Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • June 2012

A Grateful Nation Remembers

President Franklin D. Roosevelt leads the nation in prayer June 6, 1944

hen the National World War II Memorial was opened in 2004, it became apparent to members of the "greatest generation," as well as the historically astute, that a quote from Franklin D. Roosevelt's message to Congress following the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor was missing four vital words – "SO HELP US GOD."

Now, a bill is being introduced in both the U.S. House and Senate, known as "The D-Day Landing Prayer Project," a legislative initiative of The Ohio Christian Alliance. The bill calls for the prayer by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, delivered to the nation, June 6, 1944, be displayed in its entirety at the National World War II Memorial. The bill is being introduced by Congressman Bill Johnson, 6th District, Ohio, and by Senator Rob Portman of Ohio. The Obama Administration opposes this bill.

The rising tide of voices in America that seek to redact from history all references to God who has "made and preserved us a nation" must be stopped. Contact your national representatives and urge them to support this effort to restore America's spiritual heritage to its rightful place. Here is the prayer President Franklin D. Roosevelt offered on June, 1944:

"Almighty God" Our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity. Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest – until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violence of war.

For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants into Thy kingdom.

And for us at home – fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of brave men overseas, whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them – help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.

Many people have urged that I call the nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

Give us strength, too – strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces. And let our

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hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.

And, O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events and temporal matters dissuade, for they are but for a fleeting moment — let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace — a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

Thy will be done, Almighty God. Amen."

Taken from 'The Vine and Branches', Winter, 2011

The old-time religion, the faith of the New Testament, is sometimes so up-to-date, so inoculated and improved, so analyzed, purified and hypnotized that the apostles and their Lord would never recognize in it the faith for which they gave their lives!

Selected

The Blessing of Biblical Marriage

Marriage was God's idea from the beginning. As we read Genesis 2:20-24, we realize that marriage as God intended is described as one man and one woman united in an exclusive, continuous and lifelong relationship of love and companionship. Our Lord Jesus Christ reaffirmed that in Matthew 19:4-6. When both the husband and wife are committed to Christ, and to one another as God intended, then the blessing of God is experienced in their marriage. It is also true, as in any other area of life, that when God's Word and ways are ignored and rejected, life is filled with heartache and hurt and disappointment. Since there is so much discussion these days even in religious circles about marriage that is contrary to God's perfect plan, the purpose of this article is to outline what the Bible actually teaches about marriage. Only when we know God's perfect will and plan for marriage, will we be able to follow His Word, and experience the fullness of His blessing in our homes.

First, there are several very clear passages of Scripture that outline God's plan for marriage. As you read the following verses, it would be helpful for you to jot down what they say: Genesis 2:20-24; Malachi 2:13-16; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:2-12; Luke 16:18; Romans 7:2-3; I Corinthians 7:10-13; I Corinthians 7:39. The message in these verses is very clear: marriage is for one man and one woman for life, and that God hates divorce (Malachi 2:13-16).

Next, there are 3 passages of scripture that are somewhat obscure. It is these verses around which much controversy arises. They are Matthew 5:31-32 and 19:9; and I Corinthians 7:15 – the so-called "exception clauses". Years ago, as I sought to understand these passages, I was reminded of two very basic principles of interpretation of scripture: "scripture interprets scripture" and "obscure passages in scripture must give way to clear passages". I then realized that whatever these obscure passages may mean, they will not contradict the clear passages of scripture.

Further, two examples in scripture have been a great help to me in dealing with the issue of divorce and remarriage. The first example is from the book of Hosea, where Hosea was faithful and forgiving to his unfaithful wife. Here our faithful God is illustrating how much He loves us, even though we have been unfaithful to Him. The message is the same as in Ephesians 5:22-33, where we are clearly taught that as Christ is to the Church, so the husband is to be to his wife. The other example is that of John the Baptist. In Matthew 14:3-4, we see that John was willing to lose his life, rather than to compromise on the issue of King Herod taking his brother's wife for himself.

A fourth issue connected to the permanency of mar-

riage is the matter of vows. The importance and binding force of the marriage vow for "as long as both shall live" must be understood not by the fickle attitude of our society, but in light of clear Biblical teaching. Read carefully what the Bible says about the seriousness of vows: Psalm 50:14; Psalm 56:12; Eccl. 5:4-7. Then consider the promises made in the marriage vows to one another, and in the presence of God and others.

- "in good and evil days keep yourself only unto her (him)"
 - "to love thee in prosperity and in adversity"
 - "for better or for worse"
 - "in sickness and in health"
 - "until death do us part"

May we all renew those vows to the Lord and our spouse often!

Finally, let us consider those who have been divorced and are now remarried to someone else. We need to realize that many were never taught what the Bible clearly says about divorce and remarriage. That is not their fault- the responsibility lies with the church that has failed to teach the whole counsel of God! While we recognize that divorce is sin, and remarriage of persons divorced is adultery, yet we must remember that neither sin is unpardonable. We must remember that breaking a second vow is not the solution to breaking the first one. When anyone acknowledges and repents of their past sins, they are forgiven! We need to minister to them, and seek to strengthen them in their present life and marriage. For them, the only scriptural restrictions in serving the Lord is that which is given in the Biblical guidelines for pastors and deacons, who are called to a higher standard (see I Tim. 3:1-12; Titus 1:5-9, James 3:1).

"God, give us homes built firm upon the Savior!"

Pastor Don Greven

Editor's Note: "AMEN" for a very good and timely article OR actually long overdue for the general public and the same needs to be shared from each pulpit and definitely occasionally! BUT I believe when God states a standard: it is a 'standard' for ALL PEOPLE – not only a crystal clear qualification for those in 'spiritual leadership'. For example: *Remember* God hates divorce and because of the hardness of human hearts; He gave Moses permission to write 'divorce' for one condition. By the way *man permits certain things/clauses:* but does that change what is recorded in Heaven?"

Editorial

Worship

"Common OR Uncommon?

There is a 'thinking' that any form of 'worship' is pleasing OR acceptable to GOD! Is that **Biblically true?** Does God direct different 'communities to <u>different</u> forms of 'Worship'.

BEFORE **you** come to a conclusion; let me clearly state 'we' are not straining at the gnat – in other words for example: do you say Amen or amen? In other words: with liturgy or not? Now IF you agree or not is not the supreme issue, but "we" of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission/Morning Glory have the conviction that 'we' should 'worship' HIM with "Simplicity in Worship" as indicated in the logo on the front page of each issue of the *Morning Glory*.

This I know with absolute certainty (Because God says so) that GOD wants 'us' to: "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." John 4:23-24. That settles it; doesn't it?

Many years ago a telephone call was made unto the Pastor of a certain congregation wondering if the President of the United States would be in church on such a Sunday Morning? The host Pastor responded that he didn't know IF the President would be in their Assembly, but that Almighty GOD would be there! I never cease to marvel at the following Bible verse; that the King of Kings and Lord of Lords would be present (the thrice Holy, Almighty One): "For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20. Keep in mind that God's LOVE will not embrace what the Holiness of God condemns (sin). Yes, if you really want to Glorify God, we must keep ALL of His Attributes in mind and the righteousness of God under girds 'all' of His attributes.

The **shed blood of Jesus Christ** is severely attack by liberal religious persons and others; BUT as 'we' *worship* 'our' crucified and risen Savior, isn't it crucial and vital that we personally appropriate His shed 'blood' in my behalf in order to truly 'worship' HIM? As in the Old Testament era, a person did not dare approach into the 'presence' of the Holy of Holies without innocent shed blood appropriated personally. That is also so very true today too; without by faith appropriating His Blood in my behalf (for my SINS) we can not reach the Throne of GRACE. Other wise the very best we can perform is lip service; yet remain strangers to the Great Shepherd. In other words; honoring God with our lips, but our hearts are far from Him. Maybe this is what is missing in

many of our public 'worship services' today! There is power in the BLOOD of the crucified and risen ONE (Jesus). God shares that when I see the Blood I will pass over you and in HIS GRACE 'we' can offer the sacrifice of praise unto HIM. Isaiah chapter one, Matthew 15:8, Mark 7:6 & Hebrews 13:14-15: "For here we have no continuing city; but we seek the one to come. Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

NOW *IF* **JESUS** is your personal Savior and you are walking in the light of His Word; are adopted in the 'family of God' and a child of the KING and one name you thus bare is *Christian* and that name means something, through the <u>royal Blood shed</u>, you are not only in the family of God but an 'heir' with Christ! "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, wee have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us form all sin." 1 John 1:7.

Then, as a 'believer', you are seeking to *worship Him* with other fellow 'believers' in obedience to His Word. THUS as believers gathered 'together' assembled on property and in a facility that has been dedicated unto God; you are in a sense standing upon <u>holy ground</u>.

After saying 'all' of the above; let 'us' get down to the very basics of what **worship is!** Keep in mind it is not 'my' emotions or feelings that is the deciding factor. According to the dictionary 'worship' is: "**Me** worship worthiness, repute, respect, reverence paid to a divine being. Reverence offered a divine being or supernatural power." Then the actual act/experience in 'worship' in practice is not only a 'privilege', but to honor or reverence as a divine being or supernatural power. To regard with great even extravagant respect, honor, or devotion." So for example: it is not what type of music that **I** like; but what is most pleasing to HIM. **As our reverence for God rises and falls so will our form**

As our reverence for God rises and falls so will our form of 'worship', like a shadow.

<u>Singularly</u>, maybe 'our' first and most vital necessity in 'worshipping' Almighty God; is to admit 'my' NEED of whom HE **IS** in my experience of 'worship.' So freely admitting 'my' <u>need</u>: that I <u>need</u> to praise and glorify HIM (His Holy Name) for what HE has done, HE is doing and what HE is going to do! (The emphasis is not so much of who I am or am going to do, but on HIM).

Faith is not only a solid noun, but also an active reliance/trust or ACTION! Notice in our 'text' what God says: that they that Worship ME **must** *worship in spirit and truth* and that God *seeks* for the same!

The *popular trend today* is to have what we call the 'worship service' an emotional, warm and exciting <u>feeling</u>. For example: It is popular to use *drums* and confirm that by saying 'drums' were used in the Old Testament, not realizing that almost all the time 'drums' were used was to drown out the 'screams' of infants/children as 'sacrifices' to heathen gods!

Also many have gone along with the fashion or popularity of the day is approval that it doesn't matter what a person wears (or lack of) in the 'worship service, etc. as long as they come under the hearing of the Word of God. This is a partial 'truth' but Scripture clearly indicates that for 'believers' who are 'worshipping' HIM in spirit and truth; they need to at least dress with modesty within their financial means. Oh, when immodest apparel is questioned; the response is that God looks upon the 'heart' not the outward apparel – which is true – But God also says that out of the abundance of the heart these 'things' are manifested. I do not believe that where godly fear, respect and reverence is a reality that this will hold 'water'. Take Joseph in the Old Testament as just one 'example'; before appearing before the 'king', he wanted to be clean shaved and clean clothes! IF you knew you were going to be in the immediate 'presence' of the President/King; I believe a person should put on proper attire according to their means! Why would a 'believer' want to cause another person to SIN regardless IF a saved person OR a lost person yet in their sins?

It seems to me as you (we) study the Holy Scriptures that when individual(s) *sensed* the *presence* of 'our' **living God**; they fell prostrate at the feet of JESUS and if anything cried out for **mercy!** Something like Elijah while in a cave heard God's Voice in a (still small voice) quite manner. Be still and know that I am GOD or like Mary & Martha). Notice in their 'worship' of 'our' Almighty God they openly had a NEED. (Even in the **miracle** of many thousand being fed, it was done in an orderly manner).

Could it be that in many of our congregations that 11 Timothy 3:5, Revelation 3:14-22 is being fulfilled? Having a good organization, right teaching, programs, etc. but just 'mechanical' and not sensing the presence of the Holy Spirit in their midst.

Each and every day is a *gift* from the LORD and each 'day' should be lived in that light; BUT GOD intends especially that 'we' should gather around and in the Word of God, the FIRST day of the week. In the New Testament era it is 'our' Sabbath (rest) Day. BUT it has become a 'catch up or pleasure' day. "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." What does this mean? Answer: We should fear and love God so that we do not despise His Word and the preaching of the same, but deem it holy, and gladly hear and learn it." Luther's Small Catechism Explained and please read further in the 'Catechism'. BUT many will say we are not under the Law! TRUE, but God established a

day of 'rest' long before Moses time – actually since the time of 'Creation'. Does GOD know best for all times? <u>Absolutely!!!</u> **HE says 'we' will obey/keep His Commandments** *if* 'we' love Him! Actually 'Sunday' if anything, should be the 'highlight' of the week! Even 'our' Sunday 'offering(s)' is a form of 'Worship'! Isaiah 56, Exodus 16:26, 20:11, 23:12, 34:21, 35:2, Lev. 23:3, Deut. 5:13, Luke 13:10-17. Does <u>Scripture</u> contradict itself? A <u>Resounding: NO!!</u>

There are numerous Scriptures in the New Testament and examples that especially the First Day of the Week (Sunday as Sabbath), they gathered together for 'Worship'.

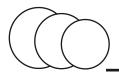
"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire." Hebrews 12:28-29. "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the father in spirit and truth: for the father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (In Harmony) John 4:23-24.

P. S. Editor's Note: Where in the Scriptures do we find that a 'Worship Service' (Midweek Bible Study, etc) should be only one hour or less? In doing the same are we limiting (boxing in) the work of the Holy Spirit? How about 'evangelistic meetings'; only being a very few days IF any? When did God withdraw the service/ministry of such?

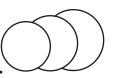
Pastors: Other than being sure you have the calling from God; I believe your main area of ministering (serving) is to FEED/NOURISH the 'lambs, sheep' preaching/teaching/visitation (in small numbers = one, three, twelve, etc. Jesus did) in doctrine, warning, edifying and strengthening. There are 'many' lambs and sheep today that are 'under fed' and spiritual 'meat' is essential for their growth and edification. Included in being 'fed' is fore-warning (Acts 20:26-32) Is it needless to say that under the guidance of the Holy Spirit; if this 'servant' of God spends time in Preparation which includes perspiration there will be inspiration in presentation! Regardless of the 'size' of the flock be thou faithful unto GOD and the individual and flock will flourish and respond according to Hebrews 13:7. Yes out of Calvary's Love: that the flock is truly 'cared for' they (the lambs/sheep) will go out into the highways and by ways and bring others in! An 'under shepherd' is known by his flock!

God Grant that we get back in truly following the Bible; like the early 'church' did in the book of **Acts**!

"And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Allelluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." Revelation 19:6-7.



From Our Fellowship Circle



J. N. Elk Mound, WI

I would not want to be without the 'Morning Glory.' It is the most reliable source of Bible teaching that I know of today. I pray for you and the ministry; that God would continue to inspire you and that Satan would never destroy the ministry. Editor: Praise God!

M. T. Apple Valley, MN

What a fantastic Holiday (Holy Day)! Thanks unto God for all He's done for us! Christ crucified, Christ died, Christ buried, Christ arose, Christ is living and praise God Christ is coming back for His own blood bought bride. And praise God for what HE is doing in our lives! ...

M. L. Story City, IA

Your magazine continues to be a blessing and so many items/articles are found in the *Morning Glory*.

Thank you for your consistent and Biblical based articles!



CHRIST JESUS, THE LORD!

He descended that we might ascend (John 6:38; 14:3). He became poor that we might become rich (11 Cor. 8:9; Jas. 2:5).

He was born that we might be born again (John 1:14; 3:3, 7).

He became a servant that we might be sons (Phil. 2:7; Gal. 4:6, 7).

He had no home that we might have a home in Heaven (Matt. 8:20; John 14:2).

He was hungry that we might be fed (Matt. 4:2; John 6:50).

He was thirsty that we might drink of the wells of salvation (John 19:28; Isa. 12:3).

He was wearied that we might rest (John 4:6; Matt. 11:19).

He was stripped that we might be clothed (Matt. 28:28; 11 Cor. 5:4).

He was forsaken that we might not be forsaken (Matt. 27:46; Heb. 13:5).

He was sad that we might be glad (Isa. 53:3; Phil. 4:4). He was bound that we might go free (Matt. 27:2; John 8:32-36).

He was made sin that we might be made righteous (11 Cor. 5:21).

He died that we might live (John 19:33; 5:24, 25).

He will come down that we may be caught up (1 Thess. 4:16, 17).

Selected

"I Wasn't Afraid ...I Was With You, Father" LISTENING TO THE WORD Luke 10:38-42

Ellen Erdman tells a story about a little boy and his father who were fishing together when they were caught in a sudden thunderstorm.

Water rose quickly in the little creek. They needed to cross it and get to higher ground. Water which had been only to the boy's knees now rose to his waist. They walked quickly, the father holding his son's hand. When they reached safety, his father asked him, "Were you afraid?" "Oh, no," came the lad's reply, "I was walking with you, Father."

How much needless fear and care and anxiety we bring upon ourselves day by day, simply because we fail to walk hand-in-hand with our heavenly Father. Like Martha, we're "anxious" and "troubled about many things." God has promised to abundantly supply our every need. Our part is to trust Him. A life of fear and anxiety reveals a need for greater trust and faith in Him. He has given to us many promises in His Word, the Bible, we are to trust them-that is true faith. "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God," said Paul. Let us trust God and His Holy Word and be done with fear.

If you have been like Martha – "anxious" and unsettled, worried and frustrated – I encourage you to put your hand in your heavenly Father's hand and begin walking in dependence on His promises to you in His Word.

Taken from the devotional "Morning Glory" by Wilbur E. Nelson

SEXUAL BRAINWASHING

In our ever-changing society it has now become trendy to be immoral. Bachelor playboys of TV are considered 'cool' if they can score with the women. Fornication is in vogue. From our ungodly world's viewpoint, maintaining sexual purity is silly. The world makes sex outside of marriage look fashionable and normal. Look at the celebrities and athletes. Many young people are being brainwashed and taking their 'cue' from the world. The problem is that the world is on the wrong course, according to our Creator, and will one day give an account for its sexual corruption.

God's Word (the Bible), regarding sex, cuts right across the grain of our society. Our enlightened heathen culture portrays sex between two unmarried people as casual and harmless. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our society portrays the immoral guy as 'the macho man' and the sexually loose gal as 'hot'. In truth, anyone with weak character can be sexually impure in our present pagan culture. The tragedy is that it will lead to a crippled and frustrated marriage one day. God had our best in mind when He gave us strong directives about sexual purity before and during marriage. There are many benefits to staying pure before marriage and also abstaining from the pornography and filth of this world. Pornography itself gives young men a very warped view of women.

There is a serious misconception in our society today that purity equals weakness. That is not true at all. Purity builds strength and character. Purity gives life purpose and joy. Purity grabs hold of our reckless emotions, and helps us to focus to see life more clearly. Purity does not give into momentary weakness, but it looks to long-term positive impact. Purity attracts like-minded friends. Purity gives respect and initiates respect back. Purity cultivates long term commitment. In today's crazy world, sexual impurity opens us up to all kinds of temptation and sin. By being pure in our thoughts and actions we avoid so much negative influence, and we have the strength to keenly discern right from wrong. Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God" (Matthew 5:8).

Remember: Sex is God's idea. So what does our Creator say about it? The Bible says in Hebrews 13:4, *Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.*" In Numbers 25, God judged the nation of Israel severely for ungodly sexual behavior. Thousands died in a God-sent plague. Of course the seventh (Editor: 6th) commandment

clearly says, "Thu shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14).

So how serious is it to be sexually loose? The Bible says in Ephesians 5:3-7, "But fornication, and all uncleanness, let it not be once named among you... For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience" (the ungodly and immoral). If you re-read those verses you'll see that God is clearly telling us that the sexually corrupt will miss heaven. The Bible says, "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body" (1 Corinthians 6:18-19).

When someone controls their sexual impulses it: prevents shame and guilt in the heart, brings selfishness under control, protects from emotional scars that will haunt you later in life, avoids the possibility of an unwanted pregnancy, keeps the conscience clear, gives you something to look forward to on your wedding night, develops good qualities of patience and self-control, and most of all, pleases God. The media promotes safe sex but they still haven't given us a good explanation on how sex before marriage could be safe physically, emotionally and morally. Sex outside of marriage was never our Creator's plan. If you have violated God's commands on sex and regret it, there is hope and forgiveness offered through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Taken from 'Faith for Life', Spring, 2012

Whose Home Is This?

G. Campbell Morgan said, "My father came into my house soon after I was married and looked around into every room. He then said to me, 'Yes, it is very nice; but nobody will know walking through here whether you belong to God or the Devil.'

"I went through and looked at the rooms again, and I thought, *He is right*. So we made up our minds straightway that there should be no room in our house, henceforth, that had not some message, by picture or wall text; for every corner should tell that we serve the King."

The BUS (Editor: Vehicle) MINISTRY

Keeping Your Eyes on Jesus

By Pastor Jeff Fugate

When teaching someone to drive a car, as many of us have taught our children, one of the statements we make over and again is "Keep your eyes on the road!" This seems so obvious, and yet we make the statement because it is not just important; it is imperative. Across America, state after state has made traffic laws to prohibit texting while driving. Why? They want to encourage, even mandate, that people driving cars keep their eyes on the road.

In Hebrews 12, the Bible compares the will of God in our lives to a race to be run. In these first two verses, there are several instructions for us as we "run ...the race" of the will of God.

One is to lay aside the weight and the sin that would beset us or hold us back in the race set before us. Even in building a race car, the engineers want to make it as light as it can be so that it can be as fast as possible.

Also, we are told to be patient. He is telling us that there will be obstacles and hindrances in the will of God, this race that is set before us. Patience is required when running this race. (*Editor:* I believe this word <u>patience</u> also means <u>perseverance!</u>).

And yet, to keep this race of life, this will of God, in perspective, we must keep our eyes on Jesus, just as a driver must keep his or her eyes on the road.

Many in our world today are living life in a frustrated mode. Some are angry, and others have even committed suicide, declaring that life is not worth living! Even Christians often live in frustration and confusion about life. Why is that? We take our eyes off Jesus.

In the busy ministry, our work is very challenging. We face the challenges of the culture that these children live in – a culture where personal character and responsibility are often lacking. It is a society of broken homes and infestation of sins of every kind and form. As a result, they have great pain and sorrow in their lives. There is a void of love and even a lack of provision on many cases.

How do we make sense of all these things – things that make no sense? We must keep our eyes on the Lord Jesus. We remember that our God is a sovereign God in control of all things. We must remember that God is all-powerful and able to meet every need presented to Him.

If we take our eyes off Him and put our eyes on the circumstances, the difficulties, the trials and tragedies, life makes no sense at all. We will end up living as so many others do – frustrated and discouraged about life.

Think with me of the life of Joseph and the great difficulties that he faced, and yet he ended up being a great leader for God. It is easy for us to dismiss the greatness of Joseph because we know the end of the story.

And yet Joseph, not knowing how anything would turn out in life, trusted God and allowed God to work in his life. One of the greatest Bible verses of faith and praise is when Joseph declared; "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive." Gen. 50:20.

We must keep our eyes on Jesus as we work to make a difference in the lives of the many children that ride our buses to Sunday school and church each week. Further, we must teach them these very Bible stories that remind us to keep our eyes on the Lord and trust in Him and His great might and power. Are there Josephs on your bus route who are going through the difficulties of life who could, with their lives "save much people alive" because you reached them with the Gospel through the bus ministry?

Think of the life of Job. When you think of Job's life outside of a biblical perspective, his life was a great tragedy and heartache. And yet, we know that Job's life has served as an example of faith and trust for all the years that man has been reading his story in the Bible. How did Job keep all of these events in his life in perspective? He continued to trust in the Lord! He kept his eyes on the Lord.

Have you become discouraged in your work in the bus ministry? Have you become frustrated and even angry at the things that are happening to you in your life? Can I encourage you to get your eyes on the Lord Jesus today? He loves us. He cares for us. He has met our needs. He will continue to love us and will continue to meet our needs. Trust Him today and teach the children in your class and on your bus route to trust in the Lord.

Just as we would remind a driver that may veer off the road and scare us a little to keep his eyes on the road, let me challenge you today to get your eyes on Jesus. That will bring life back into perspective for you again...

Taken from 'Sword of the Lord'.

Editor's Note: Isn't the 'core' of this 'message' for whatever the LORD is leading and asking YOU to do He'll provide? YES!

There are too many parents who will tie up their dogs at night and let their children run loose.

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Editor's Note: Outward SIN (Sinners) has become too BOLD that I am almost embarrassed and ashamed to write some of the factual information! What used to be 'sin hidden in the closet' is now Open/bold on main street. YET GOD wants 'us' to be awake/alert in order to 'redeem the time'. "Therefore He says: "But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. 'Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.' See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:13-15, Romans 13:11-14, Isaiah 59:19b & 1 Corinthians 14:8 "For if the trumpet makes uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle?"

Jimmy Carter Supports Same Sex-Marriage As He Launches His New Bible.

Former President Jimmy Cater has produced and published a study Bible called 'Lessons from Life.' It contains the full text of the New International Version of the Bible, along with his prayers, reflections and notes.

While on tour promoting his study Bible, Carter revealed his support for same-sex marriage. He told Paul Brandels Raushenbush, senor religion editor of The Huffington Post, "Homosexuality was well known in the ancient world, well before Christ was born. Jesus never said a word about homosexuality. In all his teachings about multiple things, he never said that gay people should be condemned. I personally think it is very fine for gay people to be married in civil ceremonies."

When pressed by Raushenbush about whether he believed the Bible is God's word, Carter answered: "The basic principles of the Bible are taught by God, but written down by human beings deprived of modern day knowledge. So there is some fallibility in the writings of the Bible. But the basic principles are applicable to my life and I don't find any conflict among them."

"There are many verses in the Bible that you could interpret very rigidly," Carter said, "and that makes you ultimately into a fundamentalist." Carter's NIV study Bible is published by Zondervan.

Information from LifeSiteNews,

ST OLAF COLLEGE – Condoms, Beer Goggles and St. Olaf

St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) held an event March 13, 2012 called the "Wellness Olympics." On an official web site of St. Olaf, an announcement of the event stated: "Back by popular demand, the Wellness Center is hosting a team-based competition that tests students' knowledge of sexual health, reproductive anatomy, and STD statistics. It all culminates in an intense relay race to put on a condom while wearing 'beer goggles.' Come and bring your friends!"

St. Olaf's Student Government Association's website announced the event this way, "An interactive competition with the purpose of social norming and learning all about condoms. Ahhh yeeah."

Editor's Note: Where is the St. Olaf administration while all this is taking place? Will not one faculty member or one parent of a St. Olaf student rise up to say "NO" to such activities? Well, at least ELCA members now know where their benevolence dollars are going.

We are indebted to Dan Skogen for alerting us to these stories regarding St. Olaf ...For those of you who follow the ELCA's departures from truth, we encourage you to check out Dan's excellent web sit at www.exposingtheelca.com.

The Vine and Branches, Spring, 2012

Miracle Baby Survives, Turning Three Soon!

When Ryan Marquiss was born with his heart outside of his body, doctors didn't expect him to survive.

It is an incredibly rare condition...

His heart also hadn't developed (properly) – a combination of defects which is so rare that Ryan is the only one of his kind in the world.

- ...His...parents (refused) to terminate the pregnancy...
 - ... Ryan is (now) about to celebrate his third birthday

Doctors discovered the problem at 12 weeks into his mother's pregnancy. (Editor: Notice – 12 weeks)!

The incredibly rare defect, ectopia cordis, affects only eight in every million births, and 90 percent of these are stillborn or die within three days.

...Ryan was also suffering from hypoplastic right heart syndrome, where only the left side of the heart has developed properly...

...Doctors believe that his survival offers hope for other babies with serious heart defects.

In the future, he may require a heart transplant, but at the moment, he is progressing well.

Mrs. Marquiss said, "...I praise God. Every day with Ryan is one we were told we wouldn't have – so we cherish each moment."

Mail Online.

Partnered homosexual to serve large ELCA church

Bradley Schmeling, who has served St. John's Lutheran Church in Atlanta since 2000, has been called as senior pastor of the 2300-member Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in St. Paul, MN. Schmeling was suspended from the ELCA clergy roster in 2007 after he announced that he and Darin Easler, another ELCA pastor, were living together as a couple. He was reinstated by the ELCA in 2010.

Selected

Morning Glory Retraction

Contradiction!!

In the April, 2012 issue of the *Morning Glory*, a news item was reprinted with the title: "Wycliffe Bible Translators – Producing Muslim Friendly Bible", from Godfathers Politics (an article which is filed under Islam, Liberalism, Religion, 2/2012). Information from Wycliffe Bible Translators contradicts this news item. So my suggestion is: that you prayerfully research this concern on your own!

IF there is an error in printing this 'news item', I most certainly ask for <u>forgiveness</u>; as I/we most certainly do not want to hinder any correct Biblically Christian ministry! BUT at the same time want to assure <u>you</u> that we seek to be faithful and true unto 'our' Creator and Redeemer and want to be an honest and reliable source of information, and most certainly a BLESSING to **others**! "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them" Ephesians 5:11. (Also II Corinthians 6:11-18).

"For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle?" 1 Corinthians 14:8.

<u>THANK YOU conscientious readers</u>: "We covet prayer support of ALL who are on 'praying ground' and are involved in this ministry!

Israel Will Be The Last Nation Standing

Having read the last book of the Bible I can tell you with absolute authority — Israel wins! Israel will be the last nation standing when all the forces of evil have done their worst to establish themselves as rulers of the earth. Rest assured Christian friends, we need not fear. One day the trumpet and the shout will be heard as Christ returns in the cloud for His blessed Bride, the Church (*Editor Note:* Called out ones — ones personally **under the BLOOD of our crucified and risen Savior; who is coming again**)! What a day, glorious day that will be!

Yes, there is coming a day when God will have the final word over the affairs of men and nations. The powers that now hold sway will be dissolved into cosmic dust. The voices that now demand the removal of the Bible, prayer and the name of Jesus from the public square will all be silenced in an instant. The King of Kings is coming in the fullness of His power and glory. On that day "... every knee will bowand every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:10).

"He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming quickly.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus" Rev. 22:20

Selected

"I will gather all the nations... and bring them into judgment... on behalf of my people Israel whom they have scattered... and divided up My land" Joel 3:2

Good Works?

"One might better try to sail the Atlantic in a paper boat than try to get to Heaven on good works."

Charles Spurgeon

A Better Messenger

...Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will take of the things of Jesus and give them unto us.

This letter (Hebrews) give us a glorious picture of the Christ who is "able to save to the uttermost them that draw near unto God through Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them."

As we study, let us always remember that God's purpose is that the Word shall be means by which His grace and power are transmitted to us. He is seeking to accomplish in us the very things of which He speaks. Our study should be a drawing near that we may "receive mercy and may find grace to help us in time of need."

First, let me give you a suggestion for study of chapters one and two. I would suggest that you pursue this study before reading the comments which are to follow. After you have yourself studied the chapters you will appreciate much more the comments given. ...

Better than the prophets

Hebrews 1:1-3

1). I God, having of old time spoken unto the fathers in the prophets by divers portions and in divers manners, 2). Hath at the end of these days spoken unto us in his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom also he made the worlds; 3). Who being the effulgence of his glory, and the very image of his substance, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

The first two verses introduce us immediately to the theme and the method of this letter. Here we can see the supremacy of the Son of God and the privilege of the readers in receiving God's message through the Son. There is a comparison between the "old time" and "the end of these days"; between the "fathers" and "us", between the "prophets" and the "Son."

It was God who spoke in the prophets. We need to emphasize that in our day men try in every way to escape the fact that God is actually speaking in the Old and the New Testament. Some say the Bible is all true and when they say that they do not mean that it is the truth. They hold that the Old Testament, for example, is a true revelation of what men have thought of God. They say you can see a sort of evolutionary process going on and that the opinion men held about God as revealed in Genesis is far different from their opinion as revealed in the New Testament.

Here is something to think about in answer to such a

position. This letter begins with the word "God." Genesis also begins with "God." The Bible is the book of God all the way through. God is always taken for granted. In the Bible you do not find any organized arguments for the existence of God. When men philosophize about God they always argue about His existence. The arguments are so well known that we have them organized and grouped and can place every argument presented under the heading to which it belongs. The Bible, however, simply brings us face to face with God and tells us that God is speaking.

This is one of the differences between the liberal and the evangelical viewpoint with regards to the Scriptures. The liberals hold that the Bible is a record of men's thoughts about God, while the evangelicals hold that God has actually spoken and that the Bible has been produced by the Holy Spirit using men as instruments for the production.

However, the Bible does recognize a development of the revelation. God spake to the fathers "by divers portions and in divers manners." In the Old Testament the revelation was fragmentary. It was given a part at a time as man was ready to receive it. The picture of the coming Saviour was built up piece by piece and color by color.

God also used divers manners. Sometimes He actually dictated the message. Sometimes He spoke in dreams and in visions. Sometimes He sent an angel. Sometimes He guided and directed men's thoughts. Sometimes He caused them to record historical events as any other historian would do. Sometimes He caused them to copy from other records. He was never limited to any one method.

"But at the end of these days He hath spoken unto us in His Son." This is His supreme revelation. "The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him." And now the author sets forth what a great thing it is that we may receive the message of God through His Son.

This we will appreciate to the extent that we appreciate who the Son is.

1. "Heir of all things." Looking down into the future the author tells us that finally the Lord Jesus Christ is the rightful heir of all things. Jesus made this same claim in speaking with the leaders of the Jews in His day. Recall the parable in which the husbandman sends his own son to collect the fruit of the vineyard and the managers say among themselves: "This is the heir: come, let us kill him, and take his inheritance." The Lord Jesus Christ has the rights of an heir. Think how many there are who refuse to yield to Him the life which is His own, but

cast Him out and kill Him!

- 2. "Through whom also he made the worlds." Looking back into the beginnings we see the Son as the one through whom everything has been made and planned.
- 3. **"The effulgence of his glory."** He is so truly God that the glory of God has in him found the way to shine out to men.
- 4. **"The very image of his substance."** The figure may be taken from the idea of a die and the image which it impresses. God is the die and His Son Jesus Christ is His exact image.
- 5. "Upholding all things by the word of his power." All creation continues to exist by the word of His power. Men now think that back of all matter is a force producing the matter. This is considered a very late scientific discovery. The scientist not only supposes that force to be present in the universe but is actually able to work with that force. It is because we are able to break up matter into force that we have the modern phenomenon of the radio. But whence this mighty force? The Bible has answered the question long ago by telling us that it is the word of His power proceeding continually from Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- 6. "Made purification of sins." Unless this statement had been made we could only have feared the glorious person set forth. But now we feel invited to come into His presence. There is room for sinners. Note how clearly this phrase states His saving work. He did not only show forth sentimentally and emotionally the love of God, but He accomplished the purification of sins.
- 7. "Sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." From the depths of sacrifice to the glory of rulership. The emphasis in this letter is always on the ascended Christ, who having finished the work of redemption is now in heaven to intercede on our behalf.
- 8. **"Better than angels."** Although He has worked for man in the purification of sins, He has inherited a more excellent name than the angels and His name stands for His person and position.

The Old Testament revelation was given through subordinates. The New Testament was given through Him who is supreme. He is Heir, Creator, Revealer, Sustainer, Redeemer, Ruler, Supreme.

Certainly Hebrews has introduced us to a Jesus Christ who is none other than God Himself.

Taken from the book: 'A Better Life' by Samuel Miller, copyright 1930

Sankey or Ghandi!

(Two Views of Life, Two Very Different Ends)

Ira D. Sankey lived in Brooklyn the last few years of his life and, after years of blindness, died there in 1908. When a cousin visited him in Brooklyn in May, 1907, out of his blindness and frailty, Sankey dictated a farewell message to his friends.

"I believe in Him who said, 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life" (John 6:47).

"I believe in the Son of God with all my soul, might, mind and strength and am, therefore, saved by the Word of One who cannot lie. I have only a little longer weary tossing on the billows' foam, only a little longer of earthly darkness, and then the sunshine of the Father's throne. So sure am I of meeting in Heaven those of my friends who are following the Lamb that I send them this final message that God is love. Good night; good night." (Signed) Ira. D. Sankey

The contrasting view is the one held by the famous Indian, Ghandi. Some so-called Christian leaders have tried to represent Ghandi as a Christian because of his pacifism and personal standards of morality. But those who designate Ghandi as a Christian need to remember his own words:

"I must tell you in humility that Hinduism, as I know it, entirely satisfies my soul, fills my whole being, and I find solace in the Bhagavad and Upanishads."

Here is the special quotation we wish to mention. Shortly before his death, according to the press, Ghandi said:

"My days are numbered. I am not likely to live very long – perhaps a year or a little more. For the first time in fifty years, I find myself in the slough of despond. All about me is darkness; I am praying for light."

Sankey's eyes were blind, but the light of the presence of Christ was flooding his soul. Ghandi had his eyes; but, alas, rejecting Christ, he had left his soul in darkness.

Reprinted.

Editor's Note: Ira Sankey was the musician for evangelist D.L. Moody.

"Try praising your wife, even if it does frighten her at first."

Billy Sunday

The Tracks of God

LISTENING TO THE WORD

Psalm 19:1-6

A son, looking up from his studies, asked his father, "How do you know there is a God?" "Why do you ask that? Do you doubt the existence of God?" replied his father. "Well," said the son, "Today I heard one of the professors say that we could not be sure that there is a God. Is there really any way to know?"

His father responded, "Do you remember the other day that you were laughing about Robinson Crusoe's dismay at discovering that there were other persons on the island beside himself? How did he discover them? Did he see them? No. He discovered one track of a bare foot in the sand and he knew that it could not be his own.

"He knew that only a human being could have made it, and he knew that whoever made it could not be far off, for the tide had not yet reached it. All those things he knew to be true, although he had not seen a human being within miles of the island. And the knowledge was all gained from a mark in the sand. If one print of a bare foot in the sand is absolute proof of the presence of a human being, what are we to suppose when we see the prints of the Master's creative hand covering the whole world?"

We see a great universe, perfectly made and ordered, from the tiniest speck to the greatest of all the worlds. We see a million plants and flowers and trees that only God could make grow. We see rivers and springs of the world fed from the sky. Those things, and more, mean God living, present, ruling and loving, they are His tracks; they mean God and nothing else.

Taken from the devotional "Morning Glory" by Wilbur E. Nelson



The Sum of Our Service!

The lines upon which the Christian worker should keep in his service for the Lord are these:

The love of God should be our motive power in service (11 Cor. 5:14; 1 John 3:16).

Likeness to God should be our moral strength in service (1 Peter 1:15; 1 John 2:6).

To please God should be the highest delight in service (11 Cor. 5:9; 1 Thess. 2:4).

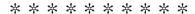
The truth of God should be our mighty lever in service (Acts 4:29; 8:35; 1 Cor. 2:13).

Consulting God should always be the prelude to all service (Acts 9:6; 13:2; Phil. 4:6).

The Spirit of God should be our power in service (Col. 1:29; Acts 1:8; 4:31).

The glory of God should be our aim in all service (1 Cor. 1:31; 10:31; John 17:4).

F. E. Marsh



Superficial Saints!

We have in our churches plenty of professors who make good soldiers in a dress parade when the flags are waving and the bugles are blowing, but who have never counted the cost, are offended when persecution arises and the battle waxes dangerous. Of this sort were the Reubenites of Judges 5:15 and 16, who had fine impulses and patriotic sentiments but stayed at home from the battle, at home in the quiet security of the sheepfolds.

We have those in our churches who have plenty of sentiment but make no sacrifice, who sing lustily in the choir on Sunday but live lustfully in the world all week. These are the kind of people who, when a piano is to be moved, escape by carrying the bench! Such enthusiasts file down the aisles promising to follow Christ whithersoever He goes but, not having counted the cost, begin to build and are not able to finish.

Vance Havner



God could have kept Daniel out of the den of lions. He could have kept Paul and Silas out of jail. He could have kept the three Hebrew children out of the fiery furnace. But God has never promised to keep us out of hard places. What He has promised is to go with us through every hard place.

Selected

Saving Money

A man walked into the house panting and almost completely exhausted. "What happened, honey?" inquired his wife.

"It's a great new idea I have," he gasped.
"I ran all the way home behind the bus and saved \$2.00"

"That wasn't very bright," replied his wife. "Why didn't you run behind a taxi and save \$25.00?"

God, Send Another Hauge!

The church in Hauge's day was similar to what the church at large has become today.

"Norway and the Scandinavian countries in general at that time were a wilderness of sin and ungodliness, and formalism and rationalism were pervasive in the Lutheran Church. The theological department of the University of Copenhagen, where the clergy of Denmark and Norway received their training, was permeated by rationalism. (At the time, Norway and Denmark were united under the king of Denmark and had one literary language.) This "enlightened" way of thinking, which was the liberalism or modernism of that day, dominated the message of most of the pastors and the religious instruction in the schools. The idea that God hated sin was ridiculed by a large part of the clergy. New birth was an incomprehensible concept to them. Bishop Schoenhyde of Trondheim explained that "the only new birth is self-improvement by means of self-knowledge and diligence. Among all thinking people faith is sound reason." A large segment of the Lutheran clergy and parishioners believed that "religion" was a means for improving morals and society. Pastors generally had not the slightest concern for the salvation of souls. Apart from economic and social matters, they were interested only in eating, drinking, partying, and playing cards. Some devout people were concerned about this and longed for something better, but even they lacked the power of the Holy Spirit to be the salt of the earth and witnesses to Christ.

"Into this wilderness of rationalism, worldliness, and churchly formalism, God sent Hauge to cry out to people to repent, to receive salvation in the blood of Jesus, and to be filled with the Holy Spirit. He spoke to people wherever he met them. He held his first evangelistic meeting in his family home. His own parents doubted whether an uneducated farmer's son could preach. He responded, "Uneducated fishermen were messengers for Christ. And even though a peasant may not know how to fish as well as they, he can at any rate sow the seed of the kingdom."

Hauge had that Holy Spirit given desire to preach since the day of his conversion. He relates the following about his conversion: "... I received a new light of understanding ...that Christ has come to be our Savior in order that we would be born again of His Spirit, be converted and sanctified ever more unto godliness, to serve the Triune God who purifies our souls and prepares them for eternal blessedness."

On that April day, Hauge's spiritual eyes were opened to see the risen and crucified Christ as his own Savior. The Holy Spirit revealed to him the ransom paid on Golgotha and the grace that was his in the blood of Jesus. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit filled him with a burning desire to do something to save others also.

"It was as though I saw the world fallen under the power of evil," Hauge wrote. "This caused me great sadness. I prayed that God would delay the execution of His punishment in order that some, at least, would have time to be converted. I now had a heartfelt desire to serve God, and I prayed that He would show me what to do."

Hauge received an answer to this question. He heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send to invite guests from all directions, from the east and the west, from the north and the south to My great supper?"

Hauge replied, "Send me! My heart burns with love for all people."

Within him echoed a voice saying, "You must confess My name before all people, exhort them to turn to Me and seek Me while I may be found, call upon Me while I am near, and touch their hearts so that they can turn from the darkness to the light."

From that time forward, Hauge believed his mission in life was to confess and proclaim the name of Christ, calling people to repent and receive forgiveness and salvation in Jesus. He was overwhelmed by the need to speak to them about the dreadful danger to their souls on the path of sin and to invite them to seek the grace offered in Jesus. "My spirit has no rest," he said. "I must preach His Word, because I have an inner compulsion to do so."

God, send another Hauge!

Taken from *They Lived in the Power of God – Lutheran Revival Leaders in Northern Europe*by Dr. Uuras Saarnivaara
AFLC Heritage Series, Volume III
Ambassador Publications, Minneapolis, MN.

As applied to Christian theology, rationalism represents the view that human reason is fully competent to discover and define religious beliefs without the need for the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit or biblical revelation. In the eighteenth century, the influence of rationalism took the form of deism and agnosticism. See Everett F. Harrison, ed., Baker's Dictionary of Theology (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1960), 434.

UpDate

Very Scarce

Through HIS <u>children</u> this 'ministry' is in the Lord's Hands! YES I know the cattle upon a *thousand hills* are HIS; But GOD very often chooses to work <u>through His Children</u> and thus 'they' can be blest and be a blessing unto others.

For the month of April the *financial income* for this 'ministry' has been very <u>lean</u> (at best) and 'we' seek to leave it in HIS HANDS and go forward as HE lays it upon His children's hearts <u>what</u> to give and <u>where</u> to give (invest). A word to the 'wise' should be effect! We NEED your **Prayer Support** and *Financial investment* (regularly) in order to go forward.

Personally I have the hope and conviction that this 'ministry' not only goes forward (In the Grace & Empowerment of God); BUT also can and should be enlarged to HIS HONOR & GLORY!

I have shared this with you before: <u>but</u> as *Apostasy continues to take its tragic toll*, the calling and strengthening of this 'ministry' becomes *even more important* – as 'we' seek to **Occupy till Jesus Comes** for His Blood Purchased 'Bride.' BUT *again* to emphasize <u>your</u> importance in this 'ministry', 'we' stand in NEED of your **prayer support & finances** – <u>"Team Work!"</u> (The LORD & You & I in step with HIM).

April income for *Morning Glory* is app. \$1,300. The actual cost of publishing and mailing each issue (monthly) of the *Morning Glory* is app. \$2,000.

P.S. How about arranging for Evangelistic Meetings, Bible Conferences OR 'tent meetings'? *Redeem the Time!!!* THE LORD GUIDE AND BLESS!

Pray for our beloved USA a land of 'Freedom' thus far!!!

P. P.S. It doesn't have to be that way – but summers are often 'lean financially' for 'us'!

HAUGE LUTHERAN INNERMISSION FEDERATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

At

Stavanger Free Lutheran Church, Garden City, Iowa

Pastor Earl Korhonen, Host Pastor

June 8 – 10, 2012 (Friday evening till noon on Sunday)

Friday evening:

7:30 p.m. Guest Speaker: – Pastor Steve Lombardo, Gifford, IL

Saturday:

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Time

9:30 – 10 a.m. – Coffee/Refreshments

10:00 – 10:55 a.m. – Pastor Steve Lombardo

11:10 – 12:00 p.m. – Fellowship Time (Testimonies, Hymn/Gospel Singspiration)

Noon Meal at the Church

1:15 – 2:10 p.m. – Mr. Wayne Almlie, Des Moines, Iowa

2:20 – 3:15 p.m. – Pastor Rodney Stueland, Dilworth, MN

3:15 – 3:45 p.m. – Coffee/Refreshments

3:45 p.m. – Annual Meeting of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation

HLIF Board Meeting following Annual Mtg.

7:00 p.m. – Pastor Steve Lombardo

Sunday

9:00 a.m. – Bible Class with Pastor Steve Lombardo

9:45 a.m. - Brief Break

10:00 a.m. Worship Service with Pastor Steve Lombardo, Guest Speaker

<u>Please PRAY for a 'real hunger' for the WORD &</u> Christian Fellowship

NOT 'only' for the Conference; but throughout! <u>YOU</u> are invited and please bring others with YOU!!

WELCOME!

ASK the LORD to 'fill your cup' & be a real blessing to others!

P.S. IF convenient: <u>Please</u> bring along 'goodies' for 'refreshment' times. Thank you!

The Hauge Library

We have three publications available for you. They can be ordered using the envelope in the center.

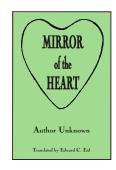
Altar Steps

This daily devotional was written by Pastor R.P. Haakonson and was published in 1947. It is suitable for families with children. It has illustrations from daily life, and a strong salvation emphasis. Suggested offering: \$5.00 plus \$1.00 for postage.



Mirror of the Heart

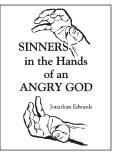
This book was published in 1900 by an unknown author. It contains some very earnest meditations and fervent prayers. It also contains ten very graphic pictures of the human heart. Inside the heart, the devil is visualized and also seven animals representing some of the most preva-



lent sins found in the heart of the impenitent sinner. These pictures show how these animals as sins are driven out of the heart when the sinner is converted to God, but how they re-enter the heart when a person falls away from grace. One picture visualizes the fearful death of the ungodly, and another shows the blessed death of the righteous. Suggested Offering: \$3.00 plus 75¢ for postage.

Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God

Jonathan Edwards preached this remarkable sermon at Enfield, Ct. on July 8, 1741. It was at night while he was reading it to a large congregation, that the lights became dim and he read with diffi-



culty, and the influence was so great on the congregation that strong men and women cried and screamed for mercy and even grabbed the seats for fear they would slide into hell that very moment. Suggested Offering: \$1.00 plus 50¢ for postage.

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