



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • June 2016

The Grind Of Family Life

Maybe it doesn't sound very spiritual, but some phases of family living can be a grind. Rearing a household of busy children, maintaining good communication, living unselfishly day in and day out under the same roof, remaining positive and affirming, dealing with strong wills and handling some of the other domestic challenges can be a first-class chore!

Hats off to all who do their very best. To set the record straight, it is worth all the effort. Someday parents, those children will “*rise up and call you blessed.*” Don't count on it too soon... I said *someday!* I am pleased to discover that the ancient songs in God's eternal hymnal do not omit words of encouragement for families.

Periodically, we come across psalms that fit together, forming a unit or a progression of thought. This is true of Psalm 22, 23, and 24. It is also true of Psalms 90 and 91 as well as Psalms 111 and 112. One psalm sets the stage, we might say, while the next completes the picture.

This is precisely what we find in the two songs we are highlighting this week. Both have to do with life in the *home*. They are domestic psalms. How do we know that? Look at 127:1 – it refers to the building of the house. Then 127:3-5 mentions children. The third verse of Psalm 128 pictures the wife, the home, and children again, and Psalm 128:6 even traces the progression of time to one's grandchildren. If you think upon this theme, you also observe the psalmist's idea of national strength being connected to the strong family unit in Psalm 128:5.

A nation remains only as strong as her families. A crumbling family life is one of the signs of a crumbling

culture.

Evangelist Billy Graham in his book *World Aflame*, writes discerning yet serious words concerning America:

The immutable law of sowing and reaping has held sway. We are now the hapless possessors of moral depravity, and we seek in vain for a cure. The tares of indulgence have overgrown the wheat of moral restraint. Our homes have suffered. Divorce has grown to epidemic proportions. When the morals of society are upset, the family is the first to suffer. The home is the basic unit of our society, and a nation is only as strong as her homes. The breaking up of a home does not often make headlines, but it eats like termites at the structure of the nation.

As a result of the mounting divorces, separations, and desertions, about twelve million of the forty-five million children in the United States (over one-fourth) do not live with both parents. (Ed. Please keep in mind that the Copyright is 1988 and the figures have grown noticeably and some figures are much worse.) A vicious circle is set in motion. As the Bible says: “**The Fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge**” Jeremiah 31:29.

As we turn to a brief examination of Psalms 127 and 128, therefore, we turn to a most relevant portion of Scripture. In our desperate national need, a return to our Judeo-Christian roots is imperative. For it is these roots that will assist us toward mending the fracture of our domestic bones – the essential skeleton of our great republic.

As I mentioned earlier, these two psalms form a pro-

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gression. They remind me of a historical mural that wraps its way around a room, depicting a progressive story. The progression carries us from the inception of a home all the way through to the blessings of later years. Let me suggest a simple outline:

1. Inception of the Home (127:1-2)
2. Children Born within the Home (127:3-5)
3. Training of the Children in the Home (128:1-3)
4. Blessings of Later Years beyond the Home (128:4-6).

Excerpt taken from *Living Beyond the Daily Grind* by Charles R. Swindoll; Copyright 1988 by Charles R. Swindoll.

The Spirit

If you have truly asked Christ to come into your life, you can be confident that the Holy Spirit resides in you – whether or not you feel his presence. The Bible says, “For you... received the Spirit of sonship” Romans 8:15.

Even though the Spirit lives within us, however, we must yield our lives to Him every day because our old nature is still present. Furthermore, Satan will try to tempt us and convince us we must fight our spiritual battles alone.

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? 1 Corinthians 6:19

Walk By The Spirit

Walk by the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

JESUS is come that we might have life and have it *abundantly*. He saves us, not that we should enter into heaven after a life of *defeat*, but that we should be *victorious*, unto the praise of His glory who purchased victory for us at such a great price.

This is the way the disciples understood Jesus. It is true that they tell us that never in this life will we be able to rid ourselves of our old flesh, whose mind is enmity against God. But the apostle tells us in our Word for today that if we walk by the Spirit we shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.

There is a great deal of weak and emaciated Christianity among us, the kind that simply makes time and never makes any progress in sanctification. Old character failings are carried along from year to year. Our good deeds, which Jesus expects should shine before others, are conspicuous only by their absence.

There is some striving against sin. But, as is the way of the world, only against those sins which are "dangerous" because they deprive people of their good name and reputation.

My friend, do you know that you are asleep and on the way to spiritual death? Have you not read of the thorns and thistles which gradually choke the good seed? What is your will? Shall the thorns or the good seed be permitted to live in your heart?

But what shall I do? you ask. I have neither the power nor the will that I should have. I am like a lame person unable to rise.

My friend, you have forgotten that there is something known as the *grace* of God.

Cast yourself down before the **God of grace**. Confess your lukewarm will-lessness, and He will forgive you for this terrible sin for the sake of the precious blood of Jesus.

Moreover, He will give you that grace which is known as the Spirit of God. And when you begin to walk by the Spirit, you will not have to fulfill the lusts of the flesh.

God's Word for Today, By O. Hallesby, Copyright – 1994, Augsburg Fortress, Permission Granted.

A Parable of Trees

Once a man built this house on a spot which commanded a view of the distant mountains and a vast ex-

panse of heaven's blue skies. Then he said to himself, "I must have trees to shelter and adorn my house; trees make any place more lovely." So he planted a number of fine trees, and these grew up and were admired.

But the trees were too many and were planted too closely and by and by their lofty tops and interlacing branches shut out the distant view. The mountains were no longer visible from the house, and scarcely a glimpse of the sky could be had.

It is often that way with men's lives. They gather about them earthly interests in order to make their lives more beautiful, more comfortable, more influential, until after a while the glorious mountains of heaven are shut out and heaven itself grows dim and unreal.

Selected

A Vicarious Sacrifice

By Wilbur E. Nelson

Christ died on the Cross as a vicarious sacrifice for our redemption. The principle of vicarious sacrifice is woven into the whole web of the world. Nature itself is full of it. Rocks crumble into soil, the soil sprouts into plant and flower, the fruit passes into the life of the animal and the animal into the life of man.

Our human world understands the meaning of sacrifice. We are members one of another so that all must suffer together and for another. The strong suffer for the weak, the good for the bad, and the innocent for the guilty. The mother suffers for the child, the righteous for his wicked sin, and the soldier for his country. The blood of past generations has become our blessing, their battles are now our victories, their pains our ease. We can rarely help another in need unless we are willing to suffer for him; and the degree of our suffering will measure our healing power.

Vicarious suffering has a strange chemistry by which it inspires the weak and disheartened with courage, comforts the penitent and sorrowing, and melts hardness of heart into contrition and submission. Whoever would enter into other lives in healing ministry must carry with him and apply this balm. Life everywhere costs life, and whoever would redeem it must pay this price. How significant it is that God Himself chose not to circumvent this fact of life. The reason? His love for you and me! He gave the life of His Son, that we might have life through His vicarious death.

True Love vs. Self-Love

J.B. Phillips gives these definitions which contrast with one another greatly: one of them, from 1 Cor. 13 defines what love is; the other, a definition of the opposite of Christian love, which is, strangely enough not hate ... but love turned in upon itself. Here they are:

LOVE suffereth long, and is kind, love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is no puffed up, doth not behave unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never faileth.

SELF-LOVE is impatient and uncharitable, and is a mass of jealousy; it keeps all its goods in the shop window, and cherishes inflated ideas of its own importance. Self-love has little consideration of others, is always out for 'number One'; it is touchy and highly critical of other people's conduct. Self-love has a secret sympathy with sin and is always rather scared of the plain truth. It must never be put upon, it is suspicious and cynical and has little power of endurance. Self-love soon tires of doing good.

IF we are honest, we can easily see how much of the second definition there is in ourselves...

Jesus Christ calls for a definite denial of the desires and impulses of the self-love (Ed. BUT we are to LOVE our neighbor as ourselves)! That is, in all of us, and a willingness to be guided and inspired by the power of true, not sentimental, love. Christians believe, and have proved, that God gives the ability to effect the change-over, once the decision to be done with self-love is sincerely made."

Selected

* * * * *

A KING AT THE DOOR

By Louis A. Banks

The Emperor Wilhelm was attending German army maneuvers. The army was encamped in a broad valley, fronting the little town of Berg-kirchen, which was on high ground. There was a druggist's shop on the valley side of the town, from the veranda of which there was a good view of the surrounding country.

During the Kaiser's maneuvers, the druggist's bell was rung early in the morning between three and four o'clock. The man, aroused from his rest, got up, went to the front door, and asked, "What's up?" A voice answered from the outside the veranda. The army corps is going to be alarmed, and I should like to see it from

there." The druggist, astonished, refused the request in rough language. His wife, who had also been awakened, added her very stern rebuke to the intruder. The man standing outside did not seem to mind and repeated his request. At length, the druggist called out, "Well, who are you? What is your name?" "Wilhelm," was the quick reply. "I am no wiser than I was," said the druggist, "a lot of people are called Wilhelm. What is your other name?" The voice replied, "Von Hohenzollem." Only now did it begin to dawn upon the druggist just who his visitor was. He tore open the door, and before him stood the Emperor. One can imagine his dismay and shame.

How many there are who, just as ignorantly and angrily, are keeping the King of kings waiting at the door. Jesus Christ says, "**Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**"

The Grace Broadcaster, September – October, 1976

* * * * *

Talent Must Be Undergirded by Character

By Troy Dorrell

Some of today's great college athletes never fulfill their potential. Though exceptionally talented, they fail to succeed in both sports and life. This is because their talent took them to a place where their character could not sustain them. Think about that principle for a moment; talent is not enough.

Undergirding all we do is our character; and if it is deficient, in time it will be exposed and we will come tumbling down. Every year we hear about athletic stars who get themselves into trouble and lose a scholarship or millions of dollars in the Pros because of poor character. Their talent took them to a place where their character could not sustain them. The same is true of politicians who climb the ladder politically due to intelligence and charisma, but they lack moral character.

Many have lost much when laced in positions of leadership or responsibility and then, because of undeveloped character, they fall into sin or fail to do right. The place they held could not be sustained because they lacked what was most important – character.

Be careful not to let your talents, abilities, intelligence, or even relationships take you where your character cannot sustain you. The friendships we have, the talents God gives and the abilities we develop are all wonderful gifts, but all must be supported by character.

Character matters!

Selected

Editorial

RES

A Weeping Prophet

“Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.’ Then said I; ‘Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth...’”

(Jeremiah 1:4-8)

IMAGINE before time began! *“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”* *“...that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them”*. John 17:24, 26.

TITUS 2:4. *“All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”* Revelation 13:8.

1. PAST: *“The counsel of the LORD stands forever,”* (Please read 33:4-11). Jeremiah 2:9-13, Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8.

Now let us glean a little from Jeremiah’s calling from God and life. Some people believe that he was a prophet for approx. 50 years. Regardless of how many years, he was found faithful unto GOD! He was a “Reproving” man of God as he warned of God’s coming righteous judgment! Seemingly, he was very plain and rough in sharing God’s Word, but also a voice of mercy and compassion. YES, plain dealing is the best when we are dealing with one another in regards to sin and eternity!

In spite of being a caring person, Jeremiah was persecuted by his own people. Intermixed with sharing the LAW of God was mercy and promises for the penitent. And while faithfully serving the One and Only true GOD, he was imprisoned, and probably in ‘stocks’ part of the time. GOD shared with him the marvelous, wonderful promise: **“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”** Jer. 33:3.

Let me share with you a personal reality that took place many years ago. I was born and raised in the state of Wisconsin on a small dairy farm, which was located approx. one mile from my home church.

The congregation was definitely Lutheran in doctrine and of a conservative conviction. There was arranged for a series of Evangelistic Meetings with the Evangelist from the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation. GOD undertook these meetings in a marvelous way as we experienced a Heaven Sent Revival.

As I recall, this “heavenly visitation” was extended as the Holy Spirit was permitted to do a marvelous work in the hearts and lives of believers with Souls being genuinely converted.

Towards the end of this series of meetings the Evangelist asked my Dad after the service if he was saved?

Not outwardly; but internally my Dad became rather irritated at such a personal question; but, in spite of that, my Dad decided to take in one more Evangelistic service. At that service my Dad and Mother were marvelously converted and saved.

This Lutheran grounded home was very religious; and as a matter of fact, as a sixteen year old, I thought my parents were Christians; but I was mistaken.

Thus they needed to know JESUS as their personal SAVIOR. This was the means of “awakening” me and indirectly I became a new creature in CHRIST also!

2. PRESENT: As I have already mentioned there were a fairly good number of folk who came to know Jesus as their personal Savior along with others who needed spiritual counsel and guidance; for which we give GOD the credit, as we only are vessels to water and plant. Even though there were a fair number that were saved, each one personally had to receive JESUS as their personal Savior! Revelation 3:20, John 1:12-13, 1 John 5:11-13.

To my ‘limited’ knowledge, this is the last “Heaven-sent-revival” or visitation this Congregation experienced in over sixty years (How sad & tragic). Yet according to God’s value placed upon every Soul; this is what happens: **“Like, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”** Luke 15:10. For in Matthew 16:26, God says, *“For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul”*.

At Lazarus’ grave site, JESUS WEPT. But Jesus ‘wept’ over Jerusalem, found in Luke 19:41-44, because they didn’t realize it was God’s timing of visitation – so please do not take God’s callings for granted! See Isaiah 55:6-7.

Don't pray for a 'Heaven-sent-revival' or visitation; as much as we desperately need one; unless in God's Amazing GRACE you are willing to pay the price! ISAIAH 59:1-5. Before a Heaven Sent Revival comes, an increased sensitivity to both inward and outward SIN comes. At the very threshold of a visitation from God is a sensitivity of SIN. ACTS 3:19.

Secondly, there will become a greater burden for the lost; which means God expects YOU to be directly involved seeking to reach the lost. JESUS Said: '**OCCUPY TIL I COME**' – which means involvement.

IN order to evangelize someone, where do we find in Scripture that first you must build a relationship or friendship with that person? Most certainly I am not against 'friendliness', as long as it built on a Scriptural basis. But we are to go even into the highways and byways and sow the INCORRUPTIBLE SEED.

I AM REMINDED OF THE YOUNG PERSON WHO HANDED OUT Gospel tracts. He gave one to a Gentleman who crumbled it up, and when he saw tears running down the cheeks of this young person, he thought he should at least should read the Gospel tract, and as a result got saved. (How about prayerfully giving out the *Morning Glory*)? Even though "*And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil*". John 3:19. Say, how about the sins of omission? "*For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?*" 1 Peter 4:17 & II Chronicles 7:14.

Remember it is 'we the people' that make up our great USA and thus we should definitely read Daniel chapter nine. Sin is a reproach to any nation! "*Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people*" Proverbs 14:34 & Psalm 33:14.

The account is told of the days of General William Booth when a co-worker was having a series of meetings. He became very discouraged because he saw no or very little physical results or changes. So he wrote to General Booth wanting to be moved to a different location. General Booth sent this message back: '**TRY TEARS**'. Most certainly there can be real 'tears' in the heart without showing up through the 'tear-ducts.' I am concerned though that many of the spiritual 'tear-ducts' have dried up in our day. Revela-

tion 3:18, Proverbs 29:18. Psalm 126:5-6 says, "*Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves with him.*"

Physically, we are made out of the same kind of dust as Jeremiah, and how Jeremiah wept over the course of his people and the impending righteous judgment of GOD to come!

3. FUTURE: WHEN life is at relative ease, it is easy to forsake our Savior; but may we hear those blessed words, "*Well done thou good and faithful servant*" as we are accountable unto HIM for the past, present and future!

What a day that shall be when my (our) JESUS I shall see; when I look upon His face and see that He saved me by His GRACE!

EVEN IF by HIS GRACE: you or I, knowingly or unknowingly, should be the blood bought vessel of reaching ONE or more person(s) unto Salvation in HIM; I believe we shall lay our crown at His Feet one day in homage and tribute unto HIM! "*Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever*" Daniel 12:3.

OFF-again and ON-again: Pause frequently and imagine the greatness of Heaven, because JESUS **paid it ALL**; thus all to HIM I owe!

GOD uses a word-picture in the book of Revelation, chapters 21 and 22 to give our finite minds a glance of Heaven; (as an introduction) by telling us what is not there! **NO** tears, no more death, no sorrow, no crying, no pain, no former things, no more sea (separation). YES, HEAVEN IS A PREPARED PLACE FOR A PREPARED PEOPLE! "**Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold I make all things new.'** And He said to me, '**Write, for these words are true and faithful.**' 'It is done!' '**I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.**" Revelation 21:5- 7; but read on verse 8!

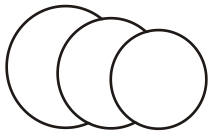
It will be worth it all, and more!

Ephesians 2:8-10 & Jeremiah 29:11

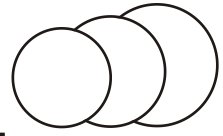
AMAZING GRACE!

*As Benjamin Franklin warned:
"Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom.*

As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters."



From Our Fellowship Circle



I. M. U. **Starbuck, MN**

I want to send a donation for helping with expenses of mailing "Morning Glory" to me. I especially appreciated your article, "Living Together Outside of Marriage," which I want to share with friends who are doing just that and for whom it may concern!

Thank you for your great publication and may God bless you.

D. S. **White, SD**

Submitted: A man had these words inscribed on his tombstone to warn those who passed by it that they too would soon rest in the dust of the earth.

John Doe
1835 - 1897

CONSIDER, MAN, AS YOU WALK BY. AS YOU ARE NOW, SO ONCE WAS I. AS I AM NOW, SOON YOU WILL BE. CONSIDER MAN, ETERNITY.

May we consider the briefness of our earthly life and live it out with eternity's values in view.

G. R. **Beulah, ND**

I most certainly do not want to be without this paper and thus I am sorry I have neglected you for so long.

I lost my Husband, December 1, 2015 and I am having a sad time for now – after 68 years together; naturally I miss him.

Please find \$..., and thank you.

O. L. A. **Newport, NC**

My apology for not keeping up with financial support as I promised. My reasons are valid, I think.

First, I am 87 years old with ... Resources.

Thank God for the first *Morning Glory* I ever received from you a few years ago (and the one you send to help spread your messages of love and joy).

In May, I broke two vertebrae in my upper back. The doctor explained that, because my bones were old and brittle, two of them popped as I bent over to move a small potted flower, pull the grass and give it some water. ... My recovery has been great and I am at home and also attending Church and Sunday School.

However, I cannot keep up with things like I did in younger days and I most certainly am not complaining – just recognizing my limitations. Doing the best I can.

If the good Lord wants me in His work a few more days, I am willing; but I am so glad that my Lutheran friends will carry on after my demise.

You keep up the good work that you are doing.

Thank you so much and take courage in Him!

* * * * *

For ye died, and your life is hid with Christ in God. Colossians 3:3

ALL life has a hidden side.

It is that to which we refer when we speak of the mystery of life. Divine life, too, has its hidden side, its sacred mystery.

Life itself is always hidden; is never bared to the eye of another person. That which we see in other believers is only the fruit of the hidden life; we see it in their ways, their words, their acts and in the things they suffer.

It is beautifully true that Christians live far richer lives with God in their hearts, more than any other person knows anything about.

Do not forget that when you see children of God. Oftentimes they may appear dry and withered. They may often seem very cold and reserved, something which is harmful both to themselves and their surroundings. But, when you see this, do not forget that within this less fortunate outer shell these children of God oftentimes have a rich and fine kernel of tender and intimate fellowship with God.

In this inner, hidden world we struggle, we suffer, and we go down to defeat more frequently and disastrously than others may ever suspect. Here the open wounds of our conscience smart. Here we blush because of our lukewarm and worldly heart. Here we tremble in unspeakable agony. Here we often find ourselves held fast in the slough of despond.

But here we also experience unspeakably joy.

Here we have not only our great Tabor-seasons; here we experience also the lesser, yet blessed, gleams of grace that come to us in our daily lives. A little word of consolation, and our souls are permeated through and through with a hidden power. Or an answer to prayer perhaps in connection with some little thing, but doubly precious to us because it shows us how God cares for us even in the little things of life. Or little victories over ourselves. Oftentimes so small that we dare not mention them to others. But to us they are precious and indispensable binding our hearts to God in grateful joy.

God's Word for Today, by O. Hallesby, Copyright – 1994, Augsburg Fortress, Permission Granted.

Discouraged And Doubting Christians

“And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village name Emmaus, which was threescore furlongs from Jerusalem. And they communed with each other of all these things which had happened. And it came to pass, while they communed and questioned together, that Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. And he said unto them, ‘What communications are these that ye have one with another, as ye walk’? And they stood still, looking sad.” Luke 24:13-17.

All hope vanished from the hearts of Christ’s followers when the spear had pierced His side and the seal had been placed on the tomb. They were plunged into a night of despair. Jesus was dead and buried. The enemies had won, and the believers had lost.

They had followed Him voluntarily and had believed Him to be the Savior of their people. Courageously and faithfully they had proclaimed His name to the people and urged them to repent and believe the gospel, for the kingdom of heaven was at hand. In the face of mockery and derision they held fast to their faith and witnessed of Him wherever they went.

And now He was gone!

They had followed Him to the very end. They had been so confident that He would perform a miracle and escape from His captors. It didn’t happen. They followed Him not only to Herod and Pilate, but also to Golgotha and the grave. He had lost, and they had been deceived. This was a hard blow for them to receive. They had staked everything on Him, and now He lay in a grave under Roman seal. This was more than enough to crush all hope and to shroud the soul in darkness.

Nor was this all; the enemies are now on their high horse. The deceiver has been liquidated, and those who were duped by Him will have to suffer the consequences. The disciples walk aimlessly about, hopeless and derided, afraid of themselves and afraid of others. The group is divided and many go into hiding.

One can almost see these poor people in their great frustration. Some of them taking to fishing to support themselves as formerly. Long nights they spend with their nets and catch nothing. Everything seems to be bewitched; all their luck is gone. With empty nets they stand, hungry, tired and frightened. There are battles within and enemies without...

However, it is precisely to these men that Jesus turns

all of His loving attention. He seeks to help them in all possible ways. He comes to them through closed doors. He stands by the seashore at the dawn of the day and calls to these hungry and discouraged fishermen. He prepares food for them, and as fond mother He urges them to eat.

He walks mile after mile with them to open the Scriptures for them. He bares His side and lovingly invites Thomas to feel His wounds. Peter receives a special greeting, for he was doubtless in the greatest despair. He raises His hands in blessing and tells them not to fear.

What a blessed Savior!

My Lord and my God!

Who can fathom the depth of such love and compassion, or become weary of meditating upon it? Who would own His as friend and helper without freely worshipping him as Savior and King?

Is it to be wondered at that they should find Him after such a grave defeat, or that they should find the solution to the whole riddle – namely that He did all this for them? Is it so remarkable that they should give themselves joyfully to such a Savior for the rest of their lives? No king or military might, no cross or pyre, can match the power which grips such a people with such a leader and SAVIOR.

Today there are many happy and liberated Christians who serve their Savior with joy and gladness. But there are also many discouraged and doubting Christians. The latter were also among the happy band at one time; but now peace and joy have fled and it seems so impossible to recapture these. They struggle, hope and pray, but everything seems to become worse. Their prayers do not seem to reach the throne of grace, and God’s Word has only messages of judgment for them. They are sore of heart and sick of mind. The heart which was once the seat of joy now trembles under a heavy load. While others are happy and praise God, these can only condemn themselves because they are not happy. Thus new burdens are added to that which was more than enough before.

Some people are like Peter. Their courage failed them when they took their place among the enemies of Jesus. They ventured too far in the direction of the world and had too great a confidence in their own strength.

Others slipped *gradually* into a worldly life. The Bible and prayer chamber were forgotten. The farm, business, or occupation took the place in their hearts which Jesus alone should have had. And thus they *drifted* away from the Lord and their joy in Him.

Still others are worn down early and late with a ceaseless toil. ...

Doubting Christian: Let it be your comfort that Christ is always the same. He is very close to His dis-

couraged children, though they may seem too far from Him. He meets them even if they do not understand or realize it.

He speaks peace to you through His Word!

You would see Him and know Him at once if the Scriptures were opened to you, and you would find Him as full of grace as He was the first time you saw Him. Your sin, shame, faithlessness and doubt would be drowned in the comfort that He has to give.

*“Come unto Me, ye weary,
And I will give you rest.”
O blessed voice of Jesus,
Which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction.
Of pardon grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending,
Of love that cannot cease.*

SPIRIT AND POWER, by Ludvig Hope,
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God of My Strength

(Please read Judges 7:1-8)

I will strengthen you and help you. Isaiah 41:10

No one could have mistaken the ancient Babylonian soldiers for gentlemen. They were ruthless, resilient, and vicious, and they attacked other nations the way an eagle overtakes its prey. Not only were they powerful, they were prideful as well. They practically worshiped their own combat abilities. In fact, the Bible says that their “*strength (was) their god*” (Hab. 1:11).

God did not want this kind of self-reliance to infect Israel’s forces as they prepared to battle the Midianites. So He told Gideon, Israel’s army commander, “*You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, ‘My own strength has saved’*” (Jdg. 7:21). As a result, Gideon discharged anyone who was fearful. Twenty-two thousand men high-tailed it home, while 10,000 fighters stayed. God continued to downsize the army until only 300 men remained (vv. 3-7).

Having fewer troops meant that Israel was dramatically outnumbered – their enemies, who populated a nearby valley, were as “*thick as locusts*” (v. 12). Despite this, God gave Gideon’s forces victory.

At times, God may allow our resources to dwindle so that we rely on His strength to keep going. Our needs showcase His power, but He is the one who says, “*I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my*

righteous right hand” Isa. 41:10.

Dear God, I am thankful for Your strength. You carry me when I am weak. Help me to give You the credit for every victory in life.

God wants us to depend on His strength, not our own.

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The Limited Knowledge of Jesus

“But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.” Mark 13:32

This verse has always been difficult to understand. If Jesus was God, how could He be ignorant of the time of His second coming? Indeed He was, and is, God, but He also was, and is, man. This is a part of the mystery of the divine/human nature of Christ. In the gospel record, we see frequent evidences of His humanity (he grew weary, for example, and suffered pain), but also many evidences of deity (His virgin birth, His resurrection and ascension, as well as His perfect words and deeds).

He had been in glory with the Father from eternity (John 17:24), but when He became man, “*in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren*” (Hebrews 2:17), except for sin. As a child, He “*increased in wisdom and stature*” like any other human (Luke 2:52). Through diligent study (as a man), He acquired great wisdom in the Scriptures and the plan of God. After His baptism and the acknowledgment from heaven of His divine Sonship (e.g., Matthew 3:16-17), He increasingly manifested various aspects of His deity, but He still remained fully human.

With respect to the time of the end, this depends in some degree on human activity. For example, He said that “*the gospel must first be published among all nations*” (Mark 13:10), and only God the Father could foresee just when men will have accomplished this. Although the glorified Son presumably now shares this knowledge, in His self-imposed human limitations He did not.

In no way does this compromise His deity. In our own finite humanity, we cannot comprehend fully the mystery of the divine/human nature of Christ, but He has given us more than sufficient reason to believe His Word!

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

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Editor’s Note: Notice also: Colossians 1:6, 23, Romans 1:5, 8, 10:18, 16:26-27.

Believable ...Yet Unbelievable

Ideal

No doubt that many of our concerned readers are aware of the fact that many of our forefathers who drew up the Constitution and Declaration of Independence were 'religious': **If not godly Christian folk!**

Ideally, it would be very great to have godly Christian(s) in leadership of our great USA; but we need to keep in mind that, when we go to the ballot-box; we are choosing 'secular' leadership (not necessarily religious or a Christian) that is best for our community and Country. Godly leadership could help bring us back to the motto: "In God We Trust." It could also by-pass GOD'S holy, righteous, indignation and judgment of which we most certainly desire to be spared from, AND continue to experience God's mercy, patience and Grace. (Don't forget JONAH was only one man, but was used by God to bring the whole nation of Nineveh to its' knees, including the king).

Running for the position in the White house as Chief Executive and Commander-in-Chief, the following list tells us what religious group each candidate is affiliated with:

Bernie Sanders is Jewish.

Hillary Clinton is a member of the United Methodist Church.

Donald Trump is a member of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Jeb Bush (no longer a candidate) grew up Episcopalian but converted to Catholicism.

Marco Rubio (no longer a candidate) also attends an evangelical church.

Ben Carson (no longer a candidate) is a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist church.

Ted Cruz is Southern Baptist.

John Kasich is Jeb Bush in reverse. He went from being a Catholic but is now Episcopalian.

Love It Or Leave It

Love it or leave it: the USA. We're tired of the blame from certain people who seem to hate everything about our beloved Country. Some examples of this are: Those who don't like our free market, or don't like our Christian values, or our right to keep and bear arms. If they don't like anything about our Country and what it stands for, why don't they move to somewhere that is in line with their values? We should, however, still pray for them!

Chinese Pastor Sentenced to Fourteen Years for Opposing Removal of Cross

The ruthlessness of the Chinese government and the evil mind-set that makes up the leadership of Chinese domestic policy has revealed itself again for all the world to see. Christiannews.net (February 29, 2016) reports that "a court in southeastern China has sentenced a Protestant pastor to 14 years in prison and his wife to 12 years after convicting them of corruption, financial crimes and gathering people to disturb social order, an official provincial newspaper reported ...

"...The newspaper reported that a court had sentenced an additional 10 people who were members of Mr. Bao's church..."

"The newspaper, Zhejiang Daily, also said that the court had ordered the confiscation from Mr. Bao of 600,000 renminbi, or about \$92,000, and fined him \$15,300. It said his wife also had \$92,000 confiscated and received a fine of less than \$14,000."

According to the New York Times (mytimes.com) report from February 26, 2016, "officials have removed more than 1,200 crosses from churches and other buildings and in some cases have destroyed entire churches."

Dr. Ron Baity, RETURN AMERICA

Assisted Suicides Jump Thirty-Four Percent in Switzerland in 2015

On (March 1), Swissinfo reported, "Swiss assisted suicide organization EXIT helped 782 people end their lives in 2015 – 199 more than the previous year." In 2014 the number was 583.

This 34-percent increase in assisted suicide deaths in 2015 follows a 27-percent increase in assisted suicide deaths in 2014, meaning that the number of deaths at the Swiss suicide clinic has increased by more than 60 percent in two years.

In May 2014, at their annual general meeting, EXIT decided to extend assisted suicide to healthy elderly people who are living with some form of physical or psychological pain. This decision has led to an increase in deaths.

LifeNews.com

Queen Elizabeth Calls Jesus Christ "the King She Serves"

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II reflects on Jesus' cen-

tral role in her life in a new book ahead of her 90th birthday, calling Christ “the King she serves” in the title.

“I have been – and remain – very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for his steadfast love,” the British monarch writes in the foreword to “The Servant Queen and the King She Serves, which is to be released in April.

Stoyan Zaimov for ChristianPost.com

Veterans’ Clinic in Ohio Removes Bible Reference From POW Display

A Veterans Administration clinic in Ohio has removed a Bible from a display honoring prisoners of war (POW) and those missing in action (MIA) following a complaint from a church-state separation group...

The display at issue was “missing man table” that included a place setting, a rose, a candle, and a Bible, along with a framed Bible verse. The table had been set by area volunteers in honor of POW’s and those MIA.

Christiannews.net

Obama Opened Gender-Neutral Restroom In The White House

In March 2015, the White House opened its first gender-neutral restroom in what was seen as a symbolic step by Obama to protect the “rights” of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in the workplace. More recently the U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed a lawsuit against Deluxe Financial Services in Minnesota because it refused to permit a man who claimed to be transgender to use the women’s restroom. The judge in this case fined Deluxe Financial Services \$115,000.

Public schools are now being ordered by government officials to open restrooms, showers and locker rooms to persons of the opposite gender for whom they were originally and universally intended.

Editor’s Note: Whoever would have thought that here in America, we would lose our right to privacy in a restroom? Who would have thought sexual perversion would win the day or that people would be fined for maintaining the basic distinction between a man and a woman? Common decency is nowhere to be found and lunacy rules.

Jesus asked the Pharisees – “**have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female**, and said, ‘*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined to-*

gether, let no man separate.”

Foundational moral principles are being turned upside down in America. Sodom and Gomorrah have nothing on this country. And just look at what God did to them! Our nation is sliding closer and closer to divine judgment.

The Vine and Branches, Volume 31, Midwinter 2016

PayPal

PayPal said it’s **canceling** its previous plans of expansion at Charlotte, N.C. after Lawmakers passed a law that stops transgenders from using any bathroom they might choose.

Information from 4/5/2016

* * * * *

Full Sun

(Please read Ephesians 5:1-16)

Live as children of light, Ephesians 5:8.

I know better, but I still keep trying. The instructions on the label are clear: Needs full sun.” Our yard has mostly shade. It is not suitable for plants that need full sun. But I like the plant. I like its color, the shape of the leaves, the size, the scent. So I buy it, bring it home, plant it, and take rally good care of it. But the plant is not happy at my house. My care and attention are not enough. It needs sunlight, which I cannot provide. I thought I could make up for lack of light by giving the plant some other kind of attention. But it doesn’t work that way. Plants need what they need.

And so do people. Although we can survive for a while in less-than-ideal conditions, we can’t thrive. In addition to our basic physical needs, we also have spiritual needs that can’t be met by any substitute.

Scripture says that believers are children of light. This means that we need to live in the full light of God’s presence to thrive (Ps. 89:15). If we try to live in darkness, we will produce nothing but “*fruitless deeds*” (SEE Eph. 5:3-4, 11). But if we are living in the light of Jesus, the Light of the world, we will produce the fruit of His light, which is good, faithful, and true.

Dear Lord, thank You for redeeming me and giving me new life. Help me to live as a child of the Light.

Children of the Light walk in His light.

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“The love of Christ which passeth knowledge.”

Ephesians 3:19

THE love of Christ in its sweetness, its fullness, in its greatness, its faithfulness, passeth all human comprehension. Where shall language be found which shall describe His matchless, His unparalleled love towards the children of men? It is so vast and boundless that, as the swallow but skimmeth the water, and diveth not into its depths, so all descriptive words but touch the surface, while depths immeasurable lie beneath. Well might the poet say:

“O love, thou fathomless abyss!”

This love of Christ is indeed measureless and fathomless; none can attain unto it. Before we can have any right idea of the love of Jesus, we must understand His previous glory in its height of majesty, and His incarnation upon the earth in all its depths of shame. But who can tell us the majesty of Christ? When He was enthroned in the highest heavens He was very God of very God; by Him were the heavens made, and all the hosts thereof. His own almighty arm upheld the spheres; the praises of cherubim and seraphim perpetually surrounded Him; the full chorus of the hallelujahs of the universe unceasingly flowed to the foot of His throne: He reigned supreme above all His creatures, God over all, blessed forever. Who can tell His height of glory then? And who, on the other hand, can tell how low He descended? To be a man was something, to be a man of sorrows was far more; to bleed, and die, and suffer, these were much for Him who was the Son of God, but to suffer such unparalleled agony – to endure a death of shame and desertion by His Father, this is a depth of condescending love which the most inspired mind must utterly fail to fathom. Herein is love! And truly it is love that “*passeth knowledge.*” O let this love fill our hearts with adorning gratitude, and lead us to practical manifestations of its power.

Morning & Evening by Charles Spurgeon, Copyright – 1991, Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.

Editor’s Note; JESUS not only was, but **IS** the very Son of GOD! **HE was, is, and forever will be the very SON of GOD; yet co-equal and in true harmony as the Second Person of the TRIUNE GOD-HEAD!**

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that through He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.”
II Corinthians 8:9.

“In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation (atoning sacrifice) for our sins.” I John 4:10.

“There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:18-19. What unconditional LOVE!

YET (Agape Love) “*does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;*” 1 Corinthians 13:6.

The Slothful Person

The slothful person is like a piece of driftwood floating effortlessly and heedlessly downstream with the current. It takes no effort, no strength to be lost. Likewise, a drifting slothful soul is inevitably moving toward an eternity of destruction.

The sin of doing nothing – the sin of omission – is just as dangerous as any sin of action – commission. You don’t have to do anything to be lost: just do nothing. Just be slothful about your soul. Tragically, thousands of us Christians are slothful also – when it comes to prayer, worship, reading the Bible, witnessing for Christ, helping neighbors in need, giving to charity, or giving to God’s work.

Don’t let this happen to you.

The sluggard’s craving will be in the death of him, because his hands refuse to work. Proverbs 21:25

Pontius Pilate

The name of Pontius Pilate will be forever linked to ...the final order condemning Jesus to death by crucifixion.

But the name of Pontius Pilate will also stand forever as a prime example of someone who knew what was right – but failed to do. He caved in to the pressures of the crowd and ordered Jesus’ death. How often do you cave in to the pressure of the crowd, seeking the approval of others instead of the approval of God? Make it your goal to live for Christ and be faithful to Him, regardless of what the crowd demands.

Then Pilate announced... “I find no basis for a charge against this man ...But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed.” Luke 23:4, 23.

Wisdom For Each Day by Billy Graham, DaySpring Cards, Inc., Copyright – 2011.

Remembered through All Generations

“I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.” Psalm 45:17

The 45th Psalm is a beautiful Messianic psalm, speaking prophetically of the coming Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, the psalm is quoted by the writer of Hebrews, calling Him “God” and promising not only eternal remembrance but also everlasting dominion: *“But unto the Son, he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom”* (Hebrews 1:8, citing Psalm 45:6).

But the writer also said He would be remembered in all generations. That has proved true, so far! As others have frequently noted, this man lived on earth only 33 years, never traveled more than a few miles from His home, never wrote a book, never raised an army, never ruled over so much as a village, let alone a kingdom, never married or had children, never enrolled for any formal education, and finally was executed as a criminal.

Yet He has, indeed, been remembered through all generations following His all-too-short career two thousand years ago – and remembered with love and deep reverence and gratitude by millions of people in all nations ever since. Furthermore, though He never wrote a book, others have written innumerable books about Him, while another psalmist assured us that His words would also be preserved *“from this generation for ever”* Psalm 12:7.

And all this has come to pass! Herein is a marvelous thing! Indeed He was, and is, God and this was demonstrated by His flawless character, His amazing teachings, His unique miracles, His volitional, sacrificial death, and His mighty defeat of death itself by His bodily resurrection and ascent into heaven.

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

Days of Praise, by Institute for Creation Research,
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Overcoming

To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. Revelation 2:7

Yes, while the dear Redeemer lives
We have a boundless store,
And shall be fed with what he gives
Who lives for evermore.

Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and

priests unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Revelation 1:5-6

Selected

“I Refuse To Run On Sundays”

Eric’s favored distance was a 100 meter race but the Paris Olympics scheduled the competition for Sunday. When Eric heard this news he decided to honor the Sabbath and instead compete in the 400 meters, even though it was a harder distance for him. This decision was opposed by many, including his fellow Scots who feared Eric’s decision would cost them a gold medal. However, Eric ignored their cutting remarks and accusations. He refused to break the Sabbath. Eric’s friend D.P. Thomson, when asked about Eric’s opting out of the Sunday races, said, “That decision there was no hope of changing. It was based on principles from which he never deviated a hair’s breath. Even in the Weih sien Internment Camp, where he was in charge of all sports and athletics, he refused to be responsible for planning Sunday sports.”

The odds were stacked against Eric’s chance of winning the 400 meter race. Not only would he be running in the outside lane, a significant disadvantage, but he would also be competing against two record-breaking runners. Before the race, however, a man gave Eric a paper with 1 Samuel 2:30 written on it – **“Those who honor Me I will honor.”** Eric folded the paper into his fist while he ran the 400 meters. He finished in 47.6 seconds, breaking the world record and winning the Olympic gold medal. He also competed in the 200 meter race, earning a bronze medal. Eric’s wife, Florence, said years later, “Eric always said that the great thing for him was that, when he stood by his principles and refused to run in the 100 meters, he found that the 400 meters was really his race. He said he would never have known that otherwise. He would never have dreamed of trying the 400 at the Olympics.”

Selected

**“Salvation is free for you because
Someone else paid.”**

Anonymous

Sin and the Sense of Sin

(Continued from the May issue of the *Morning Glory*)

Thus Jesus spoke to men about their sins.

This should not surprise us, especially if we are some-what acquainted with what Jesus said elsewhere about sin in general. Permit me here to cite only two of His statements: “*From within, out of the heart of men, evil thoughts proceed: fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, covetings, wickednesses, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, railing, pride, foolishness*” (Mark 7:21-22). “*Ye have heard that it was said, ‘Thus shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, that everyone that looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart’*” (Matthew 5:27-28).

According to my view, these are the two most revolutionary statements in the moral history of the human race.

Jesus states that which makes an act evil or good, sinful or not sinful, is not its **doing**, nor its **consequences** or **result**, but its motive, the impulse from which it springs. Sin is therefore first of all and fundamentally a condition of our heart and mind; an expression of our will.

This makes it a matter of serious import to us all. It becomes clear to us that it is not necessary to have become **old** in sin, nor to have lived a life of lust and shame, nor to have been a criminal, in order to know how terrible sin is, and to be weighed down by its guilt.

I have never been able to understand this talk about young people having difficulty in realizing their sinfulness. It has always appeared to me that this idea is due to a psychological misunderstanding. The truth is that the very opposite is the case. Young people acquire a strong and living consciousness of sin more easily than anyone else. Their consciences have not as yet become as dull as those of older people, because they have not as yet compromised their convictions as much as the latter. As a typical example of this characteristic trait of young people, I might refer to their exceptional **sense of justice**. How a young person becomes incensed when an injustice is perpetrated against someone!

The fact that young people can conceive of the unnatural idea of embarking upon a life of open sin in order to acquire a sense of sin, is not due at all to exaggerated preaching of sin. On the contrary, this perverted idea is the result of a weak, sub-Christian message concerning sin.

If the attention of both young and old is directed **inwardly**, toward the **attitude of their hearts**, then both alike will see an ocean of sin and uncleanness, an unfathomable and endless sea of sinful lusts and desires, thoughts and imaginations. Selfish thoughts: how do you not circle about your own little self in everything that you do, in all that you plan and think? Bitter thoughts: how harsh and

unmerciful are you in your attitudes toward your fellow men? Envious thoughts: can you endure to see people who have abilities which you do not have without allowing your envy to manifest itself in one form or other? Unchaste thoughts: if the unclean thoughts harbored were written on the outside of you, you would no doubt desire to hide yourself so completely that no one could find you.

I have personally had occasion to observe when young men have come to me in their distress. What a deep sense of sin good and wholesome young people can experience in connection with sins of this kind. Before me sat the pride of their family and the ideal of their associates, and wept bitter tears. They had begun to see the sinfulness of their attitude of heart. They did not complain that they lacked a sense of sin! Rather, they could not understand how they could be saved from their sin and guilt, so great was their sense of sin.

I desire now to consider briefly how the new conception of sin given to us by Jesus revolutionizes our relationship to God and how it affects our religious life. I do not desire to do this in an abstract and theoretical, but in a practical manner, that is, by dealing directly with the conscience and the will, more particularly by dealing with **our** consciences and **our** wills.

I desire to speak about **our** sins in the light of this new truth which Jesus has imparted to us. Let us consider the matter as concretely as possible by taking up for consideration our everyday life and endeavor earnestly to look at it in the same light as Jesus did.

The first thing you did today was to awaken. The good and gracious God, who had watched over you while you slept, stood by your side, alert for the moment when you should awaken. To what was He looking? He was looking to your attitude of heart, to the thoughts which were permitted to fill your soul as soon as consciousness returned to you from the quiet realm of sleep.

Did He see you open your eyes to meet the Father’s eye which had rested so lovingly upon you while you slept? The birds sing their Creator’s praise as soon as they awaken. Was your heart, too, attuned to praise and thanksgiving? The flowers open to the sun each morning. Did you also look to God for His kiss of love and His tokens of affection?

What did He see when you awoke? A heart which was being filled with all sorts of thoughts and plans for the day almost before you were really awake? Perhaps He saw a person lying there cross and ugly because the children or someone else (a dog?) had awakened him too early. And then you moped around, surly and ill-tempered all morning until you have had your cup of coffee.

Then you arose and dressed. No doubt you took a great deal of time and pains with this. For we are very

particular with regard to our bodies. The Lord was with you all the while. That which especially interested Him was your attitude of heart.

When you had finished dressing, the time had come when a child of God should leave everything pertaining to this earth, even his dear ones, in order to be alone with God for a while. May I in love ask every one of you who reads this, "Did you have a quiet hour in secret this morning with God?"

You who must confess to yourself that you did not have such an hour with God, your excuse will be at once, and always has been, that you did not have time. What do you think God thinks about an excuse of this kind? No doubt He thought that you had ample time for prayer if you had not remained abed and stretched so long before you arose, and if you had not spent so much unnecessary time both in dress and in making your bed.

Christian Life, by O. Hallesby, Ph.D., Augsburg Publishing House, Copyright 1934, Permission Granted

* * * * *

One Key To An *Irresistible Marriage* —*Love To Delight Your Spouse*

By Cry Schmidt

A young couple once emailed me and asked an insightful question about their relationship. Several years into their marriage, they began to discover how "opposite" they really were in many areas. And that realization scared them. They asked if this discovery should worry them, or if all couples experience this.

It occurred to me that most couples face this sort of realization, so perhaps sharing a perspective might encourage others. Here's what I wrote in response to the question:

"The key question is 'are you good friends?' Do you enjoy spending time together? Do you like to go out to eat, talk, walk, and just hang out together? As for specific interests, my wife Dana and I share a few but not many really – but WE LOVE to hang out together, and we LOVE to do what the other person LOVES to do. We have learned to enjoy making the other person happy."

Honestly, that is a critical component to a wonderful marriage—loving to please the other person.

Whether you realize it or not, God gave you the keys to your spouse's heart. He gave you the ability to truly please your spouse. Staying in love is all about discovering the joy of preferring your spouse – finding joy in your wife's or your husband's joy. It's not about having your own way. It's about enjoying the delight that you create in giving your spouse his or her way. The Bible says, "*Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in*

honor preferring one another;" – Romans 12:10, and it adds, "*By love serve one another.*" – Galatians 5:13.

How often do we miss the JOY of giving in, because we can't stand the idea of giving in – we would call it "losing". We fall for the bait that "not getting our way" means we lost something. Wrong! That is the self-centered thought process that kills a lot of marriages. While we are focused on fighting for our own way, we are missing the great delight of making the other person happy. In my experience, when our marriage is strained, it's usually because I've lost perspective on this and grown selfish.

Other than Jesus, my greatest teacher in this area is Dana. She is exceptional at this. She humbles me – and convicts me. She's one of the happiest people I know, but her joy is derived from making her family happy – both me, and our kids. The joy she radiates is a product of her desire to serve and please others.

Bottom line, every marriage goes through ups and downs – seasons of strength and struggle. In the midst of the daily chaos of raising kids, managing life, and serving God. It is critical that you nurture your relationship with time together. And during that time, pursue understanding. Seek to discover what delights this person. Ask your spouse, "What are some things that I could do that would REALLY please you?"

You'll probably be surprised how very simple and accessible your spouse's list will be. (It will most likely be made up of simple things that you could easily do from a heart of love, with little or no real cost. But the benefits will be overwhelming to your home!) Deep love is usually made up of simple delights done from a selfless heart. Once you discover it ... do it!

Of course, all of this is made possible when Christ is the center of your marriage and His Holy Spirit is growing you into His likeness. It is only by His power and His Spirit that one would even desire to love selflessly.

As you yield to God, you will find a new level of love in serving one another. You will discover a spouse who will quickly find your love irresistible, and you will probably find a spouse who responds in like mind. Selfless love always compels a similar response.

One key to a great marriage: Decide to enjoy serving and pleasing your spouse. Get a kick out of putting a smile on his or her face.

Now, think of one thing you could do today that would really please your spouse, and plan to do it. (And if you need help thinking of ideas just ask your spouse...)

Remember, you hold the keys to your spouse's heart – so use the key! By God's grace, you have the power to make your spouse fall in love with you over and over and over again. Go build an irresistible marriage by love, serving one another. — FAITH for Life

HAUGE BIBLE CONFERENCE

(Annual Conference)

AT

St. Paul's Free Lutheran Church

2802 12th. Street S.

Fargo, ND 58103

Pastor Micah Hjermstad, Host Pastor

June 24 – 26, 2016

(Friday eve. thru Sunday noon)

THEME:

“Building & Battling”

Based On

Nehemiah & Jude 3

Friday Evening

7 p.m. – Evang. & Pastor Willmore Gundersen,
Fergus Falls, MN . Refreshments following

Saturday

9 a.m. - Prayer Time

9:30 a.m. – Coffee & Refreshments

10:10 a.m. – (Business man/Farmer) Mr. Marlow
Nash, Colfax, ND

11:10 a.m. – Circuit Judge: Timothy Tingelstad,
Bemidji, MN

Noon – Meal at Church, *Free-will offering*

1:15 p.m. – Pastor Willmore Gundersen

2:10 p.m. – Circuit Judge, Timothy Tingelstad

3:05 p.m. – Coffee and Refreshments

3:30 p.m. – HLIF Annual Meeting

HLIF Board Meeting following

7:00 p.m. – Pastor Willmore Gundersen

Sunday

9:15 a.m. – Judge Timothy Tingelstad

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service – Pastor Willmore
Gundersen

WELCOME: One and All

Please PRAY for Conference,
even if you can't attend

Refreshments are appreciated from
anyone who can bring them

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UpDate

Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink...Your heavenly father knows that you need them. Matthew 6:25, 32.

Money can all too easily become our master instead of our servant! Generosity doesn't come naturally to most of us – the kind of generosity the Bible urges us to have. Likely, though, most of us will give if we think the cause is worthy and we feel we can afford it. Although the BIBLE urges and encourages us to give sacrificially and cheerfully to God's Work, which ends up indirectly benefitting us! **Luke 6:38.**

God's work (ministry) *demands* prayer, dedication, vision and reliance on the leading of the Holy Spirit. But it also requires our financial resources.

Our heavenly Father knows we need clothes, food and shelter, so we don't need to be anxious or **WORRY!** That may seem *very difficult*, but God will give us His peace as we learn to trust Him.

The cost of publishing and mailing the *Morning Glory* each month is approx. \$2,000.

April's income: \$3,930.00.