact</u> Paul Peterson of Kenyon, MN at (507) 202-5329

# We're Losing Our Country...The Foundations of this Country are Collapsing.

The Reverend Franklin Graham (son of famed evangelist Billy Graham and famous crusader in his own right) was <u>recently giving an interview</u> on Tony Perkins' radio show, <u>Washington Watch</u>, about the persecution of Christians around the world, when he said something that many conservative Christians have likely thought as well.

# Today, we are losing morally our nation, and the foundations of this country are collapsing and falling apart.

He wasn't just speaking about the "moral decline" of our country; he was focusing more on what our silence in the face of moral decay is leading to. Specifically, it's leading to the persecution and marginalization of Christians and Christianity – both here in America, and in the world at large.

Host Tony Perkins does well to point out that as believers we often desire to remain at peace with those around us, which leads us to stay silent on controversial or hard issues. However, instead of helping, this response may well be a reason of our current problems. Because we have chosen to remain silent, our voices are not heard collectively and those who do stand up are losing the fight, simply because they are overwhelmed by their opponents. The point is, that while we should want good relations with our neighbors, at the end of the day... some things are worth fighting for and should be fought for.

*"We cannot be silent any longer!* You know, I have people come up to me and they say, "Franklin, your father would not be speaking out like this." And my answer to them is to say, when my father went to school, the Ten Commandments were still on the wall. When my father went to school, the teacher led the whole classroom in the Lord's Prayer. The country that we're living in today is not the same as when my father grew up. It's a different day, it's a different century, and we have a whole different, new set of issues in front of us. And what we're doing today is we're losing our country.

My father wasn't worried about losing our country when he was growing up. That wasn't the issue. *Today, we are losing morally our nation, and the foundations of this country are collapsing and falling apart.* We better stand up, and we better speak up, and we better start getting Christians to run (for political office) and voting for those Christians that run."

Eagle Rising, by Onan Coca, March 19, 2015

# **Pro-Choice Till She Learned She Was Conceived in Rape**

Every year the media ignore the thousands who gather on the National Mall to celebrate life - in 2015, an estimated 200,000 gathered, and ABC and NBC refused to acknowledge the March for Life... One story that is often untold is the personal...

(This year) Mary Rathke, a pro-life speaker who was conceived through rape, had some strong words for the pro –life movement who think its okay to abort me. I hear all the time, 'I'm pro-life, except in the case of rape.' What I'm really hearing is: 'I'm pro-life, except in the case of Mary Rathke.'

"Just because my father was a rapist doesn't mean I don't deserve life," she said.

Another woman, Travon Clifton, was pro-choice, until she found out that she too was conceived through rape. "Up until that point I did not know... in high school, I was actually pro-choice. I used to write papers about that -awoman's right to choose."

But, "I realized that when I was supporting the exception, I was consenting to my own death."

Katie Yoder for LifeNews.com

# 57,762,169 Abortions in America Since 1973

The United States marked 42 years of legalized abortion in all 50 states at any time for any reason throughout pregnancy on January 22, the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Since that time, there have been approximately 57,762,169, abortions that have destroyed the lives of unborn children...

The long-term trend is fewer abortions (now about 1.1. million annually), and the number is down significantly from 1990 when the country saw 1.6 million abortions a year... If the number of abortions had remained at 1.6 million, more than seven million more babies would have died.

Steven Ertelt for LifeNews.com

*Editor's Note:* MAY 'we' continue to plead/pray for GOD'S **mercy**; <u>as 'we' the people</u> (USA) have sinned grievously before 'our' holy and righteous GOD!

Then *think also* of the unknown number of infant lives who have been killed in *secret* and those who have been killed in other countries as well.

# Sixteen States Are Actively Trying to Ban Sharia Law

Today the terrorist group ISIS is holding tens of thousands of people in subjugation to a primitive form of Islamic law. In the United Kingdom, which has significant Muslim population, there is a huge push to put sharia law on an equal footing with British law. Here in the United States, Islamic groups are increasingly pressing for concessions on a wide variety of issues. It is not surprising, the, that states are acting to stave off such incursions.

In a recent article, the <u>Conservative Tribune</u> details these efforts.

Anytime a state wants to ban sharia law from being used within its boundaries, Muslim groups – usually led by the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) – cry Islamophobia; which usually leads to the question: If the groups weren't in favor of sharia law, why would they mind it being banned?

...Alabama became the latest state to ban sharia law when voters passed a measure adding an amendment to the state constitution. CAIR said that the motion was "virulently racist" and "outright hostility towards Muslims."...

Liberty247.net

*Editor's Note:* WHY aren't the other **34** states doing the same; as you may recall the old saying: 'A stitch in time, saves nine'?

## **Canadian Supreme Court**

The Canadian Supreme Court banned prayer at City Council Meetings; stating that elected officials <u>do not</u> have the right to pray audibly at City Council Meetings. Selected  $- \frac{4}{15}$ 

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# Say "DAD!"

Say Dad, as you know this is the month that we pay tribute to <u>the God Given Privilege/responsibility</u> of bringing into this world an Inheritance from the LORD!

Just a couple of *quick* questions in regards to this *vital role*: 1). Does your dwelling quarters resemble that of a 'Christian-home' by pictures, plagues, literature, watching programs on TV, language, etc.? 2). Are YOU the 'head of the household/leader' (not dictator) in seeing to it that *you and your spouse/family* are being led <u>daily</u> in devotions/family altar/ Scripture reading and prayer?

IF NOT, you have failed miserably in the greatest calling/vocation/occupation on earth that God has given YOU - other than personal SALVATION!

May YOU experience a BLESSED FATHER'S DAY AND BEYOND. This is our prayer for YOU! In God's GRACE, may you experience the following: "In the fear of the LORD, there is strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge. 'The fear (child-like fear with reverence) of the LORD is a fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death.'" Proverbs 14:26-27.

May this ALSO <u>be true of you who are privileged to</u> <u>be Grandparents, Great grandparents!</u>

*The 'family' that prays together, works together, worships God together, plays together – stays together.* 

Last word for now: "Remember Lot's wife" and "... Enoch walked with God." Genesis 5:22a & Luke 17:32.

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## The Cross Was His Own

They borrowed a bed to lay His head At Jesus' incarnation; They borrowed the colt on which He rode Midst shouts of jubilation; But the crown He wore, and the cross He bore Were His own.

He borrowed the bread when the crowd He fed On the grassy mountainside; He borrowed the fish when the people did wish Their hunger satisfied; But the crown he wore, and the cross He bore Were His own.

He borrowed a room on the way to the tomb The Passover feast to eat; They borrowed a cave—for Him a grave; They borrowed the linen sheet. But the crown He wore, and the cross He bore Were His own.

The thorns on His head were worn in my stead, For me the Saviour died. The guilt of my sin drove the nails in When Him they crucified; Though the crown He wore, and the cross He bore Were His own—they were rightly mine.

Author Unknown

# THE RESULT OF CURSING

Recently I talked with a person who said: "On the job I hear so much swearing and cursing I can hardly take it any longer!" I've thought a lot about what he mentioned. Then I tried to recall if I have heard any preacher speak on the subject of "cursing" recently. I could not think of anyone. I asked my wife and others but they could not recall hearing any message on "cursing." Therefore, I thought I should write an article and confront this subject, using the New Living Translation Bible.

As a minister of the Word of God, I am obligated to speak of sin and wrong doing when the need is there. I'm a Christian, and the <u>Bible is my guide</u> in every area. So let's look at what the Bible says about this subject. Matthew 15:18 tells us what Jesus said one day. **"But <u>evil words</u> come from an <u>evil heart</u> and defile the person who says them." Evil words, where do they come from, they come from an <u>evil heart</u>. The Lord goes on to say that <u>it defiles</u> the person that speaks like that.** 

The word defile means: filthy, dirty, impure, corrupt, and profane. Let me ask you, how do you talk to people? Do you think it's manly or something like that, when you curse and swear? Another verse that is very thought provoking is found in Romans 3:13. **"Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave. Their speech is filled with lies."** 

Let me tell you a story about myself. I got engaged when I lived in Norway, to JoAnn, who is now my wife. In that country, when you get engaged, both the boy and girl get an <u>engagement ring</u>. I want to use this as an example for you. When a person accepts Christ Jesus as his or her Lord and Savior, then we receive His <u>Holy Spirit</u>, who lives in our heart. Here is proof of that, Ephesian 1:13. "And now you also have heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, <u>he identified you as His own</u> by giving you the Holy Spirit, who He promised long ago."

I was identified with my girlfriend at that time, because of the ring I wore. I am identified with Christ, because His <u>Holy Spirit</u> lives in me.

Now, suppose a boyfriend goes out one evening with his girlfriend and speaks kindly to her and shows affection. The next day on the job he speaks rudely of her and really drags her name through the mud as it were. He curses her and belittles her all he can. Two days later, he's out on a date with her again. He says kind and sweet words to her, etc. and they have a good time. The next day on the job, he puts her down, by the swearing and cursing of her name. He has nothing good to say about her. Do you think these two young people should get married? What if she finds out about the way he speaks of her? Do you think she would want to marry him?

The Bible says to a believer in Christ, <u>don't grieve the</u> <u>Holy Spirit</u>. Let me quote you a few verses in this regard. Ephesians 4:30-32. **"And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, He is the one who has <u>identified you as his own</u>, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. <u>Get</u> <u>rid of all bitterness</u>, rage, anger, <u>harsh words</u>, and <u>slander</u>, as well as all types of malicious behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you."** 

Here is what the Lord says about <u>His name</u>. Exodus 20:7 says; **"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for <u>the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless</u> <u>who misuses His name</u>." This is the third commandment.** 

This is how God the Father speaks about His only begotten Son in Philippians 2:9. **"Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place** (in heaven) **and gave Him the name that is above every name."** 

I will give you an example. I was visiting a couple in a church that I served, and they said to me, "There are some people in our church that misuse the name of the Lord. They damn His name, by cursing Him in every way, without any noticeable regret." Let me ask you! Do you think people like that will get into God's heaven? Right away some people will say: "Well, I grew up in a tough neighborhood" or "that's just the way people talk today." Is that so?

Jesus says in Matthew 7:21 and 23: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." Continuing, Jesus says about them: "I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!" Do you take the Word of God like this lightly? I sure don't! These people were turned away from heaven!

A fitting verse from Proverbs 4:23-24. "Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects everything you do. Avoid all <u>perverse talk</u>: stay far from <u>corrupt speech</u>." Christ tells us in Matthew 12:36-37. "But I tell you that <u>men will have to give account</u> on the day of judgement to <u>every careless word</u> they have spoken. For <u>by your</u> words you will be acquitted and <u>by your words</u> you will be condemned." James 5:12. "Above all, my brothers, do not swear – not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your "yes" be yes, and your "no" be no, or you will be condemned."

So how is it with you reading this article? Are you careless in the way you speak? I personally pray like what the Psalmist prayed in Psalm 120:2. **"Save me, O Lord, from <u>lying lips</u> and from <u>deceitful thoughts!"</u> That's why I don't apologize for the fact that I need a daily** 

helper, who is my Savior. <u>His Holy Spirit lives in me</u>; He helps me, guides me and He rebukes me when needed. He leads in my life on a daily basis.

God again says in James 1:26, **"If anyone considers himself religious and yet <u>does not keep a tight rein on his tongue</u>, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless." <u>This is quite a statement</u>! You see, you can play the game of life all you want. You can go to church, you can put on a false front around the children, you can try to make a good impression in front of people. But notice what He says: <b>"Your religion is worthless."** If this is the way you live, as some of these Bible verses have described, <u>don't fool yourself</u> thinking you're going to get around God's damnation, because you won't. God knows of every <u>thought, word and deed</u> in your life. You're going to give account for everything, <u>and so am I</u>. That's why I choose not to be careless about the way I speak.

There are two roads in life, that's what the Bible teaches. Matthew 7:13-14 "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose the easy way. But the gateway to life is small, and the road is narrow, and only a few ever find it." To be honest with you, I don't want to go to hell! Hell is a real and terrible place; it is prepared for Satan and his angels and anyone who has Satan's sinful nature. 2 Corinthians 4:4. "Satan, the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the likeness of God." Unsaved people love sin; they know that's where their interest is. Many people don't think of the end result, of a sinful life. To spend an eternity in hell, what a terrible tragedy. Jesus warns all of us in this way. Luke 12:5. "But I'll tell you whom to fear. Fear God, who has the power to kill people and then throw them into hell."

Maybe you don't read the Bible much; <u>then you have</u> <u>little knowledge about Hell</u>. I am going to give you several phrases that the Bible uses describing Hell. It is a God forsaken place. This is where the unsaved person will exist forever and ever throughout eternity. It's a place of eternal torment that never ceases. There is an unquenchable fire. A lake that burns with fire and sulfur. The worm never dies and the fire never goes out. An eternal thirst that is never quenched. They will cry out from anguish of heart and wail in brokenness of spirit. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever. ... What a terrible place! Truly, <u>God</u> <u>warns you</u> every way He possibly can!

That is why God tells us, He sent his only begotten Son into the world. This was the only way God could save mankind. A Holy and perfect offering had to be sacrificed. So Jesus came, and laid down His life for us. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him <u>should</u> <u>not perish</u>, but have everlasting life."

Let me tell you some great news at the end of this article. If you really want a change in your heart and life, you can have a change. You cannot do this in your own strength, but with God's help and strength a miracle can take place. Honestly, repent of your sins before God and man. With a prayer in your heart, pray something like this: "Jesus forgive me. Change me! Make me a new person!" If you will honestly pray like that, submitting yourself to Him, He will forgive you! This is what He says in 1 John 1:9 **"But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to <u>forgive</u> us and <u>cleanse</u> us from every wrong."** 

Give Jesus a chance in your life – you'll never regret it. To be forgiven of the burden of sin, that is the greatest lasting joy a person can experience in life. Then we can sing with the song writer: "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now I'm found. Was blind but now I see."

Prayerfully submitted, Rev. Willmore Gundersen

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Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thy heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children. Deuteronomy 6:6-7a

Recently a friend mentioned that her mother often stated, "<u>Children will follow one of your 'gods', so make</u> <u>sure there is only one God.</u>" How true this statement is. Has God entrusted a child to your care?

Be sure to lead that child by your example. Teach them God's Word and pray for that child. By word and deed give them the Saviour. You will have done a great and lasting work. Janet Fleming

Train a child to walk God's way, Pray, then pray again,

*It may take some years to see Your work was not in vain.* – J. F.

# **EASTER MORNING**

#### Please read Mark 16:1-7

*Editor's Note:* As you 'ponder' upon this 'article' and most certainly ALL of Scripture, that ALL of the persons recorded therein, had the very same old nature that YOU and I have, and that they too had a 'three-fold' enemy: Satan, the world and 'our' own flesh (self). Also, that GOD and His promises never change and never will; as He Changes Not!

"And entering into the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, arrayed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said unto them, Be not amazed; ye seek Jesus, the Nazarene, who hath been crucified. He is risen; he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him." (Mark 16:5-6).

The great festival was over. Large groups of people from the various places in Palestine, as well as from other lands, had visited Jerusalem also this year to observe the Passover.

We have reason to believe that the rumors of the great prophet had traveled far and had brought many to the feast who might otherwise not have come. Some may also have had hopes for physical healing; so by the use of crutches and the kindly help of other people they had made their way to Jerusalem.

But now He is gone; there is no help to be had. He was too good to be permitted to live. Sinful and self-seeking people could not endure so much of love and truth without passing judgment on themselves. To save themselves they condemned the Savior.

He is dead. His grave has been sealed with the Roman seal; men with nerves of steel, men who regard neither God nor man, guard the grave.

Consequently, all the hopeless and helpless ones must return to their homes to be racked by pain, sorrow, and sin as hitherto.

The enemies of Christ have occasion to rejoice. He has been buried by faithful men. The festival is over without rebellion or revolution, and the grave is guarded by doughty men. No fanatic shall have opportunity to remove the corpse and say that He is risen. The tumult has subsided; His friends have been defeated and His enemies are victorious.

The Sabbath is drawing to a close; the Scribes and Pharisees betake themselves to rest securely. But the disciples lack both light and comfort. In the quietness of the night while hopelessness benumbs the disciples and intoxication of victory lulls the enemy to sleep, three women make their way to the grave; they arrive just as the day is dawning. Either they do not know, or they have forgotten, what would meet them there. They consider the stone, but not the guard; if they had thought of the guard they would most surely have remained at home.

Fortunately, they forgot; perhaps they did not know. At any rate they went. They could not have been so ignorant as to think that they could drive the soldiers away and break the seal; they knew Rome too well for that. (*Editor:* Anyone who broke the Roman seal would meet execution).

Time and again it has been fortunate that there have been innocent and childlike people who have had greater light and warmth in the heart than depth and clarity in the understanding.

These three women have rendered us a greater service than we can appreciate. If about fifteen or twenty strong men had been the first to arrive at the grave we can be certain that the enemies would have charged them with subduing the guard, breaking the seal and stealing the body. But now there were only three weak and innocent women who sighed because a large stone separated them from their friend and benefactor.

When they reached the grave they found that which they had never dreamed of. The stone had been rolled away, the grave was empty, and an angel of God was the watchman. Still frightened, they are puzzled by the strange turn of events.

It is now that the great battle begins between faith and doubt in the hearts of the disciples. They would like to believe, but this is unbelievable. They cannot believe for joy and amazement; all the while Jesus is trying in every possible way to show that He is risen. He meets them in Galilee according to His promise. He walks with them mile after mile. He asks them to cast their net into the sea. He gives them food, and before their eyes He Himself eats. He approaches Thomas and asks him to place his hands in the wounds. He stands among them while hundreds watch.

Can all this be deceit and illusion?

Is anything in the Bible declared with greater conviction than that Jesus is risen?

If we cannot believe this, what can we believe? A darkness of the devil has enveloped these people who, with the Bible in hand, will declare that they believe in Jesus but will deny that He is risen. In order to make Satan's deception more plausible they say that He arose <u>spiritually</u>; that is supposed to be nearly as good as a bodily resurrection.

Can a spirit die and rise? Has a spirit ever been buried?

No, they who deny the bodily resurrection of Jesus thereby deny the Saviorhood of Jesus, and have no right to bear the name of Christ.

"If Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." 1 Cor. 15:17.

Excerpt from *Easter Morning*, Spirit and Power, By Luddvig Hope, Copyright HLIF: 1959.

### **JESUS WEPT!**

#### By Louis Paul Lehman

"Jesus wept." John 11:35 — "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it." Luke 19:41.

These passages glisten with the rarest and most precious tears in the universe—the tears of God. You might wish that someone had put out his hand to catch them as they fell; then preserving them in some sealed vessel, transparent and airtight we could behold them like jewels of His tender grief – "Jesus wept."

No one can analyze the emotions of divine mind, which so infinitely transcends ours, even as *"the heavens are higher than the earth"* (Isa. 55:9). But we can pause to wonder, to stand transfixed at this curious thing—the weeping God.

I see the impossibility of exploring all the secrets of the Almighty with a candle of human reason. I know it would be impossible to explain the scientific and mathematical theories of missile research in the tongue of some jungle tribe who do not even have words for numerical powers.

#### Jesus Wept With the Sorrowing

The setting of John, chapter 11, is the record of the death of Lazarus. This event touched the hearts of his sisters, Mary and Martha, and touched all the community of Jews who wept with them (vs. 33).

They were all weeping and Jesus wept with them. They were not all weeping for the same reason. Crowds are often stirred by an electric sympathy, and some weep because it is the thing to do.

Not all tears have the same character. Some tears are genuine; they spring automatically from an expressive heart. Some tears are false; they may be voluntarily offered in the stead of anything more concrete. There are tears of joy as well as sorrow—live tears of hope, tears of disappointment.

"Jesus wept." At this moment He had no pain, but He had become a part of a company of weeping people and "Jesus wept." He wept with the sorrowing.

It is one of the great privileges of the Gospel to offer you a Christ who will weep with you. He is touched with your feelings.

If you have a broken heart and want someone to weep with you, He knows how to do that. "Jesus wept."

The Psalmist took hold of the same idea: "*Thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities*" (31:7).

There is substance to His sympathy. There are tears in

it. I am amazed how few people weep today. It is thought to be a sign of weakness that anyone should weep—but *"Jesus wept."* 

I wonder if it takes hold of your heart how wonderful it is to have a Christ who will weep with us! He is sensitive to human grief. If they only knew – they who live in the shadow of that grinning idol on the gilded pedestal; they who come with their gift of rice and money and meat seeking for one crumb of comfort, one gleam of hope, one word from those carved lips—oh, if they only knew Jesus!

That same sorrow is in the scene in Luke 19 when He weeps over the city; their sin has brought their judgment.

That God weeps over the impenitence of men is an insight into His heart. He loves. He cares. That God is concerned about lost men is spelled out in the Mosaic ritual, but it breaks upon us in full majesty in the Incarnation.

It thunders at Calvary in every drop of His blood on the quaking rocks. It shatters the seal of the tomb on the morning of the Resurrection.

He weeps over the sinning.

There is an indication of His willingness and His ability in line with His lack of action in the tears He wept for Jerusalem: *"How often would I have...but ye would not."* There is another adequate record: "<u>Because of their unbelief</u>" (Matt. 13:58).

A farmer may desire mighty works in his fields, and he implores God to help him. That is a wise and reverent attitude. He shall pray to the Lord for a good harvest. Surely God can send the harvest. The Lord is able to bandage the barren earth with a golden sheaf of harvest.

God can do it—but God will not unless the farmer broadcasts the seeds, plows the earth and cares for the soil. There will be no flour, no bread, no profit, despite all his prayers and faith, unless the farmer meets the conditions of harvest. God says in light of man's failure in obedience, *"How often would I have, but ye would not."* 

The statesman may pray, "<u>God, God, help us</u>!" Surely God can, and I believe God will—but there is a condition to be met: "*Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people*" Prov. 14:14.

Jesus weeps over the sinning. He would meet their need, pardon their sin, forgive the past, assure them of Heaven. He would, and He can—but they would not. "Jesus wept."

Look in the Word and catch sight of His tears. Look to the cross and see His sorrow. Listen to His pleading tones of love in the prayers of an old mother, in the throb of a father's entreaty, in the wooing Spirit heavy upon a sinner's soul. LOST! A world – a race – a soul – LOST!

Whatever other pain this waywardness has caused, whatever sorrow it has brought to parents and friends and wives and husbands and sons and daughters, above all other tears it has made Jesus weep. God brokenhearted!

This should be sufficient to bring any sinner to Jesus, who desires to save **"them to the uttermost that come into God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make inter**cession for them" Heb. 7:25.

> Excerpts taken from the article *Jesus Wept*, Sword of the Lord.

Editor's Note: "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:15-16.

"Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves with him." Psalm 126:5-6.

*"Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning."* Psalm 30:5b. Jeremiah 9:1-2, then read on! Romans 9:1-2 and once again please read on!

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" 1 Corinthians 15:57-58.

## **LESSONS FROM AMOS:**

Don't Enter Gilgal

(Continued from last issue of the Morning Glory) "But (do not) ...Enter Gilgal ... For Gilgal shall surely go into captivity." Amos 5:5

Gilgal was the place of new beginnings. Twelve memorial stones from the Jordan were set up at Gilgal after the miraculous crossing of the Jordan River (Joshua 4:3). The nation was circumcised there in preparation for their possession of the Land (Joshua 4:5). The Passover was celebrated (Joshua 5:10), and the miraculous manna ceased (Joshua 5:12). The victorious campaign in the hill country of Judea extending to Kadeshbarnea and Gasa was conducted from Gilgal (Joshua 10:15). The great battle of the waters of Merom was conducted from Gilgal (Joshua 1:43, 11:5). Saul was crowned Israel's first king at Gilgal (1 Samuel 11:15).

Yet, the activity at Gilgal began to obscure the Word of God. Saul compromised and sacrificed at Gilgal to try to gain God's blessing. His desire for political favor resulted in direct disobedience to God.

A zeal for "<u>righteous action</u>" without obedience can result in evil. Jephthah's foolish vow and subsequent bad leadership led to terrible apostasy (Judges 17 - 18). A Levite' false zeal for revenge led Israel into civil war (Judges 19 - 21).

When activity substitutes for "holiness," the cause starts to justify the activity. Activity then becomes necessary to preserve the cause, and dedication to the activity is equated with loyalty and holiness. In many cases, preservation of a memorable event overrides biblical truth. We don't need "activity" at Gilgal as much as we need "abiding" in Christ. The "branches" need the "vine" (John 15).

#### Don't Pass Through Beersheba

"But ... pass not to Beersheba" Amos 5:5

Beersheba (well of the "sevens") became a location of some importance in Israel's early history. Hagar (the Egyptian bond-woman who bore Ishmael) was rescued by God at Beersheba (Genesis 21:14-19). Abraham improved the well at Beersheba and settled there, built a grove and "called there on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God" (Genesis 21:33). It was at Beersheba that Abraham was told to sacrifice Isaac (Genesis 22:1-4).

Beersheba figured prominently in the life of Israel. Isaac made a covenant with the Philistines there, repaired the well, and lived at Beersheba for many years (Genesis 26:17-33). Historically, Beersheba is best known for the political oaths ceremoniously confirmed there with the secular nations around Israel.

At Beersheba, truth later became equated with tradition. Substituting the wisdom and traditions of man (Mark 7:3-13) or the world's (Colossians 2:8) for truth can be <u>very dangerous</u>.

God looks forward, not backward. Historical places and events are lessons, not laws.

God wants obedience, not activity. Past victories are to be praises not patterns.

God demands truth, not compromise. Successful negotiations are directives, not doctrines.

"Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph" (Amos 5:14-15). Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

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# **Crucified Lips**

I guess it is possible for a Christian's eyes to gaze on lust, like a dirty magazine – but not crucified eyes. It may even be possible for a Christian's eyes to watch the filthy movies at a theater – but not crucified eyes. I guess it is possible for a Christian tongue to spread slander (Gossip) but not a crucified tongue. A Christian's feet may even go out on the dance floor – but not crucified feet. A Christian's lips may suck a cigarette – but not crucified lips. I guess it is possible for a Christian to sip a martini or guzzle down a beer – but not through crucified lips.

Selected

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You have no enemies you say? If you have none, Small is the work that you have done. You've never turned the wrong to right; You've been a coward in the fight. Charles Mackay

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

#### For God so loved the world. John 3:16 His father saw him and had compassion. Luke 15:20

The father in the story of the prodigal son is a beautiful picture of God the Father. He loved his boy in spite of the young man's selfishness and sin. And when he returned, the Father looked past all the boy's shortcomings (SIN) and gave him position, authority, and a renewed relationship in his household. When God so loved the world, it was you He loved. He looks past all your sins to Calvary and is ready to forgive and to give you a place as a son of God. Now this is love, is it not? Come to Him today. Charles Tempest

Oh love of God how rich and pure, How measureless and strong, It shall forever more endure, The saints' and angels' song. – F. M. Lehman

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

For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge... Proverbs 8:11-12a

What do we prize above all else? We see here that God's Word (wisdom) is worth more than any amount of money and the goods it can buy. Can we say that we love wisdom enough to meditate on it continually? Is it sweeter than honey to us? To love God's Word is to gain immeasurable blessing. It gives prudence and knowledge. It drives out pride and troublesome attitudes. Seek it today. G. Frear

Fear of the Lord is wisdom; seek it and you will find. Cry out for understanding; let it fill your mind. Search as for hidden treasure; look for it every day. This is the path to wisdom; follow all the way. S. Peterson

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

#### "Before honour is humility"

#### Proverbs 15:33

HUMILIATION of soul always brings a positive blessing with it. If we empty our hearts of self, God will fill them with His love. He who desires close communion with Christ should remember the word of the Lord. "to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at My word." Stoop if you would climb to heaven. Do we not say of Jesus, "He descended that He might ascend"? So must you. You must grow downwards, that you may grow upwards; for sweetest fellowship with heaven is to be had by humble souls, and by them alone. God will deny no blessing to a thoroughly humbled spirit. "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven," with all its riches and treasures. The whole exchequer of God shall be made over by deed of gift to the soul which is humble enough to be able to receive it without growing proud because of it. God blesses us all up to the full measure and extremity of what it is safe for Him to do. If you do not get a blessing, it is because it is not safe for you to have one. If our heavenly Father were to let your un-humbled spirit win a victory in His holy war, you would pilfer the crown for yourself, and meeting with a fresh enemy you would fall a victim; so that you are kept low for your own safety. When a man is sincerely humble, and never ventures to touch so much as grain of the praise, there is scarcely any limit to what God will do for him. Humility makes us ready to be blessed by the God of all grace, and fits us to deal efficiently with our fellow men. True humility is a flower which will adorn any garden. This is a sauce with which you may season every dish of life, and you will find an improvement in every case. Whether it be prayer or praise, whether it be work or suffering, the genuine salt of humility cannot be used in excess.

Selected

# HAUGE BIBLE (Annual) CONFERENCE

Kasson, Minnesota

June 19 - 21, 2015

AT

Mt. Sion Lutheran Church,

Theme - REVIVE US AGAIN!

"Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?" Psalm 85:6

# FRIDAY evening

7:00 p.m. – Musical & Singspiration7:30 p.m. – Evening Service with Guest Speaker, Pastor Don Greven, Viroqua, WI. Refreshments following

# SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. – Prayer time

9:30 a.m. – Coffee & Refreshments

10:00 a.m. – Mr. John Monsen, Burnsville, MN

11:05 a.m. – Pastor Dick Erickson, Brooklyn Park, MN

Noon – Meal at the Church (Free Will Offering)

1:05 p.m. – Mr. Wayne Almlie, Des Moines, IA

2:00 p.m. – Singspiration & Testimonial time

2:50 p.m. - Coffee & Refreshments

3:15 p.m. – Annual Meeting of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation. Prayerfully try to attend. You're invited!

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation Board Members Meeting to follow with Election of Officers, etc.

7:00 p.m. – Evening Service – Pastor Don Greven

# SUNDAY

TWO sessions with Pastor Don Greven speaking (9:30 & 11 a.m.)

## PRAY and Come in expecting <u>many</u> rich blessings from our Living Savior in opening Heaven's Doors!

YES, come under the BLOOD of the Crucified and Living ONE, Who is coming again!

# WELCOME!

For those of you for which it is 'convenient', please bring 'home-made' goodies for Refreshment times.

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# UpDate

"Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine" Proverbs 3:9 - 10

As has been mentioned a number of times, Martin Luther says that 'human reasoning is the greatest hindrance to and a 'Living Faith' and how 'we' need to take 'our' human reasoning 'captive' in obedience to the Word of God! He also states that basically a living faith struggles!

First and most important, PLEASE pray for us specifically and then share as the LORD has entrusted into your midst and support as God lays upon your heart! He knows about our personal economy much better than we can even dream of, as HE makes NO mistakes! James 2:14-20. **God loves a cheerful giver!** 

April's Income for the ministry of the *Morning Glory* is \$.2,822.00

The cost of publishing and mailing the *Morning Glory* each month is approx. \$2,000 plus other noticeable expenses for this ministry.