



# Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • March 2013

## Jesus, Judas, and Peter

*Read Luke 22:45-62.*

*“And when he rose up from his prayer, he came unto the disciples, and found them sleeping for sorrow; and he said to them, Why sleep ye? Rise and pray, that ye enter not into temptation. While he yet spake, behold, a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them; and he drew near unto Jesus to kiss him. But Jesus said unto him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss? — And they seized him, and led him away, and brought him into the high priest’s house. But Peter followed afar off.” (Luke 22:45-48, 54).*

An atmosphere of holy seriousness pervaded the hall in which Jesus ate the last Passover meal with His disciples. He spoke His words of farewell to them, and they were filled with apprehension for the future. Judas left and sold the Savior for a few pieces of silver. Soon the others broke up and made their way to Gethsemane.

In this lovely garden, secluded from noise and bustle and from critics and foes, Jesus had met the Father so many a time. Here He had gathered strength through prayer for His labor among suffering humanity. On this dear spot He wanted to meet the prince of this world; from this place He would go forth to meet the powers of darkness. Among these venerable trees He had built a fortress; now He was ready for battle.

Who can fathom all that had transpired between heaven and earth on this spot? Night after night for three years Jesus had pleaded with the Father for deliverance from death; through suffering He had learned obedience.

There is something so divinely human in this that Jesus desired to begin His final conflict here. Even the garden seemed to give Him comfort. Is there not something remarkable also today about the places where you and I have fought our crucial battles and found God’s help? We too want to be there when a new crisis approaches; especially do we want to be there for the final battle. Many a soldier of Christ who has had to fight his last battle in a foreign place had had but one desire: That he might die in the place hallowed by so many memories of God’s help in days past.

Jesus too was human. He was so like us, save for sin. It is not unreasonable to suppose that this garden had a wondrous attraction for Him.

That which affected Him most was that His own failed Him. Even the eleven fell asleep. Three times He came from the throes of wrestling in prayer and asked them to wake with Him. It seems that they couldn’t; they slept and rested while He agonized in prayer so near to the portals of death.

Every distress is an unwelcomed guest, but doubly so when those who are dear to us seem to be unconcerned. Then it takes great courage to persevere. Also this burden was added to all the others that Jesus had to bear.

Then Judas came. He was now the leader of Satan’s ruffian band; he gave the Master the kiss of death. Jesus was able to address this ignominious man with the salutation of “Friend.” This alone should convince us that Jesus was more than a mere man.

This was not to be the end of Christ’s disappointments. It was not enough that one of His own should be used to betray Him, and that the others fell asleep; Peter proceeded to add another stone to the burden that was

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## Table of Contents

Jesus, Judas and Peter.....	1-3
When am I Truly Converted?.....	3
Editorial.....	4-5
Live by the Spirit.....	5
From Our Fellowship Circle.....	6
Assurance of Salvation.....	7-8
The Fifth Picture.....	9-10
Grace and Mercy • Lessons Learned from Noah’s Ark.....	10
Believable ... Yet Unbelievable.....	11-12
When You Pass Through the Waters.....	12
Unfailing Promises • Be Strong and Courageous • Christ Our King!.....	13
The Broken Heart • Grace and Peace.....	14
Toiled All Night • Decisions and Divisions.....	15
Hauge Spring Bible Conference • UpDate.....	16

heavy enough before. He sat down among the enemies and denied vehemently that he knew this man.

These were they who for three years had been together with Jesus. On mountaintop and raging sea He had helped them unstintingly and untiringly. He had revealed God as Father to them, and had opened their eyes to see the kingdom of heaven; and now they failed Him when He was in need and asked a favor of them.

How can this be? Something rises within us when we hear of it, and we are ready to pass the most merciless condemnation upon such people. We do well, however, to postpone our judgment until we learn to know human frailty and depravity a bit better. It may be that we shall find the same weaknesses in ourselves.

How was it possible for Judas to stoop so low that he could sell His Master for thirty pieces of silver? It is difficult to believe that he had always been a devil.

It appears to me that to begin with Judas had been as honest as any of the others. It is inconceivable that Jesus should choose dishonest people to be His disciples. He who knows the hearts knew what was in Judas when He chose him. He saw that Judas was a practical man and had the ability to fill an important position in the Kingdom of God. Paul, who replaced Judas, towers as a king over the others in talents and gifts.

That Jesus made Judas treasurer indicates that he had a genius for business. But Judas was like all others; the greatest gift and the greatest danger nestled so close together in his life. Business geniuses are easily

tempted to love money. Here lay both his great strength and besetting weakness. Slowly but surely the love of money gained the upper hand; the day soon came that he was ready to betray Jesus for money. Bu this act he had also sold himself.

When one who has been a Christian, Judas or anyone else, stoops so low he is the most depraved man on earth. No other sin is so devastating as the love of money. There is more of true humanity left in the harlot and drunkard than in such a sleek servant of Mammon. Many a follower of Jesus who could have filled important positions in the Kingdom of God has fallen into the same pit as Judas; they sank into Satan's bottomless sea of gold.

But why did Jesus make Judas treasurer? Could not another have filled that position?

God does not call to be preachers such as lack the ability of speaking in public. Nor does He make leaders of those who have no capacity along that line. He makes use of each gift in its proper place, and gives grace to each man who will receive it.

Our responsibility and danger lie precisely where our tasks and talents are. The greater the responsibility and talent, the greater is the danger and temptation. But if the man stands the test, he will become a better instrument in the hand of God. Therefore both Peter and Judas had to have these places, and had to meet the tempter precisely here. Steel must be subjected to fire if it is to be a sword; if it is found defective here, it will be worthless.

Peter endured the tempering process, and became a mighty tool in the hand of God. Judas broke under it and was lost.

Thus it was then, and so it is now for all of Christ's servants.

Taken from *Spirit and Power* by Ludvig Hope;  
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## When Am I Truly Converted?

Prof. O. Hallesby, Oslo, Norway

When is a soul truly converted? Answer: When an awakened soul has received a clear and full light of his totally lost and undone condition, and also a clear light of the full and free grace of God. In other words, the moment when one receives the full deliverance from the bondage to the law, and at the same time the full assurance of his state of grace. There are those who will not believe a person is really converted until these blessings have been experienced.

Until that moment a person is merely awakened.

However, there may not be full agreement as to words, just so the real truth is fully acknowledged. The question is often asked: Does the awakened and penitent soul go lost if he should die before he is set free from the bondage to the law and has received the assurance of salvation? That is a rather confusing question. God would not let anyone go lost if it was just a question of time. But an important matter is wrapped up in this confusion, which is this: Is the awakened and penitent soul on the *outside or on the inside* of the fellowship with Jesus until the soul has received the full assurance of salvation?

From Scripture proofs we must hold that a penitent and awakened soul is on the *inside* though he has not received the full assurance of salvation. Note how Jesus treated His disciples. They had not come far in clarity about either sin or grace before Pentecost. That Jesus was to die for their sins they did not grasp. But Jesus spoke to them as converted believers: "*Ye are clean because of the word which I have spoken unto you*" (John 13:10; 15:3). He says plainly that their names are written in heaven (Luke 10:20).

So Jesus, now as then, does not go by our grasp of the truth, just so there is an honest will in surrendering to the will of God without any compromise. Therefore the Scripture shows that from the moment the soul has turned wholeheartedly to Christ and accepted Him, he is looked upon as truly converted. For he has acknowledged and confessed his sins as far as he has received light, and Jesus is his only salvation, even though he has not received full light concerning his sinful and lost state, nor concerning God's free grace in Christ.

*Morning Glory*, April 21, 1965

*"Live so that when the final summons comes, you will leave something more behind you than an epitaph on a tombstone or an obituary in a newspaper."*

**Billy Sunday**

# Editorial

## RES *New Body*

*“Who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”*  
(Philippians 3:21)

Numerous times in Christian fellowship the subject for discussion that lies before us is: “What will it be like when ‘we’ get HOME?”

NOW as I try to share some Scriptural ‘insights’ with you; remember Heaven is going to reach beyond ‘our’ fondest ‘imagination’ as **GOD** uses ‘negatives’ in order that our finite mind can grasp a little what awaits a child of His.

It seems that when you and I are going ‘through’ difficult times in this ‘earthly pilgrimage’, we get more ‘home-sick’ for Heaven; which is certainly OK; but there is a correct Biblical ‘home sickness’ that should be with us all the time.

First of all, as we approach this wonderful subject, keep in mind that ‘eternity’ is timeless and for those who are ‘in Christ’ an eternal bliss.

Often as you drive down the street you will see Real Estate signs that read “Home for sale”. Maybe it should read ‘House for Sale’. Check, there is a difference! Keep in mind the following verse as we seek to take a clear look into ETERNITY! “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?” Matthew 16:26.

Before ‘we’ proceed further, let me share a ‘biblical truth’ that liberals and false teaching will not adhere too: Hell will last as long as Heaven! But false doctrine says that it is impossible for a ‘body’ to continue to be burning without it being consumed. In response do you know of anything that will live forever, everlasting? (Vegetation, fowl, animal or human life)! Absolutely not except our living Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who was, is and forever shall be!

Keep in mind that God’s LOVE manifested in the person of JESUS, in Scripture, speaks more about ‘Hell’ than ‘Heaven.’ HE wants ‘us’ to be forewarned more so than to be pleasantly surprised what awaits the **blood bought** ‘Bride’. **Mark 9:42 -48**. You see ‘sin’ will keep you longer than you want to stay, ‘sin’ will cost you more than you want to pay and ‘sin’ will take you further than you want to go! “But the sons of the kingdom will be

cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Matthew 8:12, also 22:13, 24:51, 25:30 & Luke 13:28. In Luke 16:19 - 31 God lets us peer into ‘eternity’ a little. This is not a ‘parable’ but an actual account for notice a number things: the lost man could; see, feel, reason, rationalize and pray, but ALL too late! “The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” Revelation 20:10. The word ‘brimstone’ can also be translated ‘sulfur’ which ‘burns’ even ‘hotter’ and visibly clearer! **Prayerfully read on: Revelation 20:11-15.**

You see that ‘both’ the ‘sinner’ under the Blood of the crucified and risen ONE and the ‘sinner’ who is taking their chance, receives a ‘new body’ – one that is everlasting and eternal and thus will spend all eternity in either eternal bliss or eternal hell. *John 3:18 & 36.* (Also please keep in mind that at times in Holy Scripture ‘angels’ appeared in the likeness of a ‘human body’).

**IF** you were in a ‘burning building’ and definitely and absolutely safe passage/exit as the ‘only way’ to escape and safety and assured NO harm whatsoever: would you state that LOVE was missing?

**NOW** let ‘us’ spend some time on the ‘positive’ side of life – John 10:9-10, Romans 8:1, John 14:1-6, Acts 4:12-13.

Mistakenly some ‘believers’ feel when they get to ‘Heaven’ they are going to have their questions answered! I don’t think so; because no baggage or questions will be taken from this ‘world’ into ‘Home’, because you will have a new mind there. So ‘we’ walk by faith and not sight in this world and realize that Romans 8:28-29 will be adequate.

Also there are those who think their ‘pet’ will meet them in ‘Heaven’. I don’t think so; because ‘only’ mankind is an immortal ‘soul’. **Genesis 2:7**. IF ‘animals’ in ‘Heaven’ will add to the eternal bliss then God will see to it, but there will not be a ‘specific’ pet from this earthly journey.

We will know one another by name is my conviction.

For example: The 'Banqueting Table', Peter, James & John knew who Moses and Elijah were at the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8), Revelation 20:11-15.

Yes it appears that 'we' will eat while in 'Heaven'. Jesus in His resurrected, glorified 'body' ate a number of times according to Scripture while yet here on earth in His Divine 'body'. Revelation 22:2. (Also Adam & Eve in the Garden of Eden).

I will guess that there must be 'some' similarity of Adam and Eve; before they sinned Heaven.

IF anything 'Heaven/Home' will be greater! In Revelation 20:1-7 God uses 'negatives' in order that 'our' finite mind might grasp a 'little' that awaits a 'child of God' in order for 'us' to see the 'positive.' **No tears, death, sorrow, crying, pain, separation, etc.** and Not even a chance of a 'sinful thought'. From this world **'Heaven will only be occupied with forgiven sinners!'**

For further study, please prayerfully read the following – keeping 'body' in view: **1 Cor. 6:14, 1 Cor. 15:42-44, 11 Cor. 5:1, 1 Cor. 15:49-58, Job 19:25-27, Matt. 5:29-30 & Rev. 22:3-4. Scripturally there is a 'Biblical HOME Sickness'**– without seeking to *avoid* hardship, affliction, persecution, etc.

Also during the period of a 'heaven-sent revival'; which is not worked up, but prayed down from our thrice Holy God: Heaven seems nearer and more real!

In the mean time, we have reason to know that as we live

in the closing period of the 'church age', things will become 'rougher' and 'more' difficult for the child of God. Please consider 11 Timothy 3:12, 11 Cor. 3-4, Is. 59:12-19, Romans 8:18-25, 11 Tim. 4:1-8.

Our Savior and Lord will give us strength to resist the godless currents, treacherous tides, and contrary winds that 'we' will evidently be confronted with in 2013. Let 'us' pray for one another that we will confront the enemy in the Omnipotent power of Christ and cause him (enemy) to retreat. Pray for a 'heaven-sent revival'!

The account is told of a 'pastoral visit' to a dying Christian and desiring to comfort him with a brief devotional began by reading John 14:1-2 “‘ *Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.* ’” And then he was about to lead in verbal prayer, when the dying Christian, just above a whisper for lack of strength said read on: “‘ *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.* ’” And the dying Christian said “that's it, it is **JESUS!**” **Yes that is it when 'we' see JESUS it will be worth it all!**

In the mean time, as we know, Scripture is very much alive, but pray that it may become very much 'alive' to you and me! Yes we will receive a NEW BODY and much more!! **AMAZING GRACE!!!**

## Live by the Spirit

*“If you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live”* Romans 8:13.

Here the Apostle gives a pronouncement that one must put to death the old nature, the flesh, and live the new life in fellowship with Christ. One must take seriously the words, “*If you live according to the flesh you will die*” (Romans 8:13).

Sinful desires will be subdued through the Spirit and the faith given to you. Even though you experience the most severe temptations and desires you must resist and overcome them. In humility you must struggle, praying that sin may never be victorious over you.

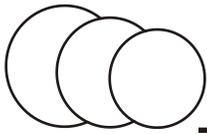
However, should you be overcome by some sin you will lay your plight before God and seek forgiveness. You will rise up again and be restored in the grace of salvation. Peace is found with God through faith and you come out victorious and continue to walk according to the Spirit.

*“Bless us, Father and protect us  
From all harm in all our ways;  
Patiently, O Lord, direct us  
Safely through these fleeting days;  
Let thy face upon us shine,  
Fill us with thy peace divine;  
Praise the Father, Son, and Spirit,  
Praise him, all who life inherit.”*

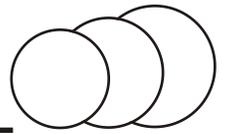
(Johan Olof Wallin, 1779 - 1839)

PRAYER: Let your Spirit, Lord, lead in the triumphant ways intended for every believer. This triumphant way I would claim in Christ. Amen.

Taken from *Rosenius' Daily Meditations* by Carl O. Rosenius, Lutheran Colportage Service, Inc.



# From Our Fellowship Circle



**D. & O. T.** **Seattle, WA**  
Praise God for your work in the Lord; for such a wonderful paper with so much good news!

The Lord has been good!

**T. S.** **Forest City, IA**  
Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and blessed New Year!

I am now living at assisted living - so have a new home, which is good for the present time; although I do miss my 'home'. But everybody is so nice here ... I thank and praise the Lord for being so good to me and also for my family (children and Grandchildren). The most important though is that Jesus suffered and died for me and that He saved my soul so many years ago and I am still privileged to be in fellowship with Him.

May God Bless and Keep you all and thank you for the *Morning Glory*, which I truly enjoy.

**R. & J. O.** **Hawarden, SK, Canada**  
Enclosed is a check for \$... for our subscription renewal to the *Morning Glory*, and to let you know how much we appreciate receiving it. We need to be on guard that we keep true to the Scriptures as so many are turning from the absolute TRUTH! God bless you as you continue in this important ministry.

**W. & I. L.** **Osakis, MN**  
We so appreciate reading the *Morning Glory* issues. God does honor the Gospel truths in printed paper.

**C. K.** **Roland, LA**  
Thanks for the good issue of *Morning Glory* for my sisters and me. We look forward to reading the good articles that are so appropriate for our times.

**R. & D. H.** **Cummings, ND**  
Thank you so much for each of these *Morning Glory* publications!

May the Lord continue to bless this ministry in winning souls and in nurturing God's lambs and sheep.

**E. G.** **Stony Plain, AL, Canada**  
Keep up the good work in *Morning Glory*.

Please pray for revival! Churches are dead and sin is dom-

inant.

Please pray also for me, as I too need a fresh touch from the Lord (Ed. Who doesn't?).

*Editor's Note:* AMEN! Please pray earnestly for a 'Heaven Sent Revival', beginning with you and me, then spreading throughout 'our' churches/communities, USA, Canada, and on. (Even 'brush fire revivals') **God always keeps His Promise(S)!**

**D. M. E.** **Northfield, MN**  
Just received the *Morning Glory* and read about ...; I will definitely add her name to my prayer list. I have many on there already who are with sickness, etc. and so many more now. (Editor: What a ministry)!

My hands are getting more crippled from my arthritis and my reading is harder now, because I have only one good eye. But I feel good and am soon 94 years old. Praise the Lord for He has let me live this long so I can see all my wonderful grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Yes, I believe Christ is coming soon. It doesn't seem like things can get much worse! The world is trying to make believe that there is no Christ. (Editor: For 'all of us' to keep in mind that the unsaved (world) is blind and the preaching of the **cross** to them is foolishness until they have a NEED = see themselves individually as awakened/lost sinners spiritually)!

## *Bible Study*

Dwight L. Moody once said, "I prayed for faith, but faith did not seem to come. One day I read in the tenth chapter of Romans. "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God" I had closed my Bible and prayed for faith. I then opened my Bible and began to study, and faith has been growing ever since."

*Editor's Note:* Why not have an informal 'Bible Study' also, each week in your home! The King of kings and Lord of lords has promised to be in the midst of two or three gathered in His Name.

# “Assurance Of Salvation”

I would like to write a little about “assurance of salvation” today. The reason for writing is I understand there are many people who struggle in this area. Let me ask you this question: Do you **know for sure** that you are going to get to heaven? Just think of those people who live their whole life in deception; that must be one of the worst things that can happen to a person.

I would like to start out by saying that Jesus is the mediator between you and God the Father. I will quote what it says in 1 Timothy 2:3-6.

**“This is good, and it is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,**

who **desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.**

For there is **one God,**

and there is **one mediator between God and men,**

the **man Christ Jesus,**

who **gave himself as a ransom for all,**

the testimony to which was borne at the proper time.”

There is so much power packed into the four verses that I have just quoted. Meditate on them a little bit before you read on. Read them over slowly, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal these words of truth to your heart. All the Bible verses that are in dark [bold] print – take them to heart. I memorize them because that helps me the most.

Another thought that comes to mind is found in Romans 5:6. **“While we were yet helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.”** What undeserved grace God bestows upon us when you think about! Why did He die for you and me? The answer is: because we are lost condemned sinners by nature. We cannot get to heaven on our own merits. We must be born again by accepting Jesus as our Savior.

That is why God tells us in Acts 4:12: **“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”** Jesus tells us, **“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”** Matthew 11:28. **“For every one who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.”** Rom. 10:13. Do you see how God cares about you in the verses that we have mentioned so far? His Holy Spirit calls and invites you to come in repentance to Jesus.

What happens when Jesus comes into a person’s heart and life? We ask Him to come in just like I just quoted, **“call upon the name of the Lord.”** He is Holy and I am a sinner, isn’t that right? Therefore, I need to ask Jesus to forgive me of all my sin, because by nature I am a sinful

person and so is everyone else. **“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”** Romans 3:23. Now notice what God says: **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him(God) a liar, and His word is not in us.”** 1 John 1:9-10.

That is why Jesus came and died for us, so that He, by shedding His blood, could forgive us of all our sins. Hebrews 9:22 explains it this way: ... **“without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.”** I go back to the verse that I started out with in 1 Timothy 2:6 where it says that Jesus is the one **“Who gave himself a ransom for all.”** That means He paid the price for all sin so we can receive forgiveness. That’s why Jesus died and rose again! He did it all for us. Jesus who was true God from eternity became a true man. He is the **lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world.

Do you know what happens when you and I receive forgiveness? **My sin goes before me to the place of judgement**, where God himself declares that my sin is forgiven. My sins are as far from me now as the east is from the west. This is because Jesus paid the price for my sin, this is called **substitutionary atonement**. Jesus took my place and died on the cross in my stead. Please note now what it says in 1 Timothy 5:24: **“The sins of some men are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them: the sins of others trail behind them.”** This is extremely important for you to be aware of when your sins are obvious! That means your sin is “confessed,” it is out in the open. You are not hiding your sin any more. Notice what happens next in the process of forgiveness. Your sin **reaches the place of judgment** ahead of you. Please understand that your sin is forgiven, because His blood cleanses you from all sin. Isn’t that just the most wonderful thing that can happen in our life: To be free from the burden of sin? The last part of this verse tells us of those who excuse their sin away, or cover over sin, trying to hid it. They will find out on **the day of judgement** that we will all stand before God. Their sin will find them out because their sin will become known to all on that day of judgement. The Bible teaches us their sins **“trail behind them.”** Your sin follows you like your own shadow does, you can’t run from it.

God knows everything! On the great day of “resurrection morning” the books of heaven will be opened. We read in Revelation 20:12: People will be judged according to what they have done with their life. If your sins are for-

given today, you have nothing to fear, because you will stand before God **as if you had never sinned**. You are “made righteous” here and now (before you physically die) because of Jesus. Galatians 2:16 “**..know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified.**” That’s quite a power packed verse isn’t it? Do you see why your relationship with Jesus is so important? Because of Jesus we are justified, meaning you are in right standing with God. You are not perfect but Jesus is perfect.

**“And just as it is appointed for men to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”** Hebrews 9:27-28. He’s coming to take us home. What a day that will be!

I have a personal relationship with Jesus because my sins are forgiven. **He lives by faith within my heart and life**. I talk to Him in prayer. He talks to me through His Word and His Holy Spirit also talks to me. He leads me, corrects me, admonishes me and glorifies Christ for me. I want to live in daily forgiveness because that is something everyone needs to do. Therefore, I ask Jesus everyday to forgive me of any sin in my thought life, words I’ve said or deeds I’ve done.

I want to give you **proof** that Jesus lives in my heart! 1 John 3:21-24: **“Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, ( because my sin is forgiven) we have confidence before God; and we receive from Him what ever we ask, because we keep His commandments and do what pleases Him. And this is His commandment that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as He has commanded us. All who keep His commandments abide in Him, and He in them. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit which He has given us.”** Aren’t these verses more or less self-explanatory? **We know, that’s what assurance is. I know because I know** Jesus doesn’t deceive me. He wants my best. **“We know that He abides in us.”**

Romans 5:5b “**...God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.**” Another translation of the same verse is a little different. **“For we know how dearly God loves us, because He has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love.”** Isn’t that special? He fills my heart with His love.

Satan does everything in his power to distract you from worshipping Jesus. Satan doesn’t want you to read

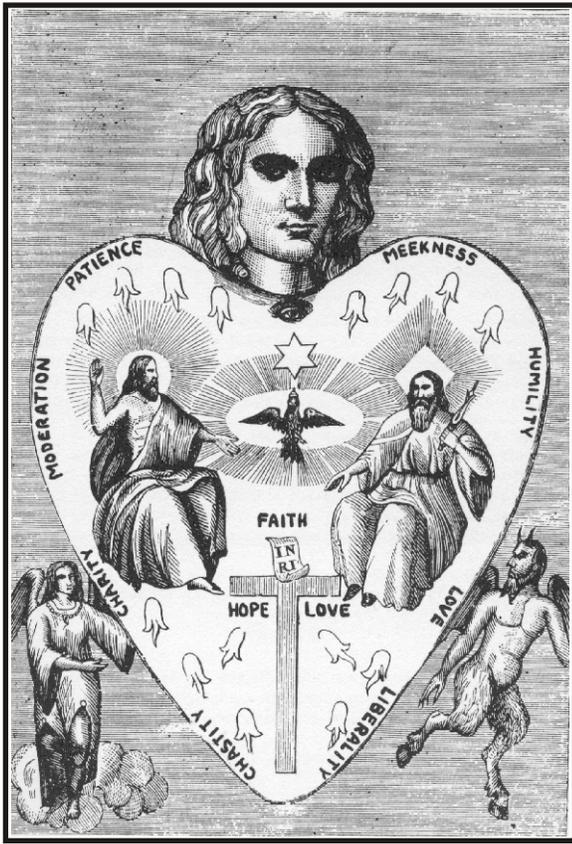
the Bible or take time to pray. Because by reading God’s Word and praying you will “grow in grace and knowledge.” When you worship Jesus **you receive His peace** in your heart and mind. As a believer in Jesus, I now have two natures within me. The old nature that loves sin, everybody possesses that nature. But because of Jesus in my life I also have a new nature that He has given me. There is a struggle between these two natures. **An unsaved person only has the old nature.** A Christian has the **old nature** as well as the **new nature**. Romans 7 gives us a lot of information on this subject. I will give you one example from Romans 7:19: **“For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.”** There is a struggle between these two natures. That’s why a Christian “by God’s grace” always tries to **submit to the new nature** and then **deprive the old nature** from getting its way. The Spirit of God ministers to me through the new nature. This struggle will go on in a Christian’s life until we die. Only when we die will the Christian be free from the old nature. When we physically die **only the new nature** which Jesus has given me will remain throughout eternity in my life.

Romans 8:9-11: **“But you are not in the flesh, you are in the Spirit, if the Spirit of God really dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. But if Christ is in you, although your bodies are dead because of sin,(we are all going to die physically one day) your spirits are alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through His Spirit which dwells in you.”** These verses are speaking to believers in Jesus. Those who trust in Jesus as their only Savior have the Holy Spirit dwelling within them. This verse also speaks of the end of time. How our mortal (or dead) body in the future will be raised from the dead in the first resurrection.

Hebrews 11:1: **“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”** Look at this verse very closely, memorize it by heart!

I will conclude with the living hope that we have in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. The next three verses will be of great help for you. Study the words closely. 1 Peter 1:3-5: **“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”**

Prayerfully written for you by  
Rev. Willmore Gundersen.



## The Fifth Picture

### The Christian's inner life, his heart a temple of God, a dwelling for the holy Trinity.

In the fifth picture the holy Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, can now be seen in the heart of the justified sinner. Jesus says: *"If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him"* (John 14:23). Such honor and glory will come to the Christian who has been cleansed by Christ's blood.

Out of gratitude he will love Christ, His Redeemer, above all things; and because he loves Him, he will keep His commandments. He is being loved by the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The eternal God makes His abode with him. Therefore, Paul writes: *"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are"* (I Cor. 3:16, 17). And again Paul writes in II Cor. 6:16: *"For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."*

Together with the holy Trinity, the cross of Christ can be seen in the heart. This the Christian can never forget, nor ever slip from his mind and heart. Jesus, the Crucified,

will always be the foundation upon which he builds. On that he rests his faith and hope, and it becomes the source of his love. He feels that he must experience in himself the intimate union with God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

As he glories in this blessed joy, he always thinks back and asks himself: How do I, miserable sinner, obtain such undeserved grace? Then he is reminded: It is through Christ, the Crucified, who by His death has reconciled me to God. He it is who by His cross has taken away sin, death, and condemnation, and purchased for me grace, life, and salvation. By His merit and grace I am what I am.

Instead of the seven deadly sins which occupied his heart without Christ, as illustrated in the picture, we may see the very opposite virtues: humility, liberality, charity, love, chastity, moderation, sobriety, patience, meekness, zeal, and piety.

Who would not with all his heart strive to keep Christ's words and commandments, believe in Him, follow Him, and imitate Him? He has given all those who keep His commandments the glorious promise that God Himself will come and dwell in their hearts. Oh, let us love Him! The Apostle John who leaned at His breast at the Last Supper exclaims: *"God is love; and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him... We love him, because he first loved us"* (1 John 4:16, 19).

Already in this life we may come so close to God that He will condescend to dwell in us. Let us earnestly exercise ourselves in intimate communion with this exalted Guest. May we strive to live in His fellowship and give ourselves fully unto Him. Then He will always abide with us.

Everything about us in this world is perishable. *"And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever"* (I John 2:17). *"He that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit"* (I Cor. 6:17). God has given us exceeding great and precious promises that if we flee the perishable lusts of the world, we shall be made partakers of the divine nature (II Peter 2:4), Oh then let us trust Him and love Him. *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me hath everlasting life"* (John 6:47).

## PRAYER

Holy, eternal and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! How precious sinful man must be to Thee! How Thou hast loved me, poor miserable sinner! Thou hast blessed me in Christ Jesus, and gladdened my heart. Thou wilt dwell in me, and I in Thee! How intimate we then are with one another. I may *"know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge"* and may be *"filled with all the fulness of God."* Should I not then love Thee with all my heart, and all my soul, and all my mind?

Oh, give me such love! Let me be wholly love, as Thou art love. Let me always experience Thy tender love. Occupy my heart as Thy eternal dwelling. Draw my spirit so close to Thee that I may always keep close to Thee. May I see Thee and find Thee in everything. May I suffer all things for Thy sake. Be Thou my fortress and portion forever. AMEN.

**When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God:  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.  
—I. Watts

Taken from *Mirror of the Heart*, Published by the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation. This book is available for a suggested donation of \$3.00 + 75¢ shipping.

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**GRACE AND MERCY**

By Herbert Lockyer

Grace and mercy are often linked together, yet there seems to be a difference between the two. The central point of grace is the freeness of God's love, while mercy suggests our misery and helplessness, and our relief from them. God's free grace is displayed in the forgiveness of sins — extended to men as they are guilty. Mercy is extended to them because they are guilty. Mercy is extended to them because they are so wretched and miserable.

What debtors we are to His inexhaustible grace and pardoning mercy! Having cried, "God be merciful to me a sinner," and then having been made the recipients of His saving mercy, we are in constant need of fresh mercy. Samuel Rutherford used to say, "God has bags of mercy lying by Him, the seals of which have never been broken."

As "the Father of mercies," and thus "rich in mercy," He has infinite resources to draw upon.

Mercy is our hourly need, and it is always at our disposal. As we think of our sinful past, we bless God for His mercy; but in the present, with all its shortcomings, inconsistencies, sins of thought and desire, self-will and self-indulgence and self-glory, we are still in dire need of mercy. As we look apprehensively into the future, we know that mercy will still be needed until our last breath.

Are we not grateful, then, that "*his mercy endureth for ever*"? Fabre, in his hymn, describes the unfailing quantity and the everlasting quality of God's mercy:

*There's a wideness in God's mercy  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in His justice  
Which is more than liberty.*

Selected

\* \* \* \* \*

**Lessons Learned From Noah's Ark**

1. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
2. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
3. Remember, the ark was built by amateurs; the *Titanic*, by professionals.
4. Don't miss the boat.
5. In times of crisis and stress, just float awhile.
6. Stay available to the Lord. Even when you're older, He may ask you to do something really big.
7. Whatever the storm, remember God's rainbow of promise!

Selected

**Tell Him So**

*If you hear a kind word spoken  
Of some worthy soul you know,  
It may fill his heart with sunshine  
If you only tell him so.  
If a deed, however humble,  
Helps you on your way to go,  
Seek the one whose hand has helped you;  
Seek him out and tell him so.  
Oh, my sisters, oh, my brothers,  
As o'er life's rough path you go,  
If God's love has saved and kept you,  
Do not fail to tell men so.*

Author unknown

# Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

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## **Pro-Life Expanding Euthanasia**

Belgium is on the brink of expanding its euthanasia program with a new proposal that will allow minors to commit suicide with medical assistance.

Socialist party leaders are also hoping to permit people with Alzheimer's and Dementia to do the same. Alex Schadenberg of the [Euthanasia Prevention Coalition](#) says the situation in Belgium is indeed deteriorating ...

Charles Butts (OneNewsNow.com), December 28, 2012

## **Christians Sent to Labor Camp for Holding Free Medical Clinics and Evangelizing in Rural Inner Mongolia**

Nine Christians providing medical services in rural areas of Inner Mongolia were detained by local police who also confiscated medical equipment and sentenced two of the Christians to labor camp.

...Christians set out from the city of Tongliao in Inner Mongolia for rural parts of the autonomous region ... where they held free medical clinics and evangelized among those who came for medical attention...

... The reason given for their detention was that they were suspected of using cult activities to interfere with law enforcement.

Christian Newswire

## **Total Surveillance State in State-Run Schools**

Oblivious to the impact on students' fundamental rights, school officials with the Northside Independent School District (NISD) in San Antonio, Texas have embarked upon a crusade to foist ID badges embedded with RFID tags on about 4,200 students at Jay High School and Jones Middle School. These tags produce a radio signal that is tied to the student's Social Security numbers, allowing the wearer's precise movements to be constantly monitored. Although the school district already boasts 290 surveillance cameras, the cards which the students are required to wear will make it possible for school officials to track students' whereabouts at all times. Teachers are even requiring students to wear the IDs when they want to use the bathroom...

Just to be clear, these tracking devices are not being employed to prevent students from cutting classes or to

foster better academics. It's a money game. Using the devices to account for the students' whereabouts on campus, whether in class or not, school administrators can "count" students as being "in school" and thereby qualify for up to 1.7 million in funding from the state government.

Conservative Action Alerts

*Editor's Note:* Could it be that 'we' are *very close* to the 'rapture' OR the very end times?

## **Ninety-Six Percent of Muslims Voters Voted!**

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR),... released the results of an informal exit poll indicating that more than 85 percent of American Muslim voters picked President Obama in (the November 6) election ...

(The poll findings showed) 95.5 percent of the Muslim voters said they went to the polls on November 6; 85.7 percent cast their ballots to re-elect President Obama; 4.4 percent of respondents said they voted for Mitt Romney.

CAIR

*P. S. Egyptian Magazine Confirms Muslim Agents Influence Obama Administration. (Egyptian Magazine - Rose El-Youssef).*

## **Major Clash Between the White House and Catholic Church**

The spokesman for a Catholic pro-life group predicts that unless the courts intervene, civil disobedience — and maybe even prison time — could result in the clash between the Obama administration and the Catholic Church over religious freedom.

Thus far, 40 Christian organizations and businesses have filed suit to block the HHS mandate requiring free insurance coverage of contraception, abortion-causing drugs, and sterilization. Frank Pavone of Priest for Life, a Catholic pro-life group, tells OneNewsNow that the Catholic Church is on a collision course with the administration, which has refused to provide a broad religious exemption that would protect the rights of people of faith who oppose such practices on religious grounds.

The churches, says Pavone, are not going to back down.

"They're not going to change their teaching — and

apparently the administration, as arrogant as it is, isn't going to change either," he adds, "So what does that mean? It certainly means a conflict; it means a clash; it means perhaps civil disobedience and prison for some people."  
OneNewsNow.com

P. S. White House Website Petition Declares Catholic Church a Hate Group!

## Birth Rates in USA Hit New Low

The U. S. government reported in October that births fell for the fourth year in a row in 2011. After hitting an all-time high of more than 4.3 million in 2007, fewer than 4 million births were counted last year (2011) - the lowest since 1998.

A falling birth rate is an issue of concern for the well-being of the nation. Our social engineers have orchestrated the butchery of over one million unborn babies every year since 1973. They have covered their tracks by allowing a flow of legal immigrants of approximately the same number. Mark my words — there's trouble afoot in every piece of this puzzle!

SWORD PRESS SERVICE

**Editor's Note:** Every conscientious (reader) believer, please pray for a 'Heaven Sent Revival' throughout 'our' great USA. Pray specifically! For example: REMEMBER *Jonah* who preached the WORD (*Thus saith the Lord*) to the folk of Nineveh! God's Word is not bound! Be 'we' *seemingly* so *few*; Remember Abraham praying for 'Sodom & Gomorrah', Elijah, etc. **God is able (11 Chr. 7:14).**

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### ***"When you pass through the waters ... they will not sweep over you" Isaiah 43:2***

God does not open paths for us before we come to them, or provide help before help is needed. He does not remove obstacles out of our way before we reach them. Yet when we are at our point of need, God's hand is outstretched.

Many people forget this truth and continually worry about difficulties they envision in the future. They expect God to open and clear many miles of road before them, but He promises to do it step by step, only as their need arises. You must be in the floodwaters before you can claim God's promise. Many people dread death and are distressed that they do not have "dying grace." Of course,

they will never have the grace for death when they are in good health. Why should they have it while in the midst of life's duties, with death still far away? Living grace is what is needed for life's work and calling, and then dying grace when it is time to die. J. R. M.

*"When you pass through the waters"  
Deep the waves may be and cold,  
But Jehovah is our refuge,  
And His promise is our hold'  
For the Lord Himself has said it,  
He, the faithful God and true:  
"When you come to the waters  
You will not go down, BUT THROUGH."*

*Seas of sorrow, seas of trial,  
Bitter anguish, fiercest pain,  
Rolling surges of temptation  
Sweeping over heart and train —  
They will never overflow us  
For we know His word is true;  
All His waves and all His billows  
He will lead us safely THROUGH.*

*Threatening breakers of destruction,  
Doubt's insidious undertow,  
Will not sink us, will not drag us  
Out to ocean depths of woe;  
For His promise will sustain us,  
Praise the Lord, whose Word is true!  
We will not go down, or under,  
For He says, "You will pass THROUGH."*

Annie Johnson Flint

Taken from *Streams in the Desert* by L. B. Cowman,  
Copyright by Zondervan

***Long ago, Cain asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:9). There is but one answer to the ancient question. We are our brother's keeper. "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself" (Rom. 14:7).***

Selected

## ***Unfailing Promise***

*“The word of the Lord abides for ever”*  
(1 Peter 1:25).

A promise is meaningful when the person making it is able to carry out his promise. This applied to the promises of Christ gives assurance that his promises are unfailing because he is able to carry out whatever He pledges.

There need be no proving of Christ for He has proven Himself. His word and His promises stand without need of manipulating either the promise or the Promisor! One possesses the promise if he will accept the Word. It is as though one possessed already the object of the promise, just as a promissory note assures payment from a responsible party. Comparison may be made to paper money. The imprint gives assurance of the monetary value when a strong and responsible government issues the currency.

Believing God’s Word we possess His promises. Possessing His promises – we possess Christ. Possessing Christ we possess salvation and the treasures of heaven. This assurance rests on the promises of God!

*“The Bible! The Bible! More precious than gold,  
The hopes and the glories its pages unfold!  
It speaks of a Saviour, and tells of His love;  
It shows us the way to the mansions above.”*

(Old Swedish Hymn, Anonymous)

PRAYER: Increase my faith in Your promises, heavenly Father, for Jesus’ sake. Help me also to be faithful to others in giving my word or promise to them. Amen.

Taken from *Rosenius Daily Meditations* by Carl O. Rosenius, Lutheran Colportage Service, Inc.

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***“Only be thou strong and very courageous.” Josh. 1:7***

We can be strong. We can be courageous. God commands us so to be, and He gives the power to be what He commands. Life is much like an ocean; sometimes calm, and at other times stormy. If we are weak in the time of storm, we are liable to go down.

A ship was on the ocean in the midst of a bad storm. The furniture was strapped to the floor, and even the pilot was strapped to his post of duty. It seemed that the ship could not come through such a bad storm.

The passengers were very much frightened. One of the passengers decided to find out if there was any hope

for them to survive. He crawled up onto the deck on his hands and knees, up the stairway that led to the pilot’s house. He crawled until he saw the pilot who smiled at him in a kind manner. The passenger crawled down again. He went to the other passengers and said, “All is well. I have seen the pilot, and he smiled at me.”

Jesus is our Pilot. One look at Him will drive away our fears. He will cheer us when the storms of this life are heavy. He is the Master of every storm. Only through Him can we be strong and courageous.

Dear Lord Jesus, be Thou our present Help in trouble. We bless Thee for taking away our fear and making us strong. Be Thou near us at all times. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

*Jesus, Saviour, pilot me,  
Over life’s tempestuous sea.  
Unknown waves before me roll,  
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal.  
Chart and compass came from Thee;  
Jesus, Saviour, pilot me.*

Taken from *Altar Steps* by Pastor R. P. Haakonson. This Family Devotional is available for a suggested donation of \$5.00 + \$1.00 shipping.

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## **His Excellency — Christ, Our King!**

As all waters meet in the sea, and as all the lights meet in the sun, so all the perfections and excellencies of all the saints and angels meet in Christ; nay, Christ hath not only the holiness of angels, the loveliness of saints and the treasure of Heaven, but also the fullness of the Godhead — the riches of the deity are in Him. “*For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell*” — fullness of grace, fullness of knowledge, fullness of love, fullness of glory!

In a company of literary gentlemen, Daniel Webster was asked if he could comprehend how Jesus Christ could be both God and man. “No sir,” he replied, and added, “I should be ashamed to acknowledge Him as my Saviour if I could comprehend Him. If I could comprehend Him, He could be no greater than myself. Such is my sense of sin and consciousness of my inability to save myself, that I feel I need a superhuman Saviour, one so great and glorious that I cannot comprehend Him.”

W. G. Heslop, *Five Hundred and One Sermon Illustrations*

# THE BROKEN HEART

*A bruised reed will He not break Is. 42:3*

The one who is ill may often feel useless and set aside. He feels like a reed that is bruised. The illness broke him, and so he is put aside as unserviceable.

Yet life goes on, and around him everything continues as it used to do — he alone is neglected.

Others are working, are rejoicing, — without him. He is like a broken, useless reed.

In time of illness this is one of the hardest lessons to learn, that life around him is continuing undisturbed, even when he is set aside. No man is indispensable.

Through this experience the child of God must learn how necessary it is to be humble.

But no one is to despise himself on that account.

Even if in your own eyes you are only a bruised reed, God is watching over you in love, and you are precious in His sight.

*“A bruised reed He shall not break.”*

God does not despise you. He has not neglected you, nor has He thrown you away to be trampled down and bruised.

*“He will bring forth justice in truth.” Is. 42:3.*

He will heal the reed which is bruised. He will make it stronger, better and more useful.

Only wait on Him.

One day a famous violinist entered a music shop to buy a violin.

“Let me try the best instrument you have,” he said.

The shop-keeper gave him one.

And the artist played.

But after a few strokes with the bow, he flew into a rage. Throwing the violin away, he left the shop.

“How can you offer me a thing like that?” he exclaimed as he went out.

Left alone, the music-seller took up the violin and found it smashed to pieces. He picked up the fragments, entered his workshop, and there with skilled hands he fitted the pieces of the violin together.

Some time later, the violinist returned. The seller gave him the same violin.

Taking it, he started to play and was amazed at the beauty of the tones drawn from the violin. The artist forgot time and place, and could hardly cease playing.

After a while he put the violin down.

“This is a masterpiece, something quite out of the ordinary,” he exclaimed. “Where did you discover such a fine instrument?”

Smiling, the seller answered:

“You have played on that same violin once before.

Then you flew into a rage and smashed it. Now I have fitted the pieces together, and there is the violin.”

Perhaps this is what God is doing with you.

The tones of your instrument may be too harsh. Therefore God has to break it to pieces. You have been going through painful times.

God will not leave you there. Carefully He is fitting together the pieces of your instrument. One day He will start to play on it again, and then He will draw out nobler music with a new depth and tenderness in its tones...

*“For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, Whose Name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite. Is. 57:15.*

God has two places to dwell in:

1. *In the high and holy place.*

Considering this, we say; “That is a worthy tabernacle for God.”

2. *With him that is of a contrite and humble spirit.*

To that statement our hearts will exclaim: “Thanks be to God, the Holy and Merciful: What a miracle! Then He will dwell even in me.”

And so we will pray:

“Revive my contrite heart, renew my strength and my joy.”

That is a prayer He has promised to answer. For that purpose He makes His dwelling-place in the contrite and broken heart.

Taken from *On Our Father's Knee* by Fredrik Wisloff,  
Copyright, Augsburg Publishing House.

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## Grace and Peace

“Grace and peace contain all of Christianity.

Grace forgives sin, and peace gives the conscience rest. There is no peace of conscience without the forgiveness of sins. But sin is forgiven and taken away by grace.”

Martin Luther

BUT

We must always remember: there is no forgiveness without repentance and conversion!

***“And Simon answered and said, ‘Master, we toiled all night, and took nothing: but at Thy word I will let down the nets.’” Luke 5:5.***

PETER’S sad complaint that morning is well known among us Christians of this day. So little seems successful, and so much fails.

Father and mother struggle not only a whole night but through a whole lifetime that their children may be saved, and yet they are living away from God. The Christian teacher wears himself out in the school room, trying hard to help the little ones to Jesus, but the work seems to be in vain. The little flock of believers in town and country try to gather people about the Word, but no one is converted. The missionary sits worn out in the midst of a strange people who give him scorn and stripes as pay for all the sacrifices he has made that the name of Christ may be known. The Christian nurse prayed for sick people who forgot it all when they got well. The Christian preacher sits tired and discouraged when evening comes, because he sees no fruit of his labors.

You discouraged servant of Jesus Christ, do not lose heart! No one who serves the Savior with an honest purpose shall lack fruits. *“Thy work shall be rewarded.”* He that doeth good shall reap in due season if he faint not. When eternity’s morning dawns we shall be permitted to see that the Lord has blessed our work. *“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.”*

*O Jesus, Thou hast promised  
To all who follow Thee  
That where Thou art in glory  
There shall Thy servant be;  
And, Jesus, I have promised  
To serve Thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow,  
My Master and my Friend!*

Taken from *Thy Kingdom Come* by Ludvig Hope,  
Published by Augsburg Publishing House

*Editor’s Note:* At times ‘we’ get ‘tired’ IN the Work of the Kingdom of God; BUT trust never tired of the work! “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 15:57-58. This is ‘another’ reason ‘we’ encourage you to prayerfully consider attending the Hauge Spring Bible Conference: To get refreshed, renewed, revived; as ‘we’ carry on in the Lord’s Work!

## **Decisions and Divisions!**

By Dr. John R. Rice

In the Bible, God’s Spirit-filled (Ed. ‘controlled’) leaders again and again pressed the matter to divide the crowd into those who are for God or against Him, those who would set out to love and serve Him or those who would serve heathen gods or their own selfish will.

Joshua was an old man. The conquest of Canaan was practically complete. Joshua, chapter 24, gives the farewell counsels of this good man, urging Israel to cleave to the Lord and warning of severe judgments if she failed.

*“Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”* - Josh. 24:14, 15.

1. “Now therefore fear the LORD.” Good men should tremble before Him. He is so great, and we are so small. He is so righteous and good, and we are so evil and frail! We ought to tremble lest we should grieve Him.

2. “And serve him in sincerity and in truth.” What Joshua demanded and what God commands is not simply to sign a card or join a congregation or go through a religious rite. He wants heart-worship, love and loyalty, “in sincerity and in truth.”

3. “And put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.” Here is the separation God demands. A turn to God means a change in loyalties, a renunciation of sin.

4. So Joshua boldly presses the people, “Choose you this day whom ye will serve.” He sets the pattern. He and his house will serve the Lord. Whether he and his house are alone or whether they go with him will not influence the decision of this, God’s man!

Taken from *Sword of the Lord*

**DEATH ONLY TROUBLES  
CARNAL PEOPLE!**

## Hauge Spring Bible Conference

The theme for the Conference is ‘**Revive Us Again**’,  
Psalm 85:6.

At Elim Lutheran Church, Rural Osakis, MN, April  
5-7, 2013.

Main Guest Speaker: Pastor David Barnhart, Canal  
Winchester, OH.

(Founder of *Abiding Word Ministries* and  
Editor of *The Vine and Branches*)

Friday evening: 7:30 p.m. Guest Speaker: Pastor David  
Barnhart, – Following: Refreshments/Coffee

Saturday: Prayer Time at the church at 9:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Coffee/Refreshments

10:00 a.m. Pastor David Barnhart

11:05 a.m. Rod Stueland, Dilworth, MN

12 Noon Meal at the church, (Free will offering)

1:15 p.m. Jim Miller, Audubon, MN

2:20 p.m. Rod Stueland

3:15 p.m. Coffee/Refreshments

3:45 p.m. Testimonies, Fellowship, Singspiration

7:30 p.m. Pastor David Barnhart

### Sunday

9:15 a.m. Pastor David Barnhart (Teens & Adults)

10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Pastor David  
Barnhart

**Directions:** From Osakis to Elim Lutheran Church:  
Take Hwy #27 East to Co. Rd. #4; turn right and go 3  
miles to 141<sup>st</sup> Ave; turn left and go 1/4 mile.

### **Lodging:**

Possibly the “Sportsmen’s Motel” in Osakis (tele-  
phone 320-859-5400)

**Pray specifically for the Bible Conference, please.**

The LORD gave ‘us’ a special conference last Fall.

Expect great things from (Our) **Living Heavenly**  
**FATHER!**

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## Update

### GIVE TO MISSIONS?

The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/*Morning Glory* is definitely a ‘mission.’ Primarily this ‘mission’ is what we call ‘home mission’, as we believe that unless the *coals in the fire place are **rekindled*** and work ‘together’, the blaze and heat will go out and ‘home and foreign missions’ will die out!

God has given ‘us’ the privilege/opportunity/responsibility to be ‘co-laborers’ with HIM in HIS purpose of saving precious Souls and nurturing HIS lambs and sheep! (WHAT GRACE)!! And that where your treasure is, there will be your heart also! For the un-saved ‘eternity’ is distant and not very real!

**Therefore**, by the Grace of God, ‘we’ make no apologies for the old time Christianity and seek to practice the same.

*Morning Glory* January Income is \$ 3.090.00

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