



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • September 2015

Creation Vs. Evolution

By Bennert O. Solberg

In January 1982 the news media reported somewhat as follows the Little Rock, Arkansas court case: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” will not be taught in the public schools side by side with evolution. The Arkansas judge ruled that because the BIBLE is not a book on science, and, if taught it is intended to lead to Christianity, therefore it must be rejected.

By this action of our judicial system, are we not practicing a DOUBLE STANDARD of Justice in our United States of America? Because, if this is true of the BIBLE, then on the same basis, is it not also true of the *Evolutionary Theory*? Is *Evolution* a proven scientific system of facts, or is it simply the main teaching of *man-made suppositions*, and *imaginary ideologies*, intended to deceive, and lead astray from the Truth, into secular humanism, liberalism, socialism and atheism, traveling together on the determined road, which, sooner or later, culminates in Communism? (Ed. SOCIALISM).

TREMENDOUS CHALLENGE TO CHRISTIANS

In the nineteen fifties a Communist, writing in the paper British Dawn boasted: “*The GOSPEL* is a much more powerful weapon for the renewal of society than is our Marxist philosophy (Ed. Socialism), but all the same, it is we who will finally beat you... believe me, it is we who will win, for we BELIEVE in our *Communist message*, and we are ready to sacrifice everything, even our lives, in order that social justice shall triumph. But you Christians ARE AFRAID TO SOIL YOUR HANDS.”

Therefore, should not our judicial system also reject

these evolutionary TEACHINGS from the curriculum of our schools? Because, is it not a deliberate, planned religious, or in essence *anti-religious INTRUSION* by a few, upon the constitutional RIGHTS of millions of Americans? Is it not also a clear violation of our high and noble principle of separation of Church (any religion or anti-religion) and State?

The old Testament prophet Hosea aptly describes this situation (Hosea 10:4b GNB) “Justice has become INJUSTICE, growing like *poisonous weeds* in a PLOWED FIELD.”

And the New Testament inspired Apostle Paul WARNS:

“They have said ‘no’ to the TRUTH; they have refused to believe it and LOVE it, and let it save them, so GOD will allow them to believe LIES with all their hearts, and all of them will be justly judged for believing false-hood, refusing the Truth, and enjoying their sins.” 2 Thessalonians 2:10b – 12.

Is it not true that far too long the large majority of honest Americans have patiently tolerated this God-less teaching of evolution in the tax-supported public schools and universities of our beloved land while Christ-family has often been ridiculed?

Is not the real issue a GOD-GIVEN REVELATION of Creation versus a MAN-MADE IMAGINARY ORIGIN? Is it not also true, that if the first is not science, then the second is certainly not science, but simple fantasy, a subtle and strong *Delusion*, intended to lead to physical, moral, mental, and spiritual enslavement and tyranny, instead of true freedom and happiness?

Morning Glory

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However, there is manifold encouragement in our great American Heritage: 1. Our Pilgrim Fathers came to these shores for the very express purpose to **WORSHIP GOD** according to the dictates of their consciences. 2. The Valiant Framers of our **Declaration of Independence** recognized clearly the facts involved: “When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assure among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of NATURE’S GOD entitle them a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to separation.

“We hold these TRUTHS to be self-evident, that ALL MEN are **created equal**, that they are endowed by their CREATOR with **certain unalienable RIGHTS**, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

3. The United States BILL OF RIGHTS, Article 1 reads:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of RELIGION, or prohibiting the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

4. Every loyal American proudly declares:

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation **UNDER GOD**, indivisible, with Liberty and **JUSTICE FOR ALL.**”

5. President Abraham Lin-

coln in his Gettysburg Address emphasized “that this nation, **UNDER GOD**, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government **OF** the people, **BY** the people, **FOR** the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

6. The Father of our country, GEORGE WASHINGTON, boldly affirmed:

*“It is impossible to rightly govern the world without **GOD** and the **BIBLE**.*

Is not this in part our basic national and historical Heritage, together with the clear, distinct and honest separation of Church and State? And does this not mean, that there must be a **SINGLE STANDARD OF JUSTICE for ALL** members of ALL religions in our land, including ALL anti-Christian, and God-less atheists, as a religious or anti-religious sect and a legal entity, but equally responsible with ALL citizens for their teaching and practice?

Does not our beloved nation desperately need a National Day of **Recognition and Repentance** before **GOD ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF ALL THINGS**, Eternal, the **SOVEREIGN LORD** and **JUDGE** of all the earth who lovingly pleads for our **obedience** to the Truth, while there is still opportunity? In 2 Chronicles 7:14 RSV:

“If my people, which are called by My Name, shall **HUMBLE themselves**, and **pray**, and **seek** My face, and **turn** from their wicked ways, THEN will I hear from heaven, and will FORGIVE their sin, and HEAL their land.”

“Thousands and thousands are in the **Valley of Judgment**. It is there that the Day of the Lord will soon come.” Joel 3:14

The Lamplighter, September, 1982.

Jerusalem in Prophecy

Prophetic Scripture outlines a brilliant future for Jerusalem. During the millennium it is to be the capital of the earth (Isa. 60:1-22, Zech. 14:1-20; Ezek. Chaps. 40-48). The Second Coming of Christ will eventuate in the destruction of Israel’s enemies, the judgment of the nations, the deliverance of the Israelite remnant and the establishment of the Kingdom. But before that great event Israel will go through the time of the Great Tribulation (Jer. 30:7) under the terrible rule of the Antichrist. Only as a remnant looks upon Him Whom they have pierced will they be converted (Zech. 12:10 through 13:1) and at last recite the penitential strains of Isaiah 53.

Selected

Real Christian Love

Romans 13:8-10

A tremendous need for genuine Christian love exists today. Oh yes, there is an abundance of talk about love in Christian circles, but much of what is considered “love” is a pseudo, unscriptural love. In the name of “love” Christian leaders are welcoming “wolves in sheep’s clothing” into the flock rather than exposing them and separating from them. Many believers are being deceived into thinking that “love” is always positive – never negative; they are remaining in compromising fellowships because they have been erroneously taught that to separate from brethren in Christ is “unloving,” but exactly the opposite is true (2 Thess. 3:6, 14-15). Separation from disobedient brethren (of which there are many today) is a genuine manifestation of Christian love for them. Failure to separate from them and admonish them demonstrates a lack of concern for their spiritual welfare as well as the well-being of those who are influenced by their unscriptural teachings.

Our text stresses the importance of genuine Christian love by making it a fulfillment of the Law – an evidence of complete obedience to God’s Word and will. First Corinthians 13 also instructs us concerning the importance of Christian love in an even more comprehensive way. The true love of God cannot be separated from truth or from speaking what is needful (Eph. 4:15). If we truly love the unsaved, we will give them the Gospel, refusing to dilute the facts in an attempt to avoid offense. If we truly love our fellow believers, we will declare “all the counsel of God” – never modifying nor neglecting any needed Biblical reproof (Acts 20:18 – 32). M. H. Reynolds

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Learn to Hate Sin

By Dean C. Dutton

Sin is ugly, vile, destructive. It darkens the mind, poisons the heart, enslaves the will, deadens genius, sears the conscience, undermines the health, enflames the passions, blights the usefulness, crushes hopes, breaks hearts, ruins homes, wrecks lives, and damns the soul. Its products are ignorance, superstition, disease, poverty, and death.

One sin is awful in its power. There are no little sins. Ask God to help you feel the blackness (or redness) of sin. This will help keep you from sin.

Selected

The Fall

I have heard that a shepherd once stood and watched an eagle soar out from a cliff. The bird flew far up into the air and presently became unsteady and reeled in its flight. First one wing dropped, and then the other; presently, with accelerated speed, the poor bird fell rapidly to the ground.

The shepherd was curious to know the secret of its fall. He went and picked it up. He saw that when the eagle lighted last off a cliff, a little serpent fastened itself upon him; and as the serpent gnawed in farther and farther, the eagle in its agony reeled in the air. When the serpent touched its heart, the eagle fell.

Have you never seen a man or woman in the church or in society rising and rising, becoming more and more influential, apparently strong, widely known, asserting power far and near – but then, by and by, growing unsteady, uncertain, reeling as it were in uncertainty and inconsistency and at last falling to the earth and lying there in hopeless disgrace, a spectacle for angels to weep over and scoffers and devils to jeer at?

You do not know the secret of the fall, but the omniscient eye of God saw it. That neglect of prayer, that secret dishonesty in business, that stealthy indulgence in the intoxicating cup, that licentiousness and profligacy unseen of men, that secret tampering with unbelief and error was the serpent at the heart that brought the eagle down. (T. Cuyler)

Sages of old contended that no sin was ever committed whose consequences rested on the head of the sinner alone, that no man could do ill and his fellows not suffer. They illustrated it thus: “A vessel sailing from Joppa carried a passenger who, beneath his berth, cut a hole through the ship’s side.

“When the men of the watch expostulated with him, saying, ‘What doest thou, O miserable man?’ the offender calmly replied, ‘What matters it to you? The hole I have made lies under my own berth.’”

This ancient parable is worthy of the utmost consideration. ***“No man perishes alone in his iniquity; no man can guess the full consequences of his transgression.***

Charles H. Spurgeon

UNSOLICITED ADVICE

By Fred Willis

Someone said: “Unsolicited advice is seldom heeded and often scorned,” but the Bible says, ***“A wise man will hear, and will increase learning”*** (Prov. 1:5).

Have you ever pondered the great variety of trees that grow in America and around the world? The Lord knows what we need, and He gave us a large variety of trees to fulfill many purposes. I have a number of woodworking tools and love to make various things from different kinds of wood. The various trees are mentioned more than three hun-

dred times in Scripture. It was at a tree in Eden that the human race got into trouble and at a tree on Mount Calvary where our redemption was secured.

There are several varieties of trees in my yard, most of which are pine. The largest pine is well over one hundred feet tall, and my arms cannot encircle it at the base. But my favorite trees, of which we have only two, are the oak trees. One of them grows just outside my office window. We planted a flower garden around this tree, and I look at it every day when we are at home.

While the pine tree that I mentioned is enormous, the oak trees are not so big. The one outside my office is perhaps forty feet tall and eight to ten inches in diameter at the base. There are several things we can do concerning this tree.

First of all, we can just watch it grow and admire its beauty. This is probably what we will do as long as my wife and I live here. On the other hand, I could cut the tree down and use it for firewood. After a few years, when it gets larger, I could have it cut up into lumber.

Oak lumber is very expensive because it is a superior wood and has many applications. Another use would be have it milled into furniture grade wood. So we can go from little value (heat) to great worth (furniture) depending upon how we use the tree.

The life of an individual can go from a burden to society (prisoner) to a national hero (soldier). Writing in II Timothy 2:20, Paul said, “But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonor.”

Scripture likens people unto vessels fit or unfit for the Master’s use. Most people do not want to eat out of a dirty vessel, and the Lord cannot use anyone that has not been washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Now God wants to use everyone that gets saved, but some lives are too marred by sin that they may never attain to the gold and silver level of use by the Lord. But vessels of wood and earth still have much use and can be very helpful. If we will teach our children to flee youthful lusts and follow righteousness, they may someday be golden vessels for the Lord’s use.

Even as sin-stained adults, we can still do much for the Lord as broken and remade vessels. The Lord sent Jeremiah to the potter’s house where he saw a vessel marred in the hand of the potter, but it was remade as seemed good to the potter. We are as clay in the Potter’s hand; and if we yield our lives, God will make us meet [fit] for the Master’s use.

Do you want to be cut down and used for firewood, or would you like to be milled and refined for something of great value to the Lord? The choice is yours. If you have been broken by the sins of this world, why don’t you yield your life to the great Master Builder and let him remake your life?

—The Sword of the Lord

Editorial

RES

ALLEGORIES

“In the beginning” (Genesis 1:1a). ***“For I am the LORD, I do not change”*** (Malachi 3:6a). ***“Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever”*** (Hebrews 13:8). ***“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land”*** (II Chronicles 7:14).

Today ‘our’ culture/society is very much ‘sports-minded’; which shouldn’t catch ‘us’ by surprise: because GOD stated so many years ago that this would come to pass, likely shortly before the ***“Trumpet Sound”***! WE speak of this in the period of time, as PERILOUS TIMES! – ***“lovers of pleasures rather than lovers of God”*** II Timothy 3.

IN our above text we have probably the best known BIBLE verse in all of II Chronicles. Solomon had prayed and this is the second time that God revealed himself to Solomon in the night (By the way, the Morning Star appears in the darkest part of the ‘night’ which is just before DAWN (Revelation 22:16). Thus God has promised to answer the prayers of His people that they should make any time in that place – v. 13-15.

National judgments are here supposed (v. 13): Famine, Pestilence, and perhaps war as the locusts devouring the land may be meant as greedy enemies laying it all waste. National repentance, prayer, and reformation are REQUIRED for healing; and as You and I know, a Nation is made up of **Individual persons**.

A **SIN** that every single one of ‘us’ have a consistent ‘battle’ with is **“I”**. This battle against SIN goes way back to CREATION *or even before!* Notice what Satan said (L U C I F E R) in Isaiah 14:12-15. And then shortly after CREATION, Eve – Genesis 3 (Adam) and ever since! NO individual person has very had total victory over this SIN, except JESUS and HE even was tempted with Pride.

L U C (I) F E R, S I N, P R I D E all have “I” in the very center! One thing you don’t thank GOD for your is ‘humility’; because pride would show up it’s ugly face again!

IN Second Chronicles Seven, National MERCY is then promised If the people do as prescribed. Then God will forgive their sin; which is also VERY MUCH NEEDED in our USA and beyond. AS then ***pardoning MERCY makes way for healing mercy!*** Those who believe must forsake their sins, turn from the life that is centered in self (I), and yield to God’s Word and Will. Then, and only then, will Heaven send a revival.

Now I am led up to the ***‘Allegories’*** of which I am going to

use the two ‘sports’ of Baseball and Football. I am not very intelligent about either one. (By the way, ‘sports’ are not wrong in themselves; but the priorities which people place upon them).

In the sport of Baseball, try to think of the *possibility* of 4 Balls and 3 strikes equally OR in Football, 4 Touchdowns and 3 Field-goals.

FIRST OF ALL, every individual person who wants to actively participate in the ‘sport’ MUST meet certain qualifications and abide by absolute regulations – Right? They also must practice and use discipline.

In our text, the first qualification for national restoration is for the people to ***“humble themselves”***. A participant can not seek to live above the ‘requirements’ of the sport NOR can people seek to live above God’s Word. (Even in our great Land (USA), ‘we’ are not to seek to live above the Constitution). God intends that basically Government is not to be a source/means of mercy; but of Justice. Most certainly as a believer: ***“Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecute Me, they will also persecute you, ‘If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.’”*** John 15:20

So, in a sport, we don’t make the ‘rules’ as we go along, but follow the ‘rules’ that have already been set IN PLACE, and in so doing, the participant has great FREEDOM. You and I have a lot of ‘freedom’ as long as ‘we’ abide and obey His Word – Guidelines. **John 8:31-36**.

You see, it is ‘freedom’ from and ‘freedom unto’: FREEDOM from Condemnation, Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15) and then ‘freedom’ unto/into; which is in service to the ***‘Commander-in-Chief’*** (*Coach, Manager*).

President John F. Kennedy said, “It’s not so much what can my Government do for me, but what can I do for my Country.” We have freedom to serve, not destroy!

Hans Neilsen Hauge said, “A Christian is ‘free’ from the LAW, but not compliance to the LAW.”

The LAW (regulations, rules) is good for US: 1 Timothy 1:8, Romans 7:7-18a.

As you know an Umpire/Referee has to make many in-

stant calls and thus making a decision without any replays. He is, however, open to possible *error*. God's guidelines are forever settled in Heaven, regardless of what man thinks in his pride. (Duet. 32:5-6) HIS RULE-BOOK is 'our' plumb line regardless of our opinion or choice. Isaiah 5:20, Proverbs 2:1-5.

IF you do not play according to the Guidance Book, you will be disqualified. If you have **3 strikes** or incomplete passes, you are missing the MARK of what is aimed for! SIN is missing the 'mark' and then admitting 'we' are wrong. ***"For whoever shall keep the whole law and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all."*** James 2:10, Romans 3:10-23.

MARVELOUS and GREAT is the **Gift of Salvation** that we by no means can fully comprehend it on this side of ETERNITY! Just 'ponder' for awhile (present tense) the 'value' that God places on you and me, and He clearly states that heaven rejoices over ONE sinner truly repenting of their SIN and accepting **Jesus** as the ONLY deliverance from our personal SINS. ***What mercy, grace, love*** the Umpire/Referee places on us.

There are 'injuries' that take place in these 'sports'. For us, these injuries are not on the sports field/gridiron, but Spiritually in the battle field unto Heaven.

I have a friend who was a 'soldier' during the Second World War and he tells of a 'battle' that he personally was involved in against the enemy when they never took their combat boots off for nearly *forty days*. YES, 'our' spiritual battle is even more intense, which is combat against our own flesh (self-life), the world and Satan. It is so intense that it is like hand-to-hand combat with bayonets! The end result is either **Heaven or Hell** for ALL ETERNITY!

No doubt how great it is to hit a home-run or make a touch-down, and it takes a 'team effort' to accomplish these, even though we are responsible for specifically one person: myself.

A loyal, faithful 'player' will seek to reach their goal with continual practice and discipline, and hopefully become an example/testimony unto others. As soldier of the CROSS, there is no room for retreat OR giving up. Thus forgetting those things which are behind and pressing on

to the Ultimate GOAL as an *over-comer*, we are empowered by Holy Spirit, the Word of God, and the GRACE of GOD.

No doubt how great of an experience it is to hit a basic hit, or run a number of yards in the right direction and/or hit a home-run or get a touch-down pass at a crucial time in the 'sports arena'. Often when a 'team' wins, the Pitcher/Quarterback becomes the 'hero'; BUT IF it weren't for the minimum of eight other team members or twenty-one fellow team-members working in cooperation/harmony – there would be NO WIN! Right??? How true, even more-so in the Lord's Kingdom Vineyard! YES, we of the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, Morning Glory stand in NEED of 'fellow team members' for this ministry in the KINGDOM of GOD: to HIS Honor and Glory! **OCCUPY TIL I COME!** *Even though we may seem so few, perhaps only a remnant! It is not a one man performance!* Are you a 'team-member' OR willing to become one?

OH, at the end, to be on the victorious team and arrive at the 'Home-land' totally FREE and secure for time and ETERNITY! No more disappointments, injuries/affliction, struggles, hurts; and to be HOME safe and secure without even a hint of the self-centered fleshly self-life! NO SIN WHATSOEVER will be there!

IT WILL BE WORTH IT ALL – GUARANTEED!!!

NO steroid injection, not even a 'foul', all because of **JESUS**. OH, there is something so *precious* about that Name **JESUS**; BECAUSE MY hope is built on nothing else then **JESUS BLOOD** and **RIGHTEOUSNESS** as I dare not trust... **Matthew 1:21**. OH, what a 'coach/manager we have, looking unto Jesus – Hebrews 12:2.

THEREFORE

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" 1 Corinthians 15:58. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing" II Tim. 4:7-8.

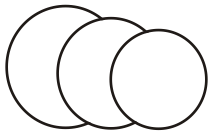
Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king in this sort.

Ezra 4:8

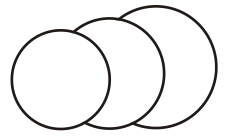
When Rehum sent this letter and accused the Jews, Artaxerxes ordered the Jews to stop rebuilding Jerusalem. In order to accomplish his underhanded scheme, Rehum had gathered a coalition of people who lied about the situ-

ation. Although it took time, eventually God intervened and the work was completed. Generally speaking, the guilty will gather others to accuse, while the innocent will leave the matter with the Lord to judge (1 Peter 2:19-21). William MacDonald said, "To be silent under insult and wrong is a very noble imitation of our Lord." Perhaps you have been falsely accused. Trust in the Lord. In due time He will vindicate.

—W. A. H.



From Our Fellowship Circle



F. H. **Story City, IA**
What a beautiful thought of the glory of each new morning and that God has been with me through the night, and to live another day in His grace in walking and serving with Him. Praise the Lord!

A gift is enclosed to be used as best for the furtherance of His Kingdom and for the privilege of all who read the *Morning Glory*.

Thank you and the Lord bless you for your efforts in publishing the *Morning Glory*.

Mrs. M. B. **Bagley, MN**
Keep up the good work. I enjoy your magazine! May the Lord be blessed!

H. & F. T. **Great Falls, MT**
I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$... Our subscription was given to us by a friend so don't know the renewal amount, but hope this will cover it. (Ed. Basically a free will donation, as the Lord leads).

Enjoy it and we look forward to receiving it each month. Thank you.

A. T. **Seattle, WA**
Thank you for a wonderful paper with also good stories – the Lord bless you all.

Wish we could give ... and more often; but most certainly the LORD is good unto us!

I. S. **Williston, ND**
The following may be a little confusing to you, but I am asking for prayer for my son and his wife. They have been getting the magazine ever since they moved here from Minot, which had a major flood. ...

My son is in a wheel chair after falling out of a tree and is paralyzed from the waist down. Please pray for him that he may walk again! ...

I was raised in a Lutheran Free Church... and I have been a Christian for many years as now I am ninety-one years old.

C. K. **Roland, IA**
My sister and I look forward to receiving the *Morning Glory* each month. We read it from cover to cover and share ideas from it with our ... in our monthly letters.

Thank you for the timely articles that tell of the Love of our Lord and Savior and our responsibility to share the Gospel with others. ...

V. C. O. **Thank you for all you do ...**
I want to send a gift of money, in which I believe is long overdue, for the *Morning Glory*.

... I enjoy and am blessed by the paper.
I keep it on my dining room table, which becomes handy when I can find time to read it, and I read some articles more than once.

* * * * *

Anthem To God For Autumn

*Fields of countless corn shocks,
All in perfect line.
Like a guard of soldiers,
Tall and straight and fine
Pumpkins piled beside them
Orange colored shapes.
Frost-killed vines a trailing,
A pheasant comes a flying —
A streak of gorgeous hue —
Blending with the sunset
Of multi-colors, too.
In the distant wood lot
A squirrel climbs the trees,
While leaves of gold and crimson
Are trembling in the breeze.
Oh, when it comes to Autumn
Is there not a special reason
For praising God for beauties
Of this specially lovely Season?*

Roy J. Wilkins

Believable...Yet Unbelievable!

Only in the USA

ONLY in the USA: Could the people who believe in balancing the budget and sticking by the Country's Constitution be called EXTREMISTS!

ONLY in the USA: Could politicians talk about greed of the rich at a \$35,000 (??) per plate Obama campaign fund raising event.

ONLY in the USA: People claim that government still discriminates against blacks, when President of the USA is black, the Attorney General of the USA is black, roughly 20% of Federal workforce are black, while only 14% of population is black. 40+% of all federal entitlements goes to black Americans – 3x the rate that go to whites, 5x the rate that goes to Hispanics!

ONLY in the USA: Would you need to present a Driver's License to cash a check or board a Commercial Aircraft, but not to VOTE!!!

ONLY in the USA: Could you collect more Tax dollars from the people than any nation in recorded History. Also could the 'rich people' – who pay 86% of all Income Taxes – be accused of not paying their "fair share" by people who don't pay any Income Tax at all.

ONLY in the USA: AND the list goes on!!!!

Selected.

The Kenyans of the Country of Kenya ...

Have warned President Obama: Don't bring the abortion agenda or the gay agenda, or you will be told to "shut up and go home"!

Television Impacts Homosexual Acceptance

A gay advocacy group has released a report showing that the number of Hollywood films featuring homosexual behavior has risen to an all-time high, with nearly 16 percent of films released in 2014 featuring at least one homosexual, lesbian or bisexual character. But the activists said they still aren't satisfied citing a lack of leading roles for homosexuals, insufficient racial diversity among gay characters, and occasionally less-than-positive portrayals of the homosexual lifestyle by some filmmakers.

LifeSieNews.com in RETURN AMERICA

University Recruits Teens to Abort Their Babies in Name of "Scientific Research"

Researchers in Hawaii are recruiting girls as young as

14 to participate in second-trimester abortions, where the pre-born baby is 18-24 week' gestation, in order to test whether or not oxytocin can reduce bleeding in mothers during and after abortion.

The study is being conducted by the University of Hawaii and the University of Washington in Seattle – both public universities, which leads to the obvious question: Is the government funding this study?

A second-trimester abortion is at least a two-day procedure, where the baby is given heart-stopping medication, then either is delivered the next day or is dismembered by the abortionist...

The clinical study in Hawaii is seeking 166 participants and supposedly started in October of last year and is expected to finish in July of this year...

Kristan Hawkins for LifeNews.com

Teacher Forced to Retire Early for Telling Students That Obama Is Not a Christian

AJC.com (April 28, 2015) reports that a teacher has been forced to retire because she told students that President Obama is not a Christian. "A Dublin, Georgia middle-school teacher, who in March told her students that President Barack Obama isn't a Christian, has been removed from the classroom to pave the way for her retirement at the end of the school year.

"Dublin Schools Chuck Ledbetter announced the retirement of Nancy Perry ... while simultaneously apologizing to students and parents for Perry's actions...."

In other words, it's alright for public school students to talk about how bad our Founding Fathers were but it's not alright to say anything critical of a socialist president.

The teacher denied making the comments.

Dr. Ron Bity, RETURN AMERICA

Remove the Ten Commandments

Oklahoma's Supreme Court on Tuesday [6/30/15] ruled that the state must remove its Ten Commandments monument at the state Capitol because it violates the state Constitution, which bans using public property for the benefit of religion.

In a 7-2 decision, justices found that the statute violated article 2, section 5 of the state's constitution, which says, "No public money or property shall ever be appropriated, applied, donated, or used, directly or indirectly,

for the use, benefit, or support of any sect, church, denomination, or system of religion, or for the use, benefit, or support of any priest, preacher, minister, or other religious teacher or dignitary, or sectarian institution as such.”

The justices ruled that “the Ten Commandments are obviously religious in nature and are an integral part of the Jewish and Christian faiths.” The lawsuit was brought by the ACLU of Oklahoma on behalf of four plaintiffs. An Oklahoma County judge ruled last September that the monument could stay in place.

“I think that at the end of the day it is the right decision simply because it acknowledges limits on the government’s power to effectively decide what religious edicts are right and wrong,” said Brady Anderson, the legal director for ACLU of Oklahoma, according to Tulsa World.

A spokesman for Gov. Mary Fallin reacted with disappointment.

Selected

* * * * *

His measured six measures of barley, and laid it on her; and she went into the city.

Ruth 3:15

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

Selah. Psalm 68:19.

In days of turmoil and stress it is encouraging to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, “*All these things shall be added unto you*” (Matt. 6:33). The prerequisite is seeking God first. As David so simply states in today’s second verse, the daily blessing of salvation is enough to cause thanksgiving from us, yet He loads us with so much more.

Wm. H. Gustafson

*His love has no limit, His grace has no measure,
His pow’r has no boundaries known unto men;
For out of his infinite riches in Jesus,*

He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again. — Annie J. Flint

* * * * *

**Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts:...
Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone.**

Isaiah 6:3, 5

When confronted with the blazing holiness of God, Isaiah concluded that he was undone. When we view ourselves in honesty, we must rapidly come to the same conclusion. Paul’s assessment regarding himself was that he was the “chief of sinners”. But writing to the Ephesians,

he states that because of Calvary we have graciously been made to be partaker of the beloved. “*To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved*” (Eph. 1:6). It took a mighty work at Calvary, but guilty sinners are made acceptable to a thrice holy God. Let us remember His person and work today.

Ken Gross

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;

Redeemed by His infinite mercy, His child and forever I am.

Fanny Crosby

* * * * *

“I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse.” Song of Solomon 5:1

THE heart of the believer is Christ’s garden. He bought it with His precious blood, and He enters it and claims it as His own. A garden implies separation. It is not the open common; it is not a wilderness; it is walled around, or hedged in. Would that we could see the wall of separation between the church and the world made broader and stronger. It makes one sad to hear Christians saying, “well, there is no harm in this; there is no harm in that,” thus getting as near to the world as possible. Grace is at a low ebb in that soul which can even raise the question of how far it may go in worldly conformity. A garden is a place of beauty, it far surpasses the world’s uncultivated lands. The genuine Christian must seek to be more excellent in his life than the best moralist, because Christ’s garden ought to produce the best flowers in all the world. Even the best is poor compared with Christ’s deservings; let us not put Him off with withering and dwarf plants. The rarest, richest, choicest lilies and roses ought to bloom in the place which Jesus calls His own. The garden is a place of growth. The saints are not to remain undeveloped, always mere buds and blossoms. We should grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Growth should be rain where Jesus is the Husbandman, and the Holy Spirit the dew from above. A garden is a place of retirement. So the Lord Jesus Christ would have us reserve our souls as a place in which He can manifest Himself, as He doth not unto the world. Oh that Christians were more retired, that they kept their hearts more closely shut up for Christ! We often worry and trouble ourselves, like Martha, with much serving, so that we have not the room for the Christ that Mary had, and do not sit at His feet as we should. The Lord grant the sweet showers of His grace to water His garden this day.

Morning & Evening, Charles Spurgeon, Hendrickson Publishers, Copyright – 1991

Religious Experiences

(of Hans Neilsen Hauge)

Continued from the August issue of the *Morning Glory*

*Could I virtue seek and good perform,
All sinful longings kill,
Have Thee my fortress in the storm,
My rock and shield from ill;
Then Satan's wiles and power
That seek to work man harm
Would cause me no alarm.*

At this time I learned other hymns by heart. Among these were; "Ah, Knewest Thou, Who Walk Enslaved by Sin" and "O Lord God, Who Me in Grace Hast Given." The fourth stanza of this latter hymn runs as follows:

*Confirm, O Lord, my heart
By Thy most loving favor,
To love Thee above all
And as myself my neighbor.
With patience may I bear
The cross that comes to me,
And when I prosper, grant
That humble I may be.*

I found much to live up to in these verses; love God and your neighbor; be humble when things go well and patient when you meet opposition. The same was true of the eighth stanza of "Jesus, Savior of the World" – on humility – and the second stanza of "Jesus, I Long for Thy Blessed Communion".

When traveling or working, I found that singing these hymns cheered one greatly. But although this edified me, and though I was of a quiet and patient disposition, my liking for fun carried me into various worldly enjoyments. I found pleasure in hunting and in card playing, indeed not for money but to the extent of a sinful waste of time. I engaged in trading, which was something that made me ill at ease, even though I liked it.

The older I grew, the more I lost my capacity for noble feeling. Various anxieties began to weigh heavily upon me as on different occasions I met with adversity and experienced fear. Terror over whelmed me when I was in the dark, just as if evil spirits were after me. Such things troubled me until I was twenty-five years old.

At this time I wanted to try to improve my personal fortunes, so I went to a suburb of Fredrikstand. Here I was exposed to many temptations by evil-minded companions. Up to this time I had abhorred drunkenness. But sometimes for lack of food, and other occasions presenting themselves, I soon took a liking to liquor. So much so that I think I could soon have fallen into the vice of drunkenness. But as I realized that this would lead to the

destruction of both my body and soul, I prayed to God that He would preserve me. There upon I received an aversion to this vice and by the grace of God was preserved from this temptation, so that I have not been drunk more than once in my life. And that occurred while I was in the above-mentioned city.

Finally, by prayerful reading of the Bible and other Christian books, I began to get more knowledge of God's will as well as the desire to do His will with my whole heart. Now I developed an aversion for all sins and talked about what I believed to others so that different ones began to make fun of me and call me "holy." Some people said that if I continued to devote so much time to reading, I would lose my mind. That was what had happened to many others who had read too much, they averred. I answered that I could not believe that those who meditated up God's Word would lose their minds but would rather gain wisdom to practice those things that are pleasing to God.

God also gave me grace to meditate more upon His will. I thought about His omnipotence and how much He had created for the good of us human beings. I reflected upon His immeasurable greatness and goodness. I sensed how wonderful it would be to be His child and believed that I could become this if I only had a true desire to do so. "Alas," I thought, "many seek to win honor and respect in the world. Some are proud because they are of a high social class or have parents that are rich in the things of this world. Of what help are these things in death! But to have God as Father, to be His child, surpasses anything the mind can comprehend." I cannot describe how exalted and happy I felt during such moments of contemplation.

But I know that I fell far short of truly being a child of God, especially in this: loving Him above all things and being humble of heart. I prayed a great deal for grace to practice these virtues and to learn to know His will, both what to do and what not to do. "If Thou, my Father, wilt give me power, create Thy love in my heart and preserve me in humility, then I will serve Thee with all my strength. I will sacrifice everything, even my own life, as did the early martyrs, rather than depart from Thy commandments." These and similar feelings filled my heart when I was alone, away from all human associations.

The desire to please God grew more and more. In prayer to Him, I would kneel in heartfelt unworthiness of the great goodness He had shown me, ashamed because I had not served the Lord as I ought. Sometimes I fell on my knees and prayed to almighty God for the sake of His son to establish me on the spiritual rock, Christ Jesus. For I believed then that even the gates of hell would be powerless against me. I called upon the God of my salvation to reveal His Son's love in me and grant His Holy Spirit to expose my wretchedness and impotence and teach me the

way I should walk in order to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

One day while I was working outside under the open sky, I sang from memory the hymn, “Jesus, I Long for Thy Blessed Communion.” I had just sung the second verse.

Autobiographical Writings of Hans Nielsen Hauge,
Translated by Joel M. Njus

To be continued in the October issue
of the Morning Glory

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EVERLASTING LOVE

Niagara Falls was once frozen solid. The thunderous roar of the giant cascade was stilled – the cold of a severe winter had stopped the water’s flow.

No coldness, no weariness will ever stop the surging torrent of God’s love which falls upon the earth watering the soul of everyone who will receive it. Judas, although he had betrayed his Lord, could not stop the Savior’s love. When the betrayer came into the garden, leading the mob that had been sent by the priests and the Pharisees, Jesus stood ready to meet him. Judas said “Hail Master”, and kissed Him. There was no love in that kiss; it was complete hypocrisy – the sign of betrayal. Nevertheless, the son of God looked at His former disciple and said, “**Friend, wherefore art thou come?**” *Friend!* There was love in His look and compassion in His voice. Jesus had not lost His love for the betrayer. Nothing could separate Judas from his Lord except Judas!

Nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus Christ except self. We must be saved from ourselves, or we are not saved at all. “*He died for all in order to have the living live no longer for themselves.*” This salvation is ours – if we will accept it. Selected.

Editor’s Note: Imagine the ‘reality’ of the majority of people like you and me who are going into a *Christ-less/lost* ETERNITY (Hell) without JESUS and thus have no hope – yet they are **LOVED!** *Our* prayer is that God grant you the grace so that you are not one of them!

* * * * *

Admonish the disorderly.
1 Thessalonians 5:14 (Darby)

The word “disorderly” comes from the Greek word *ataktos*, which is a military word indicating those who are out of order, out of step, not following order, not keeping rank, causing disturbance. These are self-governed individuals who call themselves Christians as long as they can

do whatever they want. They march to their own cadence and don’t like taking order or being directed. To them Christ is only a “get-out-of-jail-free” card. Friend, if you resent the idea of obeying the Lord and submitting every area of your life to him, then you have a serious problem. God will have order in His household. Carl Knott

* * * * *

David and His Mighty Men

2 Samuel 23:1-7

David was God’s anointed and serves as a wonderful “type” of Christ. He was also the “sweet psalmist of Israel” (v. 1). What he spoke by inspiration of the Holy Spirit is recorded in the Bible for our learning – every word from his pen was “God breathed,” allowing us to understand the greatness and the beauties of our Lord (vv. 1-5). When we see in Scripture David fulfilling his calling as the great king and deliverer of God’s people Israel, we also see a picture of our Savior who leads the redeemed to victory after victory. It might seem at times that the ungodly have the upper hand, but their eventual defeat is certain (vv. 6-7). Like David, God’s servants today must stand fast in these days of great difficulty.

Over the next several days we will consider a few of David’s “mighty men” who faithfully served him in battle. Certain facts also come to mind concerning David himself when we study his men. First, their devotion and valor recorded in David’s “last words” (v. 1) are a reflection of the training, piety and courage that he exemplified for them. If we do anything worthy of reward, then the actual credit will go to our Lord, as was true of the laurels given David’s men. Second, the mighty men’s Godliness directly correlated to their demonstrated bravery. A right relationship with the king fostered confidence in battle. Third, David’s men often served in obscurity, but this chapter suggests eventual recognition. Whatever we do for Christ, whether or not anyone else notices or even cares, will be remembered. No saint will be a “nobody” when he finally stands before the Bema Seat of Christ.

Dennis W. Costella

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“If a law is unjust, a man is not only right to disobey it, he is obligated to do so.”
Thomas Jefferson

The Truth

“And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”

2 Timothy 4:4

This is the last of eleven occurrences of “the truth” in Paul’s two letters to Timothy. He was not writing about the importance of being truthful in general, but about a specific body of factual information concerning Jesus Christ and its vital importance. Thus, “*the truth*” was a very important theme in both of Paul’s letters to this young pastor – and, by implication, to all God-called pastors.

Paul first speaks of “*the knowledge of the truth*” as required for salvation (1 Timothy 2:4), then of his own teaching as “*the living truth in Christ*” (1 Timothy 2:7), then of “*the church of the living God*” as “*the pillar and ground of the truth*” (1 Timothy 3:15), and of Christians as those who “*believe and know the truth*” (1 Timothy 4:3). He stresses the importance of studying the Bible as “*the word of truth*” (II Timothy 2:15), and also that true repentance requires “*the acknowledging of the truth*” (2 Timothy 2:25).

Paul also warns of false and covetous teachers who are “*destitute of the truth*” (1 Timothy 6:5) and who therefore “*concerning the truth have erred*” (2 Timothy 2:18). There will even be false prophets who “*resist the truth*” and are “*reprobate concerning the faith*” (2 Timothy 3:8).

As a result of the teaching of these false teachers, there will be many so-called seekers of truth who are “*ever learning,*” yet who seem “*never able to come to the knowledge of the truth*” (2 Timothy 3:7). The reason they never find the truth is because they “*turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables*” (2 Timothy 4:4).

The fact is that Jesus said: “**I am ... the truth**” and also that “**thy word is truth**” (John 14:6, 17:17). For any who would say with Pilate, “*What is truth?*” (John 18:38), there is the definitive answer!

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

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And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Esther 5:2

Haman had the ear of King Xerxes, getting his ap-

proval for the annihilation of the Jews. Queen Esther bravely sought audience with Xerxes and it was granted by the touch of his golden scepter. In contrast, when faced with Israel’s extermination, Moses “*besought the Lord his God*” (Ex. 32:11). I have read that the literal translation is, “*He stroked the face of God.*” We do not plead with a capricious, selfish king. We enter the presence of a Father who has already given His best for us. We too may reverently plead, “*stroking His face.*” “*How shall he not Freely give us all things?*” (Rom 8:32).

Marilyn MacMullen

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Blotted Out

“I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and like a cloud, thy sins, return unto me, for I have redeemed thee.”

Isaiah 44:22

There is a sign in a local shop which lists, in black, the names of those who owe money to the shop owner. The amount of the debt is also recorded. If the debt is paid the person’s name and debt are blotted out in black ink and can no longer be read. Jesus Christ has done far greater than this. He paid the debt that I could not pay and blotted the record out with His precious blood. He can and will do the same for you if you will only come and trust in His finished work (on YOUR behalf).

Janet Fleming

* * * * *

He said, Bring them hither to me.

Matthew 14:18

Sometimes service seems impossible – the need is too great, the resources too few. So it seemed to the disciples as they gazed on the hungry crowds and counted their meager provisions: five loaves and two fish – not enough to give even a crumb to each of the more than five thousand assembled listeners. Yet the Lord took their paltry stores and miraculously multiplied them to satisfy the multitudes and have leftovers to spare (twelve baskets to remind each apostle of their omnipotent Lord’s capabilities). Today you may face a daunting task. Take your small supplies and weakened self to the Lord. He will multiply your life and labor for eternal benefit to those that you serve as well as to you.

K. R. Keyser

Salvation is Near

“And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.” Rom. 13:11

Those who know not the Christ are dead in trespasses and sin. They are asleep; they do not even realize where they are headed for. But many Christians are asleep, too. They are not awake to their responsibility to God, and to those who know not Christ. Many of them are willing to sit and soak up God’s Word and His blessings, just like sponges, but they are not willing to give out God’s Word to those who are lost. It is high time that we all awake from this sleep.

Twenty-nine badly wounded men were placed in a plane on an island in the Pacific. They became very restless and nervous during their flight through the air, so the doctor began giving sedatives to quiet them. One of the wounded men refused the sedative and said,

“But Doctor, I cannot sleep now. I am so happy. I am going home.”

Christians, too, should be too happy and too busy to sleep. We are on our way home to heaven and need to be redeeming the time, for the days are evil. Satan would like to put us all to sleep, but the Lord would have us to be busy for Him.

Choose this day whom you will serve. May the Lord Jesus be your choice.

Dear Lord Jesus, stir our hearts so that we shall awaken to the evil of the times in which we live. Teach us how to redeem the time by winning souls for Thee. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

*Awake, awake, and sing the blessed story,
Awake, awake, and let your song of praise arise.
Awake, awake, the earth is full of glory,
And light is beaming from the radiant skies.*

Verse by permission, The Rodeheaver Co.

Altar Steps, by Pastor R. P. Haakonson

Editor’s Note: In case you are not aware of, this ‘devotional’ comes from a very good (year long) Family Devotional Book. *Altar Steps* is available from The Hauge Innermission for a donation of eight dollars and two dollars for postage and handling. Simply use the envelope in the center of the magazine to order.

Ordinary People

We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us 2 Corinthians 4:7.

(Please read Judges 6:11 – 16)

Gideon was an ordinary person. His story, recorded in Judges 6, inspires me. He was a farmer, and a timid one at that. When God called him to deliver Israel from the Midianites, Gideon’s initial response was, “*How can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house*” (Judges 6:15).

God promised that He would be with Gideon and that he would be able to accomplish what he had been asked to do (v. 16). Gideon’s obedience brought victory to Israel, and he is listed as one of the great heroes of faith (Heb. 11:32).

Many other individuals played a significant part in this plan to save the Israelites from a strong enemy force. God provided Gideon with 300 men, valiant heroes all, to win the battle. We are not told their names, but their bravery and obedience are recorded in the Scriptures (Judg. 7:5-23).

Today, God is still calling ordinary people to do His work and assuring us that He will be with us as we do. Because we are ordinary people being used by God, it’s obvious that the power comes from God and not from us.

POH FANG CHIA

** Lord, I am just an ordinary person, but You are an all-powerful God: I want to serve You. Please show me how and give me the strength.

***God uses ordinary people to carry out
His extraordinary plan***

2015, Our Daily Bread Ministries, Grand Rapids, MI, Permission Granted.

The Heavenly Railroad

*The road to Heaven by Christ was made,
With the Savior’s love this track was laid
From earth to heaven this line extends
To Life Eternal where it ends.*

*The Bible is our Engineer –
It points the way to Heaven so clear;
Through tunnels dark and across the years
It reaches beyond this vale of ears.*

*Come on, poor sinner, now’s the time,
At any station on this line,
Repent, believe and turn from sin –
This train will stop and take you in.*

*And when we reach that happy land,
We then shall meet at God’s right hand;
And on that peaceful happy shore
We’ll ride this earth train no more.*

—Penn’s Scrapbook

The Thief of Time

By Pastor R. Norheim

If a gun-man stopped you on a lonely road, tied your hands and feet, and left you lying in the ditch without harming you or taking your money, you might not think of him as a thief; but that's what he'd be. Time is one of the most valuable of all your possessions. Rich men would give all their wealth for prolonged life when death knocks at the door to announce that ***"time shall be no more!"*** ***"Give me time! Give me time!"*** is the maddening cry of millions whose prayers must be denied.

Thieves need not carry a gun; our best friends, favorite amusements, sports, recreations, innocent past-times – may be daily robbing us. We must not forget that we are stewards of time. God holds us responsible for the use or the misuse thereof. We shall have to give an account to Him one day.

This doesn't mean that God expects us to use every moment of time in direct Christian service. Normal living includes amusements, recreation, rest, together with many other things. It's the lack of proportion, the unbalanced, un-disciplined manner of living that offends. Unreasonably long telephone conversations or visiting your neighbors beyond "yawning" time, come in the same category.

The modern TV is (Ed. Also cell-phones, texting, videos, etc.), doubtless, one of the greatest thieves of time today. You can listen to the radio and still do your housework; but TV demands complete attention. It is here to stay; it is a great invention with great potentials but great care must be used in controlling it, or it will control you. Millions who would never go to Hollywood let Hollywood into their homes. In such instances the thief steals more than time! My brethren, let us beware that we do not lose our Christian standards; they are worth more than gold.

The Lamplighter, September, 1982

* * * * *

"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him.

Hebrews 7:25

It was dark in Mrs. Li's heart. One day, as she went to visit some neighbors, she passed an open door. Inside sat a crowd of people, and a man stood talking to them.

"God in heaven has sent his Son Jesus Christ down to this world to die for our sins. If we believe in Him, He will forgive us all our sins"

Mrs. Li stopped, and then went inside the door. She sat down and listened. For the first time she heard the story of God's redeeming grace. It was as a stream of light in a dark dungeon.

"Jesus," she said, "Jesus – maybe this God can take my

burden and fear away."

When the people had left Mrs. Li went to the evangelist and asked, "Is this true? Tell me more about it." The evangelist was glad to tell her about Jesus; about Calvary and Christ's resurrection. She drank in the truth. She listened – she asked questions – and as she listened to the explanation, the truth fell like dew on a dry ground. She drank it in, and in her innermost soul she knew that it was for her. She accepted Him. How good it sounded. 'God so love me – shall not perish – have everlasting life.'

Yes, Jesus is able, and only He is able to save all those who come unto Him. No matter how black (red) our sin, He will wash it white as snow. Accept Him today.

Dear Lord Jesus, we thank Thee for salvation full and free. Use us to make the message clear and plain to those who know Thee not. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Altar Steps, by Pastor R. P. Haakonson,

GOD'S GATE

Silas Bergstad

This is the gate of the Lord. Psalm 118:20

What is the gate for? It is used to provide entrance into an enclosure of some kind. God's kingdom is that kind of enclosure, having protective walls built around it. Notice the prayer of David in Psalm 51:18, ***"Build thou the walls of Jerusalem."***

God does not intend to let just anyone or anything into His kingdom. But the rest of our text says, ***"the righteous shall enter."*** Who are these people? In Revelation 22:14 we read, ***"Blessed are they that wash their robes, that they may have the right to come to the trees of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city."*** Those who will be permitted to enter the gates of heaven one day are those who have entered the ***"gate of Salvation"*** and have had their robes washed in the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 7:14).

And what is the gate of salvation? Jesus says, ***"I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved."*** (John 10:9). Have you gone through this gate or this door? If you haven't done so (Ed. OR need to return) before, do it today. Move into the promises of God and into the finished work of Christ. You will not be sorry.

God is also inviting us to enter into new experiences with Him. Do not stand outside the gate and hesitate. This opportunity comes to you from the Lord. Make use of it.

Take Time for family devotions;
Lutheran Brethren Publishing Co.

Happy birthday, (*new*) America

Dr. Michael Youssef, Ph.D. – (July 3, 2015)

On this 239th birthday of (old) America, there can be no doubt in anyone's mind that our country is completely different than the one that the founding fathers envisioned.

Beginning in the 1960's, powerful forces have worked to transform America from the land of the free-thinking and free-speaking to the land of emotion-driven reactionaries. A very similar transformation happened in Germany immediately prior to the Nazis taking over that country.

Twenty years ago, I wrote a novel about powerful media moguls who conspire to destroy morality and patriotism in America. But no publisher would touch the manuscript. I see now that it was ahead of its time.

While the propaganda battle has been waged in our culture during the ensuing years, good people (whom the late Jerry Falwell called the "moral majority") unfortunately decided to smash the snooze button. Only now are they suddenly waking up to find that it's almost too late.

They underestimated the power of the elite who control the media, academia, and yes, Hollywood. Many parents underestimated the power of Hollywood's influence on their children, and now, the children of Baby Boomers are waging a war against their parents' standards of morality.

While growing up in Egypt in the 1950s and 60s, I witnessed how Nasser, the country's dictator, used the media to create a "group think" throughout society. Now I am feeling déjà vu all over again.

Although many Americans feel ambushed by last week's Supreme Court decision, many of us, who had watched this movie in our countries of birth, had sought to warn the public again and again. But we were accused of being alarmist (often by good people). They never saw this coming.

Now everyone has seen how five unelected individuals can shred the Constitution. It is time to wake up! Or is it too late?

A generation that is biblically and historically illiterate, a generation that has replaced logic and reason with emotions and feeling, has given us people who shrug their shoulders and say, "If you can't beat them, join them." That is even more tragic than the loss of those who blatantly advocate for such transformation.

It is hard to resist the onslaught, however. The media throws around words like "equality" and "discrimination" and "love wins." Their deceptive words seem true and pure, but they are actually an endless flow of mud into a once-pristine sea.

So what is the answer?

People must unite and resist this mudslide that is destroying democracy in America. People of good will —

and not just those who identify themselves as Evangelical Christians or Conservative Catholics or Orthodox Jews — must fight back.

But that will require sacrifice. Yes, I said that dirty word: *sacrifice*.

Sacrifice of time, talent, and treasure.

One of the major impediments to doing this in the past has been our quest for comfort and financial security. Those we have placed above fighting for God and for country.

That must change if we believe there's something worth fighting for. Are you Ready?

Selected

CLEAN HEARTS

Olaf Olsen

...Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord.

Isaiah 52:11

A little boy, eager to be of some help as his mother prepared the evening meal, would often ask with eager voice each evening, "Mother, may I put the bread on the table?" Years later this boy became a minister of the Gospel, seeking to bring the Bread of life to others, and often in the quietness of his heart he would hear the voice of his godly mother saying, "My son, are your hands clean?"

No one would think of eating in a restaurant which served meals on dishes which had not been washed after earlier use; nor would we partake of food which we knew had been prepared under unsanitary conditions. Our God is holy and requires that those who serve Him be holy, "Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord."

In the time of Moses the priests were required to wash at the brass washstand before engaging in the service of the Lord. The spiritual application of this truth should be apparent to all.

It was only after King David had repented and been cleansed of his sin that he again could become an effectual witness for the Lord and say, "*Then will I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto thee.*" God does not use unclean vessels. Psalm 51:16 declares, "*But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?*"

Thought Question

Are there any secret sins in my life making my witness for Christ ineffectual?

Take time for family devotions,
Lutheran Brethren Publishing Co.

UpDate

IN REVERSE

Genesis 3:1-15

Let 'us' notice this deliberately (disobedience) SIN as originally Adam and Eve were residence in a 'sinless' Garden of Eden!

The 'Father of Lies' got Eve to stop, look, listen and deliberately take! **SINCE**, with NO exceptions, "WE" **all** are born with an evil, corrupt SINFUL nature.

Imagine what Adam and Eve fore-fitted because of the SIN of disobedience and leaving an eternal and blessed state of life in the Garden of Eden (*likely in the area of Babylon, Iraq*).

IF I am not 'mistaken', the person who invented the railroad crossbars (sign) was rewarded \$5,000. As a result WE are too stop, look and listen for 'our' own benefit.

How true when a person fails to put Jesus and His Righteousness FIRST in every area of their personal life, including their 'finances'! You know GOD is a very good 'Book Keeper' and His Almighty Sovereignty and Power is behind each and every Promise He Has Made!

LIKELY each one of you are somewhat busy, regardless your age, in this life AND God states for each of 'us' to STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN very frequently! HE only wants the very best for you and me in this life and most certainly for all Eternity. ***"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you..."*** Matthew 6:33-34.

A challenge and privilege for each one of us; BUT *maybe* especially for those of you who are surrounded only by liberal, modernistic churches/congregations, to prayerfully seek guidance from the Great Economist where you should INVEST in the work of the Kingdom of God. Please also consider this portion in His Work. All investments are truly appreciated, and it would be even greater IF you could be OR are a faithful, regular contributor. This ministry operates by faith and we have a great home and limited foreign out-reach.

May 'our' Living Savior richly bless you as you live in obedience to His Will, and thus even make you a richer blessing unto others!

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Evangelistic Meetings?

Are you or your church planning Evangelistic Meetings or a Bible Conference? The Hauge Innermission is ready to provide for you the speakers necessary strictly on a free-will offering basis.

If you feel that the people in your area would not come to a church for such meetings, we have a tent available and can provide everything necessary – all on a free-will offering basis.

Perhaps a completely neutral location might be best for you, like renting a school gymnasium or community center or the like. If you will trust the Lord, He will work out the details and provide what is necessary. We have seen Him do it time and time again.

Would you begin to prayerfully seek the face of God on what He would have you to do to bring God's Word to the lost for salvation and growth for the believers?