



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • October 2011

The Spirit — A Guide To Christ

It is sin which has made the separation between God and us. It was sin that made Christ to become the Lamb of God in order to die for us sinners. If we are to know ourselves as we really are, we must learn to know our sin; if we are to have any particular use for Christ as our Savior, we must be inwardly convinced that we need Him.

It is therefore the work of the Holy Spirit to convict us of sin.

The first experience of an unconverted person with the Holy Spirit is that of being disturbed in his life apart from God. In the heart of every one who has been instructed in the Word of God the Spirit is at work. He is trying to disturb all those who are sleeping in sin. The Spirit is at work with men while they are about their daily tasks; He calls upon them in Church and in gospel hall; He is active at sea and on land; He pleads with men in sick-room, theatre and dance hall. Every once in a while man's mind and conscience is brought face to face with God; the day of reckoning is brought into view, and the heart feels itself condemned, tired and sore.

Thus the Spirit of God seeks to convict man of sin.

A person is not permitted to walk in his sin as peacefully as it sometimes appears to us that he does. Under the hardest countenance and coarsest blasphemy may be found a soul that is crying and longing for peace. That people sometimes throw themselves into sin and shameful vices is not always caused by a desire to destroy themselves,

They are just trying to stifle the cry that the Holy Spirit has called forth in their hearts. We can therefore often see that those whom we thought to be farthest away from God are the first ones to become Christians. Where the day has been given to merriment, laughter and jesting, night may offer no sleep; in its stead bitter tears are wrung

from a heart that is sore and a soul that is longing for God.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit in the heart of an unconverted person...

But the work of the Holy Spirit is not merely to disturb the sinner in his sin. When you who are not a Christian become weary of the life in sin, and when you long for the great day when also you might believe that you are a child of God, then you can be certain that God's Spirit is near you. You have become the object of the Spirit's activity. It never happens that a desire to be saved rises in the soul unless it has been called forth by the Spirit of God.

Then we experience the great wonder of having our eyes opened to see the Savior. This is the great goal of the Holy Spirit in His dealings with us. But it is at this point that the greatest difficulty arises for those who wish to become Christians. All who go through the narrow gate - from self to Christ, from death to life, from the power of Satan to the power of God - know of the many obstacles that will be placed in the way when the Spirit is to pilot the soul into the haven of salvation.

You will discover that nothing is right with you. Whatever you attempt results in failure. You will soon discover that you do not even care to improve yourself. You are hard and cold; at times you think that you are too sinful to be saved, and at others times you fear that you are not sinful enough; you are certain that you have neither been rightly converted nor properly awakened, and you are sure you have not grieved sufficiently over your sins. You are convinced that everything is wrong with you; what is worse is that you are not particularly bothered by this. And so you grieve because you cannot grieve as you ought to; you weep in pain because you feel so little pain.

You have become an obstacle in your own path...

You do not realize that you can never become rightly

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prepared – you who are dead in trespasses and sins. Therefore the Holy Spirit coaxes you and draws you to Him who justifies the ungodly and brings salvation to the sinner.

That is how it happened to me and many others - may it also happen to you. We saw that Jesus alone is sufficient. We saw that we had need of nothing else for salvation. We had to be saved just as we were. The light of salvation came into the soul. Where there formerly was fear, night, and death there came to be peace, day, and life.

Under the Cross of Jesus the day of grace began to dawn.

The Spirit introduced Jesus to our heart, and life's most vexing problem was solved.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit. He has led the sinner to Christ, and the sinner is saved.

God's Spirit witnesses with our spirit that we are the children of God.

Taken from *Spirit and Power* by
Ludvig Hope

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Innermission Federation, 1959

Editor's Note: **John 6:37, 1:12-13, Colossians 2:9-10, 1 John 5:11-13.**

If you have no
joy in your
Christianity,
there's a leak in
your
Christianity
somewhere.

The Blind Will See

“Whether he is a sinner, I know not; one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.”

John 9:25

THERE is something remarkable about this blind lad. First, that he was healed although he had been born blind.

Next, what he *then* experienced.

Instead of meeting him joyfully and with good wishes, people began a veritable cross-examination of him, as though he had done something wrong. They wanted to explain away the whole matter. So they turned first to his parents. But they were such cowards that they wriggled away from the whole affair, saying “Ask him; he is of age!”

Then they tried to bewilder the boy by asking him various questions. But he would not permit himself to become confused. He held clearly and definitely to what he knew; *“One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.”* Thereupon he turned upon them with counter-questions and stopped their mouths completely. Whereupon they became furiously angry and cast him out of the synagogue.

Many since that day have had similar experiences.

Jesus has come to them without their asking Him to do so. He has opened their eyes and they have seen their sinfulness. It is all so remarkable. They have experienced such distress that they could not endure to live their former life any longer. They have felt that they must care for their immortal soul and yield to the merciful Savior who has opened their eyes.

Then difficulties have arisen.

Their old friends have become malicious: “Would you teach us? Would you be better than we are?” They have carried on a veritable campaign of espionage against the new convert in order to find faults about which to talk. Yet, many have even had the experience of having evil reports spread concerning allegedly base sins which they are supposed to have committed after their conversion.

Do not despair, my dear friend. He who opened your eyes will defend you as He defended the man born blind when trouble broke in upon him.

Taken from *God’s Word For Today* by O. Hallesby
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Augsburg Publishing

Editor’s Note: Likely if this young gentleman were living ‘today’, he would like to be a participant in our [Hauge Group](#).

Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God

The renowned Jonathan Edwards was a New England pastor of the 1700s. Edwards was brilliant. At age six, he studied Latin. He entered Yale when he was not quite thirteen and graduated when barely fifteen. Harvard granted him both a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree on the same day. He was ordained at age nineteen and taught at Yale by age twenty. Later, he became president of Princeton.

But he is best known for his sermon: “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God.”

He preached it on Sunday, July 9, 1741, while ministering in tiny Enfield, Connecticut. A group of women had spent the previous night praying for revival. When Edwards rose to speak, he quietly announced that his text was Deuteronomy 32:35: “Their foot shall slide in due time.” This “hell-fire and brimstone” approach was somewhat of a departure for Edwards. Of his one thousand written sermons, less than a dozen are of this type.

Edwards neither gestured nor raised his voice. He spoke softly and simply, warning the unconverted that they were dangling over Hell like a spider over the fire. “O sinner, consider the fearful danger! The unconverted are now walking over the pit of hell on a rotten covering, and there are innumerable places in this covering so weak that it will not bear their weight, and these places are not seen.”

Edwards’ voice was suddenly lost amid cries and commotion from the crowd. He paused, appealing for calm. Then he concluded, “Let everyone that is out of Christ now awake and fly from the wrath to come. The wrath of Almighty God is now undoubtedly hanging over a great part of this congregation. Let everyone fly out of Sodom.”

Strong men held to pews and posts, feeling they were sliding into Hell. Others shook uncontrollably. Throughout the night, cries of men and women were heard throughout the village, begging God to save them. Five hundred were converted that evening, sparking a revival that swept thousands into the family of God.

The Great Awakening had begun.

Adapted from Robert J. Morgan. Selected.

Editor’s Note: Fortunately, ‘we’ published this sermon that GOD used in such a MARVELOUS WAY (GRACE). It is available to YOU for a suggested one dollar donation (each copy of Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God) plus something for postage.

God is the Greatest

“Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods.” (Exod. 18:11)

Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, was amazed at the way the Lord had taken care of all the needs of the children of Israel, when he led them out of Egypt. He knew that God was great. People in this world may not realize it, but they worship gods just as the heathens do. Anything that they put before God is an idol. Some people worship their children; some, their homes; some, their positions; some, their beauty of face or figure; some, their power to speak. But none of these things can save one’s soul from hell. Only the blood of Jesus Christ can do this. And He is the only One that can give us victory in this life.

An old doctor once said, as he was leaving the home of a patient,

“I’m an old man, and I’ve seen a great deal. Folks can ask me a hundred questions about Christianity that I cannot answer. But, I do know this: it bridges the gulf. I don’t have to analyze the water I drink, or tell who dug the well, or when it was dug, to be able to quench my thirst. It satisfies and meets my needs – that’s enough for me. When I see Christ come in and sit by the bed of my patient, and say, ‘Lean on Me,’ and I see my patient close his eyes, and with a smile go to sleep – well, it’s pretty hard to convince me there is nothing to Christianity. I know there is!”

Yes, our God is greater than all gods of this world.

Dear Lord Jesus, help us to taste and see that the Lord is good. Help us to worship Thee in spirit and in truth. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

There’s a Friend above all others,
Jesus, Son of God is He;
His love is beyond a brother’s,
Greater love there could not be.
‘Tis eternal life to know Him,
For He died my soul to save.

Verse by permission, Al Smith

Taken from “Altar Steps” by R. P. Haakonson

Editor’s Note: This fine ‘family’ devotional book, which is for the entire year, is available through the Hauge Federation for a five dollar donation, plus shipping.

When the Boughs Break

“When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off; the women come, and set them on fire: for it is a people of no understanding: therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them, and he that formed them will shew them no favor.” (Isaiah 27:11)

Like a mighty tree towering over the forest, God raises up a mighty nation from time to time, with a great leader, to accomplish some purpose in the divine plan. He *“hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation”* Acts 17:26.

But when that nation and its leaders become proud, and its people become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, it becomes like a tree whose branches wither and whose core becomes riddled with insect-caused decay. Finally, the boughs break, the kingdom will fall, and down will come that nation, its leaders and all!

That happened even to God’s chosen nation, Israel, though only for a time in her case, since God’s promises cannot fail. One after another, the mighty nations that God used to chastise His wayward people – Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia, Rome, etc. – have in turn been judged for their own rebellion against the God who “made them” and “formed them.” God has warned that *“the wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God”* Psalm 9:17.

Is this about to happen to our beloved USA as well? The signs of self-seeking power and pride among our leaders and moral decay and spiritual rebellion among our people are widespread and growing worse. Our prayer should be that of the ancient prophet: *“O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years ...in wrath remember mercy.”* Habakkuk 3:2. *“Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?”* Psalm 85:6

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

“Days of Praise” by Institute for Creation Research
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Whatever makes men good Christians, makes them good citizens.

Daniel Webster

Editorial

RES

WORD ALONE, FAITH ALONE, GRACE ALONE!

“...The just shall live by faith.” (Romans 1:17b, Habakkuk 2:4, Galatians 3:11)

WHEN was the last time you heard much about Martin Luther and the Reformation from behind the sacred ‘desk’, the pulpit? What makes ‘Lutherans’ distinctively different than any other denomination? They are not better than any other, but distinctively different! **NO** we do not worship OR idolize Martin Luther as he also was a ‘sinner’ saved by Grace; just like ‘Mary’ the mother of JESUS! *BUT* we are living in a society today that *even* ‘Lutheran’ Congregations are taking out the name ‘Lutheran’ from their title, as a congregation. What’s wrong it letting people know where your ‘biblical convictions’ lie? (Do you want to change your ‘name, ancestry so ‘people’ don’t know your identity?)) Yes we are either ‘Americans’ or not; and you are either saved or lost; but why not be a clear testimony of what you believe! OH, I know that ‘liberal Lutherans’ are not truly ‘Lutheran’. Martin Luther’s conviction was “cursed be that love for ‘unity’ where the Word of God must be put at stake,” and he also believe that no greater ‘mischief/curse’ could happen than when the Word of God was being ‘falsified’!

Luther’s world was in a ‘crisis’/era. But what is a ‘crisis’? In the medical world a crisis is a change that indicates whether the patient will not recover or die. Historians use the word ‘crisis’ to refer to a decisive moment or turning point in a society. In Luther’s era they were in a ‘crisis’ both physically and spiritually.

Fourteenth-century Europe experienced an extended food crisis that left many people too weak to resist the plague and as a result, whom cities and regions were ghost areas by the last of the century. Because of famine, plague, and feudal warfare, life expectancy was about forty years. As I mentioned earlier there was a ‘crisis’ both physically and spiritually.

It is always good, proper, uplifting, and theologically correct to rejoice in the fact that we are sons and daughters of God (provided you are saved by the ‘Word Alone, Faith Alone, and GRACE Alone). That we are co-heirs with CHRIST.

It is even more important to reflect on this *marvelous TRUTH*, when our ‘government is broke’ in these *perilous times*.

Seemingly the Executive (the White House), Legislative (Congress), and Judicial (the Supreme Court) branches of government can’t lead us to the light at the

end of the tunnel – they are so confused themselves – let alone to lead our great USA in the ‘right direction’. God has permitted ‘us’ *childish leaders* because ‘we’ have insisted on ‘our’ own way; and thus ‘we’ are experiencing leanness of soul, just like the Israelites of old.

Now, before we get angry at our leaders, ‘we’ should turn the microscope inward. The USA government is likely a reflection of its people, and we are the people. As a nation, we have broken/forsaken God’s Laws as we have increasingly rejected the Judeo-Christian culture upon which our nation was largely built, spurned God’s grace and insisted on our own way.

Only a unconcerned individual would wonder why we now find ourselves in this catastrophic mess.

Only a person who refuses to face reality would, in some way, solve our problems without the God of the Bible.

Only person blinded by Satan, the father of lies, reject ‘so great a salvation’ made possible by our crucified and risen Savior; which is **free** of charge. Salvation is by the Word Alone, Faith Alone, Grace Alone.

Yes, it is a ‘wise’ person who embraces God’s grace through faith and each day be heard singing ‘On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.’

No doubt there are a ‘few’ in high places that are of a moral character who want to do what is right for our beloved USA and what is right in the sight of God. As for the rest of us, it is time we stop being the silent minority and we should be crying out “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” “*Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.*” Proverbs 14:34, Psalm 33:12, Jeremiah 2:11-13 & **II Chronicles 7:14.**

Not only is the nation going adrift, but at large, the ‘church’ is also; and not only the nominal ‘church’, but the ‘evangelical’ church as well. **Godly repentance** is almost foreign at any level and it is ‘we’ the people that make up the nation and churches. AS the ‘church’ goes, so goes the nation; but the local congregation is ‘only’ made up of individuals: you and me! Realistically, ‘we’ are comfortable, lack a burden for the souls of men, women & children, and ‘we’ love to have it so. The love of/for the brethren is waxing COLD. How we need to draw a circle on the floor and step within that ‘circle’

and ASK **GOD** to *revive* ALL that is within the circle (including 'our' billfolds & purses). Habakkuk 1:2-4, Haggai 1, Psalm 32, 51:12-13. Pray for a Heaven sent REVIVAL! Psalm 85:6, 138:7 & Hab. 3:2.

WHEN **you** became a Christian, **you** entered into a 'Spiritual Battlefield' that will continue until faith becomes sight!

The world, self and the devil are out to *kill you!* Don't be deceived; they are out to **kill YOU**.

Martin Luther speaks of a 'living faith' that lives as long as it struggles and invariably ends up at **Calvary**. We never 'graduate' from 'Calvary' on this side of eternity!

Luther also speaks of where the 'battle' rages; that is where the loyalty of a 'soldier' is to be found, OR else he is a hireling or a fox. *It is time to stand up and be counted!* Matthew 5:16, 10:32-33, Luke 12:4-7, II Timothy 2:4.

Martin Luther saw that the root of the crises of his time was not rapid social change, immorality, lack of love, or personal and corporate corruption. Yes, to be sure 'we' should be concerned about these 'issues' and seeking to correct them; but to do that alone is like assuming that rearranging the furniture on the deck of the Titanic would keep her afloat. BUT Luther insisted that when life is placed over doctrine; the result is what he called the "monster of uncertainty". This monster of uncertainty is worse than all the other monsters... It is obvi-

ous that the enemies of Christ teach what is uncertain, because they command consciences to be in doubt.... The '**real answer**' is changing of hearts and lives by preaching the Law of God in it's fullness, with love, and reaching individuals with the 'Good News' of the Gospel.

"Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints," because "I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" Jude 4 & Luke 18:8.

LORD give us 'godly men, women, & young people' who are willing to stand *for & on* **the TRUTH** and to replace 'our' jelly fish/wish bone spiritual 'backbone' with 'iron' in our lives to your honor and glory! People who know and have experienced that 'salvation' is by **FAITH ALONE, WORD ALONE AND GRACE ALONE!** **Because "that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain."** Philippians 2:15-16.

P. S. I believe that God is even using 'nature' to try to speak to 'us'; are 'we' listening?

What Kind of Church Do You Have?

By Tom Malone

There was only one tie between New Testament churches – the tie of fellowship. Each was a local autonomous church within itself – self-governing, independent, with the only tie being the tie of fellowship.

They had no officials elsewhere except in the local church. The Antioch Church was independent – no headquarters, no higher officials, no ties but those of fellowship, no central property control. This is a New Testament church.

This New Testament church was a preaching church.

This New Testament church was a soul-winning church.

This New Testament church was a Word-of-God teaching church.

This New Testament church was a giving church.

This New Testament church was a missionary church.

This New Testament church was a praying church.

This New Testament church was a harmonious church.

This New Testament church was an independent church; that is, the local body of believers constituted an organism – not an organization, but an organism.

Oh, God, give our church all these ingredients that made up a local New Testament church.

Selected

Don't Wait – Do It Now!

By Curtis Hutson

Don't wait until you are sure you can live it. Come now, like you are, and Jesus Christ will help you to live it.

The poor drunkard can come. He may have beaten his wife last night. He may have spent every dime of his salary, and his babies may be crying for milk. Every man in the church may look down his nose at him. But the poor drunkard who wallowed last night in the ditch in his own vomit can come to Jesus Christ and get the cleansing that Jesus offers.

D. L. Moody was preaching, and he said, "...sinners, won't you come and receive Jesus Christ as Saviour?"

One sinner stood and gripped the pew and cried, "I cannot come."

Mr. Moody said, "You can come."

He said, "I cannot come. I'm chained, I have a ball and chain on me, I can't come!"

Mr. Moody said, "Pick up the ball and chain and bring it with you."

And you can pick up the ball and chain that chains you now – your alcohol, your immorality, your lying, your stealing. Whatever it is, you can pick it up and bring it to Jesus Christ, and He will help you with it.

Selected

Fruit Or Chaff?

Read Psalm 1

Two well-known people – John Wesley and Mark Twain – vividly exemplify the contrast between the godly and ungodly as portrayed in Psalm 1. When Wesley, who had been joyous, energetic, and effective even in his 88th year, was dying, he suddenly sat up, looked at the people weeping at his bedside, and said, "Best of all, God is with us."

Mark Twain, morose and weary of life well before he died at 75, wrote, "A myriad of men are born; they labor and sweat and struggle for bread; they squabble and scold and fight; ...age creeps upon them; infirmities follow; ...those they love are taken from them, and the joy of life is turned to aching grief ...[Release] comes at last – the only unpoisoned gift earth ever had for them – and they vanish from a world where they were of no consequence; ...a world which will lament them a day and forget them forever."

If we trust God and live for Him, we will – like Wesley – resemble stately trees that are fruitful through all time and eternity! We will experience joy and peace even in difficult times. If we reject God, though, our lives will re-

semble windblown chaff, forever empty and unsatisfying. The options are clear. It is either faith and everlasting joy, or unbelief and eternal regret. What will it be for you? -HVL

Fill up each hour with what will last;

Buy up the moments as they go;

The life above, when this is past,

Is the ripe fruit of life below. –Bonar

HE WHO PUTS GOD FIRST
WILL HAVE JOY THAT LASTS.

Taken from *Our Daily Bread*

Used by permission

Eternal Perdition

"Lord, are there few that are saved? And He said unto them, 'Strive to enter in by the narrow door: for many, I say unto you, shall seek to enter in, and shall not be able.' " (Lk. 13:23-24)

Are there few that are saved?

This is, in truth, a pertinent question. Many in our day would answer at once: All. All are saved.

If anyone dares to mention eternal perdition, they ask: "Do you really believe that there is such a thing as eternal perdition? No educated person believes that anymore. Would a good and merciful God do anything so brutal and senseless as to torture His opponents in all eternity?"

I openly admit that no thought is as painful to me as the thought of eternal perdition. I am not able to think of it very long at a time.

But the time is past in my life when I permit my thoughts and my feelings to decide what is the truth. Jesus is my authority. I believe in Jesus Christ. Also when He speaks of eternal perdition.

But people say that it is not compatible with God's mercy.

Pause a little, my bold friend, before you upbraid Jesus for not being merciful. When you have walked the way He trod in merciful love unto death itself, then you can begin to speak of mercy.

No one reaches the place of eternal suffering because God has ceased to be merciful. He does so because he has taken an attitude toward the mercy of God in which not even a merciful God can save him from eternal woe.

My friend, are you saved? Or are you drifting along toward eternal perdition?

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Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Mayor “Chastised” for Prayer and Fasting Appeal

A mayor in Pennsylvania is under attack for encouraging her community’s citizens to call on God in the midst of a financial crisis ...

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania is in a quandary over its budget, as several parties are in disagreement and disarray over the city’s financial state and the possibility of bankruptcy. So, Mayor Linda Thompson turned to God (in) prayer (with) three days of fasting for help in deciding what to do for the city and its future...

Atheist groups protested Thompson’s efforts, and the Harrisburg mayor has been attacked for opening staff meetings with prayer.

OneNewsNow.com

Charter School Hosting Muslim Prayer Time

A Canadian middle school’s decision to allow Muslim prayers during school hours is an Islamic “encroachment” on Western civilization.

Every Friday, the cafeteria at Valley Park Middle School in Toronto is transformed into a prayer room for Muslim students. According to *Jihad Watch*, local imams come to lead Muslim boys in Islamic prayers, and staff members assist in setting up the event.

OneNewsNow.com

Administration Rejects Defunding of Indiana Planned Parenthood

Indiana officials received notification from the Obama Administration on (June 1) stating that if the state continued to withhold some funds from Planned Parenthood, the state could potentially lose over \$4 billion in Medicaid funds.

In late April, the Indiana legislature passed HB 1210, a law cutting Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood, a leading abortion provider. Governor Mitch Daniels signed the bill into law on May 10.

ChristianPost.com

Federal Bank Flies Gay Colors

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Va., flew a rainbow flag during Gay Pride Month at the request of the

bank’s gay employees. The LGBT group at the Richmond bank requested that the flag be flown throughout June.

Chief operating officer Sally Green said the bank was flying the pride flag to show its commitment to diversity. “We strongly support a diverse and inclusive culture at the Richmond Fed and have learned that it is important to value and embrace differences, both seen and unseen,” she said.

Selected

Time: Shredded Constitution – Does It Still Matter?

Recently, TIME magazine has been running a series of articles on the Constitution, in print and on its web site. The question TIME posts “Does it still matter?” is hardly rhetorical. One article refers those who want strict adherence to the Constitution as “The Cult of the Constitution,” and calls them “fanatical.” Another article questions if the Constitution could possibly solve problems being addressed in our modern nation. It ridiculed the Republicans for reading the Constitution at the opening session of the House of Representatives in 2011.

The Vine and Branches

Jack Van Impe Pulls His Programs From TBN

For years Jack Van Impe has warned his television audience about the dangers associated with Islam, and Christians who hold that Christians and Muslims worship the same God. On a recent program Van Impe named Christian leaders who promoted such false teachings, including Robert Schuller and Rick Warren. He stated that some Christian missionaries overseas had “eliminated 91 verses in God’s Holy Word because they wanted to please Islam and the Muslims.” Those references identified Jesus as the Son of God.

When executives at the Trinity Broadcasting Network tried to get Van Impe to rein in his criticisms of Christian clergy, Van Impe refused. In June when TBN decided not to carry one of Impe’s programs that named Christian clergy promoting Islam, Jack Van Impe resolved to remove his TV program from TBN.

“We received a call from Matt Crouch of TBN informing us that they would not run that program. The reason he gave was that we specifically mentioned Rick

Warren and Robert Schuller and that it is TBN's policy that broadcasters are not allowed to rebuke other ministries," Van Impe said. "This is hypocritical," said Van Impe, "since they never balked when other clergy were rebuked such as Bishop Spong, Harold Camping and Rob Bell."

Van Impe said: "I no longer wanted to air my program on Trinity Broadcasting Network; we will take the tremendous amount of money that we are spending there to obtain stations that will allow us to continue to reach every square mile of America with the truths of the Bible without this network. God called me to preach, and I will not stand down for any man, for any church, for any Christian organization.

Editor's Note: Amen!

Taken from 'The Vine and Branches'

Editor's Note: AMEN!! Jack Van Impe also stated: "I Will Not Be Silenced! I will not allow anyone to tell Impe what I can and cannot preach," in response to TBN not airing his program.

* * * * *

Offer Willingly

"The people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy." 1 Chronicles 29:9

As the people brought gifts for the construction of the temple in Jerusalem, it is mentioned no less than six times in this chapter that their offerings were willing offerings (once in verses 6 and 14, twice each in verses 9 and 17). In fact, they were not only willing, but also joyful in their giving.

Joyful giving is not the usual response to a fundraising effort for a religious cause. The great proliferation of causes today – not only for churches but for multi-church or para-church projects, usually associated with high-pressure solicitations by professional money-raisers – has developed a growing cynicism in Christians toward all such appeals.

That is not the way it should be, "for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). The churches of Macedonia, though going through "a great trial of affliction" and in "deep poverty", nevertheless "abounded unto the riches of their liberality" and they did so in "the abundance of their joy" (2 Corinthians 8:2). What made the difference was that they "first gave their own selves to the Lord" (2 Corinthians 8:5).

No doubt another vital factor leading to the joyful offerings of the people for the building of the temple was the example set by David's great personal joyful generosity, followed by that of all the other leaders of Israel (1 Chronicles 29:3-8). This encouraged the people also to give "with perfect heart" (today's verse). They had evidently, like the Philippians of Macedonia, also first given themselves to the Lord. David had led them by example, not coercion, reminding himself and his people as he prayed a prayer of thanksgiving that "all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee" (1 Chronicles 29:14).

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

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* * * * *

"Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide"

Genesis 24:63

If those who spend so many hours in idle company, light reading, and useless pastimes could learn wisdom, they would find more interesting engagements in meditation than in the vanities which now have such charms for them. We would all know more, live nearer to God, and grow deeper in grace. Meditation chews the cud and extracts the real nutrition from the mental food gathered elsewhere. When Jesus is the theme, meditation is sweet indeed. Isaac found Rebecca while engaged in private thoughts. Very admirable was the choice of place. In the field we have innumerable texts for thought. From the cedar to the hyssop, from the soaring eagle to the chirping grasshopper, from the blue expanse of heaven to a drop of dew, all things are full of teaching. When the eye is divinely opened, that teaching flashes on the mind far more vividly than from written books. Our little rooms are neither so healthy, so suggestive, so agreeable, nor so inspiring as the fields. Let us count nothing common or unclean but feel that all created things point to their Maker, and the field will at once be hallowed. The glory of the setting sun excites our wonder, and the solemnity of approaching night awakens our awe. If the business of this day will permit it, it will be well, dear reader, if you can spare an hour to walk in the field in the evening. But if not, the Lord is in the town, too, and will meet with you in your room or in the crowded street. Let your heart go forth to meet Him.

Taken from *Morning by Morning* by C. H. Spurgeon
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THE QURAN

The Quran came into existence over 630 years after Jesus Christ was born. Mohammed claimed to have received it over a period of 23 years from the angel Gabriel.

According to Islam, the Quran, consisting of 114 chapters, was written on tablets of stone which are now kept in heaven. They claim it is Allah's last words to humanity and both supersedes and corrects the teachings of the Old and New Testaments.

Many of the teachings of the Quran contradict one another as well as what is written in the Bible. However, according to Islam, the last entries in the Quran are the correct and proper teachings.

Much of the Quran is devoted to attacking the Christian belief that God has a Son.

Those espousing "Chrislam" claim divine inspiration for both the Bible and the Quran. However, one would be hard pressed to explain how the same God could inspire the Bible and later inspire another book, the Quran, which contradicts nearly everything the Bible teaches.

Selected

* * * * *

What Did You Do Today?

Is anybody happier
Because you passed his way?
Does anyone remember
That you spoke to him today?

This day is almost over,
And its toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now
A friendly word for you?

Can you say tonight in passing,
With the day that slipped so fast,
That you helped a single person
Of the many that you passed?

Is a single heart rejoicing
Over what you did or said?
Does one whose hopes were fading
Now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day or lose it?
Was it well or poorly spent?
Did you leave a trail of kindness
Or a scar of discontent?

Anonymous

The Secret Things

"The secret things belong unto the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever; that we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29

This portion of Scripture follows a lengthy restatement of the Covenant of God with His people, Israel. In this chapter, Moses reminded the people of the works that God had wrought on their behalf in their deliverance from Pharaoh, in His provision for them in the wilderness, and in His protection on the battlefield (vv. 2-8).

In this final address, he encouraged them to *"keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do"* (v. 9), and stated the various blessings that would be theirs if they would do so. Lastly, he described, in graphic and burning words, the results of breaking the covenant and incurring the judgment of God (vv. 18-27). *"And the LORD rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day"* (v. 28).

In recognition of the limitations of humankind, Moses wrote in our text that there are certain things known only to God, which He has veiled – things which cannot be understood by the human mind – things which He simply chooses to keep to Himself. But he goes on to say that He has revealed certain things to us, and these things we must obey. Consequently, our text consists of great principles of life: We must do what we know to do. We don't know everything, but we must act responsibly and properly to that which He has told us, leaving the "secret things" and their consequences to God. Elsewhere, He promises that even the secret things will *"work together for good to them that love God"* (Romans 8:28) – in His sovereign plan. We must obey, doing what we know to do, and leave the results with Him. John D. Morris, Ph.D.

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Liberty

"God who gave us life, gave us liberty, And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the Gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever." — Thomas Jefferson

Grace, God's Marvelous Grace

By Toby Knutson, Fargo, ND

Psalm 66:1-2, 12b, 16 & 20 and John 1:15-17

Have you given much thought of God's Marvelous Grace? I am quite sure that most of us here today have done some study into what GRACE is, what GRACE means, where GRACE comes from, and how we know whether we are living in God's GRACE.

Today we will be using these Scriptural text verses as a springboard into our message entitled "GRACE, GOD'S MARVELOUS GRACE". Pastor Fugleberg has been bringing us selected Psalms this summer and in these verses from Psalm 66. We see that we are able to sing and praise our Heavenly Father for the marvelous grace He has bestowed upon us. Did you catch that the Psalmist says in verse 12b, "...we went through fire and through water; but Thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place."? Yes, my friends, this is an example of God's marvelous grace. We will be using a number of Bible verses in this topical message today. Please understand that on this side of glory we will be able to get but a peak into God's marvelous GRACE. In our sermon today we will be focusing on 4 main thoughts concerning God's marvelous GRACE:

- A. THE ORIGIN OR FOUNTAIN OF GRACE
- B. THE ACCESS TO GRACE
- C. THE EVIDENCE OF GRACE
- D. THE WORKING OF GRACE

A. THE ORIGIN OR FOUNTAIN OF GRACE

The first of 159 times the word GRACE is found in the KJV Bible is in Genesis 6:8, "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD." Even though this is the first reference to the word GRACE, it seems to this speaker that we see evidence/the fountain of God's GRACE along with His MERCY immediately after the "fall" in the Garden of Eden. Now, we must be reminded that God's GRACE did not begin in the Garden of Eden after the "fall", but has always been a providential attribute of our Heavenly Father. Man first became aware of God's GRACE in the Garden of Eden. Follow with me as we see the explanation of the origin of man's awareness of God's GRACE.

Remember with me that beautiful verse that we all know so well in Ephesians 2:8-9, "*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*" Now let's go back to the Garden of Eden and remember the tree of life. If Adam and Eve had eaten also of the tree of life, after eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, they

would have lived forever in their sin. Yes, they would have had an eternal life of sin. God in His GRACE "saved" them from that horrible and eternally deplorable condition that would have kept them eternally at enmity with God, and so, by His GRACE He sent them "packing" out of the Garden of Eden. Genesis 3:24 says, "*So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.*"

You see, dear friends, man must come through Jesus Christ, Who is the access to the tree of life. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and we all are under sin's penalty as a result. But in Revelation 22:14, we see, "*Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.*" Now we are not saying that by keeping the commandments we are saved. No, no, because as we just saw in Ephesians 2:8-9, "*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*" Friends, we know that we are given a new heart in salvation. We are given a new desire to serve and worship our Lord Jesus Christ. We know that God gives to us a desire to be holy as I Peter 1:14-16 tells us, "*As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*"

So we see, do we not, God in His GRACE saved Adam and Eve from living in their sin of disobedience for eternity, by driving them out of the Garden of Eden. You see, back in Gen. 3:15, God had already declared that there would be a Saviour, the seed of the woman, to defeat their greatest enemy and our greatest enemy, Satan himself. Who is this seed of the woman, you may ask? Why it is Jesus the Christ, our Redeemer! John 1:17 tells us, "*For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.*" This account with Adam and Eve would appear to be the original fountain of God's merciful GRACE.

Martin Luther had much to say about GRACE. "Although out of pure grace God does not impute our sins to us, He nonetheless did not want to do this until complete and ample satisfaction of His law and His righteousness had been made. Since this was impossible for us, God ordained for us, in our place, One who took upon Himself all the punishment we deserve. He fulfilled the law for us. He averted the judgment of God from us and appeased God's wrath. Grace, therefore, costs us nothing, but it cost Another much to get it for us. Grace was purchased with an incalculable, infinite treasure, the Son of God Himself." Yes, we see that Jesus Christ is the fountain of God's GRACE to us. But not only the fountain, Jesus Christ is also the:

B. ACCESS TO GRACE

Oh! Fellow Believers, we ought to be rejoicing together as we realize that we truly have access to the GRACE of God. Let's look at a few Bible verses that show us, Who is this access to GRACE.

1) Romans 5:1-2, tells us, *"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this GRACE wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."*

We have talked about the fountain of GRACE to a degree but here we see for each Christian, we have access to GRACE by faith, yes only by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Friends, this is what Jesus has done for the believer.

The story is told of a small boy who wanted to go into a king's palace and see the king. Each time he walked up to the gate, the guard took him by the hand and said, "Son you cannot go in – you must go away." Well, the little boy started to cry and just stood there looking longingly at the gates to the palace. Just then a man walked up to him and asked the little boy why he was crying. The boy said, "I want to go in and see the king." This man took him by the hand and walked past the guard, into the palace, and went right into the throne room. There, he presented the boy to the king. You see, the man was the prince of Wales, the son of the king.

Friends, it is by His GRACE that Jesus (Prince of Peace/Son of God) takes us through the gates of Heaven, into the throne room of our KING of KINGS and LORD of LORDS, for eternity. We have this access to GRACE by faith, we are saved by GRACE through faith and in verse 1 of Romans 5 we see we are also justified (declared righteous) by faith.

Ephesians 4:7, tells us, *"But unto every one of us is given GRACE according to the measure of the gift of Christ."* We should agree together that our access to GRACE is given to us by Christ and that there may be differing amounts of GRACE for different Christians. We don't "work up" GRACE or deserve GRACE or merely "study up" GRACE, but it is given by our Lord Jesus Christ according to how He measures it out. Even though some may have greater gifts through GRACE than ourselves, we need to remember it is Christ giving it and we need to love one another in the GRACE He has bestowed upon us.

2) Hebrews 4:16, says, *"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of GRACE, that we may obtain mercy, and find GRACE to help in time of need."* Well, isn't this an interesting verse? We come to the throne of GRACE to obtain MERCY and also we come to the throne of GRACE to "find GRACE to help in time of need". But it is through His Son that we have access to GRACE as told to us in James 4:6 *"But He giveth more GRACE. Wherefore He*

saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth GRACE unto the humble." Yes, it is Jesus Christ that is the access to the GRACE in which all believers live.

C. EVIDENCES OF GRACE

There are some terms that word definitions do not adequately describe. Often we hear the definition of GRACE as "getting what we don't deserve" and this is a good definition. However, to see evidence in someone's life, of the GRACE of God, is something to behold. Colossians 3:16 tells us, *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

Some examples of evidence of God's GRACE:

1) Have you witnessed someone singing a hymn such as THE OLD RUGGED CROSS with tears streaming down his smiling face? How about a mother, sitting at the bedside of a sick child and softly singing, JESUS LOVES ME, THIS I KNOW, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

2) There are other times that grace is evidenced in someone's life. Colossians 4:6 says, *"Let your speech be always with GRACE, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."* Have you been the brunt of someone's verbal attack? Have you been able to see past the anger and with a grace-filled, compassionate voice say something like, "My friend, could we sit down and spend some time in prayer together and see how the Lord will handle this problem?" Always remember that it is difficult to argue with someone with whom you've just prayed.

3) It may happen to you also that someone would ask you something in the order of I Peter 3:15, *"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"* Yes, the evidence of God's GRACE in your life should pour out with the love of the Lord Jesus and then offer the same hope of salvation to the one asking. The story is told, "In a certain coal-mining neighborhood, where almost everything was covered by coal dust, there was a beautiful white flower perfectly free from dust. When someone who was a stranger to the place remarked that the owner must take very great care of the flower to prevent it from being covered with the coal dust, another who was standing by threw over the flower some dust which at once fell off, leaving the whiteness and beauty as exquisite as ever. The explanation was that the flower had on it what might be called an enamel which enabled it to receive the dust and throw it off without feeling anything of the effects. So it is with the man of God. His character is so covered with the enamel of divine grace that the sorrows and troubles which come on him leave him un-

touched, except for the increased strength and power that come from God. And – may we add – that contact with temptation leaves him unsoiled, because here too he is strong through the grace that is in Christ Jesus.”

4) Now, let’s get a little more personal – with our marriages. Did I hear anyone ask whether there should be evidence of GRACE in a husband and wife relationship? Well, let’s go to I Peter 3:1 and 7, “*Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;*” (verse 1). If the husband is unsaved, and the wife is a believer, do you suppose the husband would be won to Christ by a nagging and argumentative wife or do you suppose it would be better for a GRACIOUS wife to be humble and in subjection to her husband? Well, we know the answer, don’t we?

5) (Verse 7) “*Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the GRACE of life; that your prayers be not hindered.*” Now, us husbands, it is our turn to see if there is evidence of God’s GRACE in our lives towards our wives. Husbands, do we honor our wives and get to know them as we should? If not, look at the end of this verse, “that your prayers be not hindered.” The commentator, Matthew Henry, says it well concerning this verse, “Giving honour to the wife – giving respect to her, and maintaining her authority, protecting her person, supporting her credit, delighting in her conversation, affording her a handsome maintenance, and placing a due trust and confidence in her.” Yes, dear friends, let evidence of God’s GRACE be overflowing in our married lives.

6) Probably the most evident of all, is the GRACE that changes a lost sinner to a saved sinner. I trust all of us have seen or heard of someone that has been “written off” by virtually everyone but Jesus Christ. Through the mercy and GRACE of God, a downtrodden, lost and lonesome drunkard hears the Word of Truth somehow and is miraculously saved. Yes, saved by the GRACE of God. This person is transformed from a stinking, gutter-dwelling and bitter drunkard into a restored, revived, renewed, sober and saved individual. He is evidence of the GRACE of God changing his life according to II Cor. 5:17, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” Now, the evidence being witnessed of this man’s salvation is that he is living out II Cor. 5:20a, “*Now then we are ambassadors for Christ...*”. He has gone from being a blasphemer to an ambassador. Yes, he is now living a life for Christ, telling others of the hope he has found in Jesus. Friends, the need for God’s GRACE does not end at our salvation, but is continuously bestowed upon us. For example: Let’s continue on with this saved drunkard. Now as he is rejoicing in his new

life with Christ, those “accusing memories” come filtering back into his mind – the thoughts of physical and emotional abuse of his family, the wasted money, the DUIs, the jail time, the cold nights under the bridge, the uncleanness, the tears, the fears of death, the hunger and on and on and on. Rather than allowing our arch enemy to continue to bring back these memories, we can give them unto Jesus and accept the GRACE He has to offer, to help us on our pilgrim journey. Now, we are all aware that one doesn’t have to be a gutter drunkard in order to have accusing memories. If you are plagued by such memories, keep giving them over to Jesus and His GRACE will cause them to fade away as does the sound of the bell in the church belfry fade when the bell ringer quits pulling on the rope. Praise God for His GRACE. Yes, when the accusing memories fade away we witness the evidence of God’s GRACE.

D. WORKING OF GRACE

Let’s now look at some Bible verses showing us the working of GRACE:

1) Acts 20:32 tells us, “*And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of His GRACE, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.*” Dr. Luke is commending believers to God and to the word of His GRACE, which is able to build us up. Question: Is anyone here today past the need of being built up? Matthew Henry says, “They had received the Gospel of the GRACE of God, and were entrusted to preach it. Now he recommends them to that for their edification: ‘It is able (the spirit of GRACE working with it and by it) to build you up...’”

Not only are we saved by GRACE, it also builds us up and gives us an inheritance. Yes, after salvation, God’s marvelous GRACE builds us up in our spiritual walk and prepares us for our great inheritance in Heaven. As we read and study the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit teaches us and He “grows” us up as II Peter 3:18 tells us, “*But grow in GRACE, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*” I hope each of us realize we need to continue to grow in our spiritual lives. God offers His grace for us to grow. He teaches us by His Holy Spirit and His Word, and then helps us to grow in areas needing growth. Physically we all stop growing taller, but spiritually we need to continue to grow and God promises that He will provide the desired growth in His GRACE.

Matthew Henry says, “We must grow in GRACE. He had in the beginning of the epistle exhorted us to add one GRACE to another, and here he advises us to grow in all grace, in faith, and virtue, and knowledge. By how much the stronger GRACE is in us, by so much the more steadfast shall we be in the truth.”

Yes, friends, we should also grow in our knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by God's GRACE that He imparts the knowledge of Jesus Christ thru the studying of His Word and fellowshiping with other Christians (as we are doing today). The more we know of Jesus and the more clearly we understand Him, the more we will love Him. AMEN!

2. Another working of GRACE is found in II Cor. 12:9, "And He said unto me, My GRACE is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness...." We see this conversation between the Apostle Paul and the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul of course had a "thorn in the flesh" and he had asked that this thorn be taken from him. Jesus' beautiful words to Paul and to you and me today is, "My GRACE is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

When we ponder the workings of God's marvelous GRACE in our hearts, one can be greatly encouraged by the following story: "Some years ago a band of brigands attacked the homestead of a Manchurian farmer named Tung. They tied him up, burned his home, and carried off his property. Tung, who was a humble Chinese Christian, did not inform the authorities. He bore his loss, restored his home, and went on with his work. About two years afterward he met in the city one of the robber band, who seeing that he was recognized, begged for mercy. Tung said, 'I do not bear any grudge against you. Tell me about yourself.' The man, hardly believing his ears, told the story of his troubles. His feet were frostbitten, he owed money at the inn, but had none left, and he was in need of food. 'Well,' Tung said, 'Go back and get some food and he gave him some money, adding, 'Go back and pay your account if you can. I will call for you tomorrow and take you to the hospital.' The man, who feared that behind his generosity there must be some plot to capture him, would fain have run away in the night, but found it impossible, his feet were so bad. The next day, Tung came for him in his own cart and took him to the hospital, saying, 'Perhaps he will learn of Jesus as I did, and will come out a different man.' And he did." We see here, MERCY extended and GRACE received.

Is anyone here today that has been in a somewhat similar situation to that of Tung? Oh! Let the MERCY and GRACE of the Lord Jesus pour out of your heart to those that have wronged you and you may witness the marvelous workings of God's MERCY and GRACE in their life.

3. The Bible verse that displays the working of God's GRACE in its most vivid way is Ephesians 2:8, "For by GRACE are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Are you saved today? If so, did you get saved by some other way than by the GRACE of God? No, no! I know your answer, because there is only

one way to be saved, yes, only by the GRACE of God. This working of GRACE; we can talk about it, preach it, study it (AS WE SHOULD), ponder and wonder about it, but it is the marvelous working and power of the GRACE of God; and yet the actual machinations of the conversion of a soul are to be left to God's understanding. We see evidences and workings of GRACE and THAT is sufficient for us.

So what is the bottom line to all of our preaching today? COME TO JESUS CHRIST FOR MERCY, AND COME TO JESUS CHRIST FOR GRACE, COME TO JESUS CHRIST FOR SALVATION. No, we cannot slice and dice these doctrines of God to bring them into full human understanding. However, we are blessed to have them bestowed upon us.

As we close, the question I have for you is: Have you humbled yourself before our MERCIFUL God and received salvation through His marvelous GRACE? If not, don't allow your pride to keep you out of Heaven. As we read in James 4:6, "...God resisteth the proud...". We all have a choice. Come to Jesus and live in His GRACE or you will turn away from His MERCY and GRACE and continue to live under the bondage of sin, and someday live separated from our God of GRACE and MERCY for eternity. Are you GRIPPED WITH THE GRACE OF GOD? Remember, friends, the greatest evil of all time is to turn away from Jesus Christ. Let our hearts be reminded again of James 4:6 that tells us, it is Jesus that "giveth GRACE unto the humble."

Dave McCarrell from the Pacific Garden Mission, Chicago, Illinois gave some interesting thoughts in a recent newsletter – We see God's marvelous grace in these statements:

- 1) Christ was born once so we could be born twice.
- 2) He was forsaken so we would never be forsaken.
- 3) He was bound that we could be set free.
- 4) He was stripped of His clothing on the cross, so we could be clothed forever in the righteousness of God.
- 5) He was a servant, so that we might become the sons of God.
- 6) He died so we could have eternal life.
- 7) He rose from the grave so we could conquer death.
- 8) He is coming again to take us with Him so He can display the riches of His GRACE towards us forever and ever.

Amen, praise ye the Lord! These thoughts truly display the original fountain of GRACE, our access to GRACE, the evidence of GRACE, and the working of GRACE. These wonderful truths help us to be GRIPPED WITH THE GRACE OF GOD. And now, to all that love Jesus Christ, let the last verse of the Bible bless you: Rev. 22:21 "The GRACE of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. AMEN."

UpDate

“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.

What You Don't Know About Tithing Can Cheat You!

— By W. Herschel Ford

“A great giver was once asked how he could give so much. He said, “I shovel out, and God shovels in’ and God uses a bigger shovel than mine.”

“Yes, God says that if we give, He will also give to us – heaped up, pressed down running over (Luke 6:38).

But someone says, “I can’t afford to tithe.” You can’t afford not to. You will miss too many blessings if you don’t tithe. I can tell you from personal experience that God blesses the tither in a million ways.

“But someone says, “I am in debt.” You are the very one who ought to tithe. God will help you to pay those debts. When I came out of school, I owed \$2,200. That was certainly a big debt in those days. But I remembered God’s promise and kept on tithing. He brought me out of debt quicker than it could have happened otherwise.

“Then someone says, “I have a family to care for.” You are the very one who ought to tithe. Let God help you with that family.

“Then someone say, “I am starting a new business.” Well, you ought to tithe because you need God as your partner.

“Then someone says, “I have just barely enough now.” You are the very one who ought to tithe, because then God will make the other nine-tenths go farther.

“God has a double purpose in commanding you to tithe. First, He wants others to know of His Son – how He died for them, and how He can save them from sin. If all Christians would tithe, God’s work would move forward on the wings of glory.

“God’s other purpose in telling you to tithe is to develop you as a Christian. How much of a Christian do you want to be? You can’t be the best Christian, the most effective Christian, unless you say, “Lord, I’ll go your way.” – Selected.

*Editor’s Note: ‘Our’ conviction is that you don’t give in order to get; **BUT because** we love JESUS first and seek out of love to GIVE cheerfully, joyfully, voluntarily **unto HIM!** “*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*” Matthew 6:33.*

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Hauge Area Bible Conference

October 28th-30th , 2011 (Friday evening till Sunday noon)

At *Ny Stavanger Lutheran Church*, Buxton, ND

(Pastor Terry Olson, Host Pastor)

Theme: ***Have You Been Grippled with the Greatness of GOD, Lately?***

Friday Evening at 7:00 p.m. Singspiration (Traditional Hymns & Gospel Songs)

7:30 p.m. Pastor Rodney Stueland, guest speaker

Refreshments & Fellowship following evening service

Saturday

Prayer Time at 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

9:30-10 a.m. Coffee/Refreshments

10:00-10:55 a.m. Guest Speaker: Mr. Toby Knutson, Fargo, ND

11:00-12:00 p.m. Guest Speaker: Mr. Joel Zeltinger, Bismarck, ND.

Noon Meal at the church – Hosted by the Ladies of Ny Stavanger Lutheran

1:15-2:10 p.m. Rodney Stueland

2:20 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Toby Knutson

3:15-3:45 p.m. Coffee/Refreshments

3:45 p.m. = Testimonies, Fellowship, Hymn/Gospel Singspiration

6:00 p.m. Supper at Church by Ladies of Stavanger Lutheran

7:00 p.m. - Pastor Rodney Stueland

Refreshments & Fellowship following evening service (Tentative)

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Worship Service: Rodney Stueland

Coffee & Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. Bible Session: Rodney Stueland

Dinner at Church by the Gracious Ladies of Ny Stavanger Lutheran

You Are Invited & Bring Others and Prepare to be Richly Blessed!

Please Pray Expectedly!!!

P. S. If convenient: Please bring ‘goodies’ along for ‘refreshment’ times. Thank You. **YOU** are very Wel-
come to stay for ‘meals’! **A Hearty “Thank You” to the Host Congregation and we trust the Lord will not only richly bless the Hauge Conference; BUT the Host Congregation also!**

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Just use the envelope in the center of the magazine and let us know what your current address is. Also, if you know someone who would like to start receiving the *Morning Glory*, let us know that as well. We do not seek for names who are hostile to our emphasis, but for people who share our conviction on solid, Biblical truth and Christian emphasis.

Thank you so much for your cooperation in this matter.