



# Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • May 2014

## Straight From The Heart

By Marv Rosenthal

**D**ear Citizen of Heaven and Joint-Heir with the Lord Jesus of an infinite universe that will one day be free of all sin. Yes, it is true; it is all yours in Christ, and He is coming soon. ...

Your phone, computer, television, radio, or newspaper can give you yesterday's – and even today's – news. Most likely, however, it will not be very accurate because it will be polluted by self-serving agendas, skewed politics, and is frequently laced with cover-ups and lies.

However, in dramatic contrast, the biblical prophets (Ed. Godly men inspired (in-breathed by the Holy Spirit)) of God have told us what is going to happen in the future, and their declarations are one hundred percent accurate, true, and of critical importance. I believe we are coming face-to-face with events that are precursors to the end of the age. The activities of the nations throughout the world are rapidly preparing the way for the emergence of the Antichrist, Great Tribulation, and Day of the Lord. All of these things will occur within the last seven years of history – popularly, but without biblical justification. Called the Tribulation period. At the center of it all will be the country of Israel and her capital city, Jerusalem.

As a missionary organization, our first priority is to share the message of the death, burial, and resurrection of the Son of God as a payment for the sins of the world, and make it abundantly clear that salvation is by grace through faith in Christ alone. There is no other door to enter that leads to salvation. No comes to the Father but through His Son (John 14:6).

... It is true that we will not know the hour or day of Christ's return, but, as watching believers, we will know the general time period. The Lord gave a clear sign of His

coming in His Olivet Discourse.

Many Christian leaders are praying for national revival. I am among them and applaud them for their desire. One of the unbreakable foundations of my faith is the sovereignty of God. God can do whatever He chooses in heaven and earth which is in harmony with His attributes. If our God chooses to bring about revival in America, He certainly can do this by simply speaking a word. If He chooses to do so, I will rejoice. But I don't believe this is going to happen. The possible change in the composition of America's Congress in November is not going to bring about revival in America – nor will a new administration in the White House after the presidential election in 2016. Of course, we should do all we can to bring about a spiritual change in our beloved country.

However, the reality many do not want to face, or are afraid to face, is that America in its sinfulness has passed the point of no return. Divine judgment is coming to our country, and my heart is heavy with sorrow. The prophet Jeremiah was hated by his people when he told them they were going into captivity to Babylon. They did not want to hear it, but it proved to be true; Judah went into captivity for seventy years. The only genuine hope for the millions of unsaved in our country and the billions around the world is salvation from sin found in Christ alone.

The urgent need for the Church is to come to grips with the fact that we are living at the twilight period of human history. We must plead with our Lord to light a biblical fire within the present lukewarm Church in America and enable it to understand that current world events are precursors to our King's second coming. And in the doing, we must ask the Lord to prepare us for the climactic

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battle with Satan, Antichrist, the false prophet, and the counterfeit religion. And, of course, we must do all of this in Christ's omnipotent power and be willing to stand for truth no matter the cost – even unto martyrdom – if faithfulness to our Lord requires it. The last book of the Bible informs us if we are faithful unto death we will be given "a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). What an outstanding promise and source of encouragement we have been given.

No matter what we may have been taught by many sincere and godly men, we are not going to be caught up to heaven on clouds of ease before we confront the Antichrist and the Great Tribulation. This was the clear and unmistakable teaching of the Church for its first 300 years of history. I am absolutely convinced, based upon Scripture, that one generation of believers will encounter the Antichrist before being raptured, but we must be prepared. We should live each day with the expectation that our Savior may return during our lifetime. We must seek to grow strong in our faith and deepen our understanding of His Word so, if we are the generation of God's sons and daughters who encounter the Antichrist, we will be prepared to withstand his assault.

I have not shared these thoughts today to incite a spirit of fear within you, but rather to foster a sense of urgency in your mind that we must remain vigilant with our eyes fixed on Christ. He alone will give us the ultimate victory.

Warmly yours – and I sincerely mean that – but more importantly, redemptively His.

*Zion's Hope*

*Editor's Note:* As 'believers' (Sinners saved by GRACE and know it), we can 'agree' to 'disagree' on secondary Spiritual matters and that is the case here with this very timely message and I will share a number of reasons.

First of all, by 'conviction', based on the Word of God (the Bible), I am what you might call "Pre-tribulation Rapture." In others words, I believe the RAPTURE (taking away of the 'Blood Bought Bride' takes place before what we call the 'Great Tribulation' for a number of reasons.

First of all, IF the period of the 'great tribulation' (the beginning or whatever); a believer would have the privilege of somewhat setting the time of the 'Rapture'. I Thess 4:13-18. NO saved sinner knows when HE is coming, as HE is coming like a 'thief in the night'.

Secondly, Scripture is very clear when it talks much about HIS coming is for the exhortation that you and I should definitely be walking a 'godly' life in the Light of His Word and to *comfort one another*, and I find NO 'comfort' in telling fellow believers that you might have to go at least in part of the 'great tribulation'.

Thirdly, I believe 'the Great Tribulation' is an expression of God's righteous judgment and hatred of SIN and, because 'sinners' refuse to repent of their SIN, they will experience 'the great tribulation'. Please read Ezekiel chapters 37 – 39 and ALSO **Romans 8:1**.

It seems likely that folk even in the New Testament time were expecting Christ's return!!! DEFINITELY in regards to what your secondary doctrinal difference may be; "WE" most certainly AGREE that JESUS is coming again! Praise the Lord, Hallelujah – what a 'day' that will be!!!

Certainly the most important thing is what SCRIPTURE STATES: **Genesis 18:25, Jeremiah 30:10, Daniel 12, Romans 8:1, I Thessalonians 1:10, II Thessalonians 2:3, 5-9, Revelation 3:10.**

REGARDLESS WHO IS CORRECT ON THIS SECONDARY 'DOCTRINE', let me plead with you and challenge YOU to be ready at all times: and look for the better and prepare for the worst! JESUS IS COMING AGAIN AND WHAT COMFORT! It will be worth it all!!! WHEN 'WE' SEE JESUS!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

*For we are God's fellow-workers: ye are God's husbandry, God's building.* 1 Corinthians 3:9

GOD'S fellow workers! To be a fellow worker is to enjoy even greater confidence than to be a child. Much time must elapse before our children become our fellow

workers. We should thank God for the confidence and honor He shows us by making us His co-workers.

The first and most important of these cooperative tasks to which God calls us concerns our own goal. "*Work out your own salvation,*" are His first working orders. "*For it is God who worketh in you both to will and to work,*" we are told in the same breath. Here we note cooperation!

Next, after our own heart He assigns us our home as a field of labor. We are all to begin at Jerusalem and from thence proceed to Samaria and Galilee and to the uttermost parts of the earth.

God works in your home. And He has appointed you His co-worker. In the first place, then, be careful that you do not by your thoughtlessness and egotism destroy some of the things which the Lord has done already in your home. In the next place, live your daily life in such a way that it will be easier for your dear ones to be good Christians, and in such a way that those who have not yet become Christians may be drawn to God by your life rather than that Christianity should be made distasteful to them because of you.

From your home proceed to your neighbors, friends, acquaintances, and associates. God is working on all of them. And He has chosen you to be His fellow worker here also. In the first place, be kind, be willing to work, and be ready to make sacrifices. By so doing you will be doing the work of *God*. And in the next place, pray for eyes that see the needs of people wherever you are, both the spiritual and the physical needs of others.

And make use of your time! "*Night cometh when no one can work.*"

Taken from *God's Word for Today*, by O. Hallesby, Augsburg Publishing House: Copyright 1937, Permission Granted

### *Why Some Preachers Don't Like Preaching*

**"Could it be that some are decrying great preaching today because they can't do it? Could it be that we are trying to do by other methods what we can no longer do by preaching because we will not pay the price to be God-called, Bible-believing, Christ-centered, Spirit anointed men?"**

Vance Havner

# Editorial

RES

## *A God of Orderliness!*

*Colossians 1:15-23*

All Scripture is God's Book which is in total harmony as it never contradicts itself; even if it took app. 1600 years for the benefit of mankind. Many 'godly men' were the instruments of God's WORD. BECAUSE it has one and only one AUTHOR = **GOD!** GOD is not the 'author' of 'confusion'!

Also please keep in mind/heart that YOU meet GOD on every page, as HE is the Author and inspired/in-breathed, holy/godly men what TO WRITE, **the BIBLE**. So in a 'sense' the title is very correct: "***Holy BIBLE!***"

Martin Luther shared that unless you are willing to deal with SIN the Bible is a closed book to you!

WHEN God said it took six days for all creation to take place (a day is 24 hours), it took exactly six – 24 hour days and nothing more and nothing less (*only when it is definitely figurative can it be anything else.*) For a skeptic or unbeliever a day is something else. God's Word is a certainty and God says what HE means and He means what HE says. **Psalm 19, 119:89, Proverbs 30:5-6, Deuteronomy 32:2 – 7, Revelation 22:18 – 19.**

### 1. CREATION

WHEN God created 'man' in His own image, HE created 'man' out of the dust and to 'dust' will every man, woman, boy, girl return unto 'dust'; but keep in mind and heart also that GOD breathed into the nostrils of man 'a living Soul' and that you ARE and your soul will never perish! YOU can not 'divorce' yourself from yourself, because that 'soul' is you and YOU will spend ALL Eternity in either Heaven OR Hell!

YES, your earthly 'body' will return unto 'dust', but one day you will have an eternal 'body' (temple/tent) that will never die. Genesis 2:7. (Even those who are 'cremated, buried at sea', etc).

It's at the 'moment' of conception that you (your "soul") became a living and eternal being. Physically though being in your 'Mother's Womb' was the most dangerous place to be on the planet 'earth'; for more people have been 'murdered' there than ALL the people killed in 'wars', since the beginning of time. Job 1:21, 31:15 & 18, Psalm 22:9, 139:13, Ecclesiastes 5:15, Isaiah 44:2, 44:24, 49:1&5, Jeremiah 1:5, Luke 1:15, 31, 41, 42, 44, 2:21&23, 11:27, 23:29, Acts 3:2, 14:8 & Galatians 1:15. (Those who support 'abortion' speak of the unborn as a fetus; BUT when this 'fetus' is born and dies: then they

speak of it as 'death'; BUT how can just a fetus die IF there is no life there)?

### 2. CREATOR – John 1:3.

*Creation has to have a 'CREATOR'.*

A 'clock' doesn't happen (over a period of time) or doesn't just fall into place; nor did 'Creation'.

According to the 'dictionary': Create means "To cause to exist; bring into being." Than Creationis means "The position that the account of the creation of the universe given at the beginning of the Bible is literally true."

### 3. GOD can be seen in and through 'Creation' created by the 'Creator'. Romans 1:17 – 26

When something is 'revealed' it is no longer a 'mystery'. The reason humanity is *without excuse* is that just by observing GOD'S handiwork/nature you know there is a GOD and we should 'know' there is none equal or like unto HIM! Just a few examples: what makes 'fowl' fly south in the 'Fall' and return in the 'Spring' (By the way: How many hundreds OR Thousands of years; did it take for 'fowl' to decide that 'fowl' had to fly South for winter OR freeze to death)?

When did a 'spider' learn/experience it had to produce a liquid substance and expel it and when it becomes exposed to the 'air' it becomes 'dry' and forms a 'spider web'; which is the 'spiders' source of livelihood.

One more example: Humans – The 'highest' being of ALL CREATION that 'Mothers' had to develop 'nursing' for the 'Infant'; being an "Infant" is the most helpless living being at 'birth' of all living beings: animals, fowl, fish and Humans. It is dependent upon an outside source for nourishment and protection.

The reason humanity should know there is a GOD is by nature, so without excuse; BUT so desperately NEEDS to be 'told' the way of SALVATION. See **Acts 4:12-13, John 14:6, Romans 11:4-16 10:9-17, 1 Timothy 2:3-4, Revelation 20:11-15, etc.** AND teach and preach (live) His WORD: Genesis 3:15, Deut. 6:1-9, Ephesians 6:1-4, 6. A 'seamstress/handcraft' needs to follow a 'Pattern' and this leads to the fourth point of this Editorial;

### 4. Pattern – 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.

*"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a fu-*

ture and a hope ...” Jeremiah 29:11-13.

After GOD ‘created’ the world and all that therein is; HE rested the seventh day (tell me how or why God rested); say do you remember the Third Commandment? ALL God’s Commandments are given in Agape LOVE and for ‘our’ benefit! **“O, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace (shalom) would have been like a river”** Isaiah 48:18. Shalom means harmony and fellowship indicating the spiritual health and true prosperity that can only be bestowed by God. (Psalm 119:165).

WORK is a ‘blessing’ (**Genesis 2:15-20**) provided you are able to accomplish the same; but is ‘work’ your service/servant or your master? It is so easy to get ‘our’ needs and wants mixed up! GO back to Genesis 3:16 – 19 and because of our forefathers’ (Adam & Eve) ‘work’ in this sinful world is a result (as we know ‘work’ to be) a ‘curse’ from God – but GOD is always good so it is for our benefit. Lev. 23:3, Lev. 19:1-3.

By the way, as we are NOT living under the LAW nor in the Old Testament era this ‘Sabbath’ (rest) naturally was given long before GOD gave Moses the Ten Commandments and GOD intends they should be followed ALL the days of our earthly journey. Exodus 16:25-26, 22:23-31, 31:14-15, 34:21, Isaiah 56, 59:11-14, Jeremiah 17:21-23 & Matthew 23:16-28, Luke 11:42. Basically as you know we honor the ‘Sabbath’ for a number of Scriptural reasons from New Testament. Every ‘day’ is a GIFT from the LORD and should be lived in and for HIM, by His GRACE.

According to 1 John 2:2-7 we are to walk as JESUS walked and in one sense HE is the first ‘Missionary’ to ‘earth/humanity’. A ‘missionary’ serves in a ‘foreign land’ as a ‘stranger and foreigner as his citizenship is in another country! JESUS (Incarnation) is God’s Ambassador and we who know Jesus as our personal Savior are to be ‘little Christ’s in this sin filled world.

Don’t forget that ‘children’ are an inheritance from the Lord – Genesis 30:2, Job 1:21, 31:15, 31:18, Psalm 22:9, 127:3, 128, Ecc. 5:15, Isaiah 44:2, 24, 49:1, 5, Jeremiah 1:5, Luke 1:15, 31, 41, 42, 44, 2:21, 23, 11:27, 23:29, Acts 3:2, 14:8 & Gal. 1:15, and you and I are fortunate that ‘our’ Mother did not believe in ‘abortion’ nor does GOD.

WE reproduce after ‘our’ own kind! Sinners ‘reproduce sinners as we don’t learn to ‘sin’ it is a reproduction of ‘our’ old, depraved nature. Psalm 51:5 (not the miracle of ‘conception’), Psalm 53:2-3, Isaiah 53:6, 64:6, Romans 3:10 – 24, 5:12, 6:23, Galatians 2, 5:23 & James 2:10.

Even though ‘we’ reproduce ‘sinners’, GOD doesn’t approve of ‘same sex-marriage’; as I don’t know how ‘same-sex’ marriages can “reproduce! Same ‘sex-marriages’ are living in definite SIN & an ‘abomination’ to

our Living Savior!

Not by any means excluding Pastors, Evangelists, Missionaries, etc.; BUT it is only sheep that reproduce sheep and after their ‘kind’. OH, yes, we are privileged & responsible to water, plant, cultivate **and GOD gives the increase!**

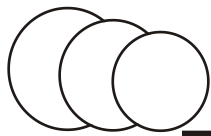
BUT we are to sow the Incorruptible SEED with tears (Prayer & Compassion). Matthew 4:19. YOU see IF you are experiencing ‘Agape’ (LOVE) you can not stand idly by as Souls need to be nourished and/or are perishing! **“Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send (compel/ thrust out) laborers into His harvest.’”** (this includes you, yourself) Matthew 9:37-38. IF you are IN Christ, you are HIS Ambassador and an ‘ambassador’ serves in a foreign land where he is a Stranger and Pilgrim; but his ‘citizenship’ is in another ‘Country. An ‘ambassador’ *does not have the freedom* to alter, delete, change the ‘Message’ of his ‘Commander-in-chief. He is to relate the full/whole message that has been entrusted to him. When his ‘service’ is over he is called **HOME/HEAVEN**. **Romans 1:14-16, 11 Corinthians 5:14-21, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Ephesians 2:8-10, Colossians 2:6-10, Matthew 10:22, 27 – 39, Mark 8:38 & Hebrews 10:36-39, 11:10, 16, 12:22 & 13:14.**

The result of obedience is ‘peace like a river’ flowing gently in blessing to all who are subject to God’s Word. Obedience is the very best way, to show that you love JESUS and believe His Word.

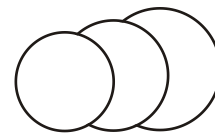
We are ‘team Members with IN and with Christ and hopefully you are also a ‘fellow team member’ – a member of the BODY! In Jesus ‘High Priestly Prayer (John 17); HE prays that we would be in the same Harmony as He and His Father are one! If you are born again (true believer) we are to strive to keep unity among fellow brethren. (Ephesians 4). BUT Martin Luther stated in regards to the false ecumenical movement: “Cursed be that love for unity where the Word of God is at stake” and I (we) are in total ‘harmony’ with this statement!

‘WE are ‘all’ sinners, but it is ONLY **forgiven sinners** that will ever enter HEAVEN; thus ONE last ‘word’ to you who are yet an *unsaved/lost* sinner, IN love and firmness: IF you are not going to be ‘saved’, it would have been better for YOU that YOU would have never been born!

**“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”** 1 Corinthians 15:57-58.



# From Our Fellowship Circle



**A. T.** **Story City, IA**

Please send the *Morning Glory* to this address...

This is my ... and I hope/trust he will enjoy reading it.

There are so many good articles in it and the truth is its end and that is what we need to read.

Keep up the good work.

This is also from another person ... Who cares!

**E. S.** **Wanamingo, MN**

Enclosed is a check to help in the work of getting out the *Morning Glory*.

I am trusting this will help as it is so nice to get the paper every time it comes in the mail.

I see the Hauge Spring Bible Conference is in this area and I hope to see you then.

It seems we are having a real winter this year!

**Mrs. J. M.** **Fort Dodge, IA**

Thank you for the blessings received from each issue of the *Morning Glory*.

Praying you are both healthy.

**H. K.** **Austin, MN**

Good to hear from you and that you are 'up on your feet.' I get so disturbed with pastors who are so 'blind' and do not preach about SIN. I believe it is twice as 'easy' to preach a 'sermon' than to 'live' it!

I am glad you wrote to me; as you read my letter and acted upon it!

Yes, I am so sorry that I wrote to you as it was the wrong source of my criticism and concern, by putting my letter in the wrong envelope.

Yes, I'm blunt on certain issues; but I am blessed in receiving your paper and reading it when it comes...

Lord willing, you will be receiving a donation from me for the work you are doing in the Lord's Kingdom's Work. (I am also so glad you are a faith ministry and conscious with the Lord's Money).

## A Loyal Son

When George Washington was fourteen years of age, he liked the sea and dreamed of sailing away to some distant land. He often visited in the home of his brother Lawrence and there before the fire listened to his brother and visiting officer of the colonial regiment tell of their cruises in the East and West Indies. They related tales of encounters with pirates and of military victories on land and sea.

As young George heard these exciting tales, the desire to go to sea was deepened in his heart. But he was a shy lad and did not find it easy to express his inner desires. However, one day he mustered up courage to say to his brother, "I want to go to sea. Do you think it could be arranged?"

His brother Lawrence had already guessed the secret of his young brother's heart and promised that he would try to get him a commission as a midshipman. Of course, George's joy knew no bounds.

After months of waiting, the commission came, with orders to leave within the week on the Drake, a ship of war.

"Let me be the first to congratulate you, George," said Lawrence. "Now you are Midshipman Washington, I wish you well, Brother, and hope that someday you will be Admiral Washington."

Soon George appeared in his midshipman's uniform with the jaunty cap on his head. He asked, "What do you think of me, Mother?"

His mother did not share the pleasure of her son, and through her tears she sobbed, "I cannot let you go, George. You will break my heart if you do!"

A terrific struggle took place in George's heart. Already his baggage was on the Drake. He had on the uniform, and the commission was in his hand. What should he do?

Finally he turned to his mother and, in a choking voice, said, "Do not cry anymore, Mother. I will obey you. I will not go."

A famous writer said of this incident: "George Washington was never greater than at this moment. It is no light thing to give up all hope for a great future spreading out before one at the request of another, even if that other be one's own mother. He yielded to her wish though it nearly broke his own heart."

He was unselfish in his decision and lost nothing but rather gained much by heeding the Bible verse that says, "**Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right.**" Washington became the father of his country, the man "*first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen,*" the Moses of America. Selected.

# Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

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## Repentance ELCA Style

As one of his last acts as bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Mark Hanson repented on behalf of the church body for years of opposition to homosexuals and for their unwillingness to ordain homosexual clergy. Speaking at the installation service of Guy Erwin, the first practicing homosexual to hold the office of bishop in the ELCA, Hanson stated:

*“On behalf of this whole church I want to say a deep and heartfelt thank you to everyone here and everyone watching the live stream and those that have gone on to glory that have worked so tirelessly, fervently, prayerfully, prophetically so that we could come to this day as a church, when Guy Erwin, in the presence of his husband Rob, could be installed into the office of bishop in Christ’s church. There is weeping for joy this day, because for too long many of you have wept tears of bitterness from the experience of being rebuked. Rebuked for believing that God could call you to the ministry of the word and sacrament and to the vocation of marriage with your beloved Rob.”*

“Rev. Erwin,” Hanson said, “in your call to serve the gospel in the office of bishop, we as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are saying again and saying publicly and forthrightly, such rebuking shall not be what we as a church will be saying quite openly any longer.”

Then Bishop Hanson added these remarks: “But let our public resounding ‘no’ to such shaming and bullying and rebuking also become our public repentance. Our being turned from that dead-end path of rebuking to live differently, speak differently, openly preserving the dignity of all. May our public repentance be both an act of reconciliation with all who have rebuked.”

Editor’s Note: Now that the ELCA has taken upon itself the right to define sin, it has given repentance a whole new meaning. But God will have the last word: “*Woe to those who call evil good and good evil; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!*” (Is. 5:20).

*The Vine and Branches*, Winter, 2013

*Editor’s Note:* “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because

there is no light in them” Isaiah 8:20. ““Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch”” Matthew 15:14.

How sad and tragic in these days of ‘apostasy’. Oh God have mercy and awaken both saved and unsaved! AND to realize the hundreds and thousands of folk who are being ‘misled’ and when many find out, it will **be too late!**

## ELCA Goes High Church and Low Theology

Going unnoticed among Lutherans is how the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is taking on the trappings of the Roman Catholic Church. A recent article on an ELCA web site described the installation service for Guy Erwin, bishop of the Southwest California Synod and the ELCA’s first homosexual bishop. The article, “Here I Stand Humbly,” contained a picture of three synod Bishops wearing their tall pointy hats (miters). The article could have been more appropriately entitle, “Here We Stand in All Our Pomp and Pomposity.” Bishop Erwin told the reporter that he had practiced wearing his miter the night before.

Until the 1960s the common vestments worn by most Lutheran pastors in this country included either a black academic gown or a plain black cassock and white chasuble. The term “bishop” was not used among Lutheran bodies in this country until 1980, and then only by the Lutheran Church in America (LCA). Prior to the formation of the ELCA in 1988, the head of the American Lutheran Church (ALC) was still called “president.”

*The Vine and Branches*, Winter 2013  
(Pastor David Barnhart, Editor)

## Advocate Says Abortion Is “a Sacred Gift”

Valerie Tarico, a board member of Planned Parenthood, recently stated that abortion is “a sacred gift” and that non-Christians should have “reasons to celebrate” because Christianity is “in decline.” Sadly, most advocates of abortion agree with her.

The Planned Parenthood board has 400 members ...which the organization says are “united by their personal integrity and commitment to Planned Parenthood mission.” The board members have several responsibilities including writing articles, blogging posts, or (other-

wise making) statements in support of Planned Parenthood.

In January, Tarico wrote an article in the Huffington Post. In the article, she not only said that abortion is “a sacred gift,” she also encouraged people to “honor women who decide to terminate pregnancies: and “honor the doctors who provide abortion services,” since they are “doing God’s work.”

Dr. Ron Baity, *Return America*

## Lutheran World Relief Lobbies Congress For Abortion Funding

Lutheran World Relief (LWR), an outreach ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), recently joined other liberal organizations and church bodies to lobby Congress for \$750 million in international aid for family planning and abortion clinics. Other organizations that joined LWR in making this request to fund abortions are: The Episcopal Church, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Save the Children, and World Vision.

The letter to Congress seeking funding for abortions was organized through InterAction, a pan-organization that describes itself as “a United Voice for Global Change.” InterAction claims to be “an alliance of U. S –based organizations focused on the world’s poor and most vulnerable people.” However, it would seem that the vulnerable unborn are not include in their work...

Information from Christianpost.com 9/26/13

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### Description Of A True Christian

Galatians 5:22-23: “*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*”

There are far too many in this day and time that claim to be “born again Christians” and portray a false report to the world as to what a Christian really is. The above Scripture describes the make up of a true Christian. Why is it such danger to have someone of this character in charge of our school boards, county offices, state offices or country? What danger is there in wanting to protect the un-born child? What danger is there in wanting to encourage men and women to get married and stay married? What danger is there in allowing the Ten Commandments of God to be taught and observed in our schools and public

offices? Can anyone show that keeping God’s commandments will bring harm to anyone or any nation? Why are we that hold to these precious truths, considered enemies of society? Is it such horror to want those in charge to be fair-minded, honest, filled with compassion and have more concern for others than themselves?

If this labels me “**THE DANGEROUS FAR RIGHT**” the news media speaks of, then it is a label that I am not ashamed to wear. My Saviour, Jesus, would be labeled the same by many in today’s society. Perhaps it is time to stop apologizing for holding to Christian values and defend the concepts of our founding fathers. Blessed to be an American but more blessed to be a child of God. Selected

*Editor’s Note: AMEN! Pray that GOD that may grant ‘us’ many more of the same, before it too late!!*

\* \* \* \* \*

## The Need For Reverence

A. W. Tozer

*“God is greatly to be feared ...And to be held in reverence...” Psalm 89:7*

Many persons who have been raised in our churches no longer think in terms of reverence, which seems to indicate that they doubt God’s presence is there! Much of the blame must be placed on the growing acceptance of a world secularism that seems much more appealing than any real desire for the spiritual life that is pleasing to God.

We secularize God, the gospel of Christ and we secularize worship! No great and spiritually minded men of God are going to come out of such churches, nor any great spiritual movement of believing prayer and revival. If God is to be honored and revered and truly worshiped, He may have to sweep away and start somewhere else! Let us confess that there is a necessity for true worship among us. If God is who He says He is and if we are the believing people of God we claim to be, we must worship Him! In my own assessment, for men and women to lose the awareness of God in our midst is a loss too terrible ever to be appraised!

## SIN

How many times GOD has proved that it pays to speak out very plainly against sin. Preaching what the Bible says about sin and the ruin that it brings leads people to godly repentance!



# The Lutheran Doctrine of Conversion

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Dr. Francis Monseth

*Note:* This is the first in a series of 4 articles from a paper that Fran wrote about the necessity of conversion in Lutheran doctrine. We feel that it is needed even more today than ever before, and is the key issue in the Lutheran church for souls to come to salvation. Due to the untimely death of Dr. Monseth on Good Friday of last year, we felt it proper to contact his surviving wife, Ellen, for permission to print this now, which she graciously gave to us. We plan to make the whole study available in a book. Watch for future announcements of its release.

## Its Essential Features

There are two constituent elements in conversion according to God's Word. The one is contrition and the other is faith. They are produced by the Holy Spirit through the Law and through the Gospel respectively. Through the Law is the knowledge of sin (Romans 3:20); through the Gospel is the knowledge of grace (Ephesians 2:8-9).

### Contrition

Contrition is described in our Lutheran Confessions as "the genuine terror of a conscience that feels God's wrath against sin and is sorry that it has sinned. This contrition takes place when the Word of God denounces sin."<sup>1</sup> Our confessors cite many Scripture passages to substantiate the reality of contrition as terror of the conscience. Contrition is witnessed in the Psalmist's experience as he cries out, "For my iniquities have gone over my head, they weigh like a burden too heavy for me. I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart." (Psalm 38:4, 8) Again, as he prays, "Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing, O Lord, heal me, for my bones are troubled. My soul also is sorely troubled. But thou, O Lord – how long?" (Psalm 6:2,3)<sup>2</sup> The confessors summarize the case for contrition as terror of the conscience:

In these terrors the conscience feels God's wrath against sin, unknown to men who walk in carnal security. It sees the foulness of sin and is genu-

inely sorry that it has sinned; at the same time it flees God's horrible wrath, for human nature cannot bear it unless it is sustained by the Word of God. So Paul says (Galatians 2:19), 'I through the law died to the Law.' For the Law only accuses and terrifies the conscience.<sup>3</sup>

Our confessions call it God's "alien work" when He terrifies through the Law. But this "alien work" is necessary, they maintain, "to make room for consolation and quickening because hearts that do not feel God's wrath in their smugness spurn consolation."<sup>4</sup>

C.F.W. Walther describes vividly the operation of the Law in effecting contrition:

It conjures up the terrors of hell, of death, of the wrath of God. ...when the Law strikes (a person) like a bolt of lightning, he perceives how great a sinner he is, what horribly ungodly thought he is cherishing. That is what the apostle means when he says, 'Sin revived,' when the Law came. The Law uncovers sin, but offers no comfort. If we had the Law only – as we have it now – and nothing besides, we should have to perish forever and go to hell.<sup>5</sup>

Brethren, if contrition is truly an essential part of true conversion, then it behooves us to prayerfully consider our preaching and our teaching. Are we really allowing the "alien work" of God to function through our preaching? Do we preach to our congregation the Law in all its sternness? To our confirmands? No, not everyone will allow the Law to do its work of producing contrition. Walther describes the frequent response:

The person who is feeling its power begins to fume and rage against God. He hates the preacher who has shouted the Law (at least it seems like he shouted!) into his heart, and he feels that he cannot slip off its coils. Where this has happened,

1 Tappert, p. 185.

2 Ibid., p. 186.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid. p. 189.

5 C.F.W. Walther, The Proper Distinction of Law and Gospel (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1928), p. 14.

you may hear people say: ‘We shall never again go to that church. Why, that preacher strikes terror into my soul. I prefer to attend the services of Rev. So-and-so. He makes you feel good. While listening to him, you discover what a good man you really are.’ Walther concludes, ‘Alas! in eternity these people will wish to take revenge on the preacher that preached them into perdition.’<sup>6</sup>

Brethren, we may be able to fill our churches with the omission of the Law, but we will not see genuine conversions to Christ. Let us rather pray to God that our churches be filled with people who have heard the Law unto contrition as well as the Gospel unto a living faith!

\* \* \* \* \*

## ***The Cost of Compromise***

Dr. Louis Arnold

One of the Devil’s chief weapons is to lead good Christians to compromise in small steps. They would be shocked at the thought of committing big sins, but they are easily led to let down here and there. When this happens, they gradually become lukewarm Christians.

Satan’s method is to tempt Christians to leave off prayer, to neglect Bible study, and to become irregular in (Ed. Bible believing practicing) church attendance. Soon bad habits are formed, and they go along year after year without realizing that they have become backslidden in heart.

They have lost their peace and joy and have come to believe that is the normal state for mature Christians. They think that excitement and enthusiasm are for new converts. They do not realize that it is possible to be good church members without being good Christians. Nor do they realize that they have lost their testimony.

It is tragic that small compromises cause Christians to lose their lives. They continue to live, but they live for themselves. Jesus said, “*He that findeth his life (lives for himself) shall lose it and he that loseth his life ((in service) for my sake shall find it*” (Matt. 10:39). Jesus simply meant that if we live for ourselves, our lives will be wasted; but if we live for others, our lives will be invested.

Further, those who compromise in this manner will lose their rewards. Because they are born again they will go to Heaven (Ed. Provided they remain IN Christ Jesus), but they will go without rewards. “*If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire*” (1 Cor. 3:15). Think about it. We who are saved cannot afford to compromise. Selected

## **Weighed and Found Wanting**

*Behshazzar, the king, made a feast to his lords,  
His wives and his princes, the Bible records;  
They drank from the vessels of gold with delight,  
Unaware of the danger approaching that night.*

*While drunken and praising the gods made with  
hands,*

*Not honoring Jehovah, as Scripture commands,  
They were seized with great terror, with quaking and  
fear,  
As the fingers of man on the wall now appeared.*

*The parts of the hand wrote in letters unknown;  
The king cried, affrighted, and sank on his throne.  
He called for his wise men this writing to read:  
“Astrologers, soothsayers, come help me, I plead.*

*A place of great honor, a chain of pure gold  
Shall be his who will now this mystery unfold.”  
But of all the Chaldeans and wise men who came,  
Not one could reveal it for riches or fame.*

*Then Daniel was called; God’s wise man was he  
Who could read this strange writing and solve mys-  
teries.*

*Not for a reward but God’s glory alone  
He solved this hard problem by others unknown.*

*“Your father has sinned,” said he to the king’  
“You heeded not judgments transgression would  
bring.*

*Your pride and rebellion drove mercy away,  
And now you must suffer through eternity.*

*The interpretation is this: Thou shall be  
Deposed from thy kingdom and nevermore free,  
Weighed in the balance, found wanting at last.  
To others ‘tis given; thy glory is past.”*

*And on this same night the death angel came  
And swept them away who had blasphemed God’s  
name.*

*Oh, sinner, take warning and turn you today,  
Lest judgment o’ertake you when too late to pray.*

Selected

6 Ibid., pp. 80-81.

# Burial or Cremation?

*Note:* This excerpt is from Pastor Rodney Lensch in the *Rod and Staff* Newsletter, Spring 2014. The reader can obtain a full copy of this excellent article by writing to him at: Rod and Staff Ministries, 2625 N. 100th. Ave., Omaha, NE 68134-5509.

## The Biblical Case for Burial for Christians

The Bible clearly warns us not to be conformed to the philosophies and practices of this world. Granted, there is no specific Bible verse that says, “Thou shalt bury your dead.” But this is not to suggest that the Lord has no opinion on the matter. Since the Bible is verbally inspired, the godly tradition of burial contained therein cannot be casually dismissed as optional or unimportant. In both the Old and New Testaments burial was the norm the Holy Spirit led His people to practice as a witness to the pagan world. Which is to say that Christian tradition, inspired by the Holy Spirit, has moral authority and God’s seal of approval, if we have ears to hear!

### A. Old Testament examples

1. Father Abraham, the father of all who believe (Rom. 4:11,12) bought a field from the Hittites in Canaan which contained a cave called Machpelah which became a family burial plot for several members of his extended family, namely, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Leah and Joseph (Gen. 23:1-20; 25:8-10). Both Jacob and Joseph, who died in Egypt, made the Israelites promise to bury their remains in the family cemetery in Hebron, which they did (Gen. 49:29-33; 50:1-6; 24-26 and Josh.24:32, Heb.11:22).

2. God buried Moses in Moab opposite Jericho – just short of the promised land (Deut. 34:1-6).

3. Joshua, the military genius who conquered Canaan, was buried by the Israelites in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim (Josh. 24:28-31).

Commentary: Should not the collective witness of these anointed patriarchs have relevance and instructional value for the church of the 21st century? I think so. After all, they walked and talked with God. They saw Him and were mighty spokesmen on His behalf (II Cor. 13:1).

### B. Conclusion

1. Jesus, the Head of the church, is our standard of righteousness (Eph. 4: 15). We are called to conform to His image. His example in burial and resurrection must be our abiding tradition irrespective of our nationality, our denominational affiliation or our generation in history.

2. The doctrine of the resurrection is the motivating factor for the Christian burial tradition. Everywhere

Christianity has spread, cremation has been replaced with Christian burial and respect for the mortal remains of the saints. In Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians he refers to the physical body as the seed for the resurrection body. When a seed decomposes, it brings forth new life and produces a new plant. Paul declares: “The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body ... O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (I Cor. 15:42-44, 55-57).

3. A Christian burial is the final public testimony of a departed believer. Thus, it is the family’s privilege and duty to make this event as spiritually significant as possible. How so? By exalting Jesus as the Resurrection and the Life and calling sinners to repentance that we all might reunite on that great resurrection morning as Paul wrote: “Our citizenship is in heaven from whence we eagerly await a Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly bodies to be like His glorious body by the power which enables Him to subject all things to Himself” (Phil. 3:20,21).

## II. THE BIBLICAL CASE FOR RESPECTING THE BODIES OF DEPARTED SAINTS

Human beings, dead or alive, have intrinsic value by virtue of the fact that they have been created and redeemed by Jesus Christ. They are not highly evolved animals that originated over eons of time – and that by chance. Therefore, Christian survivors have a call from God not to love the world and its philosophies but rather to honor God’s biblical standards. In short, a Christian burial should reflect God’s good and gracious will and be pleasing in His sight.

### A. God’s ownership of the human body

1. None of us lives to himself and none dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end Christ died and rose again that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living (Rom. 14:7-9).

2. The body for the Lord and the Lord for the body ... Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body (I Cor. 6:13,19,20).

3. And now may the God of peace sanctify you wholly so that your whole spirit, soul, and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord. Faithful is he who called you who also will do it (I Thess. 5:23,24).

4. We would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away we make it our goal to please him (II Cor. 5:8,9).

**Commentary:** When considering cremation or burial true believers should ponder very carefully the texts above. If God is the absolute owner of all human bodies then the only question that matters is what would please Him. After all, the Bible says, "Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father through Him (Col. 3:17). The body of a believer is a unique creation of God, redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus, indwelt and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, a member of the mystical body of Christ, and an heir of eternal life in a glorified body. Should such a body be dishonored or destroyed as if useless trash? You make the call!

If God owns our bodies, and He does, then He has every right to inform us as to how we should dispose of our mortal remains and those of our loved ones, This should be a no-brainer! Why should the devil, the world and our flesh have any input whatsoever? To glorify God in life and death is simply to know and do what pleases Him. Period!

**B. Biblical examples of respect for the body**

1. Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman (Mary, Martha's sister) came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment and poured it on his head as he sat at the table. But when the disciples saw it, they were indignant saying, "Why this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor." But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her" (Matt. 26:6-13).

**Commentary:** Here we have a clear example of how Jesus views a respectful, if not lavish, honoring of the body in death. Is there not a lesson here for Christians today as they deal with the mortal remains of fellow believers and family members? I believe so. This is not to suggest that burial preparations should be excessively costly. On the other hand, saving money should not be the primary issue. Rather, what is important is that survivors realize that a traditional burial is worth the time, effort and cost and should be done respectfully as unto the Lord. Jesus called this "a beautiful thing."

2. Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited him at night.

Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. They placed it in Joseph's tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid ... They rolled a big stone at the entrance of the tomb and went away (Matt. 27:59,60, Luke 23:53, John 19:38-40).

**Commentary:** In these inspired texts we note that both Joseph and Nicodemus were disciples of Jesus. To their credit, they desired to give Jesus' body a God-pleasing burial. However, this required some courage, sacrifice and cooperation, qualities all Christian survivors should emulate today. (Notice that burial was the custom of the Jews).

Jesus' mortal remains were neither embalmed nor cremated because His sinless body was that of the Incarnate Son of God which saw no decay. This phenomenon was prophesied in Psalm 16:9,10: "Therefore, my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices. My body also will rest secure because you (Father) will not abandon me to the grave nor will you let your Holy One to see corruption." Peter, in his pentecost message, quoted this text twice and applied it to Jesus whom the Jews had crucified but whom God had resurrected (Acts 2:25-27, 30,31).

\* \* \* \* \*

### Had Beethoven Been Aborted

A. Dudley Dennison, M.D. says in Give it to Me Straight, Doctor: I would approve of and sign for an abortion when rape or incest has occurred. I would approve and sign for an abortion when there is substantial risk that the child would be born with grave physical or mental defects. The tragedy of mongoloidism, the defects from German measles in the pregnant mother, the horror of Huntington's chorea appearing explosively when a man is in the prime of life ...and the heartache of PKU Tay-Sach's disease of familial idiocy and other grave inheritable diseases move me to approve the removal of a fetus. Yet I would do this knowing of a case where the mother was tubercular and syphilitic, where one of their children was born blind, one deaf and dumb, and one also tuberculous. If I had ended the one pregnancy, I would have denied the world of Beethoven! Selected

**"What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives everything its value."**

**Thomas Paine**

## Anointed Heads and Overflowing Cups

*“Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.”* Psalm 23:5

THE shepherd and the flock have now come to the close of the day’s wandering. They have experienced the green pastures and the quiet waters, and now the shepherd leads his flock back to the fold. ...

When the shepherd leads the flock back in the evening, they are not rushed into the fold, but the shepherd stands in the opening, holding the sheep back with his rod while he inspects them one by one as they go into the fold. After his inspection of each sheep he turns his body to let the sheep go through and is literally the door. John 10:9 says, *“I am the Door.”* This explains how our Lord could be the Door and the Shepherd at the same time...

Sheep are susceptible to sickness of many kinds, especially fevers. The shepherd has a pail, or a great cup with two handles, filled with fresh water kept cool by evaporation. When he finds one of his flock that is fevered, he will take the fevered sheep and plunge his head down into the cup, making the cup to run over. *“My cup runneth over.”*

Thus we have a picture of God’s care for his weary, worn, wounded, sick, and suffering sheep...

The anointed head and the overflowing cup are generally used for our anointing with the Spirit and our fullness of blessing and joy.

Both of these things are true of believers. Indeed, both oil and water are typical of the Holy Spirit and suggests a fullness in spiritual experience. In 1 Cor. 1:21 we read that the One Who hath anointed us is God. We believe this anointing has more to do with a personal relationship than an official position. Probably this anointing ought to be identified with the unction of the Spirit in 1 John 2:20 and 27. The same Greek word is translated “unction” and “anointing.” This is the portion of every believer. Certainly the Bible abounds with Scriptures which speak of the abundance suggested by the overflowing cup.

The anointed head speaks of separation unto God, the dedication of the believer to Him and the consecration by God to service. There is a vital connection between the anointed head and the overflowing cup, for the overflowing cup is the result of the anointing with oil. This overflow is not waste. It speaks of a life of abounding satisfaction and of blessing to others. It is for service of others. It means a life of joyful testimony...

### Goodness and Mercy and ...

*“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for*

*ever.”* Psalm 23:6

PSALM Twenty-three has been called the “Nightingale Psalm.” It has been said that what the nightingale is among birds this Divine Ode is among the Psalms. It has been called the Nightingale Psalm because it has sung into more minds and hearts in the night of sorrow and suffering than any other, always with the assurance of the daybreak when the shadows will flee away.

Spurgeon compared this Psalm with the lark, which sings as it mounts and mounts as it sings, and whose song lingers even after the lark has passed out of sight.

In this Psalm we have followed the sheep from the fold in the morning until enfolded again at night. The day’s wanderings and experiences are past, and, resting under the starry night, the sheep are filled with contemplation of the continual provision and care of a loving shepherd.

### GOODNESS AND MERCY HERE

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

The language of this Psalm is the language of assurance. It begins with “I shall not want”; in its heart is, “I shall fear no evil”; and it closes with “I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.” It begins with an absolute negative, “I shall not want”; it closes with an absolute certainty, “I will dwell.”

Goodness and Mercy are attributes of God. The idea that the word “God” is a contraction of the word “good” is possibly an error, but certainly there can be no question concerning the goodness of God. “The Lord is good to all.” The same thing is true of His mercy. “The Lord is merciful and gracious.”

Goodness meets all needs; Mercy forgives all faults. Goodness cares for the temporal; Mercy cares for the spiritual. Goodness has to do with the bounty of God; Mercy has to do with the love of God. Goodness leads to repentance – “The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance” (Rom. 2:4); Mercy leads to regeneration “*According to His mercy He saved us by the washing of regeneration*” (Titus 3:5). Goodness convicts us of sin and makes us to see ourselves as culprits; Mercy offers us reconciliation and pardon. Contemplation of the good of the father caused the prodigal son to turn back home; but Mercy ran to meet the son, to fall on his neck and kiss him, and provide rings and robe and the fatted calf.

Goodness and Mercy shall ***follow me.***” They constitute what Dr. J. D. Jones calls the “Rear Guard.” The Shepherd leads us – “He leadeth me;” and Goodness and Mercy follow after us. Goodness and Mercy are two servants of the Lord. Thirty-two years ago when the writer was saved God said to those two servants named Goodness and Mercy, “Get on his trail. Never let him out of your sight.

Pursue him to glory.” ...

How glad we ought to be that God’s faithfulness to us is not measured by our faithfulness to Him. Then we might be in sorry, plight, indeed. We call all to join together with Samuel in saying, “Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.” ...

“*All the days of my life.*” The care of God never ceases, the vigilance of God never relaxes, the love of God never changes.. “All the day” really means “all of the day” as well as all the days. It includes dark days and light days, blue days and bright days, hard days and easy days, stormy days and peaceful days, work days and vacation days, busy days and rest days, winter days and summer days, Sundays, and Mondays, and Tuesdays, and all days – every moment until the end of the pilgrimage. Goodness and Mercy never take a vacation. You may take a vacation, but Goodness and Mercy will even then pursue you...

*The Psalm of Psalms, By R. L. Moyer, D.D.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## Legalized Murder

By Melvin Munn

For the last two thousand years, Jewish and Christian followers have maintained that the fetus is a person with the right to life. Science, philosophy and religion all know very well that conception is an event that produces a new human being who needs only time. It is tragic indeed that the United States Supreme Court should be so willing to destroy life by permitting abortion at will yet demonstrate an opposite zeal in preserving the life of a convicted murderer.

The real thrust of the Supreme Court finding on abortion is that the unborn is no longer legally a person or a human being. Since our law now says the unborn child is not a child, he or she cannot be covered by the Declaration of Independence or the right of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” Neither is that child protected by the Constitution’s Fourteenth Amendment, which reads: “No state shall ...deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.”

Not only is the unborn child incapable of defending himself, but he is no longer entitled to have legal representation in a court of law to decide his fate in legal terms. His fate has already been sealed. The only thing any pregnant American woman is required to do is find a physician who will perform an abortion upon her instruction. That is no problem since we do have some physicians who heartily concur in this concept.

Abortions are the arrogant display of man trying to play God. The growing approval of abortions by churches

reveals that humanism, materialism and man’s judgment are now paramount.

Supreme Court Justice Blackmun, in the abortion opinion, wrote: “We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins.....The unborn have never been recognized in the law as persons in the whole sense.”

It is obviously true that the child cannot be a visible creature until it is fully born. However, the Supreme Court deliberately did that thing which it claimed could not be done. It decided when life begins. According to the Supreme Court the unborn is not a person until it is born. That is the beginning of life, in legal American terms.

In the matter of abortion at will we see further demonstration of the hidden meanings behind seemingly innocent causes. Those who favored blanket abortion used as one of their principal arguments: “Let us treat sex just as we treat all our other impulses.” That is hypocrisy of the highest order. Abortionists want sex to be treated as no other impulse in all human nature has ever been treated by any civilized people.

Human impulses have to be controlled, bridled, and sometimes punished. The American society demands many controls. The impulse to acquire at all costs we call avarice. Blind obedience to the impulse for self-preservation is called cowardice. The impulse of self-praise we call egotism. The sentry even has to fight against sleep. We are now living in a day when we will condone any breach of faith provided the object is sexual in nature.

In the communities of religion the late Karl Barth was a greatly honored giant among liberal theologians. Many living religionists who all but deify Barth ignore his view when he wrote, “He who destroys germinating life kills a man.”

Princeton professor Otto Piper once stated, “We have no right to destroy new life.”

Another theological giant – frequently used to support modernism in liberal faith – is Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who said, “To raise the question whether or not we are here concerned already with a human life is already to confuse the issue. The simple fact is that God certainly intended to create a human being and that this human being has been deliberately deprived of its life, and that is nothing but murder.”

The Supreme Court has clearly decided in favor of paganism and in opposition to general Christianity in this land in our day.

Abortion advocates are often caught in their own traps of rhetoric. While denying that the fetus is a human being or a person and claiming that the unborn should be treated as matter or tissue, they still refer to dying and death as the result of abortion. They can’t have it both ways.

Sword of the Lord

# A Bag with Holes

*“Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but he are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm, and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.” Haggai 1:6*

This biting description of a frustrating lifestyle, penned by one of the Jewish post-exilic prophets, is both preceded and followed by this appropriate admonition: *“thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways”* (Haggai 1:5-7). When a professing believer somehow never seems to have enough and his money bag seems filled with holes, it is time for him to consider carefully his ways before the Lord.

After all, our God owns the cattle on a thousand hills and is well able to supply all our needs. In context, Haggai is rebuking the people of Judah for tending to their own welfare and neglecting the world of God. *“Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled (paneled) houses, and this house (that is, the unfinished temple in Jerusalem) lie waste?”* (Haggai 1:4).

Herein is an eternal principle. Jesus said, *“Your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things (that is, food and drink and clothing). But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you”* (Matthew 6:22-33). If these necessities of life are not being provided, we urgently need to consider our ways. Are God’s kingdom and His righteousness really our first concerns?

We often quote the wonder promise *“my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus”* (Philippians 4:19). But we must remember that this promise was given to a group of Christians whose *“deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality,”* because they *“first gave their own selves to the Lord”* (2 Corinthians 8:2, 5). Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

*Days of Praise*, Institute for Creation Research;  
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## ***Evolutionists Keep Trying***

When I was a boy in school ninety years ago, scientists were looking for the missing link. They are still looking for it, and each time they find a skeleton that is older or is somewhat different from the ones they have found before, they are quick to proclaim that it may be the missing link.

Selected.

## **UpDate**

*SO MUCH TO BE DONE IN SEEMINGLY  
SUCH LITTLE TIME!*

Tragically ‘Apostasy’ is making great advances and the ‘vacuum’ is becoming EVEN greater where in love the Law and Gospel are being preached and practiced! BUT IF each of us are willing to fill-in my ‘little corner’ and you in yours’ the MASTER will say, Well done, thou *faithful vessel*! OF course this can only be done by His Grace and to His Glory! **IF I (JESUS) be lifted up...**

Almost all of ‘us’ have gone through a ‘difficult winter’; Spring is here and spiritually before long ‘harvest time’ will be over. SO let’s sow *the Incorruptible SEED = 1 Peter 1:22-23* through the *Morning Glory* in more lives and homes as God says *Psalm 126:5-6*. It is easy to become overwhelmed as ‘we’ see a little of the ‘mass’ of people who need either to be nourished or won (Spiritually).

The sad truth though is maybe IF ‘we’ don’t minister unto them, who will? The realistic sad truth, though: if we do not reach out to folk, someone else will.

How about subscription gifts for Mothers’ Day, Weddings, Graduations, Anniversaries, Dads’ Day, Birthdays, etc. Lord willing, the WORD will be touching their lives twelve months of the year, etc. **‘Occupy (being involved) till I Come’!**

Some of the things YOU read about in the *Morning Glory*, the general public is not aware of. YOU either tell them in person or you see to it that the message arrives in their homes by the ‘messenger’ the *Morning Glory* **OR BOTH! Ezekiel chapter three and thirty-three also James 5:19-20.**

Offerings for the *Morning Glory* for the month of March are approx. \$3,025.00.

The actual cost of publishing and mailing each issue (monthly of the *Morning Glory*) is approx. \$2,000; plus there are definitely other noticeable expenses.

**P. S.** Satan does not take a ‘vacation’ during the ‘Summer’ months (Spiritually) and neither should “WE”!!

**HAUGE LUTHERAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

AT

***Stavanger Lutheran Church***

Garden City, Iowa

Pastor Earl Korhonen , Host Pastor

**June 27 – 29, 2014**

**(Friday Evening thru Sunday Noon)**

THEME: **REVIVE 'US' AGAIN!**

Psalm 51:5 - 13

**Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 p.m. – Pastor Jim Haga, Shoreview, MN

*Refreshment time following Service*

**Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. – Prayer Time

9:30 a.m. – Coffee/Refreshments

10:00 a.m. – Pastor Marshall Nessa, Ossian (West Union), IA

11:05 a.m. – Rodney Stueland, Dilworth, MN

12:00 Noon – Meal Served at church with a Free Will Offering

1:10 p.m. – Wayne Almlie, Des Moines, IA

2:10 p.m. – Pastor Marshall Nessa

3:15 p.m. – Coffee/Refreshments

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

4:30 p.m. – Annual Conference of the Hauge Innermission

Hauge Board Meeting following the Annual Conference

7:00 p.m. – Pastor Jim Haga

**Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. – Bible Study for ALL AGES – Pastor Jim Haga

10:00 a.m.– Worship Service – Pastor Jim Haga, Guest Speaker

***ALL*** are very **Welcome**; but especially *needy 'sinners'* who **NEED** *'Seasons of Refreshing'* from **the Presence of the LORD!**

*For More Information:* Please call Pastor Earl Korhonen – (515) 338-0013.

P. S. IF convenient, please bring along 'goodies' for 'Refreshment times'. Can 'we' count on YOU to PRAY, INVITE AND COME?

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**Are you (MG reader) arranging to use the Hauge Gospel Tent this summer or early fall for Evangelistic Meetings? IF so, please contact Paul Peterson of Kenyon, MN at (507) 205-5329**

