



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • October 2023

Now – Not Later

“Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (II Cor. 6:12). This is God’s word to us. There is a note of urgency about it. The time to be saved is NOW.

The enemy of our souls assures us that there is time enough, that we need not be in any haste, that we can wait until later. Delay is Satan’s master-trick by which he would deceive and destroy us. And many are deceived and destroyed.

Why do so many fall into the habit of putting off accepting Christ and His wonderful salvation? What are some of the reasons for such strange behavior?

First an instinctive, natural desire to get rid of an unpleasant subject. When an unregenerate man hears the demands and the judgments of God’s holy law against him, he becomes uneasy and fearful. And when he hears the good news of God’s love even to such as he, he becomes even more uneasy and fearful. His awakened conscience tells him to turn his back on the old life of self and sin, and to look to Jesus. But the deceiver is right there whispering into his troubled and restless soul not to be unduly alarmed, not to do anything rash, but to take his time about this matter of heeding God’s call. So man shrinks back, creeps into himself, and tries his best to keep his mind from dwelling on these disturbing thoughts. And he settles back into the same old evil ways to wait until later.

Another reason—thinking that there is time enough. So many, especially young people, have a notion that it is early enough for them to consider this serious matter of the soul’s salvation when they are older. They reason that religion is all very well for older people, who soon must die, but while youth is theirs, they need not be troubled with such

thoughts. Not yet, they say. “Young people will be young people.” “You cannot put old heads on young shoulders.” “They must sow their wild oats.” By statements such as these they indicate that vice and godlessness belong to youth, virtue and religion to old age. Be not deceived. Search your own thoughts and hearts and see if this is the reason that leads you to say “Not now.”

Yet another reason – permitting the world to obliterate impressions made upon the soul by the Word of God. Many fall into the habit of putting off decision for Christ, not by saying “No, I will not,” but by allowing duties and cares or the pleasures and enticements of the world to crowd out all serious thoughts of God. If they did not have so much to do they would have time to think about God and the soul’s welfare. If it were not for ambitions, enjoyments and the demands of social life they would have time for eternal values: Time and thought for the world, but not for heeding God’s gracious call to seek Him NOW. When occasionally they hear the Word of God and the Seed Divine falls on the soil of their souls, “hovering flocks of light-winged thoughts and vanities pounce upon it and carry it away, seed by seed.” And should some stray seed remain and take root, they permit the rank weeds of cares and growth. And so is set aside the Father’s gracious plan, all intended to lead them to the cross of Christ.

And yet another reason — unwillingness to pay the price of heeding the call. They know that they must give up some things which are inconsistent with loving and serving the Lord. It always costs something to follow Jesus. I wonder if there is anyone reading these words who fears that if he permits the Word of God to carry him

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where it would carry him, he would have to give up some old habits and practices, and live a different life with higher and nobler aims. I wonder if anyone reading these words is thinking and saying: I cannot give up this, or that. Listen to what Jesus says, “If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out and cast it from thee; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell” (Matt. 5:29).

Why Now?

Delaying decision for Christ is so unreasonable. No time will be more convenient than NOW. The right time to do the right thing is NOW. There is nothing to wait for. NOW is the time for you to enter into fellowship with Christ and get busy in His service. You may have Christ and the riches of His grace right NOW! Why will you postpone a moment, possessing in Him life abundant, His highest blessings and purest joy and greatest strength? Why should you hold back any part of your life from Him Who gave His life for you?

Delaying decision for Christ is laying up for yourself bitter memories. There are good Christian men and women in the world today, I have no doubt, who would gladly give up all they possess, if they could blot out memories of the past, before they gave their lives to Christ, memories that sting, remembrances that continue to hurt even when they know

themselves forgiven. Believe me, my friend, you will be spared many a sorrow, many a heartache by yielding yourself to Christ now.

And, last of all, delay is a reckless gamble. It is gambling with your life, with your soul's eternal destiny. Every time you feel the Spirit's prompting and pleading, and resist, you make yourself less capable of heeding His call another time. This is what makes the reading and the hearing of God's Word such a responsible thing. You will perhaps never again have such strong impressions as you have right NOW, for the tendency of all truth is to lose some of its power by repetition when not acted upon. So, I beseech you, heed God's loving call NOW. Let it lead you to Christ NOW!

Are you still saying, "When I get older I will turn religious"? I repeat, this is gambling with your soul's salvation. You may not get older. Death may overtake you suddenly. Later may be too late.

So come NOW, my friend, as a penitent soul to Christ, your Savior. Ask Him to forgive you. Believe Him when He says He has forgiven you and accepted you as His own. Ask Him to stay close by your side and help you to walk in His steps. But, do it NOW!

TO THE READER

Should it be that you do not have assurance of salvation, or know that you are not living in a right and true relation to God, talk with your pastor at once. If you have no pastor, contact a sincere and mature Christian or the pastor of a church where the salvation of souls holds a central place.

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BLESSED IS THE MAN

The word "Blessed" as used in the Bible comes from different Hebrew and Greek words with slightly different meanings.

The most commonly used Hebrew word for "Blessed" as used in the Old Testament is "Barak," which denotes the idea of great happiness and complete satisfaction. It suggests the result of God's Divine Favor upon the recipient of such a blessing. The New Testament Greek word "Makarios" continues this idea of great happiness and is the word used in the "Beatitudes" of Matthew, Chapter Five. Thus the word "happy" can usually be interchanged for the word "blessed" in the Bible as long as one understands that happiness comes from the Lord and is lasting.

The Bible rarely uses superlatives; it rather tells it ex-

actly as it is. The exception to this is in trying to describe the character of God or His mercy to man.

Therefore, in sharing "Blessed is the Man," we can only say there is no way of adequately expressing how much God has in store for us if we want to claim His promises and blessings. "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him." (I Corinthians 2:9)

"How blessed are the people whose God is the Lord!"
Psalm 144:15

Before we examine some of the blessings which God has promised to us individually, it is important that we consider a few select, corporate blessings which God has promised to His people.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance." - Psalm 33:12

We live in critical times within our own nation. Both Scripture and history firmly attest to the fact that a people whose God is the Lord need never fear destruction from without, and that the mark of disaster for any people is when they forget God and stand against His character.

God has promised to unconditionally support and defend us as a people if we allow Him to be our God. "Now it shall be, if you will diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you will obey the Lord your God: "- Deuteronomy 28:1-2

Even though these promises were given specifically to the Hebrew people, and should not be taken out of this context, yet they still apply to all who would obey God's Word and do His will.

So we can, therefore, claim the blessing of Numbers 6:24-27: "The Lord bless you, and keep you; The Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace."

If we claim our heritage as children of God, "blessed is the man" is our position.

If we claim our heritage as people of God, "blessed are the people" is our position.

Oliver and Patricia Olson: Copyright 1975
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(Editor: Oliver Olson was one of my professors at California Lutheran Bible School, he was a tremendous blessing to me and all the students he taught both in California and at the Omaha Bible School he ran for 20 Years.)

The Ongoing Revival

THE REVIVAL BEGINNING IN 1925

(Continued from the September issue)

William's narrative ends with the service held Good Friday, April 10, 1925. While others were being prayed for, I walked out of the church. While Clemmence Dyrud and I stood visiting together, one of the choir members approached me, gave us tracts, and spoke a kind word of invitation, "Make the decision today, boys!" Then he joined the choir in the bus and, as they drove off, they sang "What a wonderful, wonderful Savior, would die on the cross for me." (By the way: the choir member who spoke to us and gave us tracts was Johannes Ringstad, who became a valuable pastor in the Lutheran Free Church.)

I could easily term my conversion that day one of "irresistible grace." I had nothing to do with it. I was not conscious of any special conviction of sin. I had known all along that I was lost and a sinner, but now the resistance to God was utterly undermined. I could not resist, nor did I want to. Being it was Good Friday, the Holy Spirit took the songs that had been sung and magnified them into a most heavenly choir of redeemed souls, singing and praising the Slain Lamb.

I had lived and feasted on this glory, and then God began to take away the emotions that He might put me on more solid ground. This period became one of serious testing and praying until I was almost worn out, until I found Romans 5:1, "Being justified by faith we have peace with God..."

In July of that year, Bethesda invited Pastor Torval Tergesen and Adolph Pedersen for a series of meetings. The presence and power of the Holy Spirit was felt from the very beginning. Pastor Tergesen spoke in the Norwegian language and Pedersen in English. The latter also played the guitar and sang. A group of young people sang every evening and one of the songs God used was a new song at that time, "Love Lifted Me," and also "He Is Able and Willing To Save." The church was filled every evening and the services continued for three weeks. Unsaved people came and were laid hold of without any human pressure. I remember one instance, when a group of returned veterans from World War I came across the road from the grocery store operated by Mr. Seielstad and as they came, one of them asked, "Who will they get a hold of tonight?" And he was the very one the Spirit of God called that night. At the end of the service, he arose from the midst of his companions and asked for prayer. Both he and his wife came to

Christ that night with others. The spirit of revival and awakening continued after the meetings were over. I recall one evening meeting, a Ladies Aid, sponsored by Mrs. Seielstad. The whole community gathered and the church had to be used. Pastor Hjelmeland spoke and God used him to consolidate the results. I believe I dare say that because of his whole-hearted relationship to this moving of the Holy Spirit, the awakening continued on also in Newfolden.

The awakening came especially among the young people. Besides the ones who came in our family, there were four in the Dyrud family, Harvey, Clemmence, Edel and Beatrice, and later Chester and Amos. Ingvald Rokke came through a bit later. Several full-time workers both abroad and at home entered into the harvest fields because of the call of the Spirit through this awakening.

A genuine awakening is a work of God, and it produces good fruit. But, although the source of all revival power is of God, He uses human instruments in bringing it about.

Today, the world faces a desperate situation. A Heaven-sent awakening is the only remedy that can stop the ravages of sin and Satan in our land. The question is, are we willing to be made willing to pray and seek the face of God. A revival is very costly. It stirs up the community - some for and some against the work of the Spirit. Jesus plainly indicated this, as in Luke 12:51-53, "From henceforth there shall be five in one household divided three against two and two against three . . ." A church that has been lulling its people into spiritual sleep, absolved from their unconfessed sins, will experience turmoil and conflict, IF THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS ABLE TO EVEN TOUCH SUCH A CONGREGATION. It can be too late to ever awaken such congregations and synods - even as it was with the church of Laodicea, who faced the dreadful possibility of being spued out of the mouth of Christ.

Dr. Wesvig of Luther Seminary once said, "We have had two world wars, but no national revival." This cannot continue without serious and final expulsion from the presence of God.

May the history of revival not be only history, but a call from the Holy Spirit to chastening, submission and dedication to intercessory, even agonizing, prayer for our homes, churches and nation.

- Arnold E. Windahl (May 1988)
Compiled by Harvey Dyrud July 1990

Editorial

Wayne Almlie

The Old Paths

“Thus says the LORD: “Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls.” (Jer. 6:16, NKJV)

Within the church today there is a hunger for the next new thing, or there is a hunger for change, for modernization, or the church needs to change with the times. The late Bishop John Shelby Spong wrote a book titled “Why Christianity must change or die.” Well the bad news for Bishop Spong is, he died two years ago, but Christianity is still alive and well, and the gates of Hell will never prevail over it.

Yes, there can be new and fresh preaching of Biblical truths, but the message doesn’t change. We have almost 2,000 years of Christian history and teaching. We can’t go wrong asking for the old paths and walking in them. It is a good way.

That’s why in the “Morning Glory” we have a blend of the new with the old. There is nothing wrong with new writings, with fresh insights into old truths. In a sense if our testimony is only about what God has done in our life in the past, and nothing about how we are walking with him today, that could indicate a problem. We look to the past, we look to the testimony of those who went before us, both in the scriptures and in the writings of other Christians, and in doing so we don’t drift away. Hebrews 2:1, “We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.”

And when we look at our past, and look where we are today, even in our Haugean type churches it seems that maybe we have drifted.

I found an old “Evangelize” in my parent’s belongings. This was the monthly magazine put out by the LEM. In it was a report from the January 1971 LEM winter youth gathering. On the Saturday evening session at the Minneapolis Armory there were 5,000 in attendance. I wasn’t there for that one, but Hendrum did send a bus load of youth the next year for the 1972 winter youth gathering. I was one of those that attended that year.

In that same Evangelize magazine (April 1971) this news item was posted:

HENDRUM CONFERENCE

“We experienced another delightful area conference, February 14-18, at Hendrum, Minnesota, at Imman-

uel Lutheran Church. Sharing the Word were Pastors Paul Guldseth of Edinburg, N. Dak.; William Hutter of Aurora, Ill.; and W. E. Klawitter. No, it wasn’t a conference of several hundred people each day. Perhaps the largest morning attendance was around the eighty-mark and the evening around two hundred, with an average of over 40 children meeting with Mrs. Anhalt.

What made it interesting was that it was a fellowship of those who wanted to be there and share the days with fellow-believers on the Way. Youth, too, came in goodly numbers on Saturday evening, led in inspiration by the Kingsmen team from Concordia College. Thanks to Pastor and Mrs. Elmer Anhalt and the ladies of the parish for their fine hospitality.”

This was the church I grew up in, it was through the preaching at an LEM conference at Hendrum where I was first awakened to my need. Now awakened and saved are two different things, it was probably about 4 years later that I was saved. I was not yet saved in February 1971 and I don’t remember going to this conference.

But it’s interesting, they considered 80 for a morning session and 200 for an evening session a lite turn out. The Hauge Intermission has for its entire history done revival meetings and Bible conferences – hundreds used to come, and each year attendance dropped, to where there were maybe only 30 at our last conference. Yes it was a conference of those who wanted to be there and we were greatly blessed by the speakers and the fellowship of the saints. So still worth doing.

(If you think your church would benefit by having a weekend Bible conference, please contact us.)

It seems we have drifted away. People seem to no longer hunger for the Word of God and for the fellowship of believers.

We need to, “Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die (Rev 3:2). There are some things that remain, some good things, but if we aren’t vigilant, they will die and Christ will remove our lampstand. Let’s purpose in our hearts to not let that happen. Let’s pray the Lord of the harvest, that

once again the harvest might be made ready, and that laborers will be prepared to go to the fields.

“Cleanse Me” was a hymn written by the late revival historian J. Edwin Orr, I especially like the last verse, may this be our prayer.

O Holy Ghost, revival comes from Thee;
Send a revival, start the work in me.
Thy Word declares thou wilt supply our need;
For blessings now, O Lord, I humbly plead.

The Crossroad

“Enter ye in by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction.” (Matt 7:13,14)

Our Saviour reminds us in the words of our text that we are standing at life’s crossroad or let us say eternity’s crossroad. At this crossroad we see two gates opening into roads which lead to two different destinies—heaven or hell. It is of the utmost importance that we choose the right gate.

In the Rocky Mountains there is a place called “The Great Divide.” Some of the water coming from the melted snow flows westward at this point and finally enters into the Pacific. Other waters flow eastward and empty into the Gulf of Mexico and eventually into the Atlantic. The destiny of the water depends upon from what side of the Divide it begins to flow.

Let us carefully examine the two gates so that we may know what road we are entering upon. Many are deceived, thinking they are on the road to heaven while in reality they are on the road to hell. God save us from such deception!

First, let us look at the broad gate and road. It is so broad that you may enter with all your pride and your sinful habits. No effort or sacrifice is required on your part. There is no admission charge. You are never alone, for crowds rush through the gate. Drunkards, harlots, gamblers, fools and blasphemers are here, and many others.

The one thing you must do as you enter this alluring gate is to leave Jesus outside. You may have all the religion you want, and form of godliness, but not Jesus. There is no room for Him, though the way is so wide.

The gatekeeper, Satan, and his many helpers are all grinning. But if you examine the gatekeeper carefully, you will see that though he is dressed in sheep’s clothing, within he is a wolf, a lion, a dragon all combined in one. His purpose is to murder and devour everyone who enters his gate. He wants their company in the lake of fire throughout the endless eternity.

Soon after one enters this broad gate, he discovers that the “way of the transgressor is hard.” The gatekeeper promises liberty, but gives slavery. He promises peace,

but gives despair. He promises pleasure, but gives pain and agony.

There are many accidents on this wide road. One after another is killed and suddenly hurled into hell. The daily paper published on broad street has headlines—suicides, murders, war and broken homes. Eventually everyone on this road will land in hell, unless he is changed.

Now let us look at the narrow gate for a moment. It may not seem very attractive. Few are entering, for it is not a popular way. The gate is so narrow that I cannot take any baggage of sin with me. In fact, the requirements for entering are so exacting that I cannot do it in my strength and by my own merits.

Jesus is the Gatekeeper. Yes, He is the Door. Only through Him can I enter, for He has taken away my sins in His death on the cross. When I confess my sins and accept Him as my Saviour, trusting in Him alone for salvation, I enter the narrow road.

At first glance this road may seem colorless and lonely. But it is not so. Jesus, Who went with me through the gate, goes with me all the way. He gives me grace for every need. Every entering I do is not in my strength or by my own merits.

I find the best of fellowship with other Christians on this road. I find life, joy, peace and hope.

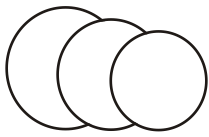
At the end of the road there is a golden gate that opens to the New Jerusalem, to the land that is fairer than day. There the Gatekeeper Who first called me at the narrow gate will say, “Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you.”

Be sure, dear reader, that you make the right choice at life’s crossroad. Your eternal destiny is at stake.

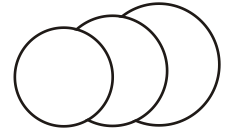
Evangelize, May 1965 Evald Conrad

Polycarp’s final Testimony

“Eighty and six years have I now served Christ, and he has never done me the least wrong; how, then, can I blaspheme my King and my Saviour?”
-The reply of Polycarp (69-155/160) to the Roman Proconsul who commanded him to swear allegiance to Caesar, saying, “Swear, and I will set thee at liberty; reproach Christ!” At his refusal, he was murdered.



From Our Fellowship Circle



F. C.
God Bless You

Viroqua, WI

Anonymous

Check in honor of the years Pastor Rodney Stueland and Barbara Stueland gave to the ministry of the Morning Glory.

To Find and to Save

It happens at times that what we hear, read or experience runs through us like a warm current.

I felt such a current in my breast yesterday, when I read what a father wrote about his daughter—that she had been found and saved by the grace of God and had entered into the eternal rest.

She was a daughter in the first home where I was guest in a foreign land—with the exception of my brother's home. At that time she was a beautiful and happy little girl. The years went by; she grew up, the world called with alluring promises—and she followed the call. Causing many a sigh and tear to her father and mother. Now she was lying in a hospital far from home, and she could not live much longer.

Now earnest prayers rose up to God from a small town in North Dakota, but also from the heart of her who was sick in body and soul some two thousand miles away.

And God heard the prayers. For it was He who had called forth these prayers.

A brother was privileged to bring to her broken spirit words of comfort and consolation from God.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring glad tidings!

Now she lay there a penitent sinner and read God's precious promises—it was well that she had heard and read them as a child. Promises like these: Whosoever cometh to me I will in no wise cast out; the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin. The promises were also given her. She found salvation.

When Jesus was criticized because He dined with a publican, He said: "The Son of man came to seek and to save those who were lost."

On the 17th of December, 1927, a gripping tragedy took place outside Cape Cod, when a submarine, colliding with a vessel, went to the bottom of the sea with 40 men on board.

Divers were sent down and they found the submarine. They found more: By crawling on top of the sunken boat, the intrepid diver, Thomas Cadie, found by pounding with his hammer that there were living men in the torpedo room at the bow. A pathetic but brief conversation was hammered out after the code alphabet. Six of the men were still alive, imprisoned in the boat, lying at the bottom of the sea. The air was getting foul and it was cold. They were given to understand that attempts were being made to save them. Twice the despairing question came from the men: "How long will it take?"

The brave divers could only answer with the strokes of the hammer: We are doing everything possible.

But it was not possible to save them. The six men had to die in their iron cage down in the deep – as the other 34 had died.

Stout-hearted divers descended to the bottom of the sea a hundred feet below the surface. The first was to find the sunken submarine. But to find is one thing, another thing is to save. This last, however, they were unable to do.

Jesus said that the Son of man came to seek and save the lost.

Not only to seek and find. He came also to save. He is able to save.

"I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save." (Isaiah 63:1)

Divine power alone was able to save us, we who had sunk to the bottom, a lost world.

But Jesus had that power. He descended down into the dark deep.

He disarmed powers and principalities and revealed Himself as their victor on the Cross.

He tasted the bitterness of death, that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

And deliver!

So there is then a way out, there is salvation, for those who have sunk down to the bottom in the temptations of life under the condemnation of sin. With the Lord there is deliverance from death. Those who surrender their life into His hands, in their despair, shall not knock and pray in vain.

For He is mighty to save.

From *A Firm Footing*, © Copyright 1939 Peder Fostervold, Co-Founder of the Hauge Innermission.

Believable ... Yet unbelievable.

Students Allegedly Suspended, Underwent ‘Restorative Justice’ For ‘Misgendering’ Teacher

A California school district allegedly suspended two high school students for misgendering, requiring the pupils to undergo a controversial training known as “restorative justice.”

The purported infraction and punishment are said to have unfolded at Herbert Hoover High School in Glendale, California, part of the Glendale Unified School District (GUSD).

The incident, which reportedly happened last year, was brought to light in recent days by GUSD Parents Voices, a parents’ rights group, according to Fox News.

The “misgendering” infraction in question was allegedly described in an email from the school’s former principal. The school leader wrote about suspending two kids for five days after they “misgendered” a transgender person and then fled as an educator was correcting them.

Billy Hallowell of
Christian Broadcasting Network

Seattle Public Schools Offering ‘Free’ Sex-Reassignment Surgery, Hormones To Students As Young As Eleven

A leading parental rights organization called Parents Defending Education (PDE) has discovered that schools in Seattle, Washington, are providing free hormone medication and sex-reassignment operations to children as young as 11.

According to documents released this week by PDE, health clinics at Meany Middle School and Nova High School, which are both based in Seattle, allow kids to “conveniently” get care on-site and for free, although many critics have claimed that tax payers will most likely be the ones footing the bill.

Erika Sanzi, PDE’s head of outreach, condemned the schools’ involvement in “gender-affirming care” for children.

“It’s terrible enough that doctors are prescribing cross-sex hormones and cutting off breasts and genitals of minors,” Sanzi said.

“Involving schools is a whole other level of dreadful and scary,” she added.

While puberty blockers are still prohibited for pre-pubescent, children as young as 10–11 will be able to obtain cross-sex hormones such as estrogen and testos-

terone at two primary care clinics managed by the CDCHC elsewhere in the city.

“The combination of the district’s parental exclusion policies, and its provision of dubious medical interventions to change a child’s sex, creates a really troubling situation for Seattle families,” said Alex Nester, an investigative researcher for PDE.

Brooke Mallory of OAN network

Pediatricians Affirm Value of Gender Care

The American Academy of Pediatrics backed gender-related treatments for children Thursday (Aug. 3), reaffirming its position from 2018 on a medical approach that has since been banned in 19 states.

But the influential group of doctors also took an extra step of commissioning a systematic review of medical research on the treatments, following similar efforts in Europe that found uncertain evidence for their effectiveness in adolescents.

Critics across the political spectrum -including a small but vocal group of pediatricians – have been calling for a closer look at the evidence in recent years, particularly as the number of adolescents who identify as transgender has rapidly increased.

“The board has confidence that the existing evidence is such that the current policy is appropriate,” said Mark Del Monte, the CEO of the AAP. At the same time, the board recognized that additional details would be helpful here.” ...

All 16 board members of the AAP, which represents 67,000 pediatricians across the United States, voted to reaffirm the 2018 guidelines at a meeting Thursday in Itasca, Ill. The vote comes at a time of intense political pressures on transgender people and the doctors who care for them.

Over the past two years, Republican lawmakers across the country have banned what’s known as gender-affirming care, which can include psychotherapy, puberty-blocking drugs, hormones and, rarely, surgeries.

The AAP has roundly condemned the legislative bans as a dangerous intrusion into complex medical decisions between doctors and families.

NEW YORK TIMES. Taken from the *Star Tribune*,
Aug. 4, 2023

(Editor’s Note: I wonder how much of this was economically motivated?)

Archbishop of York Rev Stephen Cottrell says that starting the Lord's Prayer with 'Our Father' is problematic

The Archbishop of York has said some people struggle with the traditional Biblical phrase 'our Father'.

The Most Rev Stephen Cottrell called the term – used for centuries at the start of The Lord's Prayer – 'problematic' for victims of abusive parents.

He also said it was an issue for anyone who suffers in a male-dominated society during a speech to the Church of England's governing body yesterday.

By Martin Beckford Policy Editor For *The Daily Mail*

(Editor's Note: The Bishop thinks he knows better than Jesus, who taught us how to pray.)

From End Times Headlines:

David Jeremiah says apostasy among pastors is a sign of the 'great falling away' of End Times

Influential Pastor David Jeremiah has voiced his concerns about the seemingly increasing number of pastors and churches straying from biblical truth, warning that this trend indicates the "falling away" Scripture prophecies ahead of the End Times.

In an interview with The Christian Post, the 82-year-old founder of Turning Point Radio and Television ministries said that "one of the things the Bible says is that during the time when we're anticipating the rapture, there will be what they call the falling away, the apostasy, is what theologians call it."

"And if you study that, what it teaches is that there will be a time when people who once embraced the truth will fall away from the truth, and it will be an epidemic of this," said Jeremiah.

Netherlands Crowns a Mister in 'Miss Universe' Competition

Over the weekend, the crown of the 2023 Miss Netherlands competition – a competition designed for women – was given to Rikkie Valerie Kollé, a 22-year-old man who identifies as a transgender woman. The results are "being overshadowed by online backlash," as phrased by Newsweek. However, it is more accurate to say the backlash is appropriately warranted. This is a competition for women, after all, not a costume party for men who don't grasp reality.

Political commentator Eva Vlaardingerbroek tweeted, "A man just won 'Miss Netherlands' 2023. Considering the fact that we live in a post-truth world, I wasn't even expecting anything else. It's all so predictable

and unoriginal at this point." By winning the Miss Netherlands competition, Kollé has secured a spot in the 2024 Miss Universe competition as well.

Sarah Holliday with *The Washington Stand*

Drag Queen bingo caller snubbed at Fair

AUSTIN, MINN. For the past three years, Roxi Manacoochi – drag performer and Austin native, real name Dylan Kaercher – called bingo at the Mower County Fair. This year, he learned, he wasn't welcome back.

"Someone had reached out and said, 'Well, we were told that you weren't allowed to do it,'" Kaercher said. Concerns about drag were cited, he said, at a time when he and other drag performers around the country have found themselves a growing target of conservative pushback for hosting events like story hours at libraries and schools.

Taken from the *Star Tribune*, August 19, 2023

(Editor's Note: Maybe it's not just a political party that's opposed to this, but decent minded people are tired of having perversion flaunted in their faces.)

A Thought from the Editor

The followers of Hans Nielsen Hauge were often referred to as "readers", because they were always reading the scriptures and devotional material. Our aim as the board of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation is to carry on that tradition by providing Biblical, edifying writings to help you navigate the dangerous waters of our culture. We ask for your prayers that we might fulfil the calling given us. We are a faith ministry, If you are able, we ask for your financial support, for there is a cost to printing and mailing the *Morning Glory*. We ask for your feedback, (please feel free to write or email us) for we too need to be encouraged, or maybe even admonished.

We hope you find the *Morning Glory* helpful and beneficial to your spiritual walk. We also strive to be evangelistic. If you think the *Morning Glory* has been beneficial to you, share it with a neighbor, a friend or family member, that they too might receive a blessing and maybe even be awakened from their slumber and saved.

If you think your church would benefit from a Bible/evangelistic weekend conference, let us know, we would be happy to work with your church council and pastoral staff to discern the will of God on the matter. We have a tent ready to be set up for outdoor services.

It's Time for pro-choice people to come clean

Pro-lifers represent the true pro-choice movement.

By Matt Birk

I believe in the dignity of every single human life -from conception until natural death. It doesn't matter their race, religion, ZIP code, sexual orientation, physical and mental disabilities, or the circumstances in which that person was conceived -every human being should be afforded this inalienable right profoundly stated in the Declaration of Independence.

I am pro-life. Abortion exists. As a pro-life advocate, I'm less concerned about the law (although this is important because laws shape culture, and vice versa), and more focused on helping create a system where unexpectedly pregnant women are respected and supported.

Folks on the other side of this issue call themselves "pro-choice" – but are they? I'm not here to find flaws in the logic of their position, but rather to call out their hypocrisy.

It seems like all I hear about the pro-choice side talk about is abortion. Taxpayer-funded abortion. On demand. No restrictions. No parental notification if a minor wants to have an abortion. Chemical abortion. Abortion at any time during a pregnancy, up until the moment of birth. And if a baby is born alive during a botched abortion, that baby should be left to die (five instances in Minnesota in 2022).

One of the things I don't ever hear the pro-choice folks talk about are the risks and harm of abortion. Abortion wounds women physically, emotionally and spiritually. I find it compelling that a large number of the leaders of the pro-life movement are women who have had abortions themselves. The fact that these heroes have dedicated their lives to trying to prevent other women from making this same mistake is a powerful testimony, and it speaks to just how deep these wounds run.

Does the pro-choice crowd ever talk about adoption? It is estimated that 1 million to 2 million couples in the U.S. want to adopt, yet only about 18,000 children are placed per year (source: AmericanAdoptions.com). Adoption is an unbelievably selfless act of love by the birth mother, and an answered prayer for the adoptive couple. Why doesn't the pro-choice movement talk about making the adoption process more streamlined and affordable? Why don't they ever talk about this as a choice?

I have spoken at hundreds of fund-raisers across the country for pregnancy resource centers (known as PRCs). Contrary to what U.S. Sen. Tina Smith of Minnesota

tweeted on July 14, 2022, these centers are not a "sham" – they help women and families in need with prenatal and postnatal care, parenting classes, material assistance, counseling and other services – always free of charge. Last year, more than 100,000 Minnesotans visited these centers to receive help. The next time I meet someone at one of these events who identifies as pro-choice will be the first. If "pro-choicers" are all about choice, why don't they support these centers that help women in need who want to choose life for their baby?

This past legislative session in Minnesota we saw a historic increase of \$18 billion to our state budget, bringing the total budget to \$71 billion. All sorts of new spending was approved. But do you know what was cut? The \$3.5 million Positive Alternatives grant, which helped support the 90 PRCs in Minnesota. This would have accounted for 0.00005% of the total budget – less than a rounding error. Eliminating this grant was not based on economics, it was political punishment. These pro-choice politicians want to drive unexpectedly pregnant women toward one choice – abortion. They do nothing to support the life-affirming choices. Pro-lifers represent the true pro-choice movement.

To all Minnesotans who value life: Let us not be discouraged. We were born for such a time as this. Let's remain prayerful, mindful of the 63 million people who have been lost to abortion. Keep showing up and doing the hard work. Continue investing time and resources into the PRCs in our local communities. Educate people on just how many resources are available for those women and families who find themselves unexpectedly pregnant and in need of support. Lead with love and compassion, not partisan politics.

To the pro-choice people: You are not our enemy. But please be honest and don't call yourself pro-choice or pro-women -your actions say you are pro-abortion.

Matt Birk was the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor in 2022 and was All-Pro center for the Minnesota Vikings.

Taken from the *Star Tribune*, Aug. 11, 2023

"When you come to Jesus, you have to be ready. There is a cross on your shoulder, there is a cost you have to take. Sometimes it is your life, sometimes it's your country, sometimes it's your family."

A pastor in Yemen who was tortured for his faith.

Taken from *Voice of the Martyrs*, Aug. 2023

Sinners Bought And Sold

from the *Lamplighter* February 1976

by Pastor R. Norheim, The Lutheran Gospel Hour

“For thus saith the Lord: ‘Ye have sold yourselves for nought; ye shall be redeemed without money.’ ”

(Isaiah 52:3)

This is indeed a remarkable word of the Lord, showing on the one side, the deceitfulness of sin, “Ye have sold yourselves for nought”, and on the other side, the merciful redemption through Christ, “Ye shall be redeemed without money.” Sinners sold without profit and bought back without money or price.

Israel had sold themselves to heathen ideas, worldly pride and what they thought would bring them their desired independence. They dreamed of prosperity, but awakened to discover they were slaves; not freemen. They had sold themselves for nought!

How true this is of the entire human race, “Sold under sin.” “For,” says Paul in Romans 7:14, “the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.” By one act of disobedience Adam sold out as the head of the human race, and “as by one man sin entered into the world, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” This is an awful state to be found in- “sold out” together with the whole human race. But it becomes even worse when we consider how individuals have sold themselves to sin, Satan and the world after coming to know the Gospel story of redemption!

SELF-SALE

As a rule, slaves are sold by their masters; but here slaves sell themselves. It’s a self-sale by man’s own willful choice. Just as Esau sold his birthright, so sinners sell out for a mess of pottage, that enslaves them and sends them forth as vagabonds of the earth, away from the liberty and sonship of the father’s house and home. “Sold out- for nought!”

Now this matter of selling out is not done in one transaction. It is done gradually, selling a little now and then. It’s like the experience of the Prodigal Son, who one day left the father’s house, singing as it were: “I am the master of my fate; I’m the captain of my soul!” Little by little he wasted his substance until the day came when he had sold out and landed in the pig pen.

This selling of the soul to sin, Satan and the world begins with selling out some of the finer principles of life! A man comes from a pure home, he has never smoked a cigarette, never tasted a drop of liquor, never attended a movie, never been inside of a dance hall, never held a deck of cards in his hands, never taken the Name of the

Lord in vain- and then one day he is tempted by sin; he’s enticed by wicked companions, he’s lured by the glitter of sin, and under increased pressure he yields- just a little, to be sure, but that’s all it takes. Note: the Prodigal first sold his sacred principles- then he wasted his substance.

Inner Fall First

There’s always the inner fall that precedes the open, outer fall. One rolling stone is all it takes to start an avalanche down a mountainside that will bury a village! It was “one little sin” in Paradise that sold out the entire human race. And all it took was one simple question, “Has God said?”, questioning the justice of God! And then the human race slipped and slid straight down to hell! No wonder Solomon says, “Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. Ponder the path of thy feet and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left. Remove thy foot from evil.” Compromise is the devil’s key he cleverly uses in getting the young to sell out... just “letting go” a little bit, so the world won’t think you’re so narrow-minded. See? Of those bidden to the King’s Wedding Supper, the first said, “I go to see;” the second said, “I go to try.” The third said, “I’m bound!”

Now, isn’t this just the way sinners are deceived by their sinful hearts, and tricked by the devil and the world? Isn’t this just the way to begin selling out? First, just go and see, merely look on with your worldly friends; but that’s the first step and it’s the most dangerous; the second soon follows: “I go to try!” And though you say you’ll try it only once, you soon learn there’s a law of repetition that somehow gets the best of you- and before long you are married to sin- bound by laws stronger than self-effort can free from. You know it’s the first drink that makes you a drunkard. And you who have never taken that first drink- you have a possession worth holding on to! But you who have begun to sell out- listen to the cry of the slaves of sin: “Turn back! Turn back! It doesn’t pay! You’ll sell yourself for nought!”

Judas sold his Saviour for 30 pieces of silver. And why? Because somewhere back there he had sold himself before he sold his Saviour! You may have sold yourself at an early age; some began in the tender years of childhood. For a little fun, that had to be sinful fun- something that was contrary to God’s will and Word- something your parents didn’t favor, nor your pastor. The Church frowned upon it, but you did it anyway. That was the beginning, just a little fling, as it were. You weren’t going to keep on doing it. After you’d had your fun, you’d return to the fold.... So you thought, but experience is another thing!

Today, you sadly look back on a wasted past, memories that haunt you night and day. First you sold out your principles, then your possessions! And what do you have for it all? Nothing! “You have sold yourself for nought.”

But Listen...

Here is good news for you..... “Ye shall be redeemed without money.” The past can’t be repaired nor restored, ‘tis true.... but it can be forgiven! Yes, and what’s more-it can be forgotten; under the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who died in your stead and bought you back to God! “Redeemed without money.” This isn’t a new thought; it’s as old as the Bible- and older. It’s God’s eternal plan of salvation. No sooner had Adam sinned than God came and found him, naked and ashamed of himself. Then God shed the blood of an animal, the first blood shed, and made a coat of skin for him, the first type of the LAMB OF GOD – JESUS CHRIST, Who was to come to this earth to be slain as a sin-offering, that His righteousness might cover the sinner and make him acceptable to God!

Redeemed! O glorious word of God! O wonderful plan of salvation! O matchless grace that makes slaves of sin into sons of God! Redeemed – without money: we could never pay the price. My tears could never flow freely enough; my hands could never work feverishly enough, my words could never, never suffice. But Jesus paid it all; we are redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, Who took my penalty upon Himself, died, the Just for the unjust. He took my place. “Lost, but Jesus found me; blind, but now I see; bound, but hallelujah, Christ has set me free!”

Three-fold Redemption covers my past, present and future. It is a three-fold word, meaning:

1. First, “Bought while on the market.” This is true to the Bible’s story about Jesus. “While we were yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly.” Rom. 3. He didn’t wait until we were declared to be good; then He would never have died for us, for man is hopelessly lost in sin.

2. Secondly, it means “Bought out of the market.” Praise God; this tells me about God’s lifting, transforming power, called “Regeneration,” or the New Birth that places me in a new realm and in a new relationship, no longer in the clutches of the slave market of sin. I have passed out of darkness, into God’s marvelous light.

3. In the third place, it means: “to loose and set free by paying the price.” This tells me the good news that the Devil has no mortgage in me! He has lost all his claims and I have not only escaped from his territory, but I’m delivered from his claim to the right of ownership! ‘Tis done! the great transaction’s done; I am my

Lord’s and He is mine; He drew me and I followed on, charmed to confess the Voice Divine.”

This, my friend, becomes a reality when you let the Holy Spirit convict you, first of all, that you are sold under sin, sold for nought. Then only do you qualify for justification. God justifies the ungodly. It’s the troubled soul that the Holy Spirit calms with the glad tidings of the Gospel: “Peace, be not afraid.” “Christ died for you.” He bought you while you were a slave of sin, on the market of sin; He bought you out of the market, and now you are free! “There is, therefore, now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

Walking with God

The First Commandment: “Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.”

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? “We should fear, love and trust in God above all things.”

We have said that the central thought of the First Table of the Law is love to God. Now how may we show our love? The First Commandment indicates one way, a basic way. Luther explains excellently the thought of the Commandment in those few pithy words: “Fear” God with a childlike and not a slavish fear; “Love” God by letting Him become very dear to us, by seeking our true joy in Him, and by gladly doing His will; “trust” God by resigning ourselves with full confidence to Him, expecting all good from Him, and placing all our affairs in His hand; and enthroning Him above all things.

Oh, how different the world would be if the hearts of men everywhere were dominated by such principles! Gone would be the idols and their temples, and the rivers of blood that flow from ten thousand sacrificial victims; gone would be the soul-cursing worship of money and pleasure and fame; gone would be the fear and worry and anxiety of Godless lives. In their place there would be the spiritual worship, the loving service, and the comforting trust that spring from faith in the one and only true God.

My God, I would exalt Thee, I would honor, fear, and love Thee, and trust in Thee. Drive out every rival from my heart and leave me with Thee alone as my King and my God. Wilt Thou so completely fill my life and dominate my thinking, my speaking, and my doing that I shall be thoroughly mastered by Thee. I pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Martin Hegland, Augsburg Publishing House
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The Christian Life

Thus Jesus Spoke to Men about their Sins.

This should not surprise us, especially if we are somewhat acquainted with what Jesus said elsewhere about sin in general. Permit me here to cite only two of His statements: "From within, out of the heart of men, evil thoughts proceed, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, covetings, wickedness's, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, railing, pride, foolishness" (Mark 7:21-22). "Ye have heard that it was said, Thou shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, that everyone that looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:27-28).

According to my view, these are the two most revolutionary statements in the moral history of the human race.

Jesus states here that that which makes an act evil or good, sinful or not sinful, is not its doing, nor its consequences or result, but its motive, the impulse from which it springs. Sin is therefore first of all and fundamentally a condition of our heart and mind; an expression of our will.

This makes it a matter of serious importance to us all. It becomes clear to us that it is not necessary to have become old in sin, nor to have lived a life of lust and shame, nor to have been a criminal, in order to know how terrible sin is, and to be weighed down by its guilt.

I have never been able to understand this talk about young people having difficulty in realizing their sinfulness. It has always appeared to me that this idea is due to a psychological misunderstanding. The truth is that the very opposite is the case. Young people acquire a strong and living consciousness of sin more easily than anyone else. Their consciences have not as yet become as dull as those of older people, because they have not as yet compromised their convictions as much as the latter. As a typical example of this characteristic trait of young people, I might refer to their exceptional sense of justice. How a young person becomes incensed when an injustice is perpetrated against someone!

The fact that young people can conceive of the unnatural idea of embarking upon a life of open sin in order to acquire a sense of sin, is not due at all to exaggerated preaching of sin. On the contrary, this perverted idea is the result of a weak, a sub-Christian message concerning sin.

If the attention of both young and old is directed inwardly, toward the attitude of their hearts, then both alike will see an ocean of sin and uncleanness, an unfathomable and endless sea of sinful lusts and desires, thoughts and imaginations. Selfish thoughts: how do you not circle about your own little self in everything that you do, in all that you plan and think! Bitter thoughts: how harsh and

unmerciful are you not in your attitudes toward your fellow men! Envious thoughts: can you endure to see people who have abilities which you do not have without allowing your envy to manifest itself in one form or other? Unchaste thoughts: if the unclean thoughts you harbor were written on the outside of you, you would no doubt desire to hide yourself so completely that no one could find you.

I have personally had occasion to observe, when young men have come to me in their distress, what a deep sense of sin good and wholesome young people can experience in connection with sins of this kind. Before me they sat, the pride of their family and the ideal of their associates, and wept bitter tears. They had begun to see the sinfulness of their attitude of heart. They did not complain that they lacked a sense of sin! Rather, they could not understand how they could be saved from their sin and guilt, so great was their sense of sin.

The Christian Life by O. Hallesby. Copyright © 1934
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Luther on the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

A letter recently received poses this question: "Doesn't it seem to you that in the Lutheran Church there has been too much stress laid upon being baptized as an infant and being confirmed instead of actually having had a true 'born again' experience and really having a definite experience of salvation in the heart? I believe there are many seeking and hungry hearts in the Lutheran Church, but they do not know Jesus as their personal Savior and Redeemer from sin, death and the power of the devil. They have been baptized and confirmed but they have never been truly 'born again' by the spirit of the true and living God and therefore are not saved but are living under false hopes."

It is indeed and sadly true that in the Lutheran Church there are many people who have been baptized and confirmed and yet are not saved, but are living under false hopes. It is not true, however, that they have never been born again, because if they were baptized in accordance with the faith and practice of the Lutheran Church they were born again, according to the promise of God and by the power of His word.

But many who were born again in holy baptism have lived after the flesh and so have died. For them to trust in the fact that they once were baptized while they yet refuse to repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, is indeed to live in a vain hope.

There is much misunderstanding of baptism, its efficacy and its power and its meaning, both within and without the Lutheran Church. Those are most certainly in error

who deny the efficacy of baptism to save from sin and confer the grace of the new birth. But those are also most certainly in error who hold that men are saved by the grace of baptism, even though they live in sin without repentance and without faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior. According to Luther's Catechism, which is the confession of faith of the Lutheran Church, baptism "works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe as the Word and promise of God declare." Note that it does not say that its benefits are bestowed upon all, but upon all who believe, as the Word and promise of God declare. . . .

So Luther, following the teachings of Paul, would have us believe that all the promises of God which are summed up in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, are given to us individually and personally in holy baptism. They are ours if we believe. If we do not believe, we have rejected them. The work of God through Christ was begun in us in holy baptism. It is continued as we by repentance put to death the old nature, which putting to death must continue through life, and is finished only when we die. And by faith we put on Christ, trusting in Him, living for Him, glorifying Him. Only in those who thus put to death the old nature and live to the glory of Christ has baptism been effective.

By Samuel Miller, from *The Bible Banner*, October 1942, Lutheran Bible Institute, Minneapolis

Haugeanism

Hans Nielsen Hauge

Although books have been written and could still be written about Hans Nielsen Hauge, we must necessarily be brief and confine ourselves to a few of the essentials. Edv. Sverdrup says in his work "Fra Norges Kristenliv": "He (Hauge) became viewed in a general way, the chosen and commissioned instrument of God to lead our people out of the night of unenlightenment and forth into a new life in the light of God's Word. Therefore, in writing the history of the Church of modern Norway, chief mention must be made of Hauge and of that awakening which originated with him. And it is altogether impossible to write the history of inner missions in our land without basing it upon that man and that awakening which constitute the living source of all voluntary Christian work in Norway. Through the work and the suffering of Hauge, lay preaching was established in the Christian life of Norway with such power and with such evident results that it could not again be smothered. This was due to the fact that hand in hand with the newly awakened life came also

the full realization of the obligation of Christian witnessing. And with the newly-awakened life followed also the gift of testimony which was necessary to sustain it and to transmit it to others that Hauge's life-work was not nullified, but became the source of so rich a display of the powers of Christian life, was a result of the fact that among Hauge's friends and immediate followers there arose a deep consciousness of spiritual independence due to confidence in God and in a cause which they felt was from Him. This sense of independence could, it is true, for a time be held in abeyance by the burdens of tribulation, but not destroyed. On the contrary, these burdens rather steeled and strengthened it. And this sense of spiritual independence which grew up among Hauge's friends was destined to have far-reaching consequences. It was not only that this made of Hauge's friends the best of citizens and of many of them the most prominent leaders in the various walks of life, nor that through them there was planted a seed of freedom in the development of our whole national life; but, above all, through the vitality and sense of independence in the awakening by Hauge-created and nourished by the Spirit and Word of God – there was made a permanently vital contribution to the spiritual life of our people, affirming the freedom and right of conscience, 'awakening zeal for salvation of souls, and calling into use the gifts of grace.'

Hauge is described as a quiet and meditative personality from childhood on. From his mother he learned hymns and prayers, and the father usually, at the close of day, gathered the family for worship. He was by nature deeply religious and early in life meditated on religious problems. Games and merrymaking held no interest for him. Even in his youth, sorrow over sin and the vanities of the world, and the question of how to be saved, were his only concern. At an early age it was found to be expedient for him to leave his home in order, through hard work, to provide a livelihood. He sought to harmonize, in his thoughts as well as in his life, the spiritual and the material interests, at first with very little success.

Then, on that memorable April day, in 1796, came his awakening, and with it the divine call to witness for his Savior. The call was, apparently, direct. "It burned within him, so that he could not keep silent." His first concern was for his own father, mother, sisters and brothers; thereafter for his countrymen, even to the furthest corners of Norway. He was, however, often filled with anxiety, even unto tears, at the thought of the great task and the heavy responsibility, yea, he even pleaded with God to relieve him of the pressing duty and rather send forth a bishop or some other prominent man. But the call never released him until his life's sun set.

The path of sorrow which fell to the lot of Hauge be-

cause of his call to preach the Gospel, is now quite generally known. He was branded as an idler (løsgjænger) and a tramp (landstryker). To dispose of such as these there was the so-called court of the house of correction (tugthusret) – in the country, the county judge (sorenskriver), in the city, the town judge (byfogd). No “idler” was granted counsel for defense in order that, as it was explained, “justice might not be unnecessarily delayed through parleyings and technicalities.” The decision could not be appealed; the invariable verdict was, if guilty, detention in the house of correction. The term of imprisonment was decided by the commission for the poor, which consisted of the pastor, elders, and two men appointed by the sheriff. “This is what the apparatus looked like, which exercised control over the itinerant lay preachers.”

Hauge’s view of afflictions and persecutions was, that one should to the uttermost exercise humility and longsuffering and reward evil with good. In spite of all persecutions from the clergy, Hauge stood unequivocally by his church, and in spite of the most unjust treatment from civil authorities, one will hunt in vain for a single word of disloyalty from Hauge, by mouth or pen. Hauge was not alone in being subjected to such unfair treatment. In 1799 no less than six lay preachers of the Hauge movement were committed to the Kristiania House of Correction “for vagrancy and desire to preach (prædikelyst)”, two of whom were detained there about two years and six months. One of these was Hauge’s own brother, Mikkel Hauge.

But Hauge was also a man of a highly practical bent. Concerning this we quote from “Nordmænd I det nittende aarhundrede”: “In the country district called Maalselven, the opinion had become current among the awakened (vakte) that in order to be a real earnest Christian one must cease from all manual labor.

“On one of his tours Hauge came to this district, and when it was rumored that he had come, a great number of people gathered at the place where he stayed, expecting as a matter of course that he at once would hold a meeting. But Hauge had walked over to a waterfall nearby to investigate whether or not it could be used for some industrial purpose. When those assembled heard that the stranger occupied himself with things of so worldly a nature, they were immediately convinced that this man could not be Hauge, but must be some pretender posing as the renowned man of God and now seeking to pull the wool over their eyes. This suspicion was confirmed when Hauge returned, and, seeing them, bluntly told them to go to work; that loafing was unjustified in such favorable weather. With that he lent a hand himself and aided in the work until evening. Then he asked them to gather, and

thereupon spoke to them in such a way that no one could doubt that it was Hauge himself who had come to them. And this incident gave them to understand that it was possible to be an earnest Christian, and yet, at the same time, an industrious and efficient laborer.”

“It was impossible for Hauge to be idle; if he was not occupied with anything else, he knitted or mended his clothes.” Hauge established, as is well known, a paper mill, a stamping mill, a bone mill, a flour mill, a tannery, yes, even a foundry for church bells and small cannon.

“Furthermore, there was about Hauge a singularly sound and genuine human way of dealing with men and affairs. On several occasions, a vein of humor, genuine peasant humor; peculiar to eastern Norway comes to light.” Many interesting incidents from his life testify to this, but lack of space prevents us from relating further. It may be stated that Hans Nielsen Hauge was typically Norwegian. Therefore Grundtvig rightly said that through Hauge the national spirit of Norway was awakened.

Thus, briefly sketched, that man appears who became the founder and standard bearer of Haugeanism. And the influence he exercised over his friends, was deep and lasting. Like Hauge, most of his friends were efficient and industrious workers in city and country districts. “It is touching to read of these old lay preachers, how, without pay, they travelled afoot over mountain and vale to encourage their brethren and to rouse the spiritually sleeping. The sword of the law threatened them, and a zealous clergy ever sought opportunity to bring it into use. Many suffered imprisonment, all were subjected to derision and indignities of all kinds. But in those very times the Norwegian lay preachers were endowed with a power of spirit and of faith, and a willing consecration to the service of God as never before.” “At an earlier time it would have been something unusual if anyone, born a peasant, had become anything but a peasant, but now many a peasant among the Haugeans came to the cities, perhaps to found a mercantile establishment, or to learn a trade, or to open a factory or start some other industrial enterprise.... A new spirit, a power and energy hitherto unknown, was created in Norway.”

Editor: So much of what is going on today is trying to unhitch us from the Scriptures and from our history. Ultimately history is His story, His story of redemption and how he has worked throughout history to save a people to Himself. Indeed there is a mighty cloud of witnesses, in scripture and in history, we need to learn and be encouraged by them, lest we drift away. Hebrews 2:1

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