



# Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • May 2010

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## The Revelation Of The Mystery

If anyone should ask “How much remorse and sorrow for sin must I have before I am fit to come to Christ?” the answer is: You need only so much sorrow for sin as to feel your need of Christ, that you cannot live without Him, that you can find no peace before you come to Him. No greater sorrow for sin is required – and no less will suffice. It is an error, though, to believe that remorse must first have its time; then there comes the time for faith; then the time for peace, joy and holiness. Begin, friend, by believing in Christ. Then follow Him in a daily renewal of your life and conduct. One result will be that you will know the sin in your flesh more keenly than you ever did formerly.

However, one of the shrewdest tricks of the devil is the following: A man believes in a general way that the Bible is the Inspired Word of God. The Book is God’s Word from cover to cover. In it he seeks comfort and encouragement for his heart, light and strength for his daily life and walk. But there is one particular sin weighing upon his conscience. Then comes the devil and suggests to him the following line of reasoning: “The Gospel is the very truth of God. The grace of God in Christ is universal and comprises all sinners. All sin has been atoned for and taken away by Christ, so that ordinary sinners may be pardoned and receive mercy at the hands of God. But you are an exception to the rule: You know yourself what you have done. If it had not been for that particular sin or many sins against the Fifth, Sixth or Seventh Commandment, you too might be forgiven. But your sin is too black. You are an exceptional sinner. You do not come within the scope of God’s merciful compassion.” The phrase: “You are an

exception,” is the most venomous thrust of the ancient serpent. Truly, as Jesus says: *“He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it”* (John 8:44).

The truth is that there is no exception among sinners. The mercy of God is over them all. There is no sin that has not abundantly been atoned for by the blood of the Son of God. All that is necessary is that the sinner, whoever he or she may be, or whatever he or she may have done, repents of the sin or the sins, turns to Christ and of Him receives grace for grace. The pardoning grace of God in Christ is the very heart and core of the Gospel. Both the Old Testament and the New Testament testify to the universal grace of God, and that by word and example without number. *“Come, now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool”* (Isaiah 1:18). King David, guilty of adultery and murder, Manasse, the robber on the cross, the woman who was “a sinner in the city,” Peter the denier, all these are striking examples to prove that with God there are no exceptions among sinners. He invites them all to share in His grace, however sinful and guilty they may be.

Indeed, it was precisely for the blackest sins and the vilest sinners, for whom there is no salvation anywhere, that the Son of God became incarnate, bled and died, in order that “whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” To summarize: You have never sinned so horribly, never sunk so low, but that the blood of the Son of God can cleanse you, providing only that you

# Morning Glory

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repent and accept the forgiveness of God in the Savior. But that your heart and conscience may find rest and peace, it is a blessed privilege, in the case of gross sin especially, to make confession to your pastor or to some other Christian. The pressing burden will as a rule fall from the conscience.

Taken from "*A Faithful Guide to Peace with God*" by C. O. Rosenius. Used by permission of the Board of Parish Education of The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.

Submitted by Paul Peterson of Kenyon, Minnesota.

*AND Paul writes:* Precious Memories, how they linger. When I hear this song, I think of the Saints that God has put in my life as a Christian. Many of these 'saints' have gone Home to be with the Lord.

I remember as a young person how Christians would come over to our house to visit. It wouldn't take long before they talked about how things were going in their walk with the Lord. A lot was shared how the devil was trying to deceive them with this: They were exceptional sinners and could not be *forgiven!* But then they shared Promises from God's Eternal Word, the Bible and thus would find peace again.

I am so thankful that I was able to listen and learn how they dealt with the fiery darts from the Devil. The older I get the more fierce the *spiritual battle* gets. He knows his time is short so is working hard to deceive you and me. Praise the Lord His Word will last forever!

I have been reading "*A Faithful Guide to Peace with God*" and it has been such a blessing to me so would like to share it with you, *Morning Glory Readers*, so to encourage you along life's way.

# God's Laws Are AGAPE

Laws are like fences. And fences restrain, right? Ponder this story: Child psychologists discovered an interesting truth. Contemporary thought assumed that fences on playgrounds made children feel restricted in their recreation. A consensus was reached to remove the fences so that children wouldn't feel confined. The opposite effect occurred. Researchers found that the children became more *inhibited with their activities. They tended to huddle toward the middle of the playground and exhibited signs of insecurity.* **When the fences were replaced, the children played with greater enthusiasm and freedom.** All of God's Laws are for **our benefit; BUT no ONE can be saved by trying to keep GOD'S LAW!** *"For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all"* James 2:10. *"Therefore the law was our tutor (school master) to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith"* Galatians 3:24. WE should 'fear and love' God and because we LOVE HIM, we should be desirous (from our heart) of wanting to keep His Commandments. *"If you love Me, keep My commandments"* John 14:15.

\* \* \* \* \*

## There's Nothing Pleasant

By George E. Failing

There's nothing pleasant about Calvary.

The name suggests only the place of a skull. The hill was outside the city, an unconsecrated spot near the place where refuse from temple sacrifices was burned.

The circumstances of the crucifixion added no glamour or beauty. The earth shuddered with pain; the sky blackened with sadness. The people gathered in madness. There were few, if any, merely curious onlookers that day. Most of them were jeering the victims to be hung on the crosses. Most of them had come to witness a carnival of blood. In particular, they were lusty in crying for the blood of the Victim on the middle cross.

The few sympathetic friends that gathered to watch were sad and silent.

Not a voice at the scene was raised to protest the most unjustifiable death in human history. True, Pilate had protested Jesus' innocence. The centurion in charge of the execution was so amazed at Jesus' calmness and courage that

he could not but believe that the Victim was God's Son.

There was noise; there was gambling, there was cursing; there was blood at Calvary—in all, a revolting scene.

There was nothing lovely about Calvary. Jesus suffered, God was silent, friends mourned, and enemies were gleeful.

Then why Calvary? Ah, because there was sin. And it needs to be said sharply that there is nothing but ugliness about sin. Satan has always tried to make sin seem tempting and rewarding. But man's first discovery after his first sin was his own sense of shame and his loss of comradeship with God. The next biblically recorded act of sin was one of brutal and senseless murder. This was the evil that had to be stopped and cured. And it took Calvary to do it.

Christians do not stop at the cross, but they do start there. And anything that robs the cross of its centrality in Christian doctrine and in Christian life must be accursed. When the cross becomes an ornament, when Calvary becomes a flower garden, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.

Calvary is not pleasant, but it is gloriously effective. Jesus overcame Satan there forever. The full price for human redemption had been paid in full. And in Heaven itself there will be no sweeter refrain than "the son of Moses...and...of the Lamb," the song of redemption by Jesus' blood on Calvary's cross.

So *"God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."* This is the season of the cross, the seedtime of the whole Christian year. In the cross my soul will forever rejoice.

Sword of the Lord

*Those who deny freedom to others  
deserve it not for themselves, and  
under a just God, cannot long  
retain it.*

Abraham Lincoln (letter to Henry Pierce,  
April 6, 1859)

# Editorial

RES

## Frankly

***“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.” (Jude 3)***

*Sometimes ‘we’ take our ‘blessings’ for granted until we miss them!*

I was raised in a community where as an indirect result of the local “Innermission” a “Chapel” was built in the local town. This place was available whenever the “Innermission” folk felt led to have fellowship meetings OR pietistic evangelistic meetings with no church leader having no jurisdiction over them! As you see at that time they had furious opposition from mainly the ‘clergy’. As time went on the conviction/burden to hold evangelistic meetings in the ‘Chapel’ waned thin; and so eventually it was SOLD. OH how some hearts ached as they had no given place to meet. The ‘blessing’ they once had was now lost. Yes, it is so easy to take our blessings for granted until we loose them!

**Frankly and Biblically**, I know tithes and offerings are to be given unto the LORD out of a generous, loving heart; BUT UNLESS *finances* come into the *Morning Glory/Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation* on a more regular and generous basis something will have to be curtailed and OR limited. **Frankly** I do not really enjoy asking for ‘money’ even when it is for the Lord’s Work but this is a **privilege** the LORD has given ‘us’! **Giving** is a ‘spiritual exercise’ and in His Grace let’s have a part in His Kingdom’s Work also. **So** I am challenging YOU who are of the same mind and spirit in this ‘portion’ of the Lord’s Work to ask/pray seriously now and for the future what HE wants you to do!

Yes, I know we are in difficult economical times; BUT what happened to the ‘tithe’? By no means do we claim to be the ‘only’ Biblical, pietistic, Lutheran Free Movement; but **many drops fill the bucket!**

As the “Spiritual Storm Clouds Develop and continue to Darken” it prompts ‘us’ to keep looking up and occupying by His Grace until HE COMES in the twinkling of an eye! With Scripture in view and we experience ‘perilous times’, we definitely NEED to make sure that we are in *tune for the Trumpet Sound!* As these spiritual ‘clouds’ loom over us, the contrast of darkness and light become even greater and thus let me share with you a number of Scripture verses: “Do not enter the path of

*the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on. But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day” Proverbs 4:14-15 & 18. “Abstain from every form of evil.” 1 Thessalonians 5:22. “Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share.” 1 Timothy 6:17-18. (In the eyes of the whole world we most certainly are rich). “And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts” Romans 13:11-14. “And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before him at his coming” 1 John 2:28.*

To my knowledge there are not many Lutheran periodicals or newsletters that seek to evangelize, nurture, edify and tune trumpet bearers in these days of **Apostasy** (literally – ‘falling away’). Either a time has come OR is coming Or both of the following: “Behold, the days are coming.” Says the Lord God, “That I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD. They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east; They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, But shall not find it” Amos 8:11-12.

When Jesus says **‘Occupy till I come’**, I believe HE wants ministries like ‘ours’ to **continue UNTIL**.

I also want to believe that we who subscribe to Biblical inerrancy, inspiration and infallibility need to pray specifically and in earnest for regular financial giving as the Lord prospers and lays it upon willing hearts. (I am being very ‘frank’ with you!).

**Interestingly**, as the ‘spiritual dark boisterous



clouds' hover over us, literally the darkest part of the night is just before the dawn and there is a star which is called the "Morning Star" and it appears to the natural eye just before the dawn. "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star" Revelation 22:16.

FAITHFUL BELIEVERS do not give up AS we keep looking up we know from Scripture and searching the same that JESUS talks a fair amount about money/finances in Scripture because money matters! "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" Matthew 6:21. "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal" Matthew 6:20.

May the LORD richly BLESS YOU as YOU

seek HIS WILL for your life and IF HE leads YOU to give this 'ministry', may HE give you the GRACE to give cheerfully, joyfully and generously unto HIM! "Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, 'Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.'" Revelation 14:13.

**P. S.** By the **Grace of God**, "we" are here to 'minister' to everyone, BUT especially to Lutherans in these days – 'perilous times' of APOSTASY!

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS MINISTRY & WE ARE PRAYING FOR YOU!!**

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The cost for each issue of the *Morning Glory* alone is approximately - \$2,400.

**"He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea" Micah 7:19.**

Drop a large stone into the depths of the sea, and then try to find it again.

God's mercy is like the sea. It is as wide, as deep, and as immeasurable as the sea. My sins are cast as a stone into the depths of the sea, and no one will ever be able to find them. No more will they torment me. They are forgiven – and forgotten. It is as though they had never been committed. This is what happens when the Lord has mercy upon us.

O my soul, why are you downcast and anxious? Gaze for a moment into the depths of God's mercy. You will never be able to see the bottom. Even though you may think you have looked deep down, you have only penetrated the surface – so infinitely deep is the ocean of God's mercy. And there your sins lie buried.

Taken from the devotional book "Rest A While" by Fredrik Wisloff

\* \* \* \* \*

Never do we get the idea from Scripture that Baal worship or the paganism of the heathen surrounding Israel had any good points. Nor is there any hint by Paul that the worship of Diana of the Ephesians or the paganism in Cor-

inth had any good points in them, but were to be totally rejected.

*Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, And be not dismayed at the signs of heaven, For the heathen are dismayed at them.*

Jeremiah 10:2

The Berean Call

\* \* \* \* \*

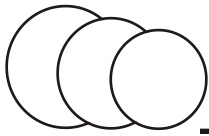
It is a difficult and lifelong process for us to achieve submission and dependence. The greatest battle takes place in our mind. Romans 12:1-2 tells us to "...present (our) bodies a living sacrifice ...

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..." With this in mind, 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 tells us that "...the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (or fleshly), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds casting down imaginations (or reasoning) ...and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." The main battlefield is the human mind.

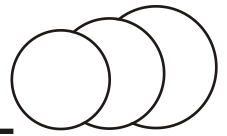
*Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.*

Hebrews 2:8

The Berean Call (Apples of Gold)



# From Our Fellowship Circle



**A&D H** **Twin Valley, MN**  
 We really enjoy the "Morning Glory". It is Great! Keep up the great work of spreading the Good News of Jesus. To God be all Honor & Glory...I have names to add to get the 'MG'...I have enclosed a check...Thank you ...In Christ Jesus...

**JC** **Mc Callsburg, IA**  
 The "MG" is inspiring to me. I read it from cover to cover. Enclosed is a gift to help with the printing....It is a blessing to me and it is shared. I ask God to bless you and your ministry...I look forward to the next issue.

**L M** **Fergus Falls, MN**  
 We have been receiving the "MG" for maybe 3 years. We truly enjoy it and look forward to it monthly. It covers so many things that aren't talked about in pulpits these days which is so sad for the young and the old people. We want to help with your expenses. We are sending...in memory of Pastor Richard Walvatne who died in Dec. of 2009.

**JM** **Burnsville, MN**  
 Thank you for the 'Morning Glory'! I pray that you may always stay true to the gospel of truth and Faith alone in Christ Alone! Romans 4:5.

**RJ** **New Glaris, WI**  
 Enclosed is a donation for your 'Morning Glory'. I read this fine paper every month and am blessed by it.

**OA** **Newport, NC**  
 Here is a small check ...Thanks again for the Morning Glory. I was hospitalized from Nov ....Dec...Then two weeks at a rehab center...Morning Glory was almost a reality for me...I am recovering...slowly. God bless you wonderful people. I think God withholds His judgement from America because of efforts such as your's to draw near to Him. Thanks for visiting with me by telephone.

**ST** **Radcliffe, IA**  
 God bless you for printing the TRUTH in your publication...I read every article and thank God for your strong faith in Jesus Christ to print everything we need to hear! Christ is coming soon – and we thank you for helping us to prepare our hearts and minds to press on for Jesus with great BOLDNESS in our witness for Him to all the unreached souls in the whole world. God bless you as you serve God and may the 'MG' continue to bless the readers.

Great is Thy faithfulness. ...In Christ

**RT** **Britton, SD**  
 I will continue to pray for your ministry every day. Please continue to pray for me. Thank you.

**MC** **Fertile, MN**  
 Could you send a copy of "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" and 'Mirror of the Heart'. We thoroughly enjoy the 'MG'. Originally heard of it from Pastor Wik, Faribault, MN.

**Mrs. HJ** **Schroeder, MN**  
 Please send me the 'MG'. My friend let me read her's and I liked it. I'm sending a donation.

(Editor: The majority of our subscriptions come such as this. PTL for faithfully sharing.)

**EW** **Story City, IA**  
 Thanks for your timely articles in 'Morning Glory'. Thank God for those who are on the Alert.

**P&P** **Willmar, MN**  
 Thank you very much for a very good paper. We read all of it.

**L&R S**  
 We look forward to each copy of the 'MG'. It is so encouraging to know there are still those who stand on the truth of scripture. God Bless You.

**God doesn't play dice  
 with the Universe**  
 Albert Einstein

# A Question Of Value

By Pastor Jim Fugleberg

*Please read Mark 8:34-38*

Perhaps we have all heard Missionary Jim Elliot's famous quote, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose."

That statement, to a great extent, sums up what I see as the main idea in this passage of Scripture. In a number of ways in this text Jesus confronts us with the question of value, and causes us to make an assessment of what is, in the final analysis of things, the most prudent thing to do, or course to follow.

What direction or course to take is really an awesome question, because generally speaking, to go in this direction rules out going in that direction. Concentrating in this area means giving less or no importance to another area. If I spend my dollar on a snocone, then I won't be able to spend it on a hot dog!

The choices are important, and whatever direction we take will have a major impact on what the rest of our lives will be like.

Jesus sets before us today basically two options: Two options said in four different but similar ways.

- 1). You can deny yourself and follow Jesus.
- 2). You can wish to save your life and end up losing it, or you can lose it for the sake of Jesus and the Gospel, and end up saving it.
- 3). You can gain the whole world and lose your soul, or you can forfeit the world, and keep your soul.
- 4). Or you can be ashamed of Jesus and have Jesus ashamed of you at the Judgment, or you can confess Him before men and be confessed before God in Heaven.

As you see, **the stakes are high!** Because, to come after Jesus is the path of the saved who keep their souls and are confessed in heaven.

In other words, *this is a matter of **Heaven and Hell!***

As of right now in your life the matter of your eternal destiny is something that you know is not settled yet for maybe some of you. And your concern about it may be greater or lesser. But whatever your level of concern is about it today, Jesus would have you know, by what He said here, that it is a matter of **extreme importance**.

It is extremely important, because the Day of Judgment is in view. Jesus speaks of losing one's soul.

What does losing one's soul mean, and when will that happen? Losing it doesn't mean you will no longer have a soul, but that it is lost to condemnation, and can no longer be

saved. This losing will happen before you die and will be settled at the Judgment, when one stands in the guilt of his sins before God, and is commanded to depart into the Lake of Fire.

Jesus speaks of the Day when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels, and on that day being ashamed of those who were ashamed of Him. For Jesus to be ashamed of a person means that He will deny that that person is one of his disciples, and that Jesus will disown him and reject him.

When this life is over God must condemn those who come to the Judgment bearing the guilt of their sins, because God is a just God. If we are guilty of idolatry, or of profanity, or of despising His Word or of dishonoring those in authority over us; if we are guilty of murder, adultery, theft, coveting, whether we do it outwardly or in our hearts; if we are guilty of unloving thoughts, words, actions or attitudes, toward God or toward other people, God does not just pretend He doesn't see it. Whether it seems like a big or a small offense to us, it is **still a sin in the sight of God**, and God says that if we keep the whole law and yet stumble in just one point, we are guilty of violating the whole Law. That's because the Law is perfect, and it is not kept unless it is kept perfectly. And if we come to the Judgment bearing the guilty of violating the Law, then in His justice, God must disown us and require of us that we spend eternity in the Lake of Fire.

Many are going to be lost on that day, because they have tried in this life to keep the Law of God themselves. They have thought, "if I try hard enough, I can do it. Even though that is impossible, if someone did, in themselves and by their own efforts keep the whole law, they would still stumble in one point, because they would give themselves the credit, and their pride wouldn't be able to handle it.

And that's just hypothetical, and it can't be anything other than hypothetical, because our hearts are way too sinful to even get that close to perfection. Our hearts are selfish, and we want the things that please ourselves.

And what is it that we really need? What is it that is really important in the final analysis of things?

It is to get to Heaven. That is where Jesus is. And Jesus says, "If anyone will come after me – in other words, if we are going to get with Jesus and be where Jesus is – let him deny (there's that word again) himSELF.

I used to think that denying one's self just meant to say "no" to one's self about the things self wants, but it means more than that! It means that we disown it and reject it. It

means that we discontinue honoring it, providing for it, depending on it, trusting in it.

That's hard as long as we haven't yet discovered how corrupt and sick and shameful and selfish and damnable self is. But one who has come to the end of himself looks at himself and says, "Yuck! Oh, you sinful, self-centered, hateful person! You are so pitifully wicked you don't deserve anything but hell fire and damnation! That's who you are!"

If we see ourselves in this way, wouldn't it be good if we could just set self aside, totally abandon it, and start fresh with a new life?

That is what Jesus offers!

**V. 35** *"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it."*

If we would want to save our own life in the sense of pampering and satisfying self; we will be lost at the Judgment. But if we lose our life in the sense of disowning and abandoning it in favor of receiving Christ and being made perfect in Him, then we will save our life, in the sense that we will find that now we have new life, the life of Christ living within us, and we are alive in him with the life that is eternal life.

It's hard to see what a worth-while trade it is until we see how corrupt self is, but when we see it and abandon it in favor of putting our whole confidence in Christ, then there is no doubt in our minds that what Jesus says here is **totally true**.

But "he is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose." But to gain the whole world and lose one's soul is the height of foolishness. It's a question of value, and the value should be obvious. May the Holy Spirit make it obvious to us.

Jesus had His disciples with Him also as He spoke these words, and for good reason, because disciples need to hear them too.

But following after Jesus calls for an on going crucifying of self, and that makes for a struggle, because self keeps on wanting to be back in control, and keeps on wanting to be satisfied.

We love Jesus, because He has saved us from sin and given us eternal life, but when we find ourselves amidst the people of an adulterous and sinful generation, the pressure of the world becomes huge, and the temptations to the flesh become strong. Self would be so much more pleased if we could be accepted as one of the world and just set Jesus off to the side for a while. How self would love to do the kinds of things the adulterous and sinful generation does!

But here again it is a question of value.

And should we now abandon Jesus, in whom alone we have eternal life just because the hell-bound world makes

sin look fun and satisfying to the flesh?

When Jesus called us to discipleship, He told us discipleship involves taking up our cross and following Him. Jesus had just announced to the disciples that He was going to be rejected by the chief priests, and that they would kill Him and the third day He would rise again. Jesus knew going to the cross was the way it must be in order to save you (mankind). Jesus must deny Himself even to the point of surrendering to death in the most cruel manner known to man. He must pick up His cross and carry it to the place of crucifixion.

Likewise He told us that following Him means that we must take up **OUR** cross. Our cross is not the same as Jesus' cross. Our cross will be unique to us. Sometimes people refer to their troubles in life as being the cross they have to carry, but that is not what Jesus meant.

Our cross is the sufferings and persecutions and difficulties we must endure as a result of *our faithfulness to JESUS!*

At one time it may mean denying ourselves a sinful pleasure. At another time it might mean having to stand up for what we know to be right, in opposition to the many who want to do wrong.

In that most spiritually hostile situation, such as Lot living in Sodom, following Jesus means that we do not shrink back from identifying ourselves with Him and for His sake refusing to participate in the sin we might be being pressured to commit. It means further that even in that situation or in whatever situation we are in, we seek to live in a way that honors Jesus and points others toward Him.

But what would be the value of living for Jesus, of standing for the truth, of holding to our moral standards, and of faithfully sharing the Gospel when we have opportunity? What would be the value for ourselves when we come to the Judgment and hear the words of Jesus, *"Well done, thou good and faithful servant?"* And what will be the value for others? Even within that adulterous and sinful crowd, there may be a few whose hearts are open, and when they hear from us a testimony for Christ, and see our godly convictions lived out, they will say, I need what you have. How can we measure the value of a soul? Jesus indicates here that a soul is more valuable than all the wealth of the world.

In His Word today, Jesus calls us to be His disciples.

Will we turn from this world and from all that it has to offer? Are we ready to say **No** to self in order that we may say **yes** to Jesus? Will we serve Him *faithfully* despite the world's allurements?

It's a question of **value**. A question we must consider carefully, a question we may need to consider constantly.

Excerpts from a Sermon Pastor Fugleberg gave at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, on 1/24/2010



# Sin shall be no more

*“And he shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death shall be no more; neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more: the first things are passed away.”*

(Revelation 21:4)

**Oh**, what a day, when all that has defiled *this* world shall be no more!

Sin shall be no more.

Think of it: we shall never grieve our Savior any more!

The one and only real sorrow of the Christian is his sorrow because of sin. That sorrow never leaves him.

The Christian is permitted to believe in a full forgiveness for all sin for Jesus' sake. Yes, all that she has thought, and said and done is blotted out and cast into the sea of oblivion.

Nevertheless, sorrow because of sin never busies. On the contrary, it becomes ever deeper and more painful. The closer we live to the cross of Christ, the harder it becomes for us to endure the fact that we grieve our precious Savior.

*“One radiant morn when sinless souls assemble,  
Where each desire is born in purity,  
No more the thought of wrong shall make us tremble,  
But, ransomed, I shall live forever free.”*

On the morn sin will be no more in the lives of others either. Never another wicked person to meet.

It is difficult to conceive of such a thing. But imagine if everybody about us were like Jesus. Yes, you say, if all people were like Jesus, heaven itself would be in our own very midst. And I agree.

All whom we shall meet on that day will be good, both people and angels. For that reason temptation will be no more. Forever within the portals which open in but never out.

All the consequences of sin will be forever gone. No tears, no weariness, no sickness, no sorrow, no longing.

In brief: no disharmony any more. Our whole being, soul and body, will finally be in its rightful element – in God!

Taken from “*God's Word For Today*” by O. Hallesby  
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## “Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24)

To be justified means *to be declared just or righteous*. God brings forth my records and scans through them. He reads of sin, self-righteousness, uncleanness, and wickedness on every page. And I have no excuses to offer. And yet, when He sees that I have faith, (Ed. In *Jesus*, refuge) He declares: *You are righteous!* For the sake of Christ your sin shall be forgiven and forgotten; and you shall be free and pure!”

How amazing! *Pure* – I, a wretched sinner, pure and clean! How marvelous! How undeserved!

That this is undeserved is indicated three times in this text: “freely,” “by His grace,” and it is by virtue of Christ’s “redemption.”

O faithful Savior, declare this to me by Thy Spirit over and over again. It is so hard for me to understand it. I forget it so easily. I need so sorely to hear it. It is by grace – entirely undeserved! It is for Jesus' sake! Looking at myself only makes me discouraged and weary. What salvation have I deserved? And so I receive all this gratis, as an unmerited gift, all of salvation for the sake of Christ. O Lord, Let me never lose my foothold in Thy unmerited grace!

Taken from the devotional book “*Rest A While*”  
by Fredrik Wisloff

### PLEASE PRAY!

*Please Pray* that God may be permitted to lay the ‘burden and vision’ of the ministry of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/*Morning Glory!* on more individual hearts. We appreciate every concerned ‘reader’ of the *Morning Glory*. By His Grace we are seeking to reach ‘souls’ for HIS KINGDOM and for nurturing/edifying the Lambs and Sheep in His Kingdom’s Fold.

Our Biblically based ‘Free Lutheran Movement’ will definitely be encouraged spiritually fortified. You who are involved in this teamwork know that we make no apologies for the old time Christianity and seek to follow and practice the same! Our logo on the front page of the ‘Morning Glory’ includes these words: Experienced Salvation, Christian Fellowship and Simplicity in Worship.

**Thank You and the Lord bless You for caring!**

# Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

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## Attorney: Hasan's "Religious Rights" Prohibited

Army Major Nidal Malik Hasan is suspected of killing fourteen people, including an unborn baby, while wounding more than two dozen others at the army post in Texas on November 5. Hasan remains hospitalized at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he is paralyzed from the chest down.

The San Antonio Express-News recently reported that Hasan's attorney, John P. Galligan, claims the army is violating his client's religious rights because it prohibited him from praying from the Koran in Arabic with a relative. Hasan was reportedly on the phone with his brother when the guard cut the conversation short because the suspect was not speaking English. The military has restricted Hasan to speaking English to visitors or on the phone, unless an army-approved translator is present.

"It's very common for Islamic Jihadists to claim victim status when they're in prison." Notes Robert Spencer, director of Jihad Watch. "Part of the al Qaeda playbook is that they should always claim that they have been tortured, whatever the truth may be."

In Spencer's opinion, Galligan's claims are at fault. "It's reprehensible for this lawyer to be demanding that Nidal Hasan be given free and unrestricted access to the ideology that led him to commit those murders," he argues. "It would be like saying that a Nazi war criminal has to have a copy of *Mein Kampf* in his jail cell."

—OneNewsNow.com

## Soft on Prostitution

The Department of Health and Human Services is trying to overturn a key policy related to human trafficking.

It is all related to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), according to Tom McClusky of the Family Research Council.

"PEPFAR was created by President Bush in 2003 to help stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic that was happening in Africa," McClusky explains. "Within the legislation was a pledge for organizations that received federal money—a pledge that they would not promote or put forth prostitution."

This pledge was established because prostitution was one of the primary sources for the spread of the disease. According to McClusky, however, that legislation against promotion is about to change.

"What the Obama administration is trying to do is to allow these organizations...that promote prostitution (to) receive federal money," he reports.

That funding extends to the countries where the organization operates, so the financial support will no longer be a tool to reduce prostitution and human trafficking, including that of children. Instead, it will result in the exploitation of women and children, claims McClusky.

OneNewsNow.com

## Montana Supreme Court Makes State Third to Allow Unlimited Assisted Suicide

The Montana Supreme Court has officially paved the way for the state to become the third to allow the practice of assisted suicide. The high court considered a case from a now-deceased terminally ill patient who wanted the right to kill himself with assistance from a physician.

The high court did not determine if the Montana constitution guarantees a right to assisted suicide but said nothing in state law or the precedent of the court (prohibited) assisted suicide.

"We find nothing in Montana Supreme Court precedent or Montana statutes indicating that physician aid in dying is against public policy," the high court said in its opinion.

The decision essentially has Montana joining Oregon and Washington as the only three states in the nation to allow assisted suicides. It declared assisted suicide as legal and could (protect) doctors from almost any prosecution for engaging in them.

Lifenews.com

**EDITOR'S COMMENTS:** We point out once again that the liberals are leaning heavily on the judiciary (heavily stacked with liberal judges) to get their wickedly liberal agenda in place. This type of judicial activism has become popular in recent years, even though it puts the courts in the unconstitutional position of legislating from the bench. Liberals will do almost anything (whatever they can get away with). Whether it is legal or moral doesn't seem to matter.

Sword of the Lord, Editor

## Texas refused federal education funds

Texas Republican Gov. Rick Perry is being praised for refusing to adopt national curriculum standards and test-

ing for public schools.

Gov. Perry notified U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan that he will not accept \$700 million in federal stimulus money for his state's education fund. The funds would be available through federal Race to the Top program, but Perry said it would be foolish to take the money that would come with strings attached.

In a letter to Duncan, Perry wrote, "I will not commit Texas taxpayers to unfunded federal obligations or to the adoption of unproven, cost-obligations national curriculum standards and tests."

Donna Garner taught English for decades in Texas public schools and is an education policy commentator for EducationNews.org. She said health care is in the spotlight, but there is also a strong push by the federal government to take over local public schools...

—OneNewsNow.com

## North Korea Top Persecutor of Christians Eighth Straight Time

Two of the most notorious and restrictive regimes in the world top the Open Doors 2010 World Watch List (WWL) of 50 countries which are the worst persecutors of Christians.

In the number one spot for the eighth straight time is North Korea, the country where every religious activity is recognized as an insurrection to the North Korean socialist principles. In 2009, the North Korean regime of Kim Jong-il targeted Christians over the country.

That resulted in arrest, torture and killings. North Korean leaders are desperately trying to control society in order to eradicate all Christian activities. There are an estimated 200,000 North Koreans in political prison, including 40,000 to 60,000 Christians.

A veteran North Korean watcher, who can't be identified due to security reasons, state: "Christians are the target of fierce government action, and once caught, are not regarded as human. Last year we had evidence that some were used as Guinea pigs to test chemical and biological weapons."

Iran is now number two on the list...The wave of arrest of Christians which started in 2008 continued even stronger during 2009, resulting in the arrest of at least 85 Christians. It is suspected that the arrests are a way for Iranian government to distract attention from internal problems, including domestic turmoil after the re-election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad...

Of the countries on the top 10 list, eight have Islam as their dominant religion—Iran, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Maldives, Afghanistan, Yemem, Mauritania and Uzbekistan. North Korea and Laos are communist countries.

Also, 35 of the 50 countries on the list have Islamic governments.

"It is certainly not a shock that North Korea is number one on the list of countries where Christians face the worst persecution." Says Carl Moeller, president and CEO of Open Doors USA. "There is no other country in the world where Christians are persecuted in such a horrible and systematic manner. Three generations of a family are often thrown into prison when one member is incarcerated.

—Christian Newswire

## Religious Leftists Love the Global Warming Issue

Most recently, you may have read about the international climate change summit in Copenhagen, attended by President Obama and countless other heads of state. Many liberals are angry, because, despite the big talk, the assembled governments agreed to no specific reductions in carbon emissions. Groups like the World Council of Churches (WCC) were pushing for a 40 percent reduction in carbon emissions in 10 years, which would have crippled the world economy.

Of course, the Religious Left, like the secular far-left, sees global warming as a convenient pretext for shutting down capitalism...

...(T)he global warming cause opportunistically allows the Religious Left to collapse all its favored causes into one issue. (These causes include) hostility to free markets and economic growth; cravings for wealth redistribution; Western guilt; veneration for the earth at the expense of humanity; and aspirations for global governance. And despite Religious Left claims about concern for the poor, shutting down or restricting the global economy would hurt the very poor the most. Draconian carbon reductions would keep poor people poor and the rest of us stagnant, less able to help others in need. What's compassionate about that?

Mark Tooley for IRD

## German homeschoolers granted asylum in U.S.

A German family was granted political asylum in late January by a U.S. immigration judge because of "a well-founded fear of persecution" for home schooling their children.

"Homeschoolers are not a threat to German society," said Michael Donnelly, a Home School Legal Defense Association lawyer representing Uwe Romeike, his wife and their five children.

Homeschooling in Germany is illegal in most cases,

and violators can be fined, jailed and even lose custody of their children. Donnelly said the German government has decided homeschoolers are “trying to create a parallel society” that must be stamped out.

The Romeikes have said their evangelical Christian beliefs led them to home school their children. Subsequently, they were harshly punished, receiving fines totaling \$10,000. On one occasion, police hauled their children off to school.

In 2006, the Romeikes immigrated to Tennessee and continued home schooling their children. Donnelly said the family applied for political asylum within three months of arriving in the U.S.

www.washingtontimes.com. 1/28/10

## Is There Anything The ELCA Won't Do?

Ann Holmes, the former Episcopal priest who claims to be both a Christian and a Muslim is now teaching religion at Pacific Lutheran University (ELCA) in Seattle. Her bishop says he accepts Redding as an Episcopal priest and a Muslim, and that he finds the interfaith possibilities exciting.

“I could not NOT be a Muslim,” she said. “At the most basic level, I understand the two religions to be compatible. That’s all I need.” Even though she is uncertain about what or who she is spiritually, Redding is now granted the right to teach at an ELCA college.

But the ELCA College in Seattle is not far behind St. Olaf College (ELCA), in Northfield, Minnesota, where the head of the religion department, is a Hindu.

*The Vine and Branches*

## ACLU files suit against Miss. school for canceling prom

By Chris Joyner, USA TODAY

JACKSON, Miss. — A Mississippi school board’s decision to cancel the high school prom rather than change its policy on same-sex dates attracted national attention and prompted legal action Thursday.

The [American Civil Liberties Union](#) of Mississippi filed suit in federal court against the Itawamba County School District and asked the judge to reverse the school board’s decision to cancel the April 2 dance. The lawsuit alleges district officials have violated McMillen’s First Amendment right of free expression.

“It’s just a sad situation. I feel sorry for the children who ain’t going to get to have their prom,” said Diane Roberts, a hair stylist in Fulton, Miss.

Roberts said the school board’s decision has placed

the entire city of about 4,000 in a negative light. “There are some people on the board who think they are the last word,” she said. “You can’t judge people like that. That’s between them and their good Lord.”

Constance McMillen, a senior at Itawamba Agricultural High School, contacted the ACLU after she was told by school administrators she could not bring her girlfriend to the dance. McMillen, 18, also was told she could not wear a tuxedo.

School officials did not return calls seeking comment Thursday regarding the policy.

In a statement released Wednesday, the board said the controversy caused “distractions to the educational process” and said they hoped a private group would host the event.

Jennifer Chamblee, a resident in nearby Guntown, sided with the school board.

“What about the rights of the other students that do not share her lifestyle or the way that she wants to live it?” she said.

Christine Sun, an attorney with the ACLU, condemned the board’s action.

“It’s shameful and cowardly of the school district to have canceled the prom and to try to blame Constance, who’s only standing up for herself,” she said. “We will fight tooth and nail for the prom to be reinstated for all students.”

McMillen attended school Thursday but left early. The atmosphere at school was “tense,” she said....

Marillyn Miers, 60, of Big Spring, Texas, said she believes the school system has the moral high ground.

“It is a sin in God’s eyes to begin with,” she said of homosexuality. “If they can’t bring the opposite sex to the prom, then they don’t need to be there.”

Kristy Bennett, legal director of the Mississippi ACLU, said there has been federal case law since 1980 supporting gay students’ rights to bring whomever they want to their high school proms.

*Joyner reports for The (Jackson, Miss.) Clarion-Ledger*

*Woe unto you who call evil good, and good evil...therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, and the flame consumes the chaff, so their root will be rottenness, and their blossom will ascend like dust; because they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy one of Israel. (Isa. 5:20,24)*



## The Opening Of The Eyes

*“And Elisha prayed, and said ‘LORD, pray, open his eyes that he may see ...LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see.’”*

(2 Kings 6:17,20)

How wonderfully the prayer of Elisha for his servant was answered! The young man saw the mountain full of chariots of fire and horsemen surrounding Elisha. The heavenly host had been sent by God to protect the Lord’s servant.

Then Elisha prayed a second time. The Syrian army had been stricken with blindness and were led into Samaria. There Elisha prayed for the opening of their eyes, and they found themselves hopeless prisoners in the hand of the enemy.

We ought to use these prayers in the spiritual sphere. First of all, we ought to ask that our eyes may see the wonderful provision that God has made for his church, in the baptism with the Holy Spirit and with fire. (See Matthew 3:11.) All the powers of the heavenly world are at our disposal in the service of the heavenly kingdom. How little the children of God live in the faith of that heavenly vision – the power of the Holy Spirit on them, with them, and in them, for their own spiritual life and as their strength to joyfully witness for their Lord and His work!

But we will find that we need that second prayer, too, so that God may open the eyes of those of His children who do not yet see the power that the world and sin have upon His people. They are still unaware of the feebleness that marks the church, making it powerless to do the work of winning souls for Christ and building up believers for a life of holiness and fruitfulness. Let us pray especially that God may open all eyes to see what the great and fundamental need of the church is – to bring down His blessing in intercession, so that the power of the Spirit may be known unceasingly in its divine effectiveness and blessing.

Our Father, who is in heaven, You who are so unspeakably willing to give us the Holy Spirit in power, hear our humble prayer. Open our eyes, we pray, so that we may realize fully the low estate of Your church, and that we may know as fully what treasures of grace and power You are willing to bestow in answer to the fervent prayer of a united church. Amen.

*God’s Best Secrets* by Andrew Murray  
Copyright, by Whitaker House

\* \* \* \* \*

## Moses Didn’t Need a Drill

Drilling ten inches a day for 189 days through solid granite to reach water at a depth of 158 feet in the Sinai desert, modern Israelites do not find it as easy as did Moses, who in the same area merely stuck the rock with his rod at God’s command, and the cool, sweet waters gushed forth in abundance.

Israeli hydrologist and Bedouin laborers have doubtless envied Moses who produced such copious streams of water without a drill. If we all will read Exodus 17:6, we will know that this miracle was the result of faith and obedience. God is able to produce “streams in the desert.”

—The Capital Voice

\* \* \* \* \*

It takes much love to be willing to correct. It would be far easier not to do so. Yet Jesus said, “As many as I love I rebuke and chasten”

*“As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.”* (Revelation 3:19)

The Berean Call (Apples of Gold)

\* \* \* \* \*

## WELL SAID ...

The God of Moses, Joshua, Elijah, the apostles and crowds of others is still alive. He is still the Lord and He hears and answers prayers. Let us not, therefore, be overwhelmed by the apostasy. This is but a challenge to your faith and a call to more intense and sacrificial prayer. Therefore, let us lift the hands which hang down and strengthen the feeble knees, and let us betake ourselves to our knees, and stretch forth our hands to God, and the God who seeth in secret will reward us openly.

Hyman Appleman

*Today’s tiny steps of compromise on what are considered minor matters will become the stepping stones to tomorrow’s compromised major issue.*

—Shelton Smith

# *Is Communion Automatic Forgiveness?*

We hear the words of Christ at the institution of the Lord's Supper, "Take and eat. This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood which is shed for you, and for many for the forgiveness of sins; this do, as oft as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." Thus, the purpose of Jesus instituting the Lord's Supper was to bring forgiveness of sins.

As Lutherans, we believe in what is called the "Real Presence." We believe that, in communion, we receive the bread and the grape juice and also the true body and blood of Christ. We believe this because that is what Jesus Himself said, and it is also what the Scripture says in other places. *"Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?"* (1 Cor. 10:16) That is why we call Communion a Means of Grace: God communicates His invisible grace through certain visible means.

Jesus did this when He was here. He spit on the ground and made clay of the spit and dirt and put it on the eyes of a man who was blind and told him to "Wash in the Pool of Siloam" (John 9:6-7). Jesus communicated His grace through certain visible means – namely spit, clay and water.

Because of this many are led to believe that Communion is automatic forgiveness. Since the Body and Blood of Christ are really present, does that mean that everyone who takes it is automatically forgiven? This is the belief of some in regards to communion. If someone is not doing well and perhaps is expected to die, the minister will be called to administer communion so that they can make sure that all their sins are forgiven and they can go to heaven. Some Lutheran pastors assume that if the members are in church hearing the Word and taking communion, their sins are forgiven and they are headed for heaven. Is communion automatic forgiveness?

Well, the simple act of taking the elements does not guarantee forgiveness. When Jesus communed the disciples, Judas Iscariot was present. We are told in Luke 22:3 that *"Satan entered Judas, who was called Iscariot, belonging to the number of the twelve."* So Judas had already betrayed Jesus in his heart. Even though he took communion from Jesus Himself, it did not remit Judas' sins. Jesus said of Judas, *"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."* (Matt. 26:23-25)

What Judas was lacking is what a lot of communicants at communion today are lacking: A heart which has repentance of sin and true faith in Jesus. These must be present in order for communion to bring forgiveness of sins. Communion is not a "Magical Elixer" or "snake oil" that will automatically grant forgiveness. Rather, it is a means of receiving God's Grace.

It is just like the Word of God. The Holy Spirit works through the Word of God to bring people to repent and believe in Christ. Thus, every time the Word of God is present, so is God with His grace. But you can hear the Scriptures and not automatically have salvation, which is the testimony of most. Salvation comes when you believe what the Word says and act upon it in faith.

So it is in communion. Forgiveness of sins comes when you believe what Christ says about communion and act upon it in faith. It is to come with a heart that is truly repentant and truly believing in Christ as your Lord and Savior. This is what Judas did not do. He did not repent and he did not believe, so that even though he took communion, his sins were not forgiven.

In fact, the Scriptures have stern admonitions against taking communion this way! *"Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and 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 sleep."* (1 Cor. 11:27-29)

Communion taken this way becomes an act of judgment rather than a means of forgiveness. It is to eat and drink God's judgment against yourself. This includes weakness and sickness, and says that this had happened to many of them! If that weren't enough, it says that a number of them were even in sleep, which means that they died! Communion for these people was not automatic forgiveness, it was automatic judgment.

Partaking of communion in an unworthy manner means carelessly, without thought or preparation. It

would mean to take communion just because it is part of the service without giving any thought or preparation toward taking it.

To come in a worthy manner means that we first examine ourselves. *“But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.”* (I Cor. 11:28) This means prayerful examination of your life, as the Psalmist says, *“Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxious thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”* (Ps. 139:23-24) It means to examine yourself and repent of your sins before the Lord. It is to also meditate on the grace of God in Christ bestowed to you.

Some Key questions which a Christian can use to prepare himself for communion are:

1) Am I truly sorry and do I truly repent (turn) for all my sins in Thought, Word and Deed? To come carelessly means that you give no regard for your sins.

2) Do I believe that Jesus My Savior atoned for all my sins on the cross?

3) Do I believe that Jesus gives me His body and blood in the Lord’s Supper to assure me of forgiveness?

4) Do I sincerely desire, in the Lord’s strength, to live my life in full surrender to His will as revealed in Scripture?

If the true Christian comes to communion in this way, then they have the assurance that their sins are covered in the blood of Jesus and can rightly hear the absolution given at the table: *“Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, who has now bestowed upon you, His holy body and blood, whereby He has made full satisfaction for all your sins, strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto everlasting life. Peace be with you. Amen”*

Communion then becomes a time of your closest physical relationship with Jesus on this side of eternity, for He Himself is present, giving you His body and blood. It also becomes a time of uniting with your fellow believers. *“Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.”* (I Cor. 10:17)

Pastor Jim Haga  
Shoreview, MN

**Let us break bread  
together on our knees.**

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**“For the word of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us who are saved it is the power of God”**

**(I Corinthians 1:18).**

GOD has spoken many times and in many ways to us in the prophets. “At the end of these days,” He has spoken to us in His Son. And a mighty speech it is, both in word and in deed.

However, the cross is beyond all comparison His mightiest speech.

The cross of Calvary is the center of history and of the world.

It is the most terrible and the most glorious place on earth.

There God unveils the two mightiest and most mysterious realities in the universe: *sin* and *grace*.

No man knows what sin is until he has stood at the cross of Christ.

And because most people will not pause at the cross, they have such a thoughtless and frivolous view of sin.

What does the cross tell us about the sinfulness of man?

It tells us that man is at *enmity* with God. It tells us that man is not merely *evil*, but that he is *so* evil that he will not tolerate the good. Our race put to death the Only Good One that ever lived. Not by accident, but deliberately, by a well-planned judicial murder.

And the *most* religious people of that generation did it.

The cross of Christ tells us further that sin is so terrible that not even our almighty and all-loving God can forgive it *without atonement*.

However, He does not require this satisfaction of others. He becomes man Himself, to suffer and to die for His enemies.

Dear children of God, let us take note of the appalling seriousness of sin! Let the pleas of Jesus and His cries of distress pierce us to the very bone and marrow, that the sufferings of Jesus may impart to us that fear and trembling with respect to sin which will preserve us from *misusing* the grace of God.

Taken from *“God’s Word For Today”* by O. Hallesby  
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**ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE HAUGE  
LUTHERAN INNERMISSION FEDERATION**

*When?* **June 11 – 13, 2010** (Friday Evening thru the  
Worship Service on Sunday).

*Where?* Stavanger Free Lutheran Church, Garden  
City, Iowa

*Host Pastor:* Pastor Earl Korhonen

**SCHEDULE**

**Friday** evening, 7:00 p.m. Singspiration  
Opening Service – 7:30 p.m. Pastor Jim Haga,  
Shoreview, MN, *What About Baptism?*  
Refreshments & Fellowship following

**Saturday**

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Prayer Time  
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Annual Meeting of the Hauge Lu-  
theran Innermission Federation  
10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Refreshments & Fellowship  
11:00 – Noon – Pastor Jim Haga, *What About Alco-  
hol?*  
Noon – Meal at Church  
1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Pastor Jim Haga, *What About Con-  
temporary Christian Music?*  
2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Testimony time, Gospel Songs &  
Hymns  
3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Refreshment & Fellowship  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Pastor Einar Unseth, Lyle, MN  
4:30 p.m. – Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation  
Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m. – Evening Service: Pastor Rodney Stueland,  
Dilworth, MN. Topic: Matthew 7:1-6, John 7:24  
**“Judge Righteous Judgment”**.

**Sunday Morning** at 10:00 at Stavanger Lutheran  
Church: Pastor Rodney Stueland will be preaching on  
**“A Living Congregation”** from Acts 2:42-47.

**HOME GOING**

Mrs. Kermit (Gene) Johnson – Alice went Home to  
be with Jesus for all eternity on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010.  
The last years of this physical life she lived at  
Humboldt Care Center North at Humboldt, Iowa.

Gene and Alice were faithful supporters of the  
*Morning Glory*/Hauge Lutheran Innermission for  
many years! Gene made his exodus from this life  
approx. two years before Alice died. Blessed be  
their Memories!

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***Bible Camps***

An evangelistic Lutheran Bible Camp called Faith  
Youth Camp is to take place on August 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> at  
Northern Pines campground in Park Rapids, MN. This  
Independent Lutheran Group welcomes 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>  
grades. Speakers will be Pastors Don Greven and Reu-  
ben Unseth and Mr. Gary Stenberg. For further infor-  
mation contact: Pastor Paul Larson @ or church  
218-847-1040 or home 218-375-4331.

The Faith Family Camp (which is an Independent Lu-  
theran Ministry) will be held Labor Day weekend at  
Northern Pines Campground in Park Rapids, MN.  
Planned Speakers are: Janos Herkely from Hungary,  
Pastor Timothy Mundiah from Kenya and Pastor Don  
Greven from Viroqua, Wis.

For further camp info contact: Pastor Paul Larson  
at Larson/revpaul@arvig.net or by phone at 218-  
375-4331 (H) or Faith Lutheran 218-847-1040.