



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • June 2008

Thoughts on The Martyrs Mirror

By Dean Taylor

One of the most impressive historical accounts of radical Christianity and Christian persecution was recorded soon after the Reformation in a large book entitled *The Martyrs Mirror*. This stout hearted work was compiled by Thieleman J. van Braght of Holland in the year 1660 A.D.

The work is available online in its entirety. The preface to the online version remarks about this extraordinary work: *The Martyrs Mirror*, the classic AD 1660 Dutch religious history, memorializes the godly lives and glorious deaths of thousands of every Christians, especially European Anabaptist martyrs between 1524 and 1660. The book shines a mirror on ordinary people who experienced a spiritual reality that few today can even imagine. Like the more famous *Fox's Book of Martyrs*, this compilation attempts to trace the history of those through the centuries, beginning with the martyrdom of Christ's apostles, who were willing to “stand alone for a simple, obedient faith.”

Many of these stories are stunning, but perhaps one of the most poignant testimonies of radical Christianity and Christ-like faith recorded during these troubling times was that of Dirk Willems.

Dirk was a young man who was converted to Christianity in Holland during a time of great persecution. The year was 1529. The Spanish had taken over Holland and, want-

ing to stabilize the country, committed themselves to putting an end to Anabaptists and other radical Christian nonconformists. Apparently Dirk was no quiet believer, but instead, shared his faith openly and even allowed others to be baptized in his home. The king's palace in present day Asperen was turned into a prison. Dirk, after being arrested, was tried and committed to prison for his faith. After being there some time Dirk figured a way of escape. Taking bed sheets and tying knots in them, he let himself down the prison walls. Unfortunately, he was quickly spotted by the burgomaster and the “thief-catcher” was sent fast on his pursuit. Dirk swiftly made his escape over a thin body of ice that surrounded the castle. For a moment I imagine Dirk must have thought that he might just pull this off. However, the much heavier chief-catcher also attempted to cross the thin ice, but to his peril the ice split open and he fell to what he must have thought was his death. Dirk was well on his way when he heard his pursuer's cry for rescue. Turning around he realized that the thief-catcher had fallen into the ice, and was now pleading for his life.

I have often wondered what Dirk Willems must have been thinking at that moment. In front of him was his life – his freedom. All he had to do was keep running. Who would blame him if he didn't turn around to aid the thief-catcher? He had been falsely imprisoned, and to return

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now would inevitably cost him his life. But Dirk had died to himself years before when he gave his life to Christ. Now, if any real temptations to keep going had raced through his mind at this moment, we would never know it from this account.

Jesus taught that His followers must love their enemies, feed them, and even bless them. He knew that Jesus had done that very thing for him, and now it was his turn to do the same for this drowning man. The account goes on to tell us that he immediately turned around and pulled his pursuer out of the ice. The thief-catcher was greatly moved by this unprecedented act of compassion and wanted to let Dirk go free. However, looking on from a distance, the burgomaster screamed to the thief-catcher reminding him that he had sworn an oath of loyalty. Sadly, the burgomaster persuaded the thief-catcher to choose loyalty to the state over compassion for his rescuer, so the thief-catcher apprehended Dirk and brought him back into captivity.

Once back into captivity his persecutors showed no compassion on him for his act of mercy. Instead, they re-convicted him for his crime of heresy and re-baptism. The report says that he was then placed in severe imprisonment until the day that he was finally taken to the city square to be burned at the stake. This was an awful death. If burning at the stake would be said to be either good or bad, this one was horrible. The eyewitness reports said that a strong east wind was blowing and that the upper part of the fire was being blown away leaving Dirk to suffer horribly because only the lower portion of the fire was burning him. The eyewitnesses said that they heard him cry out to God over seventy times, “O my Lord, my God!” Finally, a local official traveling by on horseback was filled with sorrow for the young man and he ordered that the fire be ar-

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ranged so that Dirk would be put to death quickly.

The Martyrs Mirror finishes its epitaph on Dirk Willems' saying:

“But as he had founded his faith not upon the drifting sand of human commandments, but upon the firm foundation stone, Christ Jesus, he, notwithstanding all evil winds of human doctrine, and heavy showers of tyrannical and severe persecution, remained immovable and steadfast unto the end; wherefore, when the chief Shepherd shall appear in the clouds of heaven and gather together His elect from all the ends of the earth, he shall also through grace hear the words, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord’” (1 Pet. 5:4; Mat. 24:31; 25:2).

O, that each of us might have a testimony just like that! A testimony of a life that is undoubtedly sold out to God! So that when all is said and done we, too, might run confidently into the welcoming arms of our blessed Savior and hear that glorious salutation, *“...Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!”*

Taken from “The Heartbeat of The Remnant”
400 W Main St Ste 1, Ephrata, PA 17522 U.S.A.

Editor's Note: Most clearly and definitely we do not agree with some of the teachings/doctrines of the Anabaptist; but what a CHALLENGE, realizing the Scriptural Truth that Salvation is Free through the finished work of JESUS; but discipleship may be costly!

* * * * *

Iraq In The Bible

Israel is the nation most often mentioned in the Bible. But do you know which nation is second? It is Iraq! However, that is not the name that is used in the Bible. The names found in the Bible are Babylon, Ur of the Chaldees, Shinar, and Mesopotamia. The word Mesopotamia means between the two rivers, more exactly between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers (in modern day Iraq). The Iraq, means “country with deep roots.” Indeed Iraq is a country with deep roots and is a very significant country in the Bible. No other nation, except Israel, has more history and prophecy associated with it than Iraq.

The “Cradle of Civilization” is located in Iraq. Noah

descended into Iraq after the ark landed on top of Mt. Ararat. By Genesis 11, the Tower of Babel was constructed in Iraq. Later on, Abraham, the founder of the Jews, lived in Ur of the Chaldees. His ancient house is still a landmark to this day in the southern part of Iraq. His daughter-in-law Rebekah was from Nahor, an ancient city in Iraq. Abraham's grandson Jacob (also known as Israel) met his wife Rachel in Iraq. Years later, Jonah (after spending three days in the whale) preached to the city of Nineveh, which is located in modern day Iraq. Old Testament prophets like Ezekiel and Amos preached in Iraq. Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, carried the Jews captive into Iraq in 587 B.C. Daniel was thrown into the lion's den in ancient Iraq. When Jesus was born, the wise men from the east came from Iraq to Bethlehem. Peter would later go to Iraq to preach the gospel.

But Iraq hasn't only had a significant past. Presently, you cannot read the daily paper or listen to the news without hearing about this country. According to the Bible, Iraq may also have a very important part in the future. It is ironic that Iraq has come to the forefront in the last few years. A careful reading of prophecy in Revelation (the last book of the Bible), chapters 17 and 18, reveals both a world religious and economic system known as Babylon. Babylon is a Bible word synonymous with Iraq. Revelation 17:5-6 describes a one-world religion as, “Mystery Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth ... Drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of Jesus.” It will apparently be a persecuting religion with its roots in the Babylonian worship of a mother and son (Semiramis and Nimrod). According to verse four, the religion will be very wealthy. Verses nine and eighteen also infer that this religion has ties with the city of Rome. Verse sixteen reveals that this Babylonian one world religion will be destroyed during the tribulation period.

Then there is another system associated with Babylon mentioned in Revelation 18. This one is political in nature, and likely represents a one-world government. This political system will eventually be destroyed as well. For years there was speculation concerning where this system would be headquartered. Now, many Bible scholars feel that the revival of ancient Babylon as the center of world power will literally be in Iraq. The remains of Babylon can still be seen in central Iraq. As the situation in Iraq continues to unfold, it will be interesting to see if the country slowly evolves into some type of a center of world trade.

Taken from “Faith for Life”
(Spring Quarter Edition), 2008

Editor's Note: QUESTION: Could it be that the WCC, Roman Catholicism, Liberalism, Etc. will make up the “false Prophet” and the Muslim world (there are now app.1.6 billion Muslims) will be the “anti-Christ” in Revelation 17 & 18???

The Dinosaur Dilemma

Soft Tissue in a “70 Million–Year-Old” Fossil?

In 2005, a paleontologist (one who studies life-forms from the distant past) in Montana found something that was absolutely astonishing. It wasn't the Tyrannosaurus Rex he found, though that was amazing in itself, but what was inside one of the thighbones-SOFT TISSUE! The tissue was described by MSNBC as “flexible and resilient, and when stretched returns to its original shape.”

Even blood cells and whole blood vessels were found.

Now, here is the predicament for modern paleontologists. They believe that this fossil is 70 million years old. Is it possible for a creature that has been dead for supposedly million years to have tissue that is still soft? According to Mary Schweitzer, paleontologist of North Carolina State University, there is no known preservation method that will keep tissue intact for this long.

“To my knowledge, preservation to this extent – where you still have original flexibility and transparency – has not been noted in dinosaurs before ...our theories of how fossils are preserved don't allow for this.” She went on to say, “It was exactly like looking at a slice of modern bone.”

You have to understand, bones are porous. That means they have tiny microscopic holes through which, given enough time, all moisture from within will disappear, leaving NO SOFT TISSUE.

YET, THERE IT IS. How? Well, let's ask this question: “Would a shorter time frame allow for soft tissue to remain soft?” Sure.

Would 70 million years allow tissue to remain soft? ABSOLUTELY NOT!

Dr. Kevin Anderson, director of Van Andel Research Center says, “It's hard enough to explain (soft tissue preservation) in 4000 years, (but) tens of millions goes totally off the charts ...we can't explain it at all.” So what's the answer? Simple: The Flood of Noah.

Using Bible chronology, the flood can be dated at 2345 BC (that's an easy number to remember!). If you add that

number to 2008 years after the birth of Christ, that would equal 4353 years ago. When one sees the “predicament” in the context of Bible history, it is no longer a predicament, but the answer.

This T-Rex may have been hunting “little” triceratops the size of grandpa's station wagon, when he was instantly covered by millions of tons of water, mud and debris, preserving his bones and the soft tissue inside of them.

This is yet another example of how reality doesn't fit the wishful thinking of someone who is unwilling to accept the Bible at face value.

Taken from “FAITH for Life”

* * * * *

Notable Quotables

Teaching:

As Abraham Lincoln said, “Thee is just one way to bring up a child in the way he should go (Proverbs 22:6), and that it is to travel that way yourself.”

The future and success of America is not in this Constitution, but in the laws of God upon which this Constitution is founded.— James Madison

“**Posterity** – you will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it.” — John Quincy Adams

“The man who knows the truth and has the opportunity to tell it, but who nonetheless refuses to, is among the most shameful of all creatures. God forbid that we should ever become so lax as that.”— Theodore Roosevelt.

Benjamin Rush, signer of the Declaration of Independence, was asked, “Are you a democrat or an aristocrat?” He answered, “I am neither. I am a Christocrat. I believe He, alone, who created and redeemed man is qualified to govern him.”

“IF we ever forget that we're “**One Nation Under God,**” then we will be one nation gone under” — Ronald Reagan

Jesus Christ died on a cross to
save that which He had made in
His own image

The Bible or the Cell Phone?

I wonder what would happen if we treated our BIBLES like we treat our cell phone?

- What IF we carried it around in our purses or pockets?
- What IF we flipped through it several times a day?
- What IF we turned back to go get it IF we forgot it?
- What IF we used it to receive messages from the text?
- What IF we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
- What IF we gave it to Kids as gifts?
- What IF we used it when we traveled?
- What IF we used it in case of emergency?

It's something to make you go ...hmmmm...where is my **BIBLE?**

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill. Makes you stop and think:

- Where are my priorities?
- And no dropped calls!

Selected

* * * * *

SCIENTIFIC Thoughts On The BIBLE

Oceans contain springs (Job 38:16). The ocean is very deep. Almost all the ocean floor is in total darkness and the pressure there is enormous. It would have been impossible for Job to explore the "springs of the sea." Until recently, it was thought that only rivers and rain fed oceans. Yet in the 1970s, with the help of deep diving research submarines that were constructed to withstand 6,000 pounds-per-square-inch pressures, oceanographers discovered springs on the ocean floors!

Our bodies are made from the dust of the ground (Genesis 2:7; 3:19). Scientists have discovered that the human body is comprised of some 28 base and trace elements-all of which are found in the earth.

Selected

* * * * *

Don't Wait for the Hearse

Don't wait until the Hearse hauls you to church. If you do:

1. You will go regardless of the weather.
2. You will go regardless of your physical condition.

3. There will be beautiful flowers there, but you will not enjoy them.

4. You will go regardless of how your family feels.

5. The minister may say many good things, but they will do you no good.

6. There will be beautiful music. But you won't hear it.

7. There will be heartfelt prayers, but they will not touch your heart.

8. There will be friends and relatives there, but you will not worship with them.

9. You will go no matter how many hypocrites are there.

10. You will go no matter how much you are needed at home or at work.

Selected.

Editor's Note: Have you thanked GOD for His blessings today? God never sends anyone away empty except those who are already full of themselves.

THE NEED FOR REVERENCE

"God is greatly to be feared ...And to be held in reverence" (Psalm 89:7)

Many persons who have been raised in our churches no longer think in terms of reverence, which seems to indicate that they doubt God's presence is there! Much of the blame must be placed on the growing acceptance of a worldly secularism that seems much more appealing than any real desire for the spiritual life that is pleasing to God.

We secularize God; the gospel of Christ, and we secularize worship!

No great and spiritually minded men of God are going to come out of such churches, nor any great spiritual movement of believing prayer and revival. If God is to be honored and revered and truly worshiped, He may have to sweep away and start somewhere else! Let us confess that there is a necessity for true worship among us. If God is who He says He is and if we are the believing people of God we claim to be, we must worship Him! In my own assessment, for men and women to lose the awareness of God in our midst is a loss too terrible ever to be appraised!

A.W. Tozer

Believable ...Yet Unbelievable!

The Christian Post Reports That Anglican Leaders From The Church Of Nigeria Have Warned The Worldwide Communion That They “Cannot Walk Together” With Provinces That Do Not Repent Of Their Departure From Scripture

The House of Bishops of the Church of Nigeria said in a communiqué that it maintains its posture not to share fellowship with member-Provinces that “denigrate the authority of Scripture.” “Our participation in this worldwide fellowship is contingent on genuine repentance by those who have chosen to walk away, for two cannot walk together except they are in agreement,” said the Most. Rev. Peter Akinola of the Church of Nigeria in a statement directed to the U.S. – based Episcopal Church which had consecrated an openly gay bishop and elected Katharine Jefferts Schori, who supports same-sex unions, as Presiding Bishop of the U.S. arm of Anglicanism. In September 2006, the Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa (CAPA) agreed to “The Road to Lambeth,” clearly stating that the North American churches must repent or depart. The Nigerian Anglican leaders at the recent retreat reaffirmed the CAPA document.

Crosswalk

The Belief of Unbelievers

It may surprise many, but 75 percent of the Americans who say they are not born-again Christians still believe the Biblical account of Jesus literally coming back to life in His Physical body, according to recent research by the North American Mission Board’s Center for Missional Research.

Crosswalk

Open To Gays

The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, the intellectual and spiritual center of conservative Judaism, said Monday, March 26, that it would begin accepting openly gay and lesbian candidates into its rabbinical and cantorial schools.

Selected

The Decline of Evangelicals

A Christian columnist and church renewal advocate says the National Association of Evangelicals is following the “same historical path that led to the liberal downfall of the National Council of Churches,” *OneNewsNow.com* reports:

Mark Tooley of the Institute on Religion and Democracy (IRD) believes the NCC mis-stepped more than 40 years ago when it became more concerned with left-wing issues than those favored by its moderate to conservative constituency. Now that the NAE has chosen to rally around causes like global warming. Tooley argues they have cho-

sen the same route. “However you may feel or think about the issue of global warming,” the IRD spokesman says, “I think it is a very bad mistake for the National Association of Evangelicals to get out front of its own church members.”

Crosswalk

Gay Episcopal Bishop to Wed

Episcopal bishop Gene Robinson knows he is inviting death threats by entering into a civil union with his gay partner on the eve of his church’s biggest ecclesiastical conference. And he says it is worth it, because he is doing what God asks of him.

“When your life is at stake, you learn that there are things in life that are much worse than death,” Bishop Robinson told TODAY’s Matt Lauer Thursday in New York. “That’s the great reward of being a Christian. Not living your life — that’s worse than death. And if something were to happen to me, I would know that I am doing what I discern God is calling me to do.”

In 2003, Robinson became the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church when he was elected by the congregations of New Hampshire. Dubbed “the most controversial Christian in the world,” he faced death threats then and wore a bulletproof vest during his consecration. Now, he has announced that he will “marry” Mark Andrew, his partner of some 20 years, a move sure to outrage conservatives in his religion.

“...The table that God invites us to includes everyone, and the church is going to get it wrong sometimes,” Robinson said. “I think the Archbishop of Canterbury has gotten this wrong by not inviting everyone. I’m going to go and offer myself and talk with anyone who wants to talk to someone who is unashamedly gay and unashamedly Christian.”

...Robinson feels that people who use the Bible to condemn homosexuals fail to understand Scripture. It is called an abomination for a man to lie with another man as with a woman, but, he writes, the Bible also says it is an abomination to eat pork or shellfish, to wear clothing made of two different fibers, or to sow two different types of seed in the same field.

“We’ve often misinterpreted Scripture,” Robinson told Lauer. “We’ve used Scripture to justify slavery; the subjugation of women. And now we’re realizing that what the Bible initially seems to say about same-sex relationships is not actually what we’re talking about today — faithful, monogamous, lifelong-intentioned relationships between people of the same sex.” [No it isn’t, Editor]

By Mike Celizic
TODAYShow.com contributor
Thurs., May. 8, 2008

Critical Of The Father

“And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: But as soon as this thy son was come, which had devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.” (Luke 15:29-30).

When the elder son heard how much fuss his father had made over that rascal who had squandered his substance with riotous living he got angry. “Just think of it,” the elder son muttered to himself, “he killed the fatted calf for him and gave him a royal reception. It is a disgrace. It is enough to make anybody mad.” So the elder son pouted and stayed outside. He said to the father, “Here I have all these years served thee and never disobeyed thy commandments, yet thou has never given me as much as a kid so that I could be glad; But when this good-for-nothing bum came home he was received like a prince. It seems like my work is not worth a thing.”

No, it isn't. You cannot by your own good work merit salvation and favor with God. Not one of the Pharisees will ever be saved. But what about Nicodemus, Paul and others? They were not saved as Pharisees, they were saved as sinners. Paul claimed he was the greatest of all sinners that Christ had saved (1 Tim. 1:15).

If you belong in the category of the elder son, you better acknowledge that you are on the wrong track. It is utterly impossible for any sinner to merit salvation by his own work. God says, all the work you do before you are is dead works, and you have to be saved from your works as well as your sins before you can serve the living God. (Heb. 9:14).

Why were the Pharisees so self-satisfied, so self-righteous? We read in Rom. 3:20, “*for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*” Why didn't they get to know their sin and sinfulness? For the simple reason that they didn't use the law lawfully. Paul says in 1 Tim. 1:8, “*We know the law is good, if anyone uses the law lawfully.*” That is, use it for the purpose it was designed.

The Pharisees never applied the demands of the law to their hearts. They were only taken up with the outward observance of the law. The elder son said, “*I have not transgressed any of your commandments.*” (v. 29).

Was this true? Far from it. It was just a false presumption.

The truth of the matter was that the elder son lacked love both for God and man. He should have had a heart full of love both for his father and his brother. But instead it was full of hatred. John says: “*Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer*” (1 John 3:15).

Hear what Jesus says: “For I say unto you. That except

your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:20). Only those who are clothed in the perfect righteousness of the son of God will ever be admitted.

You better be sure you have gotten rid of your own filthy rags and are clothed in the perfect righteousness of the Son of God.

Taken from: “Hear Him”
by Lars Stalsbröten

It Won't Be Long

It May Be Soon

*Someday I'll cross the mystic stream,
It won't be long; it may be soon.*

*Someday I'll lay my burden down
It won't be long; it may be soon.*

*Some day I'll reach the golden shore
And dwell with Jesus evermore;
I'll meet the ones who've gone before.
It won't be long; it may be soon.*

*He's coming back with glory rare,
It won't be long; it may be soon.
We'll rise to meet Him in the air.
It won't be long; it may be soon.*

*If He should call me, this I know;
I'm safe and ready now to go
I'm waiting with my heart aglow.
It won't be long; it may be soon.*

*Then as you travel on life's way,
Through waters deep and billows cold,
You may have Jesus as your stay
He'll walk with you and lead you home.*

*Oh, brother, will you let Him in?
He'll save and keep you from sin
Till Heaven's door you enter in.
I won't be long; it may be soon.*

Parschauer Sisters

Drawing Near

Let us therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help us in time of need. (Heb. 4:16)

IT is when need knocks at our door that we may knock at the door of grace. No matter how self-evident this may seem, it is nevertheless just then that we have our greatest doubts that we will be welcome. We have gone to that door so many times before: dare we go once more? Is not that sinning on grace?

What makes you feel sad and heavy is that you think there is so little fruit to show for all that you get. With all the grace that you have received to this day, you should be a different kind of person. Your grade is poor on patience, love, and Christian disposition. Your life does not measure up to what you should be as a Christian. Your victories are few, and often you get nowhere. This causes you to doubt, and makes you discouraged.

If this is your condition, you are surely in the right in all that you accuse yourself of. He who is not ashamed of his own folly, is of all people worst off. But our sin and shame should not constitute a reason for doubting Him who sits on the throne of grace and who has promised us “mercy and grace to help us in time of need.”

Wherefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, all you tired and worn Christians! There is your place, it has been given you by God Himself. Sinai is too steep for you, and your knees are too weak; but at Golgotha everything that you need is given to you without money and without price. Lay hold on grace today also as you did the first time, and you shall become strong in the Lord.

Rich Thy mercy – strangely good!
O how oft have I offended!
But through Thy redeeming blood
All my fear of wrath is ended:
Yes, I now can witness give:
Jesus sinners does receive!

“Thy Kingdom Come,” by Ludvig Hope
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Bearing Fruit

“Every branch that beareth fruit, he cleanseth it, that it may bear more fruit” (John 15 :2).

THE life of Jesus was full of love, joy, peace, long-suffering, meekness. And it is His will that the world should

benefit by this through His disciples. They are the branches which receive the life of Jesus in order to live this life out in the world.

It is this which is to *win* the world.

Therefore the *lives* of the disciples are more important than their *work*.

The disciples of Jesus live only to bear fruit for Jesus. As much fruit as possible. And Jesus, who has been given all power in heaven and On earth, guides the history of our little lives and directs everything in our daily walk with the one end in view that we may bear as much fruit as possible.

That is what Jesus speaks of as cleansing or *pruning* the branches. The pruning is intended to make the branches as fruitful as possible.

If we reflected upon this a little, many of the things that happen to us in life would be easier to bear. Many of the deepest problems of our lives would be solved in a simple and edifying way.

At some time or other we all meet with adversity or sufferings so great that we cannot fathom or understand them at all. But if we can look upon these things as the gardener’s wise and loving cleansing of the branches, we will be set free within, even though outwardly the adversity and the suffering still continue.

If a vine is not pruned, there will be no fruit, only foliage. And if the Lord did not prune us, we would first become spiritually barren, and thereafter die. We should thank the Lord that He does not hear all of our many prayers to be spared everything that is hard and heavy to bear.

We do not live in order to have a good time, but to bear fruit. Unto the glory of the Lord. If we will remember this, we will not be so surprised when the Gardener comes to us also with His pruning knife.

Taken from God’s Word for Today by O. Hallesby
Augsburg Publishing House

Omission and Comission

Sometimes it is not what is being SAID that is wrong – it is what is not being SAID! Silence is not always “golden,” but *sometimes* just plain yellow.

“For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.” (Revelation 22:18-19)

The Service Of Intercession

In the morning:

The Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. Job 42:10.

The friends caused Job much pain. They did not mean to trouble him. What they said to Job was partly true, but they twisted the words around in such a way that Job was tempted to reason with God.

Often Job must have wished that his friends would be quiet and leave him. They and their words were tiring him.

Job, however, conquered himself.

He won the victory by prayer. Instead of blaming his friends and growing bitter, he prayed for them.

And by this intercession, blessing returned to Job himself. *The Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.*

Have you experienced the blessings of intercession?

They are two-fold.

By your prayer, the grace of God is poured out on the one for whom you are praying. Consider how much other people lose when we do not pray for them.

At the same time, the blessing returns to the one who is praying. If you pray for only a few people, you will be spiritually poor yourself. We are all tempted to become self-centered. It appears very often in our prayers. They are centered just around ourselves; consequently, we find little enjoyment in our life of prayer, and so we get tired.

But there is a way out of this.

Pray more for other people, and you will rejoice accordingly. Become an eager intercessor and your whole life of prayer will become fruitful.

If you are centered only in yourself, your suffering will become still greater. If you dedicate yourself to prayer for other people, God will deliver you from your tribulations, recompensing you with blessings.

At noon

Intercession is the fruit of Christian love. Little intercession is caused by little love.

Intercession is prayer in the guise of service.

Intercession is opening the windows of our small chamber, looking out to the very end of the world.

Intercession saves the one who is making it from self-centered prayer

Intercession gives prayer a scheme and a goal.

Intercession makes prayer exciting and expectant.

Intercession is the best favour to a friend. If you want to

know how many friends you have, just count how many you are praying for.

Intercession's greatest triumph is prayer for enemies.

Intercession means conquest of aversion and of ill-will.

Intercession is the training-school of all Christian activity. Having started to pray for a man, you will be obliged to testify to him. By praying the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers, you will soon be at work in His harvest-field yourself.

Intercession saves from cold routine.

Intercession is the last means of work that will be taken out of the hands of God's people. No prohibition of an ungodly ruler can hinder us from intercession.

Intercession is the hope of the world. As long as a man has an intercessor, he may hope to be saved.

Intercession is moving the arm of Almighty God.

Intercession means the death of spiritual indolence.

Intercession comes back to the one who prays with blessings and happiness.

Intercession's greatest service takes place at the throne of God, where the Heavenly High-Priest Himself, is revealed as the Intercessor of the whole world.

The poem of the day

“Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord, I care not how,
But stir my heart in passion for the world,
Stir me to give, to go, but most to pray;
Stir, till the blood-red banner be unfurled
O'er lands that still in heathen darkness lie,
O'er deserts where no cross is lifted high.”

“Stir me, oh! Lord, till all my heart
Is filled with strong compassion for these souls;
Till Thy compelling word drives me to pray;
Till Thy constraining love reach to the poles
Far north and south, in burning deep desire,
Till east and west are caught in love's great fire.”
“Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord, till prayer is pain,
Till prayer is joy, till prayer turns into praise;
Stir me, till heart and will and mind, yea, all
Is wholly Thine to use through all the days.
Stir, till I learn to pray exceedingly;
Stir, till I learn to wait expectantly.”

P. Head.

In the evening

And in like manner the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity: for we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot

continued on pg. 10

be uttered; and He that searcheth the heart knoweth what is in the mind of the Spirit, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (Rom. 8:26-27)

I thank Thee, Thou Holy Spirit, Thou my Helper, for making intercession for me. I myself am feeble in prayer and weak in intercession. I thank Thee, because Thou art praying for me, in spite of that. Lord, I am in need of Thine intercession. Help my infirmity. Thy prayers are always answered, for Thou art praying according to the will of God.

I thank Thee for this day, and I beg Thee, make even me a better intercessor.

Amen.

Taken from *"On Our Father's Knee"*
(Devotions for Times Of Illness) by Fredrik Wisloff
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* * * * *

The First Christian Witnesses

Moses wished fervently that all God's people were prophets. Num. 11:29. All God's people belong to the royal priesthood. 1 Peter 2:9. One of the blessed rights of this priesthood of believers is to bear witness of Him who has "called us out of darkness into His marvelous light."

The first witnesses were unlearned lay people. Acts 4:13. But "They took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus." Men felt the power of their holy lives. They felt the power of their testimony. How is it today? We need both the lip-testimony and the life-testimony.

Just before parting, Jesus told His own to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15.

And out the living witnesses went—men, women and even children, while the enemies tried in every way to stop them. Acts 4:17. But they had to obey God more than man, and could not but be living witnesses for Christ of the things they had experienced. Acts 4:19, 20.

The persecution which the dead Jewish Church raised helped to scatter the living fire. God's people, except the apostles, left Jerusalem and went everywhere preaching the living Word. Acts 8:1,4. "Their lives and lips expressed the holy Gospel they professed.

Some were especially gifted by God to do personal work with the individual, like Philip. Acts 4:26-40. He led the eunuch to Christ while they rode in the chariot. What a holy love for souls! How few of us have this living fire now!

God made use of an obscure Christian, Ananias, to lead the wise and learned Saul to the Gospel light. Acts 9:17.

Don't forget that God is still choosing the foolish instrument to confound the wise. God works through the lowly and despised to bring the great down to nothing— that no flesh shall glory before Him. 1 Cor. 1:27-29. All Inner Mission and layman's work has advanced along these lines. We need especially to stress it in these days when education and theological learning are worshipped. God is still calling Ananias to go to Saul to set Him free! Why did not God send a theological professor?

But we had no preachers and professors with a degree of learning in those days. Had not Christ told them: "But be not ye called Rabbi; for one is your Master, even Christ; and you are all brethren. And call no man father upon the earth; for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters; for one is your Master, even Christ"

How is Christ's Word followed in this age? The Roman Catholics have fathers—even holy fathers. Among others we have "reverend" Rt. Reverend, Bishop, Doctor of Divinity and various kinds of "masters."

We are thankful we do not have Dr. Matthew, Dr. Mark, Dr. Luke and Dr. John or Dr. Paul—though some are bound to say St. John, etc. But they never called themselves for special "saints". We are all saints in Jesus.

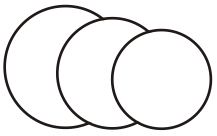
John calls himself an elder. 2 John 1:3, John 1. Peter says about himself: I am also an elder! No cardinal, no pope, just an elder among the other elders of the Church. Paul called himself "*less than the least of all saints.*" (Eph. 3:8). By such men the souls were won in the first century. Yes, the evangelist Philip had four daughters, who were along in the soul-winning work. Acts 21:9. Did Paul hinder them? On the contrary, Paul desired for them all to have spiritual gifts, especially that they might prophesy. For he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation and comfort. 1 Cor. 14:1,3.

That is the prophesy we need today. The prophesy of Jonah to Nineveh: "except you all repent, you will likewise perish." And the testimony, which is prophesy for edification and comfort in these days of depression and discouragement.

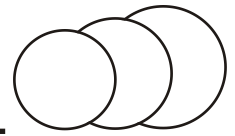
Taken from *"The Hauge Movement in America"*
Authors: S. S. Gjerde & P. Ljostveit, Chapter 2

LOVE cannot abound without
knowledge and discernment.

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children." (Hosea 4:6)



From Our Fellowship Circle



EO **Story City, IA**
I enjoy the “Morning Glory” very much. It has many good messages. May the Lord richly Bless you.

LV **LeRoy, MN**
Enclosed please find ___ to renew my subscription. I enjoy it very much. Keep Up the Good Work.

AG **Karlstad, MN**
A gift in memory of my husband who passed away May 7, 2008.

JA **Forest City, IA**
Greetings from I Peter 5:7-11. May our Lord Jesus bless you as He has me so many times when Satan is going about to destroy my faith. We need to have the armour on always so we can live with Victory again and again. In the 10th verse after we have suffered a while, He will make us perfect or complete, stablish, strengthen, settle or restore us. My mind needs to be renewed again and again. (Romans 12:1&2) I hope I never lose the wonder of His love when He rescued both of us from life without Him. What a miracle of love and grace! Enclosing a gift in memory of my husband. Thanks for coming to Forest City for the conference as we were blessed to hear the old truths that we love.

POWER OF PRAYER

On a gloomy morning in 1857, a man named Lamphier, living in New York City, boarded a horse-drawn streetcar to go to his office on Fulton Street.

On the way downtown he read the morning paper – it was probably the New York Tribune, edited by Horace Greeley. The news he read was that the country was in the grip of an economic depression – in those days it was called a “panic.”

Businesses were closing down. Thousands were walking the streets, out of work. Conditions were profoundly disturbing.

Lamphier, along with many others, read these pessimistic and alarming reports and was worried.

Now, who was Lamphier? A great captain of industry? No. He was only a simple clerk in an office on Fulton Street.

But there was one important thing about Lamphier: he believed in prayer. And under the impact of the gloomy news in his morning paper, he got an inspiration.

That same day he sent a note to all his business acquaintances telling them that, beginning the next day, there would be a prayer meeting in a certain office on Fulton Street daily at noon. He hoped that each of them would attend.

For his first prayer meeting, he arranged twenty chairs in a circle. That first day only one chair was filled; its occupant was Lamphier himself. But that did not discourage him. Alone, he prayed that there might be a tremendous change in him and in America. The second day a few friends joined him. The next day all twenty chairs were filled.

Day after day these men met and prayed together. Soon a similar prayer meeting was started on Wall Street, then one on William Street, then another on Broadway. The movement spread like wild-fire to others parts of the country - Boston, Philadelphia, Denver, the south, the West Coast.

Prayer groups sprang up everywhere. Soon there was a great religious revival, and with it came a new upsurge in the moral and spiritual life of the people. It was followed by an era of sound prosperity and progress.

It was one of the greatest demonstrations of the power of united prayer and faith that this country ever witnessed. And it all began with one man, an everyday clerk who released tremendous power of prayer.

Lamphier’s achievement was a demonstration of an age-old principle: that you can change your life, that I can change mine, and that together we can change the world around us.

Basically, all we need to do is get hold of God in prayer. Or, better still, let God get hold of us.

I. H. Convention Herald

He Is Able

1. He able to save (Heb. 7:25)
2. He is able to keep you from falling (Jude 24)
3. He is able to help those who are tempted (Heb. 2:18)
4. He is able to do for us more than we can ask or think (Eph. 3:20)
5. He is able to make all grace abound (II Cor. 9:8)

Selected

Why Does A Loving God Allow Bad Things To Happen?

In July of 1945, the warship USS Indianapolis had just delivered the atomic bomb. On its way back home it was torpedoed by the Japanese and sunk, stranding hundreds of men in the Pacific Ocean. In the days that followed, many men perished by sharks or others means until the tattered survivors were finally rescued. How tragic.

If we look at WW II alone, we see an awful death count of 54 million. We could add WW I, and the other twentieth-century wars and the death count would be over 100 million. I have been to Jewish holocaust museums in both London and Jerusalem, and have seen the dentures, shoes, and prison garments of some of the six million Jews who died horrible deaths in Hitler's concentration camps. I have spoken with some of the survivors and heard their horrific accounts of what they went through. It all poses the question, "How could a loving God allow such bad things to happen?"

THE PERPLEXITY

Jeremiah 12:1 "Righteous art thou, O Lord...yet let me talk with thee of thy judgments: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper?"

How could a just and fair God allow such injustices? This question has led to a "crisis of faith" in the lives of many people. Tragedies occur on a daily basis such as murders, school shootings, abortions, rapes, accidents, financial woes, problems with relationships, and sickness. According to Dr. Horn of the U.S. Health & Human Services, on an average day in America, thousands of guns are brought to school, 7700 teens become pregnant, 1100 teen abortions take place, hundreds of teens contract sexual diseases, and a sad number of teens commit suicide.

A random survey of teens in Baltimore found that 72% of them personally know someone who has been shot. Sadly, such things happen in our world. Jesus said in Matthew 18:7, "For it must needs be that offences come." Everyday tragic divorces take place, loved ones die, children are kidnaped or molested, people are cheated and awful injustices occur. Such things can crush us to the ground. How could God allow this to go on?

THE PARADOX

Ezekiel 18:25 "Ye say, the way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now... Is not my way equal? Are not your ways unequal?"

When bad things happen, many people immediately put

God on trial. A multitude of "second guessers" put God in a corner, point their finger, and accuse God of unfairness. But let's take a look at the real problem. We wonder why God allows bad things to happen. If God were to eliminate the source of the bad, He would have to start with mankind, i.e., us! We are the problem. The Bible says, "*There is none righteous, no not one*".

We are all guilty of selfishness, pride, lies, lust, covetousness, stubbornness, and a host of other things. The problem with this world is a sin problem. There is war in the world because there is war in our hearts. We expect nations to get along with each other when husbands and wives cannot even get along. We talk about world peace while neighbors, siblings, co-workers, and relatives fight like cats and dogs. The problem is us, not God. Jesus traced the world's problems to our own sinful hearts. He said in Matthew 15:19 "*For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man.*"

There is evil in the world because there is evil in the heart. If God were to rid the world of "bad", He would have to begin with each of us. We need to consider that before we get too indignant toward God. Mankind is the one who has created the war problem, the alcohol problem, the AIDS problem, the immorality problem, the divorce problem, and every other problem. We live in a society of rebellion and lawlessness because we have rejected God's instruction for life given to us in the Word of God (Bible). For example, if we followed God's instruction from the Bible on alcohol, we wouldn't have drunk drivers killing innocent people. When things go wrong in the world, it is unfair for us to turn around and blame God. The Bible says in Genesis 18:25, "*Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?*" We are the culprits, not the victims, and we need to be honest enough to admit it. We have the nerve to blame God, instead of repenting of our sin. God has no obligation to rescue us from the mess we're making. We need to take an honest look within, and think twice before we demand justice.

THE PREMISE

Romans 9:14 "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid."

Why do bad things happen? Does it mean God is callous, unfair, or doesn't exist? Or could it be that we have eliminated God from our society? We have kicked God,

prayer, and the Bible out of our schools. We have listened to the “experts” like Dr. Spock tell us that God’s way of raising children is wrong. We have passed out condoms to our public school children and sent the message that it is acceptable to be immoral in spite of what God says. We have assisted our teen girls in having abortions without their parent’s knowledge. We have bought the lie that elected officials can be ungodly and immoral as long as they do their job and the economy is good. Through the television, we have allowed endless hours of rape, drugs, murders, and other ungodliness to be flushed into our living rooms like raw sewage. We have told our children they evolved from animals and then we wonder why they act like them. Maybe if we thought about it long and hard enough, we might realize we are reaping what we’ve sown. In so many words, we’ve told God to leave us alone. Should we be surprised if He has complied with our wishes?

We now have the society we wanted, but don’t like the consequences. Unfortunately, many are contributing to the moral demise of our nation by redefining “right and wrong,” and moving the boundary until nothing is sacred anymore. We have been brainwashed into thinking such a culture is normal. We have to ask ourselves, “What kind of a society will we be leaving behind for our children and grandchildren?” Very few dare to address the root of the problem. When a preacher speaks out against such thing, he is scorned as “unloving and fanatical.” Human nature has always wanted smooth and accommodating theology.

Even in Bible times people were saying to the preachers, “*Prophecy not unto us right things...speak unto us smooth things...prophecy deceits*” (Isaiah 30:10). The Bible adds, “*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine...And they shall turn away their ears from the truth*” (2 Timothy 4:3-4). God has backed away and watched as man has chosen sin over his Creator. God has given us a free will. He doesn’t force us to love, obey, or follow Him. But when we ignore God’s “instruction manual” on life (the Bible), sin and tragedy will be the result.

THE PERCEPTION

Isaiah 55:8-9 “*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*”

We will never be able to fully understand God’s ways, and we’re out of our league” when we attempt to do so (Ps. 131:1). God sees a much bigger picture than we will ever see. The Bible mentions “*the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.*”(Eph 1:11) There are no accidents or coincidences with God. There are many

Bible examples of God working all things out for a much bigger purpose than was realized at the time. So, why does a loving God allow bad things to happen? Perhaps it’s to show us our own frailty, and remind us of impending death. Perhaps it is to help us get our eyes off this temporal world. Maybe He is trying to cultivate humility or patience in our lives. Perhaps God allows trials in life to cause us to look to Him for support. Maybe God allows affliction in our life to get us back on track when we are straying.

David wrote in Psalm 119:67,71 “*Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word. It is good for me that I have been afflicted.*” Whatever the reason, we must also remember that heartaches are part of a world that has been cursed by sin since the Garden of Eden. Yet, our Creator did not leave us without a remedy. He loved us enough to send His own Son into the world to die for our sins.

Many years ago, a heartbroken father asked his pastor, “Where was God when my son died?” The pastor wisely responded, “God was in the very same place He was when His own Son died”. God has proven His love for us. When tragedy strikes our lives, we can either get bitter or better. It can either drive us to God or from God, depending on our reaction (Zech 13:9). I spoke with a WW II holocaust survivor who could have been bitter, but instead proclaimed his immense love and trust for God. The world is full of injustices including the ones committed by those who are pointing a finger at God. One day God will judge all injustices (Matt 13:41). It is not our responsibility to second-guess God, but to trust Him.

Pastor Tony Scheving
Faith For Life

Proper Doctrine

IF the doctrine is not right; GOD will not accept our *worship* of HIM.

“*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth.*” (John 4:23-24)

Thus there is a real “danger” we can be ‘worshipping’ our ‘worship’. Is not Contemporary worship precisely that? Is it not a vain attempt to try and worship God by wordly music and fleshly appeal?

How sad that most people in Christendom can’t even tell the difference!

Editorial

RES

The Absolute Essential Word of God, The BIBLE!

“If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?” “Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.” (Psalm 11:3 & 119:89)

No imitation, No substitute is equal to the Word of God, the Bible, and that makes it ‘incredible’ which is unbelievable, astonishing and amazing; BUT more than that, the BIBLE is unique: which is “being the only one of its kind, being without an equal or equivalent.

One of the great ‘reformers’ of years gone by stated that the time is coming when they (the spiritual enemy) would be stabbing at faith and scattering doubt. Even though this actually started in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3), we are experiencing it very definitely in our day!

Let me share with you three very basic reasons why the foundation (Bible) is very crucial and without any ‘equals’ for us as sinful human beings.

First, let me mention, we do not ‘worship’ the Book; BUT the ONE whom the Book reveals! JESUS and the Bible are *inseparable!* John 1:1,14.

By the way, can a person become truly saved without coming in contact with some portion of the Word of GOD in some way (means)? Romans 10:17.

1. **SALVATION:** Without the Word there is no “Salvation” as the “Word” is the power of God unto Salvation. A person can ‘reform’ their life or whatever; but not “transform” it from ‘within’ and thus as a result expresses itself without. “Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.” **1 Peter 1:23. (Romans 1:16)** An unsaved person ‘really’ has NO desire to come under the hearing of the Word of God unless they have been ‘duped’ into some ‘false teaching’. Today, many are very sincere, but that is not enough. To see our real need we must be willing to deal with our own sin problem. Martin Luther speaks of the Bible as a ‘closed’ Book unless we deal with SIN. For example, if one is headed in the wrong direction, regardless of how sincere (and mankind is), we need to know at least a little of what God says about SIN to experience our ABSOLUTE necessity of a conversion (turn about). **Proverbs 14:12, 15-16, Luke 19:10.** Likely, if you have not seen yourself spiritually LOST, then you have not been found either!

Isn’t it sad and tragic that EVEN some of God’s people are **bored** with the Word of God and want some entertainment and emotional experience that is sensational? How this must be an insult to GOD, building on emotional experiences instead of His Incorruptible Word that is *forever* settled in Heaven!

How WE NEED a ‘Heaven sent revival’ from the ‘Presence of the Lord’ and not only as a result of the same to ‘experience’ that people be genuinely saved; but that God’s people might be revived (renewed, refreshed) and a desire for the PURE Word of GOD! (Let us PRAY for such, beginning with US! **1 Corinthians 15:1-2.**

2. **NUTRITION:** “As newborn babes desire (crave) the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby”. **1 Peter 2:2.** So often today folk want to hear from the ‘sacred desk’ and elsewhere ONLY that which pleases and comforts them! They “sugar coat” the Word of God, which the Bible calls “itching ears” - **1 Timothy 4:1-2** It is kind of like ‘window shopping’. Notice what God says: “One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination” **Proverbs 28:9.** “But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully” **1 Timothy 1:8.** Most certainly we are saved by GRACE and kept by GRACE; *but* the Law is not only our school master (tutor) to bring US to Christ; but helps keep us there; it is like a “mirror” that reveals OUR SIN (Need & direction)! **Galatians 3:24, Matthew 5:17 - 20.**

If you have been entrusted with children ‘inheritance’, REMEMBER how **hungry** they were at mealtime - so we are admonished to have like *hunger* for the Word of God for ‘growth’ in JESUS. Grow in GRACE and knowledge of.... Toooo BUSY? Then YOU are busier than GOD intends!!! Do YOU take time (discipline) to feed your ‘soul’ at least once a day? Please prayerfully read **Nehemiah 8**, i.e., and LET the Holy Spirit make it food for your soul!

True Christian Fellowship is based on the WORD! The foundational basis for true Christian Fellowship is found in **1 John 1:1-10 & 1 JOHN 2:12!** Notice it states “because your sins are forgiven.” **Forgiveness is the glue that bonds Christian Fellowship together!** Ponder the following: **Hosea 4:6, Hebrews 5:12 - 14 & John 12:35.** “*Be diligent (Study to show) to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*” **II Timothy 2:15, Galatians 6:3, 1 Corinthians 8:2.**

3. **OFFENSIVE:** “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” **Ephesians 6:17.**

We are in a “Spiritual Battle” – it is not ‘make-believe, nor a scrimmage, but a battle unto life eternal or eternal separation from God!) *Mark it clearly* - Satan is out to **kill YOU!** OUR ‘battle’ is not against flesh and blood. BUT

WHAT did JESUS use while HE was here on earth in HIS 'spiritual battles? **THE WORD OF GOD!** "Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in him, Do not add to His words, Let He rebuke you, and you be found a liar." **Proverbs 30:5-6. Remember God says what He means and means what He says!** IF we do not obey His Word (Grace & love for), HE will send a delusion. "And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie" II Thessalonians 2:11, 2:10, 2 Timothy 3:7- 8. BUT Psalm 119:103, 111, 127, 174. "For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy God shall take away this part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." (Revelation 22:18 - 19).

LEST THOU FORGET: "Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy

The Pressing Need

What is really the pressing need in the church of Jesus Christ today? Is it education? Hardly! People today can access great sermons on the internet. People today can access Bible software that will accurately parse Hebrew and Greek. People today can access worship services on cable and dish networks and listen to the most 'anointed' teachers of the Word.

Yet, the church today is at a low as far as attendance, convictions, and impact upon the unbelieving world. What is the pressing need? Is it not discernment? Much of what is panned off as being from God is not. Only those who are broken of self, yielded to God and have surrendered their will and self to God can truly walk and discern by the Spirit what is truly going on today.

It is precisely what the Scripture says, "But the natural man receiveth not he things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Cor. 2:14) It is not by human attainment, but only through spiritual walk will this come. Much ministry today is addressed at "natural men," that is, people who walk, live and think through human reason. Unless you are spiritually discerning the work, you will end up deceived into thinking this is from God.

Dear soul, will you put your self on the altar in surrender, sacrifice and death of self today? Your future life depends on it.

Selected

Update

CONVICTION & NEED

"But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:18). "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:1-2)

Just very recently we received a letter from a "reader" friend who expressed appreciation that the *Morning Glory* had been a real blessing and help to them; but please remove them from your mailing list! My question is: IF (by the GRACE of God) the MG has been such a 'vessel' to the glory of God and are of a 'kindred spirit', how can such a ministry carry on without the support of those who are of a 'like mind'? My conviction and concern is that we do not receive adequate 'finances' to support our conservative cost expenses, it won't be long before we are writing our own obituary! We NEED to 'rally' with much **prayer support** and finances (as the Lord leads) IF we are taking JESUS seriously and consistently – IF we are to meet the challenge "**occupy** 'til I come." What is entrusted to "us" is to be used to HIS glory! "For the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof." (1 Corinthians 10:26) In other words if those of US who are in agreement do not support this ministry (in the Lord), WHO is left to do so? Having 'our' financial expenses met does give relief and efforts/energy can be focused on other important functions of this ministry! **We are expected to use God's wealth (what HE entrusts to us) for HIS Kingdom gain!** "Then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading" (Luke 19:15) JESUS addressed quite frequently *money matters, because money matters*. Jesus said, "For where your 'treasures' are there will your heart be also." Be assured that the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Board quite rigorously measures our expenditures and our methods conscientiously before the Lord in human prudence and godly trust. **Thankfully, the LORD** has favored us with wise counselors to assist in managing the resources you have shared with this ministry. WE are indeed grateful for HIS supply through YOU! **Tarry at a promise of HIS till God meets you there!**

April Income for the *Morning Glory* is: \$1,247.05

Cost for each issue of the *Morning Glory* is approximately \$2,375

P.S. Remember the dates of the Annual Conference of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation are: June 27-29, 2008 (Lord willing) at Emmanuel Lutheran Church of rural Wanamingo, MN

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
HAUGE LUTHERAN INNERMISSION
FEDERATION

When? June 27 – 29, 2008

Where? Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Rural Wanamingo, MN.

Host Pastor: Pastor Martin Horn

SCHEDULE:

Friday, June 27 at 7:30 p.m. — Guest Speaker
Pastor Omar Gjerness, (Fergus Falls, MN)

Refreshments following the service

Saturday, June 28 at 9:15 a.m. – 9:40 a.m. =
Prayer Time

9:40 a.m. – 10:35 a.m. = Pastor Rodney Stueland

10:35 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. = Refreshments

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. = Pastor Martin Horn

12 (noon) – Potluck meal at the Church

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. = Pastor Rodney Stueland

2:15 p.m. – 3 p.m. = Fellowship Time, Testimo-
nies, Gospel Songs & Hymns

3 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. = Refreshments

3:30 p.m. – Annual Meeting of the Hauge Lutheran
Innermission Federation and HLIF Board Meeting
following

7:30 p.m. = Pastor Omar Gjerness

Refreshments following the service

Sunday, June 29

WORSHIP SERVICE: Pastor Omar Gjerness

Accommodations Suggestion:

Motel at Zumbrota, Minn.

Theme & Theme Song: JESUS ONLY

You are 'urged' and very WELCOME to Attend – WE
believe that YOU will be richly blessed in doing so!!!

Directions to the church: From Kenyon, Minne-
sota, go 5 miles East on Highway 60. Go North
(Left) on Highway 1 for 4 miles to the church.

Can “we” count on ‘you’ for prayer support, atten-
dance and encouragement?

WELCOME!

Evangelistic Tent Meetings

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of rural Wana-
mingo, MN will be using the Innermission tent for
evangelistic meetings. They have secured pastor
Mark Olson for these meetings. The meetings will be
at the Wanamingo Truck Stop.

The dates for these meetings are August 24-27,
2008. They will start each evening at 7:30 p.m.

Perhaps your church or fellowship group would
like to use the Innermission tent for evangelistic
meetings. Would you commit this in prayer to the
Lord and see what He would like to do?

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