



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • March 2020

“TICKETS PLEASE”

No one was with her when she got on the train at Hamlet. She was small, and looked younger than her age of eight. Her dress was highlighted with a bright floral pattern and her dark curly hair reflected the light from the coach windows. Many of the passengers looked up from their reading and handwork to smile at her as she walked by. She had poise for an eight-year-old traveling alone. Carrying a small parcel she quickly settled into a seat and watched the countryside as the train picked up speed.

The door to the next coach slid open and the Conductor appeared. He looked to be a kindly man, chatting cheerfully with the regulars on board as he collected tickets. “Tickets please!” he repeated with a smile. He worked his way up the aisle. When he reached the girl, he stopped, and said; “Do you have a ticket young lady?”

No, I do not have a ticket” she said.

The conductor asked: “Where are you going?”

She replied with a smile: “I am going to heaven to see my mother!”

He paused a moment, then smiled and asked: “Who pays your fare?”

She answered with a confident smile: “Jesus pays my fare,” and then slightly troubled, she asked: “Doesn’t this train go to heaven?”

He stroked his chin thoughtfully before he answered, “I don’t think so little girl.

Did someone tell you this train goes to heaven?”

“My Mother told me! Before she died, she sang to me of a heavenly railroad. She sang of how Jesus pays the fare for everyone who wants to get on; and the train

stops at every station so people can get on. Don’t you sing to your children about the heavenly train?”

The conductor dropped to one knee and took her hand. Tears began to collect in his eyes and he told her: “No, my precious girl. I had a girl just like you but she died and I guess she is with your mother.”

“Did she go to heaven on this train?” she asked, “And are you on your way to see her?”

The coach became quiet as passengers listened intently to this conversation. The conductor responded: “I really miss my little girl, but I didn’t expect to see her on this trip.”

“Would you like to see her? If you really love Jesus, He’ll let you ride to heaven on His railroad. I am going there, and you can come with me to see your little girl – and these other people can come too.”

The conductor couldn’t speak, as tears welled in his eyes. The girl hugged him and said: “You may sit with me if you like. Jesus loves us. He will let us in!”

He was silent for a minute, then standing, said quietly: “I can’t ride your train all the way to Heaven today little girl. I’ve got work to do. But I’ll never forget you and maybe we can be together in Heaven someday.”

Friend, are you on the train to Heaven? Would you like Heaven to be a certainty instead of a “maybe”? There is room on this train for you and your fare has been paid by none other than Jesus Christ (By His own shed BLOOD for you and me), the **Son of God**. ... If you are ready to get on the train to Heaven, you must turn from your sins and focus your life on JESUS. Here is a prayer to get started: “Jesus, I repent of my sins. Thank you for

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paying my fare to Heaven. Please help me from now on to live for you. Amen.”

Story by Rev. J. M. Dosh,
The Tract: League,
Grand Rapids, MI

Editor’s Note: I personally believe the Third PERSON of the Triune God, the Holy Spirit led in sharing with you the above ‘story’ for the possibility of sharing in your Sunday School Class or wherever!

WHEN?

When we rely on speculation to fill in areas not clearly addressed by Scripture, we create a situation generating even likely more questions. More questions are raised than satisfactory answers given when one begins to speculate. Sadly, some have been so taken up with speculative issues that their effectiveness for the kingdom is compromised and likely cause confusion for others. May God grant each of us the wisdom/discernment to know when and where to stand (biblically) and what is necessary in order that we might ...therefore be ‘obedient’ (faithful) unto the Holy Scriptures; out of love and concern. “...Therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.” Romans 14:19

(TBC)

Cain's Way

“Woe unto them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, and for greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished as the gainsaying of Korah.”
(Jude 1:11)

Jude compares the awful examples of three Old Testament characters to leaders in the New Testament church who have used their influence for evil. Cain was the first child of Adam and Eve and had every opportunity to excel. Yet, he chose a “way” that not only ended in the horrible murder of his brother but also resulted in an entire culture in rebellion against God.

The murder was preceded by a flagrant disobedience that was expressed when the family came to offer their sacrifices to the Creator. Cain brought an offering of the ‘fruit’ of his own labor from tilling the ground. Abel’s offering was a “firstling” from the flock that he kept (Genesis 4:3-5). Why did God “respect” Abel’s offering and not Cain’s?

God’s commentary on this event (Hebrews 11:4) tell us that Abel “obtained witness” that his sacrifice was a righteous action that testified of his obedience. The Genesis account does not give much information, but it is clear that the first family were following instructions – likely emulating the sacrifice that God made to clothe Adam and Eve after they sinned (Genesis 3:21).

Cain began a “way” many years before (a lifestyle, a broad road) that turned his heart away from simple obedience to God’s instructions. Cain’s occupation (farmer) was certainly OK. He provided food for the growing world population. But when the regular sacrifice came due, Cain decided that he would “show” God his own works rather than follow God’s requirement of bringing an innocent life (BLOOD) life in (a Blood) sacrifice.

That way, of course, is the way ***“which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death”*** (Proverbs 14:12). Henry M. Morris III, D. Min.

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Does The Christian Church Really Care About The Reality Of Sin?

Years ago, I still remember an older Christian gentleman stating that what ‘we’ need is for Pastors, etc. preaching 90% God’s Law and 10% Gospel. Well, I don’t exactly agree in regards to the percentage equation, but where there is NO-Need; there will be NO real com-

ing to the Great PHYSICIAN for healing/cleansing! GOD’S LAW is like a ‘mirror’ for each and everyone; to reveal to us the NEED of JESUS BLOOD atonement and for spiritual healing! WHERE THERE IS NO-NEED as lost, condemned ‘sinners’; the room at the Cross will stay empty!

Editor

The Shadow of God’s Wing

“My soul trusteth in Thee; yea, in the shadow of Thy wing will I make my refuge, until those calamities be over-past.”
(Psalm 57:1)

Here we have an illustration from the world of nature; a young bird is learning to fly. Above him soars a bird of prey. The sound of the powerful wings of the large bird frightens the young bird. But the mother bird is watching. She spreads her wings, and under them the frightened fledgling seeks refuge. There the young bird is safe. The bird of prey may keep circling overhead, but the young bird is no longer afraid. He has taken refuge under the mother’s wings.

In like manner, a human soul may be aware of evil forces hovering overhead, dangers which threaten. Anxiously the soul turns in every direction for deliverance and the deliverance is found with God: ***“My soul trusteth in Thee; yea, in the shadow of Thy wings will I make my refuge until these calamities be over past.”***

Rest A While, By Fredrik Wisloff,

Editor’s Note: Lately, in our “devotions” we have been impressed with the amount/quantity of Bible verses sharing the same provision for the child of God finding ‘refuge’ and protection in the Shadow of HIS wings (and really), in a ‘sense’ (In His Infinite LOVE). GOD only needed to share His promise for you and me as HE never changes nor do HIS promises!

Secret of Service

To one who asked him the secret of service, Mr. George Müller replied: “There was a day when I died, utterly died to George Müller;” and, as he spoke, he bent lower and lower until he almost touched the floor —“to his opinions, preferences, tastes and will; died to the world, its approval or censure; died to the approval or blame of even my brethren and friends. Since then I have ***studied to show myself approved only unto God.***”

The Hauge's Synod

Education for Awakening

In June of 1876, the Hauge's Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod in America was formally organized. "The evangel we know and Luther, but who is this Hauge?" some might well ask today.

On April 3, 1771, Hans Nielsen Hauge was born in Tune parish in southeastern Norway. Although reared in a pious home where the Bible, Luther's *Catechism*, Pontoppidan's *Explanation* and Kingo's *Hymnbook* were used faithfully and revered, as a boy, Hans lacked the assurance that he was a child of God. Nearly drowned at **age 13**, he later wrote of the experience: "I feared hell's darkness because I hadn't loved God as I should have." Consistently successful in his business affairs, Hauge was uneasy in his early twenties because of the strong pull worldly goods had on him.

A watershed event in his life took place on April 5, 1796, at midday as Hauge was working on his father's farm. While plowing he was singing one of his favorite hymns, "Jesus I Long for Thy Blessed Communion," the second stanza of which is a prayer for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. When he had finished singing this, Hans had an experience he was at a loss adequately to describe. "***It was a glory to which no tongue can explain; my soul felt something supernatural, divine, and blessed. ... I had a completely transformed mind, a sorrow over all sins, a burning desire that others should share the same grace, a particular desire to read the Scriptures, especially Jesus' own teachings...***" From this moment, Hans Hauge knew not only that he was God's forgiven, beloved child but also that God had laid hold on him to preach conversion.

He began in his parents' house with his sister; then he spoke privately with his friends and neighbors about their spiritual condition. In his parental home with friends gathered his first public testimony to the Gospel took place. During the next eight years he crisscrossed most of Norway preaching the Gospel to individuals and small groups.

But this just was not done in the Norway of those days. Several times during those eight years Hauge was arrested and jailed on charges of vagrancy, charges which never stuck. How could they stick against a man who not only labored indefatigably himself, but was along in establishing factories, mills and many other enterprises that gave others work as well? And if a new convert claimed to be too spiritual to engage in ordinary toil, Hauge counseled that a person's daily task constitutes a divine calling. Moreover in 1801 Hauge became a citizen of Bergen to become a licensed shipping mer-

chant. From then till October of 1804 he combined preaching and business on his voyages.

But on October 24, 1804, sheriff Jens Gram of Eker arrested Hauge in a paper mill he had helped establish; that night he spent in the Houksund jail, bound in iron chains. During the next month the government confiscated his Bergen property consisting of a house, a ship with cargo, and a quantity of salt...

The Conventicle Act of 1741, originally passed to control Moravianism, forbade the kind of itinerant lay preaching and religious gathers in which Hauge had engaged. But the opposition to Hauge was not merely an extended pout against an itinerant preacher. This humble farmer was a part of the Norway then emerging, vocal and free, religiously, economically, socially, politically. In this time between the times, well might people ask: "Who is this up-start farmer's son, this 'new man' who dares to castigate the clergy and preach the Gospel, to found factories and become a Bergen merchant? Who does he think he is? He doesn't know his place!" Fundamentally religious in nature, the movement around Hauge was also a part of a socio-economic, political yeasting that was leavening all Norway.

(Centennial Essays interpreting the Heritage of Luther Theological Seminary), *Striving for Ministry*, Lowell J. Satre, Copyright ©1977 Augsburg Publishing House.

Editor's Note: ONE very distinct difference: If I am not mistaken the Hauge Lutheran Synod was swallowed-up and deceived by a sacramental Lutheran Synod around the year **1917!** The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation was 'officially' organized in **1920** as a non-profit organization; because of the need of more Christian Fellowship/nurturing for one another in the gift of a Living Faith; and perusing Biblical Evangelistic Meetings in and through congregations that were open to them; and helping to reach others surrounding them, for as a whole the Lutheran Synods were complacent/satisfied with mostly just a '*form of Godliness*' and religious activities!

So a clarification, as the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation is NOT a Lutheran Church body, but a Biblical, pietistic, FAITH movement to assist open doors in and through Lutheran Congregations and wherever there is an 'open-door' in primarily the USA and Canada, by the GRACE of GOD!

Editorial

RES

Reading, Studying, Meditating, Listening to, & Sharing

the WORD of GOD

The Word of God SHOULD come first in our individual lives, Christian Fellowship and in the Congregation! Otherwise *Frustration & Confusion* are more likely to come into the individual's personal life and beyond. So many folks, even Christians are influenced by what others write or say; instead of as the Bereans did in the New Testament: They searched the 'Scriptures' daily! Most certainly reading and listening to other persons expounding God's Holy Scriptures that are in 'harmony' with that special Book, the BIBLE, whose 'message' is 'eternally settled in Heaven' is good; however any sources that are even questionable or are not good IF they are not leveled with the confines of the BIBLE. 'Transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. *"And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light"* (Please read II Corinthians 11:13-15) Satan is out to 'deceive' the very elect if possible and specifically to kill you and me spiritually.

How You and I need clear Christian vision in these days! Physically and "Medically 'we' know that vision is important to 'us' and for the benefit of others as well. Medically the 'gift' of 'eyesight' is very interesting/important how the 'Creator' made us. For example: TEARS are important as it lubricates the eye, but even more significant is the fact that 'eyelids' are like 'sunglasses' to protect the sensitive eye from clear/direct sun rays. EVEN more significant is the fact that we need 'spiritual eye-sight'— that we understand God's Holy Word, the Bible to be able to walk in the light thereof by Him! Actually such 'listening and/or reading of that which is 'questionable' gives opportunity for deception and it possibly gives a foothold for the adversary to manipulate. As an example: I think of a very conscious Christian who received a periodical magazine that was deceitful because of the beautiful photographic pictures in the same; but the 'magazine' definitely was not of God! Probably a poor example, but meaningful for me.

The Bible definitely and clearly states that receiving Garbage in your ears, EYES and life will result in Garbage out! As a person thinks in his/her heart so is this person; for what is IN the heart, must come out.

I was raised on a very small farm among the rolling hills in the state of Wisconsin; but dairy was the main source of financial income. My parents were definitely limited financially and conservative also in their management.

Any way I enjoyed watching the dairy cows 'chew their cud' and like some of you know a dairy cow (cattle) has four stomachs! When 'fed' each individual animal wanted to be first in line and also first in gulping down their feed nourishment. You would almost think that they would get '*indigestion*' BUT this was just the way our Great Creator made them! When this individual animal was 'chewing their cud', it indicated they were 'satisfied' and enjoying their nourishment/nutrition for their livelihood and production – milk & calves. Naturally how much and what they were 'fed' had an impact on their reproduction. You see sheep reproduce sheep, not cats or dogs; did you grasp the 'hint?!' Actually when 'chewing their cud', this nourishment would come from ONE of the stomachs. The word "meditate" in 'God's Word, the Bible' means not only listening or reading His Word, but to "chew" ponder, re-chew His Word in your heart and mind.

I recall meeting a professing Christian in his home who clearly shared with me, in the morning if he did not have time to read and pray (devotions); then he disciplined himself in not having "Breakfast" either!

NOW you and I have a choice of heeding the Word of God OR disregarding it. ***"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. 'But My people would not heed My voice, ...So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, To walk in their own counsels'"*** Psalm 81:10b – 12.

In the seventh chapter of Matthew verses 24-29 we have the difference of 'Building on the Rock' or not. In God's vocabulary HE makes a clear distinction between the two hearers, as both heard the same message of being wise and foolish. What was the 'difference' we may ask as they 'both' heard the same message? The one who applied it to his personal life and put it into action, thus following the instructions of God's

Word which God Himself calls such a person WISE. This in God's own wording made a distinct difference, as one was 'wise' and the other 'foolish'. For a Christian then walks by faith and not by sight! How you and I need to take our opinion (human-reasoning) captive in obedience to God's Word for he who is faithful unto the end, He will give the 'Crown of Life'! Martin Luther states: 'The greatest hindrance to a living faith is human-reasoning and the one who does not fear himself has the greatest reason to fear of all'! (Jeremiah 17:9 & Proverbs 3:5-6). As there is a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof is destruction. Listen to the Apostle Paul's personal testimony, Philippians 3:8- 21 – please prayerfully read.

As you notice in this issue of the Morning Glory, we will be commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation & what a privilege and responsibility it is to continue in GOD'S Marvelous GRACE for Great Things He has done. To

God be the Glory!

YOU are very welcome to attend our 100th anniversary celebration as we evangelize and strengthen one another in the true faith. See page 16 for details.

“Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking the craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.”
(II Corinthians 4:1-5)

His Grace Makes Us Generous

“One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes other will be refreshed.”

Proverbs 11:24-25

Those of us who are the recipients of God's amazing gift of salvation have no option but to give of ourselves in gratitude. It is both an attitude that we strive to develop in our heart and one that naturally arises by the power of the Holy Spirit as we mature in faith...

Generosity flows from grace. Just as God's grace toward us makes Him generous, the more we cherish the grace we have received, the more generous we will become. The more we comprehend the incredible gift of eternal life, the more we will give of our time our finances, our energy, and our resources, not in an effort to pay God back for His gift – we could never pay God back for His gift – we could never pay Him back in 20,000 lifetimes – but because we are inwardly and irrevocably changed by our unchanging God.

Because God is changeless, you and I need to change, to become more and more like Him, moving from one point of glory to the next. We are to change in attitude from owner to stewards, from hoarders to sharers and sowers... For, we have sure hope – the promise of Heaven with our loving Father, a future that will infinitely fulfil all our deepest hope and longings. Our faithful God frees us to give generously today, so let's

set our hearts in heaven and use all we've been given to invite others into the hope of Eternity founding in Christ alone.

From *My Journey*, by Dr. Michael Youssef,
Leading the Way

* * * * *

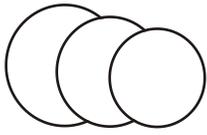
Healing

Some have the idea that we have the right to claim healing always from anything and that if you are sick, it's due to sin and or a lack of faith. This leads to “miracle” services where no miracles from God take place, but a lot of people get excited – and some even think they're healed, only to find out the next day that they aren't. So, they come back again to another miracle service, and on and on it goes, and the world looks on and ridicules, and they become a reproach to the Lord.

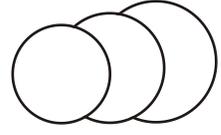
For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.
(II Corinthians 14:13)

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Editor's Note: Truly 'we' have a miracle working GOD and today there are some who are miraculously healed; but just because a 'miracle' takes place, it is not necessarily a miracle from GOD as 'Satan' performs 'miracles' also!



From our Fellowship Circle



E. G **Story Plain, Alberta, Canada**
To my sisters & brothers in Christ,

God bless you and keep up the good work. It is comforting to see that you take a stand against the evil in this world, and you speak out. There is hardly a printed page that speaks out. OH, how we need a Heaven-Sent Revival; that is my heart's cry, so we see people get saved, delivered and healed of all sin/diseases – PRAY!

Ms. J. R **Lake City, IA**
Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and New Year. Keep up the good job! Our Country is in a bad condition spiritually now and we need to stand together in prayer as that is required. God Bless you and your work!

The Cross

“For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.”

I Corinthians 2:2

“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

I Corinthians 3:11

**“In the Cross of Christ, I glory,
Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time —”**

MARTIN LUTHER preached the doctrine of Atoning Blood to slumbering Europe, and Europe awoke from the dead.

Amid all his defenses of Divine Sovereignty, *Calvin* never ignored or belittled the Atonement.

COWPER sang of it among the water-lilies of the Ouse.

SPURGEON thundered this glorious doctrine of Christ Crucified into the ears of peer and peasant with a voice like the sound of many waters.

JOHN BUNYAN made the Cross the starting-point to the Celestial City.

MOODY’S bells all chimed to the keynote of Calvary.

NAPOLEON, after conquering almost the whole of Europe, put his finger on the red spot on the map representing the British Isles, and said, “Were it not for that red

spot, I’d conquer the world!”

So says Satan about the place called Calvary, where Jesus Christ shed His Blood.

*“Beneath the Cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a might rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noon-tide heat,
And the burden of the day.*

*“Upon the Cross of Jesus
Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One
Who suffered there for me.
And from my smitten heart with tears,
These wonders I confess,
The wonder of his glorious love,
And my own worthlessness.*

*“I take, O Cross, thy shadow
For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
The sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by,
To know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame,
My glory all the Cross.”*

Every true preacher of the Gospel strings all his pearls on the Red Cord of the Atonement.

Dr. T. L. Cuyler

CALVARY COVERS IT ALL!

SPRINGS in the DESERT, Compiled by
Mrs. Charles Cowman, Copyright 1938 by
Cowman Publications, Inc.

GOD -BREATHED

“The reason the Bible is like no other book is because it is the very breath of God. That is why it still penetrates deep into the hearts of men and women today.”

Dr. Michael Youssef

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Former Abortion Clinic Owner: We Pushed Sex Ed on Kids to Create a Market for Abortion

Former abortion clinic workers are warning parents about how the abortion industry uses sex education programs to groom children for risky sexual behavior and sell more abortions.

Carol Everett, who owned and ran abortion clinics for many years before she became pro-life, recently spoke about the problem at ... an Arkansas pregnancy resource center, the Harrison Daily Times reports. "I sold abortions," Everett told the crowd. "How do you do that? It's called sex education."...

When she traveled around to schools teaching sex education, she said she really was selling abortions...

"You have to break down the natural modesty, separate them from their parent's values and you have to become an expert (sex-pert) in their (lives)." Everette (said)...

It all came down to money. Everett said her goal was to become rich by making money off abortions

Eventually, she had a change of heart and left the abortion industry. Today, she is a pro-life speaker and advocate for pregnant and parenting women and their children.

Lifenews.com

Editor's Note: Seems almost unthinkable that a person(s) in a civilized society would in a sense promote life in order to 'murder' them later for financial benefits!

Although here lies part of the reason(s) for the thrust of promoting 'sex-education' in Public Schools in this great civilized country of the USA.

Certainly 'We' Must be Living in what the BIBLE Speaks of "Perilous Times"!!

Certainly 'WE' must be living in what the Bible speaks of as "Perilous Times" as minds seem to be totally 'scrambled', not knowing what is 'right' and what is 'wrong' – Romans chapter one & Isaiah chapter fifty-nine.

AND it is particularly evident with what is (or) was (12/20/19) going on in the Miss America Pageant. A man – biological-male – is suing the Pageant because they won't let him compete. The 'pageant' is open to "natural born women", and the lawsuit states that this practice amounts to "Gender Discrimination." — Selected

Editor's Note: Some folks will likely say, 'This is only one among so many; which is true: but it is a developing "trend" in our day!

Delta pilot suspected of drinking is arrested

A Delta Air Lines pilot was arrested after officers at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport smelled alcohol on his breath before his California-bound flight Tuesday morning [7/30/19].

The pilot was going through the Known Crewmember entrance and tried to leave the line when he saw additional screening, according to a report from airport police.

The pilot was later found to be in possession of an "alcoholic container" and was suspected to be impaired, the report said.

The Transportation Security Administration "routinely includes random changes in its processes as an added layer of security – it helps prevent people from gaming the security system," said airport spokesman Patrick Hogan.

Hogan said the pilot had been scheduled to fly DL1728 to San Diego.

The pilot, who lives in Rosemount, was arrested shortly after 11 a.m. in Terminal 1. He was released about three hours later, the report said, pending a formal complaint. The Star Tribune generally does not name suspects who have not been charged.

"The case is still under investigation and we are awaiting final toxicology results, so a detailed report is not available at this time," Hogan said in an e-mail Tuesday evening.

Minnesota has a 0.04 legal limit for pilots, according to Hogan. In addition, the Federal Aviation Administration also prohibits any pilot from flying within eight hours of drinking alcohol, what the agency calls "bottle to throttle."

In a brochure aimed at pilots titled "Alcohol and Flying: A Deadly Combination," the agency touches several times on the perils of drinking the previous day or evening and then waking up and climbing in the cockpit, even if it has been more than eight hours since that last drink.

One of the most notorious cases of drinking and flying occurred in 1990, when a Northwest Airlines captain, flight engineer and first officer were arrested when their

flight from Fargo landed at the Twin Cities airport. A patron of a Fargo-area bar had tipped authorities that the crew had been drinking heavily there the night before. Federal regulations were tightened after that.

Maple Grove woman is charged in drunk boating incident

A Maple Grove [Minnesota] woman was legally drunk while driving a speedboat that turned sharply and sent two teens being pulled on tubes into a dock, severely injuring both of them, according to charges filed Tuesday.

Jordan Seitz, 34, has been charged with four felony counts of criminal vehicular operation in connection with the boating incident on Eagle Lake in Maple Grove. She remains jailed in lieu of \$150,000 bail.

Officers responded to the scene just after 8 p.m. Saturday [7/27/19], where they say Seitz was hosting a party for 10 of her daughter's friends.

According to the criminal complaint filed in Hennepin County District Court: Seitz was driving the boat too close to shore and veered back toward the lake, careening two rafts she was pulling into a fixed dock.

The quick maneuver sent a boy and girl riding the tubes flying into the structure. Both teens, who have yet to be identified, remain hospitalized.

The boy lost consciousness after suffering a traumatic brain injury, spinal fracture and other complications. The girl sustained a severe closed head injury. Their current prognosis is unknown.

Deputies found Seitz on the boat, which she owns, smelling strongly of alcohol, with bloodshot and watery eyes. She denied consuming any alcohol, saying that she "does not drink," court records show. But a field breathalyzer test recorded 0.108 blood-alcohol content – over the legal limit of 0.08.

Seitz was arrested at the scene and taken to North Memorial Health Hospital for a blood sample. Those test results are pending.

The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office and water patrol is investigating the incident.

Both articles taken from the *Star Tribune*, July 31, 2019

Editor's Note: Would you want to fly in a plane where the pilot had been drinking? Would you want to be pulled in a tube behind a boat where the driver had been drinking? In both of these instances, alcohol put people in undue risk and injury. Isn't total abstinence still the best policy?

The Unknown and Unnamed Servants

Have you noticed the many unnoticed, unnamed and unappreciated servants in the BIBLE?

"They brought unto him... sick" (Matt. 4:24); "children" (Mark 10:13); "deaf" (Mark 7:32); friends (Luke 5:18); "There is a lad here" (John 6:9); and a *maid* there (II Kings 5:2). More than five thousand hungry people appreciated the little lad and Naaman appreciated the little maid.

The Lord gave special recognition to the unknown and unnamed widow who gave two mites, more than all the rest (Luke 21:2-3). Today many ministries, including ours, are made possible by the many unnamed, unknown and unrecognized people.

Abraham Lincoln said, "God must have loved the common man because He made so many of us." "They" are the common, unnamed and unknown van drivers, nursery workers, custodians, ushers, caretakers, landscapers, sound room technicians, helpers, volunteers, prayer warriors, soul winners, shut-in workers and most of all the "coffee makers."

We do not notice who they are, but we notice what they do. I can promise you that everyone would notice absence by a squealing mic, bawling babies, empty tables, fewer children in classes, un-mowed grass, dirty windows, empty baptistry (Editor(?), unemptied trash, locked doors, dirty restrooms – and especially if there is no coffee.

Their presence is not noticed, but their absence would be greatly noticed. Their ministry is taken for granted without gratitude. These people ask, "What can I do to help?" You do not need to go to them, because they come to you.

They are "there" when and where needed. They are not motivated by what they can get, but by what they have been given. They do it as unto the Lord, not men.

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" Colossians 3:23.

They volunteer without pats, pay or praise. We need to notice the un-noticeables. We should appreciate the unappreciated. They volunteer and make themselves valuable to our ministry. They do more than expected.

They simply love serving the Lord and others. They do what others don't like to do. They go the first, the second and third miles (Matthew 5:41). They simply do what they can with what they have (II Corinthians 8:12). They use their different gifts for God.

Again, their presence is not noticed, but their absence would be greatly noticed. So, we should praise them for their present presence. They will be rewarded in Heaven (Mark 10:11), but it would be good if ministries had an unknown and unexpected "thank you" special day for the unnamed and unknown servants.

Sword of the Lord

Is Communion Automatic Forgiveness?

“For this is My blood of the covenant, which is to be shed on behalf of many for forgiveness of sins.” (Matt. 26:28)

As Lutherans, we believe that the sacraments of baptism and communion are means of grace, which is “The vehicles or channels through which God gives His grace; namely the Word of God, baptism and the Lord’s Supper.” (All quotations are from Luther’s Small Catechism) A sacrament is “A holy ordinance made by God as an outward and visible sign of His inward and invisible grace.” In regards to the Lord’s Supper, we believe that “It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, given unto us Christians to eat and drink, as it was instituted by Christ Himself.”

We believe that as a means of grace, the Lord’s Supper brings forgiveness of sins. “It is pointed out in these words, ‘Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.’ Through these words, the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are given to us in the Sacrament. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.” So we believe that Christians find assurance of forgiveness through this sacrament.

Unfortunately, some rely upon this as the assurance of their forgiveness and salvation. They feel that as long as they are sitting under the Word of God and taking communion (both means of grace) that they have forgiveness of sins and salvation – it is guaranteed. Yet that is not the case.

The Catechism asks the question, “Who, then, receives this Sacrament worthily?” The answer given is this: “Fasting and bodily preparation are indeed a good outward discipline, but that person is truly worthy and well prepared who believes these words: ‘Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.’ But anyone who does not believe these words or who doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words ‘for you’ require truly believing hearts.”

This means that the physical act of taking the Lord’s Supper is no guarantee of forgiveness of sins. It isn’t that the means are not there to do so, but rather that the recipient is not repentant and believing in Christ. This very thing happened at the first communion table when Jesus Himself instituted the Lord’s Supper. *“Now when evening had come, He was reclining at the table with the twelve disciples. And as they were eating, He said, “Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me.” And being deeply grieved, they each one began to say to Him, “Surely not I, Lord?” And He answered and said, “He*

who dipped his hand with Me in the bowl is the one who will betray Me. The Son of Man is to go, just as it is written of Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.” And Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, “Surely it is not I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said it yourself.” (Matthew 26:20-25)

Judas took communion from Jesus with the other disciples, yet his sins were not forgiven. He went out and betrayed the Savior to the chief priests and ended up lost in hell. The physical act of taking communion was not a means of forgiveness for this man who was not repentant of his sin.

We have the promise that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (I John 1:9) This happens because we directly confess our sins to the Lord and receive from Him forgiveness directly, apart from any physical means because of the Word of God (the Primary means of Grace). When we confess (repent) of our sins and have Jesus as our personal Savior, we live in forgiveness and communion with the Lord. To the person who is not doing this, he does not have forgiveness of sins, regardless of whether he receives communion. In fact, the Scriptures attest that it is a foolish thing to just receive communion in an unworthy manner. *“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly. For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number asleep.” (I Corinthians 11:26-30)* Weakness and sickness and even death (sleep) came to the Corinthians because they were taking communion without proper preparation.

This warning is not given to us to avoid taking communion, but that we do not take it lightly without examining ourselves first. Just to take communion assuming that you have automatic forgiveness is to bring God’s judgment upon yourself, not His forgiveness. This is not what the Lord wants for us. Rather, He wants us to truly repent and come to Jesus for forgiveness of our sins, and then to come to communion and receive the physical elements that truly have the body and blood of Christ in, with and under them, and in so doing, have assurance of our forgiveness before the Lord.

Pastor Jim Haga
Shoreview, MN

Five Reasons to Watch Turkey in Light of Bible Prophecy

(Editor: IF YOU are not interested or concerned about future prophecy – the coming events in line with what is to take place, I suggest you do not read this “specific” article!)

Establishing the Biblical Baseline:

In previous Flashpoint Report, I’ve explained the significant role Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria will play in the last days. Based on Scripture (Ezekiel 38, Daniel 2 & 7): it seems evident Turkey will be one of the leading nations in a future 10 nation Islamic confederation (*caliphate*) headed by a wicked individual referred to in Christianity as the Antichrist. When this powerful, final empire emerges under the leadership of this satanically empowered ruler (*most likely an Islamic messiah-figure known as the Mahdi*) he will lead his army from the north to invade the Holy Land. His intent will be to usurp the throne in Jerusalem belonging to Jesus Christ. He will demand the world take his mark (*particularly Jews and Christians*) and bow to him under penalty of death as he seeks to establish himself as king of the Earth.

Flashpoint Focus:

Turkish President Erdogan, who aspires to become the Sultan (*sovereign Islamic leader*) of the Muslim world, continues to make major advances toward the south in an effort to regain territory long held by the former Ottoman (*Turkish*) Empire. From 1517 to 1917, the Ottomans controlled most of the Middle East including Jerusalem, along with Mecca and Medina in what is today Saudi Arabia. Erdogan’s recent invasion of Syria is only his latest move in a growing list of strategic aggressions. Listed below are five key reasons to watch Turkey in light of biblical prophecy.

1. The Turkish invasion of Syria

Recent reports of the Turkish invasion of Syria vary widely. American media outlets have accused President Trump of spontaneously “green lighting” the Turkish invasion after a phone call he received from Turkish President Erdogan. Many are voicing concerns that a humanitarian disaster among the Kurds will ensue and that captured ISIS terrorist will escape from unguarded prisons as a result of America’s withdrawal from the region.

According to some intelligence reports, President Trump’s recent removal of U.S. soldiers from northern Syria may not have been a spontaneous decision (*as was prominently reported by the American press*). Rather, his actions may have been part of a larger coordinated response by the U.S. and Russia to an inevitable invasion

the Turkish President has been seeking to launch for several months. According to reports, the coordination between the U.S. and Russia was designed to meet their respective objectives in the region and avoid any head-to-head military clashes.

President Erdogan – who has become increasingly unpopular in Turkey due to his strong-arm policies and weak economy brought on by U.S. sanctions – may have decided he could no longer delay his planned invasion. His popularity among Turkish citizens has risen substantially from his initial invasion, although his aggressive military action has been widely condemned throughout the world.

It seems as though Erdogan may get what he wants; a foothold across his southern border with Syria that he can leverage as a stepping-stone for future invasions to the south. Plus, with establishment of his so-called buffer zone in Syria he can now re-populate it with millions of Sunni Muslim Syrian refugees. This move will disrupt any Kurdish plans to create a sovereign state along Turkey’s southern border.

Russian President Putin may get what he wants; a re-constituted Syrian puppet state that will be subject to Russian influence and military control.

U.S. president Trump may get what he wants: a clear path to exit a longstanding tribal conflict waged between two so-called U.S. allies – the Kurds, who fought with the United States against ISIS, and the Turks who, in recent years, have become adversarial to U.S. interests, yet officially remain a U.S. ally by virtue of NATO military agreements.

Some U.S. military and foreign policy experts are saying President Trump’s decision to pull U.S. soldiers out of Syria may have been the right move. In their view, the responsibility to care for the refugees and to restrain ISIS from re-emerging now rests squarely on Turkey’s shoulders.

In the near term, Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria will be forced to battle with each other under the shadow of Russia’s military. But from a biblical perspective, the greater danger lies in the reality that they will eventually unify to form an Islamic caliphate under the dominion of the Antichrist.

2. Turkey is allied with the Muslim Brotherhood

Turkey is notorious for funding terrorist efforts throughout the Middle East for purpose of overthrowing governments and increasing the power of the Muslim Brotherhood. This transnational Sunni Islamist organization promotes the idea that all Muslim nations should adhere to strict Islamic Sharia law and be unified under a

global Muslim leader (*a caliph or sultan*) who presides over both civic and religious aspects of daily life. With increasing measure, Muslim Brotherhood influence is being felt in Sudan, Libya and places such as Gaza (*on Israel's borders*). All of these were once part of the Ottoman-Turkish Empire.

3. Turkey seeks the formation of a United "Army of Islam"

Some time ago, a Turkish daily newspaper published an article (*with the tacit approval of Erdogan*) calling for the Muslim nations of the world to join together in the creation of an "Army of Islam" intended to attack and destroy the state of Israel. Based on statements from his own mouth, it seems clear Erdogan relishes the idea of leading that effort.

4. Turkey is using the Palestinians for propaganda purposes

Another of Erdogan's strategies is to gain broad Muslim support throughout the Middle East by publicly championing the "Palestinian cause" against Israel and issuing bombastic condemnations of the Jewish State for what he calls "war crimes" and "genocide" against the Palestinians. Meanwhile, he aids terror groups such as Hamas who have fired tens of thousands of rockets into Israel over the past 10 years and who pride themselves in digging under-ground tunnels into Israel for the express purpose of murdering innocent Israeli women and children.

5. Turkey is illegally drilling for natural gas in Cyprus' territorial waters

Not only has Erdogan targeted Israel with incendiary comment, he's also threatening Greece and the Island of Cyprus to his south. Turkey has its sites on the burgeoning natural gas industry in the eastern Mediterranean since major discoveries were made by Israel, Cyprus, and Egypt in recent year. Erdogan doesn't want to be left out of the natural gas bonanza, so the Turkish military has been harassing foreign oil-drilling ships in the Mediterranean for some time. Now Erdogan has decided to send his own drilling ships into the sovereign waters of Cyprus to illegally drill for natural gas.

Realizing the prophetic possibilities

The evidence of Turkey's desire to expand to the south is clear. We may be seeing the foreshadowing of the prophetic descriptions revealed in Scripture concerning the rise of the Antichrist and his final beast empire. Many of the prophetic pieces may be moving into place sooner than we had ever imagined.

In the near term, Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria will be forced to battle with each other under the shadow of Russia's military. But from a biblical perspective, the

greater danger lies in the reality that they will eventually unify to form an Islamic caliphate under the dominion of the Antichrist.

Flashpoint Geo-Prophecy Report with David Rosenthal, Zion's Fire, © Copyright 2019 by Zion's Hope Inc.

Editor's Note: In my opinion, a very interesting article; if you agree or not with the 'article': still food for thought! Then also keep in mind that Red China has around 200,000,000 in the 'military' and supposedly a 'dam' (*if this has not taken place already*) across the Euphrates River!

WANTED: Hearers and Doers

"Abide in Me, and I in you."

(Please read John 12:12-20 CAREFULLY)

"Teacher and Lord:* does it come off our tongues quite glibly at times?" ***"Teacher and Lord":* are we still in the dark as to what it means?" *"Teacher and Lord":* Jesus challenges all who use these words to face up to their profession.*

Do we listen to Christ (12-17)?

We must first know – and that means listening. John listens so attentively that he is able later with the help of the Holy Spirit (14-26), to remember and record Jesus' teaching.

Do we check wandering thoughts when listening to Jesus Our Teacher? Do we concentrate on our daily Bible reading, and on sermons and discussions in church?

Do we obey Him (17)?

He wants us to teach and serve others. But we can only teach what we first practice. Like Jesus (15) we must be living examples. How does Judas fail for qualifying?

Do we trust Him (19)?

The Apostles' trust in Jesus is to be severely tested by the events of the next few hours. How loving of Jesus to warn them so plainly!

Do we represent Him (16-20)?

If verse 20 is true, there must be a very close link between the Sender and the One sent.

PRAY that Christians may be faithful ambassadors for Christ.

Keynote: "As I have done to you"

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A New Beginning

(First read Genesis 8:13-22 – Please)

A New Opportunity.

A new love, a new job, a new church, a new friendship – all exciting (and sometimes frightening, too, if we are honest). Noah and his family faced the newest beginning ever.

It was like a second creation of the world, with new people who had passed through God's judgment. Life was going to begin all over again (v. 17).

A New Assurance.

God even promised that never again would He make men suffer in this way. Farmers and gardeners all over the world take verse 22 for granted, even if they don't believe in God at all. This is what harvest festivals are really about.

A New Chance to Worship.

Does the story say anything about how we should approach new experiences in our lives?

The first thing that Noah did was to worship God (v. 20). It is doubtful that the smell of roast meat itself pleased the Lord (v. 21a)! But the incident underscores this amazing truth: our worship can give HIM pleasure!

Do you pray about, and thank God for, the new beginnings in your life? Begin with prayer, continue in prayer, end with prayer – and you need not fear those new beginnings.

PRAY: for those in localized areas where flood and famine disasters exist.

REMOTE: **Go Forward with God.**

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God Spoke

“God having of old time spoken unto the fathers in the prophets by divers (various) portions and in divers (various) manner, hath at the end of these days spoken unto us in His Son.” (Hebrews 1:1-2a)

GOD has spoken to us. It is great to think of this and comforting to know it. But it is greatest of all that He has spoken to us **by His own Son**. His speech is not piece-meal, in the only way that He can speak through us men. Looking out over the expanse of time, the Son does not see only a mountain top here and there. He sees everything and knows everything just as certainly as God Himself does. He sees every valley, and everything even to the very least that was and is and shall be. “No one

knoweth the Son, save the Father; neither doth any know the Father, save the Son, and be to whomsoever the Son willeth to reveal Him” (Matthew 11:27). “The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him” (John 1:18).

A man of God once said; “The Son is not only a messenger from God; He is Himself the message. He is everything wisdom, all of God's will, all of God's power. Christ is the Word in the written word.”

“Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in Him were all things created, in the heavens and upon the earth, things visible and things invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things have been created through Him and unto Him” (Colossians 1:15-16).

*Oh, what blessing to be near Thee,
And to harken to Thy voice;
May I ever love and fear Thee,
That Thy Word may be my choice.
Oft were harden sinners Lord,
Struck with terror by Thy Word;
But to him for sin who grieveth
Comfort sweet and hope giveth.*

Thy Kingdom Come by Ludvig Hope, Copyright
© 1939 – Augsburg Publishing House.

Don't Live by Weather Reports

By Vance Havner

If a farmer waited until he was sure of the weather, he would never raise a crop. He has to reckon with the weather and contend with it, but he cannot be sure of it. So, every year he makes venture of faith.

We cannot let the wind and clouds of circumstances determine our course. We cannot grow a harvest for God with one eye on the weather.

But as with the farmer, circumstances are to be considered and we shall not foolishly disregard them. But we must not let them be the main factor in making our decisions.

Too many saints live fearfully from one “weather report” to another, scanning the skies and watching the clouds, conscious of “*conditions*” rather than of Christ.

FAITH goes ahead in fair weather and foul. It breaks up the fallow ground, sows the seed, cultivates the crop and gathers the harvest. There may be pests and floods and droughts, but the **Lord** of the Harvest will see to it that **our labor is not in vain**.

Spurgeon Speaks on Murmuring

“And all the children of Israel murmured.”

Numbers 14:2

There are murmurers amongst Christians now as there were in the camp of Israel of old. There are those who, when the rod falls, cry out against the afflictive dispensation. They ask, “Why am I thus afflicted? What have I done to be chastened in this manner?”

A word with thee, O murmurer! Who shouldst thou murmur against the dispensations of thy heavenly Father! Can He treat thee more hardly than thou deservest?

Consider what a rebel thou wast once but HE has pardoned thee! Surely, if He in His wisdom sees fit now to chasten thee, thou shouldst not complain. After all, art thou smitten as hardly as thy sins deserve?

Consider the corruption which is in thy breast, and then wilt thou wonder that there needs so much of the rod to fetch it? Weigh thyself and discern how much dross is mingled with thy gold and dost thou think the fire too hot to purge away so much dross as thou hast?

Does not that proud, rebellious spirit of thine prove that thy heart is not thoroughly sanctified? Are not those murmuring words contrary to the holy submissive nature of God’s children? Is not the correction needed?

But if thou wilt murmur against the chastening, take heed, for it will be hard with murmurers. God always chastises His children twice if they do not bear the first stroke patiently. But know one thing – **“He doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.”** All His corrections are sent in LOVE, to purify thee and to draw thee nearer to Himself.

Surely it must help thee to bear the chastening with resignation if thou art able to recognize thy Father’s Hand. **“For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons.”** (Hebrews 12:6-7)

“Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.” (I Corinthians 10:10)

Editor’s Note: GOD is not ‘pleased’ with any murmuring whatsoever; as HE is the Giver and we the fortunate receiver; as God is the Giver of ALL good and perfect ‘gifts’ with whom there is not even a ‘shadow’ of turning!

The Israelites were murmuring/complaining about even FOOD that was being provided from the ‘heavenly source.’ We can do the same, even if it is not expressed in words, *but under a person’s breath.*

The Mind of Christ

“Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5)

WHAT counts for most in our Christian conduct is not what we do, but what we are! Many big words may fall to earth powerless, while the simplest everyday expressions may give us grace and strength.

What does the child care for mother’s godly talk or father’s preaching, if they have not the mind of Christ in daily life? Christianity is not talk, and not chapel and church and well-dressed people in much pious talk. Oh, that we once and for all could understand that! No, Christianity is the inner harmony of life, life from God, and in God. Christianity is righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. Christianity is spirit and life.

Though it is quite impossible to see and measure this holy power, nevertheless we are sure to meet it in holy people. It is this power and this mind that the Word asks us to have, and it is this mind that God can use to influence other people. Without this mind our Christianity is sounding brass or clanging cymbal. All Christians desire to possess this power, but many of them have little of it: the reason is that they are unwilling to take up the cross that lies at the entrance to the sanctuary. We think it is too heavy. Still, let us submit, and look to Him who humbled Himself even unto death. This is the strength we need to walk in His footsteps.

Where the mind of Christ has full sway, the fruit is ripened that God can use for seed in the souls of men. The Good Seed is not only the Word of God, but also the children in His Kingdom.

***Oh, where are the reapers that garner in
The sheaves of the good from the fields of sin?
With sickles of truth must the work be done,
And no one may rest till the “harvest-home.”***

Thy Kingdom Come, by Ludvig hope, 1939

© Copyright, Augsburg Publishing House

The Evangelists of today are not the preacher with his Bible, but the actor in a movie with his script or the musician with his instrument. The end result is that people today are ignorant of the Word of God and have no interest in coming to hear the Word of God.

ALL THIS FOR YOU

Our heavenly Father gave us the BIBLE so that we can have a (Ed. Living) relationship with HIM and enjoy Him for Eternity. It will move you, change you, humble you, and lift you up. It gives profound counsel and guides you all the way home to Heaven.

It stands firm – it holds – because it is TRUTH. ***But it can't help you if you don't open it.*** (Editor: Martin Luther says if a person is not willing to deal with sin, the Bible will stay as a closed Book!) So today and every day, let's read it, cherish it, know it, and feed our souls with it, savoring the goodness of our God displayed in His Word.

The Word of God Is Under Attack

There was a time when most people in the Western world knew the Bible well. Even non-believers could tell you many of the Bible's famous stories. But over the past hundred years or so there's been a shift. While general knowledge has been the increase, Biblical knowledge has been falling. That's because we now live in a postmodern world where Truth is thought to be relative – *"What's true for you may not be true for me."* they say. Thinking has been replaced by feeling. But the Bible doesn't allow for that sort of nonsense. God's Word is the ultimate and final source of TRUTH.

When you and I pick up our Bibles and read, we are doing something that goes against the current of our society. We are choosing the Truth of God over our own feelings, opinions, and circumstances. The more we do this, the more we become like the men of Issachar, *"who understood the times and knew what (to do)."* (I Chronicles 12:32)

If you are exposed to postmodern thinking sixteen hours a day, spending two hours a week in a (Ed. truly Bible believing) church is not going to neutralize the effect. But as you obey God's Word and let it transform your mind and heart daily, you will be less and less at home in this world. That's a good thing, and it will prepare you to recognize and withstand the attacks of Satan. God's Word is your greatest weapon in the fight – and it always prevails. Immerse yourself in it, and let it strengthen you to stand against the current of culture.

"...from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do – 200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command...." (I Chronicles 12:32)

My Journal is a publication of Leading the Way with Dr. Michael Youssef

A Time of Trouble

"For in time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion." (Psalm 27:5)

In this world we (Christians – II Timothy 3:12) shall have trouble, so the Lord told His followers.

Most Christians learn to know Him best in the time of trouble. But He does not leave us in our trouble. He hides us in Him; He holds fast so that we will not fall, or provides a stumbling block to those who are weaker in the faith than we are.

Long ago, in the year 325 A.D., there was a meeting of the Christians in a place called Nicea. About five hundred people were at this meeting. Of these about two hundred could walk on only one leg. They had been forced up against a stone wall where their enemies had broken the bones in one leg. The enemies thought this would make them turn from the Lord, but these Christians would rather go on one leg than to give up their Lord. They were men of the Cross of Christ, and they went on in obedience for Him. Christ was their strength, and their hiding place.

A mother [Susannah Wesley] who lived in one room with her many children, had no privacy for prayer. But that did not stop her from praying. She taught her children that when they saw her with her apron over her head, they would know that she was at prayer. They were quiet when she was in this attitude. Prayer was this mother's pavilion.

Do you know the Lord as your personal Saviour, so you can go to Him in trouble? If you do, He will hide you in His pavilion.

Dear Lord, we want Thee to be our hiding place. We want to know that we will be abiding under the shadow of the Almighty when our days on earth are over. In Jesus name. Amen.

Altar Steps by Pastor R. P. Haakonson, Copyright-Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation.

Editor's Note; Once again, I have the privilege of bringing this biblical family Devotional Book to your attention. It is available from the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation for a Donation of ten dollars, plus two dollars for packaging and sending. Just use the envelope in the center of the magazine to order it.

Why not seriously consider giving it to folks you love, perhaps for Graduation, Anniversary or a Wedding gift?

**Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation
100th Anniversary**

*At Elim Lutheran Church
Osakis, MN*

Host: Pastor Lyndell Quam

April 17 – 19, 2020

(Friday Evening through Sunday Noon)

**THEME: “Rekindling the Vision”
Psalm 17:8 & Proverbs 7:2 & 29:18.**

Theme songs:

*O God, Our help in ages past, and
To God be the Glory*

FRIDAY Evening at 7:00 p.m. Guest speaker Circuit Judge, Timothy Tingelstad, Bemidji, MN. Coffee and Refreshments following

SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. – For those who can make it – Prayer Time at Elim Lutheran Church

(Others, please pray as you are getting ready to attend)

9:30 a.m. – Coffee/Refreshments

10:00 a.m. – Mr. Wayne Almlie, Des Moines, IA

11:00 a.m. – Mr. Marvin Jacobson, Northfield, MN

Noon meal at the Church, (Free will Offering)

1:15 p.m. Pastor Jim Haga, Shoreview, MN

2:15 p.m. – Testimonial/Singspiration

Fellowship and Refreshments following

7:00 p.m. – Judge Timothy Tingelstad

SUNDAY

Judge Timothy Tingelstad will be the Guest Speaker at the WORSHIP SERVICE; which is also the closing Hauge Session.

For those who can, Please, bring ‘home-made’ goodies for Refreshment times.

Everyone who is on praying Ground, please pray for Seasons of Refreshing from the LORD, through Messages, Songs and Christian Fellowship.

MAY GOD BE GLORIFIED, as it is HIS Ministry! *(Also, thank GOD for the 100 years in His Service)!*

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(USPS 887-740) Dilworth, MN 56529

Up Date

One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.” (Proverbs 11:24-25, please read also Luke 6:38)

Thus far, we are most certainly privileged and responsible to first of all be found ‘faithful’ unto GOD, and then to you who follow us in the Lord’s Work with your prayers and financial support to meet the needs of this ministry; that is being kept and blessed by GOD!

As you know, we live in a sinful world that constantly opposes the things of God. The people (redeemed) of the Kingdom face challenges both inside and outside the church as our Adversary does what he can to derail the work the Lord has given us to do. The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation (a faith ministry) is this year commemorating 100 years of GOD’S provision.

Offerings received in January 2020 were \$1,539.00. Monthly expenses are approx. \$3,500.00.