

"The Coming of the Lord Draweth Nigh" — James 5:8 EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • December 2022

Reason to Rejoice

George Whitfield (1714-1770)

he celebration of the birth of Christ has been esteemed a duty by most who profess Christianity. When we consider the condescension and love of the Lord Jesus Christ, in submitting to be born of a virgin, a poor sinful creature; and especially as He knew how He was to be treated in this world; that He was to be despised, scoffed at, and at last to die a painful, shameful, and ignominious death; that He should be treated as though He were the off-scouring of all mankind; used, not like the son of man, and, therefore, not at all like the Son of God; the consideration of these things should make us admire the love of the Lord Jesus Christ, who was so willing to offer Himself as a ransom for the sins of the people, that when the fullness of time was come, Christ came, made of a woman, made under the law.

He came according to the eternal counsel of the Father. He came not in glory or in splendor, not like him who brought all salvation with him: no, He was born in a stable, and laid in a manger; oxen were His companions. O amazing condescension of the Lord Jesus Christ, to stoop to such low and poor things for our sake. What love is this, what great and wonderful love was here, that the Son of God should come into our world in so mean a condition, to deliver us from the sin and misery in which we were involved by our fall in our first parents!

And as all that proceeded from the springs must be muddy, because the fountain was so, the Lord Jesus Christ came to take our natures upon Him, to die a shameful, a painful, and an accursed death for our sakes; He died for our sins, and to bring us to God: He cleansed us by His

blood from the guilt of sin. He satisfied for our imperfections; and now, my brethren, we have access unto Him with boldness. He is a mediator between us and his offended Father.

Therefore, if we do but consider into what state, and at how great a distance from God we are fallen - how vile our natures were; what a depravity, and how incapable to restore that image of God to our souls, which we lost in our first parents - when I consider these things, my brethren, and that the Lord Jesus Christ came to restore us to that favor with God which we had lost, and that Christ not only came down with an intent to do it, but actually accomplished all that was in His heart toward us - that He raised and brought us into favor with God, that we might find kindness and mercy in His sight - surely this calls for some return of thanks on our part to our dear Redeemer, for this love and kindness to our souls. How just would it have been of Him, to have left us in that deplorable state wherein we, by our guilt, had involved ourselves? For God could not, nor can receive any additional good by our salvation; but it was love, mere love; it was free love that brought the Lord Jesus Christ into our world about 1,700 years ago.

What, shall we not remember the birth of our Jesus? Shall we yearly celebrate the birth of our temporal king, and shall that of the King of kings be quite forgotten? — Shall that only, which ought to be had chiefly in remembrance, be, quite forgotten? God forbid! No, my dear brethren, let us celebrate and keep this festival of our church, with joy in our hearts: let the birth of a Redeemer,

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which redeemed us from sin, from wrath, from death, from hell, be always remembered; may this Saviour's love never be forgotten!

Power for Living December 9, 2001

Note: George Whitfield ministered for twenty four years in his native Britain and nine years in America, where God used him mightily in bringing about the national revival known as the Great Awakening.

Joy to the World!

By Isaac Watts, 1719

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King: Let very heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing. Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hill, and plains, Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love.

Man Reaps What He Sows

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked. For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth unto his own flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth unto the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not be weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:7-9)

There is a comforting promise for the people of God in these words; but there is also a warning of responsibility and judgment to all men.

No one is relieved of the responsibility by refusing to do anything either good or bad. Whether we want to or not we are all Sowers that scatter handfuls of seed in the large field of life. If the man is good, he will scatter good seed; but if he is wicked, the seed will also be so. We ourselves, as well as others, reap the results of our sowing!

The most notorious thief in prison today *possibly* began his career of stealing by taking cookies from his mother's pantry! The sinful seed of thievery grew until he became a reckless robber.

This inexorable law is operative in all areas of life. He who begins to use foul words will soon have his mouth full of profanity and obscenity. Before long he will be a slave to habit and will not even be aware of his filthy speech. If a man reads nothing but lewd novels and licentious literature, he will become a part of what he reads. Loose speech and vile reading result in immoral living! The first glass of liquor was the seed that developed into drunkenness! He who loiters on the street corner to stare at the immoral woman is standing on the brink of grave; unless he hastens away, he will soon be lying in it.

When I was a boy, I heard much corrupt talk. These words have followed me until today and will probably do so until my dying day. I may think I have forgotten them completely; and all at once they bob up into my conscious mind. They even dart into my quiet moments in the prayer chamber when I in a special way want to be alone God.

Where does all this wickedness reside in us all the while it seems to have vanished? Alas, it is lodged in the soul (Old nature); without warning it comes to the surface and tempts us to sin. Our soul is a marvelous mechanism. It is like a recording machine which catches every sound. Every experience we have is ineradicably inscribed on the sensitive receptor of the soul. Years later the "music" is played to us; at times it is played in the presence of others, and it is inscribed in their souls also.

It is a serious matter to be a human being.

Tremendous powers are concealed in the waterfall;

where has it all come from? It has been made by the water which drop by drop has fallen from the sky!

Our life is made up of "drops" which have been "dripping" into our soul, one by one! In time they become a powerful force for good or evil. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

If we look at life in city and country, we see the same law at work. The strongest of the young people sets the pace for the others; the rest will become as he is. The leaders set the example, and the others follow! Examples are contagious; there is a great truth in the old adage, "Tell me who your friends are, and I will tell you what you are"! The Bible puts it this way, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

If all those people who live their lives in sin and godlessness would consider this truth seriously, they would surely begin to feel some of the responsibility that is theirs. Perhaps it might even lead them to repentance and a New Life!

> Taken from, "Spirit and Power" by Ludvig Hope, © 1959 by the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation.

QUIT WRANGLING

Dr. Jowett, in an exposition of Romans 6:4, **"Walk in newness of life,"** tells of the fable of a young bear who was puzzled about the intricacies of walking. "Shall I," said he to the old she-bear, "shall I move my right paw first or my left, or my two front paws together, or the two hind ones, or all four at once, or how?"

"Leave off thinking and walk," grunted the old bear.

Many Christians spend much time discussing the difficulties confronted in Evangelism (Ed. Ask the Morning Glory personally & let them decide the most biblical-way) and do much quibbling over what is the ideal way to reach the LOST! They are full of apparent eagerness to bring the lost to Christ, but they never accomplish anything!

There is a great need of application of the old she-bear's philosophy in the <u>field of Evangelism</u>. We need to stop our wrangling and get down to the more serious business of mighty prevailing prayer and a powerful presentation of the WORD!

Selected

Editor's Note: AMEN! Can we be a help to you (church/community) in planning for a series of evange-listic-meetings OR is the sign: **NO ROOM!**

Godly Stewardship

By Stephen Welch

Consider the Power of Your Legacy

What kind of Legacy Are You Building?

Much of our lives are spent raising families, building careers, and preparing for retirement! We all want to make a difference in the 'world' and be remembered fondly. Are you building a legacy that aligns with the values you most want to express?

You can leave:

A legacy of provision.

Nearly 70% of Americans do not have an up-to-date will. That means the majority of the people you know have yet to 'get their financial house in order.' But an up-to-date estate plan is not only good stewardship of the resources you've been given – it also establishes a plan to ensure your loved ones are provided for and any minor children will be raised by the guardian of your choosing.

<u>A legacy of love.</u>

Many people are incorporating the idea of an "ethical will" into their estate planning. An ethical will passes along the riches of the heart. Personal letters, special family stories, affirmations of love, and your own life stories make an ethical will a rich and enduring gift.

A legacy of generosity.

What causes and ministries have you felt connected to throughout your life? Would you consider leaving them a gift in your will? Planning a legacy gift to ... is a powerful way to communicate your values and inspire loved ones to think about how they may practice generously in their lives too.

Pacific Garden Mission

Editor's Note: Are you willing to specifically pray about this challenge in view of the Morning Glory & HLIF (Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation)? This biblical Lutheran (Free movement by faith) is kept going by individuals, groups, and Churches, as by faith it moves forward in the Kingdom of God's Work! We receive NO government funding & are <u>truly grateful</u> for individuals, groups, & churches support! Your investment(s) are deductible for IRS purpose!

Five Faithful Friends

By Ted Camp

<u>Today</u> it seems the word '*friend*' is greatly misunderstood and misused. <u>Face-Book</u> (FB) has given two new words to our language: 'unfriended' and 'defriended.' Wonder how it feels to be '<u>unfriended</u>.'

One FB person excitedly said, "I have over a thou-

sand friends!" (Really?) By the way, FB friend limit is five thousand (sorry)!

Roy Rogers sang to 'Trigger,' "A four-legged friend will never let you down. He's honest and faithful right up to the end. That wonderful one, two, three, four-legged friend."

I know four-legged animals can be friends, but I am grateful for my two-legged friends that never let me down! Some brighten a room when they enter, while some brighten a room when they leave.

Who is a true friend? Friends think and listen, <u>not</u> <u>talk and leave</u>. Friends come in all shapes and sizes, but their hearts are always big. <u>Friends</u> remain when others leave! A friend is someone you can trust with your secrets. Gems are precious, <u>but friends are priceless</u>!

Good times become great times when shared with a friend. A good friend tells you what you want to hear, but a godly friend <u>tells</u> you what is <u>best</u> for **you**! Good friends relieve stress, provide comfort and joy and prevent lone-liness and isolation. Friends are present when needed!

<u>Silence</u> with a friend is never awkward! A friend grows gladness and lessens grief. A friend is a flower in the 'garden' of life. Friends are like stars; you don't always see them but know they are there!

<u>I had a broken heart to mend; God mended it by</u> <u>sending me a friend</u>" (JoAnn Whitaker). It takes a long time to grow an old friend.

I teach that everyone needs five faithful friends: a Paul to mentor and encourage; a Timothy to teach and assist (II Timothy 1:2); an Onesiphorus to refresh and restore (1:16); a couple Priscilla and Aquila to fellowship and share life, (Romans 16:3); and a Luke who is always "there" as needed (II Timothy 4:11).

<u>Naturally</u> women need a Pauline, Tina, Opal, Priscilla and a Louise. <u>After</u> I taught this, I asked a person, "Will you be my friend?"

She said, "Sorry, I already have my five." Oh, well! A closing poem.

Friends Are Everywhere If you have eyes to see them, Ears to listen to them, Hands to help them, A heart to love them.

ALSO <u>remember</u> that you always have a 'Friend' who is closer that a brother (Proverbs 18:24) **"For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee"** (Hebrews 13:5). This flows <u>both</u> ways; "Thee forsake nor thee leave, never will I."

We can <u>all</u> thankfully sing "WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS." **JESUS** is better than a thousand FB friends and you are truly blessed IF you also have five faithful friends! — Sword of the Lord

Editorial

RES

In this specific issue of the Morning Glory, the editorial is dispersed throughout under the title **Editor's Notes!**

Lay Up Treasures

"So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." (Luke 12:21)

Some are rich in silver and gold, but are poor in Christ.

Others are rich in Christ, but they have little of this world's goods. Those who are rich in Christ are to be praised, but those who are not are to be pitied. True riches are those we have in Christ.

Once a young man found a five-dollar bill while walking on the street! From that time on he always walked with his eyes down hoping to find more money. In the course of the years, he gathered <u>29,516</u> buttons, <u>172</u> pins, <u>twelve</u> cents, a <u>bent back</u> and a <u>bad disposition</u>. He lost the glory of the sunlight, the sheen of the stars, the beauty of the tree-blossoms in spring, the sight of the blue sky, the smile of friends and the joy of living! BUT so, it is with those who lay up treasure in this world and are not rich toward God.

Had he looked up to God he would have gathered treasures for heaven, he would have had the glory of God, stars in his crown, the friendship of the Lord, the beauty of His presence and the fullness of joy.

Dear Lord, make us wise as we choose our riches. Help us to lay up our treasures in Heaven, and not for the gain of this world. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

A tent or a cottage, why should I care They're building a palace for me over there! Tho' exiled from home, yet still I may sing; All glory to God, I'm a child of the King.

Feed the Flock

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly." (I Pet. 5:2)

A shepherd tenderly cares for his flock, watches carefully over the weak ones, the feeble ones, as well as the strong and healthy ones. He keeps all the wild animals from them; he sees that they are well fed. As Christians we are to care for the weaker Christians, we are to help one another, and to admonish anyone who would be led astray.

Shoemaker Martin was a poor man, but he loved the Word. He once dreamed that the Lord said to him, "Martin, I am the Lord whom you love. Tomorrow, look thou well into the Street, for I am coming."

The next day Martin looked and looked into the street. He saw only an old man shoveling snow, but Martin invited him in and gave him a cup of warm tea. He looked again and saw a thin woman as she came down the street struggling in vain with a ragged, old shawl to protect her child from the bitter, cold wind. Martin invited her in and gave her food and a warm coat for her child. And so, he continued all day, helping first one and then another. In the evening he fell asleep in his chair. Again, the Lord spoke to him and said "Martin, did you know me when I came today?" "No," said Martin, "I didn't." Then Jesus said,

Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Dear Lord, Jesus, help us to serve thee willingly as Thou wouldst have us do. Not for self, but all for Thy glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I am happy in the service of the King, I am happy, oh, so happy; I have peace and joy that nothing else can bring, In the service of the King.

> Both articles are taken from *Altar Steps* by Pastor R. P. Haakonson

Editor's Note: The author of Altar Steps was greatly interested in providing a devotional which would help fill the needs for the home, especially where children are still at home. It is a very good devotional to help YOU in your Devotional time with your family each day in your reading of Scripture & Prayer: OR is there **No Room!** This book satisfies a long felt need that is scriptural, simple, easy to understand, interesting and to deepen the spiritual life of each member of your household. See details for ordering it on pg.16.

Predicting Earthquakes

Israeli scientist can forecast strong earthquakes up to 48 hours ahead with 80% accuracy. Historically, it has been very challenging to predict earthquakes, and scientists have generally looked for signs occurring below to the surface of the earth. Israeli scientists have taken another approach and are looking for "signatures" of large earthquakes that occur in earth's atmosphere caused by acoustic and gravity waves.

Israel21c.org (The Vine and the Branches, Fall 2022)

Facebook Censors Senator Blackburn for Saying, "Biological Men Have No Place in Women's Sports"

Facebook has censored Tennessee Republican Senator Marsha Blackburn after she posted that gender-dysphoric male athletes should not compete in women's sports.

"Biological men have no place in women's sports," Blackburn wrote in a post ...

But the post ...was flagged by Facebook for violating its "community standards on hate speech." ...

... Blackburn said in a statement, "They want to silence and censor conservatives for speaking out against their woke agenda. It does not take a biologist to know the difference between a man and a woman and I will not be silenced or threatened by Silcon Valley oligarches. Biological men have no place in women's sports."

Chris Pandolfo, the blaze.com.

"A Drag Queen for Every School"

Half of the country now thinks American's moral values are "poor," Gallup says. And the question on most people's minds must be; What's wrong with the other 50 percent?....

When the speaker of the House is strutting the RuPaul catwalk, the president is turning America into a welfare state for kids' gender reassignments and gay bars becoming the latest elementary school hangouts, "morality" doesn't exactly spring to mind...

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel (D) only dug the hole deeper, insisting that "drag queens are fun" and they "make everything better." (You) know what is not a problem for kids who are seeking a good education? Drag queens, Nessel argued. "Drag queens are good entertainment," she insisted. "And you know what I'll say that was totally not poll tested? I'd say this, 'A drag queen for every school""

Suzanne Bowdey, washingtonstand.com

Millions of Christians Face Persecution

International Christians Face Persecution (ICC) released its 2022 Persecutor of the Year awards, which went to Iran, Nigeria, and Afghanistan. Similarly, Open Doors published its World Watch List of the 50 worst countries for persecution. It indicated the 50 countries encompass a total of <u>360</u> million Christians who face some sort of persecution for their faith.

christianpost.com (*The Vine and the Branches*, Fall 2022).

Judge Rules Jewish University Isn't a Religious Corporation," Must Recognize LGBTQ Club.

The Jewish Yeshiva University in New York City is not a "religious corporation" and must recognize the LGBTQ club as the city's anti-discrimination law demands, a state judge has ruled.

New York Supreme Court First Judicial District Judge Lynn Kotler directed the university in an order ... to give the school's Pride Alliance "full, equal accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges afforded to all other student groups at Yeshiva University."...

In the ruling, Kotler said YU is chartered not as a religious organization but is considered an "educational corporation" and it is, therefore, subject to New York City Human Rights Law. Anugrah Kumar.

christianpost.com

Father Kills His Own Daughter

Hawa Amoti was 28 years old and lived in central Uganda. She said that she had several dreams about Issa (Jesus) and sought out a Christian neighbor to tell her more about Christ. The neighbor explained, "Amoti came to our home very early in the morning and needed to know more of Issa (Jesus), whom she had seen in a dream. After explaining to her about eternal life and for-giveness of sin that comes from Jesus who came to take away the sins of the whole world, she willingly accepted Jesus for the salvation of her soul. I then prayed for her, and then together we went to church in Nansana." Her Muslim father and brothers found out that she had been to a Christian church that day, and when she came home, seized her, beat her, and then her own father tried to cut

out her eyes with a sharp knife. Some neighbors rushed her to the hospital, where she died.

Morningstarnews.org (*The Vine and the Branches*, Fall 2022)

Two State Solution?

During Biden's recent visit to Israel, he made history by being the first U. S. president to visit east Jerusalem, sending a clear signal that this part of the city could become the future capital of the Palestinians for healthcare. He then proceeded to Bethlehem and met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to declare his support for a twostate solution at some point in the future.

> Source: cbn.com (*The Vine and the Branches*, Fall 2022)

Editor's Note: Very, very INTERESTING; **As GOD** told this people that they would NEVER have a land/country that they would call their own!

Civilians Put At Risk

Israel's IDF has recently revealed that Hammas continues to install military sites underneath and close to sensitive Palestinian civilian locations, such as schools, mosques, and medical clinics. For example, rocket launchers were shown to be installed underground next to a mosque. The strategy is to employ human shields for Hammas operations, including children. During the last conflict in May, the Israeli Air Force destroyed more than 60 miles of underground tunnels. Hammas has responded by embedding its military assets deep within civilian areas, so that Israel will not be able to attack without incurring severe collateral civilian damage, which Israel takes great lengths to try to avoid.

> Source: israel365news.com (*The Vine and the Branches*, Fall 2022)

Hezbollah's Missiles

The leader of Hezbollah, Hasson Nasrallah, has recently threatened Israel, stating, "There is no target in the sea or in the air that is not within the range of Hezbollah's precise missiles," and "I see that the demise of the Israeli entity is imminent." Hezbollah is an Iran-back terror group based out of Lebanon. It is opposed to Israel's natural gas extraction operations occurring at the off-shore gas field. Hezbollah wants access to the Karish field, and Israelis say the gas field lies within international waters. Hezbollah is estimated to have 1,500 rockets aimed at Israel presently.

> Source: jewishpress.com. (*The Vine and the Branches*, Fall 2022)

Gender Neutral Bathrooms in Elementary School

Parents outraged to find new White Bear Lake [MN] school has no girls' bathroom. The new design is taking a toll, especially on girls. Several moms said their daughters are having a hard time using the bathroom at school.

Architects discussed design details for a new elementary school in the White Bear Lake [MN] district two summers ago — right down to the placement of light switches. They shared specific details with parents so when students moved into the new building this fall, there would be "no surprises."

They apparently omitted one detail that has shocked parents and students alike: Separate "boys" and "girls" bathrooms in the new school have been replaced with gender-neutral "privacy bathrooms."

When the newly-constructed North Star Elementary School opened last month, many students and parents discovered "privacy bathrooms" mean elementary boys and girls use the same stalls in a common bathroom along with a common area for hand-washing.

The bathrooms consist of single toilets, floor-to-ceiling coverage, and doors with a latch that indicates whether or not the stall is occupied.

The change to gender-neutral bathrooms most likely was done to comply with White Bear Lake's districtwide "Administrative Guidelines for Transgender and Gender-Expansive Student Rights and Protections." The policy addresses "the needs and concerns of transgender and gender-expansive students to ensure safe, supportive, and healthy school environments where every child can learn."

"Pursuant to state law, students shall have access to the restroom that corresponds to their gender identity asserted at school," says the policy, which includes similar language for locker room access.

Gender-neutral bathrooms are one of the changes funded by the largest building referendum ever passed by voters in state history. Moms in the White Bear Lake district weren't happy when they found out their little girls would be forced to use the same bathroom as boys.

Several North Star moms who contacted Principal Dan Schmidt told Alpha News he assured them he is working on a solution. However, in an email to Alpha News, Schmidt did not indicate he is working on a solution. He told Alpha News the gender-neutral bathroom design is being used throughout the district in new construction projects, additions, or remodeling.

Alphanews.org

He Just Kept Putting It Off

Hyman Appelman

When I was the pastor of a church in Texas, a pastor friend, a gracious, victorious Christian man, preaching to a crowded congregation Sunday mornings and Sunday nights, told us of a heart-rending experience in his life. He said,

I am sure you read the story of the death of George ... Some of you know that he and I have been friends ever since babyhood. As a matter of fact, his father and my father were close friends.

He and I attended University together. He was really the best chum I had in the world. The anguish of what has happened has almost made me lose my mind!

We kept on listening to him. No one said a word. We could not quite visualize a preacher so <u>torn to</u> <u>pieces</u>. He went on.

George was driving Tuesday evening, just about gloaming time, from Garland home to Dallas. He was racing along the Northwest Highway. He turned his car a bit to avoid a car coming along too close to his side. He did not notice what was ahead! *Perhaps his lights were not on*.

His Automobile struck the back of a loaded, parked sand Truck. It caved his own car in, crushing him with it. By the time he was rushed to the hospital, he was <u>al-most</u> gone! He was <u>dying</u> (Ed. Not '*Passing Away*') He was hemorrhaging on the inside!

There was not a thing that could done. <u>Several</u> Doctors rushed to the case. George was very rich, as you well know!

After a while, knowing he had not long to spare, he called for his wife, for his two children, members of my church — Christians, saved, children of God, glorious in their assurance. The man himself had never made any profession of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Of course, I raced to the hospital, greeted the family, greeted George, then walked out of the room with the Doctor. The family physician told me definitely that there was no hope for my friend. I walked back into the room.

The dying man turned to his wife and children to say, <u>Please, leave the room for a little while, I want to</u> <u>talk to the Preacher.</u>" His wife and children went out sobbing!

I came close to the bed, saying, <u>George, is there</u> anything I can do for you?"

"Yes," said the hurt man. "Martin, you and I have been friends all of our lives! I am <u>leaving</u> a great deal of money, of stocks, of bonds, of property. I guess I am worth more dead than I am alive. "You know my wife does not know a thing about business! My children are much too young to be of any great help. Martin, I want you to promise me that you will be a husband to my wife and a father to my children."

"You don't have to ask me that," I told him. "You know I would have done it anyway. BUT George, there is something infinitely more important than that."

"What is it, Martin?"

"George, you are not a Christian, are you?"

George smiled up at me sadly, saying, "No, I am not, but it certainly is not your fault. You certainly tried hard enough to win me."

"Never mind, George; never mind whose fault it is. <u>Man, you are dying</u>. There is no chance for you. The Doctor says you are through. He tells me you know it! There is no cure for you, no operation can help you.

In God's Name, man, won't you give your heart to JESUS CHRIST right now? Your wife is a Christian. Your children are Christians. Your parents, your brothers, your sisters —- they are all Christians! You do not want to go one way, while they go another."

"I have been studying about it, Martin, ever since I was brought in here; but I just cannot seem to break through."

"Nonsense, man! God <u>Loves</u> you! Jesus <u>died</u> for you! All you need to do, as you very well know, is to accept Him as your personal Savior."

"Martin, I am not an infidel! I believe the BIBLE as definitely as you do. *But* I just do not seem to be able to break through the black blanket of mist between me and God."

"George, do not talk that way. You are still in your right mind. You know John 3:16. You believe it, you say. Right this minute accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. His blood will wash you from your sins."

In my agony, I dropped to my knees, began to pray aloud for my friend. The doctor came back. He said to me, "Stop, Man. You are exciting him. You are killing him. You are shortening his hours."

My lawyer friend raised his hand to say, "Never mind, Doctor, I've got to die anyway. What's the difference—a few more minutes or a few more hours?"

I kept on praying, kept on weeping, kept on pleading, kept on begging, kept on beseeching. Finally, with the dark shadows of death beclouding his face, George raised his hand and whispered. "Ah, Martin, I am sorry, but it's too late; it's too late."

I tried to speak again. George lifted his hand feebly to say once more, "Wait a minute. I want to tell you the tragedy of, the irony of it. Martin, if somebody had come to me ten years ago ten months ago, ten days ago, ten hours ago to say, 'George, you are going to die and go to Hell,' I would have said, 'Man you are crazy. I'm not an infidel. I believe in Christ. I expect to accept Him as my personal Saviour.' Yet here I am, dying a lost sinner, going to Hell, because I just put it off, I guess."

The preacher stopped. Reaching for his handkerchief, wiping the wild tears that poured down his cheeks, while we cried with him, his voice choking with emotion, he said, "brethren, the best friend I ever had in the world lived a Christless life. He died a Christless death. We put him in a Christless coffin. We had a Christless funeral. We buried him in a Christless grave...He will rise in a resurrection. He will face a Christless judgment. He will sink into a Christless Hell, because he put it off, because he put it off."

I do not believe I never shall forget the sob in Dr Martin's voice as, running his hands through his hair, he wept out, <u>"Because he put it off, because he put it off</u>

Life

"The thief cometh not, but that he may steal, and kill, and destroy: I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

JESUS has many discouraged soldiers in His ranks. They fight, but lose, lose again and again. And anyone who is losing in a struggle easily becomes discouraged.

There are more Christians devoid of hope and joy than we suspect. For the little skirmishes of everyday life are the decisive conflicts in every Christian's life.

Are you willing to fight?

Are you really willing to put an end to your old sinful habits? Do you wage a life-and-death warfare against them?

Do you feel *sin* as your enemy? Not merely its consequences, but the very thing itself, that of sinning against God? Do you feel that sinning is like sending a dagger into the very heart of God?

Do you believe in victory?

Do you have the *will* to conquer?

Think now of the sinful habits against which you are struggling. You are perhaps quick-tempered. Or you are peevish and contrary. Or self-willed and imperious. Or envious and slanderous. Or covetous and miserly. Or full of impure thoughts and desires.

Would you really become the master of these sins? Or would you rather fight and *lose*!

Enter with a sincere heart into the presence of God

and answer yourself, whether you would like to be victorious or defeated in your daily struggle.

Be honest!

If you must answer that you have sunk down into lukewarmness and half-heartedness and that you no longer feel that you *burn* yourself when you come in contact with sin, then tell it in all candidness to your Savior.

He has life to give you, yes, life abundant.

Taken from *God's Word for Today* by O. Hallesby, © 1937 by Augsburg Publishing House, used by permission.

QUESTIONS – ANSWERED

By Dr. Curtis Hutson

"Must we end our prayer with the words 'in Jesus' name' for it to be valid, or may we just say 'Amen'?"

The Bible instructs that the way to get prayers answered is to ask in Jesus' name!

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." (John 14:13, 14)

"Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." (John 16:24)

But to ask in Jesus' name does not mean just to add those words to any prayer and expect an answer! To ask in Jesus' name is actually to ask for things for which you know Jesus would have you ask. It means your request would be something to which HE Himself would sign His name, something He would endorse. It is not simply a magic formula to get prayers answered.

In the model prayer given our Lord, the phrase "in Jesus' name" is not given. Bible Christians prayed in the will of God often without mentioning the fact that it was in Jesus' name. So, the condition of having prayers answered is not a matter of words but a matter of the heart.

To say "in Jesus' name" without knowing what the Lord wants will not necessarily get the prayer answered. To pray in Jesus' name, then, simply means to pray in the will of GOD. — Selected

Liberty must at all hazards be supported. We have a right to it, derived from our Maker. But our fathers have earned and bought it for us, at the expense of their ease, their estates, their pleasure and their blood. — John Adams.

When Your Soul Is Tired

By Evangelist James B. Singleton

A friend said to me one day, "I've had it! I can't fight the battle any longer! I'm tired —- so tired that I just can't get rest."

I understood, because I knew he had a tired soul. Had it merely been a tired body, he could have had a good night's rest and been refreshed! BUT when the soul is tired, that's an entirely different matter.

IN these times of social pressures, economic pressures, political pressures and peer pressures, the soul can become very weary. The daily routine of life, the striving to provide for the family's needs in times of inflation, the specter of unemployment and, in the spiritual realm, the pressures from "the powers of darkness" – all these can so tire the soul that just getting out of bed in the morning to face the "*rat race*" can be almost overwhelming.

King David had his share of this kind of troubles and he knew their debilitating effect.

He endured relentless pursuit by Saul —- not just for a day or a month, but for day after day, month after month; and it looked as if it would never end. David finally cried out in desperation, "*I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul*" 1 Samuel 27:1.

A <u>beloved</u> son rebelled and tried to seize the kingdom. His tragic death wrung from David these words, "O my son Absalom, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!" II Samuel 18:33.

In times of frustration and despair, David found that the Lord, his Shepherd, was the restorer of his soul Psalm 23:3.

When he wrote in Psalm 27:1; <u>"The LORD is the</u> <u>strength of my life,"</u> he meant more than physical strength – something that couldn't be gained by eight hours of sleep or jogging down a country lane in the evening.

How often David called upon this strength in time of pressure. Hear him saying in Psalm 73:26: "My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart."

And in Psalm 138:3 he said, "In the day when I cried, thou answersdst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul."

Elijah also knew what it was to gain this strength from God when his soul was tired! Dejected and discouraged, this great man sat in a lonely wilderness and cried, "*It is enough now, O LORD, take away my life*" (I Kings 19:4) BUT **God** sent an angel instead!

A few days later, hiding in a cove on a desolate

mountainside, he again declared, "*I, even I only, am left;* and they seek my life, to take it away" (vs. 10).

Then the Word came to him, a commission to new acts of service!

A long time before Elijah fled to Horeb, God had <u>promised His servants</u>, "*As thy days, so shall thy strength be.*" (Deuteronomy 33:25) The tired soul can find its refreshing <u>only</u> in GOD, who is our strength.

Isaiah knew the secret. He wrote: "And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places; 'When it shall hail, coming down on the forest." (32:18-19)

After the death of a little child, a mother said to me, "God is going to have to teach me how to be lonely." There had been sleepless nights when she sat on the edge of the bed, not wanting to turn off the light, because the suffocating darkness was too much like the darkness of a little grave out there somewhere in the night.

I thought of the words of a great poet: "And give me the strength to surrender my strength to do Thy will with <u>love."</u>

In Psalm 105:4, *David exhorted*, "<u>Seek the LORD</u>, <u>and His strength</u>."

In his beautiful poem "Eternal Spirit, Evermore Creating", Henry B. Robins wrote:

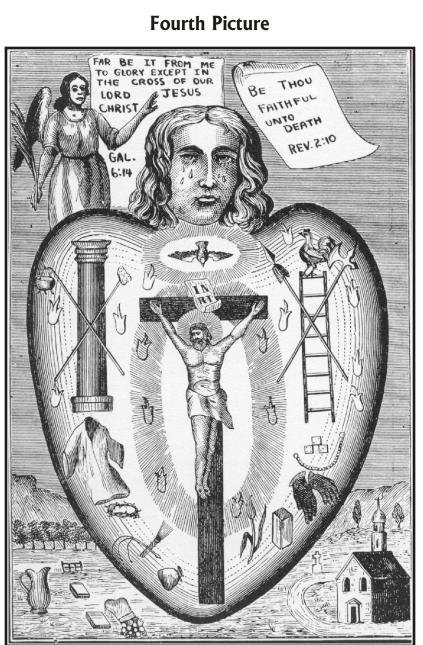
And like the dew is fresh from day to day, Quicken our spirits, as we wait expectant, That we may go in strength upon our way.

Do <u>you</u> need rest to your tired soul? David's experience: "In the day when I cried thou answeredst me and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul."

Sword of the Lord.

May you who are already saved mediate upon (Hell) in its practical, personal bearings until your heart is so burdened by the awful peril of the wicked that you will rush out to spend the last dollar, if need be, and the last ounce of strength, in saving those imperiled men from the certain, awful Hell of conscious agony and shame to which they are fast hurrying.

R. A. Torrey



Mirror of the Heart

A PICTURE OF THE INNER CONDITION OF A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN RECONCILED TO GOD BY CHRIST'S MERITS, AND KNOWS NOTHING ELSE THAN JESUS CHRIST, THE CRUCIFIED

In the fourth picture can be seen in the heart of the sanctified sinner only Jesus, the Crucified, and the sign of His suffering. The Holy Spirit, to whom he has surrendered, now rules his life. In no better way can He kindle love in the believer's heart than by constantly holding up before his vision the dying Redeemer on the cross in all His agony, and impressing upon his mind how much it cost Jesus to redeem him. The chief endeavor of the Spirit will now be to declare to him Christ's suffering and death so that he will say with the Apostle Paul: "I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." "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" (I Cor. 2:2, Gal 6:14).

By the guidance of the Holy Spirit the believer finds such comfort and strength from the Redeemer's suffering and death that it fills his whole life. "If God is for me," he says, "who can then be against me?" "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all how shall he not also with him freely give us all things" (Rom. 8:32). The suffering and death of Jesus is the surety of God's fatherly love. In Christ, God reconciled the sinner to Himself, and does not impute his transgressions to him (II Cor. 5:19). Christ, the Crucified, is the basis for the trust in God. If God, the Father of eternal love, gave His Son for us in such suffering, what can He then deny us?

Since Christ in this manner became man's possession and dwells in his heart, he finds in Him the richest source of comfort, and strength to do that which is good. Because of his living faith in Christ, all the pleasures of the world, all the lust of the flesh, all the earthly glory, all perishable things, have become loathsome to him. It appears to him that Christ is calling: "If you want to belong to me and be my disciple, then take up thy cross, deny thyself, and follow me" (Matt. 10:38). His highest desire will then be to become like Christ, the Crucified. He exercises himself in the fear of God and strives to attain "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (II Cor. 7:1). He prays "always with all prayer and supplica-

tion in the Spirit" (Eph. 6:18). He does not neglect "to do good and to communicate, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased" (Heb. 13:16).

The believer rejoices when he is found worthy to suffer for Christ's sake, who suffered persecution, shame, dishonor, and humiliation. He knows that if we suffer with Him we shall also be glorified with Him. For His sake who loved him and gave Himself for him, he wins victory over all things. He looks to the reward that will be given to all those who endure to the end. He that overcometh will inherit all things (Rev. 2:17, 26). Thus it re-echoes in his ears, as he is reminded of the words of Paul: *"This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"* (Phil. 3:13).

PRAYER

O Jesus Christ, Thou boundless love! Thou hast reconciled me to God. From now on Thou alone shall be seen in my heart. My heart shall be dedicated to the fellowship of Thy suffering and death, and my whole life sanctified. May Thy love, wherewith Thou hast loved me, permeate my whole soul, control all my senses and rule me in all things! May Thy love renew me after Thy image that I may be like Thee. May the fruit of Thy suffering and death be seen in my life. Give me a mind that will consider all the things for loss, which formerly seemed a gain. Yea, help me, that I may count all the things on which I built but loss for the "excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ my Lord." Be Thou my all, and all other things nothing, "that I may win Christ, and be found in him not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ," which alone is acceptable before God. Oh, "that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death."

Help me O Lord, that I may truthfully say: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Yea, my beloved Redeemer, help me constantly to look up to Thee, "the author and finisher of my faith," Thou, who for the joy which awaited Thee, chose the cross and endured humiliation. May Thy suffering be the sweetest nourishment of my soul, Thy cross my strength in the battle against sin, Thy death my refuge in life and in death! May I look up to Thee in every trial. In the hours of darkness, doubt, and anxiety, may Thy love be my sun, my light, and my shield. May I not become weak and weary, but "run with patience the race that is set before me." AMEN.

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand: All other ground is sinking sand.

When clouds and darkness veil His face, I rest on His unchanging grace, In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil; On Christ, the solid rock, I stand: All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand: All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come, with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found! Clothed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand: All other ground is sinking sand. —Ed. Mote

Taken from the booklet *Mirror of the Heart* which can be received for a donation (notice the last page). What a great Christmas gift OR for anytime of the year!

The Richer Sacrifice

Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain Could give guilty conscience Peace, Or wash away the stain.

But Christ, the heavenly Lamb, Takes all our sins, away – A Sacrifice of nobler name And richer blood than they.

Isaac Watts

Fear Factor

Faith (a living faith) is necessary to please God! "But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (Hebrews 11:6)

<u>Fear</u> can keep you from surrendering and following the will of God. The path of the preacher may lead to trials and difficulty, but it may also lead to paths that are peaceful and fruitful beyond comparison. Surrendering to the will of God means you are willing to follow whatever path HE brings before you, knowing that HE will be with <u>you</u> and that HIS way is best.

"He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." (Psalm 23:3 -4) (Ed. By the way, a valley always leads somewhere and where there is a shadow, there has to be some light).

<u>Fear</u> can rob you of God's blessings and lead you back into the world! This results in limited usefulness! (Ed. This results in limited usefulness and becoming a lost sinner <u>again</u>). The Christian life is a life of faith and we must recognize, as the leader of the church, that we must lead by faith.

Trimming your preaching in order not to offend a member will hinder the growth of the church. The <u>fear</u> of losing a major financial contributor can cause you to make decisions that are not necessarily the right ones. No one wants to lose any attendee; but IF you preach the Word of God, you will eventually experience the loss of people.

Facing financial shortfalls can cause fear that hinder our faith. There are churches who have substantial savings accounts, but they fear investing them in missions or using them for the benefit of reaching their communities. This results in limited outreach.

<u>Fear</u> never contributes to the work of God! <u>Fear</u> of failure can keep us from moving forward! "The Lord is my light and my salvation; of whom shall, I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1)

It has been said, <u>"If you haven't failed at anything,</u> you haven't tried anything"! Everyone experiences some failures, but we must not <u>fear</u> failing or we will never succeed.

<u>Fear</u> can cause us to compromise! Preachers (all who are true-Christians) must learn to raise their banner high and stand-firm upon the Word of God. People respect men who stand in times of trials. We are always

moved by hearing testimonies of missionaries that prevailed through difficult circumstances. The apostle Paul's ministry is so remarkable in part because of his tremendous trials.

It is in fearful times that we can experience the deliverance of GOD from our fears! We must be strong in times of trouble. <u>"For in the time of trouble he shall hide</u> <u>me in his pavilion; in the secret of his tabernacle shall he</u> <u>hide me; he shall set me upon a rock"</u> (v. 5).

A faithful man (person) of God will face his fears and stand firm on his convictions!

Sword of the Lord

* * * * * * * * * *

Whole Foods CEO Issues Stark Warning About Encroachment of Socialists

Outgoing Whole Feeds CEO John Mackey issued a dire warning about the encroachment of socialism in an interview ...

Mackey announced last September (2021) that he was retiring from managing the supermarket chain that he co-founded more than 40 years ago...

"My concern is that I feel like socialist are taking over," Mackey said...

"They're marching through the institutions. They're taking over education. It looks like they taken over a lot of the corporations. It looks like they've taken over the military. AND it's just continuing.

Describing himself as a "capitalist at heart," Mackey blamed socialists and socialism for eroding many of the liberties that Americans once universally believed were fundamental to our way of life ...

.... Mackey described socialism as the "path of poverty."

'They talk about 'trickle-down wealth,' but socialism is trickle-up poverty," Mackey said, "It impoverishes everything." ...

"The Marxists and socialists, the academic community is generally hostile to business. It always has been. This is not new," he explained.

Chris Enloe, the blaze.com

What Do You think of this Idea?

To give each one at your Christmas gathering a definite opportunity to personally tell what it means to them about the ONE who was born to die?

The One Sure Source of Truth About Hell: THE BIBLE

By Evangelist Billy Sunday

I am not going to give you my speculations or theories or opinions. They are worth no more than any other fool's speculations, theories or opinions. Any man (person) who preaches his speculations, theories or opinions is a fool.

But I am going to preach the Word of GOD! One ounce of God's revelation is worth *forty* million tons of man's speculations and theories!

I stand before you and say, "IT'S THE LAW." You have to take it! You can't go around it. It's our authority. So, I'm not preaching anybody's speculations or theories; <u>it's the law</u>. (Ed. To preach both God's Law & Gospel; because you and I care in LOVE) It's the only 'authority' we have on the question. That being true, listen! Hell is certain; it is absolutely certain. There is a Hell!

A fellow once said to me, "Mr. Sunday, don't you know that most of the scholarly ministers have given up their belief in Hell?"

Well, that's a lie. Some fools have. I'll admit that. That's always an argument with a fellow who has a weak cause and wants to bolster the thing up by a strong assertion. So he says, "Don't you know that the scholarly minsters have given up their belief in Hell"

What do I care about those old lobsters? Some have given it up, I'll admit that. BUT they didn't give it up because the BIBLE didn't teach it or because it's not in the New Testament. They did it for speculative principles, to be sentimental, to be popular with the clique and a crowd that doesn't <u>want GOD'S Truth</u>!

And supposing they have given up their belief in the doctrine of eternal Hell. That wouldn't prove anything. Anybody familiar with the history of the world knows that there is not an invention, a discovery or a doctrine that is known and accepted and believed today which, when it was first propagated, wasn't ridiculed. ...

People ridiculed Noah when he built the ark, but the Flood came. Jesus prophesied that in forty years one stone shall not stand above another and they laughed; but the Romans leveled the city just the same.

We are certain there is a Hell because CHRIST says

THE MORE YOU SACRIFICE THE MORE YOU ARE BLESSED! so, the Apostles say so, <u>GOD says so</u>! WE are more positive there is a Hell than that the sun will rise tomorrow! ...

SIN is a moral ulcer! ...Everybody knows that the farther a man goes into sin, the farther he goes! And you let a man go on and on until repentance is past, and what he has left but Hell? The only theory against Hell is the speculation of theologists and some old fool philosophers.

... WE have the authority.

Meddling in Other People's Affairs

By M. R. DeHaan

"He that passes by, and meddled with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears." (Proverbs 26:17)

<u>Never</u> catch a dog by the ears, for it is the most sensitive part of his body! Pull his tail IF you must, but his ears - <u>never</u>, unless you want to be bitten!

Solomon compares this *foolish*, dangerous act with persons who meddle in other people's affairs. BUT sometimes you can't avoid it and you are unwillingly involved.

Pity the poor Preacher who is expected to patch up a quarrel between husband and wife. He has <u>two</u> strikes on him" before he begins. If he takes the side of the wife, the husband is mad. If he sides with the husband, the wife is angry! And if he refuses to take sides at all, both are ready to snap at him – for not trying to take a dog by the ears.

Some time ago a lady called, begging me to come over right away because her husband threatened to leave her! "<u>Please</u> come over, <u>please</u>, and straighten this out!" They had been feuding for days!

I asked her IF she was a Christian; she said she was.

"Is your husband a Christian?"

The reply: "Yes, and he's listening on the extension phone!"

"Well," I said, "if you are both Christians, you can settle your trouble immediately. I am not coming over until after you have read <u>together</u> Ephesians 4:32: "And be ye kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." THAT IS GOD'S SOLUTION — Try it first, and IF that doesn't work, call me and I'll come over!

I am still waiting for the phone call!

Formula For Loveliness

(Based on Philippians 4:4-8)

Fill your mind with lovely things -The beauty of the sky – Its shades of blue, the shining sun, Soft clouds a -sailing by.

Fill your mind with lovely things – The flowers' bright array, The colours of a rainbow bright On a showery day.

Fill your mind with lovely things – The birds that carol sweet, The scented breeze of evening Or rippling waves of wheat.

Fill your mind with lovely things – The dewdrops' diamond gleam, Or the silvery glints of sunshine On the ripples of a stream.

Fill your mind with lovely things – Green grass or crisp white snow, The carpets spread upon the earth As seasons come and go.

Fill your mind with lovely things – The gifts of God to man, The countless perfect details Of our Creator's plan!

Fill your mind with lovely things – God's love and grace so free, The perfect, full salvation He's given you and me!

With mind and heart so filled with these As on our way we go, Our lives reflect God's love and power, That others, too, may know.

Through Jesus' sacrifice for sin Our ransom has been paid! And we can face with joyful hearts The future — unafraid!

> Clara Olson Loseth Submitted by Mr. Ron Nelson

"Walk worthy of the calling with which you were called." (Ephesians 4:1)

Your life speaks. Every person's life does this.

Your wife, your children, your parents, your household, your business associates, your patrons, your subordinates can testify of this.

You call yourself a Christian. Walk worthy of the calling by which you have been called.

Occasionally we hear people say, "I can't believe because I see so much shabbiness in the life of Christians. Woe on us! What a sentence! We are hindrances!

Your life and your confession <u>must agree</u>! It is often said that the Bible the world reads is the life of the Christian. Truly, we need to walk carefully.

One who has the mind of Christ never lives in vain!

Live then, near to Christ. Be filled with Him and you will be a blessing. You will be anointed <u>(are</u>, by the Holy Spirit, as you are the tabernacle/vessel of God; as you were bought through the 'blood' of Christ!)

Quiet Moments on the Way Home, by H. E. Wisloff

Editor's Note: Scripture doesn't say you <u>shall be, but</u> <u>are light.</u> **"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."** (Matthew 5:16, Notice vv. 13-15) The person who walks with Jesus (by a living) faith <u>never</u> walks alone!

Standing True!

John Ross was summoned before the king for preaching a sermon in which he said that the king was a 'traitor' of God for taking the part of the wicked!

The king asked him, "Will ye stand by all that you have spoken?"

Ross replied, "The heart thought it; the mouth spake it; the hand subscribed it; and IF need be, by God's Grace, the blood shall seal it."

Sunday School Times

PRAY that the eyes of Christians will be opened to truth regarding the direction our Nation is taking!

"For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities: transgressing, and denying the LORD, and turning back from following our God..." (Isaiah 59:12-13)

PRAY for discernment to identify which issues are most critical for our Nation's future and need to be given priority!

"For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; He stores up sound wisdom for the upright..." (Proverbs 2:6-7) — Selected

The Hauge Library

We have the following publications available for you. They can be ordered using the envelope in the center. Postage will be paid by an anonymous donor.

Altar

Steps

MIRROR

of the

HEART

Author Unknown

Translated by Edward C. Ei

Altar Steps

This daily devotional was written by Pastor R.P. Haakonson and was published in 1947. It is suitable for families with children. It has illustrations from daily life, and a strong salvation emphasis. Suggested offering: \$8.00.

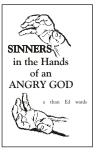
Mirror of the Heart

This book was published in 1900 by an unknown author. It contains some very earnest meditations and fervent prayers. It also contains ten very graphic pictures of the human heart. Inside the heart, the devil is visualized and also

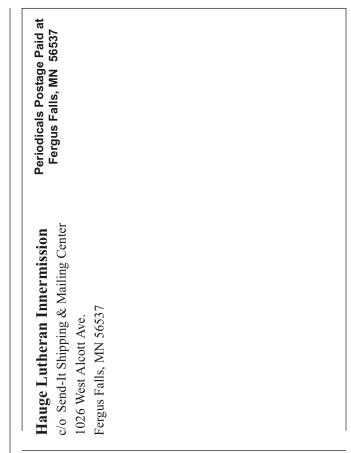
seven animals representing some of the most prevalent sins found in the heart of the impenitent sinner. These pictures show how these animals as sins are driven out of the heart when the sinner is converted to God, but how they can re-enter the heart if a person falls away from grace. One picture visualizes the fearful death of the ungodly, and another shows the blessed death of the righteous. Suggested Offering: \$3.00.

Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God

Jonathan Edwards preached this remarkable sermon at Enfield, Conn. on July 8, 1741. It was at night while he was reading it to a large congregation, that the lights became dim and he read with difficulty, and the influence was so



great on the congregation that strong men and women cried and screamed for mercy and even grabbed their seats for fear they would slide into hell that very moment. Suggested Offering: \$1.00.



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UpDate

WHAT A CHRISTMAS GIFT'! "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of Salvation." (II Corinthians 6:2b)

What a Christmas GIFT: as II Corinthians 5 ends with a very clear gift, the very heart of God's Eternal Word; <u>"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf</u>!" So that we may become righteous before our Holy GOD! YES, Jesus became sin for us (penalty) that we may become righteous before a thrice Holy God! What forgiveness, mercy, love and all because HE loves us so! And this is the wonderful message we have to share with whoever!

There are basically two parts to the BIBLE, our need to respond to His calling and our response to His command - <u>come</u> & GO! IF Jesus has become personal to us and we are walking in fellowship with HIM, WE one day will experience what Enoch experienced as he walked with God!

Thus, your prayer and financial support, most certainly encourage us to keep on! Biblically, we want to first of all be found faithful unto GOD and then one-another!