



Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • September 2011

“Judge Not, that Ye be Not Judged.”

Matthew 7:1

NOT many passages of the Bible are quoted as often as this one, even by people who otherwise do not as a rule go to the Bible to learn the truth.

Nor is there any passage in the Bible which is misused as often and as grossly as this one.

People say: Here Jesus has once for all laid down the rule that we should not give expression to any judgment with respect to others and their relationship to God.

To point out some as children of God and others as children of the world is therefore not only presumptuous, but in direct violation of the words of Jesus: “*Judge not.*”

Did Jesus mean these words in that way?

Any one who is somewhat acquainted with the Bible knows that the above interpretation is based upon a complete misunderstanding of the words of Jesus. Only a few lines farther on Jesus asks His disciples to beware of false prophets.

From this it follows that we not only have the right, but that it is also our duty to make up our minds about other people’s relationship to God.

This is the way the disciples understood these words of Jesus.

John exhorts his readers to prove the spirits, whether they be of God. And Paul charges Timothy and Titus not to appoint elders without having inquired into their relationship both to God and to their fellow humans.

No, what Jesus wishes to get at here, as otherwise, is the attitude of heart with which we give expression to our judgments of others.

Why do we discuss the failings of others? Is it to injure them and to exalt ourselves?

If so, we are doing that which Jesus means by judging.

“Judge not, that ye be not judged”

TODAY Jesus would speak to us about the way we speak about others. No doubt it is necessary for Him to do this. It is a very sensitive point in our life.

You have no doubt seen an orchard in which all the trees and bushes have been attacked by vermin. A very sad sight!

As Jesus stands today and looks out over the orchard which He has purchased with His blood, every plant of which He loves, even to the least, He sees many a plant that has been stripped of both its foliage and its fruit. Many have withered; others are dying, some are entirely dead.

It is love that has grown cold.

Heartlessness and lack of love spread like gangrene and destroy the tender shoots. If we realized how Jesus loves the little ones, the fact that we have, with heavy tread, trampled upon the little plants that He has purchased with His blood, would be unspeakable painful to us.

A brother has a little scratch and we spew poison into it instead of having it bound up and healed. Or our sister has an opinion different from ours about some Christian work, about ecclesiastical questions or something similar. And we pass unmerciful judgments instead of permitting her to stand before God with the opinions she has.

But must we not both see and speak about the relationships and mistakes of others? How then can we avoid injuring our Lord’s tender plants?

Let us in the first place ask ourselves if it hurts us to speak of other people’s failings, or if we experience a secret joy at presenting others in such a light that our own strong sides stand out the clearer. If so, then let us not speak.

Morning Glory

Volume XCIII – Number 9
September 2011

MORNING GLORY (ISSN0745-5968, USPS 887-740) is published in January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December, by the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, 508 5th St. NE, Dilworth, MN 56529, and printed by Haga Publishing, 808 Martha Lake Court, Shoreview, MN 55126-5856. Periodicals postage paid at Fergus Falls, MN 56537.
POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to: Morning Glory, c/o Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center, 1026 West Alcott Ave., Fergus Falls, MN 56537.

Editor: Pastor Rodney Stueland
508 5th St. NE, Dilworth, MN 56529
email: haugerep@cableone.net

Send Announcements, Contributions, and Subscription Renewals to:
Barbara Stueland, 508 5th St. NE, Dilworth, MN 56529

Internet Web Site: hauginnermission.com.

PUBLICATION OFFICE:
HAGA PUBLISHING, 808 Martha Lake Court, Shoreview, MN 55126-5856

OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION

President: Kevin GundersonDexter, MN
Vice President: Clifford Nelson.....Cannon Falls, MN
Secretary: Jim HagaShoreview, MN
Treasurer: Paul Peterson.....Kenyon, MN
Charles Hinderaker.....Austin, MN
Duane NessaGarden City, IA
Matt PetersonKenyon, MN
Rodney Stueland.....Dilworth, MN
Joel Zeltinger.....Bismarck, ND

CONTRIBUTIONS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

The Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation is registered with the Department of Internal Revenue as a non-profit religious organization. Contributions for all phases of the Hauge Federation are deductible for income tax purposes.

Table of Contents

Judge Not ...that Ye be Not judged.....1-2
Run Over by God.....3
The Spirit – A Guide to Christ.....4-5
If There Be No Resurrection • All May Come.....5
Editorial6-7
The Weight of the Wind • Interesting7
From Our Fellowship Circle •8
Believable ... Yet Unbelievable.....9
Stay Close • Forgiveness Through His Name10
Absent from the Body, Present with the Lord.....11
Weeds • Palm of Your Hand.....12
Faithful Servants • Christianity Today? • Friends of the Morning Glory13
Watery Bread • Unsolicited Advice14
What Prayer Is15
UpDate • Hauge Area Bible Conference16

In the next place: Have we prayed for those of whose faults we have spoken? If so, that love which covers a multitude of sins will be shed abroad in our hearts.

Taken from “*God’s Word for Today*” by O. Hallesby
Copyright 1937, Special Permission granted by Augsburg Publishing

Editor’s Note: By the GRACE of God ‘we’ must make a clear distinction between *principles/doctrine and personalities!*

TITUS 1:10-14. “*Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.*” Galatians 6:1. “**Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous (Editor: the BIBLE) judgment.**” John 7:24. (Matthew 7:5, 15-29).

“We live in a society here in America where church discipline is an ancient procedure and practice. Humanistic love among believers has overshadowed any putting away of sin. This is why there is no real revival in our churches; God is standing afar off from those who preach love without punishment. The effects of sin in the camp are destroying the youth and have the saints under distress. While watching the spirit of God depart, the elder believers mourn as the new educated preacher takes the people down a pathway of carnality. The non-repentant believer remains an active member and brings God’s judgment upon their church and those who associate.”

Jack M. Skinner, *Miracles and Missions Digest*, Edited and Selected.

Run Over By God

“Make me to hear joy and gladness, let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice.” (Ps. 51:8)

What must God do in order for a hard-hearted, self-centered person to come to Him for salvation? The Bible says, *“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.”* (Ps. 51:17) In order for people who are totally unconcerned, or even wholly opposed to God, to come to Him for salvation, God must work a brokenness in their hearts.

What will God do in order for this to happen? Our Catechism gives the answer: “Question 204: What does God use to make us heed the call of the Holy Spirit? Answer: To this end He often uses suffering, often blessings, often the examples of others, and such other means as may lead us to reflect.”

To that end, the Holy Spirit is working in the lives of unconverted people. He will show them the blessings that God has given to them – such as prosperity, health, family, job and many other things. For some people, this will be enough for them to realize the goodness of God and His wonderful salvation in Jesus.

For some, if not most people, they will not be moved by the kindness and goodness of God. Therefore, God must do whatever it takes to get them to Himself. When people refuse to hear the goodness of God, He then turns up the heat to break them down. Jude refers to this, when he says, *“And have mercy on some, who are doubting; save others, snatching them out of the fire, and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.”* (Jude 22-24) John Wesley referred to himself as “a fire-brand snatched out of the fire.”

So, when necessary, God will use life’s most bitter hardships to get people’s attention and to break them from their sin. Perhaps it might be an auto accident, where they were nearly killed. Perhaps it might be a bout with cancer and the possibility of being eaten alive by this fierce predator. Perhaps it might be the loss of a job or career and the financial ruin that comes as a result of that. Perhaps it might be the death of a close friend or family member that causes people to think about their own impending death.

A seasoned saint once told me, “I was run over by God. That was the only way that He could get my attention. If He hadn’t done that, I would still be living for my own self-centered interests.” When God runs you over, you will be crushed completely. That is the literal meaning of “a contrite heart” quoted above: one ground down or

crushed, like a rolling pin over Graham crackers.

Some people are so hard-hearted that they won’t turn to God until they are at the very brink of death! I know a man who is a solid, committed Christian. He was brought up in church and believed in God. But it wasn’t until one night when he was in the back seat of a GTO going 120 mph. with a crazy driver behind the wheel, that he prayed, “God, if you get me out of this alive, I will turn my life over to You.” God did get him out of this alive, and he did turn his life over to God.

I know a man who was unconcerned about his relationship with God and openly resisted numerous attempts to reach him with the gospel. It wasn’t until one night that a tornado peeled back the roof on his mobile home that he was under the kitchen table praying to God to spare him.

I personally was not raised in a Christian home and had no time or interest in God. I resisted several attempts by people who witnessed to me. But God ran me over and crushed me. It wasn’t until I had a personal encounter with devils from hell that God got my attention. I was well nigh at the brink of losing my mind and would have rather died than lived in that state. When I came to Jesus, it was such a sweet relief to find forgiveness of sins before God and deliverance from the powers of evil before Satan.

Dear reader, if you are not in Jesus today, what is it going to take for God to break you down and crush you? How long will you resist God and how far will God have to turn up the heat to break you down? Where is rock-bottom for you, where there is nothing else that matters in life except God? Turn to the Lord Jesus today and save yourself from a life of grief, pain, agony, heartache and disappointment; because these are all God’s works to get your attention and break you down.

Dear saints, if you have friends and family who are unconcerned or even opposed to God, this is how you can pray for them: That God Would Run Them Over!

Pastor Jim Haga
Shoreview, MN

“The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

Psalm 34:18

THE SPIRIT — A GUIDE TO CHRIST

...To preach the whole counsel of God, to salvation has always been an art that only a few have mastered.

... To have received the Holy Spirit as a guide through the Word of God and to our Savior. That was the promise which Jesus gave to His own as He was about to return to the Father; that promise He has also fulfilled.

As Christ is our advocate with God in Heaven, so the Holy Spirit is our advocate on earth. His work is to lift us up from sin, death and the power of the devil, and into the liberty that we have in our living Savior.

What a wonderful comfort this is for us!

As Christ is our only Savior, so the Holy Spirit is our only guide through God's Word into the salvation which Christ has provided. No one can call Christ Lord except by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:3).

Human life on earth would be a perpetual night without the Holy Spirit. No one would find the way to God, no one would be rescued from the pit of despair and night; no one could comprehend the mystery of the Cross and be born a child of God without the Holy Spirit.

Christ is not present in a human heart unless the Holy Spirit is there also. With all our knowledge of the Bible and the way of salvation, and with all our experience of the grace of God, we should sink into impotence and death without the Holy Spirit. The Christian who has lost the Spirit of God is transformed from a living flower to an artificial rose, from an organism to a mechanism. God's kingdom without the Holy Spirit is a dead lion, a bloodless body with neither heart nor pulse-beat; it is only sounding brass and changing cymbal.

All spiritual life, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament, bears witness to this fact. By the Spirit Samson could destroy a lion as though it were a lamb; he could break the strongest rope as though it were a woolen thread; he could strike down his enemies with the jawbone of an ass; he could tear up and carry away the gates of Gaza as though they were garden gates. In the same Spirit he broke down the pillars upon which the temple of Dagon rested, and buried his enemies among their gods. But when he had lost this Spirit he lay bound and helpless – an object of derision and a source of dishonor both to himself and to the God of Israel.

The same thing happened to Saul. He was victorious just so long as he carried in his bosom the Spirit which he received when Samuel's cruse of oil was emptied upon his head. But when through disobedience he lost this precious gift he suffered one defeat after another; finally he turned his back upon the enemy and fell upon his own sword.

Elijah stood among a godless people, strong and cou-

rageous. All alone he rose against the people and their king and a host of heathen priests. He challenged them to a contest, and gained the victory because he was supported by the Spirit of God.

As we stand on the border of the New Covenant we hear the voice of another man of the Spirit who calls his people to repentance, large numbers of them were gripped by his words. It is Peter, the Apostle, who stands forth on Pentecost day and calls his people to salvation; he speaks in the power of the Spirit, and the result is that three thousand people are baptized into Christ.

All this speaks clearly of the work of the Holy Spirit in human beings.

The promise of Christ to His people under the New Covenant is this: *"But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."* (Acts 1:8).

Now it is not a promise only to some individuals among God's people; the door is now open to all who will repent and believe. Servant girl and slave, king and priest – all have the promise of the Spirit.

The New Testament is the realm of the Spirit with a life in God through faith in Jesus Christ. Therefore it is not only the preachers of the Word who must have the Holy Spirit, but every single Christian. Parents who would influence their children for good must have the Holy Spirit. No teacher or preacher can proclaim Christ effectively without the Spirit. No layman can testify of Christ so that hearts are moved unless he is supported by the Spirit of God.

However, let us not forget that there is another kingdom in the world, the kingdom of Satan. This is also a spiritual kingdom with great powers. It is not a kingdom that is satisfied merely by holding what it has. It has this in common with the Kingdom of God that it is a kingdom of conquest. It always aims to re-conquer that which it has lost. With all the hosts of evil Satan searches out every Christian on earth, and seeks to draw him into his own kingdom again. God's Word admonishes us therefore to be on the watch so that we may not become victims of Satan's treachery.

We must not forget that Satan is not particular about the means and methods that he uses when he wants to deceive God's people. If he cannot gain his point by an outright temptation to sin, he will don the wings of an angel and show himself as though he were the Spirit of God and a servant of Christ.

The Word of God therefore exhorts us to try the spirits to see if they are of God. Why should the Bible remind us

of this if Satan does not have the power to show himself as the Spirit of God? The magicians of Egypt could imitate the miracles of Moses by their secret arts.

According to the Word of God we are bound to believe that not every spirit that purports to be the Spirit of God actually is so. Many Christians do not seem to understand this, and therefore they are drawn into by-paths. It has been a mystery to us how honest and sincere Christians could be led astray by a spirit that is shown to be something else than the Holy Spirit. The answer undoubtedly is this, that Satan has betrayed them to think that he is the Spirit of God.

Many Christians do not dare to criticize anything which purports to be spiritual and lays claim to being of God. Especially is this so if this manifestation seems to be more than ordinarily spiritual; Christians are afraid of quenching the Spirit, or at least wounding Him, by adverse criticism. But to try the spirits to see if they are of God is precisely what the Word of God asks us to do. Those who then blindly and uncritically open their arms and hearts for every wind and spirit that claims to be from God expose themselves to the danger of being deceived.

To be continued

Taken from "Spirit and Power" by Ludvig Hope

* * * * *

Dr. Tom Malone Asserts...

If There Be No Resurrection

If there be no resurrection of the dead, then it stands to reason that Jesus did not arise. If there is no such thing as the resurrection of the human body out of the grave, then the resurrection – the personal, bodily, literal, physical resurrection – of Jesus would be nothing but a fallacy.

Think what the resurrection means. First, it proves His redemption to be of God. Three days before this, while dying upon the cross, Jesus cried out, "It is finished."

He claimed that on the cross the sins of the world were to be laid upon Him. The Bible tells us that God laid upon Him the iniquity of us all (Isa. 53:6).

If there had been no resurrection, the redemptive work of Jesus would have been set at naught and proven to be a fallacy, for the Bible says, *Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification*" (Rom. 4:25).

In Matthew 16, He told His disciples how "he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day" (vs. 21).

His resurrection is God's "amen" to His death on the cross.

While Jesus was alive, He said, "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (12:40).

In John 2:19, Jesus said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." He said to Mary and Martha, whose brother lay yonder in the cold grave in death, "I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die"(11:25, 26).

At the throne, He keeps us by His power. He was raised, not only that we might be saved, but that we might be kept. The Mediator at the throne, the Lawyer at God's right hand, is a risen Jesus, raised for our justification.

"But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen." 1 Cor. 15:13.

*Looking back -
Praise Him.*

*Looking ahead -
Trust Him.*

*Looking around -
Serve Him.*

*Looking up -
Expect Him!*

Taken from "Sword of the Lord"

All May Come

No man is so low or so pressed down by natural hindrances as to prevent his taking the highest place in the kingdom of Christ. Let the young, let the lowly, let even the illiterate know that the Holy Ghost is willing to choose them as the vessels of His grace, and able to train them for the highest spiritual culture and the most honored service for our blessed Master.

A. B. Simpson

Editorial

RES *COMPLAINING!*

Please prayerfully read 1 Corinthians 10:1-14

Possibly you have heard the story of the ‘unthankful’ farmer. (Or anyone) The yield at ‘harvest time’ was never quite enough. But this particular time the ‘yield’ was unusually great!

So the neighbors were sure wondering what he would complain about this ‘harvest season’. So naturally he was asked and his response was: “*Sure hard on the machinery!*” This brings ‘us’ to the point that I believe most of the time the person who is complaining has it good! Seems like it is not only easy to ‘grumble’; but the more ‘we’ have, the *easier* it is for us to complain.

NOW when folk ask you how you are; I am not coaxing you to lie, put on a veneer; but be factual, honest. *IF* the person who ‘asks’ is not interested, they should not be asking; although it is ‘often’ just a greeting or front when meeting someone.

For example: The Sin of Omission. When the Holy Spirit prompts us in an area of Christian hospitality and we don’t comply, is it implying that we are not entrusted with enough or don’t have time, etc? This could also apply in giving. Is the Holy Spirit in error? We know that when even a glass of water given in His name shall not lose its reward. Heb 13:1-2.

AS you notice in our text that the children of Israel actually had it ‘good’ as they were passing through a land of wilderness to the ‘Promised Land’. They were strangers here, but God was providing their ‘need’ moment by moment. It is so easy in the mean time to do as the children of Israel were doing, and that is **complaining**.

In the view of our text the following dictionary definition of complain would fit in fine: “to express feelings of pain, dissatisfaction, or resentment.” Most of the time when we hear people complaining, it is because of *dissatisfaction*. Notice what it says in Numbers 11:1a: “*Now when the people complained, it displeased the LORD; for the LORD heard it, and His anger was aroused.*” BUT as we use Scripture to interpret Scripture we realize that ‘Truth’ and ‘error’, as well as wrong and right, along with evil and good, are not bed partners!

As children of God we must love what God loves and hate what God hates, and we will if the ‘new nature’ is healthy; because the ‘new nature’ is a *gift* from God; which is God’s nature.

IN these ‘perilous times’ (every difficult times) which also could be the closing of this dispensation of GRACE, the ONE who is all knowing tells us “*But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, **unthankful**, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*” (Ed. Emphasis mine) II Timothy 3:1-5. Yes, since the fall of Adam and Eve mankind has always been ‘unthankful,’ but in these ‘end times’, it is increasingly so.

Notice how Israel faired when getting their ‘own way’ from Almighty GOD: “*And He gave them their request, But sent leanness into their soul*”. Psalm 106:15, also Numbers 11:30-34, Isaiah 10:16.

Listen to Job in Job 19:25-27 “*For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God. Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another; How my heart yearns within me!*” **Yes**, when we know Jesus as our Redeemer; then we also know that what we experience in life is ‘Father filtered’: even difficulties & afflictions! I didn’t say that the Father ‘sends’ them, but He filters/permits them! When the apostle Paul shares in his testimony that he had learned in what so ever state he was found, he was content. Not that he enjoyed ‘everything’ that he went through, but he knew everything which was taking place in his life it was ‘Father filtered’, and GOD always wants the very best for us! What a challenge is found in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, but there is GRACE available: “*In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you*”.

In our text, God permitted them (the Israelites) to do their own thing, but we also notice the end results! So God recorded this event in His Inspired WORD for our benefit. We are to learn by their **example**. A wise person learns by their own experience; but a wiser person learns by the experience of others.

In our culture (society), people are often caught up with trying to keep up with the Jones’ without finding where the Jones’ are headed for. Sad to say this also happens

with many congregations in our day!

“Rejoice in the Lord always, Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all me. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:4-7 AND then verse 8.

Habakkuk 3:17-19 states: *“Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls - Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer’s feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.”* **GOD’S GRACE ALL THE WAY!!!**

The Weight of the Wind

“For he looketh to the ends of the earth, and seeth under the whole heaven; To make the weight for the winds; and he weigheth the waters by measure.” Job 28:24-25.

It was only discovered by scientists in modern times that the air actually has weight. This passage in Job, however, written thirty-five or more centuries ago, indicated that the two great terrestrial fluids of air and water forming earth’s atmosphere and hydrosphere are both ‘weighed’ by God’s careful “measure” to provide the right worldwide balance of forces for life on earth.

Another remarkable “weighing” act of God is noted in Job 37:16. *“Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge?”* Clouds are composed of liquid drops of water, not water vapor, and water is heavier than air, so how are they “balanced” in the sky? *“For he maketh small the drops of water; they pour down rain according to the vapour thereof: Which the clouds do drop and distill upon man abundantly”* Job 36:27-28.

Meteorologists know that the weight of the small water droplets in the clouds is “balanced” by the “weight of the winds” – air rushing upward in response to temperature changes. Eventually, however, the droplets coalesce to form larger drops which overcome these updrafts and fall as rain. *“By watering he wearieth the thick cloud”* Job 37:11. The coalescence is probably triggered electrically in the clouds themselves, *“when he made a decree for the rain, and a way for the lightning of the thunder”* Job 28:26.

Although these verses are not couched in the jargon of modern science, they are thoroughly scientific and up to date. *“Lo, these are parts of his ways: but how little a portion is heard of him? But the thunder of his power who can understand?”*

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.

“Days of Praise” by Institute for Creation Research Copyright – 2011, Permission granted

INTERESTING!!

“Many Protestants and Baptists today, while claiming to repudiate the doctrine of papal infallibility, actually outdo the Pope by claiming powers of infallibility for their favorite preachers and televangelists, or even for themselves. They give the impression of being infallible at all times, not just on rare occasions.

Among various Baptist groups as well as other denominations and non-denominational groups, there are pastors who have claimed themselves to be infallible and above question. ...

I personally have been in 3 churches over the years where the senior pastor claimed such grandeur for himself, stating that it was impossible to hold any beliefs contrary to what he taught. I had to leave all of those churches and, of course, was branded as a rebellious renegade, troublemaker and infidel for defying the self-proclaimed authority of the pastor, which actually **went beyond** that which is claimed by the Roman Catholic Church for their popes.

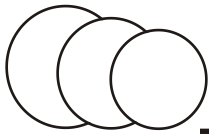
This raises a question, on what basis can we condemn the Roman Catholics for making an infallible authority out of their popes if we tolerate the same thing in evangelical and fundamentalist circles?”

Northern Landmark Missionary Baptist

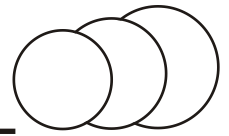
“The church exists for the divine purpose and promise of producing conversions. Let us not be ashamed to confess our sins and febleness and cry to God for more conversions in all lands. Plead for the salvation of sinners everywhere, including those whom you know and love.”

Andrew Murray

(Helps to Intercession, day twenty-five)



From Our Fellowship Circle



A. T. **Seattle, WA**
I wish that I could give more often, but we give what we can.

The Lord bless you all as you spread the Good News of Salvation.

I was saved July 1, 1961 – Praise God!

T. G. **Portland, ND**
I'm sorry I haven't sent you any money for a long time. It seems the \$ are shorter than the month!! I am blest in reading the *Morning Glory*.

God Bless you for the great work of putting out such good material.

J. G. B. **Austin, MN**
I appreciate the news and inspiring messages contained in the *Morning Glory*. Keep up the good work for the Lord.
To God be the Glory!

G. N. **Owatonna, MN**
I'm sending a \$...Contribution in support of your excellent magazine and after I read it I pass it on so others can read it also.
You do a great job!

Ann. **Terrorist in the church**
Latest news reports are that five terrorist cell groups have been operating in many of our churches. They have been identified as: Bin Sleepin, Bin Orguin, Bin Fighin, Bin Complainin, and Bin Missin! Their leader, Lucifer Bin Working, trained these groups to destroy the Body of Christ. The plan is to come into the church disguised as Christians and to work within the church to discourage, disrupt and destroy! However, there have been reports of a sixth group. A tiny cell known by the name Bin Prayin is actually the only effective counter terrorism force in the church! Unlike other terrorist cells, the Bin Praying team does not blend in with whoever and whatever comes along! But Bin Prayin does whatever is needed to uplift and encourage the Body of Christ. We have noticed that the Bin Prayin cell group has different characteristics than the others. They have Bin Watchin, Bin Waitin, Bin Fastin, and Bin Longin for their Master Jesus Christ to return!

D. H. **Moorhead, MN**
I have a poem that came to me when I was sitting doing nothing. But this message came to me and actually it is my testimony.

I am 88 years old and have had the *Morning Glory* for many years; I appreciate it so much as I get a blessing from it. I am now living in a Nursing Home and have been for the past two years.

*In the Cross Jesus,
God's Joy, Glory
And my glory is Him.*

*In the Cross of Jesus
I am to bear*

*In shades of time, went as in
In the glory of the Cross.*

*Praise His Name
Christ is My Redeemer
And the wonders of the Cross
Christ is My Redeemer
And the wonders of the Cross
In the Cross I Glory share.*

Look out for the compromising spirit. They had that in Pergamos and Thyatira, with the result that Balaam and Jezebel took advantage of a false tolerance and corrupted the life of the church. Sometimes we mistake compromise for charity and put up with what we should put out.

Vance Havner

Believable ... Yet Unbelievable

Islamic Shariah Getting Traction Inside the USA

At the verge of being politically incorrect, we simply must face the facts and tell it like it is. What radicalizes Muslims is Islam itself. What we wishfully call radicalism is, in fact, the Islamic mainstream.

A recent report from the Center for Security Policy found that an overwhelming majority of mosques in America promote Jihad and shariah law. One of the report's most disturbing findings was that the most well-attended mosques were the most likely to provide violent materials to help coordinate the radical forces against you and me and our beloved United States of America.

If we are face down shariah, we must understand what we are up against, not simply hope that dialogue and engagement will make the challenge go away. Those who today support shariah and the establishment of a global Islamic state (caliphate) are supporting objectives that are incompatible with the United States Constitution, the civil rights the Constitution guarantees, and the representative, accountable government it authorizes. In fact, shariah's pursuit in the United States is tantamount to sedition!...

...This brand new survey took into account 100 mosques inside the United States of America – next door to you and me!

Shariah law continues to spread its web inside the United States. In this recent report, “more than 80 percent of mosques advocate or promote violence.”...

What is shariah law? Muslim or Islamic law, both civil and criminal justice, as well as regulating individual conduct both personal and moral. The custom-based body of law based on the Qur'an and the religion of Islam. By definition, Muslim states are theocracies and religious texts are law, the latter distinguished by Islam and Muslims in their application as sharia or shariah law...

Whether pursued through the violent form of jihad (holy war) or stealthier practices that shariah Islamists often refer to as dawa (the “call of Islam”), shariah rejects fundamental premises of American society and values.

The United States Constitution would be null and void, for the most part, under shariah law. Under shariah law, your personal freedoms give way to the will of Allah.

Tony Adkins for ConservativeActionAlerts.com
Sword of the Lord

MSNBC Host Calls Revelation Fiction

Lawrence O'Donnell, a prime-time host on MSNBC, recently informed his viewers that although the possible nuclear meltdown in Japan is bad, it is not the end of the world.

While making his point, he referred to the apostolic book of Revelation as a “work of fiction describing how a truly vicious God would bring about the end of the world.” O'Donnell went on to say on his March 17 episode of The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell that, “No half-smart religious person actually believes the book of Revelation.”

AFA JOURNAL

Illinois Gay Civil Unions Law Takes Effect

Same-sex couples will be able to obtain civil union licenses starting (June 1), the day the Illinois civil unions law goes into effect...

In downtown Chicago, dozens of same-sex couples lined up before doors opened at the Cook County Clerk's office to apply for their civil unions license...

The civil unions law allows both same-sex and heterosexual couples to enter into a legal partnership. Couples entering into a civil union will receive the same state benefits as married couples, from hospital visitation rights to inheritance rights.....

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn signed the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act into law on January 31, despite protests from traditional marriage advocates....

Governor Quinn will attend a mass civil union ceremony hosted by the city of Chicago (June 2) at Wrigley Square in Millennium Park. Thirty gay and lesbian couples are expected to exchange vows during the ceremony....

Other than Illinois, same-sex civil unions are currently legal in California, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon and Washington. Hawaii and Illinois ...passed civil union laws that take effect in June 2011 and January 2012, respectively.

In May, Governor Jack Markell signed a bill legalizing same-sex civil unions, making Delaware the eighth state to allow same-sex civil unions or domestic partnership. The law will take effect January 1, 2012.

Lawrence D. Jones for ChristianPost.com

STAY CLOSE

Read 1 Peter 4:7-11

Comfort each other and edify one another. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

My friend and I were traveling together, and she seemed a bit frazzled. When we got to the airport, she forgot to have her identification readily available and couldn't find her reservation confirmation number. The ticket agent waited patiently, smiled, and then helped her at the "self" check-in. After receiving her ticket, she asked, "Where do we go next?" The agent smiled again, pointed at me, and said to her, "Stay close to your friend."

That can be good advice for all of us when our lives get frazzled - stay close to your friends. Although Jesus is our best friend, we also need relationships with fellow believers to help us survive in this life.

In his first epistle, Peter was writing to believers who needed one another because they were suffering for their faith.

In a few short sentences in chapter 4, Peter mentioned the need to receive and give "fervent love," prayer, and hospitality (vv. 7-9). He also included the need for believers to use their spiritual gifts to minister to one another (v. 10). In other passages, we're encouraged to comfort each other with the comfort we've been given by God (2 Cor. 1:3-4) and to build each other up in love (1 Thess. 5:11).

When life gets difficult and we get frazzled, staying close to our Christian friends will help us to get through.

Anne Cetas

*When our friends encounter trials,
We can help them if we're near;
Some may need a word of comfort,
Others just a listening ear. - Sper*

**Staying close to godly friends
Helps us to stay close to God.**

Taken from 'Our Daily Bread'
2011 RBC Ministries
Permission granted.

* * * * *

Forgiveness Through His Name

"Every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name" (Acts 10:43).

David described the mercy of God in terms like these: *"As the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his*

steadfast love toward those who fear him" (Psalm 103:11). This is the love of God offering forgiveness of sins through the name of Jesus, and the gift of his righteousness.

The Apostle Paul tells of the abundance of grace in Christ, saying, *"The judgment following one trespass brought condemnation...If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:16-17).*

What we have to offer, only our sinfulness, cannot vanquish what God offers, namely, grace in Christ for forgiveness. Do I receive this forgiveness only when I am pious? Then Christ's kingdom would be a kingdom of works. Rather, not for my piety, but because I am a sinner and because of my need of forgiveness God offers freely this gift when I turn to him. His power to forgive cannot be diminished by my sin. He is able to save "to the uttermost!"

*"Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace that is greater than all my sin."*

(Julia H. Hohnston)

PRAYER: O Lord, increase my faith for increased confidence that in Christ I rise above the condemning power of my sins, for his sake. Amen

Taken from *Rosenius Daily Meditations*

By Carl O. Rosenius

*Prohibition came into
being based on moral
grounds, but was repealed
on economic grounds. Will
marijuana and
prostitution follow the
same path? Gambling
already has.*

Absent from the Body – Present with the Lord.

John H. Walker

A real and genuine brother in the Lord has left us. I learned to know and to love him first in 1917. The Eastern Minn. Laymen Soc. had a meeting in my church at Peterson, Minn. When Brother Walker sang: “Jesus frelser dig nu” – *Jesus saves you now* – the Spirit of God certainly was present. He sang from personal experience. He sang from the heart. Then came his personal testimony – rather in a low and quiet voice, but so definite, so personal and so heart-reaching. There was unction, spirit and grace in his personal testimony. Perhaps an outstanding trait in the Brother, was the liberty in God, the liberty of the spirit - without any stiffness and formalism. The love of God and the love of God’s people flowed in the most natural way out from his heart. His spiritual vision was thoroughly evangelical.

He was an independent InnerMission man to the tip of his fingers.

Brother Walker perhaps, especially during his earlier years in Christian life, was a ‘press-on’ brother. He wanted things to move. He hated indifference and stagnation. He wanted things in the InnerMission, in the local Congregation, in the Church, in the Christian Fellowship to be on higher ground. He might have expected too much at times – considering the time of falling-away that we live in. On such points he no doubt suffered bitter disappointment, like many of us, and with the disappointment, we become too outspoken to suit many.

Brother Walker had found life in the Son of God and received the Spirit of adoption which cries: “Abba Father” among the old Haugeans near Radcliffe, Ia. The Spirit of God had made him a heart-Christian. Outward profession without life, outward church unions, outward show of Christianity, legalism and formalism were contrary both to his personal make-up and to his Haugean Christian viewpoint. He was willing to be misunderstood and suffer for his convictions.

More than a year ago I was in the hospitable Walker home – for the last time with the beloved brother. His press-on nature had somewhat abated. He was in more quiet water; but spiritual enrichment flowed from his life, heart and conversation. The thorny experiences of life had not hardened, but mellowed his heart. He rejoiced over the spiritual life and liberty he had found in Norway, which he recently had visited. He was very interested in the book-project and a history of the Hauge Movement, so the personal experiences and struggles of the father might

be planted as signs along our own highway in Christian work.

The lamp of his earthly life went out suddenly, as he was communing with God over the open Bible, Sunday morning, June 15, 1941. “*Prepare to meet your God*” had often been on his lips both in private and in public during his last days upon earth. ...

He married Olina Nilsen in 1890. Both were converted to God in a revival around Radcliffe, Ia., about 1895. They had a real Christian home. The spirit of hospitality attracted people to their fireside. They had lived near or in Kenyon, Minn., since 1916. Among the nine children and 23 grandchildren a number have come out for the Lord.

Brother Walker was a leading spirit in the Eastern Minn. laymen’s society, whether he held office or not, although he nearly always held a leading position. He was its president for some years. Above all he was a real brother to all who really loved the Savior. Another dear friend has arrived in the courts of heaven – waiting for us.

May his family-circle often remember:

When father prayed his soul was blest.

When father prayed he found sweet rest.

P. Ljosteveit.

Selected.

Editor’s Note: Please ‘pray’ that God would *grant us more of like men and women in our day: which we so desperately Need!*

When the Russians occupied Romania, two armed Russian soldiers entered a church with their guns in their hands. They said, “We don’t believe in your faith. Those who do not abandon it immediately will be shot at once! Those who abandon your faith move to the right!” Some moved to the right, who were then ordered to leave the church and go home. They fled for their lives. When the Russians were alone with the remaining Christians, they embraced them and confessed, “We, too, are Christians, but we wished to have fellowship only with those who consider the truth worth dying for.”

Tortured for Christ

Richard Wurmbrand

Founder of *Voice of the Martyrs*

WEEDS!

“Catch us the foxes, The little foxes that spoil the vines, For our vines have tender grapes”.

Song of Solomon 2:15.

I just came in from spraying and pulling weeds in my yard and it brings back memories of my youth. One of the inevitable jobs of summer was walking the beans to get rid of the weeds. I remember cocklebur, button weeds and thistles, which always grew in thick patches. Sometimes we could pull them out, being sure we pulled the entire root, other times we had to hoe them.

We were always paid a few cents a row which was the incentive to work. Usually we received 10 cents a row, which profited us a whopping 50 or 60 cents by the end of the morning. Of course we were carefully supervised by my Dad (Ed Thompson) or Uncle. My uncle had a car with a rumble seat and the most exciting part of going home was discovering if it was my time to ride there. Who had ever heard of a convertible back in the 40's?

My Dad (Ed Thompson) made sure we learned lessons even from walking beans, so as we walked he shared object lessons with us. He reminded us that if Adam and Eve had not sinned there would have been no weeds. Another lesson was that nasty burr that caught and clung to our pants legs. “That burr is like sin,” Dad reminded us, “you get too close and it will catch you and hang on”. The Bible says: *“Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”* *“But you, O man of God, feel these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.”* II Timothy 2:22, 1 Timothy 6:11. Another reminder was that some seeds can lie dormant for years, but when the seed receives the proper amount of moisture and light, it will grow. *“... And be sure your sin will find you out”.* Numbers 32:23b. (Editor: Be sure your sin will find you out; In time, In your conscience and In eternity! Whatsoever a person ‘sows’ that they will also ‘reap’!) “No sin is hidden from God,” Dad would say. “All will someday be revealed if it hasn't been **forgiven!**” *“Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”* John 8:24.

How grateful I am for the lessons of my youth, even if those lessons came through pulling weeds.

Carol Kleveland, Forest City, IA

PALM OF YOUR HAND

“The following is excerpted from Craig Beidler, ‘Proof of God in the Palm of your Hand.’ *The Real Truth*, Dec. 20, 2009: ‘Sir Isaac Newton once said, ‘In the absence of any other proof, the thumb alone would convince me of God’s existence. In his book ‘Fearfully and Wonderfully Made’, Dr Paul Brand, who was the foremost hand surgeon in the world, testifies to the wonder – the miracle – of the human body. Dr. Brand explained that although many people think that fat serves no significant purpose, it does on the hand. ‘Underneath the skin in the palm of the hand lie globules of fat with the look and consistency of tapioca pudding. Fat globules, so soft as to be almost fluid, cannot hold their shape, and so they are surrounded by interwoven fibrils of collagen – like balloons caught in a supporting rope net where stress occurs, such as on the palm of the hand, fat is tightly gathered and enveloped by fibrous tissue in a design resembling fine Belgian lace.’ When you grasp a hammer in the palm of your hand, each cluster of fat cells changes its shape in response to the pressure. It yields but cannot be pushed aside because of the firm collagen fibers around it. The resulting tissue, constantly shifting and quivering, becomes compliant, fitting its shape and stress points to the precise shape of the handle of the hammer. Engineers nearly shout when they analyze this amazing property, for they cannot design a material that so perfectly balances elasticity with viscosity. The skin of the hand is also well suited to the task of gripping and handling different kinds of objects. Dr. Brand wrote, ‘If my skin tissue had been harder, I might insensitively crush a goblet of fine crystal as I hold it in my hand; if softer it would not allow me a firm grip.’

Another remarkable feature of a normal hand is its sensitivity. Dr Brand states, ‘a normal hand can distinguish between a smooth pane of glass and one etched with lines only 1/2500 of an inch deep.’ The fingertips have the ability to detect a difference of just three milligrams. How extraordinary it is that the hand should be so well-suited for its purpose through all these amazing features and abilities. Was this the product of chance or the creation of God?”

Friday Church News Notes via Christian News

**Don't Let Your PR/DE Keep
You Out of Heaven!**

FAITHFUL SERVANTS

Christ called us not servants but friends,
But we serve in love as The Holy Spirit sends,
We joyfully call Him our Master, Lord and Guide;
Following His footsteps, as He walks by our side.
Faithful in tribulation as well as in our cheer,
All is well when our protector is always near.
Some follow to lands where great danger awaits.
Martyrdom would only gain them Heaven's pearly gates.
Faithful servants go to cities filled with violence and crime.
They can be assured of the Holy Spirit's presence all the time.
Some others are called to serve very close to their home.
They hold fast to God's Holy Word wherever they may roam.
Faithful servants may be laughed at and mocked as fools.
For avoiding worldly pleasures and trying to follow Bible rules.
They will be criticized for teaching Christ as the **only Way**.
But, Oh how glorious and wonderful will be their pay day!
So strive to be a faithful servant each day of your life.
Your reward is great should you encounter much strife.
Do not expect to be popular with the majority "religious" crowd.
But **be assured of Christ's blessing**, for so He has vowed.

By James M. Hite, Palmyra, PA

* * * * *

Christianity Today?

Mark Galli, senior managing editor of *Christianity Today*, says that evangelicals should be allowed to dabble in heresies. He said this in the context of Rob Bell's heresy-packed book "Love Wins". Bell denies the infallible inspiration of Scripture, Christ's substitutionary atonement, the necessity of being born again through personal faith in Christ, eternal hell fire, and other cardinal doctrines. Galli claims that he is 'a brother in Christ' and that we should be patient with his errors. According to Galli,

we should treat Paul Young and 'The Shack' with the same 'charity.' He says, "We recognize that an author trying to repeat the old, old story in fresh ways will sometimes overstep the bounds of traditional theology." This is a recipe for spiritual shipwreck. The Bible warns God's people to mark and avoid those who teach doctrine contrary to the apostolic faith, because false teachers are able to deceive the hearts of the simple (Romans 16:17). Heretics are to be rejected after the first and second admonition (Titus 3:10-11). Doctrines of devils are not to be entertained; they are to be refused (1 Timothy 4:1-7). Galli says, 'The fact that so many resonate with Bell's concerns about these themes means we have to wrestle with them afresh.' No, the fact that so many resonate with Bell's heresies is evidence of the wholesale compromise of evangelicalism and is a loud warning that we should not touch the unclean thing lest we, too, be polluted. Separation is a fundamental biblical practice."

Friday Church News Notes
via Christian News, Excerpts & Selected.

* * * * *

Friends of the 'Morning Glory'

"Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many" Matthew 24:11

It's easy in these lazy days of summer (or any time) to sit back, relax and put everything off for a while. We can never afford to do that when dealing with spiritual Truth.

The Word of God tells us we must "test the spirits". (1 John 4:1). Jesus warned us of false prophets and the need to evaluate every person, ministry and organization. We must determine if they are truly of the Lord and in agreement with Scripture.

This kind of testing will need to go on until the Lord comes again. In fact the need for testing will intensify as we get closer to our Lord's return. The Bible says that in the days "some will fall away" and listen to "doctrines of demons" (1 Timothy 4:1). In II Timothy 4:3 we are told a time would come when people will choose teachers and preachers who will say what they want them to say rather than speak the Truth of God's Word.

We are living in those days! Make sure that you are continually testing the preaching and teaching of others and yourself to make sure that all are in agreement with Scripture.

One good web site to help you do this is found at: worldviewweekend.com

Stay informed, stay alert! JESUS IS COMING AGAIN SOON.

Pastor Paul Larson, Faith Lutheran Church,
Detroit Lakes, MN

Watery Bread

“Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many Days.” Eccles. 11:1.

Charlie and Dot had been in church and heard the minister speak on this text. Dot asked her mother the meaning of the text. Her mother said it meant that what we give to the Lord will be given back, increased a hundred fold.

After the three had eaten the evening meal, there was only one slice of bread in the cupboard, and no money to buy more. When all was quiet in the house, Dot took the slice of bread and sneaked out and walked towards the river. There she was overheard by a gentleman as she bowed her head and prayed, “Please God, this is all the bread we have. We have none for breakfast, but if it isn’t too long till the hundred slices come back, maybe Charlie can get some money to buy some. Send it to Dotty Horn, in Thomas Alley, for Jesus’ sake. Amen.”

The little girl cast the bread on the water. A while later somebody knocked on the door of her home. A man entered and placed a large basket on the floor and a letter on the table. The basket was marked, “For Dotty Horn – her bread from the water.”

The basket was full of bread, a chicken, and a lot of groceries. In the letter Charlie found that he was hired as messenger in the store of Lennox and Co.

Lord Jesus, teach us to believe and trust Thee. In faith, we ‘cast our bread on the water,’ and watch the return. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

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

Editor’s Note: Spiritually: this is what ‘we’ are seeking to do through the pages of the Morning Glory, Evangelistic Meetings, Bible Conferences, Gospel Tent Meetings, Christian Literature (by the GRACE of God) – ‘we’ need your *support and cooperation* – Thank You and may God richly bless YOU, always, all ways!

* * * * *

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).

In 1927, Gutzon Borglum began chipping away at a piece of rock. He would be working on his project until he died in 1941. Every year, over two million people stop by to see what he was working on. It is known as Mount

Rushmore in South Dakota. People are awestruck as they stand to look upon the massive stone faces of four of our great presidents.

A work of this magnitude cannot be done overnight. Perhaps during the early stages, as people stopped by, no one but Borglum could actually see what was taking shape. The work was completed because one man had a vision and did not stop until he died. Many of the giant cathedrals in Europe took more than a century to complete.

There is great merit in staying steady at a task until the work is done. Depending on the magnitude of the task at hand, many difficulties may be encountered along the way. Satan will surely try to do all that he can to stop the work, if our work is for the Lord.

In 1 Corinthians 3, the Scripture says “*we are labourers together with God*” (vs. 9), and that “*every man’s work shall be made manifest*” (vs. 8), and that “*every man’s work shall be made manifest*” (vs. 13). We need to be sure that we are building on the right foundation, Jesus Christ (vs.11).

Whether we are building a church, a Christian family or some other important work, we need to stay steady at it. In the last seven years, we have visited hundreds of churches across America. Many of these churches have flourished, not because the pastor was a dynamic, charismatic personality, but because he stayed steady at it. Faithful Bible preaching and staying after souls will get the job done.

It is wonderful when God opens the windows of Heaven and souls pour into the church, but usually these growth spurts are not the norm. We must stay steady after one family at a time.

At one point, Borglum had to dynamite the intended location of Thomas Jefferson’s face and start over, as the rock was deemed unsuitable. We may suffer setbacks along the way as we strive to build a work for the Lord, but victory will come if we stay steady at it.

Later on, in chapter 15 of 1 Corinthians, we learn that our victory is “through our Lord Jesus Christ. *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord”* (vss. 57, 58).

Discouraging times, setbacks and even “start overs” will occur, but we can be more than conquerors through Christ if we stay steady at it. Keep on chipping away, and sooner or later people will stop by to see what you doing.

Selected.

Editor’s Note: “*And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith*” Galatians 6:9-10.

What Prayer Is

You have looked upon that state of doubt and inner uncertainty, in which you so often have gone into and returned from the hour of prayer, as unbelief. This is due to confused thinking, which, alas, is very common, but none the less dangerous to our prayer life.

Unbelief is something very different from doubt. Unbelief is an attribute of the will and consists in a man's refusal to believe, that is, refusal to see his own need, acknowledge his helplessness, go to Jesus and speak candidly and confidently with Him about his sin and his distress.

Doubt, on the other hand, is anguish, a pain, a weakness, which at times affects our faith. We could therefore call it faith-distress, faith-anguish, faith-suffering, faith-tribulation.

Such faith-illness can be more or less painful and more or less protracted, like all other ailments. But if we can begin to look upon it as suffering which has been laid upon us, it will lose its sting of distress and confusion.

All suffering which is laid upon us should work together for our good. So also faith-suffering. It is not as dangerous as we feel that it is. It is not harmful to faith nor to prayer. It does serve to render us helpless. And, as we have seen above, helplessness is, psychologically, the sustaining and impelling power of prayer. Nothing so furthers our prayer life as the feeling of our own helplessness.

These thoughts seem, however, to conflict with the Scripture passages cited above. They stated categorically that he who prays, doubting, cannot expect to be heard.

But these passages must not be torn out of their context. We must compare them with other passages of the Scriptures bearing on the same thought. Special mention must be made of the characteristic little account in Mark 9:14-30. While Jesus and three of His twelve disciples were experiencing the Transfiguration on the mountain top, a man had brought his boy, possessed with demons, to the other disciples; but they were not able to cast out the evil spirit. When Jesus came, the father hastened to bring the child to Him.

In answer to Jesus' question, the father told Him how long the child had been thus afflicted and how terrible his suffering had been. Then he added in distress, "*If thou canst do anything, have compassion on us, and help us.*" To which Jesus answered, "*If thou canst! All things are possible to him that believeth.*" The man seemed to sense the seriousness of Jesus' words and exclaimed in distress, "*I believe; help Thou mine unbelief!*"

Here we have a typical example of doubting faith.

Doubt, in this instance, and as is usually the case, follows two trends, one with reference to God and one with reference to faith. The man expresses exactly what he feels: "If thou canst do anything, have compassion on us and help us!"

He is really not fully certain that Jesus can help him.

When Jesus had met his skepticism on this score by his incisive words about faith, "If thou canst! All things are possible to him that believeth," the man gave way completely. He felt the truth of Jesus' words, but he felt also that his faith was failing him. At that moment everything was at stake. But he knew not what else to do but to tell just exactly how faith and doubt were struggling for mastery in his soul. So he says, "I believe; help Thou mine unbelief!"

The characteristic thing to notice here is that he uses the expression unbelief. He himself condemns his doubt as unbelief. That is what sincere faith always does; it judges itself strictly and unmercifully.

But we should notice what judgment Jesus passed upon this doubting, unstable, shaky condition. In His eyes this was faith. This is clearly evident from the fact that Jesus healed the boy. Had the father's doubt actually been unbelief, Jesus would not have been able to heal him. This is clear from verse twenty-three. And this is stated with exceptional clearness in Mark 6:5-6: "*And he could there do no mighty work ...And he marveled because of their unbelief.*"

Here we see how weak, unstable and doubting faith can be.

Notice how faith at the moment of prayer condemned itself as unbelief. And yet faith was there.

It was there in sufficient degree to enable Jesus to perform one of His greatest miracles. The disciples had tried to heal the boy, but had failed.

What is the reason that such a weak, unstable and doubting faith could be heard and answered? Because it was characterized by the essence of living faith; it went to Jesus. It pleaded its distress before Him. It complained of its faith-distress by telling Jesus how full of doubt this faith was.

Taken from the book "*Prayer*" by O. Hallesby, Copyright 1937, Permission granted by Augsburg Pub.

UpDate

I Don't Fully Understand!

Being very direct; but some folk are definitely taking 'me' seriously in our appeals to keep this portion of the work in the 'kingdom of God' on going: *while* some other 'folk' evidently don't care if this ministry carries on or not!

In these days of APOSTASY (*falling away/false teaching, etc*) it seems to me that 'finances' that used to support Biblical 'ministries' (where *apostasy is now* taking its tragic toll) should NOW be invested elsewhere, and those of you who are supporting 'Biblical Ministries' are to continue the same. In my understanding of Holy Scripture, we are *accountable* where we invest our stewardship (which includes *finances*) and it is displeasing to the LORD if used to support *false teaching/practices*: that which is openly contrary to the Bible.

NOW I am not seeking to be knit picking in regards any *person or ministry* here on the planet 'earth' and think that is flawless OR perfect. I know so full well that there is a 'struggle' *between* the 'old nature' and the 'new nature', and I very readily identify with the Apostle Paul what he conveys in **Romans 7:8, 18-25 & 1 Corinthians 13:12**. But I do not believe that God's wants His people supporting that which is very clearly contrary to the **absolute** Word of God, the BIBLE. For 'popularity' and to get a 'following', it would be so much easier to join the 'mainstream' of our 'day', but Scripture prohibits that, and eternity is so much more important.

What is it then that I don't 'fully understand'? WHY do so many Bible based 'ministries' go through financial droughts! I am especially thinking of 'Lutheran' right now as I am a Lutheran by heritage and more **significant** by conviction/doctrine/choice: YET being a Lutheran or any other conviction does not save; **but JESUS ONLY**. Truly Bible based 'ministries' are in service *for* and with the KING, for the salvation of precious souls and for strengthening, nourishing, forewarning and reviving of God's children. THUS it is a 'privilege' that God has given 'us' to invest into His Kingdom for all **eternity!** **The** cattle upon a 'thousand hills' are the LORD'S, but HE GIVES us this **privilege and opportunity!**

Frankly we have 'scores' of folk who have been receiving the *Morning Glory* for months *if not years*, who have been blest through this 'ministry' and yet have not made a contribution.

NOW this 'challenge' **is not only** for the *Morning Glory/Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation*; **BUT** for ALL Bible based 'ministries' led by the Holy Spirit for the salvation of **precious lost souls** and **encouraging & strengthening** God's lambs and sheep!

Thank you so much for each one of you who have been and will be hanging in there with us through thick and

Periodicals Postage Paid at
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Hauge Lutheran Innermission
c/o Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center
1026 West Alcott Ave.
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Volume XCIII • Number 9 • September, 2011
(USPS 887-740) Dilworth, MN 56529

thin and we pray that God will richly bless you as you give unto HIM through this 'ministry'!

July Income for *Morning Glory* is app. \$2,907.00

The actual cost of publishing and sending each issue (month) of the *Morning Glory* is app. \$2,300 plus considerable other expenses.

P. S. Financially we have been going 'backwards' the last months!

COMING - Lord willing
Hauge Area Bible Conference

at

*Ny Stavanger Lutheran Church,
Buxton, ND*

(South of Grand Forks, ND)

October 28 - 30, 2011

Please Pray for & Plan NOW to Attend