



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • November 2020

Why do Most of us Fail so Miserably in Prayer?

By O. Hallesby, Ph.D.

I have pondered this question nearly ever since I, by the Grace of God, began to pray. I think we will all admit, both to ourselves and to others, without any question, that to pray is difficult for all of us. The difficulty lies in the very act of praying. To pray, really to pray, is what is difficult for us. It feels like too much of an effort.

That the natural man feels that prayer is an effort is not strange in the least. He ***“receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him.”*** (I Corinthians 2:14) ***“The mind of the flesh is enmity against God.”*** (Romans 8:7)

The natural man may, of course, feel a desire to pray at times. He may feel a desire to pray when he is in danger, for instance, or when he is in a religious frame of mind. But he can never become reconciled to daily and regular prayer. He feels that it is unreasonable on the part of God to be particular about this matter of praying.

He gives many reasons why he does not pray quite as many prayers as most pastors and preachers demand of him. He says to himself: “The Lord certainly does not expect people who are well and strong and able to work to spend so much valuable time in prayer. Especially in these modern times when everybody is so busy. Then, too, are not folded hands a Catholic idea? Wonder if our Lord does not think more of working hands than folded hands?”

The natural man looks upon prayer as a burdensome

task. Most unspiritual people never assume this burden. Some, do, however, and pray to God a little each day. But they feel that it is a heavy requirement, and they do so only because they think that our Lord is strict in regard to this and insists that it be done.

That this is the natural man’s view of prayer does not surprise us.

It cannot help but surprise us, however, when we find that this view is prevalent also among believing Christians, at least among many of us.

At conversion we were led into a life of earnest, diligent prayer. Our seasons of prayer were the happiest time of the day. But after a longer or a shorter period of time, we began to encounter difficulties in our prayer life. Prayer became a burden, an effort. As honest souls we clung diligently and faithfully to prayer, but often we had to compel ourselves to enter into our secret chambers. Prayer, which was once the free, happy, grateful communion of a redeemed soul with God, had begun to become a matter of duty, which we performed more or less punctiliously according to our character and the will-power we had.

The more of an effort prayer becomes, the more easily it is neglected and the results, which are fatal to spiritual life, follow, not immediately, but no less certainly. . . .

Our inner life begins to weaken. The pain of living in sin is not felt as keenly as before, because it is no longer honestly confessed before God. As a result of this, again,

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our spiritual vision becomes blurred, and we can no longer distinguish clearly between that which is sin and that which is not. In conversion, as well as in the prayer meeting, they are tempted to use language which is not in harmony with their inner selves. ...

All this and a great deal more are the result of an impaired prayer life. And this is what has taken place in the lives of many believers.

(To be continued in the next issue of the Morning Glory).

Taken from *Prayer* by O. Hallesby, Ph.D., © Copyright – 1931, Augsburg Publishing House.

God's Inspired the Book of HEBREWS

God LIKELY CHOSE OR USED THE CLEANSED VESSEL (a saved sinner) Apostle Paul to write the Inspired Book of HEBREWS. Whoever the 'vessel' is describes Moses as a hero of the faith, who traded the gold of Egypt for obeying and glorifying God. But always keep in one's mind that Moses is like one of us! He sinned and fell just like we do. He tried to do the Lord's will in his own strength and he bombed out.

God does not forsake the contrite and broken hearted people; but uses them to be an instrument/vessel of His power. Moses became an obedient/submissive instrument of the Lord and exemplifies for us what it means to choose CHRIST above all else. — Selected

Give Up Your Gold

By Dr. Michael Youssef

“He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.” (Hebrews 11:25)

Gold is nothing more than a yellow rock, but it has been treasured as a valuable commodity in nearly every civilization down through history. As the adopted son of Pharaoh’s daughter, Moses could have had lots of it. Life in the palace was comfortable and luxurious. He might have even become Pharaoh himself one day. But the Bible says he traded gold for glory.

Moses gave up a life of power and luxury for the sake of Christ. Moses was obedient to God because he knew that the treasure of knowing Him was infinitely more valuable than mere gold. In contrast, generations before Moses was born, Joseph was a high-ranking official in Pharaoh’s court. He had plenty of gold, but it didn’t have a hold on his heart. His calling was to remain in the palace and influence life in Egypt from his powerful position.

You see, the “gold” we must avoid is not earthly riches in and of themselves, but whatever idols stand in the way of our obedience to God’s calling on our lives. And that is why the Word of God commends Moses for giving up the world’s gold for God’s glory. He let go of all the gold of Egypt in order to obey the call of God on his life.

So we must ask ourselves, What kind of “gold” has a hold on me? What is keeping me from obeying the will of God in me? Whatever it may be, Christ is far better.

Obey God in Faith

“He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.” Hebrews 11:26. The author of the book of Hebrews tells us that Moses choose to give up life as a prince of Egypt ***“for the sake of Christ”*** (11:26). Many people read that and wonder how Moses knew about Christ since he lived fifteen hundred years before Jesus (Incarnation). I’ll tell you how: Moses knew by faith. He trusted God. As the Passover lambs were being slaughtered, it was a foreshadowing of the death of Christ. And Moses had faith that if God could save His people from the tenth plague by the blood of livestock, He could also save them from their sins.

Faith not only saved Moses, it helped him to choose obedience. You see, when we give up the pleasures of this world in order to follow Christ, the road is never easy. Moses discovered this to be true in the wilderness as he led the stubborn, complaining Israelites for forty years. Faith is what sustained him. Faith is the key.

If you study the Gospels, you’ll notice that Jesus never praised His disciples for their power, their wisdom, or their passion. But at times, He did praise them for their faith. Faith as small as a mustard seed can move a mountain and hurl it into the middle of the sea. Faith (Ed. In Jesus power) casts out demons. Faith makes God’s power manifest in the darkest of circumstances. Moses had this sort of faith, and by it, He could trust God to fulfill His promises, even those that were a long way off.

My Journal, *Choosing CHRIST Above All Else,*
Leading the Way.

MEDITATION

“This book of the law shall depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.” (Joshua 1:8)

This well-known verse contains the first use of the Hebrew verb for “meditate” (hagah) in the Bible and, significantly, it is a command to meditate on the Scriptures. Such meditation is not mere quietness or daydreaming but is thoughtfulness with a purpose—to obey “all that is written therein.”

Meditation for its own sake, without being centered on God’s Word, is often useless or even harmful. Witness the Western proliferation of Eastern “meditation cults” (T.M., etc.), which lead their devotees into pantheism and occultism. Isaiah 8:19 warns against “wizards that peep, and that mutter (same word as ‘meditate’). “Why do...the people imagine (same word) a vain thing?”

The blessed man is the one whose “delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night” (Psalm 1:2). That is, only if we are continually guided by the Holy Scriptures will we be happy and successful.

In the New Testament, the Greek word for “meditate” (melatao) is used only twice. Once it is translated “imagine” (Acts 4:25) and is in a quotation of Psalm 2:1, as above. The last time it is used, however, its emphasis reverts back to the context of its first usage, as in our text above. Paul commands us: “Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine...Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all” (I Timothy 4:13,15). Modern meditationists say that the goal of meditation is to clear our minds of “things,” but God wants us to meditate on “these things”—the life-giving, life-directing doctrines of His Word.

Days of Praise, The Institute for Creation Research
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A Psalm for Thanksgiving

*Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth,
Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before
him with joyful singing. Know that the Lord
Himself is God; It is He who has made us,
and not we ourselves; We are His people and
the sheep of His Pasture. Enter His gates
with thanksgiving, and His courts with
praise, Give thanks to Him; bless his name.
For the Lord is good; His lovingkindness is
everlasting, And His faithfulness endures to
all generations.* (Psalm 100:1-5).

The Grind Of Ingratitude

In these days of abundance and wealth, it is our tendency to become ungrateful and presumptuous. Affluence abounds in our American culture. Many a family has a driveway full of cars, a house full of gadgets, appliances, personal television sets and telephones, and a refrigerator full of food. Life isn't simply easy-going, it's downright luxurious!

Please don't misunderstand me. Having an abundance is not a sin, in and of itself. Throughout the pages of Scripture, we find Abraham, Job, Joseph, David, Solomon, Josiah, Barnabas, Lydia, to name a few. But we also find some who became enamored of their wealth and lost sight of the Lord and His right to rule their lives. As I have said on numerous occasions, there is nothing wrong with having nice things...but there is everything wrong when nice things have us. Ingratitude and presumption can quickly rob our lives of generosity and humility. Here is a song that will bring back a spirit of thankfulness and joyful gratitude.

Every time I read through the One Hundredth Psalm; I think of Vacation Bible school! Do you have the same reaction? For some reason I was memorizing all or part of Psalm 100 every summer of my childhood in VBS. As I think of that, I also remember the three Bible school teachers who resigned when they learned they would have *me* in their department! Needless to say, I was not a "model child" in church. Take heart, Sunday School Teachers! You could be teaching a potential pastor as you labor with a group of busy, noisy children. I thank God for those who were longsuffering with me!

Psalm 100, however, is not just a "Bible school psalm." Nor is it directed to children only. As we take a closer look at this favorite old hymn, three questions come to mind.

Question One: To whom is it addressed? Read verses 1 and 5 once again. You'll find that it is ad-

dressed to *all the earth* (v.1), to *all generations* (v.5). Psalm 100 is for the whole world – all ages and stages. It is broad in its scope. Its message is universal. We are to understand that God wants **all** people in every era to hear and apply its message.

Question Two: Of whom does it speak? Verses 1-3, along with verse 5, give us the answer. Psalm 100 speaks *of the Lord*. His name appears no less than four times.

Question Three: How is it arranged?

THE COMMANDS

1. Shout joyfully to the Lord.
2. Serve the Lord with gladness.
3. Come before Him with joyful singing.
4. Know that the Lord Himself is God...
5. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His court with praise.
6. Give thanks to Him.
7. Bless His name.

REASONS FOR THE COMMANDS

Because He is good.

Because His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Because He is faithful forever.

Turn, finally, to Ephesians 5:1. Read the verse slowly. The Amplified Bible renders it: "Therefore be imitators of God – copy Him and follow His example –as well-beloved children imitate their father."

It is not enough to read that God is pleasant, agreeable, loving, accepting, faithful, and impartial. *We are to mimic our Father!* In fact, we are **commanded** to do so in Ephesians 5:1. Why not start today? Give up your self-centered way of life and stretch your spiritual wings! God, by His indwelling Holy Spirit, longs to live out His character through you...and He longs to start right now. As He does so, the grind of ingratitude will slowly fade into oblivion.

Excerpts taken from the chapter *The Grind of Ingratitude*, found in *Living Beyond the Daily Grind*, Copyright © 1988 by Charles R. Swindoll.

*Had I not gotten saved when I did, I would
be dead and in hell right now! Isn't that
something to be thankful for?*

Anonymous

Editorial

RES

TOLERANCE TRIANGLES WITH TRUTH

I have heard people say, “I believe in all religions and whatever works for you is fine with me.” That sounds very tolerant, but if you carry that idea to its logical conclusion, then you will have to admit that the Bible and its teachings stand on an even plain with everything in Protestantism, Catholicism, Hinduism, Communism and a lot of other isms!

Where would we be IF our pioneer forefathers had believed we will just stay in our native land and tolerate their hardship on us; especially even though we who believe that each individual needs to know Jesus as their personal Savior! The very first pilgrims, left their homeland (England) and set out to seek and begin to formulate a country that is equal and free for all citizens, so their very first desire was a land that included FREEDOM. The very first Amendment to the US was the First and Second Amendment to the US Constitution.

After Adam and Eve disobeyed our All-knowing God, every human being is thus born with their backs towards God and we become attorneys in defending and justifying what we have done or haven't done – in other words, transgressions/iniquity or sin of omission.

Why then is it so EASY for us to rationalize like the following: A motorist is obeying the speed limit and vehicle after vehicle pass him very rapidly? So inner rationing says, “I can travel a little faster, after all they are not getting “picked-up” by an official Law Officer.” and so we rationalize, which we may say is just practicing tolerance. How many of us say to our conscience, “I'll just go four or five mph faster than the speed-limit?” Yet should a person not obey the law as long as it is in biblical compliance? BUT so and so did this or that and what I am doing isn't as bad as what he/she is doing!

You see there is freedom in obeying the LAW; but not freedom in breaking the Law! Example: In sports, as long as you obey the rules (law), a person has a lot of freedom.

The same is true when it comes to living a Christian life! Where the Law is not exposed to individuals or groups (congregation); Sin will gradually move in and IF the Law is not obeyed it will definitely intensify and become more gross and there will truly not be any Heaven-sent revival in an individual's life or congregation. As Hans Nielsen Hauge stated; “The Christian is

removed from the condemnation of the law; but not from compliance to the Law.” Preaching/teaching/witnessing of the LAW brings forth conviction of Sin and **God** uses His *Blood Bought Vessels*. For where there is no real conviction of sin, God *seems* to be limited as what HE can do. (John 14:16; 26),– notice the words: Love, Keeps, etc., (Acts 3:19) There is no tolerance/compromise with God as He hates/abhors sin, but there is forgiveness with God, through the shed Blood through His SON **Jesus!**

A Christian is set free from the condemnation of the LAW, BUT NOT COMPLIANCE TO THE LAW! Sin needs to be stated by name as God named sin! When was the last time that you heard in marriage that you are to stay together until ‘death do you part’ or that same-sex marriage is sin! Becoming a transgender person is sin! Jealously, Covetousness, Envy, Hatred, Bitterness and an unforgiving spirit – just to name a few of the sins which are recorded in God's Eternal Book, the Bible.

The advocator for tolerance wants us to believe that all opinions are all equally true. There is none more right than the other so they are all of equal value. If that be the case, then none of them is of any value. It means that we can know that nothing about religion or Christianity is any better or worse than any other belief or practice. Particularly, for those of us who believe and practice Infant Baptism (which is biblically correct and is a Secondary Doctrine), we also believe and practice the necessity of conversion afterward; but for those who feel that Baptism is all that is really needed for salvation into time and ETERNITY, (which is only wishful thinking), then baptizing people in a somewhat heathen area by the masses is not so far in ‘left-field’ after all!

Basically then, murdering Infants in their Mother's womb (ABORTION) so that they will go to Heaven is a good form of Evangelism! Just think how merciful Almighty God is when in the USA alone we have killed in the area of 57 million lives, basically legally. BUT abortion is clearly anti-Christian and definitely contrary to God's Word, the Bible. The fifth Commandment still holds true, THOU SHALL NOT KILL!

Where would we be in science or politics or any other field if we followed such sloppy reasoning? You know

the answer to that as well as I do! One idea is as good as another? Don't make me laugh...or cry!

I know one thing: Jesus did not believe in that kind of tolerance. If He had, He would never have attacked the religious leaders of His day.

There is as much difference between truth and falsehood as there is between a bright daylight and a dark night. The type of tolerance that says they are one brings about confusion. A person who continues to tell lies, will very likely believe his or her own lie and IF you hear the same lie many times; eventually you too *will likely believe it!*

I believe that Cicero was right when he said, "Our minds possess by nature an insatiable desire to know the truth."

According to some of the definitions of the word "Tolerance" in the American Heritage Dictionary: "The ca-

capacity for or the practice of recognizing and respecting the beliefs or practices of others. Leeway for variation from a standard. The permissible deviation from a specified value of a structural dimension..." Another Dictionary states: "Fairness toward different opinions, etc. Truth – Conformity to fact or actuality, integrity, actuality."

Jesus Christ declared that *God's Word* is the **TRUTH** (John 17:17) and that HE is "**the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me**" (John 14:6). That is the **TRUTH** and that leaves **NO** room for whatever else comes along!

So the real solution for the Church, the USA and Beyond is admittance of Sin, True Repentance and returning to our Almighty God who specializes in the IMPOSSIBLE (Miracles) for Restoration and Freedom!

The Bird That Walks and Flies Under Water

By Dr. Johnson

**Norway's white-throated dipper flies and walks under water to reach its food.*

***Its acrobatic aquatic skills are too precisely fitted to have evolved.*

****God designed this incredible bird to thrive in its watery feeding ground.*

The official bird of Norway is *Cinclus cinclus*, the white-throated dipper, an ordinary-looking bird that behaves in very extraordinary ways. It's designed to forage under water, but not like a dabbling duck. Rather, this bird dips, flies, rows and even walks under water to catch its food. Unsurprisingly, evolutionists have no plausible explanation for how this behavior originated much less why this small bird is so skilled in these strategic submarine stunts.

The dipper is known to range all of Norway as a year-round resident. This bird needs running fresh water because that's where its primary food source resides. And Norway offers lots of fast-running fresh water as mountain snow melts and flows in crevices, waterfalls, streams, and other drainage pathways to the sea. This passerine (perching songbird) is thus deemed an "aquatic" bird due to its familiar habit of dipping into fresh water and "walking" across streambeds as it fishes for underwater insect larvae and other edible morsels.

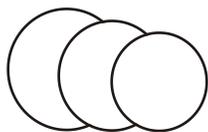
The dipper has two behavioral movements that fit its name. As it perches near quick-flowing streams, it often suddenly bobs with its tail propped up (somewhat like a wren) close to the water. And sometimes after

wading into the water's edge, it dives into the flowing water and then submerges by quickly plunging with a small splash. As it maneuvers under water, its wings appear to "fly" like a penguin's does when it swims. When the current is stronger, at times the bird vigorously "rows" its sturdy wings like oars to resist the current in order to steady its position. *Amazing!* How does the dipper know to perform these under-water behaviors? An unprogrammed or otherwise undirected "trial and error" process isn't an adequate explanation because failures equal drownings. A drowned dipper wouldn't get a second chance to evolve such underwater survival skills. Dippers, like other birds, need providential programming in place to fill their special needs.

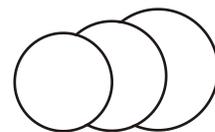
The dipper also uses its strong prehensile toes to grab on to projecting substrates on the bottom of a stream, while straining its muscles and keeping its head under water to prevent it from rising to the surface – thus giving the appearance of walking on the bottom of the stream! The food the dipper collects is often epibenthic (located atop the stream-bottom sediments) such as caddisfly and other insect larvae, as well as small freshwater mollusks, fish, amphibians, and the thin amphipod shrimp.

What a strange bird! It uses specially designed anatomy and strength to get its food, even appearing to defy gravity while it does. *God equipped this bird with the remarkable skills it needs to reap the riches of freshwater stream to supply its daily needs.*

References and article found in *Acts & Facts*,
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From Our Fellowship Circle



Mr. & Mrs. A. & D. H.

T. V. MN

Hello to Everyone connected to this ministry of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation and the *Morning Glory*.

As I read the *Mysteries of the Hen Egg*; it is so good; so I thought about sending to you the following: but before I want to say, when the Morning Glory comes, I just can't put the copy down, as it is so full of the LORD – the truth about Jesus! God bless all your work with this periodical of the Hauge Ministry.

I HOPE YOU FIND THIS AS FASCINATING AS I DID. May God bless you in ways you never even dreamed. I didn't think twice about forwarding this one.

The Bible

When you carry the Bible,
Satan has a headache,
When you open it,
He collapses,
When he sees you reading it,
He loses his strength,
And when you stand on the Word of God,
Satan can't hurt you!

And did you also know ...
When you get ready to forward this, the
Devil will get very upset,
And try to talk you out of doing it... Do It anyway,
You will be glad you did.

A. & K. T.

Livingston, NJ

Thank you so much for the blessings we get from *Morning Glory*.

Please remove ... from your mailing as he passed away in April from Covid -19.

May God continue to bless and use you in the future.

S. & J. H.

Grand Rapids, MI

Morning Glory is a spiritual light in this sin dark Society!

God Bless.

A. L.

Souris, ND

Please send a subscription of the *Morning Glory* to ... and if feasible also send a copy of the August issue.

Enclosed is a donation of \$....

Thank you for your content in these last days!

W. & P. B.

Belgrade, MN

Another *Morning Glory* which is such a blessing. To be able to read The Truth in the current environment when feelings and emotions have become truth for far too many individuals is becoming all too rare.

Regarding your editorial in the August, 2020 edition, I would like to make a couple comments.

First the quote is "Jesus is able to save from the gutter-most to the uttermost."

And secondly, you are absolutely right, the seminaries have failed. They have all failed, some more egregiously than others, but all have failed. And you prove it exceedingly well in this issue of the *Morning Glory*.

The tradition of Infant Baptism is a case in point. We don't need to debate whether Infant Baptism is biblical or not, that is a debate for another time. The point here is the failure of the seminaries...

The Light and Glory of the Word

By John Newton

*The Spirit breathes upon the Word
And brings the truth to sight;
Precepts and promises afford a sanctifying light.
As Glory gilds the sacred page, Majestic like the sun;
It gives a light to every age –It gives but borrows none.
The hand that gave it still supplies
The gracious light and heat;
His truths upon the nations rise – They rise but never set.
Let everlasting thanks be Thine
For such a bright display
As makes a world of darkness shine
With beams of heavenly day.
My soul rejoices to pursue
The steps of Him I love,
Till glory breaks upon my view
In brighter worlds above.*

Believable... Yet Unbelievable

Yoga

Yoga is not merely an external physical practice with a physiological effect, but rather an internal spiritual practice advertised as being spiritually transformative.

Courts have repeatedly ruled yoga and meditation are religious practices. A 1988 Arkansas case commonly known as *Powell v. Perry* concluded that “Yoga is a method of practicing Hinduism”.

The Ninth District Court of Appeals ruled in a 1995 case that the “Hindu-yoga spiritual tradition” is a “religious tradition”.

Frontlinesohio.com

Editor's Note: Profound! “...Because of the multitude of your sorceries, For the great abundance of your enchantment. For you have trusted in your wickedness; You have said, ‘No one sees me’; Your wisdom and your knowledge have warped you; And you have said in your heart, ‘I am, there is no one else besides me.’” Isaiah 47:9b – 10 and before and on.

Wake-up USA and Beyond

At the time of writing this article, if we were to describe our world at the present hour in just one word, we likely would use the word Chaotic, or in two words; Perilous Times! The situation today is not restlessness, but is actually an indirect war against God!

The secular world and even the religious world do not know where we are heading, or what the answers are in the pressing problems we face. Most certainly you will not get the answer from the ‘liberal’ media nor from the Colleges and Universities of Today!

The world is like a time bomb ready to explode! We are unprepared for what is coming and even we are in grave urgency. For most folk, it is business as usual. And tragically, much of Christendom is liberal, lost, and cannot provide help.

One of the enemies of our lives, both physically and spiritually, is known as the Deceiver, whose popular name is Satan. The evil and the good will not always dwell side by side as they do now. There will come a time when the evil and the good shall be separated so that no one thereafter can pass over the boundary. A time will come when those who love evil (sin) and unbelief and live therein, shall be thrown into the wine press of the wrath of God, into the Lake of fire that never is put out! Then time will be no more! Satan and all that

belongs to Him will be “cast out into outer darkness.” God will have brought unto Himself all those who truly walk in the Light and Love Jesus where the sun never sets. This is those who have been washed and cleansed through the Blood of His Begotten Son – Jesus! There is no possibility of a ‘grey’ area; but total complete SEPARATION! There will be no tolerance, because it will be **EITHER HEAVEN OR HELL!** (See Acts 4:12-13)

Have you ever thought about the false teaching that tells people they have a ‘second-chance’ of where they want to spend Eternity after the first appointment? Well, Jesus makes this false teaching Crystal Clear: “**And he said ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ‘But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’”** (Luke 16:30-31) Also, “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of man. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.” (Hebrews 9:27-28) “*For our transgressions are multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us; For our transgressions are with us, And as for our iniquities, we know them; ...Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter. So, truth fails, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the LORD saw it, and it displeased Him that there was no justice.* (Isaiah 59:12-16) Notice the words: “us,” “departing,” “falseness,” “JUSTICE,” “back,” “stands,” “TRUTH,” “saw it,” “no Justice.”

Some well-meaning folk remain convinced that believers should stay out of politics! Mostly, it seems that politics should be avoided because it’s seen as *worldly and corrupt*. Then this view largely abandons the sphere of government and politics to secularists. But the **Bible** uses numerous examples of people whose vocations were what we call “Secular”: For example: Joseph, Moses, David, Daniel, Gideon, Nehemiah and Dorcus. Both Christians employed in Christian ministries and Christians in secular occupations could distract us from our Gospel Calling.

The real answer is found in II Chronicles 7:14, “***If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and***

will forgive their sin and heal their land.” Notice the word order once again: “If My people, humble themselves, pray, seek ...” This is the basic start if you are concerned about the future of this present generation, then to our grandchildren, great grandchildren, etc.

When I write of these things, I likely will upset a few of you as a *Morning Glory* reader. But if we are not true to our biblical convictions, we are not truly faithful servants of the Most-High Righteous & Holy God!

RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTS A NATION, BUT Sin IS A REPROACH UNTO ANY PEOPLE! (Prov. 15:34)

It is high-time that each of US who know Jesus as our personal SAVIOR get off the practice field and onto the front lines where the Battle Really RAGES!

Editor

P.S. I haven’t forgotten that this is the month that we commemorate the **THANKSGIVING season**, basically in honor of our forefathers who struggled so seriously in the new land, and most certainly unto the **Giver of ALL good and great things** with Whom there is No Shadow of turning!

But if we do not take in earnest Prayer the seriousness of our day, we may not see another Thanksgiving Season that we have been traditionally used to. Of course, none of us know when the “TRUMPET” may sound either!

A serious reminder: If this issue of the *Morning Glory* arrives at your home before the National Election, **BE SURE TO VOTE**, not your pocketbook, but your morals/conscience.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

By Dr. Curtis Hutson

“Who will be on earth in the thousand-year reign of Christ?”

In Revelation 19:11-16 the picture of Christ coming back to earth in His great revelation is shown. He comes back on a white horse and with Him are the armies which were in Heaven. That could be born-again believers who were caught up at the Rapture of the church some seven years prior, when Jesus came back to earth (Ed. I believe this writer actually means when Jesus comes in a ‘twinkling of an eye’ and the saved at that time will meet Him in the air!) to resurrect the bodies of those who had died before His coming and take back with Him those believers left on the earth at that time. That would be all the saints who had ever lived.

After Jesus mops up the debris left from the Tribulation Period and casts the Beast and the False Prophet into the Lake of Fire – burning with brimstone, then He and all the believers enter into a period which we call the Millennial Reign.

Revelation 20 describes how Satan will be bound by an angel and cast into the bottomless pit for one thousand years. Those who believed and died during the Tribulation, many of whom were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, will be resurrected; and they will join in with the other believers in Christ for the thousand-year reign.

It is my understanding that there will be left on the earth nations who listened to the witness of the 144,000 Jewish preachers who were sealed during the Tribulation Period, Revelation 4:7-8. The believers from these nations will remain here for the kingdom age.

Jesus Christ is to rule on David’s Throne – Luke 1:32-33. The Israelite nation will turn to Christ at His second coming. The Bible says, “*They shall look upon me whom they have pierced*” *Zech. 12:10*. Jesus will reign over this earth for one thousand years.

Serving Him in lesser positions of leadership will be those who have trusted Christ as Savior, especially those who have been faithful to serve the Lord after they trusted Him.

After the thousand-year reign of CHRIST, there will be another rebellion (Revelation 20:7-9).

Satan will be loosed out of his prison house at the end of the thousand years and the nations who entered with Christ into the kingdom will have had children who evidently did not believe on Christ.

This just goes to prove that environment will not change a person’s sin nature. Even in this best earthly environment one must trust Christ as SAVIOR and receive a new nature.

Satan will go out to deceive people again and gather enough rebels together to do battle against **God Almighty**. It’s really not a battle because fire from God of Heaven simply comes down to devour them and that’s the end of the rebellion.

The Sword of the Lord

Editor’s Note: Keep in mind, the realization that this article deals with future prophecy and that not all believers necessarily AGREE with this particular article. BUT please read it again as there is much spiritual food for thought!

Ol' Glory



When I was in school, we started the day by standing and facing the flag, putting our hands over our hearts and saying:

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

In doing this, we pledge our allegiance to our nation and all it stands for, because that is what our flag represents. It is not just a fabric woven to certain obscure colors, but is the very symbol of our unity (one nation ...indivisible), our faith (under God) and our gracious freedom (liberty and justice for all).

The picture above is the historic raising of the flag on Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima. This was just the encouragement that the Marines needed to press on for a fierce 36 day battle. Actual men who were there and saw it testified through tears that “The sight of Ol’ Glory caused us to shout ...”¹ That is because the flag represents all we are as a nation. Three of the men who raised the Flag on Iwo Jima were later killed in battle and a fourth was wounded. This is the cost that has gone into the flag and the freedom that it represents.

The red stripes on the flag represent the blood that brave men and women shed in war to preserve our freedom. Very many have given the ultimate sacrifice of their lives to preserve our freedom. On top of that, many have also shed their blood with horrific injuries. I was at the Veteran’s Hospital in Tampa, Florida in 2011 when my brother died and I saw first hand people without arms, legs and faces that were burned beyond recognition. Even though they weren’t killed in battle, their productive lives were over for the most part.

This is the cost of our freedom. As has been said before, “Freedom isn’t free.” This is what our flag represents because when we pledge allegiance to the flag, we are also pledging allegiance “to the republic for which it stands,” in other words, to our nation.

In spite of all this, many today feel free to pledge non-allegiance to the flag. In the riots, we have seen people desecrate the flag. They have burned it, thrown it to the ground, held it up-side-down and made sheer mockery of it. When they do this, they spit at every veteran who shed their blood for the very freedom for these protestors to carry on as they do.

It all started when sports figures figured they would not stand during the national anthem as a way of protest against injustice against certain races. Everyone has the right to peaceful protest in our nation, but they do not have the right to show non-allegiance to the flag because they are stating that they don’t hold any allegiance to America herself. If they are not happy here, they are free to leave and go to another country where you are controlled as to what you can say or do at the point of a gun. The recent execution of the protestor Jamal Khashoggi by the Saudi Arabia officials should be evidence enough of this.

All of the great cultures of history disintegrated from internal corruption before they met external defeat. This is precisely what is happening to our country right now. It is as Jesus said, “*And if a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.*” (Mark 3:24) If any of the officers in the George Floyd case are acquitted, we will face major riots across the country and it isn’t hard to see that we can’t continue this way as a nation. We will end up divided with the possibility of another Civil War.

What is the solution? We must return to our roots as to who we are as a nation and be united in our stand. There are issues which need to be solved in terms of police dealing with people and also people dealing with police. No one is perfect and officers are faced with life and death decisions instantly. Even as we work to correct some of these problems, we can’t show hatred and disrespect to those who govern over us or our nation as a whole. The Scriptures tell us, “*Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. ...Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.*” (Romans 13:1, 7)

Pastor Jim Haga
Hagapublishing.com

1 Iwo Jima – 36 days of Hell, DVD © 2011 by Timeless Media Group.

Faithful Witness in Times of Trouble

*****God can use difficult circumstances to fulfill His purpose in our lives.***

***** He used the faithful witness of an elderly widow to reach an unbelieving couple with the Gospel.***

*****ICR materials helped her answer the skeptic's questions, and we're grateful our ministry aids others in their work for God's Kingdom.***

The Bible is full of instances where God used periods of trouble to accomplish His will and refine His people. The remarkable record of Job is perhaps the best example, as God allowed a season of severe testing that would ultimately bring Job into an even closer relationship with Him (Job 1:8-2:2). From God's perspective, difficult times can significantly benefit us by deepening our faith in and reliance on Him. No matter how bad the situation might seem, believers can rest in the promise that God *"will not leave you nor forsake you"* Deuteronomy 31:6, and know that He will be faithful to *"supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:19)

Those of us who have known and sought to follow the Lord for many years can testify to the countless blessings we receive from Him. As David sung so many years ago *"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits"* (Psalm 68:19) ICR is no exception (Editor: Nor this ministry also), to this, and one of His sweetest benefits is hearing stories (testimonies) of how our ministry has impacted people's lives. I was recently contacted by a gentleman with an especially encouraging testimony, and with his permission I'm sharing highlights from his story:

"Over a decade ago, he and his wife responded to a newspaper ad to serve as caretaker for an elderly widow. When they arrived, they found the lady seated at the kitchen table studying her Bible. Neither of them was a believer – in fact, the man was quite hostile to anything religious."

"He made it clear on that very first day that while he'd be happy to care for her needs, he didn't want to discuss anything from the Bible. "Why?" she asked, "because," he replied, "I don't believe anything that book has to say." She quietly chose to ignore his demand recognizing that God had just given her a new field of ministry."

"As the years passed, this sweet Christian lady persistently and lovingly shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ with her caretakers whenever the opportunity arose. She and her husband were faithful supporters..., and she would often use our resources to answer the man's skeptical questions about science and the Bible. "To say she wore me down would be an absolute understatement," the man told me, "and I'm thrilled that she lived to see my wife and I give our lives to Christ. And ICR's materials had much to do with it!"

"Just a few months ago, the Lord called this great lady home, soon after celebrating her 100th birthday. She was mostly home-bound in her final years, but God blessed her faithful witness as she made the most of the opportunities she was given. And one day in Heaven, these three will no doubt have a great reunion."

Regardless of our current troubles or difficult circumstances, believers can make an impact by sharing the good news of our Creator and Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ...

Acts & Facts, Mr. Morris is Director of Institute of Creation Research, Copyright © 2020, Permission Granted.

God Looks for Clay

***"O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter? says the Lord. Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel"* (Jeremiah 18:6)**

God knows how to bring salvation to your family, your friends, your community, and your world. Accordingly, He looks for those who will allow Him to shape them into the instrument He requires to do His Divine Work. Clay has no plans of its own, no aspiration for service, nor reluctance to perform its given task. It is just clay. Moldable, pliable, totally submissive to the will of its master.

At times we excitedly announce to God: "I've discovered my strengths and gifts, and now I know how I can best serve You!" At other times we inform Him, "I am aware of what my weaknesses are, so I know which tasks I'm not capable of doing for You." Yet this is not characteristic of clay. God is not limited to working with our strengths (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). He can mold us into whatever kind of instrument He requires. When God's assignment demands humility, He finds a servant willing to be humbled. When His work requires zeal, He looks for someone He can fill with His Spirit. God uses holy vessels, so He finds those who will allow Him to remove their impurities. It is not a noble task, being clay. There is no glamor to it, nothing boast-worthy, except that it is exactly what Almighty God is looking for compliant, moldable, yielded clay.

If your tendency is to tell the Father what you can and cannot do for HIM, submit to HIS agenda and allow HIM to shape you into the person He wants you to be. ***Like clay!***

Experiencing God Day by Day, ©1997 by Henry Blackaby and Richard Blackaby

LET THE FACTS SPEAK

By Carol Hoikkala

Dr. Fauci – Dr. Birx – Bill Gates

To lend some understanding as to the managing of the 2020 pandemic, it is helpful to look into the background of the key players namely, Dr. Fauci, Dr. Birx and Bill Gates.

* Dr. Anthony Fauci and Dr. Deborah Birx have a long track record of working with Bill Gates and his *eugenicist* (eliminating people groups judged to be inferior and promoting those judged to be superior) vision for the world.

** It is a well-known fact that Fauci, Birx and Gates are all tied into the globalist/humanist agenda with its aim of bringing a One-World-Government headed up by the United Nations (UN).

*** In a TED video, Bill Gates reveals his support for the UN's de-population agenda. He begins the video by saying CO 2 leads to *temperature increase* which leads to very *negative effects*. He goes on to say that 26 billion tons of CO 2 (carbon-dioxide) is produced yearly, 20 tons per American, and foreign countries less than 1 ton with an average of "5" tons for everyone on the planet. He says that somehow the CO 2 level needs to be brought to "0" and that it can be done "if we do a really good job on *new vaccines, health care, and reproductive health services* (abortion)." While talking he gleefully slips in "I love vaccines." Simply put, what Gates is saying is, in order to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide you have to *reduce the number of people on the planet* and that can be done with vaccines, health care (universal) and reproductive services (Abortion).

In his article, "Globalists Using COVID-19 to Usher in UN Agenda 'Brave New World' Ten Years ahead of Schedule," Leo Hohmann gives vital information regarding Bill Gates involvement in the United Nation's (UN) agenda. He says, - "Gates is the largest private donor to the World Health Organization (WHO), a UN agency... it is "China-centric" and covers for China's communist dictators at every turn." (Carol states: Emph. Mine)

"Fauci sits on the Leadership Council for the Global Vaccine Action Plan, a project of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that works in concert with the United Nations."

In an interview done with CNBC (1/23/2019) Bill Gates said that by investing in global health organizations aimed at increasing access to vaccines created a 20 to 1 return in economic benefit - \$10 billion investment he had turned into \$200 billion.

Both Fauci and Gates will benefit heavily, monetary wise, by a vaccine which they wish to see pushed on every person on the planet. Considering that Gates calls for reducing the CO 2 level by reducing the number of people is of great concern.

Excerpt from *Hope For Your Heart Ministries*, St. Paul, MN. For further references or questions, contact the same.

Editor's Note: **"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."** (II Timothy 1:7) If you know Jesus and are walking by faith with Him, He has promised that your name is inscribed in the 'palm of HIS Hand' and under His Wings you can take 'shelter', as PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT ALL FEAR! Fear is far deadlier and a more contagious disease than Covid-19, writes Dr. Jeffery Barke.

DAYS!

By Ted Camp

There is wisdom in numbering our days (Ps. 90:10, 12). One day has 24 hours; 1,440 minutes; and 86,400 seconds. So, each calendar year has 12 months; 52 weeks; 365 days; 8,760 hours; 525,600 minutes and 31,536,000 seconds.

God says, "*the days of our years*" are 70 years. In calendar years, discounting leap years, that would be 25,550 days, 613,200 hours, 36,792,000 minutes or 2,207,520,000 seconds. If we are allotted 25,000 days, there is wisdom in numbering (using) each day wisely.

Each day will soon pass and never return. Each day there are seconds that become minutes and hours that become weeks, months and years. At any time there is just a step or breath between you and death.

There is wisdom in numbering each day because tomorrow may not come (James 4:13). What have you done or left undone **today**?

*"As you received Christ Jesus the LORD, so walk in Him...Abounding in
THANKSGIVING"*

Colossians 2:6-7 (ESV)

A Testimony from A Brother in Christ

Hello,

Back in 1995 I was engaging in homosexuality, drugs, alcohol, profanity, treating people disrespectfully, like mom and dad and my brothers. Also, I had been sexually abused, and living with so much guilt and shame etc. I didn't know/feel that I was living in a dark and lonely place with Jesus. I thought that I could live the way I wanted to and love Jesus half-heartedly, but that didn't work for me. I was so lost and living in a corrupt life. My family was trying to lead me to have a relationship with Jesus, but I kept fighting that. I also thought that they were crazy. It wasn't till I met my best friend, a soldier, that I started to believe. I still struggled a lot but with him praying for me, and so many others, I finally surrendered my life to my Savior Jesus Christ on November 26 of 2019 while I was on Omega 3, the behavioral unit.

I was told by one of my fellow peers that I would willow when I hit rock bottom in my life, and this was it for me. A Christian brother found me and prayed with me to be honest with the staff about my behavior and the sexually acting out with another peer. I was very scared to, but God gave me the strength to do it. He then asked if I wanted to accept Jesus Christ and I said Yes. I then went into my room and knelt down by the side of my bed and asked for the Holy Spirit to come into my life and heal and save me from all of my troubles. I then started to cry hysterically and sob. I knew that Jesus was there with me and now I asked for Him to forgive me of all of my past behaviors and troubles. I then felt all my troubles be lifted from my shoulders.

I still sometimes struggle with old behaviors, but now I know that Jesus is with me through it all. I now wish I would have listened to all of them, because I am now doing a life sentence, but I am okay with that because Jesus has helped me to be peaceful and content knowing that HE loves me unconditionally. I am so grateful I have surrendered my life to Jesus. I wouldn't be who I am today without Jesus, I pray that this testimony brings you hope and inspiration. Jesus just wants a relationship with you, so why not give Him the chance to love you! If Jesus can change me, He can truly change anybody if you want Him to. Prayer Is powerful!

May Jesus Christ Bless. Yours Always and Forever,
Love from your Brother, JMB

Taken from *Hope For Your Heart*, Issue 3

Editors Note: "And He (Jesus) opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He (Jesus) to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of

sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem'" Luke 24:45-47.

First of all, notice He opened their eye/understanding to the Scriptures. Next, He is telling the disciples and you and me the way of redemption. Thus, He has provided the ONLY Way of Salvation, beginning with Repentance! After experiencing the Free Gift of Salvation, we are to proclaim this Message to all nations, beginning at *Jerusalem*. Here is particularly where the faith ministry of the HLIF/MG is vital; as by the Grace of God, as one of His vessels, we play a little part of keeping the Camp-fires burning – Keeping congregations from becoming embers.

At large the Christian Congregation has become lukewarm and we know what God says about the same, Revelation 3:14-22.

Herein lies the real answer for our great USA, Canada and beyond to seek to be one of His Vessels to proclaim the Law and Gospel, in NEED OF A HEAVEN-SENT REVIVAL! **Without the Sharing of God's Law and Gospel there will be No Heaven-sent REVIVAL!** *Notice God's promise found in II Chronicles 7:14:* can You find the four conditions and three promises, just in this one verse? **"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."** (II Corinthians 15:58)

Cheap Christianity Betrays the Savior!

By Dr. Sheldon Smith

With each passing day the sellout of genuine Christianity seems to escalate. The culture – unregenerate, rebellious and egotistically self-willed – objects to the demands of repentance, faithfulness and holy living.

With all their passion for pleasure, prosperity and personal privilege, their faces are turned away from God. They mock the Bible and chide the claims of the crucified and risen Savior.

The Answer to Addiction

No one sins in a vacuum! We may think we are OK as long as we drink only enough alcohol to not get drunk. But what about the effect on the people around us? What if our drinking causes another to get bound to alcohol? What would I say to the Lord on judgment day if that poor soul went lost because they started drinking because of me? Total Abstinence is the only way to guard against either ourselves or another from getting bound to alcohol.

Unsolicited Advice

By Fred Willis

Many people are familiar with the name Ray Kroc. You too may know that he is the man who piloted McDonald's to the zenith of the fast food world. But if you have never read his story, you cannot imagine how he was so driven to succeed. His two keys in life were hard work and thrift. He told employees to open any supposedly empty cans of ketchup and scrape out every last bit remaining.

Even after he became one of the wealthiest men in America, his thrifty lifestyle still stood firm. After finishing a meal at a fancy Bel Air restaurant, he asked the waitress to put the remains in a doggy bag. A dining companion said, "Ray, what are you going to do with half of a trout amandine?"

His reply; "I'm going to take it home and have it for breakfast *tomorrow*."

In light of America's present circumstances, a lot of people need to learn some thrift. It may have been instilled in me as a young boy, but I am the same way about throwing out good food. At this point, we can only pray and guess as to when the Lord may lift the curse of COVID-19. Many lifestyles may have to change before it is over.

Not as well known is the story of the McDonald brothers who originally started the world on a diet of hamburgers. After trying and failing at several other businesses, they opened a drive-in restaurant in 1940 in San Bernardino, California. It was an immediate success. There were many lessons to be learned along the way, but trial and error brought them to the attention of Ray Kroc.

Pastors starting churches or trying to grow a church (and Congregational Leaders) do well to study how McDonald's became the success that it is today. Even though pastors and churches have a different motive and different goals, they can still learn a lot from "the children of this world (that) are in their generation wiser than the children of light." (Luke 16:8) (Editor: More important, is the realization that what we really Need is a "Heaven-sent revival" and in years gone by many congregations were started when they experienced a 'Heaven-sent' Revival),

...The LORD told Jeremiah , "***Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not***" (33:3). Why is it that we don't believe this? If Ray Kroc had a vision to build a hamburger empire, the LORD can certainly give a mighty vision to His people today.

COVID-19 appears to be a great hindrance to the

work of the Lord today, but "is anything too hard for the LORD?" (Genesis 18:14). ...

Do you have a vision for the Lord's Work? If not, why don't you pray and ask the Lord to show you what He would have you do?

Sword of the Lord

Only To Babes

"I, thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou didst hide these things from the wise and understanding, and didst reveal them unto babes." (Matthew 11:25)

Jesus does not mean to say that being learned and wise is the same as being unable to find and to possess God's wisdom. Neither does He mean that all ignorant people are, as a matter of course, on the way to heaven, but He means that wisdom and knowledge cannot help anyone to find God. It is for this that He thanks our heavenly Father.

Just think what it would mean, if it were necessary to be wise and learned in order to be saved! How would we fare then? Then the prospect would be gloomy indeed. In the first place, relatively few people are wise and learned; and in the next place, the majority of us have neither the ability nor the means to get knowledge. But when God has arranged matter in a way so divinely great and good that we can find Him through a childlike mind, then all who will, can be saved.

Then the learned person can step down to the person who is uneducated and childlike, and trustingly accept Him who casts no one out. The way to God lies down in the valley where we helpless ones look up to Him whom the learned find as impossible to search out as the ignorant. Both Nicodemus and the thief found the way to Paradise at the Cross of Jesus: there was no difference. There God has given us the opportunity to lay aside wisdom and folly, nobility and poverty, sin and imagined virtues.

Thy Kingdom Come, by Ludvig Hope, Augsburg Publishing Co., © Copyright 1939, Permission Granted.

Disobedience with Good Intentions Is Still Disobedience!

Giving Thanks

“It is a good thing to give thanks unto Jehovah, and to sing praises unto Thy name, O Most High.” (Psalm 92:1)

GREAT things have happened to us that we may go to God and mourn our distresses, and also know that we are always welcome. He who inclines His ear to the poor and needy that cry to Him, He will also more than gladly make alive the spirit of him who is bowed down.

Nevertheless, it may be too true that it is easier to complain than give thanks. Many look upon life as one single pitch-dark night, and fill their days with despondency and complaint for both themselves and others. Many Christians have also lost their way in this dark valley, and when once a person has sunk down into this black abyss, it is not an easy matter to get out again.

How dreary it is, and how it makes one feel impotent to meet people who seem to have learned nothing in life except to complain. Unspeakably more happy is the person who the goodness of God through life’s-work day, and who in childlike trust gives thanks to God the Father of all good things. Evil does not get control of the person who has learned to give thanks. His heart is open to receive the love and grace of God. He who always complains, easily becomes a victim of doubt, but the thankful person mounts up on the heights of GRACE, and from that vantage point he sees that the Lord does all well. Complaining makes a Christian weak, but the thankful person becomes strong in the Lord.

*And as my life is onward gliding,
With each fresh scene anew, I mark
How Thou art holding me and guiding,
Where all seems troubled, strange, and dark:
When cares oppress and hopes depart,
Thy light hath never failed my heart.*

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No Sinlessness

**“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us”
(1 John 1:8)**

Our nature is saturated with Sin! The old uncleanness sticks to everything we do, think, or say, even when we want to do good. The Bible says *“All our righteousness’ are like a polluted garment”* Isaiah 64:6. For example, we do not believe God always as we ought. We do not love Him wholly as we ought. Our thoughts fly to many use-

less subjects. We do not pray as we ought, nor read the Word of God as we ought. At times we are seized by impatience, anger, selfishness, pride, or unclean desires. Our zeal for God’s honor and the salvation of souls is not what it should be. All deficiency cannot be anything but sin and uncleanness.

Christians generally experience that Sin is their bitterest affliction. Self-accusation and sorrow over their sins places them in need of more sympathy and comfort than rebuke and punishment. How blessed it is to know the added words beyond our text. *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* (1 John 1:9)

**“Nothing in my hand I bring.
Simply to thy Cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly:
Wash me, Saviour, or I die!”**

PRAYER: *Thine were the thorns, O Christ, the curse
the Cross, and mine the prize won through your victory.
Forever keep me in Your grace, a possessor of Your right-
eousness. Help me serve aright.*

Rosenius Daily Meditations, Carl O. Resenius, Lutheran
Colportage Service, Inc.

Allowed

**“But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust
with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing
men, but God, which trieth our hearts.”
(1 Thessalonians 2:4)**

The Apostle Paul rightly described (Naturally, as is recorded in *God’s Book*, as He is the Author of the entire Book) the Bible as a treasure, which it is! And really only Blood-bought vessels are intended to carry this vital Message; but as Martin Luther speaks of the same, he states even some good can come of a rotten log. It is God’s children who are to have the privilege and responsibility to carry the Message in different ways. The word “allowed” carries the thought of passing a test! Before sending forth these Blood-bought children in the family of God, He also tests our hearts to see the motivation and purpose. The Apostle Paul definitely had the right motivation, and may we likewise as witnesses have with a clear eye on the coming evaluation and reward at the Judgment Seat of Jesus Christ. Today there are many professing Christians who are more concerned about being “pleasers of men” than obedience to the Word of God. You and I know what the *fear of men* brings. — Editor

Update

“Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” (Psalm 126:5-6)

“Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, who walks in His ways.” (Psalm 128:1)

Through your support, folks are being nurtured in the Christian Faith and we are trusting others are being saved as we water and plant His Incorruptible Seed. He has promised that His Word will not return unto Him void. Thus, folk are experiencing God's great Love. Definitely, Thank You for standing alongside us as we work together. God is also working in scenes that we likely are not even aware of.

Through your partnership, God has preserved this ministry; especially among Lutherans and other folk as well, who want to read/hear the truth in these days of apostasy. We are seeking also to encourage the Christian Church to hold to the Scriptures – Law and Gospel.

In our personal lives or in our ministry together, let us never forget – God IS FAITHFUL! He has good things in store, and we seek to trust Him, as we persevere and as we continue to pray for this faith ministry; God will be glorified either by the printed page or through the spoken Word. It is marvelous to know that God is using this ministry to reach souls who are living in spiritual darkness and also nurturing the Christian. Amazing Grace as together we will know that lives are being changed to His honor and glory!

What a privilege and responsibility we have as we seek first of all to be faithful unto Him who changes not.

Once again, Thank You for your much-needed support in all fronts of this ministry and together let us continue to labor in His Vineyard.

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“If I did not see that the Lord kept watch over the ship, I should long since have abandoned the helm. But I see Him! Through the storm, strengthening the tackling, handling the yards, spreading the sails – aye more, commanding the very winds! Should I not be a coward if I abandoned my post? Let Him govern let Him carry us forward, let Him hasten or delay, we will fear nothing!”

Martin Luther