



# Morning Glory

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

EXPERIENCED SALVATION • CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP • SIMPLICITY IN WORSHIP

Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation • March 2024

## Our Search for the Fountain of Youth

The Spanish conquistadors were explorers of the 1500s. These Spanish sailors were brave, daring men of adventure, searching for gold and silver, jasper and emeralds, braving the uncharted seas of a strange new world. These Spanish conquistadors were adventurous people like Hernando De Soto, Francisco Coronado, and Ponce de Leon.

It was in 1513 that Ponce de Leon began his search for it. He first went looking for it in the West Indies, but it was not there, so he sailed to a land called Florida, hoping to find it there. Ponce de Leon was searching for the legendary El Dorado, a land where gold nuggets were as plentiful as the pebbles on the seashore. Near that legendary El Dorado was the one thing that everybody was looking for. All of his life, Ponce de Leon and everybody else had wanted to find it. He was looking for the “fountain of youth.” He had sailed halfway across the world, wanting to taste the waters from that fountain of immortality. He wanted to drink from those waters of eternal youth and never grow old and die. And so he came searching in the land of Florida hoping to find it. He searched and searched and like everybody else that has looked for El Dorado and the fountain of youth, he did not find it.

Deep down inside every person today there is a longing for immortality. Not really trusting that there is life after death and at the same time having drives for immortality within, what do we do? We try to create a sense of eternity, an illusion of eternity here on this earth. Today

we try to prolong life and make life as good and as long as humanly possible. Have you been reading what the scientists are doing to prolong and preserve life? It is predicted that we may prolong human life to 120 years of age. Can you imagine living to be 120 years old? Nobody wants to get that old, wrinkled, and senile, therefore drug companies are investing in the skills and genius of biochemists who are developing an anti-aging drug. If only we can live to 120! 40-50 more years is better than nothing. Not really trusting in God’s future and at the same time, having drives for immortality within, we use science to create illusions of immortality here on earth.

What else do we do, we the modern Ponce de Leons? We wear our wigs. We dye our hair. We put on facial creams. We have hair transplants and face lifts. We get busy, busy, busy, trying to become so busy that we forget we are dying. Immerse yourself in life. You only go around once in life, grab for all the gusto you can. Preserve your life. Prolong your life.

What else do we do? We pursue wealth, reputation, fame, family, and business. We try to leave some legacy so that we will not fade into oblivion so quickly. I think so much of Hollywood is embodied by the words of a song in “Chorus Line”. *Fame, I’m gonna live for ever, I’m gonna learn how to fly, I feel it coming together, People will see me and cry, I’m gonna make it to heaven, Light up the sky like a flame, I’m gonna live forever, Baby remember my name .*

Baby, remember my name, it’s all in a vain effort for

# Morning Glory

Volume CVII – Number 2  
March 2024

**MORNING GLORY** (ISSN0745-5968, USPS 887-740) is published in January, March, May, June, August, September, October, November and December, by the Hauge Lutheran Innermission Federation, 808 Martha Lake Court, Shoreview, MN 55126, and printed by Send-It Shipping & Mailing Center, 1026 West Alcott Ave., Fergus Falls, MN 56537. 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: Mr. Wayne Almlie**  
**4100 Kingman Blvd., Des Moines, IA 50311**  
email: waynealmlie@gmail.com

**Send Announcements, Contributions, and Subscription Renewals to:**  
Joel Zeltinger, 8916 White Spruce Road, Bismarck, ND 58503  
**(Make checks payable to “Hauge Innermission” and not “Morning Glory”)**

Internet Web Site: [haugeinnermission.com](http://haugeinnermission.com).  
Facebook: [Facebook.com/Haugeinnermission](https://www.facebook.com/Haugeinnermission)  
Electronic version available – Send email to: [morningglorymagazine@gmail.com](mailto:morningglorymagazine@gmail.com)

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

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Immortality. To be remembered. Some people’s greatest fear is to die and be forgotten.

All these attempts at earthly immortality fail. Ponce de Leon didn’t find the fountain of youth and he died, and so will we if the Lord tarries. Life eternal is not in anti-aging drugs, not in wigs, not in dying your hair, and not in fame. It is the same for all people. The ultimate statistic is that 10 out of 10 people die.

And so...we are left alone. Not really trusting in God and at the same time, we have longings for eternity in our hearts. This is what Easter is all about. Easter is God’s attempt to convince us that there is life after death. Easter is God convincing us that death has been destroyed, that there is life beyond the grave. Easter is God convincing us that there is no need for us to try to create eternal life here on earth. On that first Easter morning, the women came to the grave, thinking there was only death, and Jesus appeared to them and convinced them and the other disciples that there was life after death. And that same Power is at work today, for Easter is God convincing you of God’s eternal love and life for you and me.

I would like to share a story I ran across years ago. “Once upon a time I had a young friend named Philip. Philip was born with Down Syndrome. He was a pleasant child – happy, it seemed – but increasingly aware of the difference between him-

self and other children. Philip went to Sunday school, a third-grade class with nine other eight-year-old boys and girls. Philip, because of his differences, was not readily accepted. The teacher was creative, and they learned, they laughed, they played together. And they really cared about one another, even though eight-year-olds don't say they care about each other out loud. But he also knew that Philip was not really a part of that group. Philip did not choose nor did he want to be different. He just was. And that was just the way things were.

My friend had a marvelous idea for his class the Sunday after Easter. You know those things that pantyhose come in, the containers that look like great big eggs, my friend had collected ten of them. The children loved it when he brought them into the room. Each child was to get one. It was a beautiful spring day, and the assignment was for each child to go outside, find a symbol for new life, put it into the egg, and bring it back to the classroom. They would then open and share their new life symbols one by one.

It was glorious. It was confusing. It was wild. They ran all around the church grounds, gathering their symbols and returned to the classroom. They put all the eggs on a table, and then the teacher began to open them. All the children stood around the table.

He opened one, and there was a flower, and they oohed and aahed. He opened another, and there was a little butterfly. "Beautiful," the girls all said. He opened another, and there was a rock. And as third graders will, some laughed, and some said, "That's crazy! How's a rock supposed to be like new life?" But the smart little boy who'd found it spoke up: "That's mine. And I knew all of you would get flowers and buds and leaves and butterflies and stuff like that. So I got a rock because I wanted to be different. And for me, that's new life." They all laughed.

My teacher friend opened the next one. There was nothing there. The other children, as eight-year-olds will, said, "That's not fair – That's stupid! – somebody didn't do it right."

Then my teacher friend felt a tug on his shirt and he looked down. Philip was standing beside him, "It's mine," Philip said. "It's mine." And the children said, "You don't ever do things right, Philip. There's nothing there!" "I did so do it," Philip said. "I did do it. It's empty. The tomb is empty!" There was silence, a very full silence. And for you people who don't believe in miracles, I want to tell you that one happened that day last spring. From that time on, it was different. Philip suddenly became a part of that group of eight-year-old children. They took him in. He was set free from the

tomb of his differentness.

Philip died last summer. His family had known since the time he was born that he wouldn't live out a full life span. Many other things had been wrong with his tiny body. And so, late last July, with an infection that most normal children could have quickly shrugged off, Philip died. The mystery simply enveloped him.

At the funeral, nine, eight-year-old children marched up to the altar, not with flowers to cover the stark reality of death. Nine eight-year-olds, with their Sunday school teacher, marched right up to that altar, and laid on it an empty egg, an empty, old, discarded pantyhose egg." (Harry Pritchett, Jr, Leadership Magazine Summer 1985)

That's the hope of the fountain of youth, an empty egg, signifying an empty grave. He has risen just as he said. To have it be Easter and still be attempting to foolishly find the fountain of youth here on earth? To have it Easter morning and not really trust that God has intended for us to live eternally with Him? To have it Easter morning and not to believe that there will be millions of lights on and waiting for us in the heavenly mansion? Why, it is like living in springtime and not seeing the beauty all around us.

Easter is God convincing us of the sure and certain hope that our mothers and fathers, our grandmothers and grandfathers, our sons and daughters, and all those who have died in Christ are with him. That is the Gospel. So, bring out the trumpets! Bring out the cymbals! Bring out the shouting voices because Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead by the eternal powers of God.

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26) — WMA

### Is It Worth It?

Basketball legend Wilt Chamberlain still holds the record for the most points scored in a game at 100. He was a phenomenal player indeed. But he was also a life-long bachelor and playboy and was famous for stating that he had relations with 20,000 women. He died on October 12, 1999 at the age of 63 years. I wonder how he feels about this now? "*Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.*" (Heb. 13:4)

## Devotionals for Easter

### *GETHSEMANE*

“Then comes Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and said unto His disciples, “Sit ye here, while I go yonder and pray.” (Matt. 26:36)

GETHSEMANE! A quiet place with flowers and upstanding trees. There Jesus had His severest struggle. All that He is in soul and spirit, in feeling and disposition is made to be sin on our behalf. Now He lies in the crucible over hell fire. God, holy and righteous, meets Him. All that we owed was demanded of Him: the account had to be paid.

Here in this garden the matter must be settled in its deepest essence. It was in a garden that Adam was disobedient. It is in a garden that Jesus must conquer by being perfectly obedient. If He is not victorious here, He will not reach Calvary, and all is lost.

Gethsemane! Heaven looks down into this garden, and listens and trembles. With quiet strength and complete truth the words sound forth while His sweat falls to the ground like drops of blood: “Not as I will, but as Thou wilt”– “Father, glorify Thy name!” – and the victory is won.

Let Judas come now; let friends forsake Him. Judgment and death may now take Him to Golgotha. Do ye seek Me? Did I not tell you that I am He? Overcome by this bloodless victory, those rough soldiers went backward, and fell to the ground. They had not the power to seize so great and victorious a Leader: He must urge them to take Him. He hastens on to Golgotha. Erect, He stands forth and moves on toward death, quiet as a lamb. He goes to be made perfect as the Author of our salvation.

*The hour in dark Gethsemane  
I never shall forget,  
When Christ alone the battle fought,  
In grief and bloody sweat.  
Gethsemane, Gethsemane,  
I must remember thee,  
Where God's eternal Son I saw  
In prayer on bended knee.*

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### *GOLGATHA*

“They took Jesus therefore: and He went out, bearing the cross for Himself unto the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha: where they crucified Him.” (John 19:17-18)

Golgotha! You wonderful, holy hill! When we mention your name, a surge of deep seriousness, a quiet joy, and heartfelt thanks pass through our spirit. During thousands of years our race looked forward and longed for you: and as long as time endures men will look back to you. As the sun lights up the earth, so you with your cross are our only light.

Golgotha! There we meet God and man in one person, hanging on a tree. There God and man meet for reconciliation, there sin gets its judgment, punishment, and death; there the head of the serpent is crushed, the enmity slain, and peace signed with blood. There the heavens are opened, and opened is the way to the tree of life; there God comes to meet us as a Friend and Father; there the throne of grace is established, so that we can draw near to the Holy One with boldness, and may receive mercy, and find grace to help us in time of need.

Golgotha! Our shelter in the evil day, our light in darkness, our solid rock in the midst of the stormy ocean, the haven for sinking ships, an anchor of the soul, and the way to eternal life through the grave.

Golgotha! The world hates you, and believes it can find the way and gate without you; but we know of a certainty that when all the lights that men have lighted are gone out, then you light up the night, and lead all believers to the eternal, perfect day.

*Come to Calvary's holy mountain,  
Sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain  
Flows to you, to me, to all;  
In a full perpetual tide,  
Opened when our Savior died.*

Both devotions from *THY KINGDOM COME*,  
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### **Purgatory**

Question: “Does the word ‘Today,’ in Luke 23:43, deny purgatory?”

Answer: I believe it does. Here was a sinner who certainly needed purifying in the fires of purgatory if any man ever did, yet the promise is for immediate salvation. As Erdman says, “Out of a life of sin and shame he passed immediately into a state of blessedness.”

*More People Are Asking*, John P. Milton,  
Copyright © 1943 by Augustana Book Concern

# Editorial

Wayne Almlie

## *What is the Church?*

*“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)*

I don't think a lot of people know. I don't think a lot of professing Christians know. My definition has steadily gotten narrower over the years. Some of my friends think it's gotten too narrow. If we take scripture seriously, if we take Christ's words seriously, I don't see how we can come to any conclusion other than that most of what is out there and is called the church is not the church, and most of what we see out there and is called Christian, although it might be religious, is not Christian.

You hear people constantly referring to recent surveys taken that give us some startling statistics. They say that there is just as much abortion in the church as outside of the church. They say that there is just as much divorce inside the church as outside the church. They say there is just as much adultery, fornication, pornography, greed, materialism and you can go on and list the sins ad-nauseam. Now we all know the church is not perfect and that the church can and does sin, but those statistics are lies. Not that the people taking the polls are lying to us. But the pollsters let the people self-identify themselves and they are either lying or deceived. We know that Jesus said that many would self-identify themselves as Christians and say to Him “Lord, Lord” and He will declare to them, “Depart from Me, I never knew you.”

Do you want to read a description of the church? Turn to Matthew chapter 5 and read the beatitudes. The first beatitude says: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” And the last beatitude says in verse 10: “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” What's the “Kingdom of Heaven”? Is it not His new covenant people? Jesus in His sermon on the mount tells us how we can recognize His church, His new Covenant people. How does Jesus describe the people who belong to the Kingdom of Heaven, the church? These who are the blessed of God are humble, broken, meek, they hunger and thirst after righteousness, they are merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, I believe that means they are evangelistic, they help others to find peace with God, and they are persecuted, not

for their stupidity, but for their righteousness sake.

That's how Jesus describes the citizens of the kingdom of heaven, His church. We need to stop calling all this other stuff the church. We need to stick to the Bible's definition of what a Christian is and what the church is and have some surgery. The church can either judge itself, or we can wait for God to do it. Christ will have a pure bride, a holy bride. The root of the word “holy” means “to cut and separate”. It would be like having a sharp surgical knife, and to cut away a cancerous growth and to separate it from the healthy flesh. It would be like taking a cut of beef and cutting away all the fat and gristle and separating it from the good cut of meat.

In order to be holy we need to be cut away from and separated from the world, and the word of God is described as a surgical knife cutting deep to the bone and marrow to remove the sin from our life. Sanctification describes the process Christians go through that is constant. As we continue to go into the word, all the fat and the gristle and tumors get cut away from our lives and we grow day by day in grace and holiness.

The church goes through the same process, at least it's supposed to. Through the unadulterated preaching of the word of God and the exercise of church discipline, members involved in open sin are either to be restored or removed. The church is to be Holy unto God and the spotless Bride of Christ and by God's sovereign Will, it is happening. We have a hard time seeing it in this country because there is still so much fat and gristle hanging on. But before any real surgery can happen we need a new definition and understanding of what the church is.

Forget about all these things you hear about, how messed up the church is. Religion is always messed up, but not the church. The church is humble and broken and seeks the pleasure of its Master.

We must not compare ourselves with other churches. We must compare ourselves with scripture and tremble. Listen to what God says in Isaiah 66:2, “But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a con-

trite spirit, And who trembles at My word.” Have you ever read God’s word and trembled? If so, praise God. That is a good place to be, because you have recognized your need for God.

I am not speaking perfection here, some do. I don’t, I

can easily say with Paul, “I am the chief of sinners”. So I am not talking about perfection, but direction. Our lives should be moving toward holiness, realizing we will not achieve it until we are face to face with Jesus.

## EASTER SUNDAY

“Who was delivered up for our trespasses, and was raised for our justification.” (Romans 4:25)

EASTER Sunday records the greatest event in the history of the world.

Made alive in the Spirit, Jesus breaks the portals of Hades and opens the way from the dark valley of death to the fair land of life.

The power of death is now broken. The powers of death must surrender also the body.

That is what happened on Easter Sunday, when the body of Jesus was raised from the dead.

This is wonderful.

But the Easter Gospel has a still more glorious message to us who are not only marked by death but are also in ourselves death-sentenced criminals. It proclaims to us that the bodily resurrection of Christ is God’s own signature affixed to the letter of pardon which Jesus applied for on our behalf.

When God ushered Jesus out through the portals of death and brought forth His body from the tomb, He made it clear to heaven and earth, yes, to hell also, that He had put His seal of approval upon that reconciliation with the race which was effected by the death of Jesus. Therefore the apostle says: “Raised for our justification.”

Here we have Easter’s most joyous message: my acquittal papers with God’s own signature affixed thereto have been ready and waiting for me since Easter morning. If I stand beneath the cross of Jesus, I can read the charge that was against me; but I can see also that it has all been transferred to my Savior’s account.

In His open tomb I find again my God-given proof that Jesus has paid for my sins, and I am free.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ Jesus that died, yea, rather, that was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God! Alleluia!

*God’s Word For Today*, O Hallesby, Copyright  
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## Is Taking Pot OK for a Christian?

Several states have legalized marijuana for recreational use. Some people, even in the church, feel that they can take it. The reasoning is that since it isn’t against the law, then it is OK for me. But what does the Bible say about it?

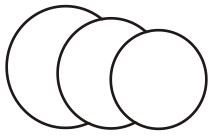
The Bible doesn’t specifically say “You Shall Not take Marijuana” but it certainly does state what marijuana does to a person is specifically forbidden.

“Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” (Galatians 5:19-21)

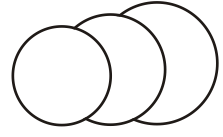
The word that is verse 20 that is translated “sorcery” is literally “pharmakia” where we get our English word “pharmacy.” It refers to a drug that alters your mental state. It could include a “potion” from a “sorcerer” that would induce a spell upon a person, but it includes every drug that alters our mental capacity. The end result of continuing to do this is that people “shall not inherit the Kingdom of God.” (v. 20)

The Book of Revelation backs this up as it lists “sorcerers” as one of the classes of people who end up in the lake of fire and lost forever. “*But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.*” (Revelation 21:8) This is the same word “pharmakia” as used before.

Pastor Jim Haga



# From Our Fellowship Circle



**C.K.** **Forest City, IA**  
Please renew my subscription to the Morning Glory and send a new subscription to: ... I praise the Lord for His precious gift of salvation!

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**G.&R. F.** **Buxton, ND**  
In memory of Rodney Stueland.

**B. J.** **Esterville, IA**  
Thank you for the Morning Glory! Both my dad (C. A) and my husband's dad (Rev. G.E. J. ) served on the board in past years. God Bless You.

## **From a reader in Spain**

I don't miss a single issue of *Morning Glory*, it is really food for my soul, I am very pleased with its content and also with this web which seems to be the only Lutheran and evangelistic web available, as far as I know. I never forget: Christian fellowship, assurance of salvation and simplicity in worship. You, Americans, are very fortunate to have such a good web, I have not found a proper way to send some gift from Spain. Go on with the good work.

Yours in our wonderful Saviour,  
X. S. Spain

### Testimony

I have been blessed to be married to a godly wife. From the Hulquist farm family in rural Belview, MN, they attended the Swedish Lutheran Church. Pastor Rudquist

had invited evangelist Oscar Knutson for a series of meetings. Her parents were spiritually awakened during his ministry, which helped to prepare the hearts of their seven siblings over the years.

My Minneapolis Pastor Lindquist had his associate pastor to be the speaker for a week of meetings. Our sanctuary design was a large center section with two small sections on either side. At the time I was ten years old. The five of us sat in a side section with me along the aisle. At the end of the message, this Evangelist did as Billy Graham did: having people stand, and come forward for prayer over the responders. As soon as we all stood up, my body began to shake and quiver from head to toe. I grabbed the seat in front of me to steady myself. I wanted to exit, but dad would not have allowed me to slip out.

I was sitting next to my father and I just knew that if he had urged me to go forward, I would have refused. God knew that and had a man a few rows behind us come forward saying he would go forward with me. I am so thankful that he had been obedient to the Lord. For some reason I could not turn down the gentleman's offer to accompany me. Jesus Christ has been my Lord and Savior these ninety-one years! The Holy Spirit has many ways and means to draw a person to Jesus.

Bill and Evelyn King of Princeton, MN

### Testimony

A dear old man from Ebenezer Lutheran Brethren Church in Rolette, ND put me on the *Morning Glory* list to receive this magazine 30 years ago. I read it from cover to cover when it arrives in the mail. What a joy and comfort and encouragement to me. I am 83 years old, and accepted the Lord into my heart at the age of 14. He has been my guide. I married a Christian man 64 years ago. I give God the glory.

Carol Johnson of Willow City, ND

### Testimony

Ron Nelson subscribed to *Morning Glory* for me and it is a wonderful magazine.

I got saved under the preaching of a Lutheran Bible Institute graduate, Rev. Leland Evenson in Coon Valley, Wisconsin at the age of 14 in 1974. Before he came to

our church, I thought salvation was to pile up good deeds, church rituals and church attendance and hope I was good enough for heaven. But I had no peace and was quite certain I was on my way to hell. Pastor Evenson didn't try to "baptize and confirm me into heaven" like other pastors. He agreed we were lost souls and needed to repent of sin and receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. He helped us find assurance of salvation from the Word of God. Many people got saved under his preaching and many churchly and unconverted people got angry at him for questioning their salvation experience. I was also strongly helped through evangelists, youth teams and the Bible camp of the Lutheran Evangelistic Movement.

I have served Free Lutheran Churches in the Midwest and with the Lutheran Mission Societies in Alaska for almost 40 years. I currently have the privilege of serving a wonderful Bible-believing, soul-winning church, Minnesota Valley Free Lutheran Church in Lakeville, Minnesota and also a small country church, Hosanna Free Lutheran of Cumberland, Wisconsin (4:30 PM services on the 1st and 3rd Sundays). We love both churches and are praying for revival in both of our communities. All summer we have Saturday evening prayer meetings around a campfire in Lakeville to pray for revival.

I especially enjoy your articles by the great old pre-1960 Lutheran evangelists and pastors. My family loves "Altar Steps" by R.P. Haakonson. We need to focus on the needy mission field of the Lutheran Church around the world. I don't want to give up on a Lutheran revival. My prayer is that God would raise up a Lutheran evangelist who would know how to preach for true conversions in a way that makes sense to Lutherans and is complementary to Lutheran theology. I don't know of any Lutheran denomination or group that has a full-time evangelist who still preaches around America. There used to be many of them pre-1970. Preaching evangelism is still effective if the preacher has the fire of God in his soul and a passion for the lost. God bless you at *Morning Glory*.

Pastor Tom Olson, Farmington MN

**Editor:** Thank you for your testimonies, it is encouraging to hear how God is working today.

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## "I Have Seen the Lord"

The first Easter sermon ever to be preached came from the lips of Mary Magdalene, who was beside herself with joy. It was a simple statement, "I have seen the Lord!" The disciples did not seem to be affected by it at

first, for these words appeared in their sight as idle talk; and they disbelieved them." (Luke 24:11). It was not until they, too, had seen the Lord that they also were thrilled. My friends, are you able to tell others with a heart overflowing with joy, "I have seen the Lord"?

If the Holy Spirit has not as yet revealed a living Christ to you, your faith is dead. Then you are still in darkness. When you have met a resurrected Christ you will know it, for then He will become real to you. Oh, what a joy awaits all earnest seekers. "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

Can you imagine Mary talking about the weather on Easter day? I am sure she told her experience to everyone who would listen. She could not contain the joy that filled her heart. Friend, is that the way you talk about Christ? Or do you have more enthusiasm when you talk about the material things of life?

No one is fit to testify about Christ until he is able to say, "I have seen the Lord." Thomas was very glum the week he had to fellowship with the disciples after they had seen Christ. He stayed with them, however, until he too met the resurrected Christ, and could join the enthusiastic disciples in their testimony.

If Christ is not real to you, will you not ask Him to become real? He stands at your heart's door knocking and calling: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me" (Rev. 3:20). When you open your heart's door, He becomes real. Then you too will have joy unspeakable as you say, "I have seen the Lord."

Maynard A. Force, *Evangelize* (LEM) April 1947

**Editor:** A personal note, I knew Pastor Force, he was president of CLBS when I attended 1973-1976. A very humble and godly man, he had a great influence on my life.

### It's Friday

As we travel down the road of life, we run into a lot of Fridays. Friday Jesus died. Friday is the day that all the disciples hid out of fear. Friday is the dark day, when God seems distant. Friday is the day when Satan seems to have won. Friday is the day that all your dreams died. Friday is the day when maybe things didn't go so well at work or at school. Friday is being told that a loved one has died. Yes in this world it might be Friday, but do you know what? Sunday's coming. And that's the Gospel, that's the Good News, for the Christian, life never ends on Friday. Sunday's coming, and He is risen. He is risen indeed. — WMA



# Believable...Yet Unbelievable

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## Satanic Idol

“It displays what are described online as the Seven Fundamental Tenets of Satanism. The controversy began bubbling last week after a group that calls itself the Satanic Temple of Iowa placed with state permission a small altar on the first floor of the Iowa State Capitol. It displays what are described online as the Altar to Satanism, including the statement that “the freedoms of others should be respected, including the freedom to offend.” — *USA Today* Dec. 12, 2023

**Editor:** “You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” (John 8:44)

Unfortunately, in our world today this is far too believable. Satan is the prince of this world. Our culture has been handed over to him. The same week this altar to Satan was set up in the Iowa Capital, in a Washington DC cemetery they were making plans to remove a monument honoring Confederate soldiers. The same week they are working on removing a Confederate monument because they supposedly hate slavery so much, they erect a monument to the one who inspires slavery. They erect an altar to the father of lies, to the one who was a murderer from the beginning. Satan hates humanity, we bear the image of God, every time Satan looks at a human, he sees one created in the image of God and is reminded of the One he hates above all.

It’s clear that the Satanic Temple has no clue who they are dealing with. They state that one of the tenants of Satanism is, “the freedoms of others should be respected”. Satan is not about freedom, he is about slavery. “Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.” (John 8:34) “For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.” (Titus 3:3)

## Kids in Public School

DES MOINES, Iowa —The superintendent of Des Moines Public Schools apologized for a social media post from a school staff member. The post, which has since been deleted, said, “Every day is another opportunity to force kids in public schools to be gay.” — KCCI News

**Editor:** Eph 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

We need to be aware that the spiritual forces of darkness have taken over our government schools. Not only in major cities but even in a lot of smaller towns. If you have children in the government schools you should attempt to get them out. If you can’t get them out, be vigilant, know what is going on, visit your school often, get to know the teachers, request to know what their lesson plans are, and attend school board meetings. Grandparents this applies to you as well if you want to see your children and grandchildren in heaven.

“They’ve already come after your children and for most of you, they got them. They got them through the public schools and indoctrination and universities... and you wonder why your children come out not serving the Lord. It’s because you fed them, right into the devils mouth.”

Paul Washer, Missionary and Evangelist.

“He alone, who owns the youth, gains the future.”  
Adolf Hitler

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## Ritualism

The tendency is toward ritualism, and the belief that the forenoon service should be left entirely to the pastor, and that all the other meetings should be led and directed by him. The old Hauge ideal was always a sharing between the pastor and the lay people. At the forenoon service the opening and closing prayers belonged to the lay people. The evening message was shortened so a season of testimonies could follow. When the minister preached in another church, or there was a vacancy, the lay people always held their Sunday forenoon layman meetings. Besides the weekly prayer meeting, the mission society, or ladies’ aid there was a fellowship meeting — prayers and testimonies with songs interspersed followed a brief message or Bible study. All this now seems to be disappearing even in the smaller denominations among us who officially stand for spiritual life. The spirit of the age seems to be toward formalism and program Christianity. Expressions of Christian life on the personal order seems to be an uphill activity. Luke-warmness is in the atmosphere.

From the Hauge movement in America,  
Copyright © Hauge Innermission 1941

## Victor Over Death

“Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.” ( John 20:20)

The Lord is risen! He is risen, indeed! Easter has come especially for the lonely, the saddened, the bereaved, for even to the most heavily burdened the Lord’s resurrection offers magnificent blessings. Recall what the first Easter did to the disciples! After Good Friday, when their Lord was crucified and quietly laid into the rock-hewn grave, they had surrendered to despair and crept into secret hiding places. Yet when they beheld their risen Redeemer, we read, “then were the disciples glad.” Once Jesus stepped into the room where the desolate disciples huddled behind closed doors “for fear of the Jews” and told His followers, “Peace be unto you!” their terror vanished. Their Lord was definitely alive. His rising from the dead had shown, beyond all doubt, that He was their God, their Savior, their Sustainer in every need, who would always keep His Word. God grant every one of the sorrow-burdened that gladness! This Easter again is the festival of freedom from fear, the time which marks the defeat of death, the bestowal of comfort and courage, the pledge of assured salvation, the promise of eternal life. May the Holy Spirit help every one of us today to turn from ourselves, hear the evangel of resurrection, and thus find the same gladness that thrilled the first disciples!

Two Korean women stood watching a funeral procession. “What sight is this?” said one. “The burying of the missionary’s son,” answered the other. “That is very, very sad,” replied the first. In Korea a son is the most precious of all possessions. “It is not so bad for them as for us,” said the other sadly. “They know something that makes them sure that they will get their children back some day. We know nothing about how to get ours back again.” We need the darkness of a heathen sky against which to see the full glory of Christ’s resurrection hope. How the Savior’s resurrection takes the sting from the loss of our dear ones, and how it cheers believers as they approach life’s eventide!

### PRAYER

Glorious Savior, Victor over death: When, after Thy victory over the grave Thy disciples beheld Thee resurrected, they were unspeakably glad! By the rising from the grave, Thou didst banish their doubts, remove their fears and quiet their troubled hearts. Give us the same joyful, conquering spirit today! So fortify our faith that we, Thy redeemed, cleansed from all sins, need fear neither death nor any of the lesser sorrows of life! Help us, since we have been raised with Thee, to turn our thoughts

from the perishable things of life to the eternal glory! Keep us faithful; give us the crown of life! Amen.

### HYMN

*When sinners see their lost condition  
And feel the pressing load of sin,  
And Jesus cometh on His mission  
To heal the sin-sick heart within,  
All grief must flee before His grace,  
And joy divine will take its place.*

A devotional for EASTER SUNDAY,  
*Day by Day with Jesus*, Walter A. Maier 1946

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### It Is Finished!

*“It Is Finished!”*

*Down life’s road my God I fled  
‘Til I saw - for me He bled.  
“Come to Me,” He gently said.*

*Sin and darkness veiled the sky,  
Demons mocked with hellish cry:  
“You are lost, condemned to die!”*

*Then I saw His anguished face;  
Knew He suffered in my place.  
Reconciled, a rebel race.*

*Loud the cry from Calvary:  
“It is finished,” ‘twas for me.  
I am saved eternally.*

*Angels, strike up harps and sing!  
Mortals, crown Him Lord and King!  
He has robbed death of its sting!*

*Bright our path through earth’s deep  
gloom;  
Sunlight floods the open tomb;  
Pilgrims sing: “we’ll soon be home.”*

*It is finished*, AE Windahl, Poems from the Northland

## Christ Crucified

The Lutheran Church has always preached, "Christ crucified." It is one of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. Christ is the center of Christianity. Without the teachings about His person and His work, Christianity would fall.

In Matthew 16:21 it is stated that, "From that time began Jesus to show unto his disciples, that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed." In Matthew 4:17 a similar juncture is indicated by the words, "From that time began Jesus to preach, and to say, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Having completed the last-named purpose, Jesus now plainly states that He must die. Veiled announcements of His death have been given before, but now He gives an open declaration. It came immediately after the confession of Peter, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." It seems that as soon as Jesus receives a confession from His followers as to His true identity, He at once proceeds to tell the purpose of His coming to earth, viz., to die.

Jesus was now nearing the climax of His ministry to give His life as a ransom for sinners. Justice demanded the death of the sinner. And this death is eternal separation from God. How then could man be saved? Here was the divine way of paying the penalty. Christ was to die. God had promised this to Adam and Eve. Throughout the whole Old Testament, the promise is repeated. Now, at last, He had come to perform that work. It was divine love that had made the promise. It was divine love that now had sent Christ. It was divine love that was now sending Jesus to Jerusalem. This was the wisdom of God, but man calls it folly.

It seems strange that the disciples should misunderstand Jesus in this matter, when He spoke so plainly.

They had difficulty in grasping that Jesus was to die and not ascend to an earthly throne. Nor did they seem to have any realization that Jesus would rise from the dead in a glorious victory.

"And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall never be unto thee." To Peter, the prediction of Jesus' death, sounded like a confession of defeat. The Messiah should certainly not speak thus.

"But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art a stumbling-block unto me: for thou mindest not the things of God, but the things of men." Please note that Jesus is here speaking to Peter, who had just made that marvelous confession. On this confession, Jesus said, He would build His Church. It was not on Peter. Can a church be built on such instability? Certainly Peter was not Satan. But he was the mouthpiece of Satan

at the time. The Peters of today should be careful. All who try to tamper with the great truth, the necessity of Christ's death, had better be careful for whom they are speaking. Peter was a devoted follower of Jesus, but he was making a grave mistake. We cannot believe in his infallibility, either now or later.

Jesus had to tell him that he was a stumbling block. Oh, how many Peters and how many church members have been stumbling blocks to the Lord since! They mind the things of man instead of the things of God. Which are you minding? Are you ready to admit the wisdom of God? Or are you still mindful of the wisdom of man that is trying to do away with the cross? Are you doing without the cross?

Admit the wisdom of God and forsake the folly of man in regard to the cross of Christ. If Christ should return today and again preach the cross, without a doubt He would again be taken to Jerusalem to suffer and die. Falsehood cannot stand Christ today any more than it did then. Let us as Christians thank God for the cross that ended in victory in the resurrection.

Rev. J. Henry Bergen, *The Bible Banner* (LBI)

March 1942

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## Evidences For The Resurrection

The evidences for the Resurrection may be tabulated as follows:

1. Our Lord being what He was, necessitated it.
2. The work He came to do required it.
3. He predicted it.
4. The empty tomb proved it.
5. Christian faith, from the beginning of the church is a lock without a key, if the Resurrection be not a fact.
6. The appearances of the Lord corroborates it.
7. Paul's experience and testimony endorses it.
8. The existence of the church testifies to it.
9. The converting and saving power of the Gospel demonstrates it.
10. The life of countless believers for nineteen hundred years establishes it.

### The Resurrection of Christ proves:

1. That Jesus is the Son of God.
2. That He spoke the truth.
3. That His mission was fulfilled.
4. That His sacrifice was complete and accepted.
5. That He is our perfect Savior from sin and death.
6. That all who trust in Him for salvation shall rise in the power of His victory to live with Him in His heavenly kingdom.— C.J. Sodergren, *Bible Banner* April, 1939

## Scripture and the Gay Christian Movement

This is the fourth in a series of articles about the movement to accept the gay lifestyle within the Christian church, including same-sex marriage and ordination of openly gay clergy. Scriptural texts will be looked at first from the Gay movement's analysis of them and then from the exegetical approach of what the verses are saying.

### The Levitical Code

*"You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination."* (Leviticus 18:22)

*"If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them."* (Leviticus 20:13)

### Gay Response

It's surprising that so many people continue to believe that these verses in Leviticus somehow form the heart of the theological debate about homosexuality. They are, in fact, of secondary significance to the later passage by Paul in Romans 1. And the reason for that isn't that their meaning is unclear, but that their context within the Old Testament Law makes them inapplicable to Christians. Much of the New Testament deals with the place of the old Law in the emerging Christian Church...

Although it's a common argument today, there's no reason to think that these two verses from the old Law in Leviticus would somehow have remained applicable to Christians, even when other much more central parts of the Law did not. In Galatians 6, Paul goes so far as to say that "In Christ, neither circumcision nor un-circumcision means anything." He speaks of the old Law as but a yoke of slavery and he warns Christians not to be burdened by... Christians have always regarded the Book of Leviticus, in particular, as being inapplicable to them in light of Christ's fulfillment of the Law. So while it is true that Leviticus prohibits male same-sex relations, it also prohibits a vast array of other behaviors, activities, and foods that Christians have never regarded as being prohibited for them. ...

Simply because something received the death penalty in the Old Testament doesn't mean that Christians should view it as sinful; there's too much variance for that

to be a consistent and effective approach. The default Christian approach for nearly two millennia now has been to view the particular hundreds of rules and prohibitions in the Old Law as having been fulfilled by Christ's death, and there is no good reason why Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13 should be exceptions to that rule.<sup>1</sup>

### Biblical Response #1

These statements in Leviticus are direct and are not vague in the least. It reminds us that there isn't one statement in all of Scripture that states anything favorable in the eyes of God about same-sex relations. Anytime that people say that same-sex relations are acceptable when they are in a committed, loving relationship are inventing something that the Scripture never states. These statements in Leviticus do not say that homosexual relations are an abomination punishable by death *unless* they are in a committed, loving relationship. They condemn the act regardless of the relationship the two are involved in.

The same is true in the New Testament as well. The Scriptures list acceptable relationships between husbands and wives, but never list any acceptable relationships between men with men or women with women in a committed, loving relationship. *"Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless. So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband."* (Ephesians 5:22-33)

To try and introduce two like genders into this as an acceptable form of marriage and sexuality in marriage is to destroy the very relationship between Christ and the church and the relationship within marriage itself. If two

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1 The Gay Debate: The Bible and Homosexuality by Matthew Vines on YouTube.

men are in a so-called marriage, who is the head and who submits to who? God's only design for marriage and sexuality are one man and one woman.

### **Biblical Response #2**

The argument that these verses don't apply to New Testament Christians because they are part of the Old Testament Law is to make a sweeping statement that isn't wholly true. When we look at the Old Testament Law, we see three parts in it: The Sacrificial Law, The Civil Law and the Moral Law. The Sacrificial Law applied to offerings of animals made to atone for sin that Israel was required to make. These are specifically now done away with in the New Testament because Christ has been sacrificed once for all and the previous sacrificial system is gone. *"After saying above, 'Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin Thou hast not desired, nor hast Thou taken pleasure in them' (which are offered according to the Law), then He said, 'Behold, I have come to do Thy will.' He takes away the first in order to establish the second. By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."* (Hebrews 10:8-10)

The Civil Law applied to Israel as a civil nation and the rules that it used to govern the people in that time and culture. Remember that Israel was both a religious and civil nation together at the same time, so God could enact a civil punishment for a religious offense. *"If there is a man who commits adultery with another man's wife, one who commits adultery with his friend's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death."* (Leviticus 20:10) We don't practice this today because we are not Israel in that Old Testament civil law, and it is against the law of the land to kill adulterers. We let the Civil authorities determine which laws govern our land and people and submit to that law. (See Romans 13:1-7) Regarding unclean versus clean foods, Jesus declared all foods as being clean in the New Testament: *"And He said to them, 'Are you so lacking in understanding also? Do you not understand that whatever goes into the man from outside cannot defile him; because it does not go into his heart, but into his stomach, and is eliminated?' (Thus He declared all foods clean.)"* (Mark 7:18-19)

The Moral Law was given by God and transcends all people of all cultures of all time. The 10 Commandments are still God's Moral requirements of our relationship to God and to our fellow man. Each one of the 10 Commandments is repeated for us in the New Testament either directly or in principle demonstrated. The only change was in observance of the Sabbath Day from Saturday to Sunday in observance of Christ's resurrection on the first day of the week. (See Acts 20:7 and I Cor. 16:2)

The key thing to notice here is that we use the New Testament to determine what applies to us today in the New Covenant and what does not. In regards to homosexuality, the New Testament DOES clearly condemn homosexuality and reinforces that part of the Levitical code for us. *"For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another; men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error."* (Romans 1:26-27)

When the Scripture states that, *"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes,"* (Romans 10:4) we must realize that this means our righteousness before God. We can't earn our own righteousness by obeying the Law because we are sinners and fall short of the perfection that God demands. Christ fulfilled the Law on our behalf through His sinless life, His Vicarious death and His bodily resurrection. We are not judged by the Law as far as our righteousness before God. But to state that there is now no laws to govern the New Testament Christian is completely wrong. Does this mean that the Christian is now free to have other gods before the Lord? Or are we free to commit adultery, or stealing, or lying or killing? No, not in the least! The Moral Law of God still guides us in right and wrong, as Jesus Himself said, *"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished."* (Matthew 5:17-18)

Pastor Jim Haga

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### **AMBASSADORS UNDER AUTHORITY**

"We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us." (II Corinthians 5:20)

What is an ambassador? He is a representative and servant of his government in a foreign land! He is not free to set his own policies or develop his own message, but to carry out the will of the government he represents. In other words, he is a person under authority!

In the same way we are called to live under the authority of Jesus Christ and the authority of the Scripture. We are servants (vessels). We must live under the authority of the Word of God. Unbelievers will not listen to what we say unless we back it up with the way we live. Are you a faithful ambassador for Christ to those around you? — *Hope for Each Day*, © 2002 by Billy Graham

## Has The Church Lost It's Vision?

Can it be that because of good times financially, comforts of this world, and selfishness, that our clergy and lay people as a whole have had their vision dimmed, and therefore they do not see the whitened harvest fields, the urgency of the hour, the sunset of the eve of the Lord's return? "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." (Jer. 8:20)

The trouble with many of the church leaders is that they don't have anything for the people but programs. We can't give Christ to others until we have given ourselves to Christ. Because some of our people are failing us, it does not excuse us, because where there is no vision the people perish. What are we doing to live a separated and unspotted life? The person who samples God's Word only occasionally, never acquires much of a taste for it. Are you living a life of do's and don't's, or have you been set free indeed, by Christ himself? He is the answer to every problem and the real answer for this life and the life to come. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

How concerned are you in your prayer life, witnessing, and giving? A hope-so or good luck, is not enough for a true born again Christian to rest on.

Prayer that counts is prayer that arises out of faith. True Christian faith is not mere folding of the hands to wait for God to do something. It is a living, active thing that works with God and for God, as a natural fruit, because He dwells within His servants; and we are to look upon all our powers as gifts from God and use them to help bring about that for which we pray.

Compromise will dim your vision, and this can go so far that you lose your fellowship with God. Are you willing to stand as a separated person dedicated unto God? Abraham Lincoln said, "I must stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part from him when he is wrong."

J. Edgar Hoover said, "I confess to a real apprehension, as long as Communists are able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work."

I have enjoyed meeting you as I have been traveling for the building program and am looking for more blessings from God as I continue in your fellowship and as you give unto the Lord in your tithes and offerings in this phase of God's Kingdom work too. Let me give you an illustration in closing. A well-to-do man came and asked a common person this question, "How are you able to give so much and still have so much?" He replied, "As I shovel out from what I have, God shovels in and He has a bigger shovel than I have." "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep

his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (Eccl. 12: 13,14)

How is your vision? Maybe we should look at the glorious truth that Christ paid our sin debt on the Cross that we might be set free in Him. One soul is worth more than the whole world.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Rodney Stueland, Westby, Wis.

Taken from the Dec., 1960 *Morning Glory*

**Editor:** Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them." NASU

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## The Lamb Who Was Slain

Two young Moravians heard of an island in the West Indies where an atheist British owner had 2,000 to 3,000 slaves. And the owner had said, "No preacher, no clergyman, will ever stay on this island. If he's shipwrecked we'll keep him in a separate house until he has to leave, but he's never going to talk to any of us about God, I'm through with all that nonsense." Three thousand slaves from the jungles of Africa brought to an island in the Atlantic and there to live and die without hearing of Christ.

Two young Moravians heard about it. They sold themselves to the British planter and used the money they received from their sale, for he paid no more than he would for any slave, to pay their passage out to his island for he wouldn't even transport them.

As the ship left its' pier in the river at Hamburg and was going out into the North Sea carried with the tide, the Moravians had come from Herrenhut to see these two lads off, in their early twenties. Never to return again, for this wasn't a four year term, they sold themselves into life time slavery. Simply that as slaves, they could be as Christians where these others were. The families were there weeping, for they knew they would never see them again. And they wondered why they were going and questioned the wisdom of it. As the gap widened and the housings had been cast off and were being curled up there on the pier, and the young boys saw the widening gap, one lad with his arm linked through the arm of his fellow, raised his hand and shouted across the gap the last words that were heard

from them, they were these, "MAY THE LAMB THAT WAS SLAIN RECEIVE THE REWARD OF HIS SUFFERING!" This became the call of Moravian missions. And this is the only reason for being, that the Lamb that was slain may receive the reward of His suffering!

**Editor:** From the Conclusion of Paris Reidhead's sermon "Ten Shekels and a Shirt" This is probably the most downloaded and listened to sermon of all time. It's worth listening to. I have probably listened to it at least 20 times, I've even preached a condensed version of it. <https://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=10180222445>

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### **Do you know what it looks like to deny yourself and follow Christ?**

In 1813, Adoniram Judson sailed to Burma from the shores of America with his wife Ann.

He was 24.

His wife Ann was 23.

They spent their lives for the glory of Christ among unreached peoples.

Before they married, Judson wrote a letter to Ann's father asking for his blessing in marriage. This is what he wrote in the letter:

"I have now to ask whether you can consent to part with your daughter early next spring, to see her no more in this world?

Whether you can consent to see her departure to a heathen land, and her subjection to the hardships and sufferings of a missionary life?

Whether you can consent to her exposure to the dangers of the ocean; to the fatal influence of the southern climate of India; to every kind of want and distress; to degradation, insult, persecution, and perhaps a violent death?

Can you consent to all this, for the sake of perishing immortal souls; for the sake of Zion and the glory of God?

Can you consent to all this, in hope of soon meeting your daughter in the world of glory, with a crown of righteousness brightened by the acclamations of praise which shall resound to her Saviour from heathens saved, through her means, from eternal woe and despair?"

Soon after accepting Judson's proposal of marriage and the life of a missionary, Ann wrote to a friend where she said the following:

"I feel willing, and expect, if nothing in providence prevents, to spend my days in this world in heathen

lands. Yes, Lydia, I have about come to the determination to give up all my comforts and enjoyments here, sacrifice my affection to relatives and friends, and go where God, in his providence, shall see fit to place me."

Ann became sick and died only a few years into their ministry.

Judson spent 38 years there until his death at 61.

Judson organized and published the Burmese dictionary.

Judson translated the Bible into the Burmese language.

Judson wrote gospel tracts and distributed tens of thousands in the first 6-years before seeing his first convert.

Judson preached the gospel faithfully.

Judson, along with his wife Ann, demonstrated what it was like to deny yourself, take up your cross daily, and follow Christ (Luke 9:23).

\*Quotes taken from Courtney Anderson's book: *To the Golden Shore: The Life of Adoniram Judson*

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### **Pleasant to the Eyes?**

*"And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, I pray thee, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord seeth: but the water is naught, and the ground barren"* (II Kings 2:19)

Here is an apt description of this world – it looks beautiful from man's viewpoint, but to the spiritually discerning, the "water" is bad, and the ground barren. How true! The world is a wilderness wide and it lacks true refreshment for the soul. Apart from Christ, it offers no spiritual fruit for God. But Christians can say with confidence, "All our springs are in thee" (Ps. 87:7). God says in return, "From me is thy fruit found" (Hosea 14:8). The world may look pleasant, but Christ is the only source of true satisfaction. Drink from this well and you will never thirst again.

Mark Kolchin

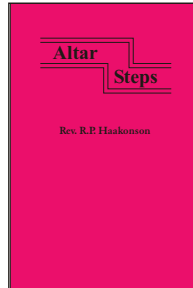
*Only a fool,  
fools with sin*

# The Hauge Library

We have the following publications available for you. They can be ordered using the envelope in the center. Postage will be paid by an anonymous donor.

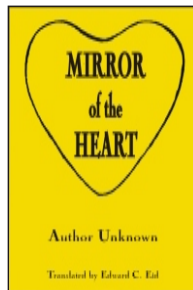
## Altar Steps

This daily devotional was written by Pastor R.P. Haakonson and was published in 1947. It is suitable for families with children. It has illustrations from daily life, and a strong salvation emphasis. Suggested offering: \$8.00.



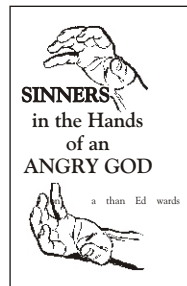
## Mirror of the Heart

This book was published in 1900 by an unknown author. It contains some very earnest meditations and fervent prayers. It also contains ten very graphic pictures of the human heart. Suggested Offering: \$3.00.



## Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God

Jonathan Edwards preached this remarkable sermon at Enfield, Conn. on July 8, 1741. It was at night while he was reading it to a large congregation, that the lights became dim and he read with difficulty, and the influence was so great on the congregation that strong men and women cried and screamed for mercy and even grabbed their seats for fear they would slide into hell that very moment. Suggested Offering: \$1.00.



## Spirit and Power

Ludvig Hope was a Norwegian lay preacher, writer, teacher and organizer. This book is filled with solid Biblical meat for those who want to walk in depth with the Lord. It is written from a Lutheran pietistic perspective and contains 40 chapters of exposition on different aspects of how God works to



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bring a lost sinner to be saved and then to follow Jesus in the Power of the Holy Spirit. This is not casual reading, but earnest direction for anyone wanting to take up their cross and follow the Lord. Suggested Offering: \$12.00

## Infant Baptism and Adult Conversion

This work by Ole Hallesby is much needed in our Lutheran circles today as salvation solely through baptism is proclaimed far and wide and people are given assurance at a funeral that the deceased is in heaven because they were baptized as an infant, even if they had no faith at all. Hallesby answers the needed questions: Is Infant Baptism Biblical?; Do all those baptized need to make a choice to repent and follow Christ?; Is Conversion needed for everyone, including those who were baptized?; Can the baptized go lost? Suggested Offering: \$10.00.

