

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • October 2015

"This Same Jesus"

n Acts 1:1-8 we find the last words of Jesus before He ascended to the Father's right hand. They were spoken to His disciples, not to unregenerate people. After commanding them to tarry in Jerusalem, to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and to go to the uttermost parts of the earth; *He was suddenly taken up from them in a cloud. While they steadfastly looked upward to heaven, two men in white apparel stood by them, saying 'Why stand ye gazing into heaven?' This same Jesus, which is taken up into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.'"*

Some people do not want to believe that Jesus bodily ascended into heaven. Usually they are the same ones who deny that which the scriptures give so many infallible proofs of, namely, the bodily resurrection of Christ. They are unbelievers who refuse to know the truth. Awakened sinners who need salvation do not usually have any difficulties in believing this. The same Word of God that convicted them of their sinfulness, converts them to a saving knowledge of a Living Savior who died for their sins, arose from the dead and ascended to heaven, *"able to save to the uttermost, seeing He ever liveth."* Hebrews 7:25. But the carnal mind is enmity against God, refusing to be convicted and converted.

Illustrated

An infidel, who thought he knew much more than those narrow-minded Christians, sought to involve one of them in a discussion; so he sneeringly asked, "<u>How do you</u> <u>know there is a God</u>?" Expecting at least a feeble effort of explanation, he was completely non-plussed by the hearty Radio Sermon by Pastor R. Norheim

reply of the Christian, "Why of course I know there is a God. I spoke to Him this morning!" We say "Amen" to that, for Jesus is real to us too! "For He walks with me, and He talks with me; and He tells me I am His own, and the joy we share as we tarry there none other has ever known." How beautifully this harmonizes with Christ's own words, "We speak that we know and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. If I told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe if I tell you of heavenly things? No man has ascended to heaven but He that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven." John 3:11-13.

Stephen, the first Christian martyr "being full of the Holy Spirit, looked up into heaven, and saw the glory of God and Jesus, standing at the right hand of God, and said "Behold I see the heavens opened and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." Acts 7:55, 56. Nobody could have convinced Stephen that Jesus had not ascended to heaven. Add to this the Apostle Paul's testimony, in Acts 9, telling about his meeting with Jesus on the Damascus Road, when he fell to the ground, hearing Jesus from heaven, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute ME?" That meeting blinded his physical eyes, but opened his spiritual eyes, changing him into the great Apostle Paul.

And so, on and on, the story unfolds, declaring the fact that Jesus Christ is now in heaven, interceding for His own and preparing a place for us. This leads us to our theme, "*This Same Jesus*", verse 11. *This same Jesus, which was taken up into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.*" Several

Morning Glory

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things should be noticed in this connection. (1) Jesus is coming back again. This is a blessed hope for all Christians, making us rejoice; for when He returns we shall be caught up in the air, together with those who died in Christ, and thus shall we ever be with our Lord. 1 Thess. 4:17. We shall then be made like Him, for "we shall see Him as He is." 1 Jn. 3:2. The unsaved dead will not arise in this First Resurrection, for they shall not arise until after the thousand years are completed. Rev. 20:5. Only those who are His at His appearing shall be caught up in this great appearing we call the Rapture (Ed. The word 'Rapture' means literally "taken away"). Then shall be fulfilled Jesus words, "Then shall two be in the field: the one shall be taken, the other *left: two shall be grinding at the* mill; the one shall be taken, the other left." Those left may be religious, fine church members, but not saved. Together with hypocrites and rank ungodly they will be left behind, to enter the Great Tribulation, spoken of in Daniel, Revelation and the Gospels. So it is clear that the return of Christ will be a day of separation. The line of demarcation which they refused to recognize, between saved and unsaved, will then become very evident. There will not then remain any question about who is and who is not a Christian. Then the hidden things shall be revealed. I wonder if you dear listener (reader) will be taken or left? If you have any doubts about your relationship to Christ, do not delay settling your account today. You do not have any promise for tomorrow. "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him now when

He is near."

The Manner

"This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." The question then is how did He go up? First note that He went up secretly. The New Testament says nothing about any unsaved persons seeing Him ascend, just as there is no mention of any unsaved seeing Him after His resurrection. We read only about Him revealing Himself to those who were believers in Him. We therefore conclude that as He disappeared secretly, so shall He "in like manner' secretly return unto and for His own, who alone shall see Him when He comes. See Matt. 24:43. Luke 17 – where Christ's return is likened unto the coming of a thief in the night; not that Jesus is a thief, but His secret coming is in like manner! He takes that which is precious unto Him and leaves the dross undisturbed. The time is coming, however, when the world shall see Him, after the Great Tribulation, when He comes, not to take His own, but with His own after the Great Wedding Feast of the Lamb, then "every eve shall see Him" and then, too, shall the nations of the earth be judged when Jesus sets up His throne to justly rule as King of Kings for a thousand years.

(2) Secondly, when Jesus ascended He left blessing His disciples. In Luke 24 we read that He led them out to Bethany and lifted up His hands and blest them. "And it came to pass, while He blest them He was parted from them and carried up into heaven." Note that He was in the act of blessing them when He disappeared in the cloud. "In like manner" says Luke, "shall He come." Praise God! This same Jesus who has blest us with all heavenly blessings, is returning, not to curse us away from His presence, but to draw us unto Himself in glory! "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye," shall we be caught up to ever be with Him! Wherefore comfort one another with these thoughts", adds Paul. What a comfort God's Word gives us in this blessed hope! "Even so, <u>COME LORD</u> JESUS."

The Lamplighter, June, 1986.

Editor's Note: Now I know that not all true evangelical Christians agree on the exact 'timing' of when 'this same Jesus' shall come again and, most certainly, do not let this become a 'divisive' issue among the "brethren," PLEASE. BUT continue to be 'united' in JESUS and be true 'soldiers of the Cross, until HE takes you HOME! ALL true Christians believe and know 'this same JESUS" is coming again as a 'twinkling of an eye', but when? With this blessed assurance, it behooves each and every one of us to make sure we are 'ready' and occupying; as it is to motivate us in godly living each step of the Way! BE sure there is oil in your lamp, the wick is lit and burning!

* * * * * * * * * *

ARE YOU MISSING A WORD?

George Buttrick, who has a sense of diction that is as perceptive as an artist's sense of color, once said that as we have in our large cities a Bureau of Missing Persons, it might be well if we also had a Bureau of Missing Words.

Has anyone missed a <u>word lately</u>? It is rarely mentioned. A conspiracy of silence seems to have closed in on it like a muffling, blinding fog. It is the word "<u>obedience</u>." As a broad piece of social criticism, it is fair to say that this is not an era of obedience. Parents who yearn to feel "modern" may speak of trusting their children, or guiding them, or leading them, or even challenging them. But they would be entirely too embarrassed to speak of governing them. Many teachers and school administrators have all but abandoned the idea of exacting obedience from students, even in elementary schools. Undisciplined at home, undisciplined at school, they go undisciplined into society.

"But surely," someone says, "the Church is not slack in its stressing obedience." Unfortunately, the answer is that the Church, too, is remiss. A great deal of our shallow religiousness makes of God a convenience, not a commander; makes of prayer a device for manipulating God rather than a devotion in which He masters us; makes of our Sunday morning worship a smugly satisfying form instead of a shattering judgment and a healing grace.

The Christian conscience needs to rediscover the excellency of obedience. Christian obedience is not a spineless acquiescence in some blind, impersonal fate. It is surrender to God's will as revealed in Jesus Christ, and set out in Holy Scripture. It is open-eyed commitment to that matchless person, Jesus Christ, who rescues history from fate and subdues it to the purposes of God, and the people of God. Christian obedience is a child of repentance and a creature of faith. It springs to life when the pride of our minds and the arrogance of our wills have been brought to the dust. Should it be that our obedience falters, then it is ours to prove the infinite Mercy that pardons and the infinite Holiness that heals.

Where did it go – this missing word "obedience"?

Selected

Editor's Note: Please re-read Deuteronomy 28:1-14 again! Which is true individually, congregation/church, community and nationally!

Baptized and Confirmed ... and Lost!

Do you believe it's possible to be baptized, to be given the Scriptures as a child, to go to Sunday school, to do all the memory work, be confirmed and made a member of the church in good standing and still be lost, to be a stranger to Jesus Christ? That's my story.

Let me start at the beginning. I was born January 4th 1954 at 6:02 AM in Hillsboro, North Dakota to Marcus and Mary Lou Almlie. On April 25th of that same year I was baptized at the Shelly Lutheran Parsonage in Shelly, Minnesota. My parents were faithful in fulfilling their baptismal promises, to bring me up in the faith. They brought me regularly to church and Sunday School and on March 12 1962 gave me my first bible. I believed; I had the faith of a child. As we grow, God gives us more and more light, as David says in the Psalms, "the Lord is my light." God gives us light in stages and I started to fall behind, I was exerting my will more and more.

In the eighth grade I started confirmation classes. By this time we had moved to Hendrum, Mn. The pastor I grew up with, Pastor Anhalt, was an evangelist at heart. He had such a burden to see people saved. Over the years he had developed a close association with the LEM, The Lutheran Evangelistic Movement, and most every year a summer youth team would come, or a bus load of kids would travel to Minneapolis to the LEM midwinter youth conference, and in early February he would have an LEM evangelist come in to do a week of meetings at the church.

I don't remember for sure why I went. It may have been a requirement for confirmation or it may have just been that Mom said we had to go. I went and the speaker was Sterling Johnson, and that's about all I remember except that God spoke to me during that week and shed some more light on me, and I came to the realization that there was another step God wanted me to take. He wanted my life; he wanted to be Lord. I know there was already sin and rebellion in my life, that I had probably broken most, if not all the commandments, but it was in ignorance. But at this point in my life I defiantly told God, "No!" I was going to live my life my way. I was living out the principle of Heb 10:26-27: "For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment."

I had received the knowledge of the truth; I knew that I was a sinner. I knew that Jesus was the only sacrifice for sin, and I knew that if I died my eternal destiny was Hell. I was not deceived. I remember being fully aware of all three of those facts. But I rejected Him anyway, I looked at the cost, my friends, the popularity that I sought, the hopeful gratification of my lust, and I decided it was too much.

Now, I didn't drop out of church. I continued going to confirmation, to Sunday school, continued memorizing scripture, the 10 Commandments and their meanings, and the Apostles Creed and its meanings, and on June 1st 1969 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hendrum, Minnesota I was confirmed.

I clearly remember the last meeting with my pastor before confirmation; he was talking about the connection between baptism and confirmation. How, when we were baptized our parents and sponsors spoke for us, but now after being instructed in the faith we would speak for ourselves. Then he talked about Judgment Day and how sad it would be for him to find out how many people he had confirmed and shepherded – who had only been giving lip service and weren't really saved. Many he feared, when they would stand before Jesus, He would tell them, "I never knew you."

As I said, there I was baptized, confirmed, and a member of the church in good standing. I knew the Scriptures and the way of salvation, but I was lost. I had never met the real Jesus, at least not on His terms. I knew that if I died, that hell would be my destiny, not heaven. I was one who said, "Later Lord, not now. I want to have some fun first." And in the meantime I hoped that nothing bad would happen to me.

The rest of the story is that God never gave up on me. I kept hanging around church, mostly because that's where all the cute girls were. And that kept me exposed to the Word of God. In my junior year there was a revival that broke out amongst the youth in my little hometown. Four boys got saved and just started getting together for fellowship and prayer, but soon the group doubled and then it doubled again, then I and other unbelievers started showing up, just out of curiosity, just to see what was going on. In the spring time they set up a meeting place down by the river, with a log pulpit and they would have meetings there and sing songs by a campfire and use the log pulpit to take turns sharing and giving testimonies.

In the meantime, I was hanging out with both groups. I was hanging with the cool kids, drinking and partying. And I was going to a lot of the fellowship times with the Christians as well. By the time my junior year ended and the summer started, I was seeing the emptiness of my life. Also I was seeing the power [influence] that the group had on me. When I was with my friends, I would do what ever they would do. As some of the group started getting into drugs, I saw that if I was not careful, I could really mess up my life.

In August of that summer, the Christian youth organized an outreach event in the Perley Hall, which was the town six miles to the south of Hendrum. I rode up with a friend, we had a couple beers on the way. I don't remember a lot about the meeting, except there was some singing, the Lutheran Pastor from Perley, Pastor Halverson, gave a short message, and several of the Christian youth gave their testimonies. God had been working on me since eighth grade and I was ready, I was under conviction. Pastor Halverson gave an altar call, but I didn't go up, I continued to resist. My friend and I drove back to Hendrum, we had a couple more beers and I went home.

But the battle wasn't over. I was like Nebuchadnezzar, "his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him". I lay in bed wrestling with God for several hours. I just couldn't fall asleep. I was aware of my sinful condition. I was a lawbreaker, who deserved Hell. I was a liar, a thief and an adulterer at heart. I was lost, but I also knew that Jesus came to save lost people. Finally, about two in the morning, I got out of bed, got on my knees and prayed. I was done running; I was ready to have Jesus take His rightful place as Lord of my life. I surrendered. Did I understand fully what that meant? Did I understand what it meant to deny myself, take up my cross and follow Him? Probably not fully, but I did understand that if He was Lord, I was not.

Now, I had a real advantage. I grew up with a pastor who preached the Word, who preached the need for a personal relationship with Christ – who preached sin, righteousness and judgment. I was not saved, but I was not deceived either. I was lost and I knew I was lost, and I knew if I died, hell would be my eternal destiny. But what about the average person who sits in the pews of the churches across our country today? I don't think they are getting that message. They are sitting there hearing a feel good message that never touches their real need, and many of them are lost but they don't know it.

That is why The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation exists. The old Lutherans believed that it was necessary to evangelize the baptized. That was Hans Nielsen Hauge's passion. Norway had a state church, everybody was baptized, but few were converted. We have that same burden. Contact us if you would like to find out how we can help your ministry.

Sometimes it takes someone from outside to awaken sleeping souls. Pastor Anhalt preached law and Gospel and the need for conversion, but yet it took a Sterling Johnson to awaken me to my need of a Savior.

> Wayne Almlie Des Moines, IA

AMAZING GRACE

(Written by Mr. John Newton, which you likely knew) He was once an infidel, whose godly mother had died when he was only seven years of age. At the age of eleven, he left school and joined his father's ship to begin life as a seaman. Plunging into debauchery, he became incredibly rebellious. After serving on several ships, and working on the islands and mainland of the West African coast collecting slaves for sale to visiting traders, sinful Mr. John Newton became Captain of his own slave ship. Such was his vicious way of life that he captured, sold and transported black slaves to the West Indies and America.

On March 10, 1748, while he was sailing to England from Africa, a tremendous storm arose and it appeared that all would be lost. Mr. Newton was so frightened that he began to read a book entitled "Imitation of Christ". Through this book, God sowed the seeds of <u>conviction</u> in John's sinful heart, causing <u>godly repentance</u> and bringing about his receiving Jesus Christ as <u>his personal Savior</u>. Shortly thereafter, Newton ceased his role as a slave ship Captain and became an effective crusader against slavery. He also commenced a preaching ministry and for fifteen years he told of the saving grace of God in his own life.

Then came the day when this old "Sea Captain" left his earthly journey, the shores of earth to set foot on the celestial shores of Heaven, to be with Christ. In a small cemetery in Olney, England, stands a tombstone with the following inscription: John Newton, clerk, once an infidel and libertine, a servant of slavers in Africa, was by the rich mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, preserved, restored, pardoned, and appointed to preach the faith he had long labored to destroy."

John Newton wrote the marvelous hymn, "**Amazing Grace**" which also becomes real and true to every born-again person. Perhaps you have sung it, but can you sing it truthfully? Read the following stanzas and may God help you to see that "*By grace are you saved through faith, and not that of yourselves: it is the gift of God.*" Ephesians 2:8.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch lie me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

"Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear; The hour I first believed.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

Selected

Editorial

RES

LIPS SERVICE & EXPRESSIONS!

"These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." (Matthew 15:8-9, also please read Mark 7:6-8)

IN this present world, as you know, there is a lot of high technology; and one area is in the area of "trick" photography. A photographer can make a person appear almost any way he wants, and right now that is current trend in the political arena! BUT GOD looks for that which is 'true blue', or, in other words, genuine "*lip service with heart experience*". Our life/heart is like an open book before Him! He not only sees and hears the expressions, but also the motivation (heart's desire). Hebrews 4:13.

Way too often you hear the expression 'you can't judge' another (discern) for God looks at the 'heart' and not the outward expressions! Is that so? Well He looks/knows both!

Actually God has called and intends for His Blood Bought Children to be OR must be 'fruit inspectors' OR they will be deceived! For HE says "by their fruit" you shall know them!

Actually HE who knows all, says, "Out of the abundance of their heart you shall know them." Now the heart is a persons' will/intellect/emotions – kind of like a minor trinity.

In the light of the above text, JESUS, in **Agape LOVE**, makes again a statement that goes to the very heart/core of each of 'us' personally, as well of yesterday-year. The Pharisees clearly had a *form of godliness*, but their heart was far from being a true follower of Jesus and worshipping HIM in spirit and truth!

AS we know, <u>Love</u> at times has to be tough, and Jesus knows full well that we are much better off in being fore-warned ahead of time, then to wait until it is too late. Thus He clearly states that true love is not a bed-partner of that which is wrong. *"Love ...Does not rejoice in iniquity but rejoices in the truth"* 1 Corinthians 13:6. The Pharisees were caught up in the 'tradition' of many rules/laws of do's and don'ts'. Outwardly, they walked the Christian walk, but their heart was really not in it: it was a 'show-piece'. No question that Divine Love is what we call 'tough' – Jeremiah 23 & Matthew 23.

TODAY we have way to many relatives who are doing the same thing; both within the 'church' and outside of the church. Basically, they say they will just walk the Christian walk and not testify of what GOD is doing in their life; even though Scripture clearly states 'we' are to believe with 'our heart' and 'confess' with 'our' mouth and thou shalt be SAVED! Romans 10:9-10.

TODAY there is a multitude of folk who are more 'married' to the 'church/congregation' then they are married to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior! (The word 'Lord' means 'master'. YES, and some of these folk have (sadly) 'left their first love' – Revelation 2:4.

EVEN more 'subtle' today is being caught up with the modern trend in fashion: Scantily dressed – tight fitting clothing - immodesty. JESUS clearly states (in Agape Love) "'But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart" Matthew 5:28. Now to my knowledge it is not wrong for female or male to dress neatly and attractively; but not immodestly! Personally, I have some difficulty in understanding how a living Christian will willingly 'lure/seduce' a person of the opposite sex to 'sin' – just by looking! Why should a person who has been 'redeemed' at a tremendous price - the Blood-shed of the very only Son of God – want to cause a person of the opposite sex to SIN? Yes, even being a 'stumbling block or bait' to the opposite sex – even in the presence of the assembly of the congregation. (I Corinthians 8:9 & 12) The secular business place can have a 'dresscode', why can't the congregation – which is supposed to be doing the Lord's Work in the Vineyard Business. (See for example 1 Peter 3:1-12)

<u>Also</u>, IF you are a child of God, you are the 'temple (dwelling place) of the *Holy Spirit*! "'*Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*'" 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Titus 2:11-15, II Timothy 2:22-26.

WHY we do not hear about this from behind the pulpit of both the evangelical, conservative and the liberal church; I am not sure? GOD sees it necessary and vital to name SIN by its' name – Sin, so why shouldn't we? Is not naming 'sin' by its name 'watering down (adulterating) the Word of God or subtracting from it? NOW, most certainly, I do not expect you to name every 'sin' in the catalog of 'sin': but be a cleansed 'vessel' that the Holy Spirit is permitted to convict/lead and use – *John 16:7-15.* (Now the word 'world' here means both saved sinners and sinners yet in their sin).

TODAY, in many 'cases', Christian LOVE is not only tolerance, but TREASON!

How 'we' <u>need</u> to ask 'our' Living Savior for a 'transfusion' of taking 'our' spineless Spiritual jelly fish back-bone, and give us in place a steel Spiritual back-bone'- to stand for right and to tell the TRUTH!

There is much about lips in God's Holy completely Inspired Book, the BIBLE, that tells of the danger of *false lips and true lips*, which are <u>without</u> 'heart experience/expression. "Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips" Psalm 141:3.

Yet to come: "'that at the name of Jesus every knee

How Things Consist and Exist

By Ted Camp

Let me quickly state that I do not claim to be a scientist or the grandson of Einstein. I am just a Christian who simply believes the Word of God. Naturally, I did research from those who know more than I do to verify my thoughts.

Many seem to agree that there are four things needed to make "all things' consist and exist: time, energy, space, and matter. As a Christian, I added source because someone or something had to make it happen

Now let us view this amazing first verse in the Bible, *"in the beginning* (time) *God* (source) *created* (energy) *the heaven* (space) *and the earth* (matter)". It is amazing! In this verse of just ten words, all fve are listed in proper sequence.

<u>Time</u>: "In the beginning" when it happened.

<u>Source</u>: God the Originator, Designer, Simple logic tells us that without God there would be no beginning in the past or existence today.

<u>Energy</u>: Created containing light, air and nature to be self-existing.

<u>Space and Matter</u>: Heaven (space) is listed before earth (matter) since there first had to be an empty place to put all matter.

"For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father'" Philippians 2:10-11.

BUT in the meantime, "Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name." Hebrews 13:12-15.

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!' And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: 'Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!'" Revelation 4:11-13.

"And He is before all things, and by him all things consist." Col. 1:16, 17.

By Him all things consist and exist. "All things simply means all things. God rested on the seventh day, not because He was tired, but because He had ended all His creation. What God created in six days continues to be self-existing and to consist continually even until this day.

Why did God do this? Man was made for God, but God made all things for man. "For God so loved the world (you), that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever (all people) believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" John 3:16).

God loves you. He put within you a longing that only He can fill and satisfy. *"For He satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness"* (Ps. 107:9). Many seek to fill that longing soul with fame, power, pleasure, or the world; but only God can give peace to your longing soul.

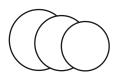
"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 5:1).

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." This amazing verse introduces God to you. You should now seek to meet and personally know Him and the real purpose of life.

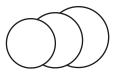
"He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:12).

No God —- no peace. Know God —- know peace

Silent Word Ministries



From Our Fellowship Circle



M. & E. S.

Enclosed is our check for \$... as a contribution to *Morning Glory*. We are receiving monthly issues of the same; which most certainly is appreciated.

Our son, who is a Minister and Prison Chaplain, would greatly appreciate receiving the *Morning Glory*. He and his wife live in Alaska and their address is ...

Thank you and God Bless this Ministry.

M. A.

Eden, SD

What I am sharing at this time doesn't seem much, but use it as the need arises!

We need to hear the 'truth' from God's Word more and more each day!

N. F.

Rudd, IA

Thanks for all your inspiring articles. You are in my prayers every day!

(Ed. Most certainly greatly appreciated to be upheld in believing prayer each day)

Mr. G.

Roland, IA

Hi – God Bless!

Absolutely 'same-sex' Marriage is wrong! God created Male and Female.

F. H.

Story City, IA

Thanks for all the blessings I get as I read my *Morning Glory* each time I receive it. I read it more than once. Keep up the good work so many people can receive more blessings.

P. S. I am doing this note just before I leave for church.

J.A.

Forest City, IA

May our Lord Jesus continue to bless His Word as it reaches out to many.

Because of His Great Love.

Preparation

I go to prepare a place for you. John 14:3

We shall be changed, for this corruptible must put on incorruption. 1 Corinthians 15:52-53

Before leaving His beloved disciples for the cross, and eventually the glory, the Saviour gave them this precious promise: *"I go to prepare a place for you."* But that is only part of the good news. He who has prepared a place for us, is also preparing us for the place. Listen to Paul, "we shall **all be changed.**" What an exciting moment when believers will be changed into holy immortality. Rejoice, dear fellow believer, He has finished the work that prepared heaven, and soon He will finish His work in you and me.

Arnot P. McIntee

Oh, what a home! But such His love that He must bring us there,

To fill that home, to be with Him, and all His glory share. — J. A. Trench

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"Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation." Joel 1:3

IN this simple way, by God's grace, a living testimony for truth is always to be kept alive in the land – the beloved of the Lord are to hand down their witness for the gospel, and the covenant to their heirs, and these again to their next descendants. This is our first duty, we are to begin at the family hearth: he is a bad preacher who does not commence his ministry at home. The heathen are to be sought by all means, and the highways and hedges are to be searched, but home has a prior claim, and woe unto those who reverse the order of the Lord's arrangements. To teach our children is a personal duty; we cannot delegate it to Sunday School Teachers, or other friendly aids. These can assist us, but cannot deliver us from the sacred obligation; proxies and sponsors are wicked devices in this case: mothers and fathers must, like Abraham, command their households in the fear of God, and talk with their offspring concerning the wondrous works of the Most High. Parental teaching is a natural duty – who's fit to look to the child's well-being as those who are the authors of his actual being? To neglect the instruction of our offspring is worse than brutish. Family religion is necessary for the nation, for the family itself, and for the church of God. By a thousand plots Popery is covertly advancing in our land, and one of the most effectual means for resisting its inroads is left almost neglected, namely, the instruction of children in the faith. Would that parents would awaken to a sense of the importance of this matter. It is a pleasant duty to talk of Jesus to our sons and daughters, and the more so because it has often proved to be an accepted work, for God has saved the children through the parents' prayers and admonitions. May every house into which this volume shall come honour the Lord and receive His smile.

> Morning and Evening, by C. H. Spurgeon, 1991 Copyright, Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.

Clerk stages last stand on gay marriage

Invoking "God's authority," a county clerk denied marriage licenses to gay couples again Tuesday [September 1] in direct defiance of the federal courts, and vowed not to resign, even under the pressure of steep fines or jail.

"It is not a light issue for me," Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis said later through her lawyers. "It is a heaven or hell decision."

Gay and straight couples sued, saying she should fulfill her duties as an elected official despite her personal religious faith. U.S. District Judge David Bunning ordered her to issue the licenses, an appeals court affirmed that order, and the Supreme Court on Monday refused to intervene, leaving her no option to refuse.

And yet, she did. ...

The [gay] couples' lawyers asked that she not be sent to jail, and instead be fined, since she currently collects her salary - \$80,000 a year - while failing to perform her duties.

Bunning ordered Davis and her six deputy clerks to appear Thursday morning [September 3] at the federal courthouse in Ashland.

Davis also faces a potential state charge of official misconduct, a misdemeanor meant for public servants who refuse to perform their duties.

Davis said she never imagined this day would come. "I have no animosity and harbor no ill will. To me, this has never been a gay or lesbian issue. It is about marriage and God's Word," her statement said.

> Taken from the *Star Tribune*, September 2, 2015

Editor's Note: This Christian woman is willing to put her reputation, her job and her income on the line to stand for the truth of God's Word. Even death threats, fines and possible imprisonment have not deterred her.

USA National Debt

The USA National debt of **18 trillion dollars** — and grows by <u>ten million dollars</u> per-minute!?!?

Obama 'a judgment of God' on America, says Land

A well-known Southern Baptist leader minces no words when assessing the impression President Obama delivers when he tries to convince other countries that

they need to expand "gay rights."

During his visit to Kenya last month (July), President Barack Obama pressed leaders to accept the homosexual lifestyle and same-sex "marriage." In response, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta called gay rights a "non-issue" for his country:

"It's very difficult for us to be able to impose on people that which they themselves do not accept. This is why I repeatedly say that for Kenyans today, the issue of gay rights is really a non-issue. We want to focus on other areas that are day-to-day living for our people.

"Maybe once, like you have (we have) overcome some of these challenges, we can begin to look at new ones. But as of now, the fact remains that this issue is not really an issue that is on the foremost mind of Kenyans. And that is a fact."

President Obama made a similar challenge in 2013 during a visit to Senegal – and was similarly rejected.

Such attempts by Obama, says Dr. Richard Land, president of Southern Evangelical Seminary, only further a perception that Americans are "morally degenerate."

"I think it just reinforces in the minds of many more traditional-minded folks in Africa that the United States has gone politically correct to the point of having lost our moral compass and lost our moral way," Land tells OneNewsNow. "And it just sort of feeds into the perception that we are morally degenerate."

As for the president's continued attempts to impose his pro-homosexual agenda domestically, Land emphasizes that elections have consequences.

"In my opinion, President Obama, being President of the United States, is in itself a judgment of God on the United States – that a God who disposes and proposes has allowed him to become president because of our moral profligacy," the seminary president states.

Land contends that America needs to repent and to pray: specifically, pray for the person who God wants to be the next president and "that God will give us a president who will be a blessing, not a judgment."

> Wednesday, August 5, 2015/Charlie Butts (OneNewsNow.com)

Editor's Note: Please keep in 'mind' as we pray for and Vote for Leaders in the USA; we are to Vote for "Leaders" who would best benefit <u>"we the people"</u> (local community, state, national) AS much as it would be to elect genuine Born Again people who are walking with Jesus (IDEAL); but for "we the people".

Tim Tebow Opens Hospital in the Philippines, Where His Mom Refused Abortion

Tim Tebow is a popular football quarterback who became a pro-life star when he shared how his mother, Pam, rejected abortion after doctors told her that killing her baby was the only way to save her life. At the time, Pam and her husband were on a mission trip to the Philippines when Pam suddenly became ill with dysentery.

Tim says his mother's doctors described him as a "fetal tumor" and "mass of cells" that had to be removed.

However, Tim's mom courageously refused abortion, and both Pam and Tim miraculously survived...

Now Tebow, who has signed with the Philadelphia Eagles, has opened a hospital in a large Filipino city.

The Tebow CURE Hospital grand opening was held (May, 2015) at the facility in Davao City.

Steven Ertelt for LifeNews.com

Ethiopian Christian Ordered at Gunpoint to Murder Two Pastors or Have His Children Killed

An Ethiopian Christian man revealed that he was taken and ordered at gunpoint by masked assailants to murder two of his friends, Christian pastors, or else his three children (would) be killed.

"...They put their pistol in my mouth and gave me instructions to kill pastors Girma Hippo and Endeziaa," Aman Kuni told the International Christian Concern, a persecution watchdog group.

Kuni was reportedly told by the assailants to carry out the orders in three months' time, after which, he was told, he would be rewarded with an easier life abroad – but if he refused, he was told, his three children would be murdered.

Stoyan Zaimov for ChristianPost.com

News Briefs

** Two South Sudanese pastors are facing possible execution after being imprisoned for two months by authorities who arrested them for various alleged offenses, including "offending Islamic beliefs" and "inciting organized groups."

(They) are being held in a jail in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, where a number of ...churches have been destroyed recently. (Vincent Funaro for ChristianPost.com)

** The gender-neutral salutation "Mx" is to join the titles "Mr.," "Mrs.", "Miss" and "Ms." on official document in the UK. Driving licenses, passports, high street banks, and even some government departments now accept the title, which is used by people who do not want to identify with a particular gender. (breiitbart.com)

Student-Preacher Wins Court Ruling After School suspends him Three Times for Talking About Jesus Christ.

A federal court has ruled that a Washington state public school district acted unconstitutionally when it suspended a student after he preached and handed out religious reading materials to classmates on school ground during free time.

Michal Leal, a senior at Cascade High School in the Seattle suburb of Everett, was suspended three times last fall for continuing to provide students with preprinted Christian pamphlets, which is a violation of the school's policy that does not allow students to distribute materials that they had not written themselves.

Leal, with the help of the Pacific Justice Institute, sued the school and stated that the school violated his free-speech rights.

"Some people speak about other things. I speak about God," Leal said in a video on the PJI website. "But in the end, we are all speaking and we all have that freedom of speech. And I think it's important that we all have free speech, even in high school."...

Samuel Smith for ChristianPost.com

Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood, in fact, is the <u>largest abortion</u> <u>provider</u> in the *USA*, performing 327,653 last year or an average of 37 per hour! — CNS News

Editor's Note: PRAY FOR EXTENDED MERCY UPON USA FROM GOD, FORGIVENESS, RESTORATION, RETURN UNTO GOD, and true Patriotism!

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THE BIBLE

The BIBLE is a precious Book, so read, mediate upon it, memorize it, and <u>let it do its work of GRACE in your</u> <u>heart and life!</u> The Word of God is the very foundation of everything for which Christians stand. Can you imagine not having the Scriptures, not having the Word of God?

The day is coming and is fast approaching, when there will be a 'famine' for the Word of God, and it has already begun!

Hauge's First Publication

(Continued from the September issue of MG)

As Hauge's life thus passed through different inner vicissitudes, he set to work to write his spiritual career. His aim was to tell how God had led him to disprove the wicked rumors which circulated about him. Incidentally he would also, as he appeared as a revivalist at a time when so very few knew from their own experience what conversion and life in God were, give his own impressions of what it means to be converted and become a living Christian. That is why he started his first book with these words: "As I, by the long-enduring kindness of God, have been kept in the world until now, I will here enumerate the most notable of good and bad which has happened to me so far, with the intention that others together with me may consider what we ought to have done, and what we really did."

Many derived benefit from this publication. The converted ones had nobody to guide them. The parents were afraid of insanity, the pastor advised blood-letting, others wanted those converted to play cards, to dance, etc., in order to get the notions out of their heads. In this extremity Hauge's publication was a precious guidance to peace and strength against all ignorant advices and temptations.

This publication was added to another which he printed soon thereafter. Here he had in a way interpreted his programme for his later activity: to induce "the great controversy between Michael and the dragon," to strive for "that the true Christianity shall get the upper hand," this is the inscription on the banner he raises in the air, and under which he will fight, even if the struggle shall bring him a "crown of martyrdom."

In this pamphlet he severely punished the dead clergy, and it took him much struggle before he decided to have it printed.

HAUGE'S FIRST TRIP TO CHRISTIANIA

Now Hauge set out for Christiania to have his book printed. As he had proceeded a short distance on his way, he lost the manuscript. Then he wondered if it was the will of God that he was not to publish the books and he was satisfied with that; but when a traveler brought the manuscript back, he set out once more. He felt an urgent call to pour out his thoughts to the Lord, and he went aside and prayed aloud to God. Another traveler approached and observed the praying man. He thought that Hauge was out of his mind, and ought not go about alone. But, as Hauge, in the conversation about earthly things, convinced him that he was right in his head, the man changed his opinion and went with Hauge a whole mile (Norwegian) past the place where he was supposed to stop. Through Hauge's talk the man became affected by the Word of God and was converted.

When Hauge advanced so far that he could see the city, a terrible obsession came over him; but the Lord helped him out of this dilemma, and after some difficulty he was able to make arrangements for the publication of the book which he called: "Viewing the World's Folly."

The contents of the book pointed out how badly they were off, both the pastors and their listeners, how important it was to return to the Lord, get new life in their hearts and show this life's fruit through a god-fearing life.

At the same time he also published another little pamphlet, "Evangelical Rules of Life." To this, which was a Danish translation from German, he added one he himself had written "Opinion on the Lord's Prayer."

After he arrived home from Christiania he wrote another pamphlet which he called, "Attempt to Discussion on God's Wisdom." He tells that as he wrote his books, texts from the Scripture and fundamental sentences came to him without his knowing where they came from. Learning and thorough studies do not distinguish his writings, but the enthusiasm of the spirit and a fervent care for the conversion and salvation of his fellow men.

HAUGE AS EDIFICATION PREACHER

Hauge now started to hold prayer meetings and publicly to preach God's Word for those who came to hear him. His first edification he held in his father's house. Later on he was allowed to hold meetings at different places in the parish. This new aspect of his activity roused enormous attention. That "<u>a son of a peasant preached</u> <u>like a minister</u>," people had never heard of before.

But his speeches did not lead only to astonishment, the truth seized the hearts with the power of conviction. Many, even among those who formerly had scoffed, were converted, and the fire of the spirit burst out in flames.

But now the enemies woke up in a rage. The minister in Tune, Urdal, was the first one to show his teeth against Hauge. The minister was so exasperated at Hauge, that at a party where Hauge was present, the minister ordered that he should be thrown out. Once, while they were alone together, the minister's passion carried him so far that he struck Hauge and threatened him with life imprisonment.

Some clergyman!

Taken from Hans Nielsen Hauge: A short Account of the Life and Work of Hauge; by C. B., 1890

(to be continued in the November issue of the Morning Glory).

Remaining Silent

Remaining silent when one should speak up is the subject of this gem of a piece written by a German pastor, Martin Niemoeller, who was arrested by the Gestapo in 1938 and sent to Dachau concentration camp until he was freed by the Allied forces in 1945:

"In Germany, the Nazis first came for the communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak for me."

"Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniq-uity?" Psalm 94:16.

"Everyone helped his neighbor, And said to his brother, Be of good courage." Isaiah 41:6.

Selected

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Delight in Devotions

Psalm 5:1-3

How difficult it is in the early part of the day to sneak away and find a quiet place and take in some food for the soul!

Have there been days when there was not even time for that piece of toast and cup of coffee in the early morning, and as the day wore on you found yourself becoming weak physically?

Yet how foolish we are to think that our spiritual life can be nourished and grow strong without the necessary food for the soul, and that on a day-by-day, meal-by-meal basis. One can lean all day on a certain verse or passage of Scripture read during the early morning hours.

Much can be learned from the practice of George Müller, the man of faith who lived in nineteenth-century England. In reciting the pattern of his devotions, he said, "The first thing to be concerned about was not how much I might serve the Lord, but how I might get my soul into a happy state and how my inner man might be nourished."

Devotions at the outset of the day can be a real delight. Meditate on the Word of God and obtain food for the soul. The seeking soul will find there all that is needed, and the believing and obedient heart will be made happy in the Lord.

"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee." – Ps. 63:1. — M. Parker, Selected

Borrowing

The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender. Proverbs 22:7

He who had unspeakable wealth said "show me a penny" (Luke 20:24). He who abode in the ivory palaces of heaven borrowed a pillow in Bethany (Matt. 21:17). He whose heavenly podium was the Great White Throne borrowed a boat from which to preach (Luke 5:3). He who spoke worlds unknown into existence, borrowed loaves and fish to feed a hungry throng (John 6:9). He who owns the cattle upon a thousand hills borrowed a donkey (Mark 11:3). He who inhabits eternity borrowed an upper room (Matt. 26:18). Finally, He who is the source of life borrowed a tomb (Matt. 27:60).

Sid Halsband

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And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? Tell me, what hast thou in the house? 2 Kings 4:2

A creditor was about to enslave this widow's sons for default on a debt. Elisha asks two questions. First, "<u>What shall I do for thee</u>?" and secondly "<u>What hast thou in the house</u>?" We learn from this that God is willing to help us in our extremities, but that we must also be prepared to be part of the solution. To feed a multitude, the Lord took the little that was available, five loaves and two small fish. Only then did He feed five thousand. At the grave of Lazarus the Lord said, "*Take ye away the stone*" (John 11:39). Only then did He call, "*Lazarus come forth*" (John 11:43). As we pray, let us keep in mind, that while God is willing to respond He also expects us to do our part.

W. H. Burnett *He guideth the footsteps, directeth the way, Of all who confess Him. Believe, and obey.* –Fanny Crosby

THE FOUNDATION

"The foundation of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality, and the preeminence of free government be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affections of its Citizens, and command the respect of the world."

George Washington, First Inaugural Address, 1789

Prior Arrangements

By Kenneth Miller

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" 1 Corinthians 15:55

I attended the funeral of one of my coworkers who froze when his canoe overturned on Stuart Lake. The natives made a beautiful casket, and we buried him near the shores of that very lake.

The extreme brevity of life is very much a day-to-day reality in the great Northwest bush country, reminding me of the verse in James, "For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for all little time, and then vanisheth away" (4:14).

Almost daily on the Message broadcast came these words: "Dufresne Funeral Home in charge of arrangements." As there was no other establishment of this nature in the whole area, the statement seemed a bit ludicrous and unnecessary. But these arrangements are what we wish to explore further.

Death arrived in a variety of violent packages on our reservation eight hundred miles north of the United States border.

Little Tammy had barely begun her journey into life when her parents' small cabin caught fire. I stood beside the R.C.M.P. officer with tears aflow as we gazed in horror at the smoldering remains.

Jimmy talked of one day becoming the first native in our area to become a member of the Mounted Police, but his body was found at the base of the cliffs near the falls.

Jimmy's brother, Harry, used to enjoy so much the craft time at Bible Club, but was dragged through the village streets beneath his uncle's car.

Roy was gaffing fish at the falls when his foot slipped, and his body was never found.

Margaret had accepted the Lord and led a number of her friends to Christ, but the squealing of the brakes was too late to avoid the collision with a great logging truck.

Karl had made a profession of accepting Christ as a boy at camp but had strayed from the Lord. It was a dark night, and the truck driver and his wife were horrified as the van suddenly appeared on a head-on collision course in which Karl and three other boys and two girls were ushered out into eternity.

As we meditate on these grim statistics, my heart cries out "Yes, Mr. Dufresne was in charge of the arrangements for the empty shells, but have prior arrangements been made for those precious souls?"

Some of these had made prior arrangements; some had not. And regardless of the beautiful flowers, fine caskets, magnificent music, and many mourners, these physical arrangements must be stamped and labeled "<u>Too late</u>" and "Not enough."

And what does the Word of God have to say about this grim specter of death?

"Thou shalt surely die." – Gen. 2:17.

"It is appointed unto men once to die." — Heb. 9:27.

"A time to be born, and a time to die." — Eccles. 3:2. *"The soul that sinneth, it shall die."* — Ezek. 18:4

According to the Word of God, death is more sure than even taxes; and it is wages to all who have to receive the gift: *"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* Rom. 6:23.

This assurance of the ultimate came to me very vividly one day. We had been out hunting since early morning and had just hunkered down over a campfire for a "mug-up" of tea in the midst of a cedar cathedral. Old chief David mused, "Hmm, what way you think that creek she go?"

"Down, David, to the river."

He thought a bit, then, "Like me I think. I don't go back up the mountain much no more. I go down to the river and down the big Skeena to the coast."

"Yes, David, and when you get to the coast, the end of your trip will depend on who was your guide and the arrangements made before. When you reach the Pacific, <u>it's too late</u>."

Perhaps you and I – and David too – had better take a closer look at these arrangements.

The Sword of the Lord

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And Jonathan, Saul's son, arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in God. 1 Samuel 23:16.

Saul had been searching daily for David, but could not find him, for God was protecting him (1 Sam. 23:14). Yet, Jonathan easily located David when he journeyed into the forest of Ziph. What was the difference? Jonathan loved David and desired to encourage him to do the will of God, while Saul hated David and sought to kill him. God over-sees such things. He blesses selfless love and despises selfish hatred. The wrath of man does not work the righteousness of God and hatred is murder committed in the heart. "Blessed are the pure (singleness) in heart: for they shall see God" (Matt. 5:8). —W. A. H.

And from my smitten heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:

The wonders of His glorious love, and my own worthlessness.

Elizabeth C. Clephane

Faithful & True!

STAY faithful and true to the Word of God, that is what we are seeking to do without *Compromise!* This is the motivation and desire of the Ministry of the *Morning Glory* through the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation. We are a Biblical, Lutheran, Pietistic, and Faith Ministry! We are needed as much TODAY as ever in the history of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation which was officially organized in Oaksis, MN in **1920**.

Likely, relatively FEW could have imagined that today so many who call themselves Christians would so easily compromise and so quickly fall prey to the devil's deception.

TODAY, they *might call us narrow-minded and bigots* who do not condone homosexuality or same-sex-marriage as God says it is SIN; Who Never Changes His Mind! **WE** proclaim the <u>only</u> means of redemption is through the *shed BLOOD of* JESUS CHRIST!

AND now the courts are ruling against those who stay true to the Word of God. They are accusing them of hate crimes who refuse to condone sin, and those who call sinners to godly repentance.

So now it is important that you and I become the catalysts, who by Prayer and standing true to the Word of God, will hopefully spark the revival that will lead this beloved Nation to godly repentance.

Do you think that in the last 50 years that *compromise in the churches* would have been so rampant? With the world around us embracing the worst wickedness as normal, those who stand for righteousness are now being proclaimed evil. It becomes more essential than ever to know how to effectively deal with the evil forces surrounding us, and encourage believers to stand up, speak up, and when necessary, repent!

Fortunately we are not standing alone; but seemingly the numbers are becoming fewer and fewer in these days of Apostasy.

YES, our beloved Land and Canada is plagued with its rebellion against God, as well as its sinful lifestyle. Few from the Pulpit dare to call sin by it's <u>name</u> *as God* **does.** As the 'home' goes, so goes the church, and as the church goes, so goes the Nation.

Please join 'us' in diligent prayer and support for seeking God's mercy, forgiveness and restoration in a Spiritual Awakening.

This 'ministry' is the LORD'S Work, BUT **HE** *wants* co-laborers with HIM in occupying with/for HIM and thus co-heirs with HIM for **eternity!**

America's problems won't, in themselves, be solved through politics or the legislative process because the very root problem of all that is wrong in America is <u>sin</u>! (*Al*-

though at one period of time in USA history 'our' government paid for and required BIBLES to be distributed)!

Naturally, also a 'challenge' is financial support: First from you as an individual, and then from Congregations across the Land. WE are in need of 'Team-mates'! Are you one, or will you become one, in joining with us against the sins of compromise? Are you willing to stand for what is right? FAITH WITHOUT INVOLVEMENT IS *DEAD*!

The **miracle** we are asking for from 'our' Living Savior *seems* impossible. Well, as you know, God specializes in the impossible and often works through a person(s) who is redeemed, under the BLOOD of the Crucified and Risen ONE. For example: Jonah and Nineveh, Elijah and Mt. Carmel, Abraham and Sodom/Gomorrah, Elijah and *drought and rain, Martin Luther, Hans Nielsen Hauge !!!*

By the Grace and empowerment of God - Faithful and True!

Editor

A FORGIVING LOVE

"Love asks for nothing – everything comes back to it." There is a story of a young woman, organist in the village church, who hated her brother because he ran away from home with the family fortunes when he was young. The sister was forced to support her widowed mother for many years.

The brother returned home to find that his mother had apparently forgotten about his sin. She seemed to think of him only as the honest lad he once had been. In her hatred, the sister threatened to tell the mother all about her brother's theft unless he cried out her commands. For a time she made his life as miserable as her own. One day as the brother and sister knelt as their mother's deathbed, the son was constrained to confess his sin. He said, "Mother, you have forgotten that once I stole your money, and left you poor. You have forgotten, but I am confessing it now, and I ask your forgiveness." "No son,' said the mother, "I have not forgotten, but I forgave you and put it out of my mind long ago, because I love you."

This deep love totally destroyed the hatred in the sister's heart. To her minister she said, "All the hate is gone from my heart. It had to go, when I found such a forgiving love as that." Our Father's love is a forgiving love. When we confess our sins (true sorrow, repentant – II Corinthians 7:10), they are blotted out and will be remembered no more. The love of Christ in our hearts can wipe all hatred away. **JESUS** saves to the *uttermost*. ...

Selected

QUESTION:

Would you comment on Deuteronomy 21:22-23? Why should any particular disgrace be attacked on this method of death?

ANSWER

There were important differences between ancient and modern modes of hanging and what is referred to in this passage is what we should call "gibbeting." In modern times criminals have been normally executed in the shortest, swiftest, easiest and most painless form of death.

In many cases, the criminal was strangled, and after death his body was hung up, as a public warning, and as a testimony of the vindication of the law. For sanitary reasons, a corpse could not be left long unburied in that hot country. It also would be a horrible sight to see a body hanging out in the open and being attacked by birds and wild animals.

The hanging also conveyed the sentiment that the victim was cursed of God and man, and so hung between the two, as unfit for either heaven or earth. Probably the special feeling attaching to this method of execution was due to the fact that it was adopted only for cases of idolatry and cursing of God.

By Jim Christensen, *Heaven and Home Hour News* Bulletin, October, 1978.

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And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them. Numbers 20:12

Moses was denied the privilege of leading Israel into their inheritance because of disobedience, unbelief and a failure to give God the glory. Yet three times in Deuteronomy we read that he blamed the children of Israel for his denied entrance into Canaan (Deut. 1:37; 3:26; 4:21). How sobering to see that the meekest of men would not fully admit his sin, but like Adam before him, placed the blame on others. May God help us to confess our own sins and not blame others for our transgressions.

D. Pickup

Lord, melt these icy hearts of stone, make us Your counsel seek,

And sacrifice to You alone, with humble heart and meek.

Richard W. Adams

UpDate

FAIRLY OFTEN <u>1</u> Timothy 6:10 is misquoted in stating that 'money' is the 'root of all kinds of EVIL', where the 'truth' is the *love of money!* So fairly frequently we need to exam ourselves in honestly asking: Is 'work' my 'master' OR am I the 'master' of my 'work', in order to receive 'wages/money'?

NOW let us take a very brief look at <u>Nehemiah</u> <u>5:14-19</u> and pay attention to a few basic 'truths' and keep them in our heart and mind in regards to what God has called you and I to be <u>doing</u>!

In Nehemiah 5:15: Focus on the GIVER.

In Nehemiah 5:17 and on: Imitate your GIVER.

So keep in mind that you cannot out-give the GIVER, for He has a 'bigger' shovel than you have. You can not out-give the GIVER!

SPECIAL: My people had a *mind to work, because it was the Lord's Work; which is a Great Work!* So we also ought to live and do as the Holy Spirit prompts us to live and do: for 'faith' without 'works' is DEAD! *"The LORD will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands"* Psalm 138:8.

Please pray for us as we strive to be good stewards of all God provides through you for the ministry of the Lord's Work in and through the Morning Glory and the Hauge Lutheran Innermisison Federation: for the work of transforming lives and nourishing God's Lambs and Sheep, as we 'water' and 'plant' and <u>HE GIVES THE</u> <u>INCREASE!</u>

August's Income for the ministry of the *Morning Glory* is app. \$3,973.00.

The cost of publishing and mailing the *Morning Glory* each month is approx. \$2,000 <u>plus</u> other noticeable expenses for this 'ministry.'

HERE WE GO!

By foot, horse, car, train ship or plane ... pretty well covers travel modes to date. God's people shall soon travel faster and farther without mechanical means of transportation, even without space suits, in the glorious rapture, when our Divine Magnet calls: "Come Up Higher!"

Advance reservation, however, must be in order.

Have you made yours?

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Hell and destruction are never full. Proverbs 27:20

A road sign was erected in the town of Exmouth in England in an attempt to make drivers cut their speed. The sign read "Slow – Heaven is full."

While the Bible says that hell is never full, no direct comment is made in this regard to heaven. At the moment there is still room for those who want to be there. However, the Bible does warn that at some point the door will be closed and access to heaven will cease. Perhaps you need to slow down and think on this matter. Make certain to ensure your entry while the door remains open.