

Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • January 2023

A New Year’s Motto

James Smith, 1865

“Look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near!” (Luke 21:28)

We are entering upon a new year, we shall have new toils, new trials, new temptations, new troubles. In whatever state, in whatever place, into whatever condition we may be brought this year—let us seek grace to follow our Lord’s loving advice, and “look up!”

Do not look back, as Lot’s wife did.

Do not look within, as too many do.

Do not look around, as David did.

But “look up!” Look up to God! He is your Father, your Friend, your Savior. He can help you. He will help you. He says, “Look unto Me, and be delivered, for I am God!”

Look up for light to guide you, and He will direct your path.

Look up for grace to sanctify you, and the grace of Jesus will be found sufficient for you.

Look up for strength to enable you to do and suffer God’s will, and His strength will be made perfect in your weakness.

Look up for comfort to cheer you, and as one whom his mother comforts, so will the Lord comfort you.

Look up for courage to embolden you, and the Lord will give courage to the faint; and to those who have no might, He will increase strength.

Look up for endurance to keep you—and the God who preserves you will enable you quietly to bear the

heaviest burden, and silently to endure the most painful affliction.

Look up for providence to supply you—and the jar of flour will not be used up, and the jug of oil will not run dry; but God shall supply all your needs, according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Look up in faith, exercising confidence in the Word of a faithful God.

Look up in prayer, asking for what God has graciously promised.

Look up in hope, expecting what you ask in the name of Jesus.

Look up with adoration, and adore the sovereignty, righteousness, and wisdom of God.

Look up constantly, let nothing daunt or discourage you! Rather say, “Our eyes are on the Lord our God, until He shows us mercy.”

Look up, for this will keep . . .
your head from swimming,
your heart from sinking,
your knees from trembling,
your feet from slipping, and
your hands from hanging down!

It is impossible to say what will happen to us, or what will be required of us this year—but “Look up!” This direction, if properly attended to, will . . .

procure for us all that we need,
secure us against all that we dread, and
make us more than a match for all our foes and fears!

Morning Glory

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Fellow-Christian, are you fearful? “Look up” and hear Jesus saying to you, “Do not be afraid, I Myself will help you!”

Are you discouraged? “Look up”, and your youth shall be renewed like the eagle’s, and fresh light, comfort, and courage shall be given to you!

Are you desponding? “Look up” for Jesus never breaks the bruised reed, nor quenches the smoking flax.

Do not look too much at your sin, but look at the infinitely meritorious blood of God’s dear Son!

Do not look too much at self, but look at Jesus who ever lives to make intercession for you in Heaven.

Are you stripped of your comforts, your props, and your goods? Then look up! He who stripped you, loves you!

He will be more than all of these to you! He will . . .

bind up your broken heart,
calm your discouraged spirit,
cheer your drooping mind, and
fill you with His own peace and happiness.

Look up . . .
for all that you need;
from all that you fear;
through all that would obstruct your way.

Look up every day, saying with David, “In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before You, and will look up!” Psalm 5:3

Look up in every trial, saying “I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence

comes my help! My help comes from the Lord, who made Heaven and earth!"

Do not look at your sin, it will discourage you!

Do not look at your self, it will distress you!

Do not look at Satan, he will bewilder you!

Do not look to men, they will deceive or disappoint you!

Do not look at your trials, they will deject you!

"Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, looking unto Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith!" (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Look only, look always, look intently—to Jesus!

Run looking, work looking, fight looking, suffer looking, live looking, and die looking—to Jesus, who is at God's right hand in glory!

Oh, look, look, look to Jesus!

GraceGems.org

Life

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

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

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

Are you *willing* to fight?

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

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

Do you believe in victory?

Do you have the *will* to conquer?

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

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

Enter with a sincere heart into the presence of God and answer yourself, whether you would like to be victorious or defeated in your daily struggle.

Be honest!

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

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

Taken from *God's Word for Today* by O. Hallesby,
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Back to Fundamental Christianity

By Dr. John R. Rice

Our churches must come back to the Bible if they are to claim the promise of prosperity given in Psalm 1:1-3. There must be a renewed emphasis on the inspiration and authority of the Bible, on the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, His bodily resurrection, His atonement of the Cross and His second coming!

There ***must be*** a new emphasis on the wages of sin, the certainty of judgment, on Heaven and Hell.

The liberalism of German Universities that is now so prevalent here will condemn America! Honest Christians should clean the infidels out of the churches OR get out themselves!

It is said that once an Irishman mounted a horse with some timidity because of his lack of experience. On that summer day the flies were bad and the horse stomped his hind feet again and again to scatter the flies from his belly.

Eventually one foot caught in the stirrup of the saddle. The Irishman was startled. "Begorra," he said, "IF you are going to get on, I'm going to get off!"

So, a Christian (You have to believe the Bible from cover to cover, if a true Christian) who believes the Bible should make up his mind to take a plain stand against infidelity in the church. He should not associate with it and count it Christian. He should not support it with his money!

The preacher who does not believe in the Deity and Virgin Birth, and Blood Atonement of Jesus Christ has no right to the presence of Christians in his congregation nor to their support for his salary!

The ministerial association that counts an infidel as a Christian simply because he is a pastor and gives Christian recognition to the enemies of Christ and the Bible, is not fit fellowship for a born-again man of God!

IF America is to have the blessing of God in the future as it has had by mercy in the past, then Christians should return to the historic Christian faith.

It is still true that "the Bible is the bulwark of our liberties," as General Grant, President Lincoln, Daniel Webster, President Wood have said.

Prepare for Jesus' Second Coming

A Great Tribulation is coming.
(Read Matthew 24:15-28)

Everyone wants to live in a time of peace and prosperity. We all long for economic stability, low crime and opportunities to make tomorrow better than today. While we all might want to believe better days are always on the horizon, a look at history reveals that “the good years” are actually few and far between. Permanent peace and tranquility will only come when Christ returns to reign and rule in righteousness.

In speaking about His second coming, Jesus told His disciples about two events – one just forty years in their future and the other just before Jesus' second coming, an event yet in our future. He described the first event, the Romans' destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, in order to warn His friends of the evils they would still endure. You see, Satan was there in the garden when God told Eve that one of her offspring would be his undoing. (See Genesis 3:15) Our ultimate enemy has tried again and again to stop the Messiah's arrival and spoil God's plan of redemption. And even though Jesus Christ has already come to earth, lived a perfect life, died on the cross, rose from the grave, and ascended into heaven, Satan is still trying to thwart God's plan. That is why he has turned his attention to Jesus' followers – including you and me.

In AD 70, Satan instigated the Romans to attack and destroy Jerusalem, the birthplace and epicenter of the Christian faith. As terrible as those days were, they cannot compare to what's coming next. Jesus revealed to His disciples that just before His return, there will be a great tribulation “unequaled from the beginning of the world until now – and never to be equaled again.” (Matthew 24:21) This tribulation is going to encompass the whole globe. No one will be able to escape it. And this will be a great indicator that the return of Christ is near. Jesus also said that no one knows the day of His return. It could be today, or it could be one hundred years from now. Only the Father knows when it will be. So we are to live every day in anticipation that today could very well be the day of His return.

When it comes to this great tribulation, we must confess we don't know all we'd like to know. There are essentially three ways to look at what the Bible says about this distressing period, and there are godly believers who hold to each of the positions. First, there are those who believe Christians will be raptured prior to the seven-year tribulation. In other words, Jesus' followers will be spared from the suffering that will take place. Second, there are those who believe we'll be here

on earth for the first half – the first three and a half years – of the tribulation. Finally, there are those who believe that, while God's hand of protection will be upon the church, we will be here to endure the tribulation until the end.

Whichever view you hold – or even if you're not sure what to think – it does not affect your salvation. Still, you may be wondering: *What am I to do?* Jesus said, “See, I have told you ahead of time.” (v. 25) Isn't it just like our Lord to give us a warning? He's saying, “Be ready. Be prepared. Don't let those days take you by surprise.”

Those of us who are praying and watching, serving and preparing, we are not going to be surprised. We're going to be delighted. We're going to be thrilled. Why? Because when the day of tribulation comes, we know Jesus will be here soon. And that is good news to all of us who long for His appearing.

What steps can you take to prepare your heart for Jesus' return?

“For as the lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.” (Matthew 24:27)

My Devotional, LTW.org

Joy in Heaven

There will be

No doubt, guaranteed

More joy

Happiness, rejoicing

In heaven

In the presence of God

Over one

Yes, you are very important

Sinner

Yes, you are a (lost) sinner

Who

You must decide

Repents

Turn to GOD from your sins.

Tract: Moments with The Book

The Day of Jesus' Second Coming

We will all see the Glory of the Lord
(Read Matthew 24:29-35)

Throughout Christian history, genuine believers in the Lord Jesus Christ have waited for the day of the Lord's return. They all looked forward with anticipation to Jesus' second coming. And this anticipation created within them a desire to live righteous lives. In fact, the hunger for holiness is one of the marks of a true believer.

Think about it for a moment: The world has no problem pausing to remember Jesus' first coming at Christmastime, but only those who truly love the Lord and are faithful to Him look forward to His second coming.

Jesus gave us the supreme signs of His return, the things that will take place after the great tribulation: The sun will darken, the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from the sky and the heavens will be shaken. (See Matthew 24:29). You see, though we are prone to forget, God is not only the Creator of the universe but also the sustainer of the universe.

In Hebrews 1:3, we read that Jesus is the one "sustaining all things by his powerful word." He upholds all the stars and the galaxies by His power. And on the day when, just for one nanosecond, He withholds that sustaining power, you're going to see thousands of stars pile up in the sky. There will be catastrophe upon catastrophe across the entire universe.

When these things take place, the whole world will be in utter confusion; there will be chaos everywhere you look. The Bible tells us that "[p]eople will faint from terror. (Luke 21:26), The Greek word for "faint" in this verse is used to describe strong men who literally stop breathing out of fright.

While the world is in a state of shock, horrified at all that has taken place, our Lord Jesus Christ will suddenly appear in all His splendor, glory majesty, and righteousness. In the midnight darkness, He will shine like the noon hour. The sight of His blazing glory will bring joy to the hearts of all those who love Him, who have been longing for His return. But that same Sight will make all those who have rejected Him search desperately for a place to hide. Of course, they will find none. Those who have rejected Him, scorned His name, hated His followers, sought to remake Him in their own image – all these will mourn. They will writhe in the pain of anguish, sorrow, and regret.

Those who will be terrified on that day are those who have refused to accept Jesus' gracious invitation to repent of their sins and be forgiven. Ever since Jesus stretched out His arms on that cross, dying and atoning for the sins

of the world, He has been willingly stretching out His arms to welcome anyone who will come to Him in repentance and faith. Still today, arms are wide open – but they will not be open much longer.

The day will soon come when the opportunity to receive divine forgiveness will be gone.

Friend, if you have never repented of your sins and put your trust in Jesus, I urge you to do so today. Don't put it off. Don't ignore the great spiritual need you have. Don't let your foolish pride get in the way. God loves you, and He sent His Son to die for you. But you need to receive the gift of salvation by faith. Jesus said that no one knows the day or the hour of His return (see Matthew 24:36), so I urge you: Don't wait a moment longer!

Does your life today reflect your anticipation of Jesus' return? Why or why not?

"Now learn the lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near." (Matthew 24:32)

My Devotional, LTW.org

Forty-Two Years Learning Three Things

D. L. Moody

An old man got up in one of our meetings and said, "I have been forty-two years learning three things."

I pricked up my ears at that. I thought IF I could find out in three minutes what that man had taken forty-two years to learn, I should like to do it.

The first thing he said he had learned was that he could do **nothing** toward his **own Salvation**.

Well, I said to myself, *that is worth learning.*

The second thing he found out was that God did not require him to do anything.

And the third thing was that the LORD JESUS had done it all, that Salvation was finished and all he had to do was to take (receive, through repentance and faith) it.

Dear Friends, let us learn this lesson: Give up struggling and striving and accept Salvation at once!

Editorial

RES

PRECIOUS!

“That the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 1:7)

Likely this time of the year, a person may stop and evaluate what did I accomplish in the year 2022 and what should I try to accomplish in this New Year? Being last year cannot be redone and tomorrow may not be mine (Physically); so today is likely a day of what would JESUS have me do? “The days of our lives are ... so teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom” Psalm 90:10 & 12. Don't forget to give THANKS to the **ONE** who entrusted it to YOU!? Every breath or heart-beat is a gift from the High & Holy **ONE**, God's GRACE! A fake will not do, in the light of ETERNITY! A Fake will not do; like the Pharisees or Sadducees! ***“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men to which we must be saved”*** Acts 4:12. You cannot rely on Infant Baptism, confirmation, church membership taking part in the Lord's Supper, etc. but **Jesus only!** Do you know **JESUS** as your personal SAVIOR? IF not, spiritually you are LOST!

That the genuineness of your faith, which is much more precious than gold may be true! A child of God will truly experience afflictions, persecutions, scourging, etc. God never promised an easy road for a child of HIS; but it will be worth-it-all, Hebrews 10:35, *“Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward”*. Christians will experience persecutions! Nevertheless, it will be worth it all in the end of his walk with Jesus! Also, trials are to test or strengthen our faith in the crucified and living ONE.

Trials are a refining element, as like gold in the test of the fire; which will bring refined-gold; in which being tested shall bring praise and glory and honor when JESUS can be seen in us – Acts 4:13. Which will help us keep looking for JESUS, not as an under-taker, but as the upper-taker, in whom we have not seen, whom we love, but look for His Coming! In our text the certainty of HIS coming was so real that they already anticipated and were receiving the fulfilment of their blessed hope, the joy of their inheritance, the salvation of their souls, etc.

This salvation wrought by JESUS, His death on our behalf and resurrection, means we have a Living SAVIOR today who is coming again! HE is coming for His blood-bought bride! INDEED, HE is precious. He is The Lily of the Valley, The Rock of all Ages, The Corner-stone; The precious promise, The Pearl of Great Price and the blessed hope/confidence in the very bosom of a child of GOD!

“Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” (I Peter 1:18-19)

“To an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, Reserved in heaven for you.” (I Peter 1:4)

INDEED, JESUS IS PRECIOUS!

Say What You Mean

By C. H. Spurgeon

When praying, it is good to get directly to the point, instead of beating around the bush!

I like that prayer of Abraham's: *“O that Ishmael might live before thee”* Genesis 17:18. There the person prayed the blessing desired, all put in a few words: ***“Ishmael might live before thee.”***

Many would have used a roundabout expression of

this kind; “Oh, that our beloved off-spring might be regarded with the favor which Thou barest to those...”

Say Ishmael if you mean Ishmael. Put it in plain words before the LORD.

Some people cannot even pray for the minister without using such circular description that you might think it were the parish beagle or somebody whom it did not do to mention too particularly. Why not be distinct and say what we mean, as well as mean what we say?

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Overseas abortion pills blunt ban

Orders from top provider have risen nearly 120%.

As states banned or restricted abortion this summer, the number of American women ordering abortion pills from overseas jumped significantly – enough to offset most of the drop in legal abortions.

Overall, abortion in the United States declined about 2% in the first two full months after the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, accounting for women who traveled to states where it remained legal or ordered pills from overseas, according to a New York Times analysis of data from two studies released this week.

One of the studies was released Sunday by WeCount, a research project led by the Society of Family Planning that is collecting data from abortion providers nationwide. The group, which supports abortion rights, found that the number of legal abortions fell by about 7,000 a month in July and August in states that banned or restricted nearly all abortions, and by another 3,000 a month in states that passed more limited restrictions.

But in states where abortions remained broadly legal, the number of abortions increased by roughly 5,000, the study found, leaving a total drop of 6% compared with April.

A separate study, released Tuesday by the medical journal *JAMA*, found a nearly 120% increase in online abortion pill orders from overseas in July and August placed through Aid Access, which operates outside the U.S. health system and is designed to circumvent state abortion bans.

Putting both studies together, there were about 2,000 fewer abortions per month, compared with April, when abortion was legal in every state.

...At the same time, services like Aid Access have complicated attempts by some state lawmakers to ban abortions entirely. In contrast with illegal abortions before *Roe*, abortion pills today are safe for most women to take early in pregnancy and at home, a variety of research has found. And they're available to nearly anyone with an Internet connection and a mailing address.

There is no way to track whether the pills ordered on Aid Access were taken or whether the people who ordered them got an abortion another way.

But the tally also underestimates the number of abortions in some ways. It does not include people who ordered pills from other overseas websites. The data also excludes women who got an abortion outside the formal

health system in another way, such as ingesting herbs or crossing the border to Mexico.

The abortion pills have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration and are offered by abortion providers in states where abortion remains legal. In recent years, more women have chosen medication abortion than in-clinic procedures.

Skirting U.S. laws, Aid Access connects patients with European doctors, then mails the pills from Indian pharmacies to patients in the U.S.

It is illegal to sell prescription medicine to Americans without a prescription from a doctor licensed in the United States. And since the *Dobbs* decision, some states have tightened laws regarding medication abortion. They are hard to enforce, though, because the pills come through the mail, and overseas pharmacies are typically outside the jurisdiction of local law enforcement.

By Aatish Bhatia, Claire Cain Miller and Margot Sanger-Katz *New York Times* – Taken from the *Star Tribune*, Nov. 2, 2022

Texas Fire Dept. Chaplain Axed For Biblical View Of Gender

The former chaplain of Austin's fire department says the liberal city dismissed him from his position over a blog that said it is unfair for men to compete against women in sports events — basing its views in the Bible. Now, he's suing the department.

Andrew Fox served as chaplain of the Austin Fire Department from 2013 until last December. Fox had posted a three-part blog, titled "Willy Woke and the Chocolate Factory," on his personal website, which reportedly has just under 1,000 subscribers.

He dedicated the second article to "gender identity and how ridiculous it is becoming," highlighting "the lunacy of men competing with women as women. The transgender ideology is blatantly hijacking the platform of athletic sport." He explicitly grounded his views in biblical faith by citing numerous verses from the Book of Proverbs concerning fairness.

That led to an unknown number of anonymous complaints from members of the department that his scriptural views did not fit in with Austin's liberal ethos.

...The department then asked Fox to write an apology but rejected two drafts, because Fox refused to recant his views. They dismissed him from his post last December.

Prophecynewswatch.com

Fractured Families

“And the LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. And the man said, ‘This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.’ For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.” (Genesis 2:22-24)

Today the family unit is fractured like never before. Today we have people who live together and even have children together yet never bother to marry. Today we have women who are divorced and now have a live-in boyfriend – for a while until they separate and someone else comes along. Children refer to these men as, “my mom’s boyfriend” Today, some women go through a bad marriage and divorce, and then seek another woman for a partner because they want someone who will be kind and tender toward them and many times another woman will do exactly that for them. Today some women have multiple children from multiple men, we call them half brothers and sisters.

How did we ever get into this mess anyway?

You can thank the sexual revolution for all this, which said “Sex is not just for married people.” It got its start in the music industry. In 1954, Disc Jockey Alan Freed coined the phrase “Rock & Roll” to describe having sex in the back seat – “Rocking” while the car “rolled” down the road. When Elvis Presley appeared on the Ed Sullivan show in September 1956, they wouldn’t show him below the waist because of the sexual gyrations he was doing. The Sexual Revolution continued to escalate in the 1960’s where it was highlighted by a festival called “Woodstock” in August 1969, which included public nudity, free sex and drug use.

This has now escalated today when homosexuality, “gay marriage” and trans-gender ideology and relationships further undermine God’s design for the family. The prevailing attitude by many – if not most today – is that sex is however and wherever and with whomever you want it.

What is the end result of this?

“71% of high-school dropouts come from father-less homes. 85% of youth in prison come from father-less homes. 90 % of all homeless and runaway children come from father-less homes. 42% of children are raised in a home with mom and dad present – less than half.

Children of biological mom and dad in the home are more likely to:

Live longer, be healthier physically and mentally, do better in school, more likely to attend and complete college, are less likely to live in poverty, less likely to get in trouble with the law, less likely to drink and use drugs, less likely to be violent or sexually active, less likely to be victims of physical and sexual violence, and more likely to have successful marriages when they are older.” (Focus on the Family Broadcast, 6/14/16)

When the family unit comes un-glued – so does society – because marriage and the establishment of the family is the glue that God has designed to hold society together. Your immediate or extended family is probably fractured in some way.

Is there any hope for Fractured Families?

The Scriptures do not cover over the effects of sin in the family. Abraham, Sarah, Hagar and Ishmael went through adultery, hatred, rejection, and bitterness because their family unit was fractured. (See Genesis 16) Hannah went through great grief and trials of heart because her husband was divided between her and another woman. (See I Samuel 1) King David’s family went through rape, intrigue, murder and death, all because of the sin of adultery with Bathsheba. (See II Samuel 13)

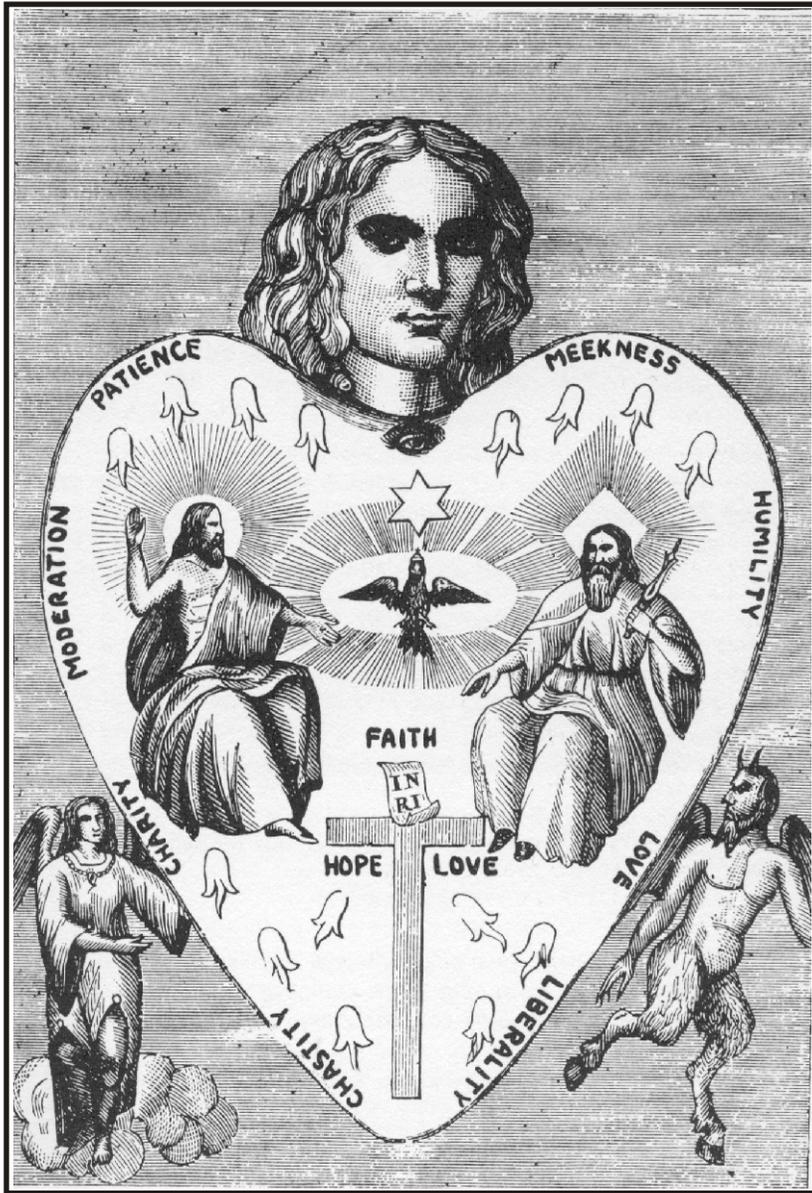
If you find yourself in the midst of a fractured family, then do what is right in the sight of God as best that your circumstances will allow. One of the reasons that God puts such restrictions on sex and marriage is because these sins can bear life-long consequences that never change.

Realize that the Lord Jesus will forgive any sins that are confessed to Him. But that doesn’t mean that there won’t be consequences to these actions in this world, some of which may not even be your own doing. You cannot undue what others have done and you can’t change the effects that this may bear. So, as much as possible, do what is right in the eyes of God. Seek a Biblical marriage and raise your children in the Lord to know God’s design for home, marriage, sex and family. When this isn’t the ideal that you are living in, then change what you can within God’s limits, and be gracious to the others who are in this with you. God can bring good out of a bad marriage and a fractured family. Because when Hannah did what was right in the sight of the Lord, then the prophet Samuel was born to her.

Pastor Jim Haga
Shoreview, MN

Mirror of the Heart

Fifth Picture



THE CHRISTIAN'S INNER LIFE, HIS HEART A TEMPLE OF GOD, A DWELLING FOR THE HOLY TRINITY

In the fifth picture the Holy Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, can now be seen in the heart of the justified sinner. Jesus says: "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23). Such honor and glory will come to the Christian who has been cleansed by Christ's blood.

Out of gratitude he will love Christ, His Re-

deemer, above all things; and because he loves Him, he will keep His commandments. He is being loved by the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The eternal God makes His abode with him. Therefore, Paul writes: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (I Cor. 3:16, 17). And again Paul writes in II Cor. 6:16: "For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Together with the holy Trinity, the cross of Christ can be seen in the heart. This the Christian can never forget, nor ever slip from his mind and heart. Jesus, the Crucified, will always be the foundation upon which he builds. On that he rests his faith and hope, and it becomes the source of his love. He feels that he must experience in himself the intimate union with God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

As he glories in this blessed joy, he always thinks back and asks himself: How do I, miserable sinner, obtain such undeserved grace? Then he is reminded: It is through Christ, the Crucified, who by His death has reconciled me to God. He it is who by His cross has taken away sin, death, and condemnation, and purchased for me grace, life, and salvation. By His merit and grace I am what I am.

Instead of the seven deadly sins which occupied his heart without Christ, as illustrated in the picture, we may see the very opposite virtues: humility, liberality, charity, love, chastity, moderation, sobriety, patience, meekness, zeal, and piety.

Who would not with all his heart strive to keep Christ's words and commandments, believe in Him, follow Him, and imitate Him? He has given all those who keep His commandments the glorious promise that God Himself will come and dwell in their hearts. Oh, let us love Him! The Apostle John who leaned at His breast at the Last Supper exclaims: "God is love; and he that dwelleth in

love, dwelleth in God, and God in him... We love him, because he first loved us" (1 John 4:16, 19).

Already in this life we may come so close to God that He will condescend to dwell in us. Let us earnestly exercise ourselves in intimate communion with this exalted Guest. May we strive to live in His fellowship and give ourselves fully unto Him. Then He will always abide with us.

Everything about us in this world is perishable. "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever" (I John 2:17). "He that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit" (I Cor. 6:17). God has given us exceedingly great and precious promises that if we flee the perishable lusts of the world, we shall be made partakers of the divine nature (II Peter 2:4), Oh then let us trust Him and love Him. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me hath everlasting life" (John 6:47).

PRAYER

Holy, eternal and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! How precious sinful man must be to Thee! How Thou hast loved me, poor miserable sinner! Thou hast blessed me in Christ Jesus, and gladdened my heart. Thou wilt dwell in me, and I in Thee! How intimate we then are with one another. I may "know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge" and may be "filled with all the fulness of God." Should I not then love Thee with all my heart, and all my soul, and all my mind?

Oh, give me such love! Let me be wholly love, as Thou art love. Let me always experience Thy tender love. Occupy my heart as Thy eternal dwelling. Draw my spirit so close to Thee that I may always keep close to Thee. May I see Thee and find Thee in everything. May I suffer all things for Thy sake. Be Thou my fortress and portion forever. AMEN.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

—I. Watts

Taken from the booklet *Mirror of the Heart* which can be received for a donation of \$3.00. (See the notice on the last page).

* * * * *

No Book Like It

Samuel Chadwick

I have guided my life by the BIBLE for more than sixty years, and I tell you, there is no book like it! It is a miracle of literature, a perennial spring of wisdom, a wonder of surprises, a revelation of mystery, an infallible guide of conduct and an unspeakable source of comfort.

Pay no attention to people who discredit it, for they speak without knowledge. It is the Word of God itself!

Study it according to its own direction. Live by its principles. Believe its message. Follow its precepts.

No man is uneducated who knows the Bible, and one is not wise who is ignorant of its teachings.

Editor's Note: "Be diligent to present yourself approved TO GOD, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Tim. 2:15)

Man Reaps What He Sows

We have more than a reminder of responsibility in our text; it also contains words of comfort. The comfort is that if we persevere in good work we shall reap fruit. It is not only evil which grows; God has promised that the good shall bear fruit in us and through us.

You Christian fathers and mothers, you who try as best you can to make the way of salvation plain to your children: You have a right to claim the promise that your work shall bear fruit and that your children shall be saved. You Christian teachers, you who labor day after day in the classroom among seemingly unresponsive children: Be confident that your work shall not be in vain; you shall also reap.

For that matter, there is no limit to the promise. Any Christian who seeks to serve God has a right to claim the promise. He may be a parent, teacher, preacher, missionary or servant in any legitimate position in life. The two most liable to lose courage are a preacher whose preaching seems to have no effect and a mother who has unsaved children.

There is a story told of a mother who was on her deathbed. When she realized that her hour of departure was near she called her children to her bedside and told them that she had a treasure hidden in a small box; it was her wish that they should divide it among themselves. "Mother!" exclaimed the children; "Have we not always been poor? What treasure is this of which you speak?" "It is my Bible," replied the mother. "I have moistened every page with my tears."

She was the mother of Bartholomew Ziegenbalg, one of the first Lutheran missionaries to India.

Many a mother with the Bible before her has shed tears over herself and her children. Such have not wept in vain. Perhaps you are one who has had such experiences; if so, do not lose hope. God has given you a great promise. Let not your courage fail as long as He is faithful who has promised. Ziegenbalg's mother went to her grave before her son was saved; but He who promised that whatsoever a man sows that shall he also reap was still living. He is as strong and gracious as ever.

Perhaps these words will reach a Christian father or mother who just now are discouraged and bear a heavy burden in their heart because of their children. That which presses most heavily upon your heart is that you did not do as much as you might have done for the spiritual welfare of your children. That is indeed a crushing burden, and guilt is most certainly there. But as a child of God you have asked and do ask forgiveness also for this sin of omission; that God will forgive you is beyond doubt. Therefore you must not let the judgment crush you when

God has removed the guilt by His forgiveness. Continue to place yourself and your children on God's shoulders; they are strong enough for any burden.

Then a word to you who preach the gospel, you who in a special way stand as a watchman on the walls of Zion. You may be discouraged many a time. You may hear voices telling you that it is absolutely useless for you to continue. These voices are not from God. Even if you often fail to find fruit of your labors, the promise is still that *what you sow, that you shall also reap*. The fruit will appear in due season if you sow in the Spirit. Cling to that promise, for it is from God. It may be that others shall reap where you have sown, but the blessing is yours even today. Take courage, therefore, and be strong; the Lord will prosper your work.

In spite of all, it is so easy for many of us to give up. Discouragement creeps upon us as stealthily as fog upon the countryside. Temptations to give up increase as we grow older; as pride and conceit are the besetting temptations of a young worker in God's Kingdom, so he will be tempted to yield to the waves of discouragement that engulf him when he is older. May neither of these sins break us and rob us of the fruit we should bear for God.

The promise of fruitfulness in God's Kingdom is woven together with the warning against becoming weary in well-doing. A good beginning is like a fresh shoot with a good root; a good ending is the full-grown ear of grain. Many began well, but became tired and gave up; the stem was broken just when it was becoming strong. May not that be your and my fate. May we rather stand erect in God's field until we are garnered into His granary.

There is still fertile soil in the souls for the seed of life. Sinners will still listen to the proclamation of the gospel; we have no reason to be discouraged on that score. As long as God has not removed the candle-stick from us we have work to do and a promise of fruit.

Take courage, faint hearts! Do not become weary of well-doing! Continue to work in your corner! The day of grace is still here, but "the night cometh when no man can work." Our Lord and Savior will then take His faithful servants to their rest with Him.

*Work, for the night is coming,
Work through the morning hours;
Work while the dew is sparkling,
Work 'mid springing flowers;
Work when the day grows brighter,
Work in the glowing sun;
Work, for the night is coming,
When man's work is done.*

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

When Loved Ones Are Taken in Death

By Lehman Strauss, LITT.D., F. R. G. S.

(Editor: This message is shared with you, with the sincere prayer that the message will be a real blessing to YOU!).

The BIBLE says, **“It is appointed unto men once to die.”** (Hebrews 9:27) We know this and believe it, and we expect that in the normal course of events sooner or later that experience will come to **us!** Nothing is more certain in life than the fact of death. It is confirmed to us every day we live. We read about it in every daily newspaper. There is death by disease, accident, murder, starvation, drowning. No city newspaper has ever had cause to omit the obituary column.

Vital statistics tell us that the world’s population is running close to five billion. Of this number approximately thirty million die every year. Has it ever occurred to you what this means? It means that every second, with every tick of the clock, one person somewhere in the world dies. Every day 86,400 persons die. (Ed. What percentage of this 86,400 left this earthly journey Truly SAVED?) If each person who died were to leave behind only one sorrowing loved one, there would be added daily to the millions of heavy-hearted men and women 86,400 more to swell the ranks of the tried and the troubled. Now all of this causes us to stop and think, for the moment at least. BUT we soon forget it as we enter into the routine of daily work and play! Then one day the bottom drops out of our world. Death enters our family, taking from us a cherished loved one, possibly a mother or father, son or daughter, husband or wife, or some other relative or friend. Some of us have already had this experience. We said the final good-bye as our loved-one departed this life. This is not an easy experience for any of us! The Christian, even though he is well instructed in what the BIBLE teaches, finds such a trial to be most difficult. We are just never quite prepared for it!

It is my (our) intention in these pages (article) to help you see what the Christian’s attitude toward death, with its accompanying sorrow and bereavement, should be. We dare not look upon this subject as a morbid one to be repressed. On the contrary we need to consider death since we know it is certain. My aim here is to help you to see what is involved for those who are taken from us in death and to grasp something of what God has for us who are left behind. You see, for the Christian, death has its bright side. But I fear that too few of God’s children can see that bright side through their veil of tears.

The fear and sting of death still abide, even among the best of believers. Though one lives in the warmth of GOSPEL TRUTH, he feels the chill of death. Possibly this is so because the realm of death is that unfamiliar area not known to the living. ‘We’ have never experienced that which lies beyond. With all our boasted knowledge it is still the *realm* of the unknown. It is the interruption of all of life’s plans and purposes! It is the severing of relations from those whom we loved and for whom we lived and labored. Death is just not easy to accept. I confess that this was my feeling as I stood by the side of my mother who was about to cross-over. I had known many comforting truths taught to me from the WORD OF GOD, but my knowledge had never before been put to the test. It had been a theoretical knowledge and not experiential.

Preparation for death must be made in life, whether that death be your own or a loved one dear to you! Most people are unwilling to think seriously about death until it is forced upon them. But sooner or later death is certain to come into the experience of each us! When it does come, the best course of action is to face it squarely in the light of the Scripture. Surely it is the part of wisdom to be prepared for this new and strange experience.

Death Is Certain

The death of your loved one is an experience common to all mankind. We set out on the journey of life with high hopes! These hopes are often built upon plans we have made. We think in terms of our children’s needs, their happiness, education and future careers. We plan retirement with our mate in marriage! But one day we are suddenly stopped cold when the icy fingers of death snatch away one of our precious loved ones. Physicians and surgeons, nurses and friends, all have done what they could to save the life, but in the gracious and perfect providence of God, death has conquered. That life is now beyond recall. Nothing in all this world can bring back those whom God has taken in death.

And if we believe that our times are in God’s hands, and be sure they are, neither you nor I could take to ourselves the responsibility of determining when life on earth should cease for anyone. Death is certain for each of us, and God who lends us life must determine when that moment of death must come.

When I was a pastor in my first church in Pennsylvania, a young mother, not yet forty years old, died suddenly without warning. She was, from all appearances, a normally healthy woman. The Physician attributed her death to a heart attack. The woman’s husband, while deeply moved and sorely grieved, accepted his wife’s passing as a providential act of God. BUT there were

three precious young people were in confusion wondering why their mother, whom they loved and on whom they depended, was taken from them? It took several weeks of counseling with them in this home before those young folks saw the truth of God's Word, that ***"It is appointed unto men once to die,"*** (Hebrews 9:27) and that God never acts without reason! When HE permits death to take our loved ones, HE has a *purpose* for doing so, and that purpose is always for our good as well as for His glory. We must believe this because it is so. The Bible says, *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose"* (Ed. Now please read verse 29 also). One by one they came to see these things! God, through His Word, had given them light, so they were able to say with Job, whose seven sons and three daughters were killed, *"...The LORD gave and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."* (Job 1:21) They were reconciled to the fact that God makes no mistakes and that HE would provide for their future. That incident took place many years ago! TODAY these young people, now married and raising their own children, have a fuller knowledge of these things. ...
Likely to be continued in next MG.

Scripture Truth Book Co., Inc.

It Takes a Mind

Take your computer apart. Separate each screw, bolt, spring. Dump all the parts into a washing machine, turn on the switch and wait. After a 'week' of churning look! There is your computer, neatly assembled, ready to connect to the Internet and function smoothly and efficiently.

"NONSENSE!" you say. You could charge the parts with all the energy you can think of; you can let the parts churn for a million years, and they would never churn into a computer! It takes a mind to assemble a machine." That is exactly right — it takes a mind.

Now use the same commonsense reasoning in regard to an infinitely larger and more complex mechanism — the Universe. It is a vast machine of many millions of parts. The Milky Way alone contains millions of stars and other heavenly bodies.

Talk about distance! The sun that seems so near on a hot summer day is 93 million miles away! Some of the stars are so remote that it takes many centuries for their 'light' to reach the earth, though light travels at the rate of 186,000 miles a second!

There are millions of stars fixed in the Universe and scores of planets on the go, yet the movement of each

planet is so minutely adjusted that it forms a standard of measurement for solar conservation. These movements are so regular that in an entire century the length of the solar year varies only 1/1000 of a second.

To have thought out a machine of such vastness and intricacy and to keep it running with such efficiency takes a 'mind', the mind of a Supreme THINKER whose will is good and who is all-powerful!

Can you imagine the stars getting together and deciding to keep out of each other's way? NO there is a **God** whose tremendous mind planned it all, who created it all and sustains it all!

WE should desire to know **more** about this God! Oh, that we might know more about Him, our God! What does He want of us? What are HIS plans for us? What is HE going to do with 'us' when we die?

God Himself has answered. We may know Him, for He has revealed Himself not only in the physical universe but in His Book! In the Holy Scriptures GOD not only reveals His curse upon the failure (sin) of all men to live the way in which HE intended them, but GOD also reveals a 'love' that realized from the first the inability of men to save themselves!

SO, **GOD HIMSELF** came to Earth in the Person of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died upon the Cross in punishment/judgment for man's (our) SINS!

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (I Timothy 1:15)

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (I John 4:10)

The Lord Jesus Christ, the mighty Creator, wants to become your Savior! He wants to put away your sins (our sins). Because the chief of sinners (*Paul*) already has been saved, you too can be saved!

"Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 5:1)

C. H. Spurgeon reckoned as the highest compliment ever paid him the words of an enemy who said, "Here is a man who has not moved an inch for in all his ministry and at the close of the nineteenth century is teaching the theology of the first century."

WE of the MG/Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation; SEEK TO DO THE SAME; as we seek to follow the old-time Christianity & are making NO apologies for it!

The Importance of Prayer

By Dr. Jeff Fugate

The longer I serve the Lord and take part in the many ways that we work to win people to Christ and disciple them in His service, the more I realize how much more I need the LORD! If you asked me what changes or adjustments, I have made to my ministry of nearly forty years now, I would say, “I spend much more time in prayer.” While I have more to do now than I have ever had (with the church and its growth, construction of new buildings, preaching, travel, administration of the college and our other schools and more), I spend more time in prayer than ever before.

One of the great dangers of ‘ministry’ is through our years of experience to ‘develop plans,’ to ‘develop procedures’ and then become dependent on the plans and procedures rather than keep our dependance on the LORD! Let me illustrate.

Recently in my travels I have been preaching from II Samuel 5:22-25: *“And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim. And when David enquired of the LORD, he said, Thou, shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees. And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines. And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.”*

Notice these things.

The Philistines came up yet again!

No matter how many times the Philistines had been defeated by the Israelites, they kept coming back against the people of God. Even though Goliath had been defeated, even though they had suffered defeat many times at the hand of David and his men, they kept coming back!

May I say, Satan is never going to stop his attacks against the church (each and every believer) of God! He will come against ‘us’ in every way imaginable and in ways we could not imagine! We face and fight against the wiles of the Devil every day and every week in every area of life.

David enquired of the Lord — again.

This is it! This is the key! Even though David was an experienced warrior by this time, he did not trust in his experience, his plans or procedures! It is obvious from reading of this event that he had a plan, he had sol-

diers and they were ready to fight! However, David went to God asking HIM how he was to face and fight the Philistines this time.

You will notice that this time was different than ever before. He had never fought like this before. While I will not go into the details here of how they won this battle, I will point out that they won the ***battle by enquiring of the LORD and following the Lord’s direction for this battle.***

The instruction included waiting on the LORD.

The word ‘wait’ is often misunderstood and is *sometimes* used as an excuse. The statement is often made, “I am going to do that but not today. I am waiting for ...” This word ‘wait’ was not a “sit in an easy chair” kind of wait. This is a ***waiting with expectation***. For an example, it is like dialing 9-1-1 and waiting with expectation for the sirens to be heard announcing the arrival of help.

Have you seen people waiting for ambulance or police to arrive? They are usually standing in expectation! That is what this word means here! “Pray and wait with expectation; the Lord is on the way!”

“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint” (Isaiah 40:31)

Let me encourage you today to look at all of your responsibilities. (They are probably many on Saturday and on Sunday morning. I thank you for your faithful service). Then, let’s stop before each one and enquire of the Lord for His aid and help and power. I promise you that you will notice a great difference in the work ahead.

We know that Satan battles in every area of life and ministry. While we never know how or when his opposition will show up (as we struggle with the ‘old nature’, world and our flesh(self); we can prepare for that by seeking the LORD’S face before time.

ASK the **LORD** to help you before you serve as an usher or greeter this Sunday! Ask the LORD to help you before you lead the singing or prepare your song list for the next program (Service), (Ed. that the ‘music’ might be pleasing unto HIM, not necessarily pleasing to the congregation). Ask the LORD to help you with your attitude before the work on Saturday and Sunday! Ask the Lord to help you as you clean your bus, classrooms and buildings. Ask the Lord to help you as you begin each day of ***life***.

The Philistines came up yet again. David ***enquired*** of the LORD. That account ends like this: ***“And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.”***

Sword of the Lord

Interruptions!

By Bill King, Princeton, MN

In the normal course of conversation, a third party may intrude due to having limited time or for some other reason. For an impatient person, such troublesome disruption is seen as a hindrance, being treated unfavorably. The same holds true when receiving a knock on the door, or a doorbell ring, or perhaps a package delivery or a phone call around dinnertime. Not everyone responds with frustration or irritation, however other folks welcome these *surprises*, taking them in stride.

In reading from the Gospels, I have noticed that the Lord Jesus was interrupted numerous times by people in the crowds that followed Him. While HE didn't keep 'office hours' per se, He had daily plans and ministered someplace every day, being led by the Holy Spirit. That being said, He did not disparage a vocal voice seeking His attention! Therefore, Jesus did not treat a disruptive person disrespectfully! *Most* of the requests that people made to Him He was able to carry out.

In Mark 2:1-12 we are told that Jesus was in town preaching in a person's house when four friends of a paralyzed man carried him in a bed to this house. Being packed with people inside the house, the men became *inventive* and lowered the handicapped man through a hole *they made* in the roof, lowering the man to the room where Jesus was preaching! What an 'interruption! No dampened enthusiasm there! They could certainly not ignore him. The man left the house that day totally healed and at Jesus' instructions carried his bed home!

In Luke 19:1-10 we find Jesus passing through Jericho with a crowd accompanying HIM. All of a sudden Jesus stops when He sees a short tax collector sitting up on a tree limb in order to be able to see the Savior! This 'interruption' has Jesus speaking to the man Zacchaeus, inviting Himself over to the man's home for a meal. So, Zacchaeus scampered down the tree while they waited for him. As a result of Jesus' visit, Zacchaeus became a changed man, saved and generous!

In Luke 18:2-8 Jesus relates a parable involving a widow-woman and a city judge. She was hoping to obtain justice from her adversary! Initially the judge was

A stopped clock tells the truth only twice a day. All the rest of its life is a lie!! The need for "stopped clocks" in God's Work are not in much demand.

not inclined to grant the widow such — rather ignoring her. But due to her making continued appeals, and not wishing to be continually bothered, she got her way.

From these three Biblical stories involving Jesus in some way, it is evident that coping with 'interruptions' positive things happened. (1) A paralyzed man was healed when let down a hole through a house roof, and walked away, (2) Zacchaeus was a '*tight-fisted*' Jewish business man in the morning, and a new and generous convert and JESUS' follower at night, (3) Unlike the judge, God will respond quickly to HIS elect (saved).

It is well to learn to handle interruptions, and like the LORD did so well, learn to deal with Interruptions that come your way!

The Burden Business

"Bear ye one another's burdens" ... "Every man shall bear his own burdens." (Galatians 6:2, 5)

*God tells you to share the burdens and care
Belonging to others than you;
But you still must bear your own burdens, not dare
To cast them on those around you;
'Tis Christ who will share your burdens; when'er
You cast them on Him, is true.*

At first there may appear some contradiction between our texts. We are told to bear one another's burdens; then we are told that every man should bear his own burdens; finally, we are told to cast our burdens on the LORD.

Here is God's message as we see it.

First, every man should be true to his assigned task. He should not be running around asking someone else to bear his burden; he should bear it himself.

Second, in addition to bearing our own burden, we should always have an eye open to see and a shoulder ready to help everyone who falters by the way. If others stumble under their loads, we should lift them up.

Third, Christ will always share our own burdens with us. HIS Grace will prove sufficient and will always be given in the time of need.

Let us, then, gladly help our brother; then we can with joy cast our burdens on the LORD.

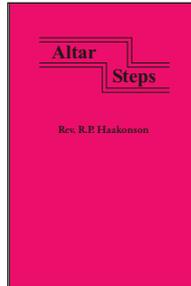
Dr. R. E. Neighbour

The Hauge Library

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

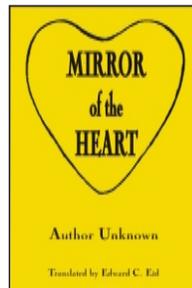
Altar Steps

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



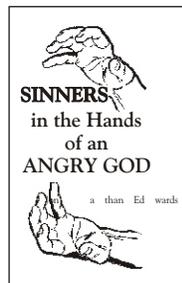
Mirror of the Heart

This book was published in 1900 by an unknown author. It contains some very earnest meditations and fervent prayers. It also contains ten very graphic pictures of the human heart. Inside the heart, the devil is visualized and also seven animals representing some of the most prevalent sins found in the heart of the impenitent sinner. These pictures show how these animals as sins are driven out of the heart when the sinner is converted to God, but how they can re-enter the heart if a person falls away from grace. One picture visualizes the fearful death of the ungodly, and another shows the blessed death of the righteous. Suggested Offering: \$3.00.



Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God

Jonathan Edwards preached this remarkable sermon at Enfield, Conn. on July 8, 1741. It was at night while he was reading it to a large congregation, that the lights became dim and he read with difficulty, and the influence was so great on the congregation that strong men and women cried and screamed for mercy and even grabbed their seats for fear they would slide into hell that very moment. Suggested Offering: \$1.00.



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More than New Years' Resolution!

Pray that Christians who have been elected to public offices will vote recognizing their privilege and responsibility to support biblical convictions in this New Year, regardless of political party affiliation or the personal cost involved!

“THESE ARE THE THINGS THAT YOU SHALL DO: SPEAK THE TRUTH TO ONE ANOTHER; RENDER IN YOUR GATES JUDGMENTS THAT ARE TRUE AND MAKE FOR PEACE...” Zechariah 8:16.

“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.” (I Timothy 2:1-3)