



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • October 2010

Concerning The Faithful Use Of The Bible

Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they which testify of me.

John 5:39.

The Savior was at home, as we say, in the Bible. When we read of the boy Jesus that the Jewish doctors were astonished at his understanding and answers, we must remember that those questions and answer all dealt with the Holy Scriptures.

His teacher in God’s word, was, first and above all his faithful, pious mother (Editor: Could be Joseph – anyway ‘team work’). But he himself, as time went on, never ceased to search the scriptures. God’s word was his weapon against the temptation with which the devil assailed him, when thrice he resisted and vanquished the evil one with the words, “It is written.” God’s word, likewise, was the rule according to which the entire course of his life seemed ordered; “That the scriptures might be fulfilled.” And again, God’s word it was which comforted him amidst all the trials of life and strengthened him even in the hour of death; “My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?” Ps. 22.

You propose to call yourselves “Evangelical Lutheran” Christians; What does that signify, but that you mean to be Christians who love the Evangel, the Gospel; who will make it the rule of your life, and in the spirit of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, will so live as the Lutheran Church (Editor: qualified) teaches and as in your catechism you have learned to live!

“Search the Scriptures.” You have already learned to know them in part. How foolish, should you imagine the

task finished. Compare yourself with the boy Jesus, your knowledge and understanding with his, and you will soon realize your need of taking up in real earnest now, the study of God’s word. “They are they which testify of me.” You cannot follow him at all except as you open the Bible and behold again and again, and have impressed ever more deeply upon your heart, the image which is there given of him. The oftener and the more zealously you read that Book, the more precious will become your Savior, and the more gloriously will you experience the truth declare in John 3:16, – “*For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.*”

But do I hear you saying, there is so much in the Bible one cannot understand? Well, then, read the part you can understand. Such are, first of all, the first three Gospels, together with the Acts of the Apostles, and also such portions of the Old Testament as are commonly understood to have their fulfillment in the New Testament. When you are familiar with these, you may pass on to the Epistles of James and Peter, and from these to John’s Gospel and the epistles of St. Paul. Read every day a few connected verses, and in addition a Psalm. Read with the prayer of the Psalmist in your heart, “Lord, open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.” Such faithful use of that Book which is the very Word of God shall be gloriously rewarded. It will become more and more plain to you. When you look up into the heavens on a clear, starlit night, you see at first only a few particularly bright stars. But the lon-

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ger you gaze, the greater is the number of stars which become visible, and the brighter the light of those first few. Just so is it with the words of Scripture.

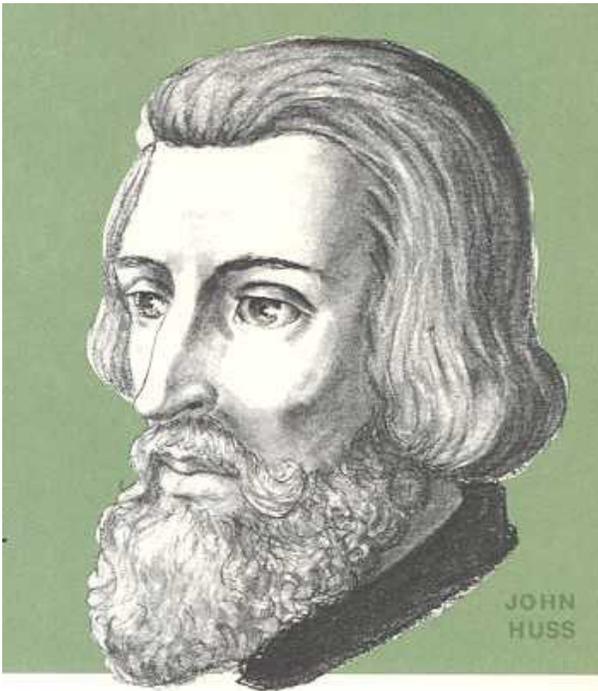
And think not to yourself, I have plenty of time yet to read the Bible; I will attend to that when I get older. For it is just now, at your present age, that you need it, in order that you may meet your temptations, also, with an “It is written.” It is necessity to you now, since it is only in the Bible that you may get acquainted with him whose follower you mean to be. Now, in these happier days, must you gather strength for the days, which will come in your life, as in every life, when you shall say, “We have no pleasure in them.” Now, in the years of your vigor, should you learn that comfort which will meet your need in the hour of death.

Yes, “search the Scriptures,” – and you shall find that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is indeed the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.”

The Word is everlasting truth;
How pure is every page! That Holy Book shall guide our youth, And well support our age.

Taken from the booklet
“*Follow Me*”; by Benevolus,
copyright 1908 by R. Neumann

Editor's Note: This ‘booklet was written in 1905 with especially youth in mind, and even more so, who were just confirmed in Lutheran Teachings; BUT it is a good message for all ages! Shouldn't the Bible also be the **center** of our ‘church activities’, especially our Worship Services? **If JESUS AND HIS WORD (Bible)** are not enough to get ‘peoples/sinners’ attention; *what* have ‘we’ to offer?



John Huss

For many years the people of Western Europe were loyal to the pope at Rome. They had been willing to do and think as they were told by the pope, bishops, and other leaders of the church. They accepted them as God's representatives. But about the year 1200 some people began to ask questions and to wonder whether the pope was always right.

JOHN HUSS

One of those questioning the rule of the church leaders was John Huss. He was a teacher at the University of Prague in Bohemia, part of modern Czechoslovakia. Huss was a powerful and popular preacher. In his sermons he condemned the evil and selfish lives of the people and of many priests and monks. He denounced their love of money and luxury, their immorality and pride.

Huss also condemned officials in the church who were more interested in obtaining money from the people than in preaching about Christ. He pointed out that Christ was the real Head of the church. He claimed one could be saved without obedience to the pope. John Huss became a hero in Bohemia. Many people in that country agreed with his views.

As Huss became more popular, high officials in the church began to fear him. The archbishop of Prague condemned Huss and forbade him to preach. When he continued to speak out against evils in the church, he was excommunicated. Excommunication cut off a person's membership in the church. Huss was also denounced as a

heretic, one who opposes the teachings of the church. However, the people of Bohemia rallied behind him. In 1414 Huss was asked to appear in Constance, Switzerland, at a meeting of church leaders. He was to explain his teachings to them. The emperor had guaranteed his safety both to the meeting and back home again. But when he arrived in Constance, Huss was arrested and imprisoned.

For months he was kept in a dungeon and treated shamefully. He had to wear chains and handcuffs and at night was chained to the wall. During his imprisonment Huss wrote these words to his followers in Bohemia:

"I write this letter to you in prison and in chains, expecting tomorrow the sentence of death, full of hope in God, determined not to forsake the truth of God. ...I know God has been with me during all my troubles. ...We shall meet again in heaven".

HUSS'S TRIAL AND DEATH

In 1415, after 6 months in prison, John Huss was brought to trial. He was asked to take back everything he had taught. This he refused to do, and the council sentenced him to be burned at the stake. He was then dressed in the robes of a priest. The cup for the Communion wine and the plate for the bread were placed in his hands. Then the priestly robes were torn from him and the cup and plate wrenched from his hands.

An archbishop said, "O cursed Judas, who has left the realms of peace, we take from you this cup of salvation."

Huss replied, "I hope by the mercy of God that this day I shall drink in the heavenly kingdom."

The bishops declared, "We give your soul to the devil."

Huss answered, "And I commit myself into the hands of Jesus Christ, who redeemed me."

When he reached the place of execution, Huss prayed loudly, "Lord Jesus Christ, I will bear patiently and humbly this horrible death for the sake of Your Gospel and the preaching of Your Word."

Some men tied Huss to the stake and started the fire. Before he died, he prayed, "O Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us."

Taken from *How the Church Grew*
by Norbert Engerbrecht
Concordia Publishing House, 1966

Editorial

RES WAKE UP

“The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, ‘Stand in the gate of the LORD’S house, and proclaim there this word, and say, ‘Hear the word of the LORD, all u you of Judah who enter in at these gates to worship the LORD!’ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. ‘Do not trust in these lying words, saying, ‘The temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD are these.’ For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your doings, if you thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbor, ‘if you do not oppress the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, or walk after other gods to your hurt, ‘then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.’” (Jeremiah 7:1-7)

Setting: God sends Jeremiah to the Temple gates (entrance) to refute the **false** belief that God would not let harm come to the Temple or to those who lived near it. Jeremiah rebukes the people for their false and worthless religion, idolatry, and the shameless behavior of the people and their leaders. Judah, he says, is **ripe** for judgment and exile. Jeremiah was almost put to death for this sermon! The people followed a worship ritual but maintained a sinful life-style. It was a religion (form of godliness, but ...) like a ‘lamp without oil’! They were lacking a personal relationship with God – like honoring HIM with their lips, but their heart was far from HIM. *“For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns - broken cisterns that can hold no water.” “For though you wash yourself with lye, and use much soap, Yet your iniquity is marked before Me, says the Lord God”* Jeremiah 2:13 & 22.

As you notice a gate/entrance leads to somewhere and a godly person was to stand in the gate. Thus we come back to the TRUTH as we must stand for something/conviction or we are vulnerable to fall for anything. In order to ‘drift’ a person doesn’t have to do anything.

First, as we note, we are enter into His Presence with praise and thanksgiving. Praise for who HE is and thanksgiving for what HE has done, is doing, and going to be doing. A believer’s Biblical conviction should be so thorough and solid (based on the Word of God) that the “burning bush” which was not consumed, should be so aflame that either fellow members/visitors would shed ‘their sheepskins’ (be changed) OR leave. Yes that the Pharisees or Sadduces would either be converted or leave. If God’s Law is not preached in its fullness and sternness (in Love), both to the individual and to the congregation; sooner or later it is certain that SIN will move in!

One of the basic NEEDS today as individuals and/or churches today is that we have no real NEED! **Need** is of *vital essence* in regards to **Prayer!** We are much like the folk of the Laodiceans Church of Revelation chapter 3. The manipulating of ‘church practices’ is horrible today. It is worse than in the political world, all done in the name of ‘christianity’. At large, the ‘church’ of today is full of programs and activities and it does not want to be ‘disturbed’ at any cost. It wants to feel good (emotions) and comfortable, and yet JESUS stands on the outside knocking for re-admittance; and *many* do not know that His Presence is absent. No wonder that JESUS asks the question *‘Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?’* Luke 18:8b. Many today would rather believe a **lie** than be disturbed of their **comfortable life style!** **II Timothy 4:1-5.** To preach God’s Law in love is not only hardly heard of, but is also almost an unpardonable sin! It is not only what is being said today, but what is not being said from the sacred desk. Silence is not always golden, but some times just plain yellow. A Heaven sent Revival is not wrought by being ‘entertained’ but by prayed down from Heaven.

The Scriptures not only tell ‘us’ to examine ‘our selves’; BUT to prove what is right! Remember how the apostles responded when JESUS said one of you is going to betray ME: *“Lord, is it I?”*

‘We’ are told to stand at the gate/entrance and to share ‘thus saith the LORD’ (**WORD**) and IF the Word is not adequate, what have we ‘puny’ folk have to offer? Standing at the ‘gate’ reminds me of ‘readiness and action’. Oh how the church and our nation stands in NEED of PRAYER *support* as they both are on the skids going down a steep slope. Personally I believe we who know JESUS as our personal Savior are like a rudder to a ship. Remember how Abraham prayed for Sodom and Gomorrah. Remember what was accomplished through Jonah who preached **God’s WORD** for Nineveh and yet

Jonah was only one. Oh how we NEED to pray and preach God's Word in an expectant spirit as God has promised that His WORD will not return unto HIM void. A living Faith is not only that God can, that God is able; but that *God will*. Faith is not only a noun, but an **action word**. **Our NEED** is not only a vital part of prayer; but also a very vital part of **worshipping GOD in reverence**. (My/our Need - **But God and His Promises is the Answer**). Naturally that His Will be Done! JESUS SAID: "**My house is a house of PRAYER**" - Is that TRUE where you gather together to WORSHIP HIM?

WAKE UP EVERYONE! IT IS LATER THAN IT HAS EVER BEEN! **Psalm 126:5-6, Jeremiah 9:1, Romans 13:13-14 & Psalm 119:136**. (For example notice the concern of Moses & Apostle Paul in GOD'S WORD in **Exodus 32:32 and Romans 9:1-3**). Their attitude wasn't, "So I am 'saved', what's the difference if others go *eternally lost?*"
P. S. When you visit folk of like mind and spirit; why not have a time of 'prayer fellowship' before you leave for home and please remember this 'ministry' specifically in prayer as we desire the same?

"The righteous shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17).

MOST of us Christians are more occupied with dying from sin than with living for God.

As a result we do not succeed very well in the Christian life. It is well known that the more one fights with a chimney-sweep the blacker one becomes. Likewise one does not become holy simply by circling around in conflict with one's own impure desires.

Not until we center about our Savior and become occupied with Him will we be loosed from our self-life. We do not receive that willing spirit which inwardly renounces sin and which clings to the Lord until our eye of faith has been opened and we see Christ and all that we have in Him.

Not until then are we saved from our old "I"-life, which always centers about itself, into the new life which is centered in Christ.

As long as we, by our eye of faith, behold the glory of Christ, the glory of the world will not be able to entice us with its power. Faith's clear vision of the suffering and bleeding Savior makes us loathe sin. It makes us feel that it is a privilege to follow Jesus in the way of sacrifice which He trod.

To live by faith! This word opens to us a rich and mystery-laden realm with which most of us are but slightly acquainted. To live by faith means to have one's connections with the invisible and heavenly realm in such order that eternal life flows quietly and uninterruptedly into one's soul, giving it a new content, new joys and new sorrows.

As we are lifted up into the invisible realm of faith, we see the present world in its true light.

It no longer becomes the goal of our life, but a means by which we can serve God.

Taken from *God's Word for Today* by O. Hallesby
Augsburg Publishing House, Used by Permission

Prayer Comes First

1 Timothy 2:1 - 4

Do we avail ourselves of the sacred privilege of prayer as we ought to? We may acknowledge that we need to spend more time before the throne of grace, but do we find ourselves at a loss for things for which to pray once our own personal requests have been mentioned? To remedy this, not only should we pray over an open Bible, speaking to God as He speaks to us through His Word, but we also should notice therein particular matters that we are regularly remember when we pray. The apostle Paul exhorted young Timothy to make prayer a top priority in his Christian life. Paul then mentioned specific things that Timothy needed to incorporate in this spiritual exercise that would make it even more purposeful and rewarding. What was Timothy to do? He needed to look beyond his own concerns and pray for others. Our prayer life will grow and be blessed if we thus broaden our own supplication to God.

Verse two of our text specifically states that we are to pray "for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." Our nation is in dire need of prayer. We should be praying for our political leaders in a way we perhaps never have prayed before. Our liberties, both person and religious, are on the line. Our text also reveals the Lord's desire for lost souls to "come unto the knowledge of the truth" (v. 4) and be saved. Neither should we neglect prayer for our brothers and sisters in Christ (Eph. 6:18; Col. 1:9-11). We will never know this side of glory the precious fruit brought forth as a result of intercessory prayer! The act of faithful prayer is "good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour" (v. 3).
DWC

Taken from "Feature"
Fundamental Evangelistic Assn., Inc.
Telephone 805 - 528-3335

As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

2 Cor. 6:10

There is a strange dualism in the heart of every true Christian. Many who realize this fact become discouraged, and almost despair, condemning themselves. When an upright person is aware of this dualism, it is easy for him to label himself as a hypocrite.

Do not engage in such self-rebuke. It is wrong. This condition is present in every Christian. Rather dread the day when this feeling might disappear. A Christian always experiences these three things: He is sorrowful – he is poor – and he owns nothing.

God, however, has this to say about him: He is always rejoicing – he makes many rich – he possesses all things.

The deeper you sink in your sorrow and poverty, the richer and more blessed you will become. The poorer you feel yourself to be, the more people you will make rich. For it is those who are insignificant and humble who prove most useful to God. And when you reach the point where you possess *nothing*, you actually possess *all things*. Such is the blessed lot of the Christian.

Taken from “*Rest A While*” by Fredrik Wisloff

* * * * *

Are Christians Free From The Law?

... The gospel of Christ is not only a declaration of forgiveness; it is also *life* – a life in God and of God. By faith in Christ we have become partakers of God’s nature. The law is now written in our hearts, not as a *command*, but as a new *nature*.

God is no different in His demands upon us than He is in Himself. The new man in a Christian wills that which God wills; he serves God with his mind. (Rom. 7:25). The law is fulfilled in us who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit, (Rom. 8:4).

If a Christian is then to say that he is free from the law as a new nature, he declares thereby that he has not been born of God. In other words, he is not a Christian.

“*And hereby we know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.*” (1 John 2:3).

“*For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments; and his commandments are not grievous.*” (1 John 5:3).

The new nature in a Christian *desires* to do God’s will. The life from God cannot do otherwise. It may not have

much power over us; it may even die; but it cannot sin. As the new spiritual life gains more and more power over us, we live more and more according to God’s will. The exhortation from God’s Word to us is to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ so that we may live as blameless children of God in a perverse generation.

Someone may then ask, “If the law is written in our hearts, do we have any need for the Commandments in the Bible?”

Yes. Every word which encourages us to live according to the will of God finds a friendly response in the heart of every honest Christian. Every admonition is an added encouragement to live according to the promptings of our new nature. When inwardly we desire to do the will of God, and from without we are urged to obey Him, we come to realize more and more how much we are in need of a Savior.

“*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law.*” (Gal. 5:22-23).

He who would abolish God’s law for a Christian would thereby also do away with the new life in his heart. The new nature hates what God hates, and loves what God loves.

Taken from *Spirit and Power* by Ludvig Hope

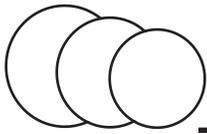
All Obey God Except Man!

All but the heart of man obeys God. Look through history; you will find this is true. In the beginning God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. He said, “Let the waters bring forth,” and the water brought forth abundantly.

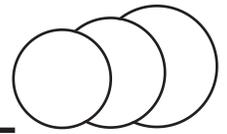
One of the proofs that Jesus Christ is God is that He spoke to nature and nature obeyed Him. At one time He spoke to the sea; the sea recognized and obeyed. He spoke to the fig tree; instantly it withered and died. It obeyed literally and at once. He spoke to devils, and the devils fled. He spoke to the grave, and the grave obeyed Him and gave back its dead.

But when He speaks to man, man will not obey Him. That is why man is out of harmony with God, and this condition will never be different until men learn to obey Him. He wants obedience, and He will have it, else there can be no harmony.

—D.L. Moody



From Our Fellowship Circle



O. L. A **Newport, N. C.**
God bless you and multiply your harvest of souls for the Lord. You've done much and still the harvest is great.

Thank you for the encouraging sermon in the 'Morning Glory'. The Morning Glory vine is a hardy plant and has a tendency to take over and crowd out everything else. May it be so with *Morning Glory*; may it crowd out discouragement, disease and all sin from all who read it.

I wish I could send more. Thank you.

E. W. **Story City, IA**
Thanks for the messages in *Morning Glory*. I look forward to the articles and pray you can keep it coming.

K. & A. T. **Livingston, N. J.**
Thank you so much for your newsletter called *Morning Glory*. It has been a blessing for many years.

Also a 'thank you' for my brother who lives in Maryland; who also receives the *Morning Glory*. May God use the same to bless many.

T. S. **Forest City, IA**
I am enclosing a check for the *Morning Glory*. I enjoy getting it and all the good reading. I also miss getting together with you folk as we know a child of God loves to get together with those who are of like mind and spirit.

Also I am thankful for the good health the Lord has provided for me; as HE is so good to me!

Mr. & Mrs. O. R. **Langdon, N. D.**
I am so sorry that I have not written to you sooner, but I was not able to do so.

The *Morning Glory* is the most wonderful mail that I can get. 'The Truth is Given' with God's Blessing.

One thing that I want to bring to your attention is; the address label is not correct. ...

Thank you so much and may God's richest blessings be upon you. Enclosed is check for the amount of \$...

E. M. **Plattsmouth, NE**
Enclosing is a check for the sum of \$...

I am going on 98 years of age and am in an assistant living facility which costs me \$... a month so it takes almost all of my Social Security check!

J. & C. A. **Wheaton, IL**
I grew up with my parents reading the *Morning Glory*. It was such blessing to our family. Now as an adult I understand why my Christian parents did so.

We are donating \$... so my husband and I can continue reading such a wonderful magazine that teaches Biblical principles.

E. S. N. **Duluth, MN**
The *Morning Glory* is the finest periodical I receive for it truly feeds my spiritual life with truth and fellowship.

I am also so fortunate to belong to a church which stands firm on God's Word and is served by sound Pastors. We also have ongoing Bible Studies and I have access to a Stride bus which is for disabled folk...

EVANGELISM & NURTURING!

What happened to the calling/gift of an evangelist? AT LARGE **today** the congregation is so organized and booked that there is no 'room' for 'evangelistic meetings'! **"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers"** Ephesians 4:11. Is this not to be part of the 'program' of the local Bible believing Congregation? *"But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry"* (Individually & as a congregation) II Timothy 4:5. Is not this challenge/command addressed to all true believers. Is it not true: If we do God's Work in God's Way we receive God's Special Blessings! Granted it is all of God's mercy and grace! BUT as I understand Scripture, it is part of God's recipe for our age and the future/ in the New Testament period of GRACE.

Fortunately we do have Christian gentlemen who are willing and available to assist you in this step of obedient faith whom we recommend.

ALSO we have a 'Gospel Tent' (chairs, etc) that is available to assist you in this obedient adventure of faith, if so desired. Paul Peterson is in charge of the 'Tent' Ministry - Telephone 507 - 202-5329

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Judge: No Reunion Between Ohio Convert and Parents

A juvenile court judge in Ohio has granted a runaway Christian convert's request to declare reunion with her Muslim parents impossible, paving the way for the girl to fight deportation.

Magistrate Mary Goodrich said (August 5) that reconciliation between Rifqa Bary and her parents isn't possible before she turns 18 on (August 10). Goodrich also said it's not in the girl's best interest to return her to her native Sri Lanka. Bary is an illegal immigrant.

The ruling allows her attorneys to file for special immigration status that would let her stay in the U.S. while she continues medical treatment following recent surgery for uterine cancer ...

Young Rifqa ran away to Florida last summer because she feared her father would harm or kill her after she converted from Islam.

OneNewsNow.com

World Council of Churches to Host Muslim-Christian Dialogue

The World Council of Churches (WCC) is planning to host an inter-religious dialogue between Muslims and Christians this fall in a bid to address conflicts fueled by religion in predominantly Muslim countries.

The head of the WCC's International Affairs and Public Witness, Mathews George Chunakara, told New Delhi-based Christian Today that Christian and Muslim leaders are expected to gather this coming November in Geneva, Switzerland, to address key issues in the present context of Muslim-Christian relations.

"About 70 top leaders from both these communities will discuss issues of common concern, mainly the inter-religious disputes and their possible solutions," said Chunakara...

This fall's international consultation, which will be held under the theme "Transforming Communities: Christians and Muslims Building a Common Future," is being jointly planned, funded and convened by the WCC and several Muslim organizations.

The consultation is expected to identify and address issues of common concern and provide guidance to enable cooperation between Muslims and Christians at all levels, including faith-inspired approaches for joint Christian-Muslim action.

The "Transforming Communities" consultation will take place November 1-5.

ChristianPost.com

Two in Five Evangelical Leaders Drink Alcohol

Forty percent of evangelical leaders said they "socially drink alcohol," according to a new monthly poll.

Many of them added that they drink only "in moderation," "on special occasions," or "infrequently." And they noted that they do so only with those who share similar views on alcohol consumption.

The poll, released (June 24), was based on responses from the Board of Directors of the National Association of Evangelicals, including the CEOs of denominations and representatives of a broad array of evangelical organizations.

Among the majority who said they did not consume alcohol, the common reason for abstinence was not because they believe it is sinful to drink...

"Alcohol and its effects have been a major challenge in American society," said Leith Anderson, president of the National Association of Evangelicals. "Just as society has dealt with it, as evidenced in the 18th and 21st Amendments, so have evangelicals looked at how to interact appropriately with alcohol."

An earlier study of Protestants in the country found that over a quarter of lay people (29 percent) said people should never drink alcohol, according to LifeWay Research. Meanwhile, 24 percent of senior pastors agreed. Also, while 68 percent of pastors said reasonable consumption of alcohol is a "biblical liberty," just over half (54 percent) of lay people agreed.

At the same time, 90 percent of clergy said a Christian drinking alcohol could cause other believers to stumble or be confused, the LifeWay survey found.

Based in Washington, D. C., the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) represents more than 45,000 local churches from over 40 different denominations and serves a constituency of millions. The NAE defines an evangelical as one who takes the Bible seriously and believes in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

Audrey Barrick for ChristianPost.com

Editor's Note: **Note that this is a survey of "evangelicals." Fundamentalist churches and leaders are virtually unanimous in taking a firm stand against the**

consumption of alcohol and doing so based on biblical truths.

When alcohol gets accepted into the mix, you can safely assume that it is not the only cause for concern.

We are opposed to the use of alcohol as a beverage in all its forms and in any amounts!

Taken from "Sword of the Lord"

Editor Challenges Broadcaster Over Rapture Date Setting

Harold Camping Announcing May 21, 2011, As The Rapture

As with all fundamental, Bible believing Christians, we hold tenaciously to the Bible truth that Jesus is one day, some day, coming to earth again. Jesus Himself said that He would do so, "I will come again," He proclaimed (John 14:3). The apostle Paul declared, (Editor: God through the Apostle Paul) "*For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."*" 1 Thess. 4:16, 17.

Mr. Camping is a False Teacher!

1. He is a Calvinist. With a background in Reformed theology, he holds to a version of Calvinism. For example, he teaches that those who are to be saved were selected by God before the foundation of the world.

2. Camping believes the church age has ended already. He teaches that no person holding membership in a church at the time of the rapture can go to Heaven. Satan now rules in all the churches, according to Camping.

3. Camping has advised his listeners to leave their local churches.

4. Camping does not believe in a literal Hell. He thinks that "death" and "the grave" are the same as "Hell."

The evidence is compelling. This man is not on a track of "sound doctrine" (Titus 2:1).

But he purports to be a teacher of Bible truth.

His prophetic announcements are a definite problem as well

1. In 1994, Mr. Camping made an "end of the world" announcement which obviously did not pan out.

2. Now here we are in 2010, and he has openly, blatantly and unashamedly made another prediction. This time it is May 21, 2011.

Excerpts from "Editor Challenges Broadcaster ..."; Editor of the "Sword of the Lord" Dr. Shelton Smith

Hymn History

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

"The devil hates music because he cannot stand gaiety," said Martin Luther. "Satan can smirk but he cannot laugh; he can sneer but he cannot sing."

Because he believed in the power of song, the great reformer spent much time compiling a hymnal suitable for congregational singing. As one writer has noted, Luther translated the Bible into German "so God might speak *directly* to them in His Word" and compiled a hymnal "so they might *directly* answer Him in their songs." Luther wrote thirty-seven hymns. "A Mighty Fortress" is the best known and best loved. It was written in 1529, a climactic year for Luther and his followers. Emperor Charles V seemed determined to suppress this new movement. When the Reichstag assembled in February at Speier, there was a majority vote to reestablish the former religious-economic system in all German principalities. A formal protest was entered by the Lutheran princes, earning the Lutheran movement the name of *Protest-ant*.

During these days of struggle, Luther found greater inner strength by meditating on Psalm Forty-Six especially the words: "God is our refuge and strength." Soon they inspired a song, beginning with the bold declaration: *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* – translated in 1852 by Frederick H. Hedge as: "A mighty fortress is our God." The majestic chorale may have been arranged by Luther from an old Gregorian melody.

This hymn became "the Marseillaise of the Reformation." People sang it in the streets. Martyrs chanted its strains as they awaited death. Its first line is proudly engraved on the base of Luther's monument at Wittenberg.

Although written in the sixteenth century, its message is contemporary. Man still needs a fortress, a hiding place. He still needs God!

Taken from *Hymns of Faith*
Northwestern College Radio

*A mighty fortress is our God, A bullwark
never failing;*

*Our helper He a-mid the flood, Of mortal
ills prevailing.*

*For still our ancient foe, Doth seek to work
us woe;*

*His craft and power are great, And armed
with cruel hate,*

On earth is not his equal.



Music is a fair and glorious gift of God ...I am strongly persuaded that after theology there is no art that can be placed on a level with music; for besides theology, music is the only art capable of affording peace and joy of the heart ...the devil flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God.

Truth and Error!

“Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.”-1 John 4:6.

1. Truth is truth! Error is error!
They are neither friends nor relatives to each other.
2. Truth is reality! Error is fantasy!

Driving seventy miles per hour on the wrong road does not get you to your destination. You may be having fun, but if it is the wrong road...

3. Truth endures! Error is always on the move, drifting, shifting, dodging and darting, ever changing!

4. Truth has divine origin! Error is connected to the world, the flesh and the devil (all three of which are

unstable, unscrupulous and unreliable)!

5. Truth will be suppressed! Error will be given a free hand!

6. Truth blesses! Error blights!

Nails, sawdust and cement are not the ingredients for a birthday cake. Error always results in unwanted consequences. It is truth that sets us free (John 8:32). Truth sets out on the right path.

7. Truth is light! Error is darkness!

Two plus two always equal four-not sixty-eight, not 312, only four. You will do well to apply that truth when you go to the bank, the restaurant, etc. Truth educates and illuminates, while error leads you into darkness and leaves you vulnerable to pitfalls and predators.

Truth and error! You can't excuse your failure by passing the buck and blaming somebody else. Your forefathers had to choose; you must do likewise.

There's no justification by which we can legitimize our support of and our companionship with error.

Only truth deserves our allegiance, our loyalty and our backing. —Dr. Shelton Smith (Sword of the Lord)

A Downward Trend

Religious music has long ago fallen victim to this weak and twisted philosophy of godliness. Good hymnody has been betrayed and subverted by noisy, uncouth persons who have too long operated under the immunity afforded them by the timidity of the saints. The tragic result is that for one entire generation we have been rearing Christians who are in complete ignorance of the golden treasury of songs and hymns left us by the ages. The tin horn has been substituted for the silver trumpet, and our religious leaders have been afraid to protest.

It is ironic that the modernistic churches which deny the theology of the great hymns nevertheless sing them, and regenerated Christians who believe them are yet not singing them; in their stead are songs without theological content set to music without beauty.

Not our religious literature only and our hymnody have suffered from the notion that love to be true to itself must be silent in the presence of any and every abomination, but almost every phase of our church life has suffered also. Once a Bible and a hymn book were enough to allow gospel Christians to express their joy in the public assembly, but now it requires tons of gadgets to satisfy the pagan appetites of persons who call themselves Christians. — A.W. Tozer

Taken from *Tozer on Worship and Entertainment*
Christian Publications

How To Keep A Child's Heart

By Pastor Tony Scheving, Fargo, ND

“My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.” Proverbs 23:26

The Bible says, *“In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents”* (II Timothy 3:1-2). Have you ever seen a rebellious kid with a hard, calloused appearance? It's usually an outward sign of inward anger, bitterness, resentment, and self-centeredness. It's also normally a sign of a parent who's lost his child's heart. By that, I mean they no longer have the child's feelings, affections, or regard. The child is no longer concerned about his parent's opinion, or pleasing his mom and dad.

God made the heart to give away, and everyone gives his or her devotion to something. Sometimes people give their hearts to education, getting a degree, making money, material things, building a business, or to a relationship. The Bible says, *“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life”* (Prov. 4:23). Children are looking for someone or something to give their heart to. Sometimes sports heroes will have a kid's heart, or raunchy music and entertainment. Often a kid's friends will mean more to him than his parents. Sometimes parents will lose their child's heart when their daughter gets involved with a boyfriend. There are many things lurking from alcohol and pornography to gangs and MTV, which are stealing the hearts of children from their parents. Sometimes a good look at the bedroom of a kid will tell where his hearts is. There are many things competing for a child's heart. The heart of every problem is a problem of the heart.

According to the Bible, a child's heart belongs to his parents until he gives it to his spouse at marriage. God knows this will protect a child from all the land mines of bad relationships. When my daughters turned twelve years old, I gave them a promise ring with a pledge to let Daddy have their heart until they get married. When I walk down the aisle on their wedding day, they will give the ring back to me and replace it with their spouse's wedding ring. Studies now reveal that “purity pledges” are not working. It's not hard to figure out why...it's due to a parent losing his child's heart. A pledge to physically remain a virgin until marriage will not hold up in the midst of temptation if a young person has given his or her heart to someone other than their parents.

The Bible says, *“The glory (pride and joy) of children are their fathers”* (Prov 17:6). In the early years of childhood, a kid's hero is naturally his dad or mom. His first words are “Mama” and “Dada” somewhere amongst the

lyrics. Children's little thoughts are continually about their parents. Their attachment and devotion is to their parents and they have warm feelings about their parent. Their little lives revolve around mom and dad. Sadly, this is lost in most homes, as children grow. How do you know if you are losing your child's heart? Does he want to be around you or his friends? Does he strive to please you or could he care less? Does he seek your counsel or someone else's? Is he any longer concerned about carrying out your wishes? Does his life revolve around the latest Hollywood star, rock diva, NFL star, or you? Is your child obedient to you, or does he continually rebel or challenge you?

If you've lost your kid's heart, how can you regain it? Start by trying to reestablish the lines of communication. Plan outings with him and have fun. Take an interest in what he enjoys doing or introduce him to fun and wholesome activities you know he'll enjoy. It's also important to establish some reasonable rules and standards. Show your child you care enough about him to put some boundaries around his life. You may need to regulate what friends he runs with. The Bible says, *“evil communications (associations) corrupt good manners”* (I Cor 15:33). When parents let a child run loose, they're sending the message that they don't care about him. The Bible gives examples of poor fathers like David and Eli who didn't restrain their kids. More parents are under protective than over protective. The reason kids usually become bitter is not because of rules; it is because of angry parents who are harsh and scream and are inconsistent. Remember that rules will not work without first having a relationship. Someone said, “Rules without a relationship equal rebellion and resentment.” Many parents address their kids with an angry spirit much of the time. It is perhaps the biggest cause for lost affection and devotion from children. It does incredible damage (Eph 6:4).

Another way to regain your child's heart is to take back control of the household. The average home revolves around the kids when it should revolve around the parents. Kids are running the show and essentially calling the shots. Dads must lead their households and not relinquish the leadership to the children. Our society has promoted a ‘kid power’ and ‘the year of the kid’ mentality. We have made little prima donnas and idols of our kids. It's a real unbiblical culture, resulting in proud children instead of humble ones. Society has coddled kids by making them untouchable in our schools when they act up. I recently heard of an overweight kid who sued his mom because he didn't like the healthy food she was serving at home. Kids have gotten a real attitude of self-importance. If you foster this foolish spirit in your kids, you will lose their heart. My kids have been taught to be thoughtful of

their parents. They wait on us, and not vice versa. While they live in our house, they will contribute to the common cause, and seek to be a blessing to their parents. We never capitulate to their attitudes, as it's a fast way to lose their respect. You must "call their bluff" and never blink!

Finally, remind your children that you have their best interest at heart, and you are in their corner trying to help them. In closing, let me say that child rearing is not easy, but can be a tremendous blessing if done God's way. The Bible says in Ps 127:3, "*Children are an heritage of the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is His reward.*"

Taken from *Truth for Life*

* * * * *

Dr. John R. Rice Learns About How to Die!

I stood by the grave of my mother and looked down at that sandy mound in a country cemetery and lifted my heart to God in thanksgiving that the grave was already conquered. That grave was only a quiet bed where sleeps for little time the body of my dear mother. But when Christ comes back for His own, my mother will come too and receive her glorious body, raised from the dead.

Once I drew back with horror from death, but I have learned that death to the Christian is not crossing chilly waters, is not facing a fear some monster, is not the grip of a cold hand on the throat or an icy breath in the face. Death for the child of God is simply sweet release from care and sorrow, the end of sin and disappointment, and the entering into the sweet presence of Christ!

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21). To die is gain, "*Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better*" (vs 23)! Death already has his teeth pulled as far as the saint is concerned. Christ, who died for sinners, rising again from the dead for our justification, ascending on high ever to live as our High Priest, has taken away the sting of death.

In a country home near Red River in Texas, my mother lay dying. We children were called from our play, and we did not understand why everybody wept but Mother. Mother lay on her bed and talked about Christ and Heaven. She said,, "Will you sing and play for me, Georgia!"

And Cousin Georgia answered, "What shall I sing, Aunt Sadie?"

"Sing:

**How firm a foundation,
Ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith
In His excellent Word."**

So Cousin Georgia went to the little cottage organ and played and sang with trembling voice those blessed words. And my mother rejoiced and praised God while she sang.

Then one by one we were called to promise that we would meet Mother in Heaven, and promise we did. I was only five years old, and yet I remember that scene – how we stood about the room and looked on: grieving husband, four little children and kinspeople. Then my mother looked up, up, up with a glad smile and said, "I can see Jesus and my baby now!"

So she closed her eyes and went to sleep, and we knew that she was with Jesus and the little one who had gone to Him just a few months before.

Thank God, I learned in my childhood how a Christian can die, and I am not afraid of death. Thank God, the Lord Jesus Christ has taken the sting out of death! The only way, then, to have peace about death is to have Christ as your Saviour. I beg you to trust Him today with all your heart.

From '*When Skeletons Come Out of the Closet*'.
(Sword of the Lord)

The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength

2 Sam. 2:4.

The strongest person without God will be brought to naught. "The bows of the mighty men are broken." Be not afraid of the superior strength of the world. He who has God is nevertheless the strongest.

Do not be alarmed by your own weakness. Do not become discouraged if you stumble. Seek your strength in God. To the weary He will give rest, and to the discouraged He will give new courage. The humble He will inspire with new courage for the conflict. The one who stumbles He will gird with strength.

One may stumble in hidden snares, or by taking a false step. One may stumble simply as a result of weariness. And he who stumbles may fall. But if you have fallen, rise up again; begin anew. With God there is forgiveness as well as strength. His promise to you is: "*Him who stumbles He will gird with strength.*"

Taken from "*Rest A While*" by Fredrik Wisloff

Politically Correct or Biblically Correct?

Exodus 20:1 - 17

We live in a day of “political correctness.” Since political correctness and biblical correctness are in most cases polar opposites, the Bible-believing Christian must brace himself against the current. He must strive daily to be biblically correct regardless of whether such ideas or actions are considered politically correct.

Incorporated within the Ten Commandments are many statements that are considered less than “politically correct.” The first command, “Thou shalt have no other gods before Me” (v. 3) clashes with the eclectic thinking of our day. From Hollywood to the streets of America, from politicians to America’s factory workers, the third command (*Editor*: we consider this the second) is flagrantly ignored: “Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain” (v 7). Included in the fourth command (*Editor*: The Third) is the statement: “For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is” (v. 11). Politically correct textbooks teach that our world is the result of billion of years of evolution. The command, “Thou shalt not commit adultery: (v. 14) is expanded in the Old Testament to encompass all forms of immorality, including fornication and sodomy. New “hate crime legislation” seeks to force political correctness upon believers who voice their opposition to the current plague of moral depravity. “Thou shalt not kill” (v. 13) flies in the face of the politically correct view condoning abortion and embryonic stem cell research. Bible-believing Christians understand that political correctness is bringing the judgment of God upon our land, while biblical correctness, if practiced, would bring the blessing of the Lord upon our land. Commit your heart today to “biblical correctness.” JMC

Taken from ‘*Feature*’
Fundamental Evangelistic Assn., Inc.
Telephone 805 - 528-3335

* * * * *

Now That I Have Believed

I belong to God’s Family: John 1:12
I am a new person: 2 Cor. 5:17, Col. 3:9-10
I have the Holy Spirit who dwells within me: Rom. 8:9,
John 16:13, 1 John 4:13
I am kept safe by Christ my Savior: 1 Cor. 10:12-13,
Phil. 1:6

I overcome sin with the Lord’s help (Grace): 2 Peter 2:9
I will be baptized (provided I have not been baptized into the Trinity): Matt. 28:19, Act 2:38, 41, Col. 2:12
I seek to feed daily on God’s Word: 1 Peter 2:2, Col. 3:16,
2 Timothy 2:15, Josh. 1:8
I will pray (daily) through Jesus my Mediator: 1 Tim.2:5,
Ps. 56:17, Matt.26:41, Phil. 4:6, John 14:13
I hate sin (as God works in and through me) and seek to flee from it: 1 Pet. 2:11, 1 Cor. 6:19-20.
I will seek to be available to God’s leading: Eph. 5:16,
1 Tim. 4:14, 1 Cor. 12:4, Col. 3:17, 1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 12:4, 2 Cor. 9:6-8, Luke 6:38
I will tell others about my Savior: Rom. 10:9-10,
Matt.10:32-33, Psalm 107:2, Acts 8:4
I will wait and look for the coming of my LORD: John 14:2-3, 2 Peter 3:14, Luke 12:35-46, 17:34-36, 1 Thess. 5:1

He must increase, I must decrease

John 3:30

The first of these is impossible without the second. It is the desire of every child of God that Jesus might increase; few, however, are willing to decrease. But unless we decrease, He will not increase.

This text is dear to us as long as we use it only as a pious proverb. Perhaps we even pray for what this text expresses. However, when the prayer is answered, and when the condition expressed in this text becomes an actuality in our life, we often shrink back and retract our prayer.

Who really wants to be small? Who can stand to be set aside, and even to be forgotten? Who dares to see himself as he actually is – his desire for honor, his egoism, his impurity, his lack of love; to see that he is wicked through and through; to see that his very motives for doing “good” are contaminated by his ego?”

However, only when our eyes are opened to these things will Jesus become great. And the more we come to see our true condition, the greater He will become. It is then that we will decrease, and He will increase.

Do you now dare to pray this prayer?

Taken from “*Rest A While*” by Fredrik Wisloff



Philip Melancthon

Pen of the Reformation

To paraphrase church historian Kurt Aland, when we speak about “the Reformer,” we mean Martin Luther. For the sake of making the term plural, we often add Calvin, with occasional references to Ulrich Zwingli. Philip Melancthon virtually disappears in Luther’s shadow. Aland summarizes, “This does not do justice to the historical reality.” As confessional Lutherans, we owe much to Melancthon’s historical reality, for he was Luther’s greatest assistant, and the author of more than half of the historic Lutheran confessions.

Philip Melancthon was born Philip Schwarzert on February 16, 1497 in Germany, to a family of relatively wealthy artisans. From an early age, young Philip’s contact with his great uncle, Johann Reuchlin, shaped his life. Reuchlin was Germany’s greatest Christian humanist, to be carefully distinguished from modern day, secular humanists. These humanists were elite scholars steeped in Renaissance thought. Study of history and ancient languages, mainly Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, consumed their interest. They studied theology somewhat secondarily, and held the unscriptural view that man is basically good, but needed moral teaching. Reuchlin’s influence initially became evident when young Philip Schwarzert followed the humanist tradition and translated his name to the Greek: Philip Melancthon.

Melancthon was an academic prodigy. He enrolled in the University of Heidelberg at age twelve, earning his Bachelor of Arts degree at age fourteen. Prior to his seventeenth birthday he achieved Master’s status – the level of a

university teacher. Following in Reuchlin’s footsteps, Melancthon became an expert in the original languages of the Bible and a noted teacher and author. With his great uncle’s recommendation he became a professor of Greek in Wittenberg, Luther’s city of influence, at the tender age of 21.

When Melancthon came to Wittenberg he was principally a teacher of languages with interest in history, geography, mathematics, astronomy, and even ancient medicine. A small and timid man, his knowledge exceeded his physical presence. He had great ability as a theologian, but limited responsibility and interest, a character trait which continued throughout his life despite the insistence of many around him. He never pursued a degree higher than Bachelor of Theology. Despite this fact, Melancthon quickly drew Luther’s admiration. In a letter to his friend Spalatin shortly after Melancthon’s arrival at Wittenberg, Luther wrote, “We very quickly turned our minds and eyes from his appearance and person to the man himself. We congratulate ourselves on having this man and marvel at what he has in him.”

Luther summarized one encounter when Melancthon “delivered an extremely learned and absolutely faultless address.” His prowess continued as Melancthon drew lecture audiences even larger than those of Luther, fifteen years his senior. Luther himself marveled at Melancthon’s greatest work, *Loci communes*, or “fundamental concepts of theology,” in his preface to “The Bondage of the Will,” claiming that *Loci* deserved “not only to be immortalized but even canonized,” and that it was “an unanswerable book” to detractors from the true faith.

Admiration soon became cooperation, and Melancthon found himself an able assistant to Luther for much of the next 28 years. Melancthon’s tact and writing ability proved the perfect complement for Luther’s strong personality and confident assertions. His scholarly ability impacted Luther enough for one modern author to entitle a book, “How Melancthon Helped Luther Discover the Gospel.” While Luther’s original thought found form through Melancthon’s pen in the first 21 articles of the Augsburg Confession in 1530, Melancthon alone authored the last seven articles, the entire Apology to the Augsburg Confession, and The Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope. In 1580, when Lutheranism adopted its official confessions as the Book of Concord, Melancthon’s writings equaled those of Luther in quantity and exceeded the same in authority.

After Luther’s death in 1546, Melancthon fled conflict and proved unable to bear the yoke of leadership in the Lutheran church, with both his persona and theology to blame. His tact, which had been of profound blessing

and benefit to Luther, combined with his early training as a humanist, formed an attitude of compromise which led him to back down from some of Luther's teachings. Most notably he authored an Altered Augsburg Confession in 1540 and shifted toward Calvin's understanding of the Lord's Supper. Shortly before Melancthon died in 1560 he penned an autobiography of sorts on a scrap of paper. On one side he wrote, "You will be redeemed from sin, and set free from cares and from the fury of theologians." and on the other, "You will come to light, you will look upon God and his Son, you will understand the wonderful mysteries which you could not comprehend in this life: why we were so made, and not otherwise, and in what the union of the two natures in Christ consists."

As our appreciation for biblical doctrine grows, our appreciation for those who systematized it will follow. As Christians we should be thankful to Philip Melancthon for his vast contributions to the formulation of fundamental Reformation doctrine.

Taken from *The Lutheran Ambassador*
October 31, 2000

A New Reformation

We must have a new reformation. There must come a violent break with that irresponsible, amusement-mad, paganized pseudo-religion which passes today for the faith of Christ and which is being spread all over the world by unspiritual men employing unscriptural methods to achieve their ends.

Modern churches have made fun a symbol of their religion. I want to grieve, bury my head in my hands and sob before God when I hear, as I often do, precious young people whom I would give my blood for, get up and in a tiny voice say, "Oh, I am so glad I have found that you do not have to be a sinner to have fun. We have fun in church, too. You can follow Jesus and have fun." Then they sit down. How they have been betrayed! It is the cross that is the symbol of the Christian life. But we will not pick up our crosses. We will not forgive our enemies. We will not be reconciled. — A.W. Tozer

Taken from *Tozer on Worship and Entertainment*
Christian Publications

Update

Consider Your Ways!

Now therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: "Consider your ways!" You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat; but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes. Go up to the mountain and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified," says the LORD. "You looked for much, but indeed it came too little; and when you bought it home, I blew it away. Why?" Says the LORD of hosts. "Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house." Haggai 1:5-9.

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" Matthew 6:33.

"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:8-10.

"Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the first fruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine." Proverbs 3:9-10.

"Give, and it will be given to you good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38.

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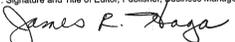
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| 13. Publication Title Morning Glory | | 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below September 2010 | |
| 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation | | Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months | No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date |
| a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run) | | 1600 | 1600 |
| b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail) | (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies) | 1495 | 1497 |
| | (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies) | 51 | 52 |
| | (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS® | — | — |
| | (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®) | 31 | 29 |
| c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4)) | | 1577 | 1578 |
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| f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e) | | 1577 | 1578 |
| g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3)) | | 23 | 22 |
| h. Total (Sum of 15f and g) | | 1600 | 1600 |
| i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100) | | 100% | 100% |
| 16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the October issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required. | | | |
| 17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner  Publisher | | Date 09-16-10 | |
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| PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3) | | | |

Mailing Update

If you or someone you know have moved and are no longer receiving the *Morning Glory*, please notify us. We don't always receive the forwarded address, and some people end up being off the mailing list simply because they moved and we don't know where they are now. — **Thank You**

Redeem The Time!

LORD WILLING and in a step of faith; this month/October and with your support/encouragement this is the beginning of the *Morning Glory* **appearing each month of the year!** We are excited in this step of faith and believe it is of the Lord's leading that the *Morning Glory* should appear each month of the year *in redeeming the time!*