



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • January 2022

Only One Life

Wayne Almlie
Des Moines, IA

There is a poem I have always found thought provoking and that’s C.T. Studd’s poem, “Only One Life.” Charles Studd was an Englishman born in 1860. He was converted at a D.L. Moody crusade in England and he went to China as a missionary, later he went to India and then to the Congo where he died in 1931 at the age of 70. He was quoted as saying, ***“Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.”***

A few stanzas of his poem reads:

*“Two little lines I heard one day,
Traveling along life’s busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will last.*

*Only one life, yes only one,
Soon will its fleeting hours be done;
Then, in ‘that day’ my Lord to meet,
And stand before His Judgement seat;
Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will last.*

*Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will last.
And when I am dying, how happy I’ll be,
If the lamp of my life has been burned out for Thee.”*

C.T. Studd

I think sometimes Christians have the opposite view of life, especially by the time we advance in years a bit. We get weary of the battle, the battle against sin, the battle against pride, the battle against the godless culture we live in, the battle against our physical bodies as they age and we can’t do the things we used to be able to do. We are tired and we just want to go home.

The Apostle Paul shared that desire. He said, Phil. 1:21, **“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.”** (NKJV)

It’s not a sin to desire to depart and be with Jesus. That was Paul’s desire. But Paul also knew that since God had preserved his life to this point there was work he still needed to do. Some people in the past have so looked forward to the return of Christ that they have sold all their belongings and moved to the mountains to wait for Jesus to return. Don’t do that. There is work to do.

Time is a gift from God, in comparison to eternity it is the blink of an eye. It is like the grass that grows just for a season and is burned up, or as James describes it, life is a vapor. In 100 years, if the world lasts that long everyone here will be mostly forgotten, but yet for these few short years on Earth we have the privilege and honor of doing the Lord’s bidding.

Only one life, ‘twill soon be past. This life will be

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soon past, whether you have 5, 10 or even 20 years left in these earthen vessels, it will soon be past. When we were kids time seemed to drag on, now as we are older it almost seems like time speeds up. Its 2022, where did the years go? What have I accomplished?

This life will soon be past, then what? Only what is done for Christ will last. I often time think of a Christmas letter a high school classmate sent out one year to our class. She ended by saying, “My husband and I have decided to travel light in life, since the only things we will be able to bring with us when this life is done is our family and friends.”

Only what is done for Christ will last. Funeral Eulogies are interesting. Most of the time the family lists all the accomplishments of their loved one, their PHDs, their world travels, their life’s work and all their accomplishments. You hear people say at the funeral, “he lived a good life”, “she lived a good life.” What a wonderful life.

If your life just consists in accumulating as much of this world’s good as you can, what does it profit? If your life consists in being a world traveler, what does it profit? Even if your life involves social action and feeding the poor, what does it profit? If your life consists of eat, drink and be merry, and life is just one big party, what does it profit?

Only one life, ‘twill soon be past, only what is done for Christ will last. Paul says in I Cor 3:11, “**For no other**

foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."

Only what is done for Christ. This gets to our motives. Is what we're doing for Christ, or is it for pride, is it for show so others will think better of us? Only what is done for Christ will last. There is only one way to make sure we are doing what we are doing for Christ, and that is to stay Gospel focused. So much of today's preaching is feel good self esteem psychology, when really the opposite is what we need. We already have too high a view of ourselves, we need to see ourselves as we really are, wretched sinners, so that we stay at the foot of the cross and see Jesus as our only hope. Then we will truly esteem Jesus and his sacrifice, and our focus will be on Christ and pleasing Him, and not ourselves.

If that is true for you then we will be able to join in with Charles Studd and say: "Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last. And when I am dying, how happy I'll be, If the lamp of my life has been burned out for Thee."

Bible Window-Shopping

By Vance Havner

A familiar figure on the streets is the window-shopper who moves along gazing fondly in each show-window but buying nothing. In the realm of things spiritual we have with us the Bible window-shopper. He moves along through the book reading its precious promises, hearing its high challenges, looking at its deep messages of peace and power and victory. But he never makes this his own! He appreciates but does not appropriate. He respects his Bible, argues for it, counts it dear, but its rich treasures never become living realities in his own experience. He is a window-shopper amongst the storehouses of God's revealed Truth.

On the way, he passes by where is displayed such a choice jewel as "*We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.*" (Rom. 8:28) "What a rare pearl that is!" he exclaims. "What a lofty faith one needs to believe that!" So, he moves on and the treasures

stay on exhibition. He does not go in and claim it, though, if he is a believer, it is his and is there for him. He is only WINDOW-SHOPPING.

How many believers loiter along the Bible store and come away empty? "*My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*" (Phil. 4:19) One reads that devoutly and, an hour later, is worrying about adversity and bemoaning his hard circumstances! "*They which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by One, Jesus Christ.*" (Rom. 5:17) Another looks at that gem and lives like a pauper when God meant him to be a prince.

"All things are yours." (I Cor. 3:21) There are many who behold that free pass to all God's unlimited stock, yet live spiritually almost bankrupt. Window – Shoppers!

The storehouse of God's Word was never meant for mere scrutiny, not even primarily for study, but for sustenance. It is not simply a collection of fine proverbs and noble teachings for men to admire and quote as they might Shakespeare. It is rations for the soul, resources of and for the spirit, treasure for the inner man. Its goods exhibited upon every page are ours, and we have no business merely moving respectfully amongst them and coming away none the richer.

The *window-shopper* upon the streets (Malls) often has a very good reason for not buying; he has not the wherewithal. But no believer can say that of God's riches, for the treasure of His Word is without money and without price. Whosoever will may drink freely! Some window-shop because they never fully realized that the things of the Spirit can be made actual, living realities here and now amidst this humdrum, daily round of common duties. Others loaf along, indifferent to their inward poverty, faring scantily when the banquets of God are at their disposals. And some substitute wishful longing for the practical realization of the Christ-life.

The LORD is rich unto all who call upon Him! Let us be done with this *idle window-shopping*. Let us go into the deep stores of His Word, rummage among its treasures new and old, and come forth from each excursion laden with the bounty in the Book.

By The Still Waters

***A wise man learns from his mistakes,
a wiser man learns from the mistakes
of others.***

Sheep's Clothing

Be aware that the kingdom of self is a costume kingdom. It does a perversely brilliant job of masquerading as the kingdom of God.

Spiritual fakery is one of the chief tools of the enemy. It is one of the key ingredients of spiritual blindness. This is why we read the warning in Matthew 7:15: "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves." The kingdom of self is very skilled at wearing the clothing of the kingdom of God. So:

- * A focus on material things can masquerade as good stewardship of your possessions.
- * Loving personal control can masquerade as using God-given leadership gifts.
- * Anger can masquerade as having a heart for what is right.
- * Self-righteous legalism can masquerade as loving God's law.
- * Building your own ministry empire can masquerade as a commitment to the expansion of God's kingdom.
- * Fear of man can masquerade as a sensitive heart toward the needs of others.
- * Selfish attention-seeking can masquerade as being candid about your needs.
- * Judgement and criticism can masquerade as a commitment to honesty.
- * Theological pride can masquerade as a commitment to God's truth.
- * A craving to be known and respected can masquerade as a commitment to ministry.
- * Bondage to the opinions of others can masquerade as a commitment to community.
- * Lust can masquerade as a celebration of the beauty of God's creation.
- * Gossip can masquerade as a prayerful concern for others.

It really is true – the kingdom of self is a costume kingdom. This is because one of the enemy's most useful tools is the ability of wrong to imitate right. Couple this with our natural propensity to spiritual blindness and you end up with personal spiritual confusion. It is scary to think of the number of times we think we are

servicing God when we're actually servicing ourselves, or the number of times we think we are worshiping God when we're actually giving worship and service to some aspect of the creation.

The masquerading nature of sin plays to the fickleness of our idolatrous hearts. So what is often present is not what we think it is, and the masquerading idol has no power at all to deliver to our hungry hearts what Jesus alone can give us. Only God can give us insight into our hearts and free us from our bondage to the little costume kingdom of one.

For further study and encouragement: Jeremiah 10:1-16

Written by Paul David Tripp in his **New Morning Mercies** (A Daily Gospel Devotional Book)

The Silence of Christ

We need to seek a wisdom higher than our own to know when to speak and when to refrain. Sometimes, when unkindly wounded or unjustly assailed, silence, if it be a committing our case to Him who pleadeth the causes of His people, and who judgeth righteously, is our best and wisest policy. This may be even safer than the soft answer which turneth away wrath. Study this silence, too, not only in personal provocation and injury, but *in reference to the failings and infirmities of others*. Put to confusion all evil-speaking, backbiting, and censoriousness by a becoming, dignified, holy silence. Speak evil of no man. Curb the tongue, seal the lips, be silent touching a brother's or a sister's failings. God is silent of yours; learn you of Him to be silent of your fellow-servants. Go to thy brother and tell him his fault between him and you *alone*, but let no consideration induce you to unveil that fault to another. (Matt. xviii. 15)

How much of the feuds and heart-burnings, suspicions and wranglings, which mar the happiness of families, and which disturb the peace and impede the prosperity of churches, would be prevented were this sacred, holy silence more strictly observed. Spend a whole night in prayer before you open your lips to utter a sentence or to breathe a word tending to sully the fame, to injure the character, or to wound the happiness of a child of God. Think how dear, how precious, that believer is to Christ, and that in wounding the disciple you wound the Lord. "*Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.*"

The Sympathy of Christ with Man: Its Teaching and its Consolation by Octavius Winslow, D.D. Sprinkle Publications, 1994.

Editorial

RES

Personally

*“Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.”
(Psalm 127:3)*

Personally, I do not believe much in New Year Resolutions; but I do believe in resolve and this may be where the rubber meets the road for You! As we read the Creator and Preserver of Life we should read carefully how He has designed for us to truly experience a blest home, regardless it be living in a cottage, apartment, house, mansion, etc.

In too many cases fathers have forsaken their privilege & responsibility of being the leader or head of the home. Business and other activities and purchasing things their children want have consumed way too many men to the point where fathers are not home for supper/dinner, etc. If finances are limited, basically tell/explain to your child/children the reason for the limitations, and if they are old-enough to go to school, they are old-enough to understand the basics.

Do they see that your faith is real? Have they ever walked in and found you reading the Bible and in prayer? Do you take time to have a family altar – devotions?

The Designer of such, begins with those of us who are privileged to have a living-spouse by stating that the male should be the head-of-the-home. (*I have never seen a house have a wife; but the folk who dwell in a building is a HOME*). First by knowing JESUS as your personal Savior and taking our direction from HIM as the male leader. Then to be sort-of the guardian of your wife and “Leader” of the entire family. Regardless if there are only the two of you or if you are blest with a number of inheritance(s) – children. (The off-spring are not “kids” but children. Only goats have kids as an off-spring!)

One of the key ingredients as a leader is in leading, teaching and showing what true Christianity is. As an example, make sure that each member of your household is exposed to daily hearing & experiences living on the Bread of Life by daily devotions at family altars. Now if you disagree, you will have a terrific time convincing me that you do not have time in a day to open your Bible and share together feeding on the springs of Living Water! And when you are gathered together, please pray for our country as we are in bad shape as a

nation & beyond! If you say you do not have time; then you don’t have time to dress or sit at the table and eat. Then you are busier than the Designer wants you to be, as HE wants to richly bless YOU and for ETERNITY!

THIS BIBLICAL ARTICLE DOES NOT GET THE WIFE OFF THE HOOK; as she has privileges and responsibilities TOO!

Dad,

You’ve done more than love me –

you’ve inspired me,

You’ve taught me...

That a little bit of kindness goes a long way, and a lot of kindness can change lives.

That some of our lessons can be learned from our mistakes.

That the right choice isn’t always the easiest, but it’s worth the effort.

That you can never run out of ways to let people know you love them.

That a good family is a great gift.

Thank you for teaching me the most important things in life by the way you live yours.

As an example most of us have something(s) that we treasure of earthly value (secondary) because we are first to Lay-up Treasures in HEAVEN AND SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD! Coming back to treasures, I have the privilege of possessing an antique pocket-watch that is approx. 120 years old and still keeps good time; or a gold-laced fountain pen that *maybe* approx. 85 years old; but they are definitely to be at best “secondary”. We brought nothing into this world and we leave the same way. You never see an armored truck following a hearse!

JESUS is indeed a treasure that is highest to be priced; beyond dollars and cents; **HE** a priceless gem/jewel that is worth more than any earthly treasure. For a true believer, He is a priceless gem-jewel that no earthly value can be compared to. **He gave His very own life-blood to save sinners like YOU and me!** Remem-

ber true life-blood HE gave; what a gift of great price!
Keep in mind and heart that it indeed is PRECIOUS,
**“FOR A DAY IN YOUR COURTS (PRESENCE) IS
BETTER THAN A THOUSAND...”** (Psalm 84:10)

P.S. Both the Editor and Asst. treasurer have been team derailed/delayed in accomplishing what we wanted to do; because of health-issues and maybe others on the Hauge board as well! Please pray for healing in accordance to GOD’S WILL! **Thank You!**

Life in the Blood

“For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the souls.” (Leviticus 17:11)

This great verse contains a wealth of scientific and spiritual truth. It was not realized until the discovery of the circulation of the blood by the creationist scientist William Harvey, in about 1620, that biological “life” really is maintained by the blood, which both brings nourishment to all parts of the body and also carries away its wastes.

In spiritual truth it is even more significant. The blood, when shed on the altar, would serve as an “atonement” (literally, “covering”) for the soul of the guilty sinner making an offering. In fact, the “life” of the flesh is actually its “soul,” for “life” and “soul” both translate the same Hebrew word (*nephesh*) in this text. When the blood was offered, it was thus an offering of life itself, in substitution for the life of the sinner who deserved to die.

Human sacrifices, of course, were prohibited. No man could die for another man, for his blood would inevitably be contaminated by his own sin. Therefore, the blood of a “clean animal” was required. Animals do not possess the “*image of God*” (Genesis 1:27), including the ability to reason about right and wrong, and therefore cannot sin. Even such clean blood could only serve as a temporary covering, and it could not really “take away” SIN! For a permanent solution to the sin problem, nothing less was required than that of the sinless “**Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world**” (John 1:29). “*Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us*” (Hebrews 9:12). Since His life was in His blood, HE has “**made peace through the blood of His cross**” (Colossians 1:20).

Taken from *The Heavens Declare the Glory of God*,
by Dr. Henry M. Morris, © 1997.

Foolish Virgins

“Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were foolish, and five were wise.” (Matthew 25:1-2)

JESUS speaks often of His return unto the final judgment. In this parable He would tell us what a dreadful surprise it will be to those who at last shall see that they are forever excluded from the kingdom, that they are eternally lost.

Five of the virgins had never thought that this would happen.

I ask myself: I wonder if anyone will reach eternal perdition without feeling that it was something they thought would never happen, yes, could not happen?

If we could ask all the people who today are converted Christians if they are afraid of being lost, no doubt we would receive about the following answer: “Are you beside yourself? I be lost? Never!”

And they mean it in all sincerity, without a doubt.

How can they be so certain in the matter? Jesus speaks to them, too; He includes them also in His admonition.

Yes, He does. But many of them live in false peace. Admonition is ineffective. They are always positive of themselves.

Others, again, acknowledge, willingly enough, that they do not live as they ought and that their relationship with God is not as it should be. Nevertheless they do not think that they will be lost. They intend to be saved, and they do Plan to repent. There is no doubt in their minds about that. But they cannot do it now.

Likely it is this type of thinking which gives them the necessary boldness to postpone their conversion.

Yes, we can understand full well that it will come as an unexpected surprise when they open their eyes in perdition. O God, help the unconverted to heed Thy warning today!

Taken from *God’s Word for Today* by O. Hallesby,
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Believable...Yet Unbelievable

High Court Justices Express Skepticism over Texas Abortion Law

By ROBERT BARNES, Washington Post

A majority of Supreme Court justices Monday [Nov. 1] appeared willing to allow a challenge by abortion providers to a unique Texas law that bans most abortions after six weeks of pregnancy and allows enforcement by private citizens.

The court's three liberal justices have already said they believe the law is unconstitutional and that it should be halted until federal courts can look at it more closely. The court in a 5-4 vote turned down that option before the law went into effect Sept. 1.

But at Monday's three-hour hearing, justices Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett- part of that five-justice majority - repeatedly and pointedly questioned Texas' arguments and seemed more swayed by challengers' claims that the law improperly blocked the judicial review necessary when constitutional rights are at stake.

"There's a loophole that's been exploited here, or used here," Kavanaugh said to Texas Solicitor General Stone, and suggested it might be better to close it rather than allow Texas to employ it.

Barrett seemed concerned that the Texas law was written to avoid federal judicial review but that it also would be hard for challengers to get relief in state court, where Texas said the law's constitutionality should be challenged.

... GOP-led states and conservative activists have asked the court to use next month's case from Mississippi banning abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy to overturn 1973's *Roe v. Wade* and 1992's *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. They prohibit bans on pre-viability abortions, usually meaning before 22 to 24 weeks. Those arguments are set for Dec. 1.

Taken from the *Star Tribune*, Nov. 2, 2021

Editor's Note: Both Kavanaugh and Coney-Barrett were justices nominated by former president Trump as conservative pro-life justices. When the Supreme Court now finally stands ready to overturn *Roe vs. Wade*, the very people nominated to this end are waffling on the very task for which they were set up. Please pray for these two justices to stand true to their appointed task and for *Roe vs. Wade* to be overturned.

Knees on the Ground

By Mark Cavaliere, Executive Director of the Southwest Coalition for Life

For many years, I focused on abortion solely as a political issue. I grew frustrated by the lack of progress toward a culture of life despite all my time and efforts. This became especially poignant when, in September 2014, a Whole Woman's Health abortion center was announced to open in my hometown of Las Cruces, New Mexico-the "City of the Crosses."

Abortion suddenly became no longer just a political issue to debate on social media or at the ballot box, but a local crisis harming women and children just 50 feet behind our local family pizzeria. With New Mexico being infamous as the "late-term abortion capital" of the nation, we knew we couldn't turn to our state government for help. Instead, we looked for guidance from 40 Days for Life leaders in our sister city of El Paso, Texas.

The pro-life movement in El Paso had been running long and strong for many years. In 2007, Gaby Avila moved into a duplex directly behind El Paso's notorious "Hill Top" abortion center. For nearly a decade, she lived humbly and in secret as a full-time pro-life missionary, helping women and saving babies from the traumatic violence of abortion on a daily basis.

At the climax of this faith in action was her co-leadership for a 40 Days for Life campaign. God, in His Goodness, has used 40 Days for Life campaigns to save thousands of children, close dozens of abortion facilities, and even help dozens of abortion workers to quit!

All this fruit was not being accomplished through laws and politics, but in spite of these temporal hurdles, I discovered a world of Christians not just petitioning Caesar to help our neighbor for us, but humbly getting their knees on the ground to petition our King and turning from our wicked ways so that God could heal our land.

Talk about an "A-ha" moment. In December 2016, just 27 months after opening and five 40 Days for Life campaigns later, the same Whole Woman's Health facility - which had bragged about their "freedom" from abortion restrictions in New Mexico during the pro-abortion Obama Administration - closed its doors for the last time, citing financial trouble due to "suddenly not getting enough patients."

While Whole Woman's Health had put its faith in secular legislators, we put our faith in Christ and His precepts. The abortion facility counted on Caesar but did

not count on the Church – united across denominational, partisan, and even state lines – showing up to help the very women whom Whole Woman’s Health intended to exploit for profit.

The Holy Spirit fanned the spark into a wildfire, uniting thousands in peaceful vigil across the larger Borderland region. In July 2018, we witnessed God close a second abortion facility, Reproductive Services, after 45 years in El Paso. Encouraged by this momentum, people gave even more sacrificially of their time, talent, and treasure, forming unbroken chains of literal knees-on-the-ground prayer and full-time year-round outreach.

After months of hopeful signs, in April of 2020, El Paso’s notorious Hill Top center became our third local abortion facility to shut its doors for the last time – after 36 years in operation. With three local facilities closed in just over three years and just two left to go, our new goal is to see God go five for five!

Taken from *Day 41 – A Publication of 40 Days for Life*, Summer 2021

Testify to the Lost

“So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? Arise, call upon thy God, if so, be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.” (Jonah 1:6)

The tempest threatened to engulf the pagan mariners, who were more awake to their mortal peril than was the backsliding, sleeping prophet. He knew the God *“who made the sea and the dry land”* (Jonah 1:9), yet he only shared this knowledge when circumstances forced him. Are we also asleep to the perishing ones all around us? The Lord disciplined disobedient Jonah until he proclaimed HIS message to Nineveh. Despite the messenger’s (vessel) reluctance, God saved an entire city from certain destruction. Let us gladly testify to the lost, so that many might share in GOD’S gift of Salvation.

K. R. Keyser

Salvation! O ascended Lamb, to Thee the praise belongs,

Salvation shall inspire our hearts, and dwell upon our tongues. — Isaac Watts

Gospel Folio Press

Editor’s note: Interesting though to be a little positive on behalf of Jonah. First of all, the mariners recognized that Jonah’s God was different than their heathen

gods! Secondly, Jonah was also secure in his Lord’s protection and his days are numbered in the palm of his Savior’s Hands.

Blood of the Testament

“Saying, This, is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.” (Hebrews 9:20)

THERE is a strange power about the very blood, and the sight of it is always affecting. A kind heart cannot bear to see a *sparrow* bleed, and unless familiarized by use, turns away with horror at the slaughter of a breast. As to the blood of men, it is a consecrated thing: it is murder to shed it in wrath, it is a dreadful crime to squander it in war. Is this solemnity occasioned by one fact that the blood of life, and of it forth the token of death? We think so! When we rise to contemplate the Blood of the Son of GOD, our awe is yet more increased, and we shudder as we think of the guilt of sin, and the terrible penalty which the Sin-bearer endured. BLOOD always precious, is priceless when it streams from IMMANUEL’S side. The BLOOD of JESUS seals the **covenant of GRACE**, and makes it for ever sure. Covenants of old were made by sacrifice, and the everlasting covenant was ratified in the same manner. Oh, the delight of being saved upon the sure foundation of divine engagement’s which cannot be dishonored! Salvation by the works of the Law is a frail and broken vessel whose shipwreck is sure; but the covenant vessel fears no storms, for the Blood ensures the whole. The Blood of JESUS made His testament valid. Wills are of no power unless the testators die. In this light the soldier’s spear is a blessed aid to faith, since proved our Lord to be really dead. Doubts upon the matter there can be none, and we may boldly appropriate the legacies which HE has left for His people. Happy (blessed) they who see their title to heavenly blessings assured to them by a dying (and risen Savior)! But has this Blood no voice to us? Does it not bid us sanctify ourselves unto HIM by whom we have been redeemed? Does it not call us to newness of life, and incite us to entire consecration to the LORD? O that the power of the BLOOD might be known, and felt in us this night!

Taken from *Morning & Evening* by Charles Spurgeon, © 1991 Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.

The Gilded Age

“Beware lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; lest, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, then your heart becomes proud, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.” (Deuteronomy 8:11-14)

American satirist Mark Twain coined it “The Gilded Age.” It began in the latter part of the 19th century. By the turn of the new century [1900], it had blossomed into a social gospel: A Philosophy for Living. Man, through his mastery of technology, was on the verge of creating heaven on earth. In short, he was about to best nature, perhaps, even out do God. *

The world was changing very, very rapidly. It [the Industrial Revolution] was making people live longer, it was bringing more happiness to people, and people tended to believe that and looked upon technology as a salvation or a panacea for everything. *

It was a period of great optimism. That optimism showed itself in migration to the new world. Thousands and thousands of people were viewing America as the place where dreams were realized. *

In an age where rigid class boundaries shaped and defined their differences, Titanic’s passengers shared one quality in common: A complete trust in the future, utter faith in a world that they believed was always getting better. *

The epitome of this great optimism was building the largest ship in the world, called the *Titanic*.

Shipbuilder magazine raved over state-of-the-art safety features and pronounced them “as far as it is possible to do so, these two wonderful vessels [Olympic and Titanic] are designed to be unsinkable.” She was the largest ship in the world. She was designed to be the epitome of style, luxury and safety. The ship upon construction in 1912 was among humankind’s crowning technological achievements. *

One of the passengers on the *Titanic* said,

“To declare a ship to be unsinkable was to fly in the face of God.” *

Just 4 days into her maiden voyage [April 14, 1912],

Titanic would collide with an iceberg and plunge to the seabed, taking with her over 1,500 souls. From the world’s wealthiest industrialists to the humblest of immigrants. *

The loss of the *Titanic* marked the beginning of the end of the age of innocence and of arrogance. It was the swift and sudden death of a dearly held dream. *

This is especially significant when on May 7, 1915, just a year later, the ocean liner *Lusitania* was torpedoed by a German submarine and sank with all 1,198 people on board perishing. In fact, *Titanic*’s sister ship *Britannic* hit a German naval mine and sank on November, 21, 1916, killing 30 people. World War I put the final nail in the coffin of man’s dream of great optimism in how good man can make life on earth. The Gilded Age was gone.

“The rugged North Atlantic is a harsh and jealous sovereign, demanding of man’s respect, vengeful against his arrogance.” *

“It seems to me that the disaster about to occur was the event that not only made the world rub its eyes and awake, but woke it with a start. To my mind, the world of today awoke April 15, 1912.” – Jack Thayer, *Titanic* Survivor *

This fits what the Lord told Israel before they entered the Promised Land in the Scripture at the top of the page from Deuteronomy 8. When life is going really well and prospering, there is a tendency to look to how great everything mankind is making things and forget about God.

Lest we think that this is only a history lesson, our lives currently mirror those of the Gilded Age. Technology is going insane with cars that can steer themselves for sale right now. People are going into outer space as sheer entertainment. Everyone has an outlook that everything is getting better in life and mankind will always come up with a solution to keep things getting better and better, even extending life, with a glimpse toward immortality.

Yet, it has been said that history repeats itself. What happened to this Gilded Age has also happened to our age. On November 10, 1975, the Great Lakes Freighter *SS Edmund Fitzgerald* sank and lost all 29 people on board. It has been commemorated by the most immortalized ballad of our era, “*The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald*” by Gordon Lightfoot. Even with all our great technology, man still can’t conquer the forces of nature; even though Jesus can when He stilled the wind and the waves. (See Mark 4:39)

On January 28, 1986, the Space Shuttle *Challenger*

* Excerpts taken from *Titanic: Volume I: Death of a Dream, Part I*. A&E Home video. © 1994 A&E Television

exploded shortly after take off with the crew of 7 all perishing. Even after we have gone to the moon and back several times, mankind still doesn't have mastery over space, even though God still controls the entire universe and all that it contains. *"The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands."* (Psalm 19:1)

On September 11, 2001, 18 terrorists brought the mightiest nation in the world to its knees. 2,996 people perished and our military didn't fire a shot. This was the first time in history that the United States has been attacked on her native shore; and if it has happened once, it can certainly happen again. It should be obvious by the recent debacle of trying to get people out of Afghanistan just how far our country has fallen.

What God did to rebuke the pride and arrogance of mankind to end the Gilded Age, He has also done to our age. But will we learn the lesson and humble ourselves before the Almighty and turn from our wickedness?

I see no indication of that happening.

Pastor Jim Haga
Hagapublishing

The Old Paths and the Good Way

By Dr. Henry M. Morris

"Thus, saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein."

(Jeremiah 6:16)

Ever since the rise of modern science, and especially since the resurgence of ancient paganism in the guise of modern evolutionary "science," there has developed a sort of social compulsion to follow after whatever seems to be new. There are new philosophies and new religions and "modernized" versions of traditional doctrines — always some new idea. But the Eternal GOD does not change with the times. With Him, there *"is no variableness, neither shadow of turning"* (James 1:17). *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever"* (Hebrews 13:8).

No one questions the value of true advances in science and technology. In fact, this is implicit in the primeval dominion mandate to "subdue" the earth (Genesis 1:28). All these "new" trends in morality and religion, however, are really only ancient immoralities and ancient evolutionism refurbished in modern terminology.

It is such as these that the prophet (God) deployed. The "old paths" constitute the "good way," and God's people will never find true and soul-rest until they "walk therein." *Remove not the ancient land marks, which thy fathers have set*" (Proverbs 22:28). The New Testament similarly rebukes all those idle "philosophers" who "spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing" (Acts 17:18, 21). When the true Gospel comes, however, it is genuine "Good News" to all who are not merely curious to hear "this new doctrine" (Acts 17:19), but who will appropriate it for themselves by faith. This new doctrine, in fact, is not new at all, but is that ***"hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began"*** (Titus 1:2).

Taken from *The Heavens Declare the Glory of God*,
by Dr. Henry Morris, © 1997

Fight the good fight of faith

How do we fight the good fight of faith? First of all, we need to surrender to the Holy spirit, and depend (enlightenment) on His power. Secondly, we need to lay hold on God's Inspired Word, the BIBLE; and follow its direction. This is the ready sword (***"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God,...And the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit. Which is the word of God"***). (Ephesians 6:10, 17) as we contend for the true and living faith of the Spirit — HE will use us in our daily lives for God's purpose and His Glory! The Holy Scriptures reveal God's will to use. It is a mighty Book because it is the word of our Almighty, Sovereign God. Thus, it can and will cast down the stronghold and imaginations of philosophers and false teachers/pastors and others. It most certainly blesses us by letting the Holy Spirit interpret and apply it as food for our soul (the inner man or new nature). It also will assist us in our thoughts and being able to imitate Jesus to love and good deeds. It helps us mortify the deeds of the old sinful nature and gives victory over the old nature; keeping in mind the old sinful nature ever strives to manifest itself consistently. May GOD help us to love and obey His Word. A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD!

"Behold! The Christian warrior stand, in all the armor of his God;

The Spirit's sword is in his hand; his feet are with the Gospel shod." — J. Montgomery

Editor

Confusion

Numbers 10:1-20 (KJV): “And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps. And when they shall blow with them, all the assembly shall assemble themselves to thee at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And if they blow but with one trumpet, then the princes which are heads of the thousands of Israel, shall gather themselves unto thee. When ye blow an alarm, then the camps that lie on the east parts shall go forward. When ye blow an alarm the second time, then the camps that lie on the south side shall take their journey: they shall blow an alarm for their journeys. But when the congregation is to be gathered together, ye shall blow, but you shall not sound an alarm. And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow with the trumpets; and they shall be to you for an ordinance forever throughout your generations. And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresses you, then you shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the Lord your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies. Also, in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the Lord your God.”

In this day of mixed messages, not only from the world and the secular society we live in, but also from the many religions of the world, confusion can reign. Non-Biblical doctrines can even come from pulpits of many churches that identify themselves as Christian. This can make it very confusing both for young and old alike. For the young because, at least a good percentage of them, the ability to discern or use common sense has not yet fully developed. “Remember not the sins of my youth” (Ps 25:7a). That’s why parents need to train up their children in the way they should go (Proverbs 22:6a) so they can resist the temptations and false teachings they will be exposed to in the world. This can be especially problematic if they have been brought up in a broken home, a home with no parent around to spend time with them, or where they receive little or no spiritual guidance from their parents or anyone else.

For adults, those things previously mentioned can carry over into adulthood. Also, confusion can come when teachings they have received in the past conflict

with other teachings they are exposed to later. They can hover between two or three opinions for years and may even become exasperated and throw in the towel and quit trying to find the truth. Many have left the church because of what they view as hypocrisy. Just trying to please the flesh can turn adults away from sound teaching. We fight against not only principalities and powers of the air, but against our own flesh as well.

The Israelites, and I’m sure almost every society, used trumpets for the purposes as indicated in Numbers 10:1-20. The Israelites, who were traveling from Egypt to the promised land, used trumpets as signals, warnings, a call for gatherings and so forth. Even armies much more recent, such as in the Civil War, and the cavalry when the west was being settled, used trumpets, or bugles, to send out various messages critical to a battle or just to organize the troops. The message that the trumpet sounded had to be clear, precise and correct to avoid confusion in the ranks. We as Christians and as a church need a clear trumpet sound as well to guide us on our narrow Christian path. I Cor 14:8 says: “For if the trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to battle”? Imagine the confusion if a clear trumpet sound was not given when the Israelite tribes were to move out in a specified order on God’s command, or during a battle?

It’s hard enough to live the Christian life without having confusing messages. However, even with a clear message some will choose the wide path. But that does not excuse the church from proclaiming clear truth. There are struggles in our daily walk when the message is clear. But when we get conflicting messages, it makes it even more difficult. For example, some church bodies deny the inerrancy of scripture, and some say there are many roads to God. Some are even joining non-Christian religious groups and forming a sort of hybrid church. All of these examples can cause confusion for people when they see their church espousing one thing when scripture is saying another thing. Everything is upside down it seems. It’s like the coast guard officer who was trying to radio a boat he could barely see in the fog to see if he was in trouble. He said “come in boat #9, boat #9 can you hear me”? Then he thought for a moment and remembered, “we don’t have a boat #9”. He then called again and said “Boat #6, are you in trouble”? It was only then he realized that Boat #6 was actually upside down.

Sometimes it’s not just a blatant error with respect to the Scriptures that can be confusing. There are times when some pet doctrines are pounded on hard and loud. That’s fine for clear biblical doctrines. However, when there is a doctrine that we just can’t be dogmatic about, it can even become a point of separation when one group claims to have the final word on it, and mocks those who don’t go

along with them. Maybe it's a preacher who claims that "no other preachers have seen this except me". These "claims" can dominate the preaching in those particular churches, leaving many other clear doctrines or scriptures being neglected.

What then shall we do as a Christian body? Of course, we do not espouse a One-World church. However, there are some things that can be done to unify the people with respect to doctrine. This would help take some of the confusion out of the equation. Lutherans have documents that can function in that regard. The Augsburg Confession (usually the unaltered confession) is one example. There are Luther's small and large Catechisms. Also, there are the creeds of the church such as the Nicene Creed, the Apostles Creed and the Athanasian Creed. These can guide someone who is confused about what the scriptures teach. However, there is nothing that compares to the scriptures themselves. Therefore, the Scriptures must rule supreme as the divine authority. They must be considered infallible and any attempt to water the scriptures down must be stopped in its tracks. Any attempt to compromise on the scriptures during the Reformation was met with a scathing rebuke from Martin Luther. Compromise with respect to the Bible is not an option. Otherwise, confusion certainly would reign, leading to eternal consequences for many. I for one am glad that God included II Tim. 3:16-17 in the Scriptures to take out all doubt about the origin and infallibility of the scriptures where He says "*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*" I sure don't see anything confusing about that. Alleluia.

Joel Zeltinger
Bismarck, ND

A PRAYER FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY

God of creation and Lord of the ages, we render grateful thanks to Thee for Thy abounding mercy and for the revelation in Christ of Thy love for lost mankind. We praise Thee for redemption through Jesus, our Saviour, from sin and from the impending prospect of eternal separation from Thee.

We thank Thee for the Word of life, for the hope of final deliverance by the finished work of Christ, and for the opened path through darkness into the light of an eternal day.

We thank Thee for daily bread and for the bread Thou dost provide for the nourishment of our faith and

love. We thank Thee for the measure of health we are permitted to enjoy and for spiritual strength to meet the trials of each day and to resist the temptations which assail us on the way.

We thank Thee for the opportunities provided to render some small or greater service to those in need far and near, to those made destitute by brutal selfishness in our own country or in other lands, and to those who are bereft of the favors we still enjoy by Thy lovingkindness.

We pray that we may accept and turn to account in our daily life the favors which have come to our share; that we may be faithful trustees of the benefits given by no merits of our own; that we may be Thy hands and feet to serve the less favored at home and abroad; and that the hope we cherish may be kindled in the hearts of those who still sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

We pray that our grave sins of omission may be forgiven and that we may receive grace to amend our ways in newness of life and in rescue and relief. The supply of our lack must come from Thee and we ask: Work in us both the will and the deed, for Thy good pleasure. We also humbly ask for health and strength and the means necessary to this end; that our natural selfishness and indifference may be overruled by Thy Spirit to cross our own wills; that Thy will may be done and Thy purpose with our lives may be accomplished.

Keep us close to Thy Word, so that its life, its light and its power may deliver us from our indifference and energize us to action. Give us victory over our old nature, that it may be drowned and destroyed and that the new man may daily come forth and rise to live in the presence of God and righteousness and purity forever. Make the Name of Jesus our guiding star, the power of God for a better year than the past and for a consecrated life that shall glorify Him in the hearts of those who by our testimony shall find in that Name the precious assurance of salvation.

We know, O God, that our present life is fleeting. Our days are numbered. "Our hearts are beating funeral marches to the grave." But what a blessed prospect if death means a resurrection into the realization of every hope! Make it our one concern to "redeem the time" by the faithful use of each moment, looking to Thee for grace to fill the years of our earthly sojourn with duties honestly performed and deeds of kindness done to our fellow travelers on the way. Then we know that by Thy grace the evening shall be peaceful and a New Year shall be ushered in by a Sun that shall have no setting. Amen.

Dr. C.J. Sodergren, Jan 1939 *The Bible Banner* –
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Minneapolis Mn.

Things Jesus Did Not Do

By Ted Camp

Much has been written about what Jesus did and much remains unwritten.

“And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.” John 21:25.

So, I thought I would write about the “things” Jesus did not do and “what” Jesus was not.

HE wrote in the sand (John 8:6-8), but He did not write a book. Yet today more books are written about Him than about any other person.

HE did not write a song. Yet today the world is filled with music and melodies about Him.

HE did not attend school, but at the age of twelve, He confounded scholars (Luke 2:46-47). He had only twelve disciples (Matthew 10:1), but today He has more students than all colleges combined.

HE was not a chef or a baker, but He fed the multitudes without a stove or oven (Mark 6:41).

HE was not a fisherman, but taught fishermen where and how to fish (John 21:6).

HE did not practice medicine, but He healed more broken hearts than doctors heal broken bodies (Matthew 12:15). He healed without medicine, prescriptions, herbs or hospitals.

HE was not a farmer, but He sowed seeds that one day will produce the world’s greatest harvest (John 4:35).

HE was not an undertaker, but one day He will be the Upper-taker (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

HE was not a veterinarian, but He made a rooster crow (Matthew 26:74) and a donkey obey ((21:2).

HE was not a meteorologist; but He made the winds, rains and the seas obey Him (Mark 4:41).

HE was not a professor, but never a man spake like He did (John 7:46).

HE was not a florist, but He was known as the Lily of the Valley and the Rose of Sharon (Song of Solomon 2:1).

Kings, queens, rulers and presidents have come and gone. Yet He lives on and on. Herod could not harm Him (Matthew 2:16) and the Sadducees could not hinder Him (Matthew 16:1); the Pharisees could not persuade Him and the priests could not perjure Him (22:34-46). The scribes could not outsmart Him and the Jews could not overcome Him (Mark 2:6-12).

The world could not sway Him and Satan could not seduce Him (Matthew 4:1-11). The grave could not decay Him and death could not destroy Him (Acts 2:27). He was the Sacrifice for sin (Hebrews 10:12), the Substi-

tute for death (Romans 5:18), and arose the Savior of the world (John 3:16). He survived and HE’s alive!

HE fulfilled all Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:4) and sat down at the right hand of GOD (Hebrews 12:2), waiting to become the coming KING OF KINGS and LORD OF LORDS! ***Jesus Christ is the only risen Savior; and HE will forever remain*** the Messiah, Jehovah and Emmanuel.

These are the “things” Jesus did not do and “what” HE was not. Now let me tell you what HE did and who HE is! Well, that’s another story!

Sword of the Lord

The Good News

This person was once a former prostitute who had been blinded by HIV. She had never read the Bible. Never heard a sermon. But when she heard the Good-News (The Bible), she became so happy. After she had listened to the Incorruptible Word of God, she said, “Wow, God really loves me.” This was the first time some had seen her smile.

“I’m just so grateful that God sent through a Christian Ministry; so now she can start a living relationship with Jesus, as she admits and follows through what God says through His Word the Bible. Actually no one can be saved except through some measure of the Holy Scriptures. You see, no one can truly live (spiritually) without the Word of God. For it is the Word of God that reveals to us the way of Salvation and growth.. The Word (by the Holy Spirit) gives us food and direction for our walk with Jesus, by faith. It is the Word of God that gives us wisdom, peace and joy. It is the Word of God that opens the eyes of the blind!

Selected.

Preaching!

“Oratory is but a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal if the Holy Spirit be not there.”

“For us (ministers) to give ourselves to getting up entertainments, to become competitive with theaters and music halls, is a degradation of our holy calling.”

“One sermon preached in the power of the Holy Spirit will be worth ten thousand preached without it.”

Charles Spurgeon

Redemption or Death

“But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem him not, then shalt thou break his neck.” (Exodus 34:20)

EVERY firstborn creature must be the Lord’s, but since the ass was unclean, it could not be presented in sacrifice. What then? Should it be allowed to go free from the universal law? By no means. GOD admits of no exceptions. The ass has His due, but He will not accept it; He will not abate the claim, but yet He cannot be pleased with the victim. No way of escape remained but redemption — the creature must be saved by the substitution of a lamb in its place; or if not redeemed, it must die. My soul, here is a lesson for thee. That *unclean* animal is thyself; thou art justly the property of the Lord who made thee and preserves thee, but thou art so sinful that GOD will not, cannot, accept thee; and it has come to this, the LAMB OF GOD must stand in thy stead, or thou must die eternally. Let all the world know of thy gratitude to that spotless LAMB who has already bled for thee, and so redeemed thee from the fatal curse of the Law. Must it not sometimes have been a question with the Israelites which should die, the ass or the lamb? Would not the good man pause to estimate and compare? Assuredly there was no comparison between the value of the soul of man and the Life of the LORD JESUS, and yet the LAMB dies, and man the ass is spared. My soul, admire the boundless love of God to thee and others of the human race. *Worms* are bought with the BLOOD of the *Son of the HIGHEST!* Dust and ashes redeemed with a price far above silver and gold! What a doom had been mine had not plenteous redemption been found! The breaking of the neck of the ass was but a momentary penalty, but who shall measure the wrath to come to which no limit can be imagined? Inestimably dear is the *glorious Lamb* who has redeemed us from such a doom!

Morning & Evening, by Charles Spurgeon, © 1991
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SPRING

Spring is a very special season; but every day is a gift from God; which includes Summer, Fall and Winter and the past three seasons have been unusual in regards to the Virus! But spring brings forth new-beginnings, as vegetation springs forth, etc. New beginnings! It’s so easy to let this time become just plain routine/familiar and so it is with the church, which needs a fresh-touch

from God.

But after an especially trying and unpredictable previous months with its uncertainties, there becomes maybe an even greater threat! While it may be tempting to lose heart, we must remember that such troubling times are also an opportunity to deepen our faith in the Crucified, and risen Jesus Christ who is bound to come again some time in the future in what we call “The Rapture!” ARE YOU READY?

Editor

Sold to Wickedness

“But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.”

(I Kings 21:25)

Dear sisters in the Lord, make very sure you do not stir your husband, or others, to do evil, by complaining and criticizing or urging aggressiveness towards others. But instead let us show them “*the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.*” (1 Peter 3:4). We have a great responsibility to show the love and holiness of God in our daily lives.

M. Robins

Editor’s Note: “A foolish son is the ruin of his father, and the contentions of a wife are a continual dripping”.

“Better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and angry woman.”

“A continual dripping on a very rainy day and, a contentious woman are alike; Whoever restrains her restrains the wind, and grasps oil with his right hand.” Proverbs 19:13, 21:19 & 27:15-16.

CONTRAST: *Proverbs 18:22 & chapter 31.*

Fill all my vision, Saviour divine,

Till with Thy glory my spirit shall shine,

Fill all my vision, that all may see,

Thy holy image reflected in me. – Avis B. Christiansen

**You don’t trifle with the
Almighty without there being
dire consequences**

Self-esteem

The ministry (*servicing*) of self-esteem is based on 'sinking-sand' or a false foundation. It is only one of many conflicting psychological theories and thus is opposed by many psychologists/psychiatrists both among true believers and non-christians. More important yet, it definitely conflicts with God's Holy Word. (Philippians 2:3), which warns us not to think too lightly of our-selves; do not make 'little' of what God has entrusted into your life. To minimize what God has given to you is an embarrassment... of God in that He didn't know what He is doing! Ephesians 2:8-10. Romans 12:3 it is very clear; *"For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly..."*

BUT don't down-play what God has entrusted unto you either, for what HE asks for is either already in your life OR will provide as the need arises!

"For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church." (Ephesians 5:29)

The Test

The BIBLE declares that the clear indication of whether one who claims to be a prophet is in fact not a true prophet of God if it contradicts what the Bible teaches (Isaiah 8:20). By that criterion, both Muhammad and Bahauallah (as well as Buddha, Krishna, et al.) are false prophets, because they clearly contradict the teachings of Jesus and His Apostles, who built without contradiction upon the teachings of the Old Testament prophets.

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." (Isaiah 8:20)

The Berean Call

Come to Jesus

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me: And him that cometh to me I will in wise cast out."
(John 6:37)

A pastor was visiting the sick in the Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn. In one of the wards a man beckoned to him, saying,

"Please go and see a Norwegian boy on the top floor.

He is very ill."

The boy was twenty-two years of age, and had come from Norway three years before. He came from a large family, and had come to America hoping to be able to help his mother in a financial way. As he was telling his story to the minister, he covered his head and cried, "Mother! Mother!"

"Please let me try to take your mothers place," the minister said.

"I came here healthy and strong." Said the boy, "but I suddenly took sick. I have had two operations, and now I cannot get well." Again, he covered his head and cried, "What shall I do? I am not saved, and now I must die."

The pastor prayed with him, and showed him the way to be saved. A few days later when the pastor came to see the boy, he saw that the boy was dying. He asked the boy, "Are you better!"

"No, I'm very sick, but, oh, I have it so good. Will you please write my mother in Norway, and tell her that Jesus says: ***Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. Tell her that we will meet in Heaven.***"

Have you come to Jesus with your sinful soul? Have you been washed in His Blood? If you have not, come now.

Dear Lord Jesus, we thank Thee that Thou dost receive all those that come unto Thee. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Altar Steps by Pastor R. P. Haakonson, His family gives permission.

Reagan Was Right!

Without God, there is no virtue because there's no prompting of the conscience. Without God, we're mired in the material, that flat world that tells us only what the senses perceive. Without God, there is a coarsening of the society. And without God, democracy will not and cannot long endure. If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under.

Ronald Reagan, Dallas, Texas, August 23, 1984.

Update

THANK YOU, JESUS, so Praise the LORD!

A little ‘spiritual – commercial’ – by the Grace and Empowerment of GOD, the HLIF & Morning Glory seeks to be consistently stable; since its founding just over 100 years ago: so consistent that you might say our shoes are “nailed” to the floor (THE ROCK)

But to occupy with and for our LORD; we need soldiers of the Cross to definitely pitch in financially and prayerfully! Where the battle rages, it shows loyalty of the soldiers. This is not a false-advertisement, but the truth as JESUS IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, and there is NO other way into HEAVEN – Acts 4:12-13.

In His service, God uses cleansed -vessels, those who are under His BLOOD, personally.

We seek to remain being a bastion of the truth of the Scriptures as a testimony of our heritage following the life of Hauge. He proclaimed conversion to the Lutherans of his day and we do the same. Many in the Lutheran Church at large are dead spiritually in their baptism with no faith. It is not Baptism that is at fault, it is the incorrect usage of it to view it as the means of salvation apart from faith. We proclaim a “Living Faith” from the heart that shows itself in the life of the Redeemed. A true and living faith accepts, follows and surrenders to Jesus as Lord and Savior, not just sitting idly by and proclaiming: “I Believe.”

Thank you for your concern for us.

The monthly expenses of the Hauge Innermission are approx. \$3,500.

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Hauge Bible Conference Sessions

Last June, we had our Hauge Annual Meeting in Westby, Wisconsin. Our speakers were Pastor Ron Wik, Mr. Wayne Almlie, Pastor Jim Haga, Pastor Don Greven and Mr. Marvin Jacobson. These sessions were video recorded and are available for you to watch. Just go on YouTube and pull up the Hauge Innermission and receive the engrafted Word which will bring you rich blessings.

We are thankful to be able to provide these for your viewing. Not everyone has the opportunity to make it to these sessions, so we bring these sessions to you instead. If you do not have a computer at home with Internet connection, you can go to your local library and have the Librarian assist you with this.