



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • March 2016

Is Your Name Written There?

Is your name written in the Lamb’s Book of Life?” This is an important question! Maybe you ask yourself, **“Can I be sure** that my name is written in Heaven in the Lamb’s Book of Life”?

Rev.21:27. “Nothing evil will be allowed to enter -(heaven)- no one who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty – but only those whose names are written in the **Lamb’s Book of Life.**”

That’s the way the Word of God speaks to us. I want to be **sure** that I don’t loose out. I want to spend an eternity in Heaven with the Lord and all the saints. **How do I get my name written in the Lamb’s Book of life?** That’s the question we will look at. I will try to explain it to you using God’s Word.

The Bible say that “no one seeks for God,” Rom 3:11. He is the one who seeks for us. He is the one who “calls you by name.” Is. 43:1, “...the LORD who created you says: ‘Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. **I have called you by name; you are mine.**” He created you, He made you and He ransomed you by paying the price of your sin. So if you will call on the name of the Lord you will be saved. There is sin’s forgiveness in His name.

Acts 10:42-43 “And he ordered us to preach everywhere and to testify that Jesus is ordained of God to be the judge of all - the living and the dead. He is the one of whom all the prophets testified about, saying that **every-one who believes in Him will have their sins forgiven through His name.**” That is the important thing, to have assurance of the fact that your sins are forgiven. In Hebrews 9:14-15, we are reminded that the “blood of Christ will purify our hearts”... **“Christ offered Himself** to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins.” His Holy Spirit will never remind you of your sins that are forgiven. The

forgiven sins are as far from us as “the east is from the west.” That’s what God says in Psalm 103:12, “He has removed our rebellious acts as far away from us as the east is from the west.”

When the Lord calls us to come to Him, I am reminded of Psalm 27:8, “My heart has heard you say, ‘Come and talk with me.’ And my heart responds, **‘Lord , I am coming.’**” The Lord speaks to your heart. Christianity is all about *a personal relationship with God.* “But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God.” John 1:12. I can rest assured that He is able to keep me sheltered. His Word comforts me. Psalm 119:114 proclaims, “You are my refuge and my shield; **Your word is my only source of hope.**”

Through the years I have tried to help people get right with the Lord. After we have talked together, and they see their need for a Savior, I have often referred to these verses. Malachi 3:16-18. “Then those who feared the LORD spoke with each other, and the LORD listened to what they said. **In His presence, a scroll of remembrance was written to record the names of those who feared HIM and loved to think about HIM.** They will be My people, says the LORD Almighty. On the day when I act, they will be My own special treasure. I will spare them as a father spares an obedient and dutiful child. You will again see the difference between the righteous and the wicked; between those who serve God and those who do not.” Notice that He is the one who writes down their names in the Book of Life.

Here are some verses that will help **give you assurance** in your relationship with God. 1 Cor.1:2. “...you who have been called by God to be His own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as He did to

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all Christians everywhere – **whoever calls upon the name of Jesus Christ....**” You see, Jesus is our mediator. **“There is salvation in no one else!** There is no other name in all of heaven for people to call on to save them.” Acts 4:12. It is also fitting to mention what Jesus said in Matthew 10:32-33, **“If anyone acknowledges ME publicly here on earth, I will acknowledge that person** before My father in heaven. But if anyone denies Me here on earth, I will deny that person before My father in heaven.”

Rev. 3:5 says, “All who are victorious will be clothed in white, I will never erase their names from the Book of Life, but **I will announce before My Father and His angels that they are mine.**”

Luke 10:18-20. One day Jesus had sent out 72 disciples to preach the Word of God. When they came back, they joyfully reported to Him. “Lord, even the demons obey us when we use Your name!” Jesus’ reply was, ... “But don’t rejoice just because evil spirits obey you; **rejoice because your names are registered as citizens of heaven.**”

The Lord reveals to us what will happen in the future. “I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God’s throne, And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to the things written in the books, according to what they had done. The sea gave up the dead in it, and death and the grave gave up the dead in them. They were all judged according to their deeds. And death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death—the lake of fire. And **anyone whose name**

was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.” Rev. 20:12-15.

One verse of a song, written by Mary A. Kidder, speaks of this: “Lord, my sins they are many. Like the sands of the sea, but Thy blood, O my Savior, is sufficient for me; For thy promise is written in bright letters that glow, “Though your sins be as scarlet, I will make them like snow.” Is my name written there on the page white and fair? In the book of Thy kingdom, is my name written there?”

I ask you once again, Is your name written in the “Lamb’s Book of Life?” If not, repent of your sin to Jesus right now. Ask Jesus, who is our mediator, redeemer and Savior, to forgive you of your sin and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness. Jesus says in John 5:24, “I assure you, those who listen to My message and believe in God who sent Me have eternal life. **They will never be condemned for their sins**, but they have already passed from death into life.”

Thank you Jesus! It’s all by grace that I am a child of Yours and that my name is written in the “Lamb’s Book of Life.” May those who read this article say like the Psalmist, “Lord, I am coming.” Yes, come to Him, the author and finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ.

Prayerfully submitted,
Rev. Willmore Gundersen

NOTE: I have used the New Living Translation because it is so easy for people to understand. You can read any translation you like to reference these verses.

“The night also is Thine.”

Psalm 74:16

YES, Lord, Thou does not abdicate Thy throne when the sun goeth down, nor dost Thou leave the world all through these long wintry nights to be the prey of evil; Thine eyes watch us as the stars, and Thine arms surround us as the zodiac belts the sky. The dews of kindly sleep and all the influences of the moon are in Thy hand, and the alarms and solemnities of night are equally with Thee. This is very sweet to me when watching through the midnight hours, or tossing to and fro in anguish. There are precious fruits put forth by the moon as well as by the sun: may my Lord make me to be a favoured partaker in them.

The night of affliction is as much under the arrange-

ment and control of the Lord of Love as the bright summer days when all is bliss. Jesus is the tempest. His love wraps the night about itself as a mantle, but to the eye of faith the sable robe is scarce a disguise. From the first watch of the night even to the break of day the eternal Watcher observes His saints, and overrules the shades and dews of midnight for His people’s highest good. We believe in no revealed deities of good and evil contending for the mastery, but we hear the voice of Jehovah saying, “I create light and I create darkness; I, the Lord, do all these things.”

Gloomy seasons of religious indifference and social sin are not exempted from the divine purpose. When the altars of truth are defiled and the ways of God forsaken, the Lord’s servants weep with bitter sorrow, but they may not despair, for the darkest eras are governed by the Lord, and shall come to their end at His bidding. What may seem defeat to us may be victory to Him.

*“Though enwrapt in gloomy night,
We perceive to ray of light;
Since the Lord Himself is here,
‘Tis not meet that we should fear.”*

Morning & Evening, by Charles Spurgeon,
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* * * * *

And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness. Deuteronomy 8:2.

Moses was about to depart to glory and in Deuteronomy we have his final words to Israel. Much of the book is occupied with reflecting on Israel’s years in the wilderness and the unfailing faithfulness of God to them there. But now he looked ahead. He knew they were about to begin a new type of experience. In wisdom he knew it was important for Israel to draw confidence and strength to face the future from their past experience with God. This is so necessary in our day. As we face the future, an unknown path, we can look back and see God’s hand at work in our lives, and step forward with boldness to face the challenges ahead.

W. H. Burnett

Editor’s Note: Most certainly we cannot live in the past (Spiritually), but we are walking with the LORD To-day. Nevertheless, it is good for us to reflect on the faithfulness of God in the past when facing the future!

STAND *in the* WAYS

By Henry M. Morris III, D. Min.

Thus says the LORD: “Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls.” Jeremiah 6:16

Many of us take some time toward the end of the past year to look forward a bit toward the coming year. Some of us will resort to the tradition of New Year’s resolutions in an attempt to recognize the flaws in our behavior and express a desire to change for the better in the days to come. That has some value, of course, but it may be worth noting that the Bible tries to get us to look toward the past – toward the “old paths” that focused on a more personal relationship with our righteous Lord.

Jeremiah warned Judah of the imminent captivity of their nation as Nebuchadnezzar readied his armies to sack both Jerusalem and the temple of the Lord. God sent kings and prophets to lead and preach over the previous centuries – all to no avail. The northern 10 tribes were already enslaved by Assyria, and despite repeated warnings and the 10 tribes’ example, Judah would not listen. In fact, the precise passage that is quoted in the text above ends with *“But they said, ‘We will not walk in it.’”*

The Bible tries to get us to look toward the past – toward the “old paths” that focused on a more personal relationship with our righteous Lord.

The people of Judah, like Israel before them, were initially willing to embrace their identity as God’s people but ended up living and worshiping however they pleased. Their lives became so intertwined with the rest of the nations around them that the difference between the godly and the pagan was scarcely discernable. The seeds of compromise and indifference toward godliness remained firmly embedded in the nation and the few revivals the Lord sent did not last very long.

The Basic Requirements

After the young nation of Israel was supernaturally released from slavery in Egypt and the older generation was purged for their unbelief during the 40-year wandering in the Sinai, Moses reiterated the Lord’s simple expectations for those who were privileged to be called His children.

“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good?” (Deuteronomy 10:12-13)

One could quickly argue that no human being is capa-

ble of keeping these requirements under their own power. But that is precisely the point. Once God has “created (us)... in true righteousness and holiness” (Ephesians 4:24), *“His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness”* (2 Peter 1:3) so that the *“exceeding greatness of His power”* (Ephesians 1:19) enables Him to work in us and *“abundantly above all that we ask or think”* (Ephesians 3:20).

The Basic Problem

I know that the natural mind does not and cannot respond to the supernaturally revealed Word of God (1 Corinthians 2:14), but once the Holy Spirit has brought about conviction and repentance in our hearts and the gift of faith in the work of the Lord Jesus has been granted, we are truly “born from above.” That second birth makes all the difference! Prior to being twice-born, we cannot fear the Lord (Ed. That is, in a ‘child-like fear), or walk in His ways or love Him, or serve Him. Our heart and soul are “dead” and totally unresponsive to godly things.

And even though we have been saved from the just punishment of our sins and God has given us *“a new heart and a new spirit”* (Ezekiel 18:31), the old man still *“grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts”* (Ephesians 18:31). If we do not consciously yield ourselves to godly behavior, the old man tends to assert his impact in our lives rather than the Lord being allowed to reign in us as He intended.

The Basic Results

Moses laid down the basic requirements. Israel failed to follow those standards and suffered constant on-again, off-again relationships with their Lord. By the time Jeremiah was preaching to Judah centuries after Moses, the overwhelming majority of the citizenry had capitulated to a compromise lifestyle with the surrounding nations and became hardened and indifferent to the impending judgment. They still had the name Israel and still insisted that they were Abraham’s children, but their lives and hearts had long since left. They were ripe for a terrible calamity.

Nebuchadnezzar attacked with his armies and took God’s people away into a foreign land as captives and servants. He plundered the nation and sacked and spoiled the capital city. The best and brightest of Judah were taken into the service of a pagan nation whose culture they embraced while they were in Jerusalem. As captives, they were now immersed in the full immorality and godless mores that they had merely worn earlier as cultural trappings. Instead of enjoying the *“pleasures of sin for a season”* (Hebrews 11:25, KJV), they were now forced to live with the dregs of Babylon for two generations – 70 years.

It’s worth noting: Our nation is not far from receiving

the same fate as Israel.

The Basic Solution

It would be centuries before the Messiah came, but God began to assemble some of His faithful in Babylon. With the permission of a foreign king, Zerubbabel and Ezra brought back some 50,000 to Jerusalem to rebuild the worship of the Lord. They started out well. They restored the altar of burnt offerings and began to lay the foundations of the temple. But the Samaritans – Israelites who were left behind and had assimilated with the Assyrians – began to interfere, to subtly persuade and draw the people of God away from the basic requirements He clearly gave them.

Haggai had probably returned to Jerusalem with Zerubbabel and began to sense God’s urgent calling to challenge the people who had become more interested in building their own houses than the house of God. This dear old prophet spoke to the city boldly.

“You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but do not have enough; you drink, but you are not filled with drink; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes.” (Haggai 1:6).

Translation: Stop serving yourselves and get busy doing what God has called you to do. Haggai’s short series of warnings and promises encouraged Zerubbabel to take his leadership role more seriously. The new impetus to finish the work brought so much zeal to all of the people that Haggai was told to promise the leaders:

“Consider now from this day forward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, from the day that the foundation of the LORD’S temple was laid – consider it: Is the seed still in the barn? As yet the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree have not yielded fruit. But from this day I will bless you.” (Haggai 2:18-19).

ONCE THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS BROUGHT ABOUT CONVICTION AND REPENTANCE IN OUR HEARTS AND THE GIFT OF FAITH IN THE WORK OF THE LORD JESUS HAS BEEN GRANTED, WE ARE TRULY “BORN FROM ABOVE.” THAT SECOND BIRTH MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

Not only that, God instructed Haggai to tell Zerubbabel specifically that *“I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms; I will destroy the strength of the Gentile kingdoms”* (Haggai 2:22). That encouragement looked far beyond their time to a day when God would bring about an entirely new world.

Zechariah was there. God chose him to receive several key visions of the future that He would begin to implement now that the hearts of the people had changed — now that God’s people had begun to do what God had al-

ways wanted and expected them to do.

Thus says the LORD of hosts: “IF you will walk in My ways, and if you will keep My command, then you shall also judge My house, and likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk among these who stand here.” (Zechariah 3:7).

Zechariah’s words were very nearly a repeat of Jeremiah’s message prior to the Babylonian captivity. The two prophets said almost the same thing that Moses said nearly a millennium before. Now that those who were known as the people of God were back in the place where they were supposed to be – and now that their belief and their actions were synced – God reiterated His promise to use them as He intended.

There is nothing special about the times of God’s work. He delights in work through His people.

Now that the Last Days are upon us, there is no new requirement. The same requests with the same potential and the same outcomes are still in place. God’s blessing comes with obedience. God’s judgment comes when His ways are ignored and flaunted.

This new year, instead of planning ahead and making resolutions that you will probably break before the new year even starts – why don’t you **“ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it, then you will find rest for your souls”** (Jeremiah 6:16).

Taken from *ACTS & FACTS*, January, 2016; Institute for Creation Research. Permission Granted.

* * * * *

“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:10-11.

*As rain on meadows newly sown,
So shall seed His influence down;
His grace on fainting souls distills
Like heavenly dew on thirsty hills.*

“Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on the grass. For I proclaim the name of the LORD; Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.” Deuteronomy 32:2-4

Selected

Editorial

RES

DISTINCT DIFFERENCE

“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” “Praise the LORD, call upon His name; Declare His deeds among the peoples, Make mention that His Name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, For He has done excellent things, This is known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion, For great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!”
(Isaiah 5:20, 12:4b-6)

(Continued from last issue of the Morning Glory)

AS I continue this editorial, keep in mind and heart that we live in a sinful world, **“for we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against her rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places”** Ephesians 6:12.

ACCORDING to God’s Holy Word, the Bible, there is a vast difference between a living faith and a dead faith. This is also stated in Luther’s Small Catechism. The demons (or fallen angels) even believe that there is a God, but their future is eternal doom! YES, there is a vast difference between simple head-knowledge and true heart-experience, which is receiving a new heart SPIRITUALLY (like a heart transplant). Sadly and tragically, there are many who will miss Heaven by eighteen inches – the approximate distance between a person’s head and heart!

Isn’t it MARVELOUS how GOD (many times) works behind the scenes in a person’s life to prepare them to receive JESUS as their personal Savior. This is even unknown to the individual. This is the awakening of the personal NEED for a lost sinner to experience salvation in the person of JESUS. Numerous people experience first what it is to get mad, then sad, and then to become glad! Conviction of SIN takes place before godly repentance. (See II Corinthians 7:10, Galatians 3:24, James 2:10.)

This work of the Holy Spirit working behind the scenes prior to conversion to prepare a sinner is somewhat a new word, but is called *Prevenient Grace*. It has actually been around a long time! Because, WITH the ‘*call*’ unto personal SALVATION comes the power to respond POSITIVELY unto GOD!

Now there are many people who believe that Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are enough for salvation. I believe they are on the road to Heaven. Yes, I very definitely believe and have the conviction in the Scriptural practice of Infant Baptism; but the baptized must then come to a personal

and conscious decision of *receiving Jesus* as their personal Savior, or they are going the way of the world and are LOST! (See John 1:12-13, 3:18, 36; 1 John 5:11-15; Revelation 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:4)

I will give you a number of examples in Scripture of where the power to respond IS included with the CALL (not necessarily unto salvation, but WITH THE CALL OF GOD): Naaman, Lydia, the blind man in John 9, Lazarus, the man with a withered hand, the ten lepers, etc.

In John chapter 3, JESUS’ reference of being born of the water was not talking about Baptism, because the New Testament Sacrament of Baptism was not instituted yet by Him.

EVEN in the Scriptural Sacrament of Infant Baptism, that individual must come to a conscious relationship from an *unconscious* relationship of faith, or he is going the way of the world. I personally know of someone who is special in our lives, who at approximately five years of age, made the decision of wanting JESUS as their personal Savior!

WE were not created as *puppets*, for God gives us a choice when He calls. What a clear distinction there is between Sacramentalism, and the Biblically true experienced Salvation of receiving and believing in Jesus. This living faith is a GIFT from God – **“This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.”** (John 6:29b) Our old nature does not desire God nor seek Him! (Ephesians 2:1-10, John 7:37a, 6:35) **“And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.”** (Rev. 22:17)

ISN’T it marvelous that, when we are enlightened by the HOLY SPIRIT, we don’t have to wonder IF we are on the way to HEAVEN or not. The Bible is clear that there is a clear distinction between the saved and lost, the ones on the road to heaven and hell. By the GRACE of God we can KNOW which road we are on. ***If we couldn’t know GOD, then He would not be a GOD OF LOVE!*** (For

example: The little book of First John is filled many times with the word *'know'*.)

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly

through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life”. (Titus 3:5-7)

Which road are YOU on: The one that leads to Heaven OR Hell?

ACTS 4:12-13, JOHN 14:6, 3:18, 36.

STILL LONELY

More than ever before, modern man can move faster to be with more people, has more people with whom to associate and is able to communicate in more diverse ways with more people. But the individual is still lonely. One man is forced unwillingly into the lonely corner by his inability to cope with the pressures of life; the other man is in another lonely corner because he rose above the pressures of life to live in another kingdom... Dag Hammarskjöld, whose personal gifts and disposition drove him to pay the price of leadership, wrote on his fifty-third birthday, three years before his death: “Did’st Thou give me this inescapable loneliness so that it would be easier for me to give Thee all?” When Whitaker Chambers was testifying in the Hiss case in the New York City Federal Building, he was pursued by reporters but ignored by most others. “I wondered sometimes that no friend of the many I claimed ever penetrated to me. I wondered even more that in the whole nation, no priest, no minister, no fellow Quaker, grasped what I was trying to do and came to say. I do not want to ask or to tell you anything. I simply wish to be with you. From the outer world, no one came... I was alone not only in the simple physical sense. More and more I was beginning to feel like a man who is separated from the world by the fact that he is really dead, although, by the action of some odd torment, he still moves and talks.” W. E. Sangster, the British preacher who died in 1960, wrote: “Companionship is not communion. I shared many a meal with men in the army with whom I could never share a thought.” All sensible people know that one can be lonely in a crowd... C. P. Snow wrote of Albert Einstein: “He was physically the strongest of the men I am discussing. He was also the strongest in spirit. He was used to being solitary. ... In speaking of the loneliness of the Christian, A. W. Tozer has written these perceptive and helpful words:

“Loneliness seems to be one price the saint must pay for his saintliness... Always remember: you cannot carry a cross in company. Though a man were surrounded by a vast crowd, his cross is his alone and his carrying of it marks him as a man apart.”

The Standard

A PRAYER

*Speak to us, Lord, until our hearts are melted
To share in Thy compassion for the lost’;
Till our souls throb with burning intercession,
That they shall know Thy name, whate’er the cost.
Speak to us, Lord, till shamed by Thy great giving,
Our hands unclasp to set our treasures free;
Our wills, our love, our dear ones, our possessions,
All gladly yielded, gracious Lord, to Thee.*

Selected

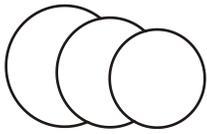
A Testimony

Of Alvin C. Anderson, Daraville, Georgia

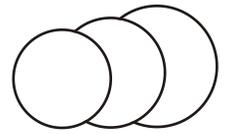
Things are quite different from when I was a child; but the Word of God foretells the coming of the lawless time when evils will take over, moral decay, dishonesty will abound. Little did I think this time would so soon come. We now see the downfall of nations, sucked into ... playing into the hands of the soon coming Anti-Christ. Then God will destroy those who only *“have the form of godliness, but deny the power thereof.”* I’m so happy to know that I don’t have to trust in anything of myself, but I’ve turned everything over to Jesus Christ, God’s Son, Who came to redeem us; died and rose again from the dead for our justification, that by simply believing in Him I have eternal life in glory! WHAT A GIFT! And it all came to pass by His love.

“For ye know the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet He became poor for our sakes, that ye through His poverty might be made rich.” 2 Corinthians 8:9. Do you have this richness? If not, you should hurry, for the time will soon come when you’ll not get to hear the Word of God. See Amos 8:11-13.

Editor’s Note: This personal testimony appeared in the *The Lamplighter*, April, 1983, and continues to live on. What a privilege and golden opportunity for YOU to share your personal testimony of what Jesus did in your life and is DOING today. Simply send your testimony to the editor and he will compile them in a book entitled: *“Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So”*.



From Our Fellowship Circle



J. S. Lindstrom, MN
Why do we let them have their way (Article appeared in the Star Tribune, “*Why an Atheist Loves Christmas*”). Where are the real born-again Christians?

I asked a local pastor – who is on fire for the Lord: “Are we in the end times with all that is going on in the world?”

Two Bible Studies he has taught – tells me the answer is YES! ...

B. H. Milton-Freewater, OR
I enjoy your *Morning Glory* very much. (Ed. Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow).

I gave my heart to the Lord almost ten years ago and it has been great to live for Him, under and through His GRACE!

Will you please send the *Morning Glory* to the following ... for the next year?

D. S. White, SD
To our Brethren,
Enclosed find a check for \$... for a subscription to your magazine, which we found available through the *Vine and the Branches*.

Am sending this along with our Christmas card which may be a little late, and yet we need to give thanks and find joy in the complete picture of our Redemption through the year – the birth, the Cross and the Empty tomb – the greatest blessing and gift ever bestowed on mortal man.

My wife ... and I farmed for around 50 years and are now involved in spreading the Gospel, as it has been taken out of churches and thus we use the public square.

We wish you the true blessings of the Lord in the up-coming year ahead as you glorify Him and press on in making Him known

A. L. Souris, ND
Please accept our donation of \$...

We are blessed with the *Morning Glory* and thank the Lord for your faithfulness with the WORD!

A. & K. T. Livingston, NJ
Merry Christmas and may God bless the New Year for all at “*Morning Glory*”. We have been blessed for many years with your fabulous magazine. ... I want to be sure that ... is on your mailing list receiving the MG.

F. A. S. Radcliffe, IA
SHALOM! (Wise Men Still Seek HIM)!

I praise the LORD JESUS for the Holy Spirit’s anointing on “*The Morning Glory*”!

I thank Jesus for His supernatural favor upon you, your witness, upon your families and the Christian friends.

Today we trust in JESUS and His faithfulness more than ever! “Trust and obey, for there’s no other way, to be happy in JESUS, but to trust and obey!” Maranatha!

Mrs. A. M. Fergus Falls, MN
Enclosed find a check for the *Morning Glory*.

Another year is coming to a close – it has gone so fast. Alan went to his Heavenly home on Nov. 19, 2015 and I miss him so!

* * * * *

And exhort ye that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jude 3

Jude was deeply concerned about the problems facing the believers of his day. His warnings to them are given with force and authority. At the root of their problems was a drift from truth that had become an open denial of God’s Word. Foundational truth was paramount to Jude and it ought to be to you and me. Someone has well said, “I looked for the church and I found it in the world and I looked for the world and I found it in the church.” The only cure for such a situation is renewed obedience to the Scriptures. May God preserve us in this day of departure!

James Comte

Revive Thy work, O Lord! Disturb the sleep of death: Quicken the smouldering embers, Lord, by Thine almighty breath.

Albert Midlane

“The proper place for the ship to be is in the water, but if the water gets into the ship, the ship will sink. The proper place for the church is in the world, but if the “world” gets into the church, the church will go down in disgrace.” L.C. Spencer

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

City Council Votes To Remove Cross; People Vote To Remove City Council

A strange thing happened in Knoxville, Iowa this past November. Members of the city council voted to remove a Veterans memorial, which included a cross, from a local park, and in turn members of the community voted to remove the council members that voted to remove the cross. Don't you love to see democracy in action?

From Christiannews.net, 11/6/15

Schools Buying Aborted Baby Parts For Research

The Minnesota Family Council recently reported that the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin were both conducting research using baby parts from aborted babies. The report stated that the University of Wisconsin has been purchasing aborted baby parts, then implanting them into mice. The aborted baby parts being used at both Universities were purchased from the same company, Advanced Bioscience Resources...

Information from Lifesitenews.com. 11/9/15

Canadian High Court Sides With Religious Liberty Over LGBT Rights

A Canadian high court has upheld the religious liberty of Trinity Western University. The accreditation of the Christian law school was challenged after LGBT activists said that the school's adherence to biblical standards on morality and marriage would produce incompetent lawyers.

"This was a major victory against religious discrimination stemming from Canada's legalizing same-sex marriage in 2005," said Mat Staver, founder and chairman of Liberty Counsel and former Dean of Liberty University School of Law. "LGBT activists are trying to cleanse government offices, colleges and universities, public schools, businesses, and even churches of those who believe what everyone has believed through millennia of human history, that marriage is a union of man and a woman," Staver said. "This persecution of Christians is spreading to all levels of society," Staver warned. "It is the greatest attack against religious liberty in our modern times." Liberty Counsel

President Poses for Cover of Homosexual Magazine

President Obama's promotion of the LGBT agenda has earned him the title of "Ally of the Year" by *Out Magazine*.

It has also made him the first U.S. president to appear on the cover of an LGBT magazine...

While President Obama proclaimed to believe marriage was between a man and a woman until late in 2012, many political observers assumed this was due to political expediency – something former White House advisor David Axelrod verified earlier this year (2015).

Lifesitenews.com

Many Muslim Nations Refuse to Take a Single Refugee

While the United States and European nations are taking in Syrian refugees by the thousands, many Muslim nations who have plenty of wealth are refusing to take even one.

Freedomoutpost.com (November 30, 2015) (asks), "If Saudi Arabia won't take in Syrian refugees, why should the United States? In recent weeks we have heard a whole lot from Barack Obama about our 'moral obligation' to take in refugees from Syria. Well, if there is a 'moral obligation' to help these refugees, then why aren't more wealthy Islamic nations stepping up to the plate? According to Amnesty International, since the beginning of the Syrian civil war, Saudi Arabia has not accepted a single Syrian refugee. Neither has Kuwait. Neither has Qatar. Neither has the United Arab Emirates. These nations are absolutely swimming in money, and yet they have slammed the door on these desperately needy Islamic refugees. So what precisely does that tell us?"

We are constantly told about the "peaceful" religion of Islam, and we have been told that Islam genuinely cares about people. Then, why do Muslim nations refuse refugees who are running for their lives from nations next door to them? If Islam is such a wonderful religion, then why are Muslims leaving the countries where Islam is the dominant religion?

Why are Muslims running to Christian nations when there are so many Muslim nations? The answer is very simple: Islam doesn't work, and Islam is a religion of barbarism. Christianity, on the other hand, is a faith that cares about people and tries to help people – and Muslims know it.

Muslims are coming to the Western nations because their own Islamic faith nations will not take them.

Dr. Ron Baity, RETURN AMERICA

Professor Suspended For Covering Her Head

Wheaton College suspended a Christian tenured professor who said Christians and Muslims share the same God, sparking protests on the suburban Chicago campus. Larycia Hawkins, a political-science professor, said that she would wear a headscarf in support of Muslims after shootings in Paris and San Bernardino, Calif. "As Pope Francis stated last week, we worship the same God," she posted on Facebook. Some called that a conflation of Christian and Muslim theology.

Star Tribune, Dec. 17, 2015

Deadly Drinking Soared Last Year

Alcohol is killing Americans at a rate not seen in at least 35 years, according to new federal data. Last year, more than 30,700 Americans died from alcohol-induced causes, including alcohol poisoning and cirrhosis, which is primarily caused by alcohol use. In 2014, there were 9.6 alcohol-induced deaths per 100,000 people, an increase of 37 percent since 2002. This tally excludes deaths from drunken driving, other accidents, and homicides committed under the influence of alcohol. If those numbers were included, the annual toll would be closer to 90,000, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In recent years, public health experts have focused extensively on overdose deaths from heroin and prescription painkillers, which have risen rapidly since the early 2000s. But in 2014, more people died from alcohol-induced causes (30,722) than from overdoses of prescription painkillers and heroin combined (28,647), according to the CDC. Philip Cook, a Duke University professor who studies alcohol consumption patterns and their effects, notes that per capita alcohol consumption has been increasing since late 1990s.

Star Tribune, December 23, 2015

"I came not to send peace on earth, but a sword." Matthew 10:34

THE Christian will be sure to make enemies. It will be one of his objects to make none; but if to do the right, and to believe the true should cause him to lose every earthly friend, he will count it but a small loss, since his great Friend in heaven will be yet more friendly, and reveal Him-

self to him more graciously than ever. O ye who have taken up His cross, know ye not what your Master said? "I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother; and a man's foes shall be they of his own household." Christ is the great Peacemaker; but before peace, He brings war. Where the light cometh, the darkness must retire. Where truth is, the lie must flee; or, if it abideth, there must be a stern conflict, for the truth cannot and will not lower its standard, and the lie must be trodden under foot. If you follow Christ, you shall have all the dogs of the world yelping at your heels. If you would live so as to stand the test of the last tribunal, you can depend upon the fact that the world will not speak well of you. He who has the friendship of the world is an enemy to God, but if you are true and faithful to the Most High, men will resent your unflinching fidelity, since it is a testimony against their iniquities. Fearless of all consequences, you must do the right. You will need the courage of a lion unhesitatingly to pursue a course which shall turn your best friend into your fiercest foe; but for the love of Jesus you must thus be courageous. For the truth's sake, to hazard reputation and affection is such a deed, that to do it constantly, you will need a degree of moral principle which only the Spirit of God can work in you; yet turn not your back like a coward, but play the man. Follow right manfully in your Master's steps, for He has traversed this rough way before you. Better a brief warfare and eternal rest, than false peace and everlasting torment.

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

Editor's Note: Likely some of you concerned readers will say, "BUT that is only ONE verse!" How many times does **God need** to state something for our benefit?

"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake." (Matthew 5:11) ***"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword."*** (Matthew 10:34)

"Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division." (Luke 12:51) The world hates you (John 15:18-25), but *especially* toward those who know JESUS as their personal Savior. (***John 6:34-35, 1 John 3:14***)

Fairly often you hear people express the desire that we could experience peace on earth (which is great), but as you know, we will never experience this until people (as individuals) find peace with God through the Blood Atonement of the **PRINCE OF PEACE!**

Furthermore, restlessness is a definite sign of the coming of the Prince of Peace.

OBEY THE LAW

(Sermon by Pastor Paul Larson, Detroit Lakes, MN.
Continued from the last issue of MG)

Please reread Romans 13:1-7

But don't misunderstand me, we are not people who just don't want that anarchy; in fact, that's what happens when government leaders decide they can do whatever they want. There's a reason that we make our Senators and our Congressmen and our President put their hand on the Bible, raise his right hand and swear to uphold the laws of the land. That is based in Romans 13. You obey the law. Just because someone's elected to Congress doesn't mean they're exempt from obeying the law. In fact, they are more responsible, not less. They should be an example and so when Congress passes a law and says this is the law of the land, and you've got a President or a Supreme Court who says we're not going to do that – who is disobeying governing authority? Who's bringing condemnation upon themselves? American people need to understand the responsibility and that's really where this picture comes in. As God says, "Those who have governing authority will be held responsible for what they do." There are those who need to listen to the governing authority, and if they don't listen, they will be punished.

To you that's obvious. If you go out and drive 120 mph down the road you're going to get in trouble. The other thing God talks about are those who have authority need to rightfully use that authority. If we, the people, are the governing authority of this nation, who is God going to be angry with if we put people in the office who go against His will? You see, we have the responsibility as Christians to elect people who will uphold the law of the ultimate governing authority, which is God Himself. Who will uphold His laws? That's the most important thing, and if you put people in office who say, "We don't care what God says, we are going to do this; then, man, you're in trouble. You have put that person into a position where they are blaspheming and disobeying God and He will hold you responsible because you did that. **God has given this great nation** a wonderful setup for the people to have power, but with power comes *responsibility*. As Christians you cannot blindly go to a voting booth and say, "Well, I like the color of the skin or because they are Norwegian or whatever, or I like this or that, so I'm going to vote for him. You're in trouble if you do that. "They belong to this party or that party so I will vote for the party." It's not about the party. As Christians you have a responsibility to put people in authority who will follow the authority of God Himself, follow His will and do what He says! God has given you a responsibility and you better

follow through on it, because when punishment comes in when God pours His wrath out on this Country, if you think you're going to escape when you've done something like that, you better guess again! We, the people, are responsible for the government that we have running this country, and if it's not right and if it's not good, then you better do everything you can to change it. Because I don't *think* God is going to wait much longer. Our country is heading in the wrong direction and you, as Christians, especially need to do something. I was so encouraged on some of the results from Tuesday night. In Houston, Texas, the lesbian Mayor was going to force everyone to accept the fact that boys could go to the girls' bathrooms and showers, and everything was going to be transgender and so forth. The people of Houston overwhelmingly rejected that, saying, "It's not to happen." We saw that happening throughout places in America on Tuesday night, where people stood up and said, "Enough is enough, we're not allowing this to happen." The voice of the American people is coming alive again. I have hope for our country after Tuesday's elections. I have hope that says the people are finally seeing what's going on and they're willing to stand up and say something and do something about it. I hope that fire catches on with you! I hope you realize that YOU also have to be willing to do that, because things like that are happening in Minnesota too, not just in Texas.

When we have a school system that says they want to have transgenders choose whatever bathroom they want you better stand up and elect different governors and different leaders. Don't let that happen, don't go along with it. That's what we're getting at here. God says to respect authority, but He also says that in this country, because this is a unique country, you're responsible for the governing authority. WE THE PEOPLE determine the direction our government goes and so "we the people" better get our act in order and we better do what God wants us to do or we the people are going to pay the price. Once we've elected our leaders, we have a responsibility to obey the laws they pass and that's what God is saying here; God allows them to come into power. They are there for a purpose and are there to carry out the law. If you don't follow the law you have anarchy. That's why it's so sad when leaders don't uphold the law.

I remember years ago, some of you probably weren't even born, when Richard Nixon was President of our Nation. Congress was ready to impeach him because he had gotten rid of 20 minutes worth of tape. 20 minutes and they were going to impeach him! Now we have government organizations and people in government who literally have destroyed years of e-mails and information and we just brush it off like nothing has happened. If we were

to hold our elected officials today to the same standard we were holding Richard Nixon, there would be impeachments all over the place! What has changed? One of the things that has changed is the American people! “WE the people” are putting people in office not based on Godly principles. ***So we are getting ungodly behavior.*** We have a President who says, “I don’t like the immigration laws so I’m not going to follow them.” He is a lawbreaker. When you have Mayors and City Councils saying, “We don’t like federal law on immigration so we are going to be a Sanctuary city.” Arrest them and put them in jail. They have to obey the laws of the Land. If you don’t, you have anarchy and that’s exactly what some people are trying to cause in America. Today they’re trying to cause anarchy because with anarchy comes confusion, and people don’t know what’s coming or going and it’s easy for a Dictator or someone else to come and take control. **God has blessed America** and the American people with the unique power of governing authority. Don’t abandon it, don’t give it up, don’t turn it over, use it and use it wisely, so that when our Congress makes laws we follow them.

* * * * *

My Personal Letter To You

Dear ...

April, 1983

“Because I live, ye shall live also.” John 14:19.

The disciples didn’t grasp the meaning of the above words of Christ when they were spoken. Nor did they understand Him when He told them about his coming death. And we can see why: nobody had ever “laid down” his life like Jesus did. Martyrs died for a cause, but He died to atone for our sins, an entirely new concept. Nobody, before or after, could die like He died. Likewise, nobody could promise and keep that promise to rise from the dead. Many had promised but none could perform. Only Christ – because He is the **LIFE**, plus the **WAY** and the **TRUTH**. All others were victims of death lost in darkness – and liars.

When Jesus promised, ***“because I live, ye shall live also”***, He didn’t mean to say, *“because I live NOW, ye shall live”*, No. But *“because I live AFTER DEATH, ye shall live.”* At last, after His resurrection, the truth dawned on them! In the Acts of the Apostles we repeatedly read about the disciples preaching a LIVING Gospel; not only about His death, but that added plus – ***HIS RESURRECTION! “HE LIVES”!*** And that’s what made His enemies so mad that they sought to kill His followers. According to this – HE WAS GOD. No one could live forever in glory who rejected Him; but all who would

die to sin and self-righteousness would both live now, spiritually, and in heaven forever. Every born-again Christian has experienced a Good Friday and Easter – put to death by the LAW – and raised from the dead by the GOSPEL. Romans 6. ... Pastor R. Norheim

The Lamplighter

Editor’s Note: In His Grace, God has kept alive the *Morning Glory* and also the ministry of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation. Thus, there are living Christians who gladly support us. We gladly present a Savior who once died for the sins of mankind and ever lives to plead our cause at the Father’s right hand.

The Reality of Hell

And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away, It is better for you to enter life with one eye than having two eyes to be thrown into the fire of hell. Matthew 18:9

Jesus took hell very seriously. He spoke about it as a real place to avoid at all costs.

The most awful thing imaginable would be to die and go into eternity without Christ; to stand before the judgment bar of Almighty God who knows your every thought and word and deed, and to have all of your sins brought out before the universe and be justly condemned unto eternal perdition and cast out into a lake of fire.

There are some people who have tried every conceivable way to deny the reality of impending judgment for unrepentant sinners. This ranges from denying that there is a God who could possibly punish them; to denying that there is a Hell where they could be punished; to denying that a loving God would ever send anyone there (even such a reprobate as themselves); to claiming that God must, at least, give everyone the opportunity to hear the Gospel.

Not that this would help them, because they have been doing what people constantly try to do, which is to justify themselves by condemning God and end up proving that God is unjust and unfair and unloving, and they themselves must be, by comparison, pretty decent sort of folks.

Since Jesus took hell so seriously, so should we.

QUESTION TO PONDER: Is there anything in your life that is hindering your Christian walk?

New Every Morning, By D. James Kennedy and Jerry Newcombe, © Copyright 2016, D. James Kennedy Ministries

When The Risen Lord Abides With Us

(Radio Sermon by Pastor R. Norheim)

“And they drew nigh to the village whither they went, and He made as if He would have gone further. But they constrained Him, saying ‘abide with us; for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.’ And He went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as He sat at meat with them, He took bread and blest it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened; and He vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, ‘Did not our hearts burn within us, while He talked to us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?’” Luke 24:28-32.

These blessed words give us a beautiful picture of the Risen Saviour on that first Easter Day, as He met the two on the Emmaus Way and went with them to their home for the evening meal, where He revealed Himself as the Risen Saviour. My soul is blest as I dwell on this text, so rich and full of guidance. What a loss these two dwellers would have sustained if they had not invited Jesus into their home. One was Cleopas; the identity of the other is not made. Perhaps it was Mrs. Cleopas. If so, would not this text contain a special message to you who are husband wife – have you invited Him into your home? Do you talk out loud to Him there? When you sit down for a meal, do you ask Jesus to add His blessing? Do you have a family altar? Is Jesus really welcome in your home?

We Ask

You two young people, who recently were married – did you agree to invite Jesus to go with you into your home life? Multitudes of young Christian couples have done so. Such couples don’t end up in divorce courts. No! When Jesus enters He unites husband and wife as one. One of life’s greatest experience is being one in Christ. His faithfulness under all of life’s varying, testing circumstances gives such couples a Christ-like faithfulness.

It is certainly significant that Jesus took time on the very first day of His Resurrection to visit a little home, to sit down at the table with them, to bless and to break bread! And if you add to this that His first miracle, the turning of water to wine, (Ed. Unfermented) was performed at the wedding feast of a couple that also had invited Him to be present, then we who are married and have our own homes should surely be impressed with His interest in our homes! JESUS WANTS TO LIVE WITH US! Do you enjoy His Presence? Or have some of you man-

aged to somehow get along without Him? Some who hear my voice today are old and grey. Your children have long since grown up and left home, and now you two old people are left alone again. In some cases only one of you is saved; in other cases you are both unsaved. Truly, the words of our text fit your case. *“It is toward evening and the day is far spent.”* Soon night cometh. Oh, what a dark night it will be if you don’t have Jesus with you. Do as the two of Emmaus did. *“They constrained Him, saying, abide with us ...”* Yes, though you are ashamed to have lived without Him, yet by His long suffering grace you may let Him in now at this late hour. One elderly lady recently invited Jesus into her heart and home. How she was transformed! I saw the difference. So, do thou likewise; otherwise it will soon be too late! Before your sun sets – open the door!

What Happens?

First of all, when Jesus comes in He takes charge. He controls. Possibly you noted in our text:

And as he sat at meat, he took bread, blest and break it and gave to them.” Had He been an ordinary guest He would not have done this. Bu He is never an ordinary guest. The moment He enters He takes His place at the head of the table. His blessed Presence fills the place, a fore taste of heaven!

Secondly, you recognize Him as the One who died for you and ‘rose for you’. It was while Jesus sat at meat with them that they recognized Him. Up to that moment their eyes were holden, so they did not recognize Him. But in the breaking of the bread, I believe their eyes were fixed upon His hands – and what did they see? The NAIL PRINTS! Yes, the nail prints in His hands! *“And their eyes were opened”,* we read, *“and they KNEW HIM.”*

Please note that it’s a rule, without exception, that when Jesus enters He comes in as the One who died for your sins and arose for your justification. He never enters to be merely an example to follow, nor as a teacher to impress you with His wisdom. HE WILL NEVER ENTER YOUR HOME UNTIL YOU NEED HIM AS YOUR SAVIOR FROM SIN! But if you are lost, without Him, invite Him to enter. He’ll never refuse; but He will not enter unless you invite Him. The two people of our text discovered this, for when they first drew nigh to their Emmaus village *“He made as though He would have gone farther.”* How strange ... why does He at times seem not to be interested in us? But I must hasten to say we are mistaken. His apparent reluctance indicates His wisdom: He knows so well that forced attentions are a failure. Furthermore, it is a divine principle that He enters only where He is invited; that is, when He enters to save. When He enters to JUDGE, He waits for one on one!

Possibly the only exception, in the Scriptures, is that of Zaccheus: When Jesus told him to “make haste and come down, for today I must abide at thy house”. At first, it appears as if Jesus was inviting Himself into Zaccheus’ house. But we must consider, too, Zaccheus sat up in the tree, waiting for Him, and Jesus read his thoughts; so His statement, “Today I must abide at thy house” was really an answer to his thoughts. So I think we can safely stick to the statement: Jesus does not enter until He’s invited. ***“Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice and opens the door, I will come in...”*** (Rev. 3:20) Note the condition: ***“if any man opens the door”***. Have you done so?

In the third place, note that when the Risen Saviour enters to abide with you then your religion will be a warm-hearted one. *“Did not our hearts burn within us when He talked with us ...”*

BURNING HEARTS – warm-hearted Christian – homes that have a family altar and fire on the altar! If we need anything in these cold days of hated, blood-shed, greed and lust, we need homes where fathers and mothers and children are saved and where Jesus abides with His light and warmth... where His Word has first place... where we all have ears to hear and hearts to believe.

Directions

Well, where shall we begin? How can our homes glow with love, joy and peace when churches are cold as ice-boxes. I’ll grant you, that’s not a pleasant problem. But I do challenge you to get right with God and live good with Him in your homes, and the cold churches will either get warmer, due to your influence, or the church will reject you and relieve you of your membership. They kicked the blind man, healed, out of the synagogue, but he went right on witnessing in a sweet spirit just the same. (John 9) Don’t worry about what man will do to you. Trust daily Jesus Christ! Trust in His **“finished work, and His Resurrection power** shall sustain you with “newness of life” so you’ll be living above the circumstances, as a victor, not a victim.

Jesus lives ... And because He lives we too can live – and shall live a life more abundant, as cups overflowing His goodness and mercy.

The Lamplighter, April, 1963.

* * * * *

Whatever is Lovely

Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things

are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue, and if there is any praise, think on these things. Philippians 4:8

Philippians 4:8 is probably the original proclamation of positive thinking! Here lays the secret of mental health and of a happy life, of a positive attitude, of a winsome personality, of advancement in life, of acceptance by others. Certainly these are things that every one of us desires. If we fill our minds and hearts with the truth, the just, the pure, the good, the virtues and the lovely, then we will be ennobled and uplifted.

One of the great tragedies of our times is that because of their separation from God, most makers of the media continually fill our minds with the opposite of all these wonderful things. They show us the unjust, the unfair, the ungodly, the unkind, the lies, the crass, and the ghastly. They show all that is unclean, horrible and vile – all pouring out of a TV set and movie screens and the novels and the magazines of modern times.

It is true that the gutter is real. But roses are just as real as barbed wire. The gutter is neither the only reality, nor the highest reality. TV and movie producers are constantly saying, “we only reflect reality.” Well, I want to say back to them: “Yes, but life is more than the gutter, the toilet, and the brothel!”

Set your thoughts on things above. Surround yourself with whatever is lovely, and you will be lovely, too. God is the source of all that is good and true and lovely, and our Lord Jesus Christ is the altogether Lovely One.

“Where there is beauty, there is the Spirit of God.”

R. C. Sproul

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GONE HOME TO HEAVEN

Mr. Townley (Toby) Knutson recently was called home to be with JESUS for all eternity.

Toby was certainly a ‘born-again’ person who walked with Jesus. He was a changed man, and a few years ago he was a member of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation Board.

Most certainly he is missed by many who also know Jesus, and we certainly extend our sympathy to Donna, his beloved wife, and his family.

The Golden Rule

“Therefore, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.”

(Matthew 7:12).

This command of Christ is the famous so-called “Golden Rule” of conduct. As He said, it succinctly summarizes and crystalizes all the instructions given in the Old Testament Scriptures dealing with human interrelationships. In fact, somewhat similar guidelines can be found even in certain ancient extra-biblical writings.

It should be stressed, however, that this maxim is not meant to be a prerequisite for salvation. No mere human being ever obeys this rule perfectly, any more than one can keep perfectly the Ten Commandments.

It was included by Christ as a part of what is known as the Sermon on the Mount, which the Bible clearly states was a series of instructions given only to believers – that is, to people already saved through personal faith in Christ. At the very beginning of this “sermon,” it says clearly that “*seeing the multitudes, He went up into a mountain and when He was set, His disciples came unto Him: And He opened His mouth, and taught them*” (Matthew 5:1-2).

Thus, the ‘Golden Rule’ is only for Christian believers. It is a standard by which we should seek to order our personal lives, not to be saved, but because we are saved. “*Be ye therefore perfect,*” said the Lord, “*even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect*” (Matthew 5:48). No one – except Christ Himself, in His humanity – has ever perfectly kept the Golden Rule or been sinlessly perfect (note 1 John 1:8, 10). Nevertheless, our standard can be nothing less. “*Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect,*” said the apostle Paul: “*but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus*” (Philippians 3:12). And so should we.

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

Taken from *Days of Praise*, by Institute for Creation Research, © Copyright 2015, Permission Granted.

“The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.”

Isaiah 40:5

WE anticipate the happy day when the whole world shall be converted to Christ; when the gods of the heathen shall be cast to the moles and the bats; when Romanism shall be exploded, and the crescent of Mohammed shall

wane, never again to cast its hateful rays upon the nations; when kings shall bow down before the Prince of Peace, and all nations shall call their Redeemer blessed. Some despair of this. They look upon the world as a vessel breaking up and going to pieces, never to float again. We know that the world and all that is there is one day to be burnt up, and afterwards we look for new heavens and for a new earth; but we cannot read our Bibles without the conviction that:

***“Jesus shall reign where-er the sun,
Does His successive journeys run.”***

We are not discouraged by the length of His delays; we are not disheartened by the long period which He allots to the church in which to struggle with little success and much defeat. We believe that God will never suffer this world, which has once seen Christ’s blood shed upon it, to be always the devil’s stronghold. Christ came hither to deliver this world from the detested sway of the powers of darkness. What a shout shall that be when men and angels shall unite to cry “Hallelujah, hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth!” What a satisfaction will it be in that day to have had a share in the fight, to have helped to break the arrows of the bow, and to have aided in winning the victory for our Lord! Happy are they who trust themselves with this conquering Lord, and who fight side by side with Him; doing their little in His name and by His strength! How unhappy are those on the side of evil! It is a losing side, and it is a matter wherein to lose is to lose and to be lost for ever. On whose side are you?

Morning & Evening, by Charles Spurgeon, Copyright – 1993, Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.

In the 1973 Yom Kippur War ...

Egypt & Syria both attacked Israel and Syrian tanks came right up to the border of Israel. They could have marched unabated into Israel. But one Israeli tank commander with just 3 tanks managed to destroy and halt 150 Syrian tanks. When the commander of the Syrian tanks was later questioned as to why he stopped, he said, “I would like to see you try and cross the Syrian missile lines when you see a whole host of white angels standing right on the missile lines, and a white hand from heaven telling you to stop right there and move no further! Needless to say, I stopped right then and there!”

The Israeli soldiers were baffled by the sight of row upon row of Syrian tanks frozen in place, seemingly warded off by a single Israeli tank, and could not understand why the Syrians were not moving.

UpDate

Bleak?!?

As Editor, I try to face life realistically. I am also an optimist in seeking to exercise the gift of a living faith. Frankly, though, as a realist, we are hurting financially. Either God is closing the open door, or some ‘born-again’ Christians are not exercising faith to the prompting of the Holy Spirit in investing in this portion of God’s Kingdom Work! We know that JESUS talked much about money in the New Testament, because money matters. He said, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be ALSO!”

Fairly recently, I wrote to all of the Hauge Board Members the following:

S (ave) – O (ur) – S (hip)

Well, I haven’t written to you personally since last year, and now it is a crucial time that I write to you, as Fellow Workers in the Kingdom of God.

What will happen in the year of **2016** none of us know; BUT I do know the spiritual warfare and the secular warfare is intensifying, and the battle is real! Yes, the greater the battle, the greater the victory, because greater is HE who is in YOU, than he of this world.

Today, I had the privilege of talking to our Treasurer (Paul Peterson) and was informed that the treasury is in a state of real NEED, in fact, *almost broke*. Yes, it is the **Lord’s work** and we are to leave it in His Hands – but often He uses the **Blood Bought** redeemed (cleansed vessels) to accomplish His Work.

So, the bottom line our NEED of specific PRAYER, and with ‘*thanksgiving*’! (**Philippians 4:4-7**). (See also Psalm 62 – which is one of my favorite Psalms)...

P. S. Are you (personally) willing to be an answer to our prayers?

January’s Income for the ministry of the *Morning Glory* is \$3,607.00

The cost of publishing and mailing the *Morning Glory* each month is approx. \$2,000, and we are taking a step of faith more at this time. This is one of God’s ministries, so please be a cheerful and generous giver – please! We are struggling and hopefully we can depend upon YOU as one of God’s means of supply, as this is a faith ministry.

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE HAUGE LUTHERAN INNERMISSION FEDERATION

Lord willing:

Will be held at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (AFLC)
in Fargo, ND on June 24-26, 2016
Host Pastor: Micah Hjermstad

Likely topic

“Building & Battling”

Based on

The Book of Nehemiah & Jude 3

*Pastor Willmore Gundersen will be
the main guest speaker.*