

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

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • June 2020

# **Clinging to the Hope of Christ's Resurrection**

By Dr. Michael Youssef

#### Your Story's Not Over Yet

t was early Sunday morning and they had just arrived at the tomb. These three women had faithfully supported the ministry of Jesus for years. They had placed all their hope in Him. Then, suddenly, they found themselves standing at the foot of the Cross – watching their dreams bleed to death. They witnessed their hope being crucified. And as they did, they resigned themselves to their loss.

In their unspeakable anguish they came to Jesus' tomb on Sunday morning. They came depressed, despondent, and defeated. But they came. They made plans. They decided to go to the tomb and anoint the body of their crucified King. They decided to do something in the face of their pain and loss.

As these three women arrived at the tomb that Sunday morning, they began to discuss the biggest obstacle in their path – the stone. <u>"Who's going to move the</u> <u>stone?"</u> they asked one another. *(Have you ever been in a situation like this, where it's one thing after another, and every time you think you finally see a light at the end of the tunnel –it turns out to be a train? Have you ever been there? I know I have)* – (says the Writer).

What keeps you up at night? What causes you anxiety? What deep disappointment haunts your waking hours? What are you trying to numb or forget?

These three women were nearly overcome by their hopelessness and helplessness! But they did not give up.

And as they arrived at the tomb, they were shocked to see that the stone had already been rolled away – and the tomb was empty! Against all odds, against natural laws, by the power of God —Christ had risen from the dead. With this cataclysmic revelation, they suddenly understood that God's plan was far, far greater than anything they could have ever hoped or imagined.

The resurrected Jesus can remove all the stones of impossibilities in your life, shatter the prison of worry and anxiety, and remove all depression, anxiety, and shame.

Jesus rose from the dead to prove that He is the only one who can deliver us from the hopelessness of hell. In fact, HE is the only one who can guarantee our resurrection. He is the only one who can forgive all our sins – past, present, and future. HE is the only one who can deliver us from the seeming futility of this life. And HE is the only one who can conquer our greatest and most powerful enemy – death.

As we celebrate Resurrection Sunday this month, (Ed. Keep in your heart/mind/practice, we have a LIVING SAVIOR who is coming again. In the meantime, He is seated at the "Right Hand of the Throne God," interceding for us!) I want you to remember that there is no large stone in your life that Jesus cannot remove. There is no tomb that threatens to bury you that He cannot empty. There is no mountain of shame, guilt, or sin that He cannot obliterate. There is no pain or sorrow that

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He cannot replace with His comfort and peace. There is no death that He cannot conquer.

Whether you are living behind a stone of guilt and despair, overwhelmed by pain and hopelessness, experiencing crushing anxiety about your family's future – whatever your stone –your sense of hopelessness is premature.

The resurrected Jesus can remove all the stones of impossibilities in your life, shatter the prison of worry and anxiety and remove all depression, anxiety, and shame. The Bible said He removes them as far as the east is from the west. All you need to do is come to the end of yourself.

If you have been striving in your own strength, come to the end of trying to save yourself. Come to the end of trying to earn God's mercy. Come to the end of thinking that you can figure things out on your own.

Only the blood of Jesus Christ can give you what you need most: peace with God, the love of the Heavenly Father, and hope for true life both now and forever.

Remember; it was your sin and mine that took Jesus to the Cross. It was His love for us that kept Him there until He died. And it was the Father's love that raised Him to life on the third day and made Him our death-defying Savior. So how will you respond to His inexplicable love today? Will you turn to Him in repentance and faith? Will you trust that He is working for your good and His glory – even if the outcome is not quite what you'd imagined?

On that first Resurrection morning, Jesus dispelled the hopelessness of those three women. He destroyed their despair. He comforted them in their calamity. And He can do the same for you. The price is paid. The work is done. Come and receive. Allow the hope and the glory of the Resurrection to fill you – today and every day.

"Don't be alarmed...You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him." (Mark 16:6)

My Journal, From Darkest Night to Brightest Day

#### **Holding the Ropes**

By Victor Maxwell

#### "Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket." (Acts 9:25)

The conversion of Saul of Tarsus was a pivotal point in the history of the Christian Church. This persecutor, blasphemer and religious zealot set out for Damascus to oppose the church and persecute Christians, but his life was turned around. He immediately began to confess Christ to Jews in Damascus. Ironically, the former persecutor who became a preacher was soon being persecuted. In fierce hostility towards him the Jews decided to kill him, so they put a watch on the city's gates.

It was then that Saul was grateful for those disciples who helped him escape from Damascus by lowering him over the city's wall in a basket. Before embarking for India, William Carey famously told his friends, "<u>I will go</u> <u>down into the pit if you will hold the ropes</u>." Like Carey, Saul was depending on friends who would hold the ropes for him. See the principles established here by these rope-holders.

*The people were anonymous.* Their names are not given in the Scriptures, but they are registered in Heaven. God knows who they were, how many there were and what they did. Thank God for the vast number of rope-holders who stand by God's servants.

*Their part was generous, but perilous.* Despite Saul originally intending to harm them, they not only turned the other cheek, they scarified sleep and put their lives in jeopardy to identify with him and hold the ropes for him. The Bible is silent about their ability, but Paul needed to be sure of their dependability. They were magnanimous to Paul and he was trusting in their support.

*The potential was enormous.* Those disciples did not know that in their basket was the church's greatest missionary who would take the Gospel to Europe and

write thirteen books in the New Testament. <u>You never</u> know the potential of those for whom you pray.

William Carey's friends gave him their word, "Whilst we live, we will never let go of the rope."

Keep on holding the ropes for God's servants.

#### Happy (Blest) in the Service of the KING

#### By Dr. Sheldon Smith

When you have the Savior, you are saved, forgiven, redeemed, justified, propitiated, blood washed, born again, secure, regenerated, and HEAVENBOUND. Even the casual contemplation of such wonderful considerations fills the soul with joy and sparks a flood tide of rejoicing. No vocabulary is sufficient to express fully the absolute thrill of such a great salvation.

Now add to that the daily walk with the Lord, living victoriously for Him, serving with His people and witnessing for Him. The fact that we get to be His servants and His ambassadors here on this earth is absolutely amazing. Whether we preach, teach, sing, go soul winning, or work in some other way in church, we are on His team working for Him. We are the foot soldiers and He is the Commander in Chief.

We are called *fundamentalists* because we believe the BIBLE and take it seriously.

We identify as ...doctrinal positions have historically and typically been solidly Scriptural. (Editor: The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation for Now 100 years and HIS empowerment and His amazing GRACE! <u>And now we have had the privilege and re-</u> sponsibility of publishing the Morning Glory for approx. <u>85 years – Praise the LORD!!</u>)

Some of us have paid and are paying a price for the privilege of being who we are and doing what we do. The fact seems to be that not everybody is thrilled that we are thrilled. Some people want to cave in and go down the trail of compromise. When we don't go with them, they react with a generous helping of ungracious epithets in an attempt to diminish us and disenfranchise us. Of course, we wish such reactions did not come; nonetheless, we press steadfastly forward.

Even when others take the low road, we believe the high road is the best. We may be maligned, misrepresented and misunderstood; but we will still do our best to raise the flag of our faith to the top of the pole.

Excerpts from the Sword of the Lord

### "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." (Matthew 5:6)

(First a personal note: This article/sermon was sent in by Paul Peterson of Kenyon, MN; "I was blessed when I read this sermon"), which is by Gidier J. Lester.

Over the last few weeks, as we've studied the beatitudes together we've learned about 3 things that characterize the Christian. First of all, we are characterized as spiritual beggars (or poor in Spirit), that is, <u>conscious of</u> <u>the holiness of God</u> we recognize and admit that we are nothing compared to Him; that we have no worth or riches; that we are spiritually bankrupt and eternally lost and dead in our sin.

Secondly, and flowing from that first beatitude, we are those who never cease to mourn over sin and the result of it both in us and in our world. So, we have the proper perception of ourselves and our world. We recognize that we are not okay, that our world is not okay, that we dwell in a world of sin and decay; where disasters strike, where death reigns, where viruses proliferate. And we mourn over this. We lament over this. And we long for it all to be made new.

Thirdly, we are those characterized as meek or lowly; that is, we no longer glory or boast in ourselves. We no longer seek our own advantage. No, we're done with ourselves. Rather, we seek to glory and boast in Christ. We do this by (1) learning from and living for Him. We do this by (2) loving our neighbor, seeking what is in their best interest, all to the glory of God. We do this by (3) enduring suffering without retaliation or vengeance; leaving those matters to God.

No, poor in spirit, mourning, and meek. Thus far, that's what every Christian ought to find themselves characterized as. These things are what you ought to see in yourself. Will you see these things perfectly in yourself? NO, because we aren't perfect. In fact, only JESUS is the one who has perfectly exemplified these beatitudes. He is the one who – although perfect in glory and majesty – became nothing for us. HE is the one who perfectly mourned and lamented in Matthew 11:29, He says of Himself, "I am meek and lowly in heart." So, no we aren't perfect in these things, yet we are to see these characteristics in us. We are to see these things being nurtured in us. And that's an important note to make. See none of these come naturally. That is, you can't nurture these things on your own. In fact, I don't know who willingly would. No, these are marks of the Spirit of God upon you, marks of the one who has been captivated by Christ. For only the Spirit of God

brings us to a place where we recognize such poverty, only the Spirit of God brings us to a place of such mourning, only the Spirit of God brings us to a place of self-abandonment and abasement.

And thus, only the Spirit of God brings us to such a place of joy, or blessedness. For, as we now know, that's what all of these characteristics ultimately lead to; to Joy, Satisfaction, Happiness, Blessedness. That is the one who is poor in spirit is happy, not because being poor is utterly satisfactory, but because in coming to the end of all you are or thought you once were, there you find JESUS with the full and free riches of His Kingdom, and that's where blessedness is found; that's where true and eternal and unadulterated joy is found. And unless you allow the *Holy Spirit* to bring you to that place of spiritual poverty, you'll never find such joy. You'll never find true blessedness or happiness. You'll never be satisfied. So, blessed are the poor in Spirit.

To the one who is brought to a place of mourning *over sin*; day in and day out, you are happy (Blessed). Not because such mourning in and of itself is all that grand, but because in our mourning the Holy Spirit brings us to a place of comfort; that, to the blessed bosom of Christ, to the comfort of the Kingdom of CHRIST, where there will ultimately be no more crying or mourning, or pain, but where joy will abound. That's where blessedness is found, that's where true and eternal and unadulterated joy is found. And, unless you allow the Holy Spirit to bring <u>you</u> to that place of mourning, you'll never find such *joy*. You will never find true blessedness or happiness. You'll never be satisfied. So, blessed are the mourning ones!

Now, we come to our fourth Beatitude; to the fourth thing that Christians are characterized by, and here we comes to dinner-time; to what the believer in Christ hungers and thirsts for. Now, unlike the first three beatitudes, this one maybe isn't so paradoxical. In other words, it's maybe a little more logical or understandable. However, it is just as counter-cultural. That is, like the first three, you won't find this characteristic common to man. You won't find natural man hungering and thirsting after what Jesus says here.

For here in Matthew 5:6, Jesus says, **"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness."** (pray).

(*Editor:* Lord willing, to be continued in the next issue of the *Morning Glory*. Personally, I have been richly blest in reading and now typing this sermon. As we move along in this sermon, it gets deeper and richer in blessing. PTL.)

## **Editorial**

RES

Wings!

"Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings, from the wicked who oppress me, From my deadly enemies who surround me," (Psalm 17:8-9) "How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore, the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings." (Psalm 36:7) "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You: And in the shadow of your wings I will make my refuge. Until these calamities have passed by." (Psalm 57:1) "Because You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of your wings I will rejoice." (Psalm 63:7)

Both my Life-Mate (Spouse) and I like watching birds on our front-lawn and being we are originally from the state of Wisconsin, (although from two different areas); one of the birds that we especially enjoy watching are ROBINS.

As American as Apple Pie – the Robin is known throughout the great USA. Why? The American Robin is probably the most widespread and best-known songbird, and a harbinger of Spring across the USA.

A Robin is the official state bird of Connecticut, Michigan and Wisconsin, as a symbol of cheer and happiness – that's our robin! How many times has this red-breasted bird delighted/brightened the start of your day with its lilting morning wake-up song? It is known as a 'song-bird' and interesting as it may be; it is only the male robin which sings with it's great performances in the morning and evening as a cheery caroler. He uses his voice to attract females and defend his territory!

Why do a lot of birds fly south when the temperature gets cold – because it is too far to walk! In the context of Eccl. 10:20, we have a serious admonition against making fun of those in Government Leadership and also a wonderful promise.

*The happiness of the land depends on the character of its leadership.* WOE unto them when their leadership is childish. In my conviction, we are to respect the position of the office they are elected to or are given.

Some of these 'feathered Creatures' can fly up to hundreds of miles without stopping at a '*bird*-airport'. While working on this issue of the *Morning Glory*, we had a terrific snow-storm – a mixture of rain, sleet and heavy-wet snow! Thus we provided ample bird-food for the birds – which reminds me of God's Table of Grace – plenty for everyone who is willing to come and taste that God is good and if need be, God will give us 'Grace upon Grace'.

Momentarily, let us leave the robin alone and focus on ducks & geese. All fowl seem to have a definite sense of direction, and for ducks & geese, they usually fly in formation; somewhat like a V because of less wind resistance and as such we need Christian Fellowship to nourish and strengthen one another as that's the way the Creator made us.

Ducks & geese also have a sense of direction to guide. Why don't they decide to fly north for the <u>winter</u>' where they would have fresher air, more room and climate change? God also gives, especially to His children, direction to get to their given DESTINATION because there is a way that seems right unto man. Please read Jeremiah 17:9.

Ducks & geese like to blow their horn, called <u>Honk-ing</u>! Technically, it is to encourage one another and especially the leader(s). For those who believe a lie, like Evolution, then why don't the birds evolve over the years to become a dog or cat, as that would be more comfortable and convenient? Evolutionist, you have a lot of explaining to do for me!

OFTEN birds congregate where they find ample food or rest and God tells us to assemble together with those who believe His entire Word, the BIBLE.

Also, these flying airplanes <u>do not</u> hoard and practice <u>greed</u> for the many *tomorrows*, but seek to provide for their own, especially for their very young. Which brings me to another phase in regards to the secular world. I personally believe that Capitalism and Free Enterprise are biblical and God ordained, but NOT FOR HOARDING OR GREED!

Quickly I will give you a few examples: Cain & Abel, Fruit in the Garden of Eden, Manna, Abraham & Lot, etc. Then the Bible believing/practicing CHURCH, is to give/share as the Holy Spirit lays on our hearts and lives together in harmony. Individuals are to give to the needy and Christian ministries. The Holy Spirit will never lead you amiss!

Of all the beautiful birds the Bald Eagle is my favorite. There are so many things we can learn from the Eagle: – their nest, feeding the young, teaching the young how to fly and what to do when facing opposition and storms. The eagle will fly higher and higher until they're above the storm where it is calm and serene. So we also should be in our earthly journey, near to the heart of God!

They say the Bald Eagle's eye-sight is seven times keener than the humans eye-sight! How we need to continue to ask the Great Physician in these days of <u>Apostasy</u> for keen eye-sight (Discernment). We read in Revelation 3:18: <u>"I counsel you to buy from Me</u> gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed, and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see." There seems a right way unto man, but the end thereof is DEATH. (Jeremiah 17:9)

How we need to take our human reasoning 'captive' in OBEDIENCE to the Word of God; as GOD will not lead us astray! On the very first <u>Resurrection Sunday</u> three godly women tried to overcome the obstacle of the hindrance of Unbelief, and yet a tingle of unbelief existed when they came to the borrowed tomb to prepare the physical body of Almighty God. They were asked by the angels: **"Why seek ye the living among the dead"?** Isn't that unusual to seek the living at a cemetery? Now, before we get too harsh in regards to these three godly women, when you seek to be a follower of Jesus, what is your priority? Is it for whom HE is (Salvation – deliverer) or the benefits of what HE can provide for you? This reminds me of the following story:

A farmer had a pet chicken living among the farmstead which was a mother-hen. A horrible experience took place as a prairie grass <u>fire</u> took place where this mother-hen had laid and hatched a small brood of chickens! Concern and curiosity took place how the mother-hen had taken refuge and thus the farmer came upon a sad-scene; there she sat with most of her feathers burnt off and she was dead!

Being respectful, he decided to at least give this corpse a proper burial; but what happened to the chicks? They were nowhere to be found! Lifting up the corpse, there were the chicks huddled together, but very much alive! The hen had given/sacrificed her life in order to provide *shelter* for her <u>off-spring</u>! The chicks were under her wings and in a place close to the heart of their mother! I TRUST you got the true meaning of genuine CHRISTIANITY!

Jesus paid it all, nailed to a tree – "having wiped out the hand-writing of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross." <u>PEACE in</u> Jesus as HE came preaching <u>peace</u>, HE made <u>peace</u> and HE is our <u>peace</u>. – (Eph. 2:13-19 & Isaiah 40:30-31)

**JESUS** died for <u>my</u> sins, arose again for <u>my</u> justification and coming again for <u>my</u> 100% Sanctification! <u>Amazing GRACE!</u> (For HE is so precious to Me!)

Are YOU ready for the same; under the 'blood-atonement' and in God's provided GRACE, Dressed/Clothed in Jesus' garment?

#### I am Crucified with Christ

IF you and I are truly following in Jesus Christ as LORD, then we too must be willing to risk apparent failure in the eyes of the world. Still harder is the realization of being misunderstood by the world and then remembering we live in a sinful world and are not trying to turn the world upside-down, but the right side up. Even more difficult is the possibility of being misunderstood by some fellow-Christians who are close friends!

For a period of time; not ONE soul, even those who walked and talked with Jesus in His earthly journey understood Him and His life work. Therefore, very likely not one of His Apostles really could sympathize with the God-man; who likely would have appreciated some sympathy.

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I

who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.'" (Galatians 2:20)

It is only when we have learned that exercising the gift of a 'living faith' and obedience which leaves all consequences with GOD, that we will truly experience the Holy Spirit's power in a great way, working in us and through us.

It is only then that we will truly receive the fullness of the JOY in JESUS; which some Christians would call *'filled with the Holy Spirit'*; which means <u>'controlled by</u> <u>the Holy Spirit'</u>. Thus we leave the CONSEQUENCES with **GOD!** 

**"I am crucified with Christ", are YOU?** Editor



## From Our Fellowship Circle

#### M. L. & J. L. R.

Lake City, IA My Husband of nearly 71 years and I have been having some problems with our bones! ...But this past month

we have really got a lot of good reading from the Morning Glory. Keep up the good work and we are praying that finances will appear.

#### A. L.

#### Souris, ND

Thank you for the printed word, thus through the Morning Glory, and realizing that many church going people never hear some of the truths that you print.

Enclosed is a gift of \$... in seeking to help get God's Word out to folk.

#### C. K.

#### Roland, IA

Thanks for the good articles that appear in each issue of the Morning Glory. Please continue to send to us the Morning Glory, that is to my sister and myself. My sister's address is as follows ...

Enclosed please find \$... to help keep it coming.

#### **B.** N.

#### **Bismarck**, ND

Since about the eighth decade in life, I reflect more and more about quality of life, past, present, and future.

Recently on a TV news channel, Senator Schumer of New York spoke disparagingly of the crisis of life we are in as to our country's readiness to deal with the matter.

I recall the crisis of 1973 when our Supreme Court Judges mandated the legality of the man-made crisis of life by abortion. The cause of our new crisis, the coronavirus, is seemingly uncertain.

Hmm...because I am a person of faith, I have wondered, if the terrible scourge of abortion in our country were removed, might the Creator of Life answer our prayers for the precious lives of unborn babies, and declare war on the mysterious coronavirus?

Yes, I wonder...

#### Pastor D. B.

#### Ely, MN

Just a note; in celebration of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation of its' 100<sup>th</sup> years of service for our God and Father - (Ed. God's Grace and empowerment. Praise the LORD).

My wife ... went to be with the Lord this past October, after about 70 years together. I thank HIM every day for those years, and also for the Salvation He provides.

May God bless your faithful service to Him.

#### K. J.

#### Fergus Falls, MN

Enclosed please find a gift to help keep the Morning Glory to me. Also, I have been getting two copies of the Morning Glory of each issue. Please cancel one. I am enclosing the labels from both of them. Enjoy the magazine so much.

Editor's Note: IF such is the case that you are receiving two copies; would you either pass one on or notify us of the same? Thank you so much.

IMPORTANT: The Hauge Lutheran Bible Conference that was scheduled for June 27-29 of this year at the Lutheran Brethren Broen Home in Fergus Falls, Minnesota has been **CANCELED**, because of the very serious VIRUS that has invaded the USA. In this time of crisis, OUR Nation and other Countries are in NEED of a GENUINE SPIRITUAL REVIVAL! (WAKE-UP AMERICA!)

### A Young Lad

A young lad was gazing intently at the picture in the art store window: the store was displaying a notable picture of the crucifixion. A gentleman approached, stopped, and looked.

The boy, seeing his interest, said: "That's Jesus." The man made no reply, and the lad continued: "Them's Roman soldiers." And, after a moment: "They killed Him."

"Where did you learn that?" asked the man.

In the Mission Sunday-school," was the reply.

The man turned and walked thoughtfully away. He had not gone far when he heard a youthful voice calling: "Say, Mister," and quickly the little street lad caught up with him. "Say, Mister," he repeated, "I wanted to tell you that He rose again."

This is the wonderful reality that has been entrusted to you and me and through God's Eternal Word, the BIBLE.

Check it out; but you will not find a sermon by either the Apostle Paul or Peter in the New Testament that they don't mention the FACT that we have a resurrected SAVIOR!

This is the reality of the Eternal triumph of life over death; the promise and pledge of man's immortality.

Selected

# Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

## **Green Bay Packers Defend Donation to Planned Parenthood Abortion Business**

The foundation of the Green Bay Packers NFL football team is under fire for making a donation to the Planned Parenthood abortion business – as fans nationwide complain about its ties with a company that kills babies.

Now the team is doubling down on its donating and defending it by saying the gift is meant to support the few things Planned Parenthood does that don't involve ending the lives of babies before birth.

Lifenews.com

There are <u>eight</u> Cities in the state of Texas that Ban ABORTION (Sort-of a 'Sanctuary for the Unborn'!)

## Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds: There Is No Constitutional Right to Kill Babies in Abortion

Protections for unborn babies are among Iowa Kim Reynolds' top priorities...she said (February 17) in her 2020 Condition of the State address.

The pro-life Republican said she wants every Iowan to have the opportunity to succeed, including babies in the womb CBC Online reports. She urged lawmakers to pass a state constitutional amendment that makes it clear there is no "right to abortion" in Iowa.

She said her priorities for 2020 are to improve the wellness of all Iowans at all stages of life.

"And when I say all stages of life, I mean to include the unborn. We must protect life by making clear, through an amendment, that our Constitution does not grant a right to abortion. It's time and, unfortunately, it's necessary," Reynolds said.

Lifenews.com

#### **Robo Calls, Scam Calls**

The American people were bombarded in 2019 with 58.5 billion Robo calls, according to USA Today (January 17, 2020, Mike Snider). Unless you are living without a phone, you are getting your share of them; but here is what you do not know. Approximately 26 billion of those calls are not legitimate. They are scam calls being originated by con artists. – SWORD OF THE LORD PRESS

*Editor's Note:* Be very careful to give out any information about yourself; unless you <u>recognize</u> the person OR source!

## Sony Looking to Make Spider-Man "Bisexual with Boyfriend" in Upcoming Movie

A report says that <u>Sony</u> plans to feature Spider-Man as a bisexual in an upcoming movie.

## **Cuban Pastor Imprisoned, Pressured to Renounce Homeschooling**

Last April (2019), OneNewsNow reported that Pastor Ramon Rigal and his wife, Ayda Exposito, were sentenced to two to three years in prison for homeschooling their children. Mike Donnelly, an attorney with Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), says now there are reports officials are retaliating against the pastor through the use of punitive restrictions.

"We are getting reports saying that he is being tortured in prison and that his family is being targeted as the prison authorities attempt to get Pastor Rigal to denounce his faith, renounce homeschooling and all sorts of things, which violates the U.N. convention against torture," he explains.

onenewsnow.com

## Minnesota Parents Upset Over Rainbow Flag Display

Parents in southwest Minnesota are at odds with a public middle school that is displaying a rainbow flag in its cafeteria saying the banner for LGBTQ people doesn't represent their beliefs.

A video recording of a heated public forum (February 25) at Marshall Middle School shows parents accusing school officials of showing preferential treatment in allowing the gay pride flag but refusing their requests to include Don't Tread on Me and "straight family" flags in cultural display.

Gousa.com

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: The brainwashing machine is running at full speed in the tax-funded schools. Sad, shameful and a crisis in our nation.

## California Schools: Hormones Through Homeroom?

In California you have to be 18 to get a tattoo; 16 to drive a car, 21 to buy gun, alcohol or pot. But if you want to change your gender? Well, then, you just have to be 12. And your public school will be more than happy to help.

Need an abortion? Tell your teacher. Want to refill your birth control? Go to the school clinic. Thinking about starting hormone treatment? Your parents will never find out — at least, not under the policy the California Teachers Association (CTA) is pushing...

January 26, the CTA decided to go big on the LGBTQ agenda – adding "transgender and binary youth" to the students who can leave class for medical reasons without their parents' permission...

Tony Perkins, Washington Update

## Algeria Orders Another Church to Close as Crackdown Continues

Another Christian church has been ordered to shut down in Algeria as the government's crackdown on houses of worship continues.

The United Kingdom based Christian persecution advocacy organization Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) reports that Hope Evangelical Church in Oran City in western Algeria received a closure order issued by a local court earlier (in January).

The church is the latest in a series of churches that have received similar orders under a 2006 law requiring that all non-Muslim places of worship be authorized by a government board call the National Commission for Non-Muslim Worship...

CSW...reports that 13 churches in total have been shut down since last January...

Algeria ranks as the 17<sup>th</sup> worst country in the world for Christian persecution, according to Open Doors USA's 2020 World Watch list...

"The most visible example of persecution in 2019 was the seemingly systemic closure of Protestant churches," an Open Door's fact sheet reports. "In some of these cases, Christians were forcibly expelled by police in the middle of church services."

Samuel Smith, christianpost.com

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

#### Do What You're Told

#### "The disciples went, and did even as Jesus appointed them." (Matthew 21:6)

MANY things would be simpler both in doctrine and in life if we Christians followed the rule of doing what Jesus told us to do. Even what looks small becomes great when it is done for the Savior. Just untying a donkey and bringing him from the stall may be to the honor of Jesus, and to the welfare of others. The ridiculous and un-Christian idea that the Christian life should be divided into "Christian" and "secular" parts has done much damage in the kingdom of God.

The people of God are a kingdom of priests who are in His church, and stand before God's altar wherever they live and work. If the Christian life is divided into two parts, "Christian" and "secular," that breeds hypocrisy which takes the power out of true godliness. He who does not worship God in his work-clothes, does not worship Him in Sunday clothes. The altar of our sacrifice must stand where the struggle for existence goes on, where we toil where joy and sorrow meet us, and where our life's calling bids us go.

Christ has at least as much desire to go out in a fishing boat, as to be in a cathedral. When the farmer unties his horse with prayer and thanksgiving, he does that for Jesus.

So is the kingdom of God. And such must He be who is to save and help us.

Thou man of God! Look upon everything that you have to do as public worship and as a work for Jesus. Then you will be strong and happy in all your work.

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

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

## 5 Areas that the Contemporary Church won't address:

- 1) The Wrath of God (Rev. 14:19)
- 2) The Fear of the Lord (2 Cor. 5:11)
- 3) Repentance (Lk. 13:5)
- 4) Separation from the World (I John 2:15)
- 5) Denying Yourself (Matt. 16:24)

## The Gospel We Are Called To Preach

Article highlights

\*\* Christ Jesus was with God the Father in the beginning and was the agent of all creation.

\*\* Jesus was the Creator before He was the Redeemer. \*\* To preach the full Gospel, we need to preach His Creation, His Cross, His Return.

A visitor to the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History asked me, "Why can't ICR avoid all this controversy about creation and just preach Christ?" (ED. Same is true with the MG/HLIF & leave out, I suppose some would include GOD's LAW; but JESUS preached the 'Law' too!) Such a statement was surprising since it ignores clear declarations in Scripture that Christ is our Creator. John 1:1-3 stands out as one of the most emphatic, identifying the Word (Jesus Crist) as being present in the beginning, that HE was both with God and was God, and that <u>"all things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."</u>

The doctrine of creation as it relates to Christ is not a minor biblical principle of superficial importance. To ignore it is dangerous and is analogous to preaching "another Jesus" (2 Corinthians 11:4) when we neglect to present Christ as He truly is, along with His complete work.

But what exactly is Christ's complete work? The apostle Paul masterfully outline this in his letter to the believers in Colosse: *For by Him (Jesus Christ) all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth ...And He is before all thing and in Him all things consist ...For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. (Colossians 1:16 – 20, emphasis added)* 

Paul reveals that the full extent of Christ's work includes His past work of creation, His current work of conservation ("<u>consist</u>" in the Greek literally means "<u>to</u> <u>hold together</u>"), and His future work of reconciliation when He will banish death, sorrow, and pain and "make all things new"

(Revelation 21;4-5). The dreadful price of reconciliation demanded "the blood of His cross" to cleanse us from our horrible offenses against Him – offenses that surely include rejecting His Word and denying that He is our Creator.

Thus, to truly preach Christ in all His fullness requires that we recognize Him as the Almighty CREATOR who spoke the universe into existence (see Psalm 33:6-9) and walked with Adam and Eve in the cool of the day (Genesis 3:8). It wasn't long before they sinfully rejected the Creator's rightful authority, and their separation from Him ushered in the current world of death and decay. We can, thank God, be reconciled to Him again, but it is only meaningful to preach of Christ's love and great gift of salvation when we acknowledge Him first as the offended Creator.

Jesus Christ was our Creator long before He became our Savior and coming Reconciler, and the full Gospel must include of three components. ICR founder Dr. Henry Morris eloquently made this point in one of his final public speaking engagements:

"A Gospel without the creation has no foundation. A gospel without the consummation has no hope. And a gospel without the cross and empty tomb has no power. But...if you have the whole thing ...then you have a sure foundation, a blessed hope, and all of power in heaven and in earth – and that's the gospel we are called to preach!" ...

*The Gospel We Are Called to Preach*, by Henry M. Morris IV, ACTS & FACTS, Institute For Celebration Creation Research, Copyright © 2020, Permission Granted.

#### Did You Know That Turtles Will Always Be Turtles?

1. Turtles are reptiles that live in deserts, jungles, and even oceans.

2. Secular science struggles to connect turtle evolution to that of other reptiles.

3. One evolutionary mystery is the origin of turtles' <u>unique shells.</u>

4. God made turtles as turtles in the beginning and turtles will always be turtles!

5. God created a large number of distinctive creatures with many different designs and most certainly turtles are among them. There are both small and large turtles: for example, Chelonia turtles are found in oceans, freshwater ponds, and on land. The Galapagos tortoise is the largest living species of tortoise and, like the sea turtle, is able to live well over a century! A **100%** turtle fossil (*Stupendemys geogaphicus*) recently discovered in South America is the shape and size of a small car. Turtles are a truly unique kind of reptile designed with over <u>50</u> bones.

Selected

## **Politics and Faith**

#### By Dr. Sheldon Smith

When the subjects of politics and faith come up, a lot of Christians withdraw into silence. They have been told that the two don't mix. The liberals have beat the <u>"separation of church and state</u>" drum until the voices of many Christian have been completely drowned out.

Because the liberals are constructing their house of sand on atheism, humanism, hedonism, and the like, they know they must drive Christians out of the public arena and away from the voting booth. They are well aware that if Christians show up strong, the loony liberal agenda will be stymied and perhaps halted altogether.

As devotedly sincere as they are, some of our Christian folks simply do not understand. Some of them have naively embraced the liberal lies. Others, merely parrot what they hear others say.

With all of this in view, I want to try to give perspective to the vital concerns.

#### I. Politics and Faith Cannot Be Isolated From Each Other

Christians and atheists always bring their values and views with them to the political arena. If a person is an atheist, we have reason to expect certain things of him.

If a person is a Christian, you need not expect him to govern like an atheist if he gets elected to office.

The liberals pressure Christians to leave their faith at home, but they don't leave their beliefs behind.

Any attempt to isolate your politics from your faith is an exercise in futility. It is in reality impossible.

#### II. No Area of Life, Including Politics, Gets a Pass

Edmund Burke's famous quote; <u>"All that is required</u> for evil to succeed is for good men to do nothing" is an established fact. When Christians will not speak up, will not take a stand and will not vote, they are giving evil their influence.

If politicians do right, we can and will salute them. If they do wrong, we will call them to account.

When America's pulpits are passive about the major issues of our generation, they are contributing to the <u>downfall</u> of the Nation.

If we are facing an issue like alcohol, abortion same-sex marriage or a lot of other real issues, we had better speak up and provide a conscience for our nation. If we don't do it, who on earth will?

Let me say it this way. The fact that an issue is a political *hot potato* does not mean that it should be given a pass.

#### III. In the Absence of Faith, Politics Quickly Erodes into Corruption

From the Ten Commandments, the Proverbs, the Sermon on the Mount, and other Bible passages, the bedrock of our nation's character was first established. Basic foundational tenets such as honesty, integrity, the work ethic came directly from those Bible sources.

When God and His Word are abandoned, then men make up their own rules. Without the Scriptural standard, they shift and drift with every ill breeze that blows through town. Their moorings are thereby undermined, allowing corruption to get a foothold in our society.

When faith is disallowed, you can be sure that corruption will escalate rapidly. In the wake of our corruption, ALL of us will suffer.

#### IV. People of Faith Should serve in the Political drafts

It is true that politics is often a "dirty" game, but that is all the more reason why Christians must step in. When dirty people attempt to do their dirty deeds, clean people should be there to stop them.

If you are looking for good examples of men in government roles, you need look no further then Moses, Joseph and Daniel. If you are looking for a lady, take a look at the role of Queen Esther.

The political arena is the place where decisions are made that affect all of us. Our families, our freedom and our future are all impacted by the political process. If people of faith are absent, the other crowds will decide for us and tell us what to do.

#### V. People of Faith Have a Moral Obligation to Confront Political Corruption

Moses confronted the Pharaoh, John the Baptist confronted King Herod. Jesus confronted the Pharisees and Sadducees. Elijah confronted Ahab and Jezebel. Paul confronted Festus and Agrippa.

We should speak faith to the faithless politicians. Yes, we should give them the Gospel. We should also stand on scriptural principles and refuse to budge. That's why we are pro-life, pro-family, pro-traditional marriage, etc.

You and I have the responsibility before God to stand up to the perpetrators of corruption in our generation.

Some of us can run for office. ALL, of us can pitch in and help those who run. All of us can vote.

EVEN if we don't think we have the best of choices in a given election, we should go vote for whoever is the better of the choices. That way we help keep out the worse one.

#### VI. Politics Cannot Be Solid Without the Advocacy of Faith

The foundations and the fabric of our society have historically been predicted upon the Judeo-Christian value system. That is the Ten Commandments. That is the Sermon on the Mount. <u>That is the BIBLE.</u> <u>PERIOD!</u>

Without these basic moral values, the conduct of politics becomes crooked, immoral and even violent.

If we are to have a decent society with leaders who can be trusted, we must inject faith in the equation.

Whenever GOD is left out, you can expect ungodly behavior to develop quickly.

The advocacy of faith is an essential element if we ever expect politics to be cleaned up!

#### VII. People of faith Should Never Be Intimidated into Inaction or Silence.

Excerpt, Sword of the Lord

*Editor's Note:* Don't forget as we approach the Fourth of July and on; that many lives have been given in order that you and I have the privilege and responsibility of FREEDOM! "Freedom" is never <u>cheap!</u>

#### **The Cross**

#### "Bearing the cross for Himself." (John 19:17)

#### "And he that doth not take his cross and follow Me, is not worthy of Me." (Matthew 10:38)

THE cross that Jesus bore was ours; but He took it and made it His own.

No one else could have carried that burden, and in truth it was heavy enough for Him, too. He could still the tempest, heal the sick, and raise the dead from their grave, but when He bore His cross, He sank to the ground. In sorrow and anguish of soul He cried out, "My God! My God! Why hast Thou forsaken Me?" This burden was verily more than a piece of wood: It was everything that made trouble between God and us. All this He bore in spirit and soul, and on His body; and then He died on a tree!

It is this cross of Jesus that has made a <u>cross</u> for all who will follow Him. To depart from all the sin that He bore for us, and to follow Him from day to day in things great and small, that is our cross. The 'cross' is not sickness, poverty, and the hard life that sin lays on all men. Only those who follow Jesus walk the way of the cross.

When you deny yourself and give Christ your allegiance, when you leave the world and go to your Bible, into your prayer chamber, and when you go out among people, and walk as a child of light with a humble mind, in honor and dishonor, in evil report and good report, then you are following Jesus, and then you are bearing the <u>cross</u> after Him.

Jesus, I my cross have taken, All to leave, and follow Thee; Destitute, despised, forsaken, Thou, from hence, my all shalt be. Perish every fond ambition, All I've sought, and hoped, and known, Yet how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own.

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

#### Are You Worried About the Coronavirus?

#### By Evan. Franklin Graham

The Virus may be all over the news, but even at its worst, you can have peace. How is that possible when there's widespread panic?

Trust can calm our worries – but trust in what? Trust who? Who can be so strong and wise and good that you can entrust your life to him?

**God is. GOD** created you and loves you more than you can imagine! He knows your doubts and fears and He cares about them. The Bible, God's words to us, says <u>"(Cast) all your anxieties (cares) on him, because he cares for you</u>" (1 Peter 5:7). (ED. Cast and leave them there, and God says '<u>No</u> trespassing or <u>No</u> fishing, after you have cast them on HIM).

That means giving your uncertainties and distress to the GOD who wants you to feel secure in Him. To experience that kind of security you first *need* to have a relationship with Him. And He made a way for you to do that.

God cares so much about you that He sent Jesus Christ to save you from eternal separation from Him, providing a way for you to be with Him forever.

It's wise to protect yourself against this outbreak. At the same time, don't let anxiety (cares) consume your life. Jesus asks us in the Bible, "And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?" (Matthew 6:27).

Trouble and suffering will always exist, but you can have **peace** in your heart knowing your future is safely in God's hands.

Will you put your trust in **Him** today?

## **Does Baptism Bring Salvation Apart From Faith?** (Part I)

"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

I worked with a man who was faced with kidney failure and was hoping to get a transplant at the Veteran's Hospital. He was an ungodly man and it didn't look promising for him to get this. A Christian friend and I tried to talk to him about the Lord – we were met with non-interest. He died in the hospital waiting for a kidney. There were about 100 people at his funeral. The Lutheran pastor assured everyone that he was in heaven because he was baptized.

They quoted Romans 6:3-5, "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection." People were led to believe that they need simply to show their baptismal certificate to Jesus and that is their ticket to heaven – regardless of what they believed or how they lived. Is this the Biblical teaching on Baptism and faith?

#### Baptism is a Means of Grace

In the Lutheran Church, we believe that Baptism is a means of bringing God's Grace to you. The water is the physical element that conveys God's invisible Grace. We believe this because of what the Scriptures declare about baptism. Baptism is stated to do the following:

1) It brings forgiveness of sins

Acts 22:16 "And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name."

2) It bring regeneration

Titus 3:5 "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit."

3) It brings us to Christ

Galatians 3:27 *"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."* 

I don't know how you can read these - and other

Scriptures – and say that Baptism is only a symbol. God does a divine work of Grace in Baptism. Baptism is something that everyone needs to have in their life. Jesus said so when He said, "Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them ..." (Matt. 28:19) Jesus has commanded that all people be baptized.

We also believe that baptism is for infants. In the Old Testament, God commanded the male children to be circumcised at eight days old. Genesis 17:10-12 "This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised. And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you. And every male among you who is eight days old ..." (Gen. 17:10-12) This is how God established a covenant with the individual who was not old enough to know anything about what was going on and had no capacity to do anything about it. This was something that the parent had to do for the infant. The New Testament now equates Old Testament circumcision with New Testament baptism. "And in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead." (Colossians 2:11-12) The correlation is that baptism brings the infant into a covenant with God. So we talk about a person's "Baptismal Covenant" because of this correlation.

God gives the infant faith through baptism. Yes, even a tiny infant can have faith from the Holy Spirit. This was true even in the Old Testament. "Yet Thou art He who didst bring me forth from the womb; Thou didst make me trust when upon my mother's breasts. Upon Thee I was cast from birth; Thou hast been my God from my mother's womb." (Psalm 22:9-10) It is also reflected in the New Testament from Jesus Himself. "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depth of the sea." (Matt. 18:6) This faith is certainly a "child-like" faith since an infant has no capacity to know or respond to anything, but it is a true faith indeed. So it is the faith bestowed at baptism that saves, not the physical act of baptizing. If the child died, they would die a believer and would go to heaven. But the question which needs to be answered is: What needs to take place afterwards in the life of the baptized child? What must take place in order for this baptized infant to go from an unconscious faith to a living and active faith? This will be answered in the August issue of the Morning Glory.

> Pastor Jim Haga Shoreview, MN

### Thoughts

"Bringing into captivity every thought." (2 Corinthians 10:5)

#### By A.B. Simpson

<u>THEY compassed me about like bees</u>," the Psalmist says. Every second we get a sting from some fiery shaft, some imagination, some memory, some foreboding, some fear, some care, and God lets us get them in order that they be destroyed and we so armed against them that they can never hurt us anymore. The only way to be armed against them is to refuse them and the source from which they come.

There is a world of truth here that most Christians have entirely over-looked. They give their spirit and heart to the Lord and they keep their head to themselves. Our intellect must be sanctified by being slain and replaced with the mind of Christ (Editor: Romans 12:2).

The only remedy for bad thoughts is to stop thinking our own thoughts, to be spiritually decapitated, and to be delivered from the natural mind (Old Nature) as well as the natural heart. God will, then, put us to school in the difficult task of stopping thinking. We will not only try to think right, but we will stop our thought and wait for HIM to give us His mind.

This may seem to you like annihilation; but you will come for it if you are going to enter into the deepest, sweetest, strongest life, until <u>you shall be afraid to think</u> <u>at all until God first thinks in you.</u>

Have you given your thoughts to God? Have you learned the meaning of that cry of David, "I hate thoughts, but Thy law do I love"?

Selected

#### **Alone With God**

#### "Get thee hence ...and hide thyself." (1 Kings 17:3)

THIS is not a very gratifying endorsement of Elijah. Doubtless the man's heart swells with eagerness to start a great reformation; his mind expanded with dreams of a world-empire. To flee now, when the audacious approach to the king has been made, is to contradict all accepted methods of operation. Nothing now but solitude? But God knows His plans and Elijah; his servant. Thee is wholesome truth here. To truth where we cannot trace is to give our God the full sovereignty that He longs for. The most formidable barrier in His dealings with His children is their self-will. "Let Him do what seemeth him good" (1 Samuel 3:18) <u>is not resigna-</u>

#### tion, but triumphant faith, if we trust.

And so, by the brook Cherith the lonely man abides. It is lost time in the judgment of the flesh-depending critics; here is thread in the fabric of society capable of great accomplishment, doing nothing. But they who argue so fail to see what God is to do. If we weigh things in the scales of human reasoning we shall always deal with economies and expediency; but no time is lost if God can have His way. *The real truth is, that He is to come into the life of His servant to better qualify him for a more vital revelation of Himself; for with God* "the worker is more than the work."

There may be many dear saints of God who doubt their saintship because their activities have been taken from them. Circumstances have closed in upon them; doors have been shut in their faces; funds for the prosecution of their work have ceased. It may be that, physically exhausted, they lie on their beds wondering why He can do such an unreasonable situation. Be assured of one thing; *Elijah is not to remain in obscurity and inactivity for all time.* Our error lies in mentally fixing our future according to present conditions. Let us arouse ourselves from this deadly coma. There is always the afterward of His gracious promising.

Rev. Kenneth MacKenzie.

#### "He knows, and loves, and cares!"

<u>*"Immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood,"*</u> says Paul, and he went away into a desert place.

#### A desert place ... and rest!

SPRINGS in the VALLEY, Compiled, by Mrs. Charles E. Cowman, Copyright © 1939, By Cowman Publications, Inc.

#### "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted." (Isaiah 53:7)

By Charles Spurgeon

**CHRIST** was chosen out of the people, that He might know our want and sympathize with us. I believe some of the rich have no notion whatever of what the distress of the poor is. They have no idea of what it is to labour for their daily bread. They have a very faint conception of what a rise in the price of bread means; they do not *know* anything about it. And when we put men in power who never were of the people, they do not understand the art of governing us. But our great and glorious Jesus Christ is one chosen out of the people; and therefore He knows our wants.

JESUS suffered temptations and pain before us; our sicknesses He bare; weariness – He has endured it, for, sometimes He had not bread to eat, save that bread of which the world knows nothing; to be houseless – He knew that, too, for the foxes had holes and the birds of the air had nests, but He had nowhere to lay His head.

My fellow-Christians, there is no place where thou canst go where Christ has not been before thee – sinful places alone excepted. He hath been before thee; He hath smoothed the way; He hath entered the grave, that He might make the tomb the royal bed-chamber of the ransomed race the closet where they lay aside the garments of labour to put on the vestments of eternal rest.

In all places whithersoever we go, the Angel of the covenant has been our fore-runner. Each burden we have to carry has once been laid on the shoulders of Immanuel.

*"His way was much rougher and darker than mine; Did Christ my Lord suffer and I repine?"* 

Dear fellow-traveler, take courage! Christ has consecrated the road.

#### LISTEN!!!

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Our first President, George Washington, in writing a prayer concluded: "Let me live according to those holy rules which Thou has this day prescribed in Thy holy word... Direct me to the true object, Jesus Christ the way; the truth and the life. Bless, O Lord, all the people of this land -1752.

John Adams, our first vice president and second president, wrote: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other" -1798.

Andrew Jackson, our seventh president, made this statement: "Sir, I am in the hands of a merciful God. I have full confidence in his goodness and mercy...The Bible is true...I have tried to conform to its spirit as near as possible. Upon that sacred volume I rest my hope for eternal salvation, through the merits and blood of our blessed Lord and Savior. Jesus Christ. – 1845.

Here are the words of Woodrow Wilson, our 28<sup>th</sup> president and governor of New Jersey: "America was born a Christian nation. America was born to exemplify that devotion to the elements of righteousness which are derived from the revelations of Holy Scripture."

Words of General Lewis W. Walt, "We can see these symptoms of materialism throughout our Society, but the most visible one is loss of courage. People stand by and

watch a fellow citizen being beaten or stabbed and they do not interfere. They are afraid. Our political leaders watch Communism (Socialism) gobble up other Nations and they do nothing. They are afraid. People complain in private about the state of affairs but will not speak out in public. They are afraid..."

Let President Ronald Reagan speak again, "WE cannot diminish the value of category of Human Life – the unborn – without diminishing the value of all Human Life... There is no cause more important."

<u>LISTEN</u>

*WE the people Must <u>Continue</u>, according* (In the area of biblical Christianity) *to John 8:31 – 36, Obedience out of love*! !!

#### It Will See You Home

In an old-fashioned camp meeting in a remote area the minister closed the service late at night and started on foot to his quarters several hundred yards away. Without a flashlight or lantern, it was difficult to make his way through the darkness.

A farmer living along his path saw his predicament and gave him a flaming pine torch. "<u>It will see you</u> <u>home</u>" he assured the preacher. But the minister was dubious.

"But what if it goes out!"

"It will see you home."

"But what if the wind blows it out?"

"It will see you home."

"But what if the rain puts it out?"

The old farmer spoke with finality – he knew the enduring qualities of a pine torch. <u>"It will see you home!"</u> and it did.

Long ago my Christian parents placed in my boyish hands the *Word of God*. They assured me that it would be a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

There were later years when I almost doubted it. I feared that the storms of life might extinguish it. I wondered whether it would hold out. But I have long since ceased to fear.

Through many dangers, toils And snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace hath brought me safe Thus far, And grace (and the Book) Will lead me home.

John Newton

### **Up Date**

#### Famine!

"LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD, repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy." (Habakkuk 3:2)

Many years ago, Barb & I were privileged to live in the beautiful prairie of southern Saskatchewan, Canada as I was privileged to be in Evangelism work.

The first year while there we experienced a <u>gen-uine</u> famine/drought and my Honey asked an industrious Christian farmer how they could handle it? The response was, "We are next year farmers!"

How would you describe AMERICA right now?

Maybe you would use the words; Chaotic, Anxious, Uncertain!

Throughout history God has used <u>individuals</u> in the conservative Christian church as vessels to bring about '*Heaven Sent Revivals*'! YES, **GOD** has used storms of plagues and persecution so that people call out to God in prayer and in caring for one another.

NOW with the COVID - 19 crisis, we have more need of urgent prayer asking God to awaken the USA and beyond for another great AWAKENING.

ONLY the third Person of our Triune God (Holy Spirit) can invade our nation and beyond to bring about such an "awakening" and healing that WE so desperately NEED. But this kind of revival starts with you and me as individuals!

We of the HLIF and MG have been used <u>by</u> <u>GOD</u> to bring about 'area' awakenings/revivals over the years and is one of the very basic reasons why we exist yet today, by God's GRACE and empowerment.

Let us pray together that GOD will bring REVIVAL to our Land and while you are praying for the same; please support this Ministry with gifts as you are able.

May GOD bless YOU and keep you as you rest/trust in the peace that only Jesus/God can give!

"Restore us to yourself, LORD, that we may return; renew our days as of old."

(Lamentations 5:21)

The financial intake for the ministry of the Morning Glory for the month of April was approx. \$650.00.



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## **Ride For Revival**

The Newfolden area is conducting Evangelistic meetings over a series of 4 days.

Thursday, July 2 – Tent Meetings in Newfolden, MN at 7:00 P.M.

**Friday, July 3** – Tent Meetings in Viking, MN at 7:00 P.M.

<u>Saturday, July 4</u> – Evangelistic Meetings at the Fair Grounds in Warren, MN at 7:00 P.M.

<u>Sunday, July 5</u> – Morning Service at the Warren, MN Fair Grounds at 9:30 A.M.

More information is available at www:blazinsaddles.com

If you are in this area, consider attending one of these meetings. Please pray for people to be converted to Jesus and find freedom from life-controlling sins.