



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • May 2017

An Awakening that Stopped the Dancers

While the teenagers jammed the dance hall, evangelistic meetings were in progress a mile away in a nearby-church (*bedehus*), near Stavanger in Norway. (Ed. Because of Dead Lutheran Orthodox in Norway, The Norway Hauge Lutheran Innermission became a great influence/power to build ‘Prayer-houses’ (*bedehus*) in order to Worship in Simplicity, Share about Experienced Salvation, Christian Fellowship, etc.) Week after week, every night but Monday, Gospel singing and preaching continued. As souls were being saved, a tremendous spiritual impact was made in the community. The bless Spirit of revival was gripping the hearts of people in a miraculous way.

One evening as the dance band was playing, not one single person got up to dance. Dancers were lined up all along the walls, but no one felt like dancing. “What is the matter?” the band wondered. They continued to play on and on, and finally the leader became angry and said loudly, “Aren’t we playing good enough? Isn’t this the music you like?”

“Oh, yes, the playing is all right,” someone ventured to say, “but we can’t dance. Revival meetings are going on and we don’t feel like dancing!”

The meetings continued on for three months. One of the community’s roughest men, named Gabriel, had been heard cursing and in a drunken state while he stood over his own Mother’s casket. She had died before the meetings had begun.

Gabriel lived close to the church (*bedehus*) where the meetings were held. As he watched folks going in for the service one day he noticed the boy, who had borrowed his

sewing machine, also file in with the hundreds who came for the service. He thought to himself, “Hmm, that’s the boy that has my machine and I haven’t gotten it back yet, so I’ll just go right after him.”

But the boy saw him, and he began running into the church, and on up into the balcony which circled above the main auditorium, to hide himself from Gabriel. Gabriel also dashed up into the balcony, looked all around for the boy, but not seeing him, said gruffly, “well, since I am here I might as well stay.”

At the door Evangelist Willmore Gundersen, who was one of the speakers during the meetings, greeted Gabriel. The smell of liquor reeked from the man. “It was nice that you came. Do come again.”

The next night he came, made his way near the balcony railing, draped himself over the edge, and listened. He was an obvious spectacle to the hundreds and hundreds who came nightly to the services.

One evening when Evangelist Gundersen was putting away his guitar, he felt a nudge on his shoulder. Who stood there – none other than Gabriel! Evangelist Gundersen understood immediately that there stood a man in deep need and conviction. The Spirit had been working mightily in his heart, and now he came asking the most important question that anyone in life can ask.

“Is there mercy for me?” he cried out. *“Can I be forgiven? Is it possible for me to be saved?”*

What a joy it was for Gundersen to point him to the Lamb of God and read the Scriptures, pray with him and lead him to the **Savior!** A new name was written down in *God’s Book of Life* that night! What rejoicing there was

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among the angels in Heaven!

By Alice Aahus

A Little Corner

A fine Christian writer was once being entertained in a home. The hostess showed her to her bedroom and said, “Now we do not allow visitors to have access to our kitchen. You are welcome here, and we are happy to have you spend your time here as one of the servants of the Lord, but you do not have access to the kitchen.”

As the hostess was about to leave the house to go shopping, she turned again and said, “Also, we would appreciate it if you would not use the living room where our family meets. This bedroom will be your room.”

This fine Christian writer sat down on the bed in her room and thought, “I really am not a guest in this home, just a guest in a tiny part of it. I am not welcome in the kitchen or in the living room. I am welcome only back here in this little corner called a bedroom.”

I wonder if the Holy Spirit of God, that living Person who indwells every believer, has not often said, “*I am a restricted Guest in this house, in this person. I occupy only a little corner of the mind, the heart and the body.*”

The Holy Spirit – a living Person – wants to fill us with his fullness.

Dr. Tom Malone, Selected

English Hymn-Writers – Puritan Period

(Continuing from last issue of the Morning Glory)

No English hymn-writers of note arose 'til 100 years after Luther. Then rose Thomas Ken who sang the praises of God. He has left only one extremely short song of note, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," but though very brief, it constitutes a real lighthouse in the dark world, a gem of praise that will live on as long as God is worshipped in the English language.

Thomas Ken was born in 1637 – nine years after (John) Bunyan. He was a chaplain at the court of Charles II for a while. He was out-spoken in denouncing sin, so the king would say at chapel time, "I must go in and hear Ken tell me of my faults." Another time when Charles asked him to do something against his Christian principles, he answered: "Not for the king's kingdom." King Charles so admired his courage that he appointed him bishop. But under James II – who turned Roman Catholic – he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. He was later acquitted, but lost his bishopric. He died in 1711 at the age of 74. He had requested that six of the poorest men in the parish should be his pall-bearers. This was done. He was buried at Sunrise, and as his body was lowered into the grave his friends sang his morning hymn: "Awake, my soul, and with the sun, Thy daily stage of duty run."

Isaac Watts is the founder and pioneer of the mighty volume of English hymns that has come down to us.

Isaac Watts was born in Southampton July 17, 1674 – two years after Bunyan was set free from prison.

His father was an English Pietist who had been twice imprisoned for his faith. His wife carried little Isaac in her arms when she went to visit her husband in prison.

Young Watts was a poetic genius. Once when he criticized the Psalm-singing in his father's church, a church officer retorted: "Give us something better, young man." Young Watts accepted this challenge and wrote his first hymn which was sung the following Sunday morning in his father's church.

The song created an enthusiastic stir in the church which really gave Watts the call to become a hymn-writer. He wrote no less than 210 songs. Perhaps the two most noted of all his hymns are: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," and the Passion Hymn, "Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed."

SPIRITUAL LIFE IN AMERICA

On Monday, Dec. 21, 1620, our English *Pilgrim Fathers* landed at Plymouth. They did not forget to fall on

their knees and praise God who in His mercy had led the 102 people safely across the wild ocean on the Mayflower. They never forgot to keep the Sabbath no matter how urgent business they might have. They never forgot their morning and evening prayers. When they found clams, good Elder Brewster did not forget to return "thanks to God for the treasures hid in the sand." Neither did they forget they were there for hard work. Spener's motto "Ora et Laora" – pray and work – was a fitting motto for them also. Poor Carver, their first governor, became overheated and died the first spring, while hard at work in the field.

The English Pilgrims came out from the persecution under the Stuart kings 1603 – 85. They had been persecuted and even thrown into prison for their fellowship and prayer meetings.

The first item on the order of the day for all the pilgrims was to build meeting houses and have meetings in all simplicity.

God raised up a special witness to bear His name among the poor Indians. (John Elliot)

The Calvary love flowed in his heart – for the salvation of the Indians. He adopted an Indian boy and learned their difficult language. His first effort of preaching among them was on Oct. 28, 1646. The chief had called together a large audience. He spoke on Ez. 37: "Can these dead bones be made alive?" The Indians showed an unusual interest. The meeting lasted for 3 hours. He returned after two weeks. An old warrior asked him, with tears in his eyes, if it was not too late for him to come to Jesus. A real revival broke out. In the midst of his sermons many eyes and hands were lifted to heaven, weeping was heard, hearts were broken, and sinners were saved. Fellowships of praying Indians were started here and there.

But there was much opposition from the heathen wizards, the white liquor-sellers, and the traders who wanted to cheat the Indians and get rich on them.

Excerpts taken from *Innermission Church History*,
By P. Ljosteveit, Published by Hauge Lutheran
Innermission Federation, 1948.

A PRAYER FOR ALL OF AMERICA and *all other Nations!*

"Our Heavenly Father, We pray that YOU would bring repentance and revival for land, and raise up and sustain strong, godly righteous leaders, who love your Eternal Word and value the USA Constitution, to lead us! Thank YOU so much, in Your mercy, forgiveness, love and GRACE!"

Have YOU *Forgotten?*

“Hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.” II Peter 1:9

By Evangelist Tim Green

I have been over fifty years of age for fifteen years. It seems that when I hit the half-century mark much of my memory was lost. I’m not talking about forgetfulness of past incidents, deeds, acts, and anecdotes. I mean, where did I leave my car keys two minutes ago? or where are my contact lenses or bifocals? or who hid my belt? Those kinds of things—you know!

The apostle Peter confronts us with the awful truth that some people seem to have forgotten that they were saved or are saved. They have “mis-remembered” where God found them, what He saved them from, and all He has done and is doing in their lives.

Now I realize that not everyone who claims to be saved is, in fact, saved, but Peter is not addressing them. No, he is talking about those that have the divine nature and have escaped the corruption of this old world (v. 4).

Perhaps this problem occurs or arises when born-again people fail to grow in grace. Peter says that those that have faith should add virtue; then to virtue, knowledge; to knowledge, temperance; to temperance, patience; to patience, godliness; to godliness, brotherly kindness, charity (vss. 5-7).

These spiritual attributes will keep the work, worship and wonder of God and His ways paramount in one’s thinking. They will keep one’s mind on Jesus Christ and all He has done for those who have *“obtained like precious faith”* (v. 1).

Have you forgotten? If so, take a little spiritual memory course –hey, where’s my Bible?

Selected

TELEVISION

T – hief of morals, thief of time
E – vil bent and full of crime
L – eading young and old astray
E – ver from the narrow way
V – ending venom like a snake
I – nto mind of small and great
S – atan’s hissing loud and clear
I – nto poor, deluded ears
O – nly Christ can set them free
N – ever more its dupes to be.

Stephen H. Houbolt

INDICATORS!

Of all the indicators pointing to our cultural disconnect from TRUTH, the astonishing emergence of perplexing and confusing notions of gender identity is perhaps the most profound.

Transgender “Equality” overrules Modesty! What a far cry this is from the standards of decency and morality once equated with civilized society. But there’s more to it than that—this is actually part of an organized effort to subvert American morality.

While we must stand against the insanity of the gender identity antagonists, we dare not forget that those transgender individuals among us are lost, broken and looking for hope.

* * * * *

Look Up

Michael Youssef, Ph.D.

We live in desperate times. As we look at our world today it’s moments like these when we need to learn afresh how to cry out to God, trusting that He will do the impossible.

How do we call upon the Lord in times of trouble?

Psalms 121 teaches us how to cry out to God, all while trusting Him completely. It’s called *“A Song of Ascent”* because God’s people would sing this song on their journey up to the temple in Jerusalem – bodies tired, feet sore, and muscles aching:

*I lift up my eyes to the hills—
Where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord,
The Maker of heaven and earth.*

In times of trouble, we must remember where our help comes from.

Today, many of us look up and see all the false gods that have failed us – whether money, power, relationships, or politics. So where do we go from here? We look up to the one from whom our help comes, the one who flung the sun, moon, earth, and stars into orbit.

*He will not let your foot slip—
He who watches over you will not slumber;
Indeed, he who watches over Israel
Will neither slumber nor sleep.*

In times of trouble, we must not give up – for God is always at work.

People supposed that the pagan gods of the day would go off-duty for weeks and months at a time, allowing crops to dry up. But our true God never sleeps. In fact, He is always at work. — Revival Tidings

Editorial

RES

Precious! (A Scarlet Thread)

“Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your father, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot”

(1 Peter 1:18-19)

In ‘our’ earthly journey many things are precious to ‘us.’ The word ‘Precious’ means – ‘Of high cost or worth; valuable highly esteemed, cherished. Dear; beloved, etc.’

A born-again ‘believer’ has numerous things in common with the worldling, in our ‘earthly journey’ in this tabernacle of clay, such as: Freedom, Health, Family, Friends, etc., but there is also a distinct difference in regards to what the priorities in life are. *“For the message (preaching) of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God”* 1 Corinthians 1:18.

IN God’s Eternal Word, Babylon is a reminder of utter confusion as the building of the same, was taken from the intellect of the ‘worldly’ and resulted in *EVIL CONFUSION!* You see that ‘evil/sin’ never stands still, its always on the go! The citizens of Babylon wanted to ‘make a name for themselves’; in other words – an **“I”**, like in the center of PrIde. In other ‘words’, a god of self-worship! (Obadiah 2-4). You know that even for a true Christian, the ‘old-nature’ never gives up; it actually grows! (Ephesians 4:22)

Going back to the time of building ‘Babylon/Tower of Babel’, our Triune God took counsel – Genesis 11:7.

Let ‘us’ get back to the ‘theme’ of this editorial; **PRECIOUS**, and when God says it is *precious – it indeed is precious!*

The ‘word’ precious is used numerous times; so I am going to high-light only a number of them. Being it is what ‘we’ call ‘Mother’s Day’ month; let ‘us’ begin with the Family! The most important fact, though, is the question: “Are you in the ‘Family of God’?”

Jesus speaks of His ‘bride’ as being very special or precious, as those included in the ‘bride’ are re-purchased/bought-back/redeemed with His very own **precious BLOOD!** Now-wonder why we are then precious to HIM: and HE is looking forward to bringing His entire bride/family HOME, to be eternally secure in HIS Presence!

As you who are ‘married’ want a chaste ‘wife’, so does the ‘Bridegroom’. ***“Marriage is honorable among all,***

and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge” Hebrews 13:4.

Imagine how God looks upon his ‘blood-bought-bride, even as individuals and HE is the JUSTIFIER. ***“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom deck s himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.”*** Isaiah 61:10.

Marvelous is the ‘gift’ of ‘Motherhood’ and God wants especially His ‘children’ to reproduce in this earthly journey of life and then train them in the way they should go – Proverbs 22:6, Hebrews 6:13, Psalm 127 & 128.

BUT **JESUS** is the chief ‘Cornerstone’ and as a ‘builder’, how the ‘cornerstone’ is laid is crucial and important. Most certainly how YOU build there-on, for the entire building of the ‘family’ of GOD!

Do you possess the ‘Pearl of Greatness Price’ for HE is **Precious** and His Eternal Word? Matthew 13:46. ***“Therefore thus says the Lord ‘Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily”*** Isaiah 28:16.

You and I are to be ‘building’ on this “Precious Cornerstone” by Example: Sowing the ‘Incorruptible SEED – which is ‘precious’. It is in and through His Inspired, Inerrant/Infallible Word that only a ‘person’ can get SAVED! Also see 1 Samuel 3:7-18.

In Absolute Reality, the PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST – (A Scarlet Thread runs throughout the whole BIBLE) – Revelation 5:6 & 12, 7:14, 13:8, 19:9 & 21:22.

Precious Promises – 2 Peter 1:4, Psalm 126, 1 Peter 1:3-8.

Precious Faith – 1 Peter 1:7.

Precious Thoughts – Psalm 139:17, Jeremiah 29:11-13.

Precious Lips/Jewels – Proverbs 2:15.

Precious In His Sight – Psalm 116:15, II Timothy 4:6-8.

WHY? – BECAUSE GOD IS A JEALOUS GOD!

Take Joseph for example. He had a golden-opportunity to sin secretly with Potipher’s wife and no other human being would have known about it, and furthermore it was the King’s wife, and even IF caught, likely no severe penalty! BUT GOD! His response was, “How can I do this great wickedness and sin against my God?” For example: Hebrews 11:25 *“Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.”*

SIN is universally enticing, attractive, winsome, appealing to each human beings, regardless of the color of skin you wear on the outer-layer; there is both outward sin and secret sin. Many times more so for born-again believers; because ‘Satan’ already has the ‘world’ in his trap/ensnare, as their task-master.

BEWARE of light thoughts of sin! It is sadly true that even some Christians grow by degrees in callousness in regard to sin. YES, a sin(s) that one time startled/alarmed a believer, but today he has become complacent and maybe now enjoying it? For example: we may have uttered an unholy word or became unnecessary angry; but we may say to ‘ourselves’, as a whole I stand upright in the main. So we throw a ‘cloak’ over it! Christians – lookout that you don’t look at sin lightly and call it by dainty names. Sin girded the Redeemer’s head with thorns, and pierced His heart! Look upon **all sin** as that which crucified the Savior, for which He died and you will see it to be *‘exceeding sinful!’* What Grandmother and Grandfather called ‘sin’ in the light of God’s Eternal Book, is still ‘sin’ as God never changes His mind. Not ONE sin will ever ‘enter’ Heaven, as *only forgiven sinners* will!

You and I would never be good enough to get into Heaven on our ‘good-works’. The reason is because God is pure and holy, and even one sin – just one – would be enough to keep us out of Heaven. Of humanity there will be ‘forgiven’ sinners who have been cleansed by the Precious Blood of Jesus! Any and every sin is an offense to God. We cannot remove our sins and guilt – but Jesus Christ can; because HE is the sinless Son of God. When we see ourselves as lost sinners and repent and confess our sin unto HIM; our guilt penalty is transferred to Him, and we are forgiven for His Name’s sake.

Sin has to be dealt with in your own personal life in order for God and His Eternal Promises to become ‘precious’ to YOU! There is ONLY ONE way into Heaven: **John 14:6, Acts 4:12-13, 1 John 1:7-10.**

There are five things that are mentioned in Colossians that are part of our character as Christians: compassion/love, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience/per-

severance. Which is the hardest for you? “They are all difficult for me,” you might be tempted to say – and you are likely right! Every one of them strikes a blow at our natural selfishness/self-centeredness/pride. Keep in mind/heart/practice though, that patience is also constructive critical, for without it the other four – compassion, kindness, humility, and gentleness, are very difficult without the empowerment of the Holy Spirit; but are the fruit of the Spirit. Furthermore, without God’s Love working in us and then through us, love is just clanging symbols! God’s LOVE is not ‘bed-partners’ with evil/sin.

The ‘Soul’ should get careful attention as well; similar as to the ‘body.’ The ‘Soul’ needs feeding on God’s Word, quietness and meditation in and on God’s Eternal Word and Christian Fellowship! Unless the soul is fed and exercised daily, it becomes weak and shriveled (figuratively). In God’s ‘economy’ spiritual emptiness comes before filling, and, spiritual poverty before riches. **“Blessed are the poor in spirit.”** – Matthew 5:3.

“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do” Colossians 3:12-13.

You can’t pour out of an empty cup! It is so very ‘easy’ to become too busy and not spend enough time filling from God’s Word. In other ‘words’, “Fill my cup, LORD”!

Are you the ‘master’ of your ‘work’ OR is ‘work’ the ‘master’ of you?

PRECIOUS

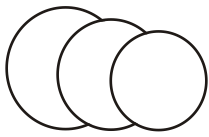
Blessed ‘little’ flock that JESUS calls His own!

“They shall be Mine.” Says the LORD of hosts, ‘On the day that I make them my ‘jewels’. And I will spare them As a man spars his own son who serves him” Malachi 3:17.

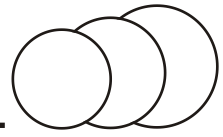
Marvelous GRACE (Gods’ Redemption At Christ’s Expense)!

P. S. In a sense May is ‘Mother’s Day’ month; Mother’s Day is May 14th. May I remind you ‘Husbands of what God says in 1 Peter 3:7: **“Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.”**

Wisdom – **“She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her”** Proverbs 3:15.



From Our Fellowship Circle



B. N.

Bismarck, ND

Please place the name of ... on your mailing list, including the February issue if possible. Thank you.

L. & H, L.

Custer, SD

Enclosed is a check for the furtherance of keeping on with the *Morning Glory*. We are so glad that you are still standing for the 'Truth' of God's Word, the Bible. In these days it is getting more difficult to find the same; but the Morning Glory periodical is a real blessing.

Thank you as we enjoy!

God Bless!

resulted from all of this is understandable and predictable for a future without GOD.

It was once well-said that "America is great because America is good. But if America ever ceases to be good, she will also cease to be great." The conflict for "good" is not over yet, however, because the Lord Jesus Christ is still on the Throne of the universe, and His perfect will and great power have neither changed nor diminished. America can return to being the moral "beacon" of Washington's and Lincoln's times when freedom was given and preserved in mortal combat for divine purposes. We may again be a godly nation, but a great spiritual awakening is KEY to freeing us from our widespread bondage to sin and self-indulgence.

With a newly elected Administration in Washington, D.C. and also in the states, we have a new opportunity to see the Lord change American's course and return to the grace and blessings of a former day. It is, therefore, time for US to get down on our knees before a holy God so that this country might return to Biblical morality and the authority and effective use of righteous law as "**one nation under God, indivisible, and with liberty and justice for all.**" It is incumbent upon God's people to now take relentless action in **prayer** to undergird the new leaders of every level of government with the power and wisdom of ALMIGHTY GOD!

The *struggle* goes on, and it can be won by those wanting to protect true freedom to live from those who simply want absolute freedom to sin. We must realize that our God has the answer and the power to change everything for good. He reminds every Christian today, "**If My people, who are called by My Name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land**" (II Chron. 7:14). May we live to see this transformation occur in America as JESUS, Who alone can make people "**free indeed,**" works first in our hearts, and then in others!

In His Service,
Pastor Lyle Aadahl

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

February is a month when we are reminded of America's rich heritage through the birthdays of those great leaders, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Because of their vision and labors, as well as countless other patriots like them, America is often labeled "**the land of the free.**" Both outside and within our nation, people still strive for greater liberties, but we are now witness to battles for certain freedoms that our founding fathers could not anticipate.

Our nation today is facing threats not only from foreign powers, but also from those within our country who are dissatisfied with time-tested policies, the boundaries of proven morality, the need for Christian influence, and the necessity of proper restraint enshrined in the laws of America. The wisdom of those who came before us and the hard lessons they learned to acquire it, are easily lost to the strivings of people to exult themselves over others, the majority, and over their Creator. This great nation that was founded upon the principles of the Bible and codified into its constitution sadly continues to embrace the rights of the powerful over those of the frail and the unborn. Many seek equality and special protection for those who would undermine the values of a moral Christian society. Others would gladly exchange a stable and healthy way of living for things like the pleasures of sexual perversity, the demands for religious suppression, and the open, recreational use of drugs. The crime and chaos that has thus far

Two senior adults were chatting about things in general. "The world isn't fair," the first one said. "When I was a kid, I was taught to respect old people and to listen to their opinions and advice. Now that I'm old, everybody tells me that I should listen to the young people."

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Study Says Euthanizing More Patients Will Save the Government Money

The Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) published a study by Aaron J. Trachtenberg, M.D., DPhil; Braden Manns, M.D., MSc, titled: “Cost Analysis of Medical Assistance in Dying.”

The researchers found that the Canadian healthcare system will save between 34.7 and 138.6 million dollars per year, depending on the number of euthanasia deaths. Canada has a universal healthcare system, whereby the financial cost for healthcare is primarily covered by the government.

The cost savings were assessed based on a Netherlands study estimating the number (of) weeks that lives were shorten(ed) by euthanasia, multiplied by the average cost of care for a person nearing death, and multiplied by the likely number of euthanasia deaths in Canada. The study also considered the cost of the euthanasia procedure and potential variable costs related to patients using palliative care.

The researchers emphasize that they are not encouraging people to die by euthanasia; but in fact, this type of research creates social pressure on people to die by euthanasia.

Lifenews.com

*Editor's Note: OBVIOUSLY If people are dead, their healthcare costs end. **How horrible is this! Terrible!** Another form of murder. First a ‘form’ of ‘murder’ in Abortion and now in ‘Euthanasia’! What’s next???* *IF ‘our’ Mother’s believed in ‘abortion’, there is a chance that you and I wouldn’t be here!*

Supreme Court Nominee Says, “The Intentional Taking of Human Life Is Always Wrong”

President Trump made a long-anticipated nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court to replace the deceased Antonin Scalia. His choice is Judge Neil Gorsuch of the US. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

It didn’t take long for there to be near-unanimous approval from conservatives...

... Neil Gorsuch wrote a book on assisted suicide and euthanasia. It was written before he was appointed to the court. Called “The Future of Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia,” it’s described by its publisher, Princeton University Press, as “the most comprehensive argument

against their legalization ever published.”

In this book on page 157, Gorsuch wrote, “All human beings are intrinsically valuable... the intentional taking of human life by private persons is always wrong.” Pretty strong sentiment on the value of innocent human life! ...

Judge Gorsuch also defended religious liberty when siding with Hobby Lobby and the Little Sisters of the Poor. He supported their right not to provide abortifacient drugs within their healthcare plans based on religious beliefs.

LifeNews.com

ELCA Seminaries Are in Decline

Writing online for the ‘Living Lutheran’, Charles Austin ... quotes David Lose, president of ELCA seminary in Philadelphia: “Congregations can no longer imagine that they are a spiritual destination that people informed by the culture will come seeking inspiration. Rather than a concert hall attended by people who love music, churches need to be more like a community music school that equips people to better play music, to play the faith.”

Selected

A powerful message to promote pro-life!

A Stirring Short Film Available Free To Churches In Support Of Pro-Life

A 12-minute film “Sing a Little Louder” – produced by Kingdom Works Studios – is about a church service during World War II in Nazi Germany. A train transporting Jews to a concentration camp to be exterminated stops beside the church while the congregation is meeting. Rather than responding to the cries of the Jews for help, the pastor and church members simply begin singing a hymn a little louder in hopes of drowning out the cries.

This short film, based on a true story, will impact everyone who sees it. It is available for free to churches as a tool to challenge Christians to respond to the modern-day abortion holocaust in the U.S., in which an estimated **58 million preborn babies** have died since abortion was legalized in 1973.

Editor’s note: We urge every person who receives this publication to view this powerful film, then contact

your pastor and urge him to show it to your congregation on a Sunday morning. You can download the film by going to kingdomworks.com/singalittlelouder

The Vine and Branches, Spring, 2017.

Doomsday Clock Now Reads Two & One Half Minutes To Midnight

According to the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientist*, the “Doomsday Clock” now reads two and one half minutes to midnight, 30 seconds closer than it was in 2015. Who gets to decide this? A group of scientists and intellectuals that includes 15 Nobel laureates. And, of course, they always get everything right, don’t they? What prompted these intellectual giants to see the world in greater danger? It was not Iran, Russian, North Korea, China, all nuclear countries who have issued threats of war, but a comment by Donald Trump about gaining peace through strength.

...Let it be known that the Day of Christ’s coming will not be doomsday, but a glorious day of eternal victory for the saints! ...

Excerpt from *The Vine and Branches*

PP execs Raking in Six-figure Salaries

Planned Parenthood are the recipients of \$500 million in Taxpayer money annually.

The average Salary of the CEOs of these 56 Planned Parenthood affiliates was \$237,999 per year.

OneNewsNow.com 3/9/17

* * * * *

Never Too Old

“He said, ‘O my Lord, send, I pray, by the hand of whomever else You will send.’” Exodus 4:13

Some people think they are too old to do something significant in life. But I think of a gentleman who really never did much of anything. He dropped out of school and went to work in a store where he worked for about six months and got fired. That was just a picture of what was to come. He got fired from one job after another. This pattern lasted for decades.

Then one day he got a letter in the mail. It was a letter from Social Security, congratulating him for having reached the end of his working career and included a check. But he refused to quit working.

He was eventually able to buy a small beat-up old

building that had been a restaurant and turned it into a decent looking place where he could sell food. What he really liked to do was to cook chicken. So he started selling chicken there, and the people liked it. He had a special recipe – a secret recipe. Finally, his business spread to franchise in other states around the country and around the world.

God blessed Colonel Sanders of Kentucky Fried Chicken, and he succeeded enormously. You’re never too old to make a contribution in life. Look at Moses, who may well have thought he was washed up at 40, tended sheep for 40 years, but was then called by God at age 80 to serve the Lord in mighty ways for the next 40 years.

Dear God, thank You that You care about us no matter how old we might be. Thank You that You can use us whatever age we may be. Help us to not sell ourselves short because of age or anything else...

IN GOD’S STRENGTH WE CAN SERVE HIM,
WHATEVER OUR CONDITION.

Strength For Today, by D. James Kennedy and Jerry Newcombe, © 2017 – D. James Kennedy Ministries.

Editor’s Note: Maybe Moses spent the first 40 years of his earthly life thinking he was ‘somebody’, then the next 40 years realizing he was a ‘nobody’, and the last 40 years *experiencing* what God can do through a ‘somebody’ that became a ‘nobody’!

* * * * *

The Hurrier, the Behinder

An aged man said, “The hurrier I go, the behinder I get!”

“Make haste slowly” is good advice. How difficult it is to do this in our hurry, worry, bury day! We are getting nowhere fast. The Bible says, “Whoever believes will not act hastily” Isaiah 28:16b.

“Therefore thus says the Lord “Behold I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation: Whoever believes will not act hastily. Also I will make justice the measuring line, And righteousness the plummet.” Isaiah 28:16-17.

Give someone a piece of your mind and you’ll have less brains when you’re done!

Sin

“Sin ... exceeding sinful.” – Romans vii. 13

BEWARE of light thoughts of sin. At the time of conversion, the conscience is so tender that we are afraid of the slightest sin. Young converts have a holy timidity, a godly fear, lest they should offend against God. But alas! very soon the fine bloom upon these first ripe fruits is removed by the rough handling of the surrounding world; the sensitive plant of young piety turns into a willow in after life, too pliant, too easily yielding. It is sadly true, that even a Christian may grow by degrees so callous, that the sin which once startled him, does not alarm him in the least. By degrees men get familiar with sin. The ear in which the cannon has been booming, will not notice slight sounds. At first a little sin startles us; but soon we say, “Is it not a little one?” Then there comes another, larger, and then another, until by degrees we begin to regard sin as but a little ill; and then follows an unholy presumption: “We have not fallen into open sin. True, we tripped a little, but we stood upright in the main. We may have uttered one unholy word, but as for the most of our conversation, it has been consistent.” So we palliate sin; we throw a cloak over it; we call it by dainty names.

Christian, beware how thou thinkest lightly of sin. Take heed lest thou fall little by little. Sin, a *little* thing? Is it not a poison? Who knows its deadliness? Sin, a little? Do not the foxes spoil the grapes? Doth not the tiny coral insect build a rock which wrecks a navy? Do not little strokes fell lofty oaks? Will not continual droppings wear away stones? Sin, a little thing? It girded the Redeemer’s head with thorns, and pierced His heart! It made *Him* suffer anguish, bitterness, and woe. Could you weigh the least sin in the scales of eternity, you would fly from it as from a serpent, and *abhor the least appearance of evil*. Look upon all sin as that which crucified the Saviour, and you will see it to be “exceeding sinful.”

Morning by Morning by Charles Spurgeon

***If gratitude is due from man to man,
how much more from man to His Maker.
Any blessing we enjoy is the gift of Him who
is the Father of Mercies. “Every good gift
and every perfect gift is from above, and
comes down from the Father of lights, with
whom there is no variation or shadow of
turning.” — James 1:17.***

Bearing the Cross

*“And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and
come after Me, cannot be My disciple.”*

Luke 14:27

Bearing one’s cross means something quite different from bearing the ordinary burdens and troubles of life. These are common to all men, but the privilege of taking up and carrying the cross is the unique responsibility and privilege only of Christians, for it identifies them in a distinctive way with Christ.

The cross speaks of death by crucifixion, not just troubles, and not even any other type of death—only the death of the cross. There are at least five other references in the gospels challenging each true Christian to take up his cross and, like Christ, carry it to the place of execution (Matthew 10:38; 16:24; Mark 8:34; 10:21; Luke 9:23).

That is, the Christian is to be willing, like his Lord, to give his life, if need be, for the sake of the salvation of the lost. This is not a one-time act of dedication but a daily walk. “*If any man will come after Me,*” Jesus said, “*let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me*” (Luke 9:23).

There have been many Christian martyrs, of course, who have actually been slain—some even crucified—for the sake of Christ and the gospel. For most, however, bearing the cross means dying to self and one’s personal desires in order to live unreservedly for the Lord and His mission.

The apostle Paul expressed it perfectly when he said, “*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.*” Therefore, we should be able to say with Paul, “*God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto Me, and I unto the world*” (Galatians 2:20; 6:14).

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

Days of Praise, Institute for Creation Research,
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Editor’s Note: Consistency, DAILY. It is ‘personal’; as a personal ‘cross’ of identifying with Jesus each day and willing to accept the ‘persecution’ that would follow as a godly person!

The Failure of Confession

“Who can forgive sin but God alone?”

(Mark 2:7)

This is the fourth in a series of articles about the conversion of Martin Luther. The year 2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, and we want to emphasize how Luther was converted, for you will see elements in Luther’s conversion that are lacking in most Christian circles today.

Luther had probed every resource of contemporary Catholicism for assurance of a spirit alienated from God. He tried the way of Good Works and discovered he could not save himself. He endeavored to avail himself of the merits of the saints and ended with a doubt that was sufficient to destroy his assurance. So Luther turned to the Sacrament of Penance.

This only was required of them, that they should confess all their wrongdoing and seek absolution. This Luther did more than anyone.

“He confessed frequently, often daily, and for as long as six hours on a single occasion. Every sin in order to be absolved was to be confessed. Therefore the soul must be searched and the memory ransacked and the motives probed. As an aid, the penitent ran through the seven deadly sins and the Ten Commandments. Luther would repeat a confession and, to be sure of including everything, would review his entire life until the confessor (Staupitz) grew weary and exclaimed, ‘Man, God is not angry with you. You are angry with God. Don’t you know that God commands you to hope?’

“This assiduous confessing certainly succeeded in clearing up any major transgressions. The leftovers with which Luther kept trotting in appeared to Staupitz to be only scruples of a sick soul. ‘Look here’ he said, ‘If you expect Christ to forgive you, come in with something to forgive – parricide, blasphemy, adultery – instead of all these peccadilloes.’

“But Luther’s question was not whether his sins were big or little, but whether they had been confessed. The great difficulty which he encountered was to be sure that everything had been recalled. He learned from experience the cleverness of memory in protecting the ego, and he was still frightened when, after six hours of confessing, he could still go out and think of something else which had eluded his most conscientious scrutiny.

“... Sinners often sin without compunction. Adam and Eve, after tasting the fruit of the forbidden tree, went

blithely for a walk in the cool of the day; and Jonah, after fleeing from the Lord’s commission, slept soundly in the hold of the ship. Only when each was confronted by an accuser was there any conscience of guilt. ...

“There is, according to Luther, something much more drastically wrong with man than any particular list of offenses which can be enumerated, confessed, and forgiven. The very nature of man is corrupt. ... Luther had come to perceive that the entire man is in need of forgiveness.”¹

Dear reader, are you relying on a pastor or priest to forgive your sin? It is common in many Lutheran Churches (and others as well) that there is a time for confession for sin. Then follows what is called “Absolution.” This is where the religious leader absolves the people of their sins. In Catholic churches, this takes place within a confessional booth. The wording that is given to this act is that the pastor or priest is an agent of God by his ordination, and he is pronouncing God’s forgiveness to you, and consequently you are to believe that all your sins are forgiven and you are therefore right in the sight of God.

Luther’s life shows us that this isn’t true. Even though Staupitz absolved Luther of all his sins time and time again, for all sins great and small, Luther had no inner assurance that this was true. Even though a human person might pronounce absolution upon you doesn’t mean that God has pronounced it – for only God alone can forgive sinners their sins. If you have no repentance for your sins, and have no faith in Jesus as your Savior, you will not have forgiveness before God regardless of what the preacher or religious books declare.

It is utterly ironic that a great gathering of people in the house of the Lord can leave on Sunday morning believing that they came to church and had their sins forgiven when they haven’t. This practice is called “The Office of the Keys” and comes from John 20:23 where Jesus told the disciples, *“If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained.”*

Notice that Jesus gave this authority only to the apostles, and not to pastors. When the apostles ceased, so did this ability from the Lord. What is more, there isn’t one instance in Scripture where any of the apostles ever did this. Rather, they preached the Law and the Gospel and proclaimed that in Jesus you would find forgiveness of sins and, outside of Him, your sins were not forgiven; as in Acts 13:38, *“Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.”* Notice that, in these words of the Apostle Paul, he

1 *Here I Stand* by Roland Bainton. Nashville: Abington Press, pgs. 40-41.

did not say that forgiveness of sins came through him, but only through Jesus.

I knew a man who believed in this absolution from the priest as forgiving his sins. I asked him what he would do if the priest did NOT forgive him his sins; because the Scripture from John 20:23 also states, "...if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained." His response was, "I'd find another priest!" This shows you the folly that Luther discovered: A man, regardless of his office or position, cannot absolve you of your sins. It is only as you repent and come to Christ and are in Him that you will find forgiveness of sins. ***"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."*** (Eph. 1:7)

Pastor Jim Haga
Shoreview, MN

The Beginning and the End

In Genesis, Jesus is the Seed of the Woman. In Exodus, He is the Passover Lamb. In Leviticus, He is the atoning Sacrifice. In Numbers, the Smitten Rock. In Deuteronomy, the Prophet. In Joshua, the Captain of the Lord's hosts. In Judges, the Deliverer. In Ruth, the Heavenly Kinsman. In Esther, the Advocate. In Job, my Redeemer. In Psalms, my Strength. In Proverbs, my Pattern. In Ecclesiastes, my Goal. In the Song of Solomon, my Satisfier. In the prophets, the Coming Prince of Peace. In the Gospels, He is the Christ who came to seek and to save. In Acts, He is Christ risen. In the epistles, He is Christ exalted. In Revelation, He is Christ returning and reigning.

**I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."
Revelation 22:13.**

Wisdom For Each Day © 2008 Billy Graham, Mfd.
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Editor's Note: Likely many of you 'readers' are aware of the following: The BIBLE was written in a period of over 1,600 years; God using more than thirty authors and through the same GOD wrote sixty-six books with the same 'message', and so unified is the Message that the sixty-six books actually comprise one BOOK! The 'entire' "Message" of the whole Book is definitely inspired by the Third Person of our Triune God, the Holy Spirit. God directly told/inspired 'godly men'

what to write!

The Bible is "Unique." In the pages of the Bible, the sins of lowly and great are frankly addressed, the weaknesses of human's are admitted, and life is presented as it actually happened. The 'message' of the Bible is straight-forward with a 'scarlet thread' running from Genesis through Revelation – the shed Blood of the innocent. The Old Testament is a "*shadow*" of that which was to come in the New Testament. (Symbolically, the Bible is like photography – the Old Testament is the 'negative' and the New Testament is like the developed picture). The Bible is absolute, with no error! The Bible is definitely God's GRACE expressed! The Bible tells of the reality of God's Redemption of and for sinful humanity through JESUS CHRIST.

The BIBLE is "UNIQUE" as there is only ONE AUTHOR: **GOD.** (*If necessary, look up in a 'dictionary' what the word UNIQUE means!*)

"Righteous are You, O Lord, and Yours Judgments are right.

The statutes You have laid down are righteous; They are fully trustworthy."

Psalm 119:137-138.

**"Every word of God is pure;
He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.
Do not add to His words,
Lest He rebuke you,
And you be found a liar."**

Proverbs 30:5-6.

* * * * *

The return of Christ will be completely unexpected by every unbeliever. Yet, for those in Christ, His return will be sudden but somehow not completely unexpected.

One thing all the would-be prophets seem to forget is the element of surprise. Jesus said that it will come "like a thief in the night." Because JESUS loves you and in HIS marvelous GRACE, HE states that we should be ready, whenever, always and occupying in His empowerment and opportunities!

The story is told of Martin Luther, who was asked, "IF the Lord told you that HE was coming tomorrow; what would you do today?"

Martin Luther responded, "IF the LORD told me to plant trees today, I would plant trees!"

WILLIAM PENN

William Penn was born in London Oct. 14, 1644. His father was an admiral in the English navy. At only eleven, young William heard the voice of God and felt the reality of heaven... His father became extremely angry and tried to pound his spiritual convictions out of him – but they were only pounded so much deeper into his consciousness. Then he sent him to Paris, to drown his conviction in a gay and frivolous society. This succeeded better; he backslid into a lukewarm condition. Coming back to England at the time of the terrible black- death epidemic in 1665 and 1666, he was awakened for his slumber. The Spirit convicted him of his straying and of the vanity of the world. Shortly afterward he went on an errand to Ireland. There he heard a layman, named Thomas Loe, preach on living and dead- faith – upon this theme: “There is a faith that overcomes the world, and there is a faith that is overcome by the world.” He now became thoroughly convicted of sin and of the fact that he only possessed a faith that is overcome by the world. As a lost and helpless sinner he came to the mercy seat and found pardon and peace, and became an earnest Quaker again. Shortly after this he became arrested for having attended a house meeting.

When his father heard of all this he became extremely angry. When William came into his presence with his hat on, he could not stand it but demanded: “Wouldn’t you uncover your head in the presence of the king?” “Give me an hour to pray over it,” he answered. His answer was: “I only uncover my head to God, not to any king.” His father in a rage turned him out of doors and disowned him.

Like Moses, young Penn chose rather to suffer with the people of God than to enjoy the vanities of the world. After having written a tract, “The Sandy Foundation Shaken,” and applying it to the present church system, Penn was put into the tower by the bishop of London. His father seemed to have made another attempt to get him back to the world; but Penn wrote to Him: “My prison shall be my grave before I will budge a jot; for I owe my conscience to no mortal man.”

While in the Tower, in 1669, he wrote his most famous book, *No Cross, No Crown*. It is a strong appeal to come to Jesus and be saved, and, if saved, come nearer to God. He says among other things:

“I was 22 when God took me by the hand and led me out from the world and into His fellowship. I have tasted God’s wrath in my conscience, and, as well, tasted His love and mercy. I have tasted also the enmity of the world. I rejoice in what I have experienced. I dedicate myself to the service of God. The world is filled with love of honor, love of power and love of money. May the Spirit of Christ whose fruit is love, peace, joy, kindness and long suffering

enter. May you have the victory through Christ over the devil, the world and the flesh. May you live a self-denying life through the power of the cross of Christ, and at last reach the everlasting rest in the kingdom of God. This is the heartfelt wish of your Christian friend, William Penn.”

After some time he was released but soon arrested again for preaching in the open air. But this time the jury acquitted him. Then he traveled considerably in Holland and Germany, preaching faithfulness to Christ wherever he went. His father died in 1670. It is good to know that father and son were reconciled before he died. His father must have been really converted as he exhorted William to continue as he had begun and preach the way of life and truth. William inherited his father’s large fortune.

“What shall I do with my father’s money and estate?” He was now led to find an asylum for his persecuted brethren in the new world. As the king, Charles II owed his father a large sum of money. He traded it into a large territory in America which he called Sylvania, but the king insisted it should be called Pennsylvania. Penn offered the secretary a sum of money to get the prefixed “Penn” erased from the name, but it was denied; and so we have Penn’s forest, or Pennsylvania, to this day.

In 1681 Penn came over with some “holy brethren” and started a holy Colony, called “Holy Experiment.” He came over in the ship “Welcome.” And he came with welcome in his heart, mouth and hand. First he assured the Swedes within his territory that they should keep their own homes and laws, and fear nothing, but be of good cheer. Then he told all the people that he wanted them to be happy and free, and make their own laws. Nor would anyone be molested on account of his religion. He told them that his only desire was to make the people happy and free. Then he went to have a meeting with the Indians. “We meet on the pathway of good faith and good will, no advantage shall be taken on either side, but all shall be openness and love.”...

It is sad to record that this blessed man of God and friend of man should become so disappointed—never with the Indians, no trouble with them. But as he had spent his whole estate, and all he had, to help the persecuted people and to do good to everyone, he believed that all his efforts would be appreciated. But no—some cheated him, some refused to pay the very small annuity or payment for the land they got, others were dissatisfied that he did not do more for them.

In the end he returned to England—sorrowfully. He died in London in 1718—in want and obscurity, unappreciated by the world.

Innermission Church History, By P. Ljostveit, Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, 1948

A LEGACY *that will touch* GENERATIONS

Not too long ago, there was a village characterized by a desperate struggle for survival. People lived in poverty and at risk of disease. But there was an even more pressing problem: In the hot, dry desert, there were not enough water sources to go around. The villagers depended on dirty ponds and rivers. Sometime, it was difficult to find water at all.

Pastor Dalapathi ministered in this village and was deeply concerned about the people's situation. While he worked hard to share Christ's love with the people, it was difficult to break through, and he could see they desperately needed clean water.

Hope Through a Well

By God's grace, Pastor Dalapathi and the believer did not lose hope. Instead, they prayed and something changed: God provided a Jesus Well for their village. It was an amazing answer to prayer. Suddenly, the villagers had clean, safe water ready and accessible. But this gift had a far greater impact.

"The non-believers of the village were astonished by the good work that had been done by the church," said one field report.

And this tangible act of love warmed hearts to learning more.

Because of a Jesus Well, things are very different now. And ... others have been changed in similar ways.

But the story didn't start here.

A "Wee Woman" with a Big Impact

This story started far away in Northern Ireland, United Kingdom. It's the story of a woman who loved Jesus more than the things of this world and left a legacy that is changing the lives of ... perhaps forever.

Very kind. Funny. A little eccentric. These are all words used to describe Mae Coulter. A woman with a passionate witness for Jesus, who loved Him "*beyond reason.*" A remarkable "wee woman" (as they say in Northern Ireland), only around 5 feet and 1 inch in stature. But her life touched literally thousands of people whom she never even met.

When a House Was Born Again

Born in Northern Ireland, Mae's life was chequered with tragedy. She moved to England with her husband, Les, and had been married only a short while when he died suddenly and unexpectedly. He went outside to get Mae's birthday present and she never got to speak to him again.

After that tragedy, Mae found Christ. Soon afterwards, she returned to Northern Ireland, where she bought a house.

Then disaster struck again. A house fire destroyed all of Mae's possessions. Family photographs, household treasures. Everything was gone in a matter of minutes.

That event changed Mae's perspective completely. As a close friend, Marilyn, explained, "She decided that never again would she store up anything. It could just be gone. Anything she had would go into something that was lasting, that was kingdom building."

Mae's house had to be reconstructed inside. That was when Mae erected a plaque outside it that simply said, "Born Again."

"She used to say that she had been born again, and so had her house," Marilyn reflects. "It gave her opportunities to share the Gospel with people who visited her."

Choosing to Live Differently

From then on, Mae's focus was on eternity. She saw no need for accumulating things in this world.

"Always invest in something that's going to be long lasting," Marilyn recalls Mae saying.

Mae threw herself into serving others. She sent shoeboxes of presents to disadvantaged children and went daily to make meals for a friend who couldn't make them herself. Every Christmas, she bought gifts for desperate people in Asia, in honor of her friends. Mae believed deeply in providing clean water. "If people had clean water," she would say, "then sickness would be eliminated." And she thought of a way to provide thousands with just that.

A Legacy that Will Last

As Mae got older, she made preparations for her departure from this world and into the presence of Christ. To Marilyn, Mae explained clearly what she wanted: a simple black stone upon the coffin that said, "Mae Coulter, with the Lord." Nothing else was needed. That said it all.

But that wasn't all Mae had planned. When Mae went to be with the Lord she left a legacy to be divided between two charities she had loved and faithfully supported...

AFA World, Gospel for Asia's Magazine, 3/17

The Compassionate Heart

“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.”
Psalm 126:5

Hear these remarkable words, **“in tears”!** The tears of a broken heart are necessary equipment for the soul winner. The certainty of returning with joy depends, says Holy Writ, on-going with tears.

There are other requirements for the one who would be a fisher of men. He must go, he must bear precious seed, but the thing so often lacking is the broken heart. Indeed, I make bold to say that the broken heart must come to drive one out, that he go. The broken heart will seek the seed that will bear fruit. Yea, even the same broken heart will make the home-coming joyful.

There is joy in the surcease of a broken heart. The broken and compassionate heart, the humble and contrite spirit, pleases God, attracts the sinner, and makes the contact between these two that results in the changed heart and saved soul of the sinner and brings honor to the Saviour.

See the example of Jesus. Never was there such a compassionate winner of men! When He saw the people as sheep having no shepherd, He “had compassion on them.” He wept over Jerusalem. He sought the fallen woman to forgive her, and the publican to make him a preacher.

His compassion would not let him eat. He found “meat to eat that ye know not of” in the winning of souls.

His compassionate heart would not let Him sleep, for He must needs go into a mountain and pray all night or rise a great while before day to pray for the lost.

His compassionate heart would not let Him die, even, till the repenting thief on the neighboring cross was forgiven and won to Himself and Heaven.

The Prodigal (Ed. Younger son) was a wayward son, a sinner; and the forgiving, grieving father was like Jesus. Christ is the Shepherd who seeks the sheep until He finds it, rescues it and rejoices over it.

*They crowned Him with thorns;
He was beaten with stripes;
He was smitten and nailed to the tree.
But the pain in His heart was
The hardest to bear,
The heart that was broken for me.*

No marvel, then, that when He died on the cross for the sinners He loved so well, the soldiers opened His side with a spear and found a heart literally broken.

O Saviour, teach us to love sinners, to weep over them, to find pillows hard, food tasteless and life not

worth living if they be not saved! Send us out with compassion and tears to win the lost!

How Paul wept over sinners! Hear him say, *“Remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.”* Night and day! Night and day with tears!

Hear him say, *“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.”* Again he said, *“For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh.”*

A stoning, a shipwreck, a life-and-death fight with lions in the Coliseum, a Philippian jail at midnight with his bleeding back and shackled feet could not quench Paul’s tears for lost men nor distract his compassionate heart till they were saved...

The preacher, the teacher, the everyday Christian will do well to cultivate this compassionate heart. He may have all else without the broken heart but will not, cannot, win the lost to a Saviour who died for them. ...

O Saviour, give us the broken heart that going forth weeping, we may come again with rejoicing, bringing precious sheaves!

Dr. John R. Rice, *Sword of the Lord*

Editor’s Note: Jeremiah of old is known as the “weeping prophet.” Early in ‘life’ Jeremiah knew he was called to a ‘task’, that the world (ungodly) would not ‘welcome’ him! (Please read the entire first chapter of Jeremiah).

The word ‘Gospel’ is to be read as not only “good-news”, but GO – SPEL! You know God never changes His mind/heart and the same task/challenge lies before you and me!

This is also the center-core of the Biblical, Lutheran, Faith Free Movement of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation/Morning Glory – are you a team member? By the Grace and Empowerment of God, ‘we’ want to be a source of encouraging nourishment to Christians and reach out in Evangelism!

TODAY!

Today, 4.5 billion people are living without the hope that only comes from knowing Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. But when we think of these people as one very large number, as a faceless crowd, it’s easy to overlook that each one is an individual. Each one is an individual with hurts and longings. Each one is a very precious soul – especially precious to God – for whom Jesus Christ shed His very own Blood, died, and rose again.

Update

Pray in the Spirit!

(Please read Ephesians 6:6:18-20)

The Apostle Paul went through much 'persecution' for exercising the 'gift' of a 'Living Faith'! He was beaten, imprisoned, accused, ridiculed and worse. He was not ashamed of the law and Gospel that has been entrusted to 'us'.

We know you agree with this 'ministry' by your support and it speaks much to us, as we seek to teach/preach the TRUTH. Folks are watching and listening to what we share in the LIGHT. Now it is just as important, if not more important than ever, that we stand together strong in the faith – united in our proclamation of God's Eternal Word which has the power to nourish 'fellow-believers' and transform lives! WE must not lose sight of 'our' calling to faithfully, boldly, and unapologetically proclaim the TRUTH... even though much of this world rejects it! Also, 'we' must hold fast to 'our' religious freedom to those who are practicing and living in SIN.

THANK YOU for being 'our' partner in this the Lord's Work of lifting up God's Truth.

Winners Never Quit and Quitters Never Win

OCCUPY UNTIL I COME!

The March income for the *Morning Glory* was app. \$2,087.00.

The cost of publishing and mailing the *Morning Glory* each month is approx. \$2,100. In addition to the above costs, there are administrative costs so it takes about \$3,600 per month to keep the *Morning Glory* and the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation alive financially, and then additional expenses for Hauge Bible Conferences.

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The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation Annual Conference

Is to be held at Grace Free Lutheran Church
located at Bagley, MN on

June 23-25, 2017:

Pastor Wayne Hjermstad, Host Pastor

*Guest Speaker: Pastor/Dr. Craig Jennings,
Evangelist*

*More details forth-coming in the June issue of
the Morning Glory.*

There will be other Guest Speakers also.

Plan, Prepare/invite, PRAY (as we are struggling, which is not all bad).

There is a possibility that the Annual Business Session may be 'tabled'.

Of course all this takes place: LORD WILLING!

WELCOME!