



# Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • May 2022

## The Cross In The Old Testament

*“Then I said to them, ‘If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages, and if not, refrain.’ So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver.” (Zechariah 11:12)*

**A**bout a thousand years before Jesus came to earth (Incarnation), the prophets of Israel predicted the coming Messiah, an eternal King to rule the people. They predicted the Cross — even before the grisly practice of crucifixion had been devised! Their prophecies were both specific and memorable. Christ clearly fulfilled the suffering servant strand of Old Testament.

Some people, when they hear the term *prophecies*, think about those unbelievable pseudo newspapers found at grocery store checkout counters, with screaming headlines about Hollywood stars and UFO sightings and alien invasions. But in the interplay of the Old and New Testaments, we find something that is truly incredible, yet verifiable. We find scores and scores of written statements, documented hundreds of years before Jesus Christ, that HE fulfilled. Many of these statements point to His death and resurrection.

Indeed, Jesus fulfilled many prophecies of the Old Testament. He came from the line of Abraham (Genesis 12:3; Galatians 3:8), Isaac, and Jacob, and more specifically from the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10). Furthermore, He was from the house of David (Jeremiah 23:5) and was given the throne of David (Psalm 132:11). He was born of a virgin mother (Isaiah 7:14) in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). And His Throne has become an everlasting throne (Psalm 45:6). All these things were written about

Him hundreds of years before He was born (Incarnation). Stop and think, my friend. Suppose you were trying to describe the man who would be elected President of the United States in the year 2764. Your prophesy that he will be born in a particular small town — let us say in Mississippi — a town so small it isn’t even on *most* maps! You describe all of this person’s lineage and things he would do and things that will happen to Him during His lifetime. Also, you describe His cruel and unjust death.

*“The prophecies foretold a twofold coming of Christ: the one, belonging already to history, was the coming of a dishonored and suffering man; the other shall take place when, as the prophets announced, He shall appear from Heaven in glory with His angelic throng.” (Justin Martyr)*

The Old Testament describes how Jesus would be betrayed by a friend for a specific amount of money — thirty pieces of silver. (Can you likewise accurately say that this President in 2764 will be betrayed by a friend? And for how much money?)

There are two Old Testament passages in particular that take us to the foot of the Cross — (Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53) ...

Let’s delve into a few of these, such as the prophecy that He would be forsaken by all His followers (Zechariah 13:7)! This was written about 500 B.C. by the same prophet (Zechariah) who notes the amount of the betrayal price, and how it would be used to buy a potter’s field (11:12-13). He also foretells this stunning cross-related prediction: *“They will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only*

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*son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn” (Zechariah 12:10).*

Writing about 250 years earlier (in c. 750bc), the prophet Isaiah noted the Messiah would be scourged and spat upon (Isaiah 50:6).

Likewise, we see in Scripture that HE would be given gall and vinegar to drink (Psalm 69). He would be rejected as a cornerstone of the nation (Psalm 118:22). He would commend His Spirit to God the Father (Psalm 31:5). Not a bone of His would be broken (Exodus 12:46). ...

The Old Testament says that the Messiah would become a high priest greater than Aaron -- in the order of Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4). Old Testament priests offered animals before God, shedding blood to atone for sin, and all these sacrifices were shadows of the Ultimate Sacrifice of Jesus our High Priest, who offered Himself as a Blood sacrifice to atone for sins.

After the Cross, He would be raised from the dead (Psalm 16:10, written about 1000bc). Then He would experience the triumphal effects of His Cross and Resurrection: \*He would ascend to Heaven (Psalm 68:18). \*He would be seated at God’s right hand (Psalm 110:1). \*He would become a smiting scepter (Psalm 2:9). \*He would rule the Gentiles (Psalm 2:8). ...

*Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for fulfilling this host of prophecies, especially in Your suffering and death. Thank You for Your Word,*

which is trustworthy and true and which has no true rivals.

Excerpt from *Cross Purposes*, by D. James Kennedy, PhD. & Jerry Newcombe, © copyright, 2007.

\* \* \* \* \*

## WHY THE WARNINGS?

By Kenneth O. Carroll

“If any man teaches otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strife’s of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmising’s, perverse disputing’s of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.” (I Timothy 6:3-5)

How often have you heard the statement, “*If you can’t say something good about a person, don’t say anything*”? Well, this is good rule when generally applied; but as in the case of most rules, there may be exceptions.

For example, no one even gave this rule a thought when Adolph Hitler was on the loose and the world around him was rapidly folding in to his clutches. For a true American to speak well of such a criminal was out of the question.

As a dope peddler in a large city sells dope to a young high school boy. The boy later, in a frenzied state of mind, murders another because he cannot obtain more dope. It is difficult to say something good for the dope peddler. It would be difficult not to say something ‘bad’ about such a criminal.

So it is, beloved, in the presentation of the Gospel. It is only natural when we think about the goodness and unity of Christ, to think at the same time about His great foe – that enemy of the souls — Satan.

As the Gospel goes forth today, there is a great need to warn the people against the false prophets who are proclaiming another gospel which is not the Gospel at all.

Recently a lady took issue with me on this thought. She said, “I’m anxious to hear the truth. I want to know true doctrine, but why are you always telling us about the false doctrines that some hold? Why don’t you just preach a positive message and then let us discover these undesirable things for ourselves?”

She had recently become a Christian and did not realize that as a newborn babe in Christ she needed the sin-

cere milk of the Word and that her pastor, in endeavoring to be a faithful Under-shepherd over her soul’s welfare, was not only anxious that she receive the milk of the Word but also that she did not receive and believe something that would stunt her Christian growth.

To illustrate: A mother not only sees to it that her child gets food; she also warns him to keep out of the garbage can! No one would suggest allowing the child to find out for himself!

Even so, as we become older, we are anxious to receive information from those in a position to know the facts about what is good for us and what is bad. Throughout the BIBLE we are warned to beware of false prophets.

In the Great Commission, Jesus commanded His disciples to “*teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost*”: He also added these words: “*Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you*” (Matthew 28:19-20)

Among the teachings of Jesus, we find that He warned against false prophets who would come as wolves in sheep’s clothing.

The apostle Paul, in his farewell message to the Ephesian elders, said:

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost (Spirit) hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also, of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.” (Acts 20:28-31)

In I Timothy 4:1, Paul wrote: “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.” – Amazing Grace!

Peter warned against false teachers in II Peter 2:1-2, “But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.”

These are only a few of the numerous passages throughout the New Testament, warning believers of the false teachers that would arise in the latter days.

Sword of the Lord.

## Let Your Speech Be Always With Grace

Speech is a wonderful gift from God! It is the means through which God communicates His love to us. Speech is also the means whereby we communicate with others. The message of God in Christ is God's speech to us. In fact, the world 'speech' in Colossians 4:6 and 'word' in John 1:1 is, *logos*. Paul is saying, under inspiration of God the Holy Spirit, as he writes to the Colossians in verse 6, "let your speech (*logos*) be always with grace." What he means is, the thought, plus what you say, should always be relative to Christ. Put another way, because we are in communion with Christ, our thoughts generate words which reflect the Divine influence on our heart.

Speaking this way honors Jesus Christ and has a proper seasoning toward others. "Seasoned with salt" is how proper speech is received (verse 6). Salt in food, when used properly and in the right amount, makes food very acceptable. So, it is with proper speech! Salt also preserves food from spoilage or corruption. Speech concerning Jesus Christ also prevents the ever-present corruption from overcoming both the speaker and the hearers. Of course, the gracious Word of God must be heeded to prevent corruptive influence in the life!

But you say, *that's expecting too much of me to always speak with grace! How can I possibly do that?* Is it not true, dear reader, that self enters in here also? Does not self-demand some pampering here, a little attention there, some recognition for a job well done? Yes. How then can I do as God commands?

Speech with Grace is always preceded by prayer (verse 2)! Being relative to Christ (born from above) does not guarantee that our speech will always be with *grace!* Speech with grace must be based on prayer. And not merely prayer, but prayer with thanksgiving, and then a desire to have God open the door of opportunity to speak (verse 3). "Let your speech be always with grace", God says in verse 6. That alone speaks of desire on our part!

*Jesus, capture our heart's desires  
That we might speak for Thee.*

*How Great This Grace,*  
devotional by Pastor James Peterson

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### The Power of Praying Parents

*No Parent* has ever been perfect; (but) PRAYER is to a family what a roof is to a house; it protects those within

from the adversities of life. In many cases, it even protects the family members from themselves. ...

Almost all families face crises like this some time during the growing-up years of their children! Because we have a Savior, we have Someone real to turn to at such times. Frankly, I don't know how non-Christians make it!

#### *Provisions for Children*

Most of us who are Christian's today are the answer to someone else's prayers, often the prayers of our parents or grandparents.

Tim tells how the prayers of his 'mother' redirected his steps after he returned home from military service. One day he came home to her apartment in the wee hours of the morning, and he found his mother kneeling at the couch, sound asleep. The living room was so small that he literally had to step across the back of her legs to get to his bedroom. As first it made him mad, because he knew she had stayed up praying for him, but after he got into bed he couldn't sleep. He knew that she had stayed up late praying for him, even though she had to get up for work at 5:30 a.m., so he went out and woke her up so she could spend the rest of the night in her own bed. But the scene haunted him for days until he finally decided to drop his application to a prelaw school and to go to a Christian university, where his life was transformed.

What kind of a world would this be if every young man had that kind of a praying mother? Prayer won't make up for a lifetime of parental mistakes, but it can result in life-changing miracles!

In some of these cases, prayer is like a court of last appeals. A teenager may have grown so tired of hearing her parent's sermons that she seems to become hardened to the things of the Lord. But prayer is not restricted by our human limitations or the intricacies of the situation. Through a parent's faith-filled prayer, God can soften the hardest heart. He often brings other godly men and women into children's lives when they refuse to listen to their parents any longer. ...

Instead of praying, "God bless America," you can ask yourself, "What exactly is it that I want God to do for our country?" Are you concerned about America's attitude toward the pornography sweeping our country? Do you want America to help protect the lives of unborn babies? Should we pray for America's safety from terrorist assault? Can we ask God to bless America when we are turning our backs on God as a nation? Let's be on our knees praying very specifically about our concerns for America (& other concerns as well)!

Excerpt from *Spiritual Power for Your Family* by Beverly LaHaye, © Copyright 2005, Beverly LaHaye

# Editorial

RES

## *Johnny Appleseed!*

MEMORY is another wonderful gift from GOD; but not only God can use it, but the enemy of our eternal being can use it also in harassing some sin(sins) in the past that you have brought under the BLOOD of Jesus AND God (our Father) has forgiven and even forgotten!

BELIEVER, take a quick glance of the experiences you had yesterday and maybe even the last few months and possibly years in your own personal life; BUT don't live on that! Think how GOD led you and provided, every day; food, shelter, clothing as you walked in this foreign land as a child of God and a citizen of Heaven! Think how HE put up with your murmurings and longings for the flesh-pots of Egypt. THINK of how HIS Grace has been sufficient for you in all your troubles – how His BLOOD has been a pardon to you in all your sins — how His rod and His staff have comforted you!

Likely a good share of you remember the story of *Johnny Appleseed!* As many of you know that likely Johnny not only liked apples; but spread (planted) 'Appleseed' in many areas with the use of gospel tracts which contained the Incorruptible Word of God. (Personally, I have liked fresh apples very much of late).

Well, we are going on a *little journey* trying to 'refresh' our MEMORY in the light of Holy Scripture!

Remember your SIN will find you out, unless you have brought it under the Blood of Jesus.

Remember now your Creator – Psalm 89:11, 119:73-76, Ecclesiastes 12:1, Isaiah 40:29-31, Revelation 1:8.

Remember the Sabbath (Sunday) Day – Exodus 20:8; No-doubt some will say that is Old Testament: *Well, when did GOD change His Commandments? Like thou shall not KILL!*

Remember signs & wonders – Matthew 24:24, v.4-5, & v. 11, Luke 18:8, Hebrews 9:28.

Remember now new things – Isaiah 43:18-21, Psalm 40:1-6, II Corinthians 5:17.

Remember Christianity is not based on feelings – I John 5:13-15, John 3:18 & 36, Luke 17:32.

Remember God forgives & forgets – Isaiah 43:25-26, I John 1:7 – 2:1.

Remember Treatment of your neighbor – Numbers 15:30-31.

Remember IF you do not forgive, you will not be Forgiven – to start with The Lord's Prayer- Matthew 6:12 & 14, 18:35, Ephesians 4:32, Hebrews 9:22.

Remember ALL Scripture is "Inspired" by GOD – II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:19 -21.

Remember there comes a day when each of us will be asked for an accounting of our lives – Psalm 119:73 – 77, 27. (The unsaved – Revelation 21:27, 22:11,) Christian –II Corinthians 5:9-10.

Remember to take heed – I Corinthians 9:27, 10:12-13

Remember that all Scripture is settled in heaven – Psalm 119:89,160, Isaiah 40:8.

Remember GOD is Holy & His Name is Holy also – Exodus 3:5, Psalm 47:8, 86:8-11, Isaiah 6:3, 40:25, Revelation 22:11.

GOD has clearly shown us in and through His Instruction Sheet (His Book, the Bible) what we are by nature (old-Adam) what we are and we must do (have) in and through His Amazing GRACE in order to spend all-eternity in His presence as He is the Builder and Keeper of HEAVEN! Are You on the way? The Bible is relevant for time and Eternity!

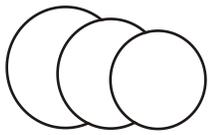
Remember: The *worthiness* of *Jesus Christ* is the only worthiness we can possess!

The worthiness of Christ Jesus claimed makes you a child of the Resurrection to Eternal LIFE in spending ETERNITY with HIM!

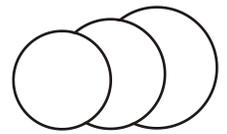
God cannot nor will not deny Himself as HE is faithful!

HIS mind doesn't fluctuate according to the current of the day.

*What is, was & shall-be; remains the same; as His Word is forever settled in Heaven! – PSALM 89:1 -7.*



# From Our Fellowship Circle



**P. & V. F. Colfax, WI**  
 Thank you for bringing the good News & Hope to our home with each issue of the MG. God bless you all! This gift is given in Memory of a dear loved saint from our church, who passed away...

What a glorious day when we meet our loved ones again and will never be separated !

**J. & G. Y. Webster, SD**  
 Enclosed is a gift to help for the cost of your magazine as we enjoy reading it, as it has so many good articles.

May God Bless you,

**C. B. Z. Duluth, MN**  
 Thank you for the *Morning Glory!* God's Blessings!

**Mrs. E. R. Red Wing, MN**  
 Enclosed please find \$... for your interest in information through the *Morning Glory!*

I have made a book of Sayings or Thoughts and have taken most of them from your paper, which has very interesting reading.

Thank you for sending me the *Morning Glory!*

**K. & F. C. Sebring, FL**  
 We would like a copy of *Altar Steps* when it is now re-published, naturally when it is finished.

Also, please continue the *Morning Glory* as a guide for us all! And for us to share, because we care and to further the great Love of God as our heavenly Father would have us do; led by the gentle Holy Spirit and following God's Command.

**R. J. P. Indianapolis, IN**  
 I enjoy reading the *Morning Glory*, especially the articles about how God Sent REVIVAL in 1925 and later. Arnold and William Windahl were my uncles. My Mother was a Windahl and my father was Pastor A. A. Pederson. In the 1950's he was president of the LB Bible School in Fergus Falls.

When I was about 12 or 13, I attended that county church 7 miles west of Newfolden, MN in the summer! I remember a Sunday Evening Service when Evangelist Arnold Windahl preached a strong message and several of my relatives and others were saved.

Well now I am almost ... And my wife and I live with our son and his wife. I'm on Hospice Care since I had several

Heart Attacks; but now I am feeling better. It *seems* the LORD is giving me some more days! Enclosed is a gift to help you keep printing and sending out the *Morning Glory*.

Because of Christ's Love,

**Mr. & Mrs. W. U. L. Byron, MN**  
 We are so thankful that the LORD has kept you both healthy and well enough to put together the *Morning Glory* as often as finances and labor permits at this time, too. We are thankful for the MG every time we receive it! We get such a blessing from each issue we get. God Bless this ministry and the folk involved in making it possible and may HE strengthen you each day.

We miss seeing you but we are getting to the age that it is difficult to drive long distances anymore. Fairly soon (maybe) we will all be in Heaven and see each other of-tener. Yes, we are looking for Jesus coming, which may be soon in the Rapture – Jude 21, Revelation 22:20b – 21.21. (Editor)

In the Grace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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## Hosanna

There is a false note in Palm Sunday! No doubt the homage paid to JESUS by the multitude was a moment sincere; but it was merely a gust of emotionalism which soon subsided until the reaction came, and the multitude cried: "Crucify!" (See John 12:13.)

We do not find fault with these people for thus acclaiming Jesus. HE was deserving of their acclaim. The trouble was that their heart was not in the hosannas they shouted. *Hosanna* means 'Lord, save us!'. It is the cry of the penitent and contrite soul for mercy and deliverance. What was lacking in the emotion of Palm Sunday was repentance — the repentance that leads to conversion. ALL emotion which lacks the element of repentance is dangerous. It is like a wave: it follows the wind; and one never knows when the direction of the 'wind' may change.

Nevertheless, they shouted: "*Hosanna!*" BUT the word had become colorless and empty. On their lips it was meaningless. And therefore, it came to a bad end.

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday! We are entering Easter Week. I wonder IF we do so in the proper spirit! We, too, will surely cry: "*Hosanna*"! Is the Word meaningless, or is it filled with true repentance?

*Rest A While*, by Fredrick Wisloff

# Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

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## **Bloodiest Year Ever Against Police, Hundreds Shot, Fifty-Eight Killed.**

The National Fraternal Order of Police — the oldest and largest police union in the United States — said that 2021 is already the bloodiest year in history for American law enforcement officers.

As of (December 3) the National Fraternal Order of Police reported that 314 police officers were shot in the line of duty — 58 of whom were killed...

Paul Sacca, theblaze.com

## **Biden Nominates Radical Abortion Activist to Head Global Women's Issues**

Planned Parenthood is celebrating after President Joe Biden nominated another abortion activist to his Administration, this time to the Office of Global Women's Issues in the U. S. Department of State.

His nominee, Geeta Rao Gupta, has spent years advocating for abortion across the globe while working for powerful groups like the United Nations and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation... She is described as a gender and development expert... This includes taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood...

lifeneews.com

Editor's Note: For example, the real problem is *63 million* babies have been killed through abortion while in their mother's womb.

## **Germany Announced Lockdown, Pending Vax Mandates**

Germany will impose sweeping new restrictions against unvaccinated people in response to rising coronavirus cases, authorities said...

Outgoing Chancellor Angela Merkel and her successor, Olaf Scholz, announced that unvaccinated people will be prohibited from entering public places... unless they've recently recovered from COVID-19. Private gatherings that include unvaccinated people who have not recently recovered from the disease will be restricted to one household and a maximum of two individuals from a different household.

"Culture and leisure nationwide will be open only to those who have been vaccinated or recovered," Merkel said. "We have understood that the situation is very serious and that we want to take further measures in addition to those already taken."

Large events will also face new restrictions. The number of spectators who attend an indoor event cannot exceed 5,000, while outdoor events will be capped at 10,000 people. Only vaccinated people will be allowed to attend these events ...

Merkel also said that a nationwide vaccine mandate could be imposed in February, 2022, once Parliament votes to approve such a measure...

Charles Pandolfo, theblaze.com

*Editor's note:* Have YOU noticed that the noose is gradually tightening here in our Land of Freedom — a republic with more laws and restrictions! Notice what President Theodore Roosevelt said, "The things that will destroy America are prosperity at any price, peace at any price, safety first instead of duty first, the love of soft living and the get-rich-quick theory of life."

## **New UN Sculpture Resembles End-Time Beast Described in Revelation**

A new giant statue installed outside the United Nations headquarters in Manhattan, New York City, is being likened to an End Time 'Beast' described in Revelation 13:2.

"A guardian for international peace and security sits on the Visitor's Plaza outside UN Headquarters. The guardian is a fusion of Jaguar and eagle and donated by the Government of Oaxaca, Mexico...", the U.N. says in a tweet that includes a photo of the state.

"Interestingly, two beasts recorded in the Book of Revelation are said to symbolize political power and were described with leopard like features" wrote Twitter user Scott Freeze. "...I'm curious where the artists got their inspiration for this work."

Revelation 13:2 says, "*And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.*"

Daniel 7:2-4 reads, "*Daniel spoke and said, I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.*"

First Thessalonians 5:2-3 (reads) "*For yourselves*

*know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”...*

“Did you really think you could put this on without anyone noticing? And by chance, it has been painted in LGBT colors,” writes Michael Snyder on the Economic Collapse blog, calling the statute “one of the strangest statues that I have ever seen in my entire life.”

Anugrah Kumer, christianpost.com

## **Taliban Executed More Than One Hundred Police, Military Officers After Takeover**

AFTER...sweeping back to power in Afghanistan in August, the Taliban executed over 100 former police and military members, according to a report released (November 30) by Human Rights Watch.

The 25-page report, titled, “No Forgiveness for People Like You,” describes how the Taliban rounded up former members of the Afghan National Security Forces, which includes police, intelligence service members, military employees, military personnel and militia.

After seizing power...amid the withdrawal of U. S. troops, the Taliban promised amnesty to anyone who had opposed them, including former government employees and military employees and their families.

The report confirmed that 47 people disappeared or were killed by the group between August 15 and October 31.

It also found credible information that more than 100 people were executed in four provinces alone.

Gopusa.com

## **Rocks and Trees with Legal Rights**

The radical “Environmental Justice” agenda is one of the many pet projects packed inside ... Build Back Better (BBB) bill. “Environmental Justice” is a movement advocating that rocks and trees and water should have constitutional rights —just like humans! ...

This bill ...erases human rights in favor of pushing rights for rivers and trees while wasting trillions of dollars to radicalize the next generation of Americans. ...

The BBB bill grants 10 billion dollars to push “environmental justice” in our colleges and universities as a credit program to indoctrinate students and promote the policies of the Green New Deal. ...

It is insane to think that rocks, trees and water have constitutional rights just like human beings.

Environmental Justice is a radical movement that is infiltrating college campuses and this movement will get a big boost if the BBB bill passes.

LIBERTY COUNSEL

*Editor’s Note:* Both my Spouse & I still remember very vividly a person driving up and seeing small/newer trees being cut-down and he stated in effect, “Can you imagine how those trees must feel that are being cut down?” In the latter days, humans shall ever be learning but not come to the knowledge of the truth! In *Romans 1:18-32*, GOD talks about people’s minds shall be so mixed-up that He will give them over to a ‘debased mind’! (Or a reprobate mind!) How sad and tragic folks being so foolish that it causes God wrath/anger.

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## **Our Bible**

*Oh, wonderful, wonderful Word of the Lord!*

*True wisdom its pages unfold;*

*And though we may read them a thousand times o’er,*

*They never, no never grow old.*

*Each line hath a treasure, each promise a pearl,*

*That all they will may secure.*

*And we know that when time and the world pass away,*

*God’s Word shall forever endure.*

*Oh, wonderful, wonderful Word of the Lord!*

*The Lamp that our Father above*

*So kindly has lighted to teach us the way*

*That leads to the arms of His love.*

*Its warnings, its counsels, are faithful and just,*

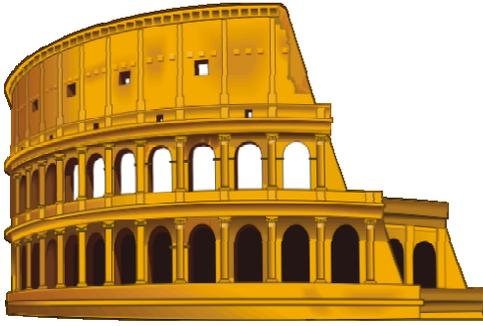
*Its judgments are perfect and pure.*

*And we know that when time and the world pass away,*

*God’s Word shall forever endure.*

Fanny J. Crosby

# The Colosseum



*“Be thou faithful unto death,  
and I will give thee a crown of life.”* (Revelation 2:10)

In Rome, there stands the remains of the Colosseum. This structure was completed just after the time of Jesus in 80 A.D. It was built like a sports stadium today – for the entertainment of people and rulers. But this was not mere sports entertainment, but the fighting and killing of warriors against each other or against animals.

## **1) The Colosseum stands as a witness to us today as Man’s brutality to his fellow man**

Roman spectators delighted in bloodshed for this stadium was built for people to watch the barbaric slaughter of people pitted against one another. “...45,000 maddened sportsmen, each bellowing his delight or dismay as he watched the varying fortunes of varying pairs of duellists. ... Whenever a man dropped, the whole mass of fiercely attentive spectators gave utterance to a general roar.”<sup>1</sup> Hatred, torture, killing and death were all incorporated into this so-called amusement.

Is this just harmless entertainment to watch without it having any effect on you? Hardly! Listen to the first-hand account of what happened to a Christian man when he went to the Colosseum:

Oddly enough, it is a zealous Christian writer who, late in the fourth century, gives us the most convincing account of the insidious fascination that the games exerted. Saint Augustine had enjoyed the pleasures of the pagan world before his conversion to the Christian faith, and he remained a remarkably acute analyst of the lawless feelings he had put behind him. Just as he probes deep into the nature of illicit love and sexual jeal-

ousy, so he describes how his friend and countryman Alypius had succumbed to the wild excitement of a gladiatorial show on his first visit to Rome. Alypius was already a Christian convert. He had come to Rome to study law, and some of his fellow law students, while they were on their way home from a dinner party, had “dragged him with friendly force” into the amphitheater despite his “strong objections and resistance.”

Once there, Alypius decided to shut his eyes. “Would that he had been able to stop up his ears, too!” For when a gladiator fell and an immense roar from the whole audience rolled around the amphitheater, he was overcome by curiosity. Convinced that he had sufficient strength of mind to resist temptation, he then opened his eyes, “and was wounded more seriously in his soul than the gladiator, whom he lusted to observe, had been wounded in the body.” Gazing at the bloodshed beneath him, the young Christian was infected by the spectators’ furious passions. He could no longer avert his gaze and began to experience a fierce enjoyment.

“He himself watched; he shouted; he rose to fever heat.” And when he left the amphitheater (no doubt the Colosseum), Alypius “took away with him a mad passion which prodded him not only to return with those by whom he had first been forced in, but even ahead of them and dragging in others.” Christ, nevertheless, “with a most powerful hand,” eventually drew him out again. “But that was long afterwards”; and meanwhile the unhappy Alypius had plunged in the depths of vice and squalor.

Alypius’ behavior at the gladiatorial games was, of course, particularly shocking since the amphitheater had witnessed the execution of so many of his fellow converts.<sup>2</sup>

## **2) The Colosseum stands as a witness of what the world really thinks about Jesus and His disciples.**

When Christians would not pledge their allegiance to the Roman gods or their emperors, they were then hunted down and executed and the Colosseum was just the place for this to happen as a grand spectacle. “The first Christian to suffer Martyrdom in the famous arena is said to

1 *The Colosseum* by Peter Quennell and the Editors of the Newsweek Book Division. Newsweek, New York. © 1971 Arnoldo Mandori Editore. pg. 47.

2 *Ibid*, pg. 60.

have been Saint Ignatius, who is reputed to have been thrown to the lions after exclaiming: 'I am as the grain of the field, and must be ground by the teeth of lions, that I may become fit for His table.' Soon afterward, we are told, 115 Christians were shot down with flights of arrows."<sup>3</sup>

Today there is more persecution against Christian people around the world today than at any time in history. You can access websites like *Voice of the Martyrs* and see the world-wide persecution and killing of Christians today. Jesus told us this in advance when He said, "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations on account of My name." (Matthew 24:9)

The brutal and public beheading of 21 Coptic Christians in Libya on February, 2015 by members of ISIS should be evidence enough of the barbaric violence against the followers of Jesus.

### **3) The Colosseum also stands as a witness of what true faith in Jesus really means.**

It is a faith that will stand true even to death, even a tortuous death – because Jesus is worth it. It is faith that obeys Jesus' Words even to the death. The Lord told us this is part of following Him. "For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it." (Matthew 16:25)

The Colosseum still stands today, though it is crumbling down, but the philosophy of the Colosseum, that of blood-thirsty savagery to our fellow man and the followers of Jesus is very much alive and well today. We have legal fighting sports today that are on the verge of violence that was done in the Colosseum, to say nothing of what is done in private venues without the knowledge of people at large. The late senator John McCain described *Ultimate Fighting Championship* or *Mixed Martial Arts* as "Human Cock Fighting." As a follower of Jesus, you cannot watch this brutal aggression without it stirring up feelings of hatred, anger and violence; just as watching promiscuous material stirs up lust and sinful desires.

This drastic increase in violence should be no surprise since Jesus told us that this would happen. He said, "And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it shall be also in the days of the Son of Man." (Luke 17:26) When we look at the description of society during this time, it was filled with violence. "Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon

the earth. Then God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth." (Genesis 6:11-13) And God tells us in no uncertain words how He feels about this kind of violence: "The Lord tests the righteous and the wicked, And the one who loves violence His soul hates." (Psalm 11:5)

Pastor Jim Haga  
Hagapublishing.com

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### **Save to the End**

"He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him." (Hebrews 7:25)

ISN'T perfect salvation something which only few men (people) have experienced? And isn't the way to a perfect salvation through surrender and a special baptism?

No; for the Word of God declares: "Them that come to God through Christ"! In other words, the way is: to come – to come honestly and uprightly with one's sin, poverty, and need. To one who thus comes God replies: "You are saved to the uttermost"!

How marvelous is the Gospel! He who comes to God through Christ is saved unto the 'uttermost'. IN Christ he is completely pure and holy. He has free access to all the fountains of strength and blessing. He has the seal and guarantee of the Holy Spirit that he shall gain the eternal victory. All this he receives simply by coming!

O my soul, how you must rejoice! Do not say you are poor, for all things are yours. You are the wealthiest creature in the world; for IN Christ, you possess a perfect salvation.

*Rest A While* by Fredrik Wisloff.

***"If a school required no study of its pupils and passed the students regardless of performance, it would soon be held in contempt. A church that holds no standards of doctrine and exercises no discipline soon loses the respect of even the ungodly."***

Vance Havner

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3 Ibid, pg. 60

## Worry Is Unfruitful

By Dr. Curtis Hutson

Jesus said, “Which of you by taking thought (worry) can add one cubit unto his stature?”

Worry cannot produce a better tomorrow or change yesterday, but it can spoil a perfectly good today!

It is impossible to list a single benefit from worry! Someone said, “Worry is like a rocking chair; it will give you something to do, but it won’t get you anywhere.”

J. Arthur Rank, an English executive, decided to do all his worrying on one day each week. He chose Wednesdays. When anything happened that gave him anxiety and annoyed his ulcer, he would write it down and put it in his “worry box” and forget about it until the next Wednesday.

The interesting thing was that on the following Wednesday when he opened his “worry box,” he found that most of the things that had disturbed him the past six days were already settled!

Someone gave this *estimate* of what most people worry about: Things that never happen, 40%; things over the past that can’t be changed by the worry in the world, 30% needless health worries, 12%, petty, miscellaneous worries, 10%, real, legitimate worries, 8%.

We doubt if there is any such thing as “a real, legitimate worry,” since the Bible says in Philippians 4:6, “Be careful for nothing.” The literal meaning is, “Don’t worry about even one thing.”

### *Worry Is Unwise*

There are three reasons why worry is unwise:

1. It is harmful to one physically, mentally and emotionally.
2. It makes one a poor steward of his time and energy.
3. It shows a lack of faith in our Heavenly Father’s care for us and in the integrity of His promises.

Dr. W. C. Alvarez, a stomach specialist at Mayo Clinic, said: “Eighty percent of the stomach disorders that come to the Clinic are not organic but functional. ... Most of our ills are caused by worry and fear, and it is my experience that faith is more important than food in the care of stomach ulcers.”

The renown Dr. Charles Mayo himself said: “Worry affects the circulation, the heart, the glands, the whole nervous system; and it profoundly affects the health.”

Another medical doctor said: “Worry sets up a general dis-organization of the system, makes and liberates all sorts of bodily poisons, throws glands and their functions all out of gear, and lowers the resistance to the very edge of limpness. ... Prolonged and great worry may mean an eventual breakup, flabby heart, hardened arter-

ies, premature senility, paralysis of the will which may ultimately lead to suicide.”

No wonder one executive displayed a sign in his office: “The fellow who worried yesterday about tomorrow isn’t here today.”

Worry wastes energy. A large industrial firm discovered that nine out of ten cases of workers’ inefficiency were caused by worry.

Worry produces imaginary troubles and often gives a small thing a big shadow.

Someone said: “To worry about what we can’t help is useless; to worry about what we can help is stupid.”

When Peter Marshall was chaplain of the United States Senate, he once shocked the dignified body when he prayed, “Help us to do our very best this day and be content with today’s troubles so we shall not borrow the troubles of tomorrow. Save us from the sin of worrying lest stomach ulcers be the badge of our lack of faith. Amen.”

### *Worry Is Unnecessary*

Jesus said in Matthew 6:25-26: “Therefore I say unto you, Take, no thought (don’t worry) for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what shall ye put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?”

Later in the same chapter, the Lord promised us food and clothing: “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (vs. 33).

Since the Father “knoweth that ye have need of all these things” and since HE promised that “these things shall be added unto you,” then worry is unnecessary!

Sword of the Lord

*Editor’s Note:* There is a fine line and a clear distinction between ‘worry’ and ‘concern’. Basically, when a person has a ‘concern’ they can do something in regards to the ‘concern’ but ‘worry’ is out of a person’s reach. FURTHERMORE, for a Christian to worry is not only struggling with unbelief, but is SIN!

**“Our laurels must grow among His olives in Gethsemane.”**

**C.H. Spurgeon**

## MY REFUGE

As we learn to know GOD, we flee to Him more and more with our difficulties, temporal as well as spiritual.

There are times in our lives when our little life-boats sail along quietly and smoothly. We encounter no difficulty with adverse winds and currents.

Our health is good. Our work prospers. Everything goes along well in our homes; everything is peaceful and congenial from day to day. Financially we get along well also! Now and then we have a few difficulties, but on the whole seems to work out wonderfully well.

In such times *many* Christians forget to go to the secret place of the Most High.

Prosperous times make it easy to “believe” in God! People think that God is good. Men give advice right and left about believing in God.

Without a doubt, many a Christian has lost his spiritual life in the sunny, but dry air of prosperity!

Only a few can weather prosperity and be none the worse for it.

These people are such as can do all things through Christ, who strengthened them. Like Paul they have learned the secret both to abound and to be in want (Philippians 4:12-13). Their refuge is in the LORD in days of prosperity as well as adversity.

Nor do they fail to thank Him for it!

On the contrary, they give thanks to God for *all* things in the Name of Jesus (Ephesians 5:20). And they are aware of their weaknesses even when they are prosperous!

Therefore, too, they flee to God even in prosperity. Thus, they overcome the world, even its prosperity!

There are times in our lives when adverse winds and storms let loose their fury against our little skiff. All our plans are crossed; all our hopes are dashed to pieces.

Illness, sorrow, and the vacant chair find their way into our homes. Impaired health makes work a burden and leaves us in straightened financial circumstances.

One difficulty follows hard upon the other. There is scarcely time to catch one’s breath between the breakers.

Then it is well to know the way to the secret place of the Most-High! Blessed is he who has learned to flee to God, to seek refuge *under HIS wings*, and to find a haven from storm and tempest.

Two and a half thousand years ago they sang: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1).

Yea, verily in times of trouble our refuge in the Lord has always been a very present help. When the soul

which is sick and weary unto death creeps under the wings of the loving Savior and speaks out its woe, or sinks down in nameless anguish without uttering a word, then it experiences what Jesus promised His friends: “My peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you” (John 14:27). NOT AS THE WORLD GIVETH!

*Under His Wings* by O. Hallesby, © Augsburg, 1932.

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## God’s Help

“I will help thee, saith the Lord” (Isa. 41:14)

THIS morning let us hear the Lord Jesus speak to each one of us “*I will help thee.*” It is but a small thing for Me, thy God, to *help thee*. Consider what I have done already. What! Not help thee? Why, I bought thee with My Blood. What! Not help thee? I have died for thee; and if I have done the greater, will I not do the less? *Help thee!* It is the least thing I will ever do for thee; I have done more, and *will* do more. Before the world began, I chose thee. I made the covenant for thee. I laid aside MY glory and became a man for thee; I gave up MY life for thee; and if I did all this, I will surely help thee now. In helping thee, I am giving thee what I have bought for thee already. If thou hadst need of a thousand times as much help, I would give it thee; thou require little compared with what I am ready to give. ‘Tis much for thee to need, but it is nothing for me to bestow. ‘*Help thee?*’ Fear not! If there were an ant at the door of thy granary asking for help, it would not ruin thee to give him a handful of thy wheat; and thou art nothing but a tiny insect at the door of My all-sufficiency. “*I will help thee*”

Oh, my soul, is not this enough? Dost thou need more strength than the omnipotence of the Unity Trinity? Dost thou want more wisdom than exists in the Father, more love than displays itself in the Son, or more power than is manifest in the influences of the Spirit? Bring hither thine empty pitcher! Surely this Well will fill it. Haste, gather up thy wants, and bring them here — thine emptiness, thy woes, thy needs. Behold, this River of God is full for thy supply; what canst thou desire beside? Go forth, my soul, in this thy might. *The Eternal God is thine helper!*

“Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismay’d!  
I, I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.”

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

## Lessons From a Sheep Dog

Though I was an energetic young man with a strong set of legs and excellent lungs I simply could not round up the sheep alone. The flock scattered and fled in five directions when I tried to gather them up alone on foot. No matter how fast I ran or how loud I shouted the sheep still strayed in their own stubborn way.

So, I was obliged to find a coworker, a helper — and “under-shepherd,” if you will — in a sheep dog who would carry out my will and my wishes in managing my stock! Working together with each other in harmony, good will, and mutual delight, one good sheep dog and myself could accomplish as much as five men.

In a touching, moving way, the same precise principle holds true in God’s dealing with the world of men and women. The Lord called Himself the Good Shepherd. He pictured Himself for us as the one who had come to care for the “lost sheep”. He carefully instructed His disciples to be His co-laborers who were to feed and tend His ewes and lambs.

It will be recalled how, after His RESURRECTION, Jesus met His young friends beside the Lake of Galilee, and there prepared them a breakfast of fresh baked fish and chapatis. When the meal was over, HE turned to the big, rough fisherman Peter, asking him three times: “Peter, do you really love me? Are you really my friend?” When the burly young man assured the Master of his loyalty and love, Jesus responded three times by saying:

“Peter, feed my lambs.”

“Peter, feed my sheep.”

“Peter, feed my sheep.”

This was the special labor, the unique work, the specific purpose to which he was assigned.

It has been well said that “God has no hands in the world but our hands. He has no feet here but our feet. He has no lips but our lips.” This is but another way of stating the rather obvious case that in a mysterious yet wondrous way our Father God chooses to carry on His purpose upon the planet through the fallible agency of common people most of the time.

He can, and, on rare occasions, does break through into human affairs in supernatural ways. (Ed. How about through nature as events in the last period of time have been unusual!) Yet in the main He chooses to use us ordinary people to accomplish His grand designs. Seen in this dimension we begin to perceive the enormous honor and divine dignity HE bestows on those of us chosen to become His coworkers.

Very often, as in my first encounter with Lass, He finds us cast in the wrong role, caught in the toils of our own intransigence, abused and misused by the wrong

hands of an uncaring master! This truth struck me with tremendous impact the day I drove up to the lady’s gate and heard her rant and rave about her “*crazy collie*.” Obviously the two long years they had spent together had been torture. She had no inkling of how to handle such a beautiful creature, bred for such special service, capable of such great good. ...

But, and “but” is a very big word here, she had to be in the right hands! She had to come into the care of a good shepherd. She had to have her old habits broken, her energies redirected, and her remarkable instincts channeled into the precise purposes for which she had been bred.

Precisely the same principle holds true for us people. We have been created in the generous sovereignty of God to achieve great things with Him. HE endows us with the inherent capacity to carry out His will and do His work in the world, as we work together under His care. He is eager to see us share with Him in the sublime out-working of His purposes upon the planet. Together it is His intention that we should touch many lives, enrich many spirits and bring many souls into His special care and management.

For this to happen we must be loosed from the tyranny of the wrong owner (Satan is a ‘thief’). We must be released from servitude to sin, to self, to our sinister slave master, Satan.

This implies, of course, that a person is unshackled from one owner, to be brought under the management of another. There is no such thing as “*absolute freedom*.” For even though human beings are free agents, by the very virtue of the facts of life, they must of necessity come under the control of forces and influences greater than themselves!

Excerpt taken from *Lessons from a Sheep Dog*,  
Author and Copyright by W. Phillip Keller

Martin Luther said: The person who does not fear himself has the greatest reason to fear of all! No doubt because of as an example:” *Cursed is the man who trusts in man And makes flesh his strength, Whose heart departs from the LORD. The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?*” (Jeremiah 17:5, 9)

“*Therefore, let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.*” (I Corinthians 10:12)

## We Will See the Glory of the Lord

By Linda Bengtson, Ishinomaki, Japan

Recently I have been studying the story of Elijah, the Old Testament prophet. I often preorder English Bible study materials according to the mood of the day. I like the author of the material. Or ... this looks like an interesting topic. Months later, when I actually begin the study, I find that God, in His mercy and compassion, has provided exactly the encouragement I need at that time.

One of my biggest challenges this year has been ... Waiting! Lots of waiting. Of course, the pandemic and all the anti-infection measures have been a huge part of that. There have been other things too, though. Plans that have moved ahead more slowly than anticipated. Or plans that couldn't even be made — due to weather, everchanging COVID restrictions, or circumstances beyond our control. Last year, between coronavirus and Dean's stroke, we had to stop almost all the outreach activities we have doing for years. Instead of concerts, cooking classes, gatherings, and eating out, we have concentrated on prayer and personal evangelism. Those are both very good things! Why do I feel so unsettled?

As I mull over Elijah's life in 1 Kings, I consider all the time he spent sidelined, depending on ravens and a widow for sustenance during a very long famine. Yet as Elijah waited, God was strengthening his faith and preparing him for what was ahead. It's been helpful for me to see this. I'm confident that God has also been using our time "on hold" for His purposes. One thing is sure. We no longer have any delusions about how much we accomplish on our own! We continually remind ourselves that House of Hope has been God's ministry from the beginning. He has provided for all our needs since we started, and those provisions have rarely coincided with our original preferred timetables. In spite of that,

### Someone

*In this world it's refreshing to find  
Someone who still has the time to be kind;  
Someone who still has the faith to believe  
That the more you give, the more you receive;  
Someone who's ready by thought, word or deed  
To reach out a hand in the hour of need.*

Helen Steiner Rice

however, we know GOD is never too early or too late. HE has proven that many times over.

Recently I read, "I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord..." (Psalm 27:13), NASB 1995. YES, YES, YES. Me too! This is my verse.

During year two of the pandemic, we made a vegetable garden in the House of Hope parking lot and built a playground next door. ... Both projects helped us stay outside more and remain better connected with the neighborhood at a time when many people resigned themselves to just staying home!

We have also been able to continue visiting our neighbors the whole time, talking with them at the front door or outside in the yard. And this year, except for January, we have been able to continue the monthly Bible time with Pastor Zeniya from our sister church in Sendai. From April through October, we were able to meet outdoors on our backyard deck every month. Several times it rained until the hour before, but the clouds always cleared out in time. April and October can be chilly in our part of Japan, but this year there was enough to make it work! In June only one other person was able to come, but in October eight neighbors attended! We've had some first-time attenders this year, and several regulars have invited friends.

We go house to house inviting people to the Bible time, and this has developed into a regular monthly connection. We listen a lot and learn all kinds of interesting and sometimes distressing things about our neighbors' lives. It's sometimes overwhelming to know so much, but we try to encourage them and bring those situations to God in prayer. Often, foreigners are "safe" to talk to, as we aren't part of the same social hierarchy. This year we have also started giving out a Christian publication each month with our Bible time invitation. ... sometimes we bring tea and cookie packs with the paper. "Here is something delicious for your stomach AND your soul." There are many ways to share God's Word!

As we close out this year, we are still doing some waiting, but we have a lot of hope — hope in GOD and HIS plans for the future. I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in this place (Psalm 27:13).

*I believe this with all my heart!*

*Faith & Fellowship*, January/February, 2022.

Editor's Note: This article should most certainly encourage us who are of the biblical convictions of the *Morning Glory!* Some essential biblical truths to put into PRACTICE to further the Kingdom of God through this ministry!

## Small...Yet Significant

By Pastor Brent Juliot, Menomonie, WI

ON April 20, 2010, an explosion occurred on Deep-water Horizon drilling platform in the Gulf of Mexico. The explosion, killed eleven men, eventually resulted in five million gallons of oil leaking into the gulf waters. Carl-Henric Svanberg, the British Petroleum Chairman, declared, "We care about the small people." It is doubtful the President would have used that terminology. Svanberg was simply speaking as a European, and he was trying to refer to ordinary citizens.

But it didn't play well in the U.S. Even if we lack wealth or social status, we take great offense when someone says we are small. The resulting firestorm led Svanberg eventually to apologize for his "clumsy" apology for the oil spill.

But was he wrong? Here we are, in truth, these tiny human beings set against the backdrop of the vast Universe! We feebly protest that we are not small. Incredibly, the Almighty GOD — who sees just how small we are — still takes intimate interest in the mundane cares and details of our lives!

Our smallness, if understood properly, may be a virtue and a source of great blessings.

(Jesus) called a little child to Him, and placed the child among them. And HE said: "*Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven*" Matthew 18:2-4.

In God's, mind, smallness does not equal insignificance.

Which brings us to the beginning of the Lord's Prayer... What is the significance of Jesus telling His humble Disciples that they should call the *Almighty God their Father*?

Martin Luther writes in the Small Catechism: "With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and we are His true children, so that we may pray to Him as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father."

Addressing God as your Father with sincerity of heart and mind assumes several things are true: You love Him. You trust Him. You serve Him gladly. You want Him in your life. You know, with all confidence, that He wants you for His life.

Humility, as a harsh reality forced upon us, adds up to a miserable existence. But humility before a loving God? This is acceptance of a blessed reality! For you who live in Christ today, your smallness bears no relation to insignificance. You are just a *small child*, but are the

daughter or son of the King!

*Faith & Fellowship*, January/February, 2022

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## Children Of The Resurrection

*Please read Luke 20:27-36*

Here is an angel of God! What is he like? What is his characteristic? If God were to send you an angel to be your servant, the instruction sheet would state the following: This angel will never marry, therefore, he will never leave your service. He will always serve you. This angel is exempt from physical death. He will always serve you. This angel was created by Me, the Almighty God! Therefore, he is less than Me even though he is exempt from death. But I have given this angel mighty power to serve ME and My purposes. He possesses smithy, but not Almighty Powers.

Luke writes of the children (sons) of the Resurrection, "*they are equal to the angels* (verse 36). What he means is that between those who are resurrected to Eternal Life and the Glory of God, no distinction can be found. The characteristics of men and angels will be the same in Glory! They are equal. At the same time, we need to understand that there is no metamorphosis at the resurrection! That is, man is resurrected to Eternal Life and does not change (become) into an angel. He rather receives his glorified body which is equal in characteristics.

Notice also that those resurrected to Eternal Life have been "accounted worthy" to be resurrected (verse 35). The natural question is, can man, after he has died, resurrect himself from the dead? The obvious answer is no! He must be accounted worthy to be the son or daughter of God. Who has that right to determine who is God's son or daughter and, therefore, are worthy to be raised from the dead? It is the LORD Himself who accounts (*imputes*) worthiness.

The worthiness of Jesus Christ is the only worth any person can own. "*Much more than being justified (declared worthy by God for Jesus' sake) by His (Jesus) Blood (shed), we shall be saved from wrath through Him (Jesus)*" (Romans 5:9).

God has shown us the instruction sheet of the characteristics of angels. There will be no distinction for the resurrected in those areas.

The worthiness of Christ Jesus claimed makes you a child of the resurrection!

*HOW GREAT THIS GRACE,*

A Devotional by Pastor James A. Peterson.

## UpDate

Press on!

**“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended, but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:13-14)”**

It is now the 102-year Anniversary of the HLIF. It was founded (by mostly lay-people) as GOD has been very faithful unto this His Ministry AND we want to be faithful unto HIM, by God’s GRACE, etc., to continue ‘Pressing on’!

I will instruct you and teach you in the way which thou goest is God’s Instruction and promise for those who are His children! Let us, then, take all our perplexities to HIM, and pray, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

ONE day that will be, sooner or later, we shall leave this sinful world, this will be our last removal and if we know JESUS as our personal SAVIOR; we shall spend all Eternity with JESUS whom we LOVE! What a day that will be when we see Jesus who died for me! CHRISTIAN, meditate much on Heaven, it will help you to press on, and forge the toil on the way. This vale of tears is but the pathway to this much better Country, as this *world* is but a stepping stone to a world of eternal BLISS!

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

Thank you for your concern for us.

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## *Easter Glory*

*Let the Empty Cross and a  
Risen Savior ignite a Fresh  
Application in Your Heart for  
the ONE who cherished you  
Enough to Make the Ultimate  
SACRIFICE.*