



# Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • June 2022

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## Our Greatest Need

Mr. Joel Zeltinger,  
Bismarck, ND

**W**hat is your greatest need? People often think they have an idea of what their greatest need is. Some may think it is healing from some terrible disease. Another might think it is financial help and security. Some people in countries with a totalitarian or oppressive government might think it is freedom. Others think it is the next fix for their drug habit. For sick people it might be some type of medicine or medical treatment. Each reader can probably come up with their own greatest need depending on their circumstances. There can be many things that seem like they would be the greatest need in our life. Whatever it is, we will put a priority on it and work hard to achieve or attain it.

Based on the word of God, our Greatest Need is to have God forgive us our sins before we die. If we are not forgiven, we face an eternity separated from God and will face everlasting punishment. Even though some of our earthly needs can seem very great, they are all temporary. Since we are mortals, at some point our life on earth will be over. However, since we have eternal souls and are spiritual beings, we will live on in eternity. Therefore, our eternal life is more important than our temporal life, and we should plot a course that will insure that we will spend eternity with God.

Those who do not know or read the Bible will be mostly ignorant of spiritual things and how salvation is attained. In fact, he may not even care as the search for fun, fulfilment, importance, riches and the other things of the world take over his motivation, thoughts and actions. Everything is for the here and now. The chance to accept

Christ as their savior may come to them by-and-by, but they ignore it completely as something only weak, stupid people believe in. They consider themselves too intelligent, cosmopolitan and sophisticated for such weakness and nonsense. They may never ever get to the point that they have a spiritual need of salvation at all. To them it is all fairytales and myths (*1 Cor 1:18 – “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God”*). They are self-sufficient in their own eyes. Maybe they are afraid others will make fun of them. I think virtually every one of us have been there.

Also, our Greatest Need is so important, that the enemy of our souls has worked overtime to sow seeds of confusion, error and doubt. In our modern society, we are told not to worry about our guilt, it’s probably someone else’s fault anyway. When guilt comes into our conscience, we dismiss it. Rather than being ashamed of ourselves we excuse ourselves. Then, as we continue down the path of rebellion our conscience becomes seared, and it becomes a spiral downward. Often depression and other unhealthy things can then affect us. Unless we watch ourselves carefully, we can expose ourselves to temptations that are too strong for us to resist in our own strength. There are no shortages of temptations in our wicked world, especially when everything is so accessible in magazines, books, bad company and the Internet. If we continue in our rebellion, God can give us over to a reprobate mind. Romans 1:27-32 gives a list of wicked things that man can give themselves over to, but

# Morning Glory

Volume CV – Number 4  
June 2022

**MORNING GLORY** (ISSN0745-5968, USPS 887-740) is published in January, March, May, June, August, September, October, November and December, by the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, 336 Prairiewood Circle S. #9, Fargo, ND 58103, and printed by Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center, 1026 West Alcott Ave., Fergus Falls, MN 56537. Periodicals postage paid at Fergus Falls, MN 56537.  
**POSTMASTER:** Send Address Changes to: Morning Glory, c/o Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center, 1026 West Alcott Ave., Fergus Falls, MN 56537.

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Internet Web Site: [hauginnermission.com](http://hauginnermission.com).  
Facebook: [Facebook.com/Haugeinnermission](https://www.facebook.com/Haugeinnermission)  
Electronic version available – Send email to: [morningglorymagazine@gmail.com](mailto:morningglorymagazine@gmail.com)

PUBLICATION OFFICE:  
HAGA PUBLISHING, 808 Martha Lake Court, Shoreview, MN 55126-5856

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he says in verse 28 “*And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient (fitting).*” In other words, they will get to a point where God will turn them over to a cursed conscience and reject them completely.

Satan confuses us, and so does our old nature. Apart from God, we look for help in all of the wrong places. False religions, alcohol/drugs, work, relationships etc. False religions can be especially dangerous because they can bind us up in false teachings and lead us farther and farther from God and truth. These things were predicted by the apostle Paul in II Tim 3:1-7 when he said “*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traiters, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*”

With that being said, it is

important that we set our priorities right. Make a conscious effort to determine God's will for our lives and clear everything with him before we make any decisions or take any action, no matter what. However, no matter how long and noble our list of priorities is, at the very top should be "Our Greatest Need," our salvation, and where we will spend all of eternity.

Just as many people are clueless about how to be saved, and usually try to do good works as a means of pleasing God and getting to heaven, the Bible says it cannot be done by works. Instead, the Bible gives us a clear way to be saved. The Bible is God's holy, perfect and God-breathed word, and we can trust it completely. Romans 3:28 says "***Therefore, we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.***" This faith is in the Lord Jesus as our Savior. Romans 10:8-9, 13 says "***But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved***" "***For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved***".

Our Greatest Need, that of salvation, is through faith in Jesus Christ, the Savior. Not through any works. Ephesians 2:8-9 says "***For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast***". A simple child-like faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus, who was spotless and without blemish (sinless), and died in our place. However, we also must repent of our sins and accept Jesus as Lord of our life. Then, our greatest need will be met. Philippians 4:7 says "***For the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus***". No reprobate mind for the true Christian.

We need to put away the things of the world, and the world's way of trying to justify ourselves by doing more good deeds than bad, and spinning our sins to sound like they aren't so bad. Instead, we need to come to the Lord while there is time. Once we die our eternity is fixed and cannot ever be changed. Either we will be in glory with God, or cut-off from God and heaven, forever. No matter how young or old we are, time is short in the light of eternity. Yes, we need to take care of our Greatest Need – **NOW**, for all time and eternity.

The Greatest Need of our friends and loved ones is also the need for salvation. Maybe WE are the ones who God has chosen to tell them to have that greatest need met. We can invite them to church or a Bible study. God can use us if we are willing and ask Him to provide opportunity.

Finally, all of the various needs in our lives, some of which can be very great, pale in significance compared to our need of salvation. Pray to God for ourselves and our friends and loved ones, that their Greatest Need would be met in time. James 5:20 "***Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins***". Oh that we all would take this admonition to heart, that we may bear much fruit. Amen.

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## Russia, Europe and United States

By Dr. Dennis Leatherman, Oakland, Maryland

As we all watch the events in Europe unfold with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, our hearts go out to the dear people of these countries. Many lives have already been lost and no doubt many more will die. Our prayers are also for our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout that part of the world as their faith is being severely tested.

There is a heightened level of uncertainty and concern as to how these actions will affect our own Nation and Personal lives! As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, we should not be surprised that our world's condition is deteriorating. God's Word instructs us clearly that the last days will be perilous, dangerous and war-torn! We must not allow fear to control us! We must not allow our faith to fail us. We must not allow anger, bitterness or blame to grip our hearts and minds! And under no circumstances must we quit, give-up or turn back!

### Now is the time to:

1. Seek the Lord with all of our hearts – Psalm 105:4.
2. Trust God to take care of us – Psalm 118:6-9.
3. Assemble together faithfully to praise our Lord and to exhort one another – Hebrews 10:25. I'm reading of missionaries who are staying with their congregations as they assemble together in Ukraine even in the midst of a violent invasion by a foreign land.
4. Humble ourselves before the Lord in prayer – II Chronicles 7:14.
5. Put aside personal squabbles, selfishness and offenses – Ephesians 4:32.
6. Stay alert and prepared for the return of our Lord – Mark 13:33-37.
7. Commit ourselves to soul winning as never before – Proverbs 11:30!

Sword of the Lord

# The Legacy and Faith of a Godly Father

By Henry M. Morris IV

*\* Father's fill an essential role in the family.*

*\*\* Perhaps the strongest incentive for godly living is the impact of a father's example on his child.*

*\*\*\* My father's faith in God to provide and guide him was his greatest testimony to me.*

Good Father's (especially godly) serve an essential role in the family, and it's surely fitting that we express our love and gratitude on Father's Day. After all, the Fourth of God's Ten Commandments begins with "honor your father and your mother" Exodus 20:12, which the Apostle Paul later affirmed as the "first commandment with promise" that affords well-being and long life" Ephesians 6:2-3. Good parents are worthy of praise.

That said, this Father's Day will feel empty to me. As many know, my father, Dr. Henry Morris III, was called Home by God last December at the end of a very difficult year! The Morris family will still gather, just as we always have, to enjoy sweet fellowship over a good meal while children and grand-children play outside in the earthy summer sun. But this year there'll be one empty chair at the head of the table, one less handshake or hug to share, and one less "Love you, Dad" to say: He will be missed!

Good (godly) fathers, living on Earth or living in Glory, remain worthy of honor. But what's required to be truly worthy of such praise? Biblically speaking, it starts in childhood as parents are exhorted to "train up" their children "in the way (they) should go" Proverbs 22:6. However, godly instruction is primarily of the Christian father, applied with a gentle and firm hand to "bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord" Ephesians 6:4. This must begin with the father's own commitment to godly leadership and godly living, attributes my dad modeled consistently throughout his life.

Perhaps the strongest incentive for godly living is the impact of a father's example on his child. From King Solomon we know that "the glory of children is their father" Proverbs 17:6, and children do indeed "glory" in their father when his example is good and godly! They will, like me, desire to follow his moral and spiritual model in their own lives and lead their own children in God's righteous ways!

Apart from his love for my mother, my dad had three great loves in his life. GOD'S WORD, GOD'S PEOPLE, AND WORK THROUGH ICR. He held Scripture in the highest regard and preached or taught God's people

nearly every Sunday for well over fifty years. And with ..., he accomplished what few others could do. He not only maintained the integrity of the marvelous work of his own father ..., but he even built upon it, enhancing nearly every facet of the ministry until bringing the ICR Discovery Center for Science & Earth History to fruition.

Through it all, my father's faith in God to provide and guide was his greatest testimony to me! And the LORD blessed! By His Grace, Dad left ICR in excellent standing – completely debt-free, with new leadership in place and a dedicated staff committed to studying and proclaiming the Truth of God's Word.

*Acts & Facts*, by Institute of Creation and Research,  
June, 2021

\* \* \* \* \*

## Divine Power

By Hans Wisloff

God's Word is the soul-nourishment needed for a life with God. God's Word, therefore, is rightly called a **means of Grace**. Determination and good works, prayer and wrestling against SIN, will not avail. It is only God's means of Grace that can create New Life and sustain that which is created. God does not expect that you can be victorious over evil except by the help of the means of Grace. But if you use them rightly you will not lack anything which you need.

Man lives by every WORD which comes from the mouth of God! You are assured that you will always feel warmed and edified by the Word. You may feel that the Word condemns and humbles you! The **Word** is effective independent of your feelings. Use the Word diligently! Through the Word you become a partaker of Divine powers. Submerge yourself in the Word and evil will lose its power over you!

Quiet Moments on the Way Home

**"I recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord."**

**Abraham Lincoln**

# Editorial

RES

## *Demon Possession/Controlled*

*“And Satan entered into Judas who was called Iscariot,  
belonging to the number of the twelve.”  
(Luke 22:3)*

Let me be crystal clear at the very beginning of this editorial: Satan is an imitator/copier/false prophet and the father of lies! Our Triune GOD is a Creator and Satan is an imitator to the point of deceiving the very elect, if possible! Satan (demons) want to indwell something; preferably human bodies! WE that know **JESUS AS OUR PERSONAL SAVIOR** can be and are overcomers by the ***Blood of the Lamb!***

I remember very vividly many years ago when told/learned of THREE separate incidents as follows: A ‘witch’ wanted to be delivered from demons (fallen evil angels) was in the Twin Cities seeking us, when the telephone rang and a party from CA was asking what she was doing in this office. Secondly a Missionary serving in Brazil informed us of an Infant/Toddler who was being used by Satan to prophesy! Thirdly: a USA Champion walked in the USA Assembly Room and stated in fact: there is an ‘evil-spirit’ in this Room!

It is just an assumption, but I believe many Christians/Believers do not like the statement that someone is demon-possessed; but the truth remains the same regardless!

NOW remember that Satan cannot create, but copy OR imitate! BUT He (fallen-evil angels or demons) wants to hide/indwell preferably a human-body, IF not a human-body, then something else! NOW let’s look at the Final Authority, the Word of God, the BIBLE!

First of all, JESUS states very clearly that we are for Him OR against Him! Neutral you cannot be! (Martin Luther says, the Bible is a closed book to the unrepentant Sinner!) But greater is He – who is in you \*\* ***I John 4:4.***

***Please be sure to read the references/Bible Verses in their context!***

Numerous Scriptures in regards to “plagues” \*\****I Chronicles 21, Leviticus 13 & 14. Now read: Leviticus 26:18 & on!***

Aaron and the Red Sea \*\****Exodus 10 & 11.***

Person living in the cemetery Mark 5:2. (*clothed & in*

*his right mind*)

How about the person who seemingly was ‘awakened’ but did not take the privilege/opportunity \*\* ***Matthew 12:43 – 45.***

Satan/false christ \* \* ***Matthew 24:24.*** — signs and wonders.

Do you think that Satan has given up in these approaches; when he has been so successful in such for many years? Folks: There are people who are ‘demon-possessed’! ***If you are sure what I am talking about; YOU have real reason to be concerned!*** People do not have to be that way by any means, but You are in battle with him! Satan is not going to leave you alone, IF you are walking with Jesus, by faith!

Satan likes to harass/drive/hound a true-believer; but the Holy Spirit convicts & draws and points to the crucified and risen ONE in our behalf!

As you flip the coin the results are: ***John 11:44 – 12:11!***

Do you think that Satan has given-up in using these attacks?

They Overcame [the devil] by the Blood of the Lamb – Revelation 12:11: ***“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death”!*** ***“Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For ‘the two,’ He says, ‘shall become one flesh. But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality . Every sin that a man does is outside the body.”*** (I Corinthians 6:16) Definitely please read on, as it is very IMPORTANT!

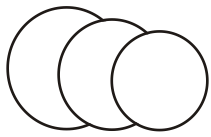
Also please read: Ephesians 2:13-22.

Did you notice at least THREE very special promises?

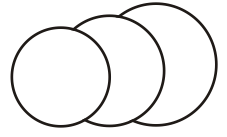
**JESUS came preaching ‘Peace’**

**JESUS came making ‘Peace’**

**JESUS is our ‘PEACE’!**



# From Our Fellowship Circle



**David L. Pereira**

**Raleigh, NC**

To Whom it May Concern: I am writing you to inform you that my address has changed to that which is the return address on the front of the envelope.

I am now in segregated housing right now, as I have been in prison for years! This letter is being mailed from ‘Maury Correctional Institution’.

Your publication (MG) is so often a much-needed ray of light! It is often the only church (service) I get, as of the pandemic, no outside volunteers. Persons are permitted to come in and visit, but NO church services. Do you in your ministry have any Bible Studies through correspondence? Are there any such Bible-studies that you can recommend through mail? I am trying to use my time here as wisely as possible! You know you can’t go wrong walking with Jesus, by faith. (Permission is granted for you to publish this letter in the *Morning Glory*.)

P.S. Sorry that my letter is so sloppy... Please pray for the prisoners, the Prison Guards, and the Authorities of our USA! AS we know this ‘nation’ was founded under God. This is the very reason, what we are going through as a nation, as we don’t realize that we are doomed without God! Yes, we are slowly slipping away from the very roots as a Nation; as seemingly we are living in the last days!

\* \* \* \* \*

## No Trouble with Demons

By Pastor Brent Juliot, Menomonie, WI

**Jesus** seemed to have no trouble with *demons*. Read through the four Gospels, and you will see how common place it was for Jesus to encounter and cast out demons. In the Gospels (NIV translation) there are **86** mentions of demons, counting also “impure spirits” – as

**Without a Vision, the people perish  
When the wicked rule, the people mourn  
Without Courage, you will fail to act  
Without God, all is lost.**

they are often called. In every encounter with a demon-possessed person, Jesus effortlessly cast out the demons, apparently sending them into the Abyss, so that they trouble people no more! Even a Legion of demons was no challenge for Him.

Jesus’ human opponents once claimed His power over *demons* to be Satanic! In response, Jesus spoke truth “...***If Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man’s house.***” (Mark 3:26-27) Jesus is the one who ties up the strong man. This is proven every time a demon is cast out, and every time a sinner is set free to new life in Christ. Good is good, evil is evil, and ***God is Always Good!***

IF overcoming evil demons is so easy for Jesus, why then does His face-to-face encounter with Satan, in the Temptation, have a very different feel? Is it that Satan’s power is so much greater than that of rank-and file demons? Has Jesus finally met His ‘match’ in the prince of demons? No! Something else must be happening in the Temptation of Christ! What is it?

We know that Jesus, to accomplish His redemptive mission on earth, had to be both True God and True Man! Our catechism says “It was necessary for our Savior to be True Man in that he might fulfill the law for us, and suffer and die in our place.” Then it quotes Romans 5:19, “***for just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of one man the many will be made righteous.***” Satan’s temptation of Christ was part of Jesus’ successful obedience in the realm where we who are born sinners have failed.

But **Jesus** also faced that ‘tempter’ with the very same weapons that we frail followers of Christ have at our disposal today! First, He was led into His temptation by the (Holy) Spirit of God. I don’t know that the (Holy) Spirit leads **us into** temptation today, but this same Holy Spirit may lead us **out of** our temptations — if we will listen, and respond to HIM in obedience. And second, the Word of God, wielded so brilliantly by Christ, is the same Sword for you and me. Jesus spoke ‘Truth’, and so may we.

Stronger than the strong man, Jesus can plunder the strong man’s house – that is, deliver us poor sinners from the power of sin, death, and the devil, and carry us into **HIS OWN KINGDOM!**

Faith & Fellowship, March/April, 2022

# Believable... Yet Unbelievable

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## Okla. makes abortion illegal

By EUGENE SCOTT, Washington Post

Oklahoma Republican Gov. Kevin Stitt on Tuesday [April 12] signed a bill that makes performing an abortion in the state illegal, as Republican-led states across the country rush to restrict abortion access while the Supreme Court weighs the fate of *Roe v. Wade*.

“I promised Oklahomans that I would sign every pro-life bill that hits my desk, and that’s what we’re doing today,” said Stitt, who described himself as a father of six. “We want Oklahoma to be the most pro-life state in the country. We want to outlaw abortion in the state of Oklahoma.”

Stitt was joined at the signing ceremony Tuesday morning by members of the Legislature, faith leaders and a number of anti-abortion groups who have advocated for more anti-abortion legislation. He sat at a desk featuring a poster with the words “Life is a human right,” which others behind him also held.

The bill, which passed the Senate last year and the House earlier this month with more than 80 support in both chambers, makes performing an abortion a felony.

Anyone convicted would face as much as 10 years in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

The law makes an exception if the life of the woman is in danger but has no exception for rape or incest.

If it is not blocked by the courts, the bill is scheduled to take effect in the summer when the Oklahoma Legislature adjourns. Unlike several other abortion bans proposed in Oklahoma this session, it does not include the emergency clause that allows a bill to take effect as soon as it’s signed by the governor.

The bill’s future will probably hinge on a Supreme Court decision expected in the summer, when the justices will rule on Mississippi’s 15-week abortion ban in a case that could overturn or significantly roll back *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark 1973 ruling that guaranteed the right to abortion nationwide.

From Florida to Idaho to Arizona, Republicans have moved to restrict abortion while Democratic-led states have tried to protect access to the procedure. ...

White House press secretary Jen Psaki criticized the state law, calling it an “unconstitutional attack on women’s rights” and among the most extreme anti-abortion bills in the country.

“Make no mistake: The actions today in Oklahoma are a part of a disturbing national trend attacking

women’s rights and the Biden Administration will continue to stand with women in Oklahoma and across the country in the fight to defend their freedom to make their own choices about their futures,” she said in a statement.

In oral arguments last year, conservative Supreme Court justices, who hold the majority on the 6-to-3 court, seemed open to overturning *Roe v. Wade* and 50 years of jurisprudence that guarantees a fundamental right to abortion.

Alexis McGill Johnson, president of Planned Parenthood Action Fund, a non-profit that advocates for abortion rights, said on Twitter on Tuesday that her organization will challenge the Oklahoma bill in court, calling it an “unconstitutional law.”

“We are at a tipping point for abortion rights nationwide,” she wrote.

Taken from the *Star Tribune*, April 13, 2022

## Florida governor signs bill stripping Disney of self-governing authority

By Maria Caspani and Dawn Chmielewski

April 22 (Reuters) - Florida Governor Ron DeSantis on Friday signed a bill that strips Walt Disney Co of self-governing authority at its Orlando-area parks in retaliation for its opposition to a new law that limits the teaching of LGBTQ issues in schools.

Disney did not immediately comment on the bill’s signing.

DeSantis is a potential 2024 Republican presidential candidate who has courted conservative voters on issues such as immigration, abortion and LGBTQ rights.

With his latest move against Disney, DeSantis is attempting to burnish his conservative credentials by showing he is willing to stand up to what he described as a “woke” company based in California that does not share Florida’s values.

Disney initially did not publicly oppose the LGBTQ legislation last month, prompting criticism from that community and some employees. The company later condemned the law and said it would suspend political donations in Florida pending a review.

The law, dubbed the “don’t say gay” bill by critics, bans classroom instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity for children in kindergarten through third grade. DeSantis backed the measure, saying it would give parents more control over their children’s education.

Opponents call it a thinly veiled attempt to marginalize gay and transgender students, or the children of queer parents.

At a fundraiser in Seattle on Thursday, President Joe Biden weighed in on the clash between Disney and Florida Republicans. He said efforts to impose such constraints “have nothing to do with traditional conservative doctrine.”

“I respect conservatives. There’s nothing conservative about deciding you’re going to throw Disney out of its present posture because Mickey Mouse ... should ... not be able to say, you know, gay.”

While the bill appears to be an attack on Disney and sprawling Orlando theme parks, experts say the financial impact of the legislation on the company and the state is unclear at this stage.

DeSantis rushed the bill through the statehouse, pushing it through within three days of a special session, but it will not take effect until June 2023, giving the two sides time to adjust to the new reality

Reuters.com

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## Does Scripture Say Anything about Climate?

By Brian Thomas, Ph.D.

*Human perspectives on climate change vary from one extreme to the other, but the BIBLE’S position on climate is rock solid.*

*Genesis describes three droughts and God’s promise to maintain the overall stability of Earth’s climate.*

As Climate change conversation(s) squeeze their way into so many topics, yet climate research is rife with confusion. Which scientists are right — those who say manmade pollution and greenhouse gases cause most global warming, or those who say these may only play a minor role? Even expert opinions vary to extremes. In contrast, GENESIS makes confident statements about Earth’s climate.

The 2009 Climategate fiasco illustrates the confusion inside climate research. Extracted emails exposed how certain climate researchers suppressed the work of scientists who disagreed with them. An embarrassing placard at Glacier National Park in Montana also shows confusion. The old sign said human activity warms the world enough to melt glaciers! It stated, “Computer models indicate the glaciers will all be gone by the year of 2020.” BUT the glaciers in the park remain today — so park officials changed the sign. Whether through sci-

entific suppression or waffling words, climate science seems to shift like the daily weather forecast!

In contrast, the Word of God stands forever! For example, Genesis lists three big famines that fit Ice Age climate shifts. Noah’s Flood warmed oceans and powered volcanoes that caused Earth’s Ice Age. Centuries later, oceans cooled, volcanoes calmed, and ice sheets melted. As the Ice Age faded, the Middle East transitioned from lush to arid. Abram traveled across today’s Iraq to Egypt across a “well -watered” land that stands dry today.” After he arrived in Canaan, Genesis 12:10 says “Abram went down to Egypt to dwell there, for the famine was severe in the land.” CROPS won’t grow without rain! He headed to Egypt since ancient Egyptians relied more on the NILE River when rains failed to fall on their fields.

Scripture records the next major drought during Isaac’s time saying, *“There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham.”* Later, the Lord used Joseph as top leader in Egypt to save many people through a third drought recorded in Genesis. Seven years without rain certainly counts as a climate change! That extreme weather had nothing to do with industrial pollution. Scripture’s history and clues on the ground together show that today’s dry Middle East had a wet past.

While Christians should lead in protecting God’s Creation, no Bible believer should buy into Climate alarmism! This says that human activity can destroy the Planet. What about God’s promise to Noah? After the Flood, He said, *“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.”* God promised farmable land, not a destroyed earth!

The Creator doesn’t make junk! He made Earth’s atmosphere strong enough to sustain the people He loves even when some of those people fail to take care of His Creation. Mankind makes mistakes. Our faults bleed into science and society! In contrast, three droughts and a Genesis promise show the certainty of our great Creator’s words.

Acts and Facts, 6/20

**Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation. It is better to be alone than in bad company.**

George Washington



## The Blood of God

*“Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.” (Acts 20:28)*

From the very beginning of sin, God laid out His means of dealing with sin in people’s lives: The Blood of An Innocent Victim. When Adam and Eve fell into sin, God did the following: *“And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.” (Genesis 3:21)* The life of living things is in the blood and it takes the sacrifice of life to atone before God for the infraction against His Holy Will. This is what the sacrificial system in the Old Testament demonstrated to the people. *“For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.” (Leviticus 17:11)* The word “atonement” means “to cover over,” in other words the blood covered over the sins of the people before God, yet it would never remove them. *“For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never by the same sacrifices year by year, which they offer continually, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins? But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year by year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.” (Hebrews 10:1-4)*

The blood sacrifices in the Old Testament were done upon animals which had no sin, because there was no pronouncement of sin upon them in the curse which God brought upon the earth and mankind. They were sinless substitutes as well, and their blood could cover the wrong done, but not remove it. When we get to the New Testament, we find something similar, yet profoundly different. The blood of Jesus isn’t just the blood of a perfect and sinless man. It is the blood of the Only begotten Son of God who became true man – True God and True Man. Therefore it is a divine-human blood and that is why it is able to completely remove the sin from the repentant and believing person. When John the Baptist saw Jesus he cried out, *“Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the World” (John 1:29)*

People have a hard time comprehending this. They reason the following: “God is a Spirit with no physical body and therefore has no blood to shed. Jesus was a sinless man and shed His blood on the cross, but it was the blood of a sinless man alone, and not the blood of God, because that would be stating that God died when Jesus died.”

Let us set aside our human reasoning and look instead to the testimony of the Scripture that Jesus, the Son of God, died for your sins. As the Scripture at the top of the page states: “God purchased His church with His own blood.” Instead of sitting in a quandary about it, simply rejoice in what the Lord God has done for you.

Since this Blood of Jesus removes sin from us, we can approach God openly and with confidence. *“Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus.” (Heb. 10:19)* We can now come before God directly and receive Grace to help in time of need. Even the High Priests in the Old Testament couldn’t do that. They approached God in absolute fear that if they hadn’t done everything right or brought the wrong sacrifice, they would be consumed on the spot. *“And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Tell your brother Aaron that he shall not enter at any time into the holy place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die; for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat.’” (Leviticus 16:2)*

Since the Blood of Jesus removes our sins from us, we now have a Biblical definition of what forgiveness of sins entails. *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)* The word “forgive” means “to send away.” God takes the sin that belongs to us and “sends it away” to Jesus who bears it in our place.

In fact God not only decides to remove the sins from our lives, but He also forgets that they ever happened. *“This is the covenant that I will make with them After those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws upon their heart, And upon their mind I will write them,” He then says, “And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” (Hebrews 10:16-17)* It’s absolutely astounding that the Omniscient God decides to forget what He has removed from us with His own Blood! Judgment Day for the believer will not be a time to give an account of our sins since they are no longer part of the record of our lives!

That is the beauty of the Blood of God which takes away our sins. Does this truth not give us a greater appreciation of what we receive when we take the Lord’s Supper?

Pastor Jim Haga,  
Hagapublishing.com

In the old rugged cross,  
Stained with blood so divine,  
A wondrous beauty I see,  
For ‘twas on that old cross,  
Jesus suffered and died,  
To pardon and sanctify me.

## A Crushed Heart

*“But Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” (Luke 5:8)*

BEFORE the Lord can dwell in a human heart He must first crush it.

Nor does He crush any heart so thoroughly as those He is to *use* in His service.

Peter is not the only one who has been made to feel *fear* in his heart. If the Lord is to make us useful, we must see sin in such a way that it becomes *the* thing of which we are afraid. We must be given to see our own heart, our own fear of God, our Christian work in such a way that it becomes our despair.

If we are to receive “that sufficiency which is from God,” then we must first realize our own insufficiency, our own incapability.

Be not dismayed therefore, my dear fellow worker, when you experience these crushing blows at the hands of the Lord. To you everything seems impossible and nothing quite so impossible as that you should be able to do anything in the kingdom of God.

You feel that you are unworthy. Indeed, but who is worthy? No one. It is only through God’s mercy that we are permitted to have a part in the work of the Lord. As long as you feel that such is the case your work will prosper.

You feel that you are incapable. Indeed, that is as it should be. As long as you feel that way the Lord can use you. For there is nothing else that can make you qualified for this work but that which you *receive* from God. He gives grace to the humble.

No one is as well qualified to win souls as the humble person is. Such a person is never too prominent in a group of believers. He never causes division or strife within the flock of God.

Moreover, he gains access to the hearts and consciences of the unconverted as no one else does.

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### Be Ready to Testify of The Hope That Is in You

By Mrs. Joseph Aarhus

Thor Rinden was usually in good health, and regardless of his condition, he always had a ready answer

for anyone who asked him how things are going. He lived alone in a little home on the old farm place after the death of his wife.

A friend asked him one day ‘How are things going for you, Thor?’

Without a moment’s hesitation, his beautiful answer came: ‘It is going homeward!’

His answer plainly shows how he lived from day to day as though any day might be his last one here on Earth. When longing for Heaven and Home constrains us, we sense keenly that we are just “passing through.” Our eyes are fixed on the goal, and our conversation takes on the thoughts of HEAVEN and of the glory that awaits us. Or maybe this is not the center of your conversation! IS IT? Perhaps the early Christians felt this more keenly than we do!

After the death of his wife, Pastor Reisem lived alone in the Parsonage at Jewell, Iowa awhile. However, when his health began to fail, he resided for some months in Bethany Manor, Story City, Iowa.

One day he was seen wandering around trying to find his room, and a Nurse seeing his confusion, came to help him. ‘Pastor Reisem, are you lost?’

“Lost? Oh, no, no! I am not lost! I am saved!”

Then out of his heart and mind came verse after verse of Scripture to prove his assurance of Salvation. Little did the attendant expect such response to the question she had asked!

It is beautiful when, in spite of mental lapses and weakness of mind, a person can remain clear and fresh spiritually. Talk to some “of these old Christians and you will hear how they can discuss the most important things of life — Heaven, Salvation, Eternity with the LORD, etc. There are exceptions. of course.

So let us store up the Word of God in our hearts as Pastor Reisem had done through many years. It will stand in good stead to **us ONE DAY!**

Selected

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### ***When Shadows Fall***

*When shadows fall about us  
And sad hearts are alone,  
There is Strength that comes to us  
Far greater than our own —  
There is a love that comforts,  
There is a light to lead,  
There is a heavenly Father  
Who understands OUR NEED!*

Author Unknown

# Tempted by the Devil

By Pastor Troy Tysdal

**On a small mountain**, just west of the Jordan River, even forty days of fasting could not weaken the resolve of Jesus! HE had been led by the Holy Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. As Jesus prayed, the words of John the Baptist played on repeat in His mind. “Look, the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” Jesus knew that John was prophesying of His death. In that, His mind flashed back to the Passover – the spotless lamb given in sacrifice for the children of God.

Deep in thought, Jesus looked up and out over the valley. He knew that the trip to the Cross was one he would take alone now. Now, he felt the presence of one he knew long ago – one who made the nations tremble, one who said in his heart, *“I will ascend to the heavens, I will raise my throne above the stars of God ...”* (Isaiah 14:13) Years ago, their paths had almost crossed in Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph had fled with the child Jesus just before King Herod’s army had arrived to slaughter the children of the city. The devil had been searching for Jesus ever since, watching for another opportunity.

In Matthew 4:3, the tempter came to Him and said, “If you are the Son of God...”

In Satan’s opening line, during the temptation of Jesus, we hear him cast doubt on the truthfulness of God’s Word. After His baptism, when Jesus emerged from the waters of the Jordan, the sky was torn open, the (Holy) Spirit descended like a dove, and the Father said, **“This is my Son, whom I love, with him I am well pleased.”** (Matthew 3:17) Here in the wilderness, Satan is now questioning God’s good Word. His trick is nothing new. In fact, it is as old as sin.

In the Garden of Eden, Satan appeared to Eve and asked, *“Did God really say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”* Satan replied, *“You will*

*“I don’t know where this Bible will take me in this world but I do know where this Bible will take me in the here-after.”*

*Dr. Carl McIntyre*

*not surely die...”* (Genesis 3:1-4)

And there it is; the father of lies accusing God of being a liar. It is a **lie** that changed the course of human history. God had given Adam and Eve all good things. How would they respond to His goodness? They would deny His Word, and death would enter the world just as God had said it would!

The voice of the tempter comes to us as well! “Has God really said that you are forgiven? Surely, you can see that you are not. Look at how the earth refuses to give up her crop. Look at how disease ravages your bodies! Look at how war ravages your kingdoms. Surely, you can see that God has forsaken you.”

*Perhaps* you are tempted to believe the devil. There is always a hint of truth in his lies. But then we are reminded of the very Word Of God become flesh – the One who resisted temptation, the One of whom the Psalmist declares, *“...as far as east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions.”* (Psalm 103:12) This forgiveness did not come without cost.

On the Cross, Jesus cried out, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” – which means, **My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?** Surely you know, it is for you that HE was forsaken?

In Christ you have been given all good things! How will you respond to His goodness? Trust His Word, and open your ears! A DAY is coming when all will confess, even the devil, **that JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!**

*Faith & Fellowship*, March/April, 2022

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## How to Deal With Satan

By A. B. Simpson

A number of people were talking of temptation. The part which Satan takes in the believer’s temptations came into discussion. Many good things were uttered.

An elderly gentleman was appealed to. He rose and said:

“Well, my friends, you ask me what I think to be the best way to deal with Satan. I’ll tell you. Now, if you’ll take an old man’s advice, you’ll never parley with him. He isn’t wise; for if he had been, he’d have stopped in Heaven. But he’s artful and he’s had a pretty long spell these six thousand years in studying the weak points of human nature. So sure, as you begin to parley with him, he’ll outwit you and throw you. I’ll tell you what I have done with him these many years; I never speak to him at all, but just as soon as he comes to me, I always introduce him to my betters.” (Ed. Send Jesus to answer the ‘door-bell’ in your life!)

## How Canst Thou Say, I Love Thee, When Thine Heart Is Not With Me?

By Pastor Jim Peterson  
(Please read Judges 16:5 – 22)

Delilah is frustrated with Samson! Her frustration is the fruit of human greed. *“The lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, ...we will give thee, every one of us, eleven hundred pieces of silver”* (verse 5). This was their offer to Delilah if she could secure from Samson the source of his strength. Their motive was to gain the capture and control of Samson. This offer of silver for a soul was too great a temptation for Delilah, so she began to plan Samson’s demise.

As she questions Samson about the source of his great strength, each of three times he told her a lie. It can be noted that frustration is usually preceded by lies. Lies either from human source or from Satan himself. *“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it”* (John 8:44).

Knowing Samson has lied repeatedly to her, Delilah, in frustration, asks, *“How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart is not with me?”* (Verse 15). The correlation between the Lord Jesus and the believer can be seen in the relationship of Delilah and Samson. Delilah appears as one desiring truth from Samson’s heart. Samson is, like so many believers are, not truthful in the heart! We say we love Jesus, but inwardly we lie. Our heart is divided in its loyalty and honesty. We desire the best of both Earth and Heaven! All this at the expense of lying to our Lord. He also must echo the words of Delilah, *“How canst thou say I love thee, when thine heart is not with me?”*

This is an age (time) of repentance and forgiveness. Let us turn to JESUS with the longings of our divided heart. Bring those worldly desires to His Throne of Grace in repentance and receive HIS pardon.

**It’s not what you love, it’s who you love that counts!**

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### Our Matchless CHRIST

By Billy Sunday

In many places, Jesus Christ is only a grand subject for a painting, a heroic theme for a pen, a beautiful form for a statute, and a thought for a song; but to those who have heard His voice, who have felt His pardon, who

have received His benediction, He is music, warmth, light, joy, hope and salvation – a Friend who never forsakes, who lifts us when others try to push us down.

We cannot wear Him out, we pile on Him all of our griefs and troubles. HE is always ready to lift us; HE is always ready to help us; HE addresses us with the same love; He beams upon us with the same smile; He pities us with the same compassion.

There is no name like His. It is more inspiring than Caesar’s, more musical than Beethoven’s, more patient than Lincoln’s.

The Name of JESUS throbs with all life, weeps with all pathos, groans with all pains, stoops with all love. Its breath is laden with perfume.

Who like Jesus can pity a homeless orphan?

Who like Jesus can welcome a prodigal back home?

Who like Jesus can make a drunkard sober?

Who like Jesus can illuminate a cemetery plowed with graves?

Who like Jesus can make a queen out of a lost woman of the street?

Who like Jesus can catch the tears of human sorrow in His bowl?

Who like Jesus can kiss away our sorrow?

I struggle for a metaphor with which to express JESUS! HE is not like the bursting forth of an orchestra; that is too loud and it may be out of tune.

HE is not like the sea when lashed into a rage by a storm; that is too boisterous.

HE is not like a mountain wreathed in lightning, canopied with snow; that is too solitary and remote.

**HE is the Lily of the Valley, the Rose of Sharon, a gale of spices from HEAVEN!**

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### THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

By George White

1. It is reconciling blood (Ephesians 2:13; Hebrews 2:17).
2. It is redemptive blood (Colossians 1:14; 1 Peter 1:18, 19).
3. It is atoning blood (Romans 5:11).
4. It is justifying blood (vs.9).
5. It is cleansing blood ((1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5).
6. It is overcoming blood (12:11).

## Getting Answers to Prayer

By Dr. Tom Malone

*“And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.”*

*“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.”*

Matthew 21:22 & John 15:7

God today answers prayer just as much as HE has ever answered prayer. He can and will answer mine and yours just as He did Elijah's. We read in Psalm 65:2, *“O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.”* It is typical of God to answer prayer.

I pray about even simple little things, things you might think were foolish! The other day I lost my glasses. I couldn't find them anywhere. I looked all over the church. I asked people in the offices. I looked all over my office. NO GLASSES! I prayed, “Lord, I need my glasses. You know where they are and You're not telling me. I need to know where they are. Lord, help me find my glasses.”

There is a little case up in my office that I rarely ever carry with me. The day I prayed, I went over, lifted up the lid on that case, reached in, picked up my glasses and put them on! I might have been looking for them yet had I not prayed.

You say, “Well, that was a little thing.” But He is not a little God. God can also answer prayers that take a miracle! In the supernatural and unusual, God will answer prayer!

When the doctor told me I would never be able to preach again, the only thing I could do was PRAY. I had two operations on my throat; then I was told that I would never be able to preach again! I was advised to seek some other way to serve the LORD.

My heart was broken. Preaching was my life! My wife and I fell prostrate on our faces before God. I couldn't even pray aloud; but my wife cried out to God to work a miracle, heal my throat and restore my voice. We both claimed Matthew 18:19, *“IF TWO OF YOU SHALL AGREE ON EARTH AS TOUCHING ANY THING THAT THEY SHALL ASK, IT SHALL BE DONE FOR THEM OF MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.”*

God heard that prayer years ago and I have been preaching several times a week ever since.

God answers prayer! *“Lord, increase our faith”* in getting answers to prayer! Every sincere Christian, unless he has an ax to grind or there is something wrong with him somewhere else, should be praying for the Lord to bless the work of God! ...

**HE ANSWERS PRAYER!**

Sword of the Lord

## *It All Started With a Drink*

By Evang. Warren ‘Chip’ Roy, Stephen City, VA

Leonard J. Pearce went to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting last fall but drank beer before and after the session.

He wound up stealing a four-wheel-drive vehicle from the Webster Fire Department but didn't bother opening the garage doors of the fire station before taking off.

Pearce, 22, of Rostraver Township, entered guilty pleas for burglary, theft, receiving stolen property and criminal mischief before Judge Daniel Ackerman in Westmoreland County Pleas Court.

He said he had a quart of beer before the AA meeting and later got a ride to a bar in Donora where he had another dozen beers or so. He was unclear on how he stole the vehicle from the fire station.

Authorities said that in addition to crashing through the garage door, Pearce donned a fireman's hat, coat and boots. He drove the vehicle about 14 miles and left it parked in Stockdale in Washington County.

Assistant Public Defender Richard Victoria told Ackerman that Pearce, who had had previous problems with alcoholism, had been examined recently by psychiatrists and was competent to stand trial (*Greensburg Tribune-Review, Greensburg, Pennsylvania*).

I have long lost the date of this article, but I would say it was sometime around 1983-85. Regardless, I was always amazed by that title:

### **“IT ALL STARTED WITH A DRINK.”**

How many broken homes can't say that it all started with a drink?

How many unwanted pregnancies can say that it all started with a drink?

How many fights can say that it all started with a drink?

How many murders can say that it all started with a drink?

How many serious car wrecks can say that it all started with a drink?

How many backsliders can say that it all started with a drink?

How many prisoners will say that it all started with a drink?

The BIBLE says, **“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.”** (Proverbs 20:1)

## “Sin ...exceeding sinful.”

*“Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.”*

Romans 7:13

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

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

*Morning & Evening* by Charles Spurgeon, © 1991  
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## THE UNCOMMON MAN

By Dean Alfange

I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon – if I can. I seek opportunity – not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the state look after me. I want to take the calculated risk, to dream and to build, to fail and succeed.

I refuse to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia.

I will not trade freedom for a beneficence nor my dignity for a *handout!* I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat. It is my *heritage* to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations and to face the world boldly and say, THIS I HAVE DONE!

**All this is what it means to be an American!**

*Editor:* WE the people of the grand USA, What a privilege and responsibility!

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### Rest

**“I will give you Rest”** (Matthew 11:28)

The word “creep” is an engineering term used to describe the gradual movement and permanent deformation that slowly takes place in solid materials under the influence of too much stress which will eventually fatigue a material to the point where it will crack and no longer be able to perform its function.

People react to stress a lot like materials do under pressure! The greater the burden of stress – the greater the fatigue. BUT thanks be unto Jesus Christ, we don’t have to bear our burdens alone. HE invites us to “**come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest**” Matthew 11:28. Therefore, “**cast thy burden upon the Lord**” Psalm 55:22a. for “**He shall sustain thee**” and give you “**rest unto your soul**” Matthew 11:29. Gospel Gram

*A reputation once broken may possibly be repaired, but the world will always keep its eye on the spot where the crack was!*

## Atomic Blasts On Sodom

Author Jonathan Cahn

**“Then the Lord rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah – from the LORD out of the heavens.”** (Genesis 19:24)

Genesis 18 and 19 record the judgment and destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah – cities so evil that their inhabitants attempted to rape the angels sent to them. The BIBLE records the judgement – fire rains down from the sky and the cities are destroyed!

Of course, to modern scholars and critics of the Bible the account is dismissed as a myth, and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah an event that never took place. And there has never been any remnant of any city that would fit the description of the account ... until now!

The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah would have been located in the region of the Dead Sea. Seven miles north-east of the Dead Sea is a city called Tall el-Hamman, it has in recent time been the focus of an extensive multi-national archaeologist’s excavation. Those involved in the excavation include archaeologists, geologists, geochemists, geomorphologists, mineralogists, paleobotanists, sedimentologists, medical doctors, and cosmic impact experts.

After fifteen excavations, the team published its conclusions. The conclusions were stunning. They placed the city about 3,600 years ago, which is within the generally accepted period of Sodom and Gomorrah. What they found set apart the ruins from virtually any other city ever excavated. They came to the conclusion that the city was destroyed – suddenly, violently, cataclysmically.

How was it destroyed? Fire from the sky! The blast was so great that the scientists likened it to that of an atomic bomb! In fact they believe that the force of the blast was greater than the atomic bomb of Hiroshima ... ***a thousand times greater – or the equivalent of a thousand atomic bombs?***

The force that destroyed the city was so powerful that the temperature of the air rose above 3,600 Fahrenheit. Mudbrick houses, clay vessels, swords, shields, and spears began to melt!

According to the scientists, none of the estimated **8,000** people or animals within the city survived, just as in the account of Genesis. In fact, it appears that wood and small plants were blasted into tiny diamond-like structures! Other finds indicated the melting of elements that require temperatures of 4,435% Fahrenheit! As for the vegetation, it appears to have been wiped out as it was written ***“and also the vegetation of the land.”*** Further, it appears that the destruction caused the land to be covered

with salt – also echoing the account in Genesis.

It is yet another example of science catching up with the Bible. And it’s striking for this to be revealed in our generation! For our culture once identified with the morality of Abraham – now it identifies more with that of Sodom – and now the stones cry out, warning of judgment.

**Be confident in the Word of GOD!** In the end it will be proven true. In the meantime, live by it, stand by it, and overcome by it.

Reprinted from *Hope For your Heart*

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### The Place to Really Learn

It has been said; the person who rocks the cradle rules the world! Medically, it has been clearly stated that the Infant in its mother’s-womb; senses what kind of music the mother listens too! Home in the mother’s womb today is the most dangerous place for a person to be because of abortion! Home is a place of learning, challenges, and growth. Yes, children are encouraged to express themselves and they are taught what it means to ask and wait for an answer!

Nothing is too big or too small to pray specifically about before our Almighty God, as He can be touched with the feelings of our infirmities. (See Hebrews 4:15)

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### Curfew Did Not Ring!

Oliver Cromwell once ordered that at the ringing of the evening curfew bell a soldier be shot for his crimes. For some reason that night the bell did not toll. *(The incident has been immortalized in poetry and song).*

It seems that the girl whom the condemned soldier was to marry had climbed up into the belfry and clung to the great clapper of the bell to prevent it from striking.

When she was called by Cromwell to give an account of herself, she only wept and showed him her bruised and bleeding hands. Cromwell’s heart was touched; and he said, ***“Your loved one shall live because of your sacrifice. Curfew shall not ring tonight!”***

So too all of us are rebels (Ephesians 2) against God and under a sentence of death. Christ has intervened in our behalf! We too are saved but only at the expense of His Blessed Person.

When skeptics questioned the truth of substitutionary atonement after HIS resurrection from the dead, ***Christ showed them HIS hands — HIS NAIL-PIERCED hands!***

Selected

## UpDate

**“I searched for a man among them who would build up a wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one.”** (Ezekiel 22:30)

### **WE MUST PRAY, WE MUST GO!**

Nehemiah, a Jewish cupbearer to the king of Suza, was an *unusual* candidate to be picked by God to help save (protect) God’s people. But God moved on his heart when he heard the bad report of his nation and he began to pray. However, he did so much more than pray! He became the answer to his prayers, and God empowered him to do His Will! Nehemiah literally initiated the building of a wall that would keep the Jews from being destroyed. He encouraged the workers to use one hand to build and one hand to fight. And so, it is for us as Christians. We see from Nehemiah’s story: we must pray, we must go, we must fight and we must build.

Excerpt from *The Vine and Branches*, Spring 2022

How encouraging and appropriate as we, of the Morning Glory/HLIF CONTEND FOR THE FAITH. We seek to nourish fellow-believers and reach the lost! The spiritual-battle rages on and will very likely increase in these Perilous Times!

Are YOU a teammate willing to stand with us as we seek to build and *fight*? Isaiah 59

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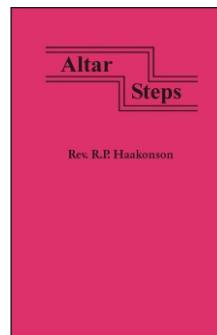
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c/o Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center  
1026 West Alcott Ave.  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Volume CV • Number 4 • June 2022  
(USPS 887-740) Dilworth, MN 56529

## Altar Steps



We have reprinted the daily devotional Altar Steps by R.P. Haakanson. This devotional is good for families with children and seeks to bring salvation to family members. It uses a lot of illustrations to help the reader understand the truth presented.

If you would like a copy for yourself or to give as a gift to a friend, just send \$8.00 using the envelope in the center of the magazine. Shipping costs are being covered through an anonymous donor.