

Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • May 2007

Needed: Old-Fashioned Mothers

There was a time when Mother was a strong character around the home. Mother was the one who knew very little rest, so far as being human is concerned. Her busy hands were going from early morning till late at night, long after the others had retired. She was faithful to the cause God had called her to, that of being “Mother.” It seemed she never tired of working for others, and as for the proper words at the proper time, she was “tops.” A little voice calling, “Mother!” always received her attention, regardless of other duties. Her kitchen, table, and in fact, the whole home, were as tidy as loving hands could make them.

Discipline was the rule of her life, with her own children. She strongly believed that sparing the rod would spoil the child; of course, this characteristic brought respect and deep love. She was from the “old school,” and felt that to lay aside this vital rule would lead her children to ruin. God had ordained the use of discipline, and she must follow it to the letter.

True worship around the family altar was to be the center of the home life, with all the children participating, and any spiritual trouble solved for the betterment of all. Problems were discussed, and the solutions prayerfully found. Yes, she was a little old-fashioned.

The trend today is to get away from the customs of yesteryear. The modern mother likes to leave the house to help to earn the living, while the nursery takes care

of the children. Then Daddy can help to “mother” the little ones because, after all, she has to work just as hard as her husband, away from home.

Discipline also went with the old custom, and now she believes little “Johnny and Mary know so much more than she knew, that they know what is best for them, and discipline has yielded to educated psychology.”

Is it possible that the modern day trend has slipped in on the holiness people, at least to the extent that the old-fashioned mother is no longer known? May the help of the Almighty rest upon the mothers of our day, and may they remember that true happiness comes from their children and husbands calling them blessed, and not having the worldly pleasures of time. May those who bring children into the world have a real sense of the responsibility connected with it. May she be the “Mother,” and not the bread-winner; and likewise, may the daddy be the breadwinner, and not the woman of the home.

When our generation has passed on, may we be able to look back and see that there were some strong hearted, kind, loving, and understanding MOTHERS!

Selected
Old Paths Tract Society, Inc.

Morning Glory

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A Mother Needs

The wisdom of Solomon,
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When heavy the load,
The dexterity of Dorcas
To sew and to mend,
The ambition of Martha,
For tasks without end,
The willingness of Mary
To sit at Jesus' feet,
Gaining fresh courage
Her problems to meet,
The firmness of Joseph
And Daniel all in one,
The selflessness of Hannah
Who gave God her little son,
The Spirit of the Savior,
Forgiving – gentle- mild,
The love of Christ the Savior
For a little child.

By Maryann v. Shue

*“Her children arise up and call
her blessed; her husband also,
and he praiseth her.”*

(Prov. 31:23)

***Woe to the
house where
the HEN
crows louder
than the
ROOSTER!***

The Altar Call

“Finney never made an altar call within the first 28 nights of preaching. Most of our evangelists don’t have 28 sermons. Twenty eight nights in a row and he never made an altar call. He didn’t preach the love of God. He didn’t say ‘You’re a sinner, God loves you.’ He said, ‘God is angry with the wicked every day.’ (Ps. 7:11), which the Word of God says. He didn’t preach grace, he preached Law. He didn’t preach love, he preached judgment. He didn’t preach heaven, he preached hell. He didn’t say, ‘You’re a wonderful person,’ he said, ‘You’re a rebel.’ But he got results. 64% of D.L. Moody’s converts backslid; 72% of the converts Finney got stood, because he knew how to attack the human will, not just the emotions.”

Leonard Ravenhill
via VIW Min.

Editor’s Note: We most certainly are not against the ‘altar call’ (Saw Dust Trial); BUT godly repentance most certainly must precede conversion. *Interesting though!* According to the Word of God – IT IS GOD who **gives** the *increase* as ‘we’ faithfully water and plant, it is GOD who gives the increase! God is a good ‘book Keeper – just faithfully DO and BE what God wants YOU to do and be by HIS GRACE!

* * * * *

“Your refuge from the avenger of blood”

Joshua 20:3

The cities of refuge were so arranged that any man might reach one of them in half a day’s journey. Likewise, the word of our salvation is near to us. Jesus is a present Savior, and the distance to Him is short. It only requires giving up our own merit and laying hold of Jesus to be our all in all. The roads to the city of refuge were strictly preserved. Every river was bridged and every obstruction removed, so that the man who fled might find an easy passage to the city. Once every year, the elders went along the roads and checked their condition. They made certain that nothing would impede the flight of anyone and cause him to be overtaken and slain. How graciously the promises of the gospel remove stumblingblocks from the way!

Wherever there were intersections and turns there were signs with this inscription upon them “to the city of refuge!” This is a picture of the road to Christ Jesus. It is no round-about road of the law. It does not involve obeying endless rules. It is a straight road: “Believe and live.” It is a road so hard that no self-righteous man can ever tread it. Yet, it is so easy that every sinner may, by following it, find his way to

heaven. As soon as the manslayer reached the outskirts of the city, he was safe. It was not necessary for him to pass far within the walls. The suburbs themselves were sufficient protection. If you only touch the hem of Christ’s garment, you will be made whole. (See Matthew 9:20-22.) If you lay hold of Him with “*faith as a grain of mustard seed*” (Matthew 17:20), you are safe.

Taken from ‘Evening by Evening’
by C. H. Spurgeon

* * * * *

LOSING OUR FIRST LOVE

By James M. Hite

- Do we feel our heart from God slowly going astray?
- Does the pull of the world seem to have more and more sway?
- Does taking time to attend worship seem to be becoming a chore?
- Do you read the Bible less and give time to other things more?
- Do you still pray at mealtimes and before retiring for bed?
- Or is your mind too filled with other matters instead?
- Does your conversations let others know of your love of the Lord?
- Are there still those times when the Spirit is outpoured?
- Is your mind filled with the ways of the riches of this world to attain them?
- Do you find time doing things for Christ to be a loss or a gain?
- Do you find it more easy to compromise the things you stand for?
- Is Christ still the most precious your heart does adores?
- Does it bother you to be reproached for Christ’s most Holy Name?
- Does being different bring you joy or does it bring you shame?
- Does the light of Christ still shine from your life each day?
- Or does the tricks of the tempter more often have their way?
- Losing our first love can be easier than we may really think.
- It happens when we fail “the water of life” to daily drink.
- Desires and cares of this world will allure our mind.
- Let us press onward until perfect peace with Christ we find.

THE ONE WAY IN

Dr. Charles Barry, a liberal preacher of England, was getting ready for bed one night when a poor woman came to his door saying "My mother is dying. I want you to come and get her in!" The minister understood that the dying woman wanted peace in her heart so she could face her Maker.

He consented to go, wondering how he could adapt his ideas of the gospel to a sinful, dying soul.

He talked to the gasping woman about the advantage of having a good record. He told her there was no reason to fear anything since God is love and all is God. He told her just to blot out the past and throw herself on the mercy of God.

But when none of this brought rest to the sin-sick soul, the minister became desperate. He well knew what this woman was waiting to hear. He could think only of the hymn he often heard his mother sing when he was a lad, so he began to sing, "There is a fountain filled with blood."

Seeing that a light came into the woman's face, the preacher recalled as best he could the story of the Lamb of God crucified in the sinner's place as it had been taught to him in his early days. The dying woman was given faith in that moment to receive Jesus as her Saviour and Redeemer.

He got her in!

But Dr. Barry did something more. When he told the story to his fashionable congregation the next Sunday morning, he added, "*And it got me in too!*"

From Quiet Hour Stories

Standing Firm

If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the Devil are at the moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and to be steady in all the battlefield besides is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.

Martin Luther

*Fear not tomorrow,
God is already there!*

Come, Follow Me

"If any man serve me, let him follow me" (John 12:26)

JESUS has many adherents but few followers.

For no one can be a follower of Jesus without going the same way as His Master: *through death*.

We love *our* life, our old self-life. We love it, hedge about it, and defend it. We would improve upon it and dress it up, making it look like new. If we could only escape *death*.

But *life*, life in God, never becomes ours until our old self-life dies.

And this death is a fearful thing.

Therefore a long period of time often elapses before a seeking soul will deliver itself and all *its* life up to God.

But whosoever will lose his life shall find it, Jesus says.

Indeed, when we finally accept the judgment of death upon ourselves, we really learn what it means to pray for mercy. And when we have seen the firm basis upon which mercy is granted in the voluntary death and glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ, then we feel within ourselves the life which never passes away. The life which cannot be attacked or weakened by death, but is most vital, most sound, and strongest in the very midst of death.

This is the innermost and most enigmatic secret of life in God: we live by dying. Our life depends upon whether we are willing to become nothing before God, before ourselves, and before our fellow men.

But this involves a death-struggle. Every day. With fear of suffering and a dread of being completely undone. With a dread of acknowledging before God every day our miserable relationship to Him and of accepting His mercy as lost souls. With a dread of denying ourselves and serving others.

Dear child of God! Do not be dismayed when you experience these sufferings in your daily life. It is the death-struggle. And that *must* take place.

Eternal life is won and can be lived only *by dying*.

Taken from *God's Word for Today*
O. Hallesby

IN A MOMENT

An Amazing Story of Things to Come
IN a MOMENT

“Extra!” Every newsboy will be screaming it! Every newspaper in the world will come out that day with special editions describing horrible disasters!

Fast streamlined trains crash at 120 miles an hour as engineers suddenly disappear!

Auto collisions and traffic jams reported in every city as many drivers mysteriously vanish!

Large transport planes crash to earth with passengers and mail as pilots disappear!

Stores and offices short of help as many faithful workers fail to appear!

Nurses and patients vanish from hospitals before scheduled operations!

Phone, electric, gas and transportation service tied up as companies are unable to locate employees!

Mysterious disappearances of men, women and children in every walk of life startles entire world!

Such will be the headlines on that great day – the day when Jesus comes again. (Rapture –Editor). For when He comes again there will be no extended signal, no lengthy word of warning – but He shall come to the skies and call the saved of earth and “*in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye*” they shall disappear from this earth to go to be with Him forever and ever. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Every one who has trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as his own personal Saviour will go at His call – (Editor – Provided this person remains in Christ Jesus) – all others will be left behind.

Many are the unbelievers who scoff at the promise of the Lord’s return – yet how remarkable that God has recorded their very thoughts in His word: “*There shall come in the last days scoffers ...Saying, ‘where is the promise of His coming? For ...All things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation’*” (II Peter 3:3-4).

God replies with these gracious words: “*The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night*” (II Peter 3:9-10).

God is still calling to men and women to believe and be saved. He is not desirous that any should perish. He has made full and free provision for salvation through His Son – “*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*” (John 3:16).

Now the responsibility rests with you. Take the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour today – then when He comes again you will be taken to be with Him “in the twinkling of an eye.” (Editor – If you continue to ‘abide’ in Him)

If you do not take Him, remember – you will be left behind, under the judgment of God, and it will be forever too late to be saved! (Editor – likely – unless you would be willing to give your very life for faith in Him). That’s what God’s Word declares: “*The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” (See II Thessalonians 1:7-9).

By Clyde H. Dennis
Gospel Tract Society, Inc.

Editor’s Note: Isn’t it good to be reminded of the blessed, purifying, comforting HOPE (Absolute Certainty)?

Thank you Harvey and Dorothy Erickson of Northfield, MN for sharing this Gospel Tract with us!

At the ‘beginning’ of the article it is the way of what could take place; but Scripture doesn’t say so in so many words: We do know that HE is coming when people least expect Him in a ‘twinkling of an eye’! We do know that folk will be working side by side and one will be taken and one will be left and two will be sleeping in the same bed and one will be taken and one will be left! The important question here is: Are YOU **ready** and looking, waiting and occupying till **HE COMES?**

Not ‘all’ *evangelical believers* agree of the future order of events/sequence, BUT we ‘ALL’ agree that HE is coming!

What About the Bible?

I cannot too greatly emphasize the importance and value of Bible study – more important than ever before in these days of uncertainties, when men and women are apt to decide questions from the stand point of expediency rather than on the eternal principles laid down by God Himself.

John Wanamaker

Walk in the Light

“The light is with you a little longer. Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you” (John 12:35).

When we look back upon our lives how thankful we can be that we have had so much light on the pathway of life—the Bible at mother’s knee, dedicated Sunday school teachers, faithful pastors showing us the way in confirmation instruction, the preaching of the Law and Gospel from many pulpits, good Christian books. Jesus said, “walk while you have the light.” Some day soon the “light” of His Word and the lights that have led the way may be removed because of our indifference. Yes, there may come a famine of the Word of God (Amos 8:11).

The Bible teaches that by nature man wants darkness rather than light. In John 3:19 we read, *“And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil”* (read also verses 20 and 21).

I remember cleaning up a woodpile by my garage one time. When I got down to the bottom layer of boards, bugs started scattering in all directions. They could not stand exposure to the light, having lived in darkness for so long. Isn’t that the way with the man living in the darkness of sin? He resents being exposed to the light.

In John 12:35-43 we find that spiritual darkness means many things:

1. Spiritual ignorance (v. 35). *“He who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes.”* Surveys have shown that there is much ignorance among our people regarding the way of salvation. Many think that they are saved by “being good church members,” “keeping the Ten Commandments,” “doing the best I can,” etc. One lady said, “I was a Sunday school teacher for 25 years and if that isn’t enough to get me to heaven I don’t know what is.” Since when are we saved by our church work? The beloved Dr. Walter Maier of the Lutheran Hour testified shortly before his death, “I go to sleep in the wounds of Jesus.” He was not trusting in his sermons, his writings, his counseling—he trusted only in the blood of Jesus.

2. Unbelief (v. 37). *“Though he had done many signs before them, yet they did not believe in him.”* Unbelief is a terrible sin because it takes so many to hell. Revelation 21:8 tells us that the unbelieving shall be cast into the lake of fire.

The reason so many live in unbelief is because they refuse to repent of their sin. *“The god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ.”* Most of the problems regarding God’s Word in our day are spiritual, not in-

tellectual, problems. Some cover up the blindness of their hearts by saying that we are all entitled to our own viewpoint rather than submitting to the authority of God’s Word.

3. Hardness of heart (v. 40). When a person has lived in spiritual darkness his heart is hardened and his conscience cannot speak to him. God tries to awaken such a person through jolts—sickness, sorrow, disappointments, etc., but often these are unheeded and the hardening process takes its course.

“Today when you hear his voice do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion. Exhort one another every day . . . that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” (Heb. 3:15,13).

Many times hardened sinners are snatched out suddenly from this life as an example to others, so that they will turn to God before it is too late. *“He who is often reproved, yet stiffens his neck will suddenly be broken beyond healing”* (Prov. 29:1).

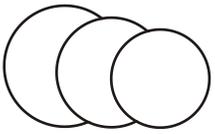
4. Fear of men (vv. 42,43). *“For fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.”* How true this is today. Many are more afraid of men’s opinions than of God’s judgment and so cannot repent and seek God’s grace in Christ. Perhaps more people will be in hell someday through fear of men than for any other reason. *“The fear of men lays a snare . . .”* (Prov. 29:25).

Where do you stand with God? No doubt you have been exposed to much light from God’s Word in your life time. Have you received the LIGHT, so that you have become “sons of light,” or are you still walking in darkness, running the risk of having the light removed forever?

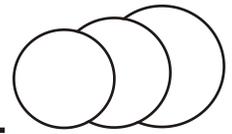
Why not repent of all your sins right now, wherever you are, and turn to Jesus who promises that *“he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life”* (John 8:12)?

Sterling Johnson
Evangelize

Publication of The Lutheran Evangelistic Movement
July-August 1965
Submitted by Pastor Wayne Almlie



From Our Fellowship Circle



GN **Owatonna, MN**
Thank you for continuing to send the Morning Glory as I enjoy every issue.

AT **Britton, SD**
You have so many good stories in your paper. We pray that many will be saved through this work. Please send the following a subscription to the Morning Glory...It is so sad that many go through life not knowing our wonderful Savior.

WA **Des Moines, IA**
It was great to be able to be with you and fellowship with you last weekend. (Winter Conf). Enclosed is a check.

AT&F **Red Wing, MN**
Enclosed find a check as I would like to subscribe to the Morning Glory. May the Lord Bless your work and our prayers are with you. Thank you.

W&S L **Byron, MN**
A check is enclosed in loving memory of Delbert Erickson. Thank you for the good work you are doing for the Lord in the Innermission Federation. We are sorry we were unable to attend the Bible Conference.

(We are thankful to the Lord for the many years that Delbert Erickson served on the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation Board. He was a dear brother in the Lord. Blessed be his memory. *"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."* (Psalm 116:15) – Editor.)

A&V C **Litchfield, MN**
We are sorry that we can't make it to the Conference. We had planned to come but it did not work out....The Lord has been so good to us as we are still living on our hobby farm....I am 97 years old and my wife is 91. We celebrated 70 years of marriage together on November 26, 2006. We look forward to every issue of the Morning Glory. What a wonderful Christian magazine. We pray for a special blessing to those who are in attendance.

N&M B **Fergus Falls, MN**
We enjoy reading the articles in the Morning Glory and hope you had a good Conference as we were unable to attend...

EB **Gilmanton, WI**
Thanks for sending the Morning Glory and I talked to ...and she enjoys the paper. A check enclosed.

ET **Grand Forks, ND**
Enclosed is a check for the Morning Glory...May the Lord richly bless you in your work for Him.

R&A G **Karlstad, MN**
Sending a ...gift to help keep your paper coming our way. We do enjoy it so much with all the 'timely' and precious nuggets. Very few are brave enough to write about the spiritual war that is in progress. "He is Coming Again."

EN **Duluth, MN**
...Am thankful for Godly pastors in....It all started back in the 90's with Rev. W. Gunderson's meetings. I stood outsideChurch and prayed that it would be a beacon light on the hill overlooking Duluth. When Pastor...first came he was slandered by those who had preached and heard dead orthodoxy. Now we have ...Bible studies...intercessory prayer group. Praise and thank God with me....God continues to bless me with excellent basic health and I'll be 90 years old 5-13-07...Do I have a dull and boring life? No, a life of God's surprises and His wonderful love, mercy and grace.

Praise Him! Glorify Him! Would you send the Morning Glory to the following.... Blessings, Prayers and Love.

AL **Bismarck, ND**
Thank you for your great little magazine as I enjoy it so much and recently I talked to a friend and she would like to receive it too...May you continue to serve Him 'til Jesus comes.

H&D E **Northfield, MN**
We surely enjoy the Morning Glory. Very good articles. We look forward to it coming in the mail. We wish we could be at Conference but we will be with you in prayer.... We sure miss the fellowship with the Hauge people that we used to have. Guess we didn't appreciate it enough back then. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." Psalm 103:2.

Unhappy reader **Minnesota**
Please discontinue sending the "Morning Glory" publication to me. As I have enjoyed some of the articles from the past, your narrow view of the Gospel seems unloving and judgmental many times. Too often I am left wondering if Christ is honored through this newsletter. In His Love,...

Editorial

RES

Window Shopping?

Please read Matthew 4:1-11 & Luke 4:1-13

Personally I like to 'window shop' for certain items and seek to meet the 'challenge' of where do I get the best buy on 'sales' or 'clearance items', etc; BUT I heard a 'Preacher' share that IF you don't NEED it, it is 'best' not to 'window shop' at all – AS it can make you envious/covetous. NOW I won't say you shouldn't 'window shop' as the 'exercise/relaxing' might be good for you, BUT 'he' who does not give a significant thought to consider that 'window shopping' can be detrimental to himself (besides wearing out shoe leather). We are to be good 'stewards' of what God entrusts to us for our 'journey' here and we most certainly realize that all that 'glitters' is not beneficial. It is so easy to be captivated with keeping up with the 'Jones' without checking out where THE Jones' are going! SIN has a beautiful 'glitter/shine' in its appearance when not considering the wages of the same. Remember Moses, *"Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."* (Hebrews 11:25) Isn't it 'interesting' that a person must say NO to many things (in every day living) in order to say YES to that which is much better!

"Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:14-16).

Life is like a dressing room for eternity – Life is a battlefield, not a scrimmage, as Satan is out to kill you, but keep in mind that our 'battle' is not against flesh and blood; but principalities, etc. – Ephesians 6:10 - 20.

In our given text we notice, first of all, that Jesus was not following His own agenda, but was 'led' (submission, controlled, filled) by the Holy Spirit. A mistaken false teaching is that IF you are led by the Holy Spirit you will not encounter difficulties nor temptations -which as stated is not true. So as we travel in the journey of life, day by day, WE need to first see IF we brought about these encounters ourselves. Nobody is temptation proof. Even mature Christians have weaknesses in their spiritual life that make them vulnerable to a wounding attack by the enemy of their souls. Our pride, for example, can provide the very opening needed for the sharp thrust of a satanic dart. Satan is out to kill YOU! So can the love of money, a quick tempter, a critical tongue or a chronic impatience, to name a few.

What, after all, is temptation? It's any enticement to think, say or do something contrary to God's holy Book, the Bible. It may be a weak impulse or powerful urge. It's anything that's against what God approves or desires for us. In a negative sense, it is an opportunity to SIN!

In verses 3 & 4 we find Satan stabbing at faith and scattering doubt zeroing in on particularly the physical appetite and desires of Jesus or just lust of the flesh. (Traditionally the scene of the text is a barren territory northwest of the Dead Sea - devoid of vegetation or shelter of any kind). Jesus refused to work a miracle here to avoid personal suffering when that was a part of God's will.

Martin Luther made this observation in life: "When I am assailed with heavy tribulation, I rush out among my pigs rather than remain alone by myself. The human heart, unless it is occupied with some employment, leaves space for the devil, who wiggles himself in and brings with him a whole host of evil thoughts, temptations, and tribulations which grind out the heart."

In verses 5-7 the temptation is directed towards possessions and power or an ego trip of spiritual attainment (Pride of Life). Satan uses Scripture (Psalm 91:11-12) to make Christ prove His claim that He abode by every word that came from the mouth of God. Thus Jesus shares "It is written" which points to the use of the totality of all Scripture as the guide for conduct and basis for faith. Did you notice that Satan "omitted" part of the Scripture he supposedly quoted?

In verses 8-10 Satan appeals to worldly ambitions in order to succeed and seek an alliance. Notice no Scripture is used here, but 'all glory' – lust of the eyes. Satan is a liar and the father thereof. Just because something is 'supernatural' does not mean it is necessarily of God! Satan was focusing on worldly power/strength politically and not on God's plan of REDEMPTION. As a 'liar' Satan promises that which is not true. Even sometimes it is not so much what he says, it's what he doesn't say! As you will note in Luke 4:13 the 'battle' – of temptations did not end here! Again note all three temptations centered around "I" and that anything contrary to the Word of God is SIN!

GOD SAYS: *"Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil"* (1 Thess. 5:21-22).

"Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone" (James 1:13)

Noah displayed two traits that should guide our lives. First, he was *"a just man, perfect in his generations"* (not sinless), one who *"walked with God"* (Gen. 6:9). Second, when he got a command from God, he was *"moved with godly fear"* to take action. (Heb. 11:7). This was not a cowering dread, but a healthy reverence and respect for a holy and all-powerful God.

Are we willing to obey God, as Noah did, and take a stand against the tide of evil in our community, state, nation, world?

GOD'S GRACE, THE SHED BLOOD OF JESUS, KNOWING JESUS AS OUR PERSONAL SAVIOR AND THE ETERNAL WORD OF GOD ARE NECESSARY FOR US TO REALLY EXPERIENCE VICTORY!

Militant Islam: A Clear and Present Danger

by Pastor David Barnhart
Winchester, Ohio

THE DAY AMERICA CHANGED

We all remember where we were and what we were doing the morning of September 11, 2001. For most of us, the day began like any other. Shortly after 8:45 a.m., news bulletins flashed, announcing that fire and smoke were coming from the north tower of the World Trade Center. A short while later, television cameras captured images of the second plane flying into the south tower of the World Trade Center. Next, came an attack on the Pentagon and a downed plane in Pennsylvania.

As the hours passed, it became clear that Islamic terrorists were behind the attacks. For the first time in modern history, Americans collectively felt a wave of insecurity sweep over them. We knew the United States would never be the same again, and that we were just as vulnerable to major terrorist attacks as any other nation on the planet.

Our pain was intensified as televised images from various cities in the Middle East showed Muslims dancing in the streets, celebrating the despicable attacks on America.

Since that fateful September day, we have learned a great deal about Islamic terrorism, but most Americans still have little understanding about root causes or the Islamic teachings from which it springs.

WE ARE AT WAR WITH MILITANT ISLAM

America is not at war with terrorism; we are at war with militant Islam! Militant Islam is a clear and present danger to the entire world. It has three basic goals—the total destruction of Israel, the downfall of the United States, and the establishment of Islam as the dominant religion of the world (Caliphate). Until these facts are realized and accepted by our national leaders and the American people, we have little chance of achieving victory or stopping the next assault that will surely come.

Islam is comprised of approximately 1.3 billion adherents, making it the second largest religion in the world, after Christianity. It is also the fastest growing religion in the world.

Not all Muslims are terrorists, of course, but the numbers of Muslims who want to forcefully establish Islamic law (sharia) and impose their religion on everyone across the globe is astounding. It has been suggested that only fifteen to twenty percent of all Muslims are truly radicals. If that is so, it means as many as 250 million Muslims are intent upon killing us or subjecting us by force to conform to their beliefs and way of life.

Few voices within the moderate Muslim community have criticized, let alone condemned, the Islamic radicals who are intent on promoting their religious beliefs through coercion and violence. Yet, if moderate Muslims do not soon find their voices and stand against radical Islam, they too will become its victims. One has only to look at radical Islamists in Iraq and the Gaza Strip to know how quickly and how violently the radicals can turn on their own people.

Islamic terrorists are among us right now in United States, Canada, Great Britain, Europe, and elsewhere. As you read this article, terrorists are plotting to kill as many people as they can. It is not a question of *if* Islamic radicals will attack us, but only *when* they will attack us.

AMERICA MUST FACE THE FACTS ABOUT ISLAM

America has taken certain precautions at airports, utility plants, schools, etc., but we know from watching the terrorists operate in Israel that the finest security in the world cannot stop who are intent on murder and mayhem, especially when they are willing to die for their ignoble cause. We know that as long as the security of this country is hamstrung by left-wing ideologies and politically correct policies, we don't stand a chance of slowing down, much less thwarting, the diabolical schemes of the terrorists.

Today, liberals in this country complain about racial profiling, wiretaps, and interrogation techniques that are being used by our government. While the Islamic fascists are kidnapping, cutting off heads and torturing aid workers, news reporters and members of our military, the liberals are criticizing our government for mistreating terrorists and violating their legal rights. It's about time liberals in this country start to talk about victims' rights and the right of Americans to be defended from Islamic terrorists who operate without conscience or moral boundaries.

Unless Western leaders wake up and face the hard cold facts about the Islamic ideology that is at the root of terrorism, the United States and our Western allies are going to experience the most devastating terrorist attacks we have ever known.

William Gawthrop, former head of a counter-intelligence and counter-terrorism program at the Pentagon, warned that the Pentagon needs to study the prophet Muhammad and his military doctrine if it wants to beat the growing number of

jihadists. He said, “As late as 2006, the senior service colleges of the Department of Defense had not incorporated into their curriculum a systematic study of Muhammad as a military or political leader.” Gawthrop went on to say that the jihadists in Iraq and Afghanistan are simply following the example of Muhammad and using his military doctrine in the Qur’an as a manual of warfare.

“The Pentagon,” Gawthrop said, “needs to develop a broad new strategy to deal with the threat from Islamic terrorists. But to do so, officials must first overcome the political taboo of linking Islamic violence to the religion of Islam, including the Qur’an and the Hadiths, or traditions of Muhammad, and exploiting critical vulnerabilities and controversies within the faith itself.”¹

MUHAMMAD

Muhammad, founder of Islam, was born in 570, A.D., near Mecca. A merchant by trade, he traveled throughout the Middle East on business, where he learned about other religions and cultures, especially Judaism and Christianity. Muhammad became disgusted with the idolatry and religious practices of the pagan Arabs, especially their wanton killing of unwanted baby girls.

When Muhammad was twenty-five, he married Khadija, a wealthy widow who was fifteen years his senior. Freed from financial concerns after his marriage, he often went off in seclusion to a mountain called Hira, near Mecca, where he meditated and prayed.

Muhammad claimed that the angel Gabriel came to him in a series of visions and revealed portions of the Qur’an. He first thought that his visions had come from evil spirits, but Khadija encouraged him to accept them as a gift from Allah. The visions and encounters with Gabriel continued for 23 years, during which time he claimed that the entire Qur’an was revealed to him.

ISLAM BUILT ON OTHER RELIGIONS

Muhammad adapted many of his teachings from Judaism, Christianity and Arab paganism. The Qur’an states, “God has established for you the same religion enjoined on Noah, on Abraham, on Moses and on Jesus” (Sura 42:13). Muhammad considered himself to be the last and greatest in a long line of prophets sent by Allah.

According to the Qur’an, Jesus foretold Muhammad’s coming: “And remember, Jesus, the son of Mary, said: ‘O Children of Israel! I am the messenger of Allah sent to you, confirming the Law which came before me, and giving Glad Tidings of a Messenger to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmad’” (Sura 61 :6).

Islam identifies the Holy Spirit whom Jesus promised to send to be Muhammad. Muslims also maintain that verses in the Bible foretell the coming of Muhammad—Deuteronomy

18:18-19 and John 1:19-21. Earlier Islamic prophets include Adam, Abraham, Moses and Jesus.

Muhammad began to preach and teach in Mecca. His messages contained three basic themes—there is only one sovereign God; there is a resurrection and judgment for all men; and believers should practice acts of charity to the poor. The idol-loving population of Mecca was not impressed with Muhammad or his messages. Because of their rejection and opposition, he and his followers were forced to flee to the city of Medina in 622 A.D., where he became rich and powerful.

MUHAMMAD TURNS MILITANT

Muhammad led numerous raids on caravans and nearby cities, forcing their residents to convert to Islam or die. Muhammad established three alternatives for his enemies—convert, submit, or die. Those who chose to submit were treated as second-class citizens and made to pay taxes. When Jews living in Medina refused to accept Muhammad’s teachings, he had 800 Jewish men beheaded in one day and sold their wives and children into slavery.

In 630, Muhammad and his followers captured Mecca. The inhabitants accepted him and his religion without opposition. He claimed the Ka’aba and cleansed it of its 360 idols. Since that time, the Ka’aba is considered the most holy site in Islam. The pre-existing pagan practice of encircling the Ka’aba was made part of the rituals of Islam, as was the pagan observance of Ramadan.

MUHAMMAD’S MARRIAGES

After the death of his first wife, Khadija, Muhammad remarried. In fact, he had 15 wives at the same time, even though the Qur’an permits Muslim men to have but four: “Marry women of your choice, two or three, or four” (Sura 4:3). The Qur’an gave a special exception for Muhammad to marry many wives; however, this exception was for him only. (Sura 33:50). During his lifetime, Muhammad was married to at least 40 women. He added verses to the Qur’an at will to accommodate particular circumstances in his life. He married one wife, Aisha, when she was six years of age, and consummated the marriage with her when she was only nine. Another wife, Zainab, had been the wife of his adopted son. After Muhammad admired her, his son divorced Zainab so that she might be free to marry the Prophet.

THE BASIC TEACHINGS OF ISLAM

The word Islam means “submission to God.” Islam is not just a religion; it is their government and their way of life—work, marriage, education and recreation. The Five Pillars reflect the essence of the Islamic religion.

1. The Creed (Shahada). “There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet.” These words are said into a baby’s ear upon birth. Every Muslim wants them to be the last

words he or she will hear or say prior to death. These words are the first words a Muslim says upon waking, and the last words spoken at night.

2. Prayer. Muslims pray five times a day: sunrise, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset, and night. Prayer involves standing, bowing, kneeling and prostration. All prayers are said facing in the direction of Mecca. The call to prayer is sounded five times a day from a minaret. Before praying, believers wash their faces, hands, elbows, feet and ankles.

Muslims have no Sabbath as such, but the men go to the mosque each Friday where they pray and listen to a sermon from a spiritual leader called the imam.

3. Almsgiving (Zakat). Muslims are required to give 2.5 percent of their possessions to the poor. Almsgiving is performed within the Islamic community, especially during the month of Ramadan.

4. Fasting (Swam). During Ramadan, Muslims abstain from food, drink and sexual relations from sunrise until sunset (self-purification).

5. Pilgrimage (Hajj). If possible Muslims must make pilgrimage to Mecca during their lifetime, including a visit to the Ka'aba and Muhammad's tomb in Medina.

(6.) While not listed among the pillars of Islam, **jihad** is considered a fundamental belief by all Muslims. For some, jihad is the personal inner struggle to measure up to Allah's expectations and demands. Jihad also means fighting the enemies of Allah in order to make Islam the dominant religion of the world. This distinction in the meaning of jihad marks the difference between radical and moderate Muslims. However, moderate Muslims deliberately mislead when they try to pass off their definition of jihad without taking into account how the term is used in the Qur'an and by the Islamic radicals.

The Qur'an and Other Sources of Authority

The Muslim's holy book is called the Qur'an, which literally means "recital" or "reading." Muhammad claimed that its 114 chapters (Sura) and 6200 verses were given to him directly by the angel Gabriel over a period of 23 years. He never wrote down any of its contents; however, after Muhammad's death, his sayings were gathered and recorded, but in a rather haphazard fashion.

According to Islam, the Qur'an is the final revelation of God to man; it supersedes all previous revelations, specifically the Old and New Testaments. Muslims teach that both the Old and New Testaments were corrupted by errors which, in numerous cases, the Qur'an amends or corrects. The truth is that numerous teachings of the Bible are perverted in the Qur'an.

The second most holy book to the Muslims is the Hadith. It has two parts, the sacred and the prophetic. The sacred portion comes from Allah, though not found in the Qur'an. The

prophetic portion contains the sayings of Muhammad. The Hadith does not have the same status as the Qur'an, but its contents are highly regarded. Muslims look to the Hadith to interpret the Qur'an and to better understand what is expected from them by Allah.

Other writings in Islam that carry weight in matters of religion, life and culture include the Sunna, a body of Islamic social and legal customs; the Sira, or biographies of Muhammad, and the Tfsir, an Islamic commentary.³

The Ka'aba

At the time of Muhammad, the Ka'aba was already an ancient center of pagan worship in Mecca, dedicated to 360 gods, including the moon god, Allah. Ancient Muslim lore describes the Ka'aba as having been built by Adam. After its destruction in the flood, Muhammad maintained that it was rebuilt by Abraham and his son, Ishmael. The Ka'aba, the most sacred place in Islam, plays a central role in the Hajj, when pilgrims travel to Mecca.

Sharia—The Law of Islam

Islamic law (sharia) is commanded by the Qur'an. It is applied law for both religion and government. The official teachings of Islam mandate that sharia law be established in all Islamic nations, and eventually throughout the whole world. Under sharia, any Muslim who converts to another religion is to be put to death. Beheading is the customary form of execution. Hands and feet are cut off for various offences, a practice which is still common in many Muslim countries.

Two countries where sharia law is presently observed are Iran and Saudi Arabia.. It was practiced in Afghanistan under the taliban. Pakistan comes very close to being fully under sharia.

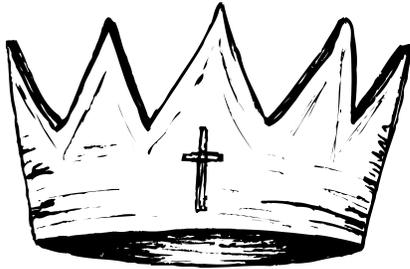
Who is Jesus in Islam?

The Jesus of the Qur'an and the Jesus of the New Testament are two different beings. The Jesus of the Qur'an is not divine, nor is He the Son of God. The Jesus of the Qur'an was created, as was Adam. He is a Muslim prophet, but not in any way superior to other prophets, especially to Muhammad.

The Muslim Jesus was born of a virgin, but he did not die on a cross, nor was he raised from the dead. The Qur'an teaches that Allah substituted someone to die on the cross in Jesus' place, and then took him directly to heaven. "They said, 'We killed the Messiah Jesus, son of Mary, the messenger of God.'" They did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but the likeness of him was put on another man (and they killed that man)." Sura 4: 157

Islam does not believe Jesus died on the cross as an atonement for the sins of mankind. Such a concept of redemption does not exist. Salvation is gained entirely by good works and Allah's favor. Muslims view the concept of Jesus being equal

*All Hail the power of
Jesus' Name,
Let angels prostrate fall;*



*Bring forth the
royal diadem,
And crown Him
Lord of all!*

with God as an unforgivable sin. They say Allah, not Jesus, will come to judge mankind.

The Qur'an and Islamic teachings deny and attack Christian doctrines. If the Christian doctrines regarding Jesus are true, they know Islam cannot stand. *The Biblical & Archaeological Review*, July, August 2006, describes messages on two copper plates over the eastern and southern gates leading to the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. One message says: "The Unity of God and the Prophecy of Muhammad are true," and the other states, "The Sonship of Jesus and the Trinity are false."

IS ALLAH THE GOD OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS?

Muhammad taught that Allah is the God of Jesus and Moses. But saying it does not make it so. It is a known fact that the name Allah was used prior to the establishment of the Islamic religion. Muhammad's father's name was Abd-Allah, meaning "slave of god." Allah was the moon god or the chief god among the many gods (360) worshiped

in the Ka'aba.

Because Muslims are monotheistic and some of their teachings were taken directly from Judaism and Christianity, many Jews and Christians seem ready to recognize Allah as the same God who is worshiped by Christians and Jews. But how could He be?

Even a cursory examination of the Qur'an should cause one to conclude that the god of Islam is not the God of the Bible. Allah cannot be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, since Islam denies Christ's divinity, His death on the cross, and His resurrection. If the Qur'an was inspired by Allah and if Allah inspired the Old and New Testaments, as the Muslims claim, how could the Qur'an and the Bible contradict each other?

IS ISLAM A RELIGION OF PEACE?

The politically correct mantra claims that "Islam is a religion of peace" yet, in the wake of 9/11 and numerous attacks by Islamic terrorists around the world, Islam does not appear so peaceful. Muslims who speak of Islam as a religion of peace are referring to a peace that will come when the whole world is living under subjection to Islamic law. Until then, Islamic radicals are committed to whatever violence and coercive means may be necessary to subdue their perceived enemies. Over 100 verses in the Qur'an advocate promoting Islam through violence. One verse in the Qur'an, often called "the verse of the sword," states: "But when the forbidden months are past, then fight and slay the pagans wherever you find them, and seize them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every strategy of war" (Sura 9:5).

An Islamic biographer describes the manner in which Muhammad took care of his enemies in Medina: "The apostle of Allah, may Allah bless him, sat with his companions and they were brought in small group. Their heads were struck off. They were between six hundred and seven hundred in number."

Muhammad believed in holy wars, calling them jihad. He commanded his followers to "fight in the cause of God" (Sura 2:244). "And when you meet the Unbelievers, smite at their necks" (Sura 47:4).

Muhammad was involved in no fewer than 27 battles. Several times he ordered the execution of people who mocked him. The first four leaders (caliphs) of Islam focused on the expansion of Islam through war. This early expansion of Islam through violence lasted for over 650 years and caused the deaths of over a million people.

ISLAM MAY PREACH TOLERANCE BUT THEY DO NOT PRACTICE IT!

While Muslims demand tolerance from everyone else, they rarely offer it to others. Criticisms of Muhammad or of Islam are continuously met with the most vicious response.

The cartoons of Muhammad in Denmark and comments by Pope Benedict XVI in 2006 set off waves of violence throughout the Muslim world. Muslims regularly insult the Jews, calling them pigs, apes, monkeys, and worse. They constantly question the Holocaust and defame Christianity. When the dictator of Pakistan, Pervez Musharraf, spoke at the United Nations in 2006, he asked the international body to ban “the defamation of Islam.” Members of the UN criticize Denmark and Pope Benedict, rather than speak out against the violence of the Islamic radicals.

Muslim leaders, the media and liberal politicians in Washington criticized President George W. Bush when he referred to terrorists in London as “Islamic fascists.” While Bush’s definition was correct, White House speech writers quickly jettisoned such descriptions from future speeches and press releases.

Daniel Pipes described Muslim motives this way: “The Muslim uproar has a goal—to prohibit criticism of Islam by Christians and thereby impose sharia norms in the West. Should Westerners accept this central tenet of Islamic law, others will surely follow. Retaining free speech about Islam, therefore, represents a critical defense against the imposition of Islamic order.”⁴

HOW ABOUT TOLERANCE FOR THE POPE?

While visiting in Regensburg, Germany during the summer of 2006, Pope Benedict XVI delivered a lecture in which he called for a dialogue with the Muslims. He quoted a fourteenth-century Byzantine emperor who said, “Show me just what Muhammad brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached.” Instead of dialogue, much of the Muslim world went ballistic. Pakistan’s legislature unanimously condemned the Pope. An extremist group in Pakistan issued a fatwa (a legal ruling in Islam), asking the Muslim community to rise up and kill the Pope. Government officials in Turkey compared Pope Benedict to Hitler and Mussolini.

Sheik Abu Saqer of Gaza stated in an interview, “The only Christian-Muslim dialogue that is acceptable is one in which all religions convert to Islam.” He called for a “holy war” against the pope and declared that the green flag of Muhammad would soon fly over the Vatican.⁵

A sermon on the state-run station in Gaza declared that Pope Benedict is “arrogant,” “stupid,” and “criminal,” and will be judged by Allah on the day “when eyes will stare in terror.” Palestinians set fire to five Christian churches in the West Bank and Gaza.

In Somalia, Sheik Abubakar Hassan Malin urged Muslims to find the pontiff and punish him for insulting the Prophet Muhammad and Allah. “Whoever offends our Prophet Mohammed should be killed on the spot by the near-

est Muslim,” he said. Apparently unable to get their hands on the Pope, they murdered a nun in Somalia instead.

Adjem Choudary, an Islamic radical in London told a group of demonstrators at Westminster Abbey that the Pope is now condemned to death.⁶ In Mosul, Iraq, Paulos Iskander, a Syriac priest, was kidnaped and held for ransom. His kidnapers demanded that the Pope apologize for his remarks against Islam before any negotiations could begin. A few days later the priest was beheaded and a fourteen-year-old boy was crucified in Albasra.

Al-Qaida representatives in Iraq threatened to “destroy the cross and to slash the throats of those who believe in the cross.” The Mujahedeen Sura Council, an umbrella organization of Sunni Arab extremists, issued a statement that threatened to take over Rome. “You infidels and despotic, we will continue our jihad (holy war) and never stop until God avails us to chop your necks and raise the fluttering banner of monotheism when God’s rule is established governing all people and nations,” the statement said. They also warned that an ultimatum will be given conversion to Islam or death by the sword.”⁷

So much for Christian-Muslim dialogue!

WHY THE SUICIDE BOMBERS?

How can radical Islamic leaders get their youth to strap on bombs and kill themselves? First, they teach them the virtues of dying for Allah from the time they are children. Secondly, they make outlandish promises, some from the Qur’an, others that have been embellished from Islamic traditions.

As soon as the first drop of your blood is shed in jihad, you will feel no pain, all your sins will be forgiven, and you will be transported instantly to paradise where you will recline comfortably for eternity on plush green cushions, to be lavished with the choicest meats, the finest wines and endless sex with seventy virgins. In addition, all of your family members will be admitted into heaven as part of your reward.⁸

Children living in Gaza and the West Bank are being trained from their earliest years to become suicide bombers. A video entitled “Ask for Death,” that featured two eleven

“But an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God.”

(John 16:2)

year-old girls, was shown on government-run television in Gaza; it extolled the glory of martyrdom (shahada). Some of the dialogue went as follows:

Host: You described shahada as something beautiful.

Walla: Shahada is very, very beautiful. Everyone yearns for shahada. What could be better than going to Paradise?

Host: What is better, peace and full rights for the Palestinian people, or Shahada?

Walla: I will achieve my rights after becoming a shahada.

Yussra: Of course shahada is a good. We don't want this world, we want the afterlife. We benefit not from this life, but from the afterlife. The children of Palestine have accepted the concept that death by shahada is very good. Every Palestinian child aged, say 12, says, 'Oh Allah, I would like to become a shahid.'⁹

MAKING THE WORLD CONFORM TO ISLAM

It is amazing how much influence Muslims have been able to exert throughout the Western world. While they make up only a fraction of the population in the United States, they have been gaining leverage in our society.

Islam is now being taught in public schools here in America. Students are required to dress like Muslims, use Muslim names, as well as pray and recite verses from the Qur'an. Evangelical Christian parents and students challenged such teaching in the Byron Union School district in Contra Costa County, California. However, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled that the courses do not violate any laws. (This is the same Court that ruled children couldn't recite the words "under God," in the Pledge of Allegiance.) The U.S. Supreme Court rejected an appeal on this case recently, thus their doctrination of our children into Islam will continue.

Here is one of the Muslim prayers that the school children recite: "**In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Praise be to Allah, Lord of Creation, The Compassionate, the Merciful, King of Judgment day! You alone we worship, and to You alone we pray for help, Guide us to the straight path.**" One need not wonder how the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals would have ruled had the course been on Christianity and had it included prayers in Jesus' Name.

AUSTRALIA TAKES A DIFFERENT TACT

Prime Minister John Howard called on moderate Muslims to pledge loyalty to Australia and her Queen. Australian Treasurer, Peter Costello, suggested that some Muslim clerics might be asked to leave the country if they could not accept the fact that Australia is a secular state. "If those are not your values, if you want a country which has sharia law or a theocratic state, then Australia is not for you," he said on national

television.

Prime Minister Howard made some Australian Muslims quite upset when he said:

"Immigrants, not Australians, must adapt. Take it or leave it. I am tired of this nation worrying about whether we are offending some individual or their culture. Since the terrorist attacks on Bali, we have experienced a surge of patriotism by the majority of Australians.

"However, the dust from the attacks had barely settled when the 'politically correct' crowd began complaining about the possibility that our patriotism was offending others. I am not against immigration, nor do I hold a grudge against anyone who is seeking a better life by coming to Australia. However, there are a few things that those who have recently come to our country, and apparently some born here, need to understand. This idea of Australia being a multi-cultural community has served only to dilute our sovereignty and our national identity. And as Australians, we have our own culture, our own society, our own language and our own lifestyle.

"This culture has been developed over two centuries of struggles, trials and victories by millions of men and women who have sought freedom. We speak mainly English, not Spanish, Lebanese, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, or any other language. Therefore, if you wish to become part of our society ...learn the language!

"Most Australians believe in God. This is not some Christian right wing, political push, but a fact, because Christian men and women, on Christian principles, founded this nation, and this is clearly documented. It is certainly appropriate to display it on the walls of our schools. If God offends you, then I suggest you consider another part of the world as your new home, because God is part of our culture.

"We accept your beliefs, and will not question why. All we ask is that you accept ours, and live in harmony and peaceful enjoyment with us. If the Southern Cross offends you, or you don't like "A Fair Go," then you should seriously consider a move to another part of this planet. We are happy with our culture and have no desire to change, and we really don't care how you did things where you came from. By all means, keep your culture, but do not force it on others.

“This is our country, our land, and our lifestyle, and we will allow you every opportunity to enjoy all this. But once you are done complaining, whining and griping about our Flag, our Pledge, our Christian beliefs, or our way of life, I highly encourage you to take advantage of one other great Australian freedom, the right to leave. If you are not happy here, then leave. We didn’t force you to come here. You asked to be here. So accept the country you accepted.”

How wonderful it would be if the leaders of America and other Western nations had the wisdom and the courage to speak the truth on this subject as did Prime Minister John Howard.

WITNESSING TO MUSLIMS

While the God of the Bible is not the Allah of the Qur’an, yet He loves Muslims. There is no comparison between the love taught by Jesus Christ and the hate taught by Muhammad. Christ died so that Muslims may have eternal life. As Christians, we must be very careful not to allow our concern over their false religion to diminish our love for them as a people or the need to witness Christ to them.

It is extremely difficult to witness to Muslims, since they are in bondage to a religion filled with darkness. Muslims who receive Jesus Christ as Savior are immediately threatened with persecution and even death.

While Islam forbids Christian missionary activity of any kind, there are an estimated six million Muslims living here in America. Millions are presently living in Britain and Europe. The only hope Muslims have is in Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Editor’s note: Remember to pray for the Muslims who haven’t experienced the saving grace of Jesus!

ENDNOTES

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7. *Jerusalem Post*, online edition, 9/18/06.
8. *Whistleblower*, 9/06, “The Invisible Jihad,” by David Kupelian.

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The Lost Tomb of Jesus – A Response

Note: In the March, 2007 issue of the *Morning Glory* was an article entitled “Did Jesus and Mary Magdalene Have A Son?” The article was taken from *The Star Tribune* and was reported as being Feb. 27, 2006. The date should have been Feb. 27, 2007. We are sorry for any confusion that this caused.

On March 4, 2007, the *Discovery Channel* aired a documentary called *The Lost Tomb of Jesus* where they found a burial box containing the bones of Jesus, son of Joseph, in a tomb which [they claim] also contained the bones of His supposed wife Mary Magdalene and a son whom He supposedly fathered, named Judah. They claim that this is the physical remains of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Make no mistake about it, this is not just an attack on a basic tenet of Christianity, but denies Christianity altogether. The Scriptures says, “*And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.*” (1 Cor. 15:17) It also means that Jesus was a liar because He predicted that He would raise bodily from the dead. “*From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.*” (Matt. 16:21)

How do we respond to these archaeologists who make such a bold claim and back it up with supposed documentation? Simply look at the Scriptures and read John 20:31, “*But these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.*” Jesus never referred to Himself as “the son of Joseph,” but the Son of God or the Son of Man. None of his followers referred to Him that way either. In fact, it was only his enemies who referred to Him that way. When Jesus came to His home town in Nazareth, He went into the synagogue and read from Isaiah 61 and said that this prophecy was fulfilled in Him. The people responded, “*Is this not Joseph’s son?*” (Lk. 4:22) These people later tried to throw Him off a cliff.

The fact that a burial box says “Jesus, son of Joseph” on it does not prove that this is the Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, at the same time that this documentary was being aired, another burial box was on display in Florida which also contained the inscription, “Jesus, son of Joseph.” What a sham!

Thank God that our faith does not rest in man’s supposed wisdom and scientific knowledge or discovery, but on the un-changing, inerrant and living Word of God!

HAUGE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“A Call to Repentance”

June 8th (Friday evening) through Sunday Noon (June 10th)

Faith Lutheran Church, London, MN
Pastor Reuben Unseth, Host Pastor

Friday Evening Service at 7 p.m. - Pastor Jim Haga

Saturday

9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. = Prayer Time

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. = Bible Hour, Pastor Rodney Stueland

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. = Bible Hour – Pastor Reuben Unseth

12 (noon) Meal will be served at the Church.

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. = Pastor Rodney Stueland

2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. = Fellowship Time, Testimonies, Gospel Songs & Hymns

7:00 p.m. = Pastor Jim Haga

Sunday

Pastor Rodney Stueland will be the Guest Speaker at the Worship Service at 9:30. Fellowship dinner will follow the morning service.

Lodging:

Austin Motel – (507) 433-9254

Countryside Inn - (507) 437-7774

Super 8 Motel - (507) 433-1801

Days Inn - (507) 437-8600

Beaver Trails Campgrounds - (507) 584-6611

River Bend Campgrounds - (507) 325-4637

Greatly Appreciated:

Prayer Support that God might convict people of their sins and lead them to repent of their sins and find forgiveness through the Blood of Jesus.

Also, IF you are unable to attend we encourage you (as the Lord leads) to support the “Conference” financially by sending a gift, clearly marked ‘conference’.

For those who attend - If convenient, please bring ‘goodies’ for ‘snack times’.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE and by God’s Grace: “*making no apologies for the old time Christianity!*”

WELCOME!

Update

Bamboos — The account is actual history that somewhere a “huge” bell lies sunken at the bottom of a deep body of water. People tried to bring the bell to the surface, but to no avail! The account states further that some native folk in the area had suggested that they be given the opportunity to raise this bell which weighed many hundreds IF not thousands of pounds. When the ‘natives’ got the ‘OK’ they kept putting bamboo poles under the bell - one after another, and soon ‘many’ bamboo poles had been placed in their respective places and the bell was loosened and brought to the ‘surface’.

This story reminds and encourages US of you who have ‘responded’ in PRAYER and *financial giving* to this arm of the **Lord’s Work**. YES as YOU have taken up the ministry of ‘praying for us and this work and responded financially, we are BLEST and trust YOU are too – to GOD be the GLORY! As ‘each’ responds as the Lord lays it on your hearts, together great things can be done in His Name. And as our physical being needs to be ‘nourished’ to live so do we. Thank you and may the Lord richly bless you *always, all ways!*

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