

THE NEW CREATION

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NOTE: The thoughts presented in the articles are those of the writer and are not necessarily totally endorsed by the New Creation Staff. *“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* – 2 Timothy 2:15.
“Prove ALL things and hold fast to what is good.” – 1 Thess. 5:21.

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In This Issue

The coronavirus Covid-19 continues to plague the world in its many mutations, and the race is on to find a vaccine that will inoculate the human race from this continuing scourge. In the meantime, the question may be asked, “Can anything good come out of this self-isolation and dependence on others?” What lessons of good can we see and acknowledge as encouragement to ourselves and others? The first article, *Good from Bad?* addresses these questions.



Many of us have heard the term, and even said it in referring to the deaths of loved ones, “that they passed away.” Is this a proper term to use, or is there a better term? The article *Death-Passed Away-Asleep-Which Is It?* should be of interest to all.

The article, *Look Up* reminds us to rejoice when we see these things coming to pass, knowing that our deliverance draws near. *Faith Makes All Things Possible* explores the faith aspect of our lives and shows how important faith is to all our hopes. *The Blessedness of Longing* is the longest article in this issue, and draws on our emotions to strongly want to please the Lord and draw closer to him.

Noah's Day Today poetically relates “the world that then was” before the flood with the closing scenes of “the world that now is”. *Saul's Conversion to Christianity* follows the accounts in Acts, where Saul experiences God's selection to become the great apostle Paul. The Lord's grace is evident in his conversion. *Giving Hope* was a primary element in Jesus' ministry; he didn't come to condemn sinners but to save them, and we need to have this same attitude as our Master (see *Portraits of Jesus*). *God's Foreknowledge* identifies several Biblical characters foreknown by God before they were born and draws emphasis to his care in our lives in his foreknowledge of us, even before we knew him (see Chil-

dren's Corner). *One of the Most Honorable Institutions* will be a joy for you to read. You will have a greater appreciation of this institution when you finish the article. Hopefully, I have not given it away so that you can be pleasantly surprised as you realize the greatness and power of this institution (see Family Corner). *Continue On* is an encouragement to those laboring at daily activity in what may seem to be an unappreciative stage of life, but not to be weary in well-doing, but to know that if done for Jesus it is acceptable to him.

In this issue, there are no letters from our readers to report, but we are sure that all are glad to communicate with one another as opportunity opens up. For conferences and conventions, we know of none going on in person. The Christian Believers' Conference has been canceled for this year because of restrictions due to the coronavirus, but the committee hopes to have another conference in 2021, so we will see what the Lord provides in that regard. In the meantime, many brethren are attending Zoom meetings. No matter our age, we are being 'forced' to learn technology to operate a computer, smart phone, or tablet in order to meet with others. We are blessed to have those of skill in these areas to give us a basic understanding in connecting. Also, I am finding brethren that I haven't seen for years on Zoom, and I greatly value the spiritual comments in fellowship discussions among the whole group which I would not hear if I was there in-person and associating with just a few. Also, there seems to be more cross-linking with other Bible Student groups, in which we see that some of our differences are not heretical. Also, many of the shut-ins because of ill-health, lack of transportation, or conflicting job hours can now get to meetings which previously they found unavailable. So the Lord has provided us with much enrichment.

May this magazine of many authors also contribute to our edification.

R. Whittaker

Good from Bad?

Is it possible that something good can be derived from something bad? Let's see!

There is a Chinese fable that well shows that it is quite possible to have good come out of that which seems very bad.

"Many years ago," begins a classic Chinese story, "there was man who had a horse and one son. One day the horse broke out of the corral and fled to the freedom of the hills."

"Your horse got out? What bad luck!" said his neighbors.

"Why?" the old Chinese who was very optimistic said, *"How do you know its bad luck?"*

Sure enough, the next night the horse came back to his familiar corral leading twelve wild stallions with him. The farmer's son saw the thirteen horses in the corral, slipped out and locked the gate. Suddenly he had thirteen horses instead of none! The neighbors heard the good news and came chattering to the farmer, *"Oh, you have thirteen horses now. What good luck!"*

The old Chinese man answered, *"How do you know that's good luck?"* Some days later his strong young son was trying to break in one of the stallions, only to be thrown off and break a leg. The neighbors came back that night and passed on another hasty judgment: *"Your son broke his leg? What bad luck!"*

The wise father answered again, *"How do you know its bad luck?"*

Sure enough, a few days later a Chinese war lord came through town and conscripted every able-bodied young man, taking them off to war, some never to return again. But the

young man was saved because of his broken leg. What could be seen as bad luck are often forth-coming *blessings in disguise.*”

Let us apply this question to our current day -- “Is it possible that something good can be derived from something bad?” We are living in what many consider very bad times with this pandemic virus permeating our world. People are fearful for their lives and most would question that any good could come from this plague.

Right now, the Coronavirus Covid-19 has claimed and will continue to claim thousands upon thousands of lives worldwide. It has caused tremendous fear in almost all countries throughout our globe. It was another unique virus that caught everyone off guard. The medical community was totally perplexed as how to deal with this virus. There didn't exist any protocol for stopping its spread and there was no existing preventive vaccine for this strain. People have been told to stay at home in lockdown. Only essential workplaces are able to continue to operate as usual. Many are no longer able to earn a living because their workplaces are not allowed to stay open. Panic over financial concerns is rampant. In some areas of this country people are revolting against all the restrictions that have been laid upon their liberty by the federal and state authorities.

But, let us see if we can find any good that has come from something so terrible as a result of this pandemic:

- Air pollution from factories and automobiles has almost disappeared in some cities.
- Many people are putting their lives on the line in order to help infected victims of the virus to overcome it.
- Some restaurants are taking free meals to hospital staffs and first responders are working unheard of schedules.

- The world has slowed down and people can take time to evaluate what really matters and is important in life.
- People are more aware of their neighbors and showing more concern for their needs.
- Many have come to realize how vulnerable they really are.
- People are coming to realize that *things* are but temporary and what is really important is what is eternal.
- Many churches have begun providing live worship services and sermons over the internet so that now even their formerly shut-in members have a visible connection with their church and pastor via their computers.
- People are phoning each other to check how the others are doing, showing more concern than ever before.
- Praying for others has reached a level so high that it would be impossible to count.

To the Christian it is a test of faith to truly believe that God is in control and be at peace with whatever happens.

This list is far from complete, still, the answer to our question is an emphatic YES, "something good can come from something as bad as both the Chinese fable and Covid-19," as these reflections on our day reveal.

E. Weeks

Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle

There are no hopeless situations, only people who grow hopeless about them. If you keep a green bough in your heart, the singing bird will come.

If we pause to think, we will have cause to thank.

Death – Passed Away – Asleep – Which Is It?

For several years now, an expression in reporting the death of a person has gained acceptance as a soft blow in reporting such a death. It is that he or she has “passed away”. This expression at first seems to be innocuous so that some of us have adopted it, but a careful examination of its two words reveals a continuation and confirmation of Satan’s lie to mother Eve, “ye shall not surely die” (Gen. 3:4)

Actually, it is an affirmation of the presumed immortality of the soul, for the words “passed away”, mean the deceased has passed from this present life into another and since these words cannot refer to the body, everyone understands they refer to the soul.

Is that what the Bible teaches? If we consult a concordance, we cannot find a single instance of such words anywhere in the Bible. Therefore, not being of divine origin, they are of human origin or to be frank, of satanic influence.

Shall we return to say a person is dead as in the past? Not necessarily. As students of the Bible, why not adopt a biblical term informing someone of the death of another. Such term is used in both the Old and New Testaments and thus has divine approval. Further, it points to a future awakening or resurrection of the deceased which the words “passed away” deny.

What is the Biblical term for a dead person? Sleep! Sleep truly describes the unconscious state of the dead while also describing a future awakening, as is normal in all living beings in awakening from a night of sleep.

That the entire Bible uses the term “asleep”, is proved by the following texts:

Deut. 31:16 – “Moses, behold thou shalt sleep with thy fathers...”

1 Kings 11:43 – “...and Solomon SLEPT with his fathers and was buried.”

1 Kings 2:10 - “...so David SLEPT with his fathers and was buried.”

1 Kings 14:20 - “Jeroboam ... SLEPT with his fathers....”

1 Kings 14:31 - “Rehoboam SLEPT with his fathers and was buried.”

Matt. 9:24 - “And Jesus said, ‘the maid is not dead but SLEEPETH.”

John 11:11 - “Our friend Lazarus SLEEPETH... I may awake him out of sleep.”

Psalm 17:15 – “I shall be satisfied when I wake with thy likeness.”

Isiah 26:19 - “Awake and sing, ye that dwell in the dust...”

Acts 13:36 - “David fell asleep and was laid unto his fathers.”

1 Cor. 15:18 – “They also which are fallen asleep...”

1 Cor. 15:20 - “Christ is risen...the first fruits of them that sleep.”

1 Thess. 4:13 - “... concerning them that are asleep.”

1 Thess. 4:14 - “... so them also which sleep in Jesus.”

Since the term “asleep”, points to a future awakening or resurrection, we feel it would receive the Lord’s approval in adopting it in our conversation even if we have to explain its meaning to people who may ask, (a beautiful opportunity to testify of the coming resurrection of the dead), and entirely discard the deceiving term “passed away”: thus, striking another blow to Satan’s lie of the immortality of the soul.

S. T. Ikoé (Cameroon)

Many sleep, but not forever;
There will be a glorious dawn;
We shall meet to part, no, never,
On the resurrection morn.
From the deepest caves of ocean,
From the desert and the plain,
From the valley and the mountain,
Countless throngs shall rise again.

At Close of Day

If you sit down at set of sun,
And count the acts that you have done,
And, counting, find
One self-denying act, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard,
One glance most kind,
That fell like sunshine where it went--
Then you may count that day well spent.
But if, through all the livelong day,
You've cheered no heart by yea or nay;
If through it all
You've nothing done that you can trace,
That brought the sunshine to one face;
No act most small,
That helped some soul at trifling cost --
Then count that day as worse than lost.

Selected

Look Up!

“Lift up your heads and rejoice because your redemption draws near.” Luke 21:28

That is the promise our Lord gave His followers before He left them that has yet to be fulfilled. But it will be fulfilled! That we know! The signs He gave of His returning are coming to pass daily, to wit: *“Nations will be in anguish, men will be fainting from terror, afraid of what is coming on the world.”* Luke 21:25-26 NIV

Jesus warned us that *“those days will be days of distress unequalled from the beginning when God created the world until now, and never to be equaled again. If the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would survive. But for the sake of the elect, whom He has chosen, He will shorten them.”* Mark 13:19-20 NIV

Our world is in panic, as we all know, and it is going to get worse, as Jesus said. That’s the bad news. But the good news is what will follow! Our prayers will be answered: *“Thy kingdom come”!* The devil and his demons will be imprisoned. Christ and His church will be in charge. What a wonderful restoration will occur. Read Isaiah 35 and 65, Jeremiah 31 and Ezekiel 36, plus chapters 26 & 27.

And Jesus promises, *“All who are in their graves will hear His voice and come out.”* John 5:28-29 Do you believe these promises? Then share them with your neighbors who are looking for deliverance from their fears.

We have been blessed with this faith and hope and we are told, *“Freely you have been given, freely give.”* Matthew 10:8 We are on trial to prove how much we love our Father and our Lord Jesus. The privilege we have been given to share this Gospel is a once in an eternity offer!

May we prove worthy of it!

D. Anas

Faith Makes All Things Possible

Have you ever been in a competition with an uneasy feeling of doubt concerning the task at hand? If you have, you know from experience that a bad outcome is inevitable. Doubt spells defeat, whatever the endeavor. Doubt often in worldly endeavors is brought on by the lack of mental and physical preparedness. Faith is believing: for worldly endeavors, in oneself -- in spiritual endeavors, in God and His promises given to us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This faith or belief found in us is evidenced by behavior and a character that is pleasing to God.

The scriptures make it clear that *“without Faith, it is impossible to please God”* (Heb.11:6). The scriptures also tell us that *“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God”* (Rom.10:17). These verses plainly impart that we must take to heart or *“put on the whole armor of God”* (Eph 6:11), always being able to respond with a *“thus sayeth the Lord.”* We must demonstrate our faith by urgently pursuing that understanding that only comes from God’s Word. Jesus admonished, *“seek and ye shall find; knock, and it will be opened unto you:”* (Matt. 7:7), for as He continued, *“narrow is the way, that leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”* The Apostle Paul also admonished us to *“So run, that ye may obtain”* (1Co. 9:24), speaking of that incorruptible prize of glory, and everlasting life.

Through the Holy Scriptures and our own life’s experiences, we know that *“there is none righteous”* (Ro. 3:10), so this “running” has little to do with works that cannot save us, but works that demonstrate our faith in, and love for God and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We must use the talents and gifts the Lord has given us to serve Him, demonstrating our love and belief in Him by our love for our neighbor. Remember 1 John 4:20 *“... he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?”*

Now we know that *“faith without works is dead”* (James 2:20), so faith is demonstrated by our good works. Yet as we read in Rom. 4:5-8, *“But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Even as David also described the blessedness of the man, un-*

*to whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are **forgiven**, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."*

Is there a contradiction here? The answer is no. For just as the Israelites could not be saved by their keeping the law, so we cannot be saved by works. But good behavior and character show our heart's desire, a demonstration of our faith in the Lord. It is then by grace through the merit of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, that God counts our faith as righteousness.

Jesus did not come because we are just, but to make us so: he justifies the ungodly. Jesus in John.12:47-48 made it clear that he came only to save the world. *"And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: **the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.**"* Therefore I suspect it is more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah.... those who did not receive and reject His word (Matt. 10:15). The above is beautifully expressed in Ro 3:21-26 *"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ **unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:**"*

We may say of our fallen nature what the Lord said to Job in Job 41:5 concerning the Leviathan: *"Wilt thou play with him as with a bird? or wilt thou bind him for thy maidens?"* As we simply can't contend with a creature more powerful than ourselves, we couldn't possibly save ourselves against this foe, so we'd better watch and avoid his snares.....and put our faith in Jesus, for our deliverance and justification .

Please always remember how Job 41:33-34 describes our foe, "Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear

(reverence). He beholdeth all high things: **he is a king over all the children of pride.**”

Remember, it was that **humble** publican who recognized he was a sinner who went away justified. (Luke.18:14). We are simply not righteous.....end of the story, and as the scriptures admonish, in humility, we should always “*esteem others better than ourselves.*” (Phil.2:3)

As noted above, we have a formidable enemy, but should be encouraged by Rom. 8:31-33, “*What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s elect? **It is God that justifieth.**” As Rom. 8:27 declares, “*Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*” Just as God who searches the heart knew with all conviction Job’s faithfulness, so no charge can be laid against those who the Lord justifies through faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

We have the wonderful promise of God given in Ezekiel 36:26, “*A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.*” We know that God’s word does not return to Him void, so let us accept with joy and thankfulness all of God’s providences in our lives, and with a sense of urgency strive to do His will, knowing we have a merciful High Priest in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ who loves us as God loves us, and will make intercession for us. We can be assured that our sins will be forgiven when we humbly acknowledge them before the throne of grace and **be merciful ourselves.** (Matt.5:7)

J. DiCesare

Where the Lord puts a period, do not change it to a question mark.

The Blessedness of Longing

“My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.”
Psalm 84:2

“Among the many paradoxical expressions of the Lord’s Word, perhaps few are more of this nature than the frequent reminders that to hunger and thirst represents a state of blessedness. This seeming contradiction of thought appears in the repeated promises that those who thirst for God, “shall never thirst” after they drink of the living water He supplies. Yet, Christian experience seems to contradict that expectation; for is it not true that a greater and yet greater thirst is created by that wonderful living water? Will not the testimony of all who drink deeply of that water agree that it produces a soul-thirst such as our text clearly teaches? How, then, can it be said that such “shall never thirst?” To be filled with a longing such as this text represents would seem suggestive of a rather unhappy or unsatisfied state of mind and therefore, the very reverse of blessedness, yet how many there are who will readily confess that:

“Of all the myriad moods of mind
That through the soul come thronging,
Which one was e’er so dear, so kind,
So beautiful, as longing.”

In the spiritual life, longing is a sign of a healthy state of the soul, whereas satisfaction frequently gives evidence of disease. The very best evidence of heart relationship with the Lord, according to his own Word, is to be found in being possessed of so intense a love for Him, that He alone can satisfy the deepest longings of the soul. Thus viewed, our text is not suggestive of a heart painfully unsatisfied, seeking for some unfound source of delight and joy, but of a heart that has found a source so completely satisfying that nothing else could possibly supply its need. This thought is contained in several of the Psalms. In the sixty-third we find it

expressed in these words, "My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land" (v. 1). And again we read, "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God" (Psa. 42:1). In both of these sublime expressions of the heart's longing after God, we are shown that there is something deeper and more urgent than the intellectual craving for the Infinite, the natural desire and impulse of the human mind to seek a perfect object for its thought. It is something more even than the aspiration of a sinful and self-disappointed soul towards moral beauty and sinless holiness. It is the personal longing for intimate communion with the living God. To come into vital contact with God, not as a Remote Thought, but as a Living Person; to feel that He who made the Universe is not only the Eternal Wisdom, but the Wise God; not only the Infinite Love, but the Loving Father; to be assured by touch of soul that He is an ever-present reality, and to perceive the gentle flow of His affection within the channel of the heart -- this is the water of everlasting life, the only draught that can truly quench the craving of the spirit. The assurance of immortality alone is not enough. *For if we are told that we are to live forever and still be left without God, eternity stretches before us like a boundless desert, a perpetual and desolate orphanage.* It is divine companionship that the spirit needs first of all and most deeply.

This, then, is the larger meaning of our Lord's statement, "Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matt. 5:6). Just so long as such longing continues to be an active factor in the life, just so long will the search after God be continued. As the heart expands through the knowledge of God, so will the capacity to enjoy him also continue to expand. The thirsty yet happy satisfied heart, well knows that *of all the myriad moods of mind, there is nothing so dear, so kind, so beautiful, as longing after the Living God.*

A divine law always operative in God's dealings with His people is given us by the Apostle James (4:8): "Draw nigh to

God, and he will draw nigh to you.” Our hearts must be reaching out with intense desire for the enriching knowledge of God ere He will reveal Himself to us. The door to this intimate fellowship stands open to all who desire to enter, and once really entered, it will reveal boundless fields waiting our survey and exploration. There is, therefore, no condition of heart more to be sought after than this desire to draw nigh to God, since his law or requirement is that we furnish this evidence of a genuine longing for the special blessings He desires to give us. This being true, we must agree that *the highest state is one of hunger and thirst, intense desire for more life, more holiness, more power, closer communion with God, more of the divine likeness in the soul.*

The Gospel promises rest to those who come to Christ. Peace was one of the benedictions the Saviour left for his people. Contentment is one of the graces and duties enjoined upon the Christian, but spiritual hunger is not incompatible with either peace or contentment. It is not unrest; it is not anxiety or worry; it is not murmuring discontent; *it is a deep longing for more and ever more of all blessings -- calmer rest, sweeter peace, more perfect contentment, with richer heartfulness of Christ, and more and more of all the gifts of the spirit.* It is depicted in the Psalms as an intense thirst for God, not the bitter cry of an unforgiven soul for mercy, but the deep, passionate, yearning of a loving spirit for closer, fuller, richer, more satisfying communion with God Himself. We find it in the life of the greatest of the Apostles, who, wherever we see him, on whatever radiant height, is still pressing on with unsatisfied longing and quenchless ardor toward loftier summits and more radiant peaks, crying ever for more intimate knowledge of Christ, and more and more of the fullness of God. The ideal Christian life is one of insatiable thirst, never pausing in any arbor of spiritual content, but ever wooed on by visions of new joys and attainments.

“My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.”

Psalm 84:2

Ask and Ye Shall Receive

How wonderful it is that God should leave it to us to determine the measure of happiness we shall enjoy. Though the storehouse of his gifts is full to overflowing, and though opening the windows of heaven to flood us with blessings beyond our capacity to contain does not in any way diminish its supply, yet for all that, the measure we receive will be proportionate to our asking in faith. As in the case of the widow whose supply of oil was replenished by the Prophet just in proportion to the number and size of the vessels she brought to him, so with us, as we come desiring more of God, more of the Holy Spirit, according to our faith and the intensity of our longing, it shall be given unto us.

Longing, therefore, is the very soul of true faith expecting answers to prayer. Certainly we really desire nothing more than we are eager to ask for. There are many who pray for a closer walk with God, and for a more definite experience of His presence, but all such praying is profitless if it does not represent a consuming desire, a longing to enter into such a joy and fellowship. Mere desire will of itself open none of the windows of heaven to us, take us into no greater experiences of the power of Christ in the heart, give us no verification of promises actually fulfilled to us, wherein God has pledged Himself to reward our never ceasing desire to know Him better. Without effort, prayer is null and void. Inactive day-dreaming is not prayer. Only when there is that peculiar combination of experience, earnest longing and consistent effort, illustrated in the various expression of the Psalmist which we are now considering, does the Lord have any interest in our petitions. Only let our longing be such as will make it possible for us to truthfully say, "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the Living God," and there will be no vagueness of conviction about the meaning of God's promise to open heaven's windows.

Becomes a Transforming Power

The hunger of heart of which the Bible speaks, must, like every holy aspiration, have its origin in God. This very longing of our heart, therefore, is nothing more nor less than the life of God imparted to us and yearning within us to grow from glory to glory up into the full stature of Christ. Under God's gracious hand this hunger becomes a transforming power, purifying these characters of ours, changing them little by little, and day by day, into the likeness of His own dear Son. In other words, we are "transformed by the renewing of our mind, proving (experiencing) what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Thus Scripture teaches us that, "as man thinketh in his heart so is he." The heavenly ideal ever kept before the mind, and longed after with intensity of desire, carves it into the soul. What an incentive to great ideals and large expectations! Who would think it sufficient to sit down contented with present attainments of knowledge and grace, or to merely sigh for a greater measure of the more abundant life? Properly understood and acted upon, our every longing after God should at once begin to fill us with an impulse as effective as thirst impels the hart to search for the water brooks. As the poet has very well expressed it:

*"I will not waste one breath of life in sighing;
For other ends has life been given to me;
Duties and self-devotion, daily dying
Into a higher, better life with Thee,
My God, with Thee."*

As we find our heart's cry for the living God being answered by His drawing nearer and nearer to us, what results may be expected? Will there be any tangible evidence that life and character do change under the influence of an enlarging revelation of God? Surely so! If in truth it can be said, "A man is known by the company he keeps," and who can dispute it? Then if we keep company with God and Jesus, will there not be a manifest evidence of it? Surely there

will be. If keeping company with Jesus affected men so manifestly years ago, so that their none too sympathetic contemporaries were ready to acknowledge that "they had been with Jesus and learned of him," can it be otherwise today? It cannot be. As they were molded by his presence, so we will be.

Dwelling with the Rose

Very beautifully has this truth been set forth in familiar verse, and who can read it without feeling a strengthening impulse to keep very much closer to him whose garments are "perfumed with myrrh and frankincense":

*"In memory's halls there wakes, the while, a legend, quaint and old.
How once upon a time, one day, a sage picked up, we're told,
A lump of common clay, so redolent with perfume rare,
He marveled, and the question wondering asked,
'Whence dost thou bear such fragrance, O, thou lump of clay?'
In tones of deep repose there came the sweet reply,
'I've been dwelling with the rose.'"*

"From my heart of hearts I cry,
Thou lovely Rose of Sharon, may I ever dwell with Thee,
So closely that the fragrance of Thy love shall cling to me!
Oh, fill me with the spirit of Thy sweet humility,
Then all shall see and know, dear Lord,
That I have learned of Thee;
And let mine earthly pilgrimage, until its blessed close,
Each day and hour bear witness, I've been dwelling with the Rose!"

A daydream, surely! An impractical idealism, likely to viti-ate the real business of Christian life! Yes, so some might think. Must we then conclude that the Psalmist in the texts we are considering cannot be regarded as a personification of practical devotion? God's blessed Word answers in num-berless ways, No, that cannot be! From a vast multitude who have in all ages known what it means to long after God with heart and flesh like the Psalmist, will come an emphatic, No! it cannot be. Many such bear testimony to having oft-times fainted for the courts of the Lord, with heart and flesh crying out for the Living God, and have gratefully appropriat-ed to themselves the words of the Psalmist, so expressive of longings that only God-centered hearts can know, and heav-en-inspired language can express: Oh! "Great is the mystery of godliness!" -- "Christ in you the hope of glory!" The "life of Christ manifest in our mortal bodies." "I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" What real possibilities lie in these "spirit and life" statements of the Word of God! If our crying after God is an intelligent searching after Him, with a clearly defined objective before us, will not the ultimate result be a blessed verification of all the texts quoted above, wrought out in our lives? Surely so! And this alone is the only possi-ble satisfaction to the soul athirst for God.

Brethren, to what we have already attained of these blessed verities, let us follow on by the same rule, until that which is perfect has come, until we see him face to face, un-til we awake satisfied forever with his likeness. Praise his name for the assurance of such consummation to all who with thirsty, hungering, longing hearts, perseveringly "follow on to know the Lord."

J. J. Blackburn

*As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God? (NIV)*

Psalm 42:1, 2

Noah's Day Today

Thousands of years ago, there lived a man,
And he found grace in our Lord's hands;
The earth was corrupt – evil plagued the land,
But Noah walked with God and took a firm stand;

The Lord “repented” because he made His creation,
For man's heart continued in evil abominations;
He decided to destroy both man and beast,
For the earth was filled with violence – it had to cease!

And God made a covenant with Noah and his house,
His wife, three sons and their three spouse;
The Lord commanded Noah to build a great ark,
For Judgment was coming – earth's day would be dark;

Noah preached and pleaded to his generation,
But the people laughed and mocked in their sad condition;
One hundred and twenty years – the ark was built,
It was filled with animals and supplies, right to the hilt;

A flood was foretold with a forty-day rain,
All things destroyed – it would never be the same;
The rains were held back until that fateful time,
When Methuselah died – he was nine hundred and sixty-nine;

The rains finally came – the covenant ran true,
Noah and his family in the ark, riding the water's blue;
Thousands of years have passed since Noah was afloat,
And today's society parallels the time of that boat;

People laugh and mock at those few people who say:
“Our Lord is coming, and there will be a Judgement Day;”
But these scoffers continue to chant their evil songs:
“God is dead – no one will judge our evils and wrongs!”

“Eat, drink and be merry – for there is no hope,”
Our sins will be forgotten with sex, wine, and dope;”
Yes, these are the songs – they ring loud and clear,
And some in the audience applaud and give cheer;

This is the stage that depicts today’s “play,”
A “re-run” of the show, the same as Noah’s day;
And Judgment will come – it won’t be a flood,
For God will “rain” fire from Heaven above!

By Daniel A. Donnarummo

Luk 17:26-27 NASB "And just as it happened **in the days of Noah**, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, **until the day that Noah entered the ark**, and the flood came and destroyed them all."

Mat 24:37-39 NASB "For the coming of the Son of Man will be **just like the days of Noah**. For as **in those days before the flood** they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be."

2Pe 3:13 NASB "But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells."

Saul's Conversion to Christianity

Acts 9:1-22; 22:1-16, 26:9-18 NASB

The above three chapters relate the account of Saul's conversion. Each is written by Luke, but each gives additional insights into his conversion. Acts 9 relates Saul's conversion in the chronological order of events in the establishment of the early church. Acts 22 is spoken by Paul in his defense to a Jewish mob at Jerusalem on his arrest in preaching Jesus as the Messiah. Acts 26 is also in defense of accusations brought by the Jerusalem religious leaders in a trial before King Agrippa, Agrippa's wife Berenice, and Governor Festus, who wanted a legal charge he could bring against Paul in sending him to Caesar.

After Steven's stoning in Acts, chapter 7, we find there is a great persecution of the church in Jerusalem and many are scattered everywhere. In chapter 9, we join Saul's journey to Damascus. Saul had gone to the high priest and got letters of commendation to arrest converted Jews in Damascus and bring them to Jerusalem for trial before the Sanhedrin.

On this journey, near Damascus with a few others, probably with him to manage the prisoners he anticipated in arresting, he saw a tremendously bright light (brighter than the sun at noonday). He fell to the ground and while lying there he heard a voice in the Hebrew dialect, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" In amazement, Saul replied, "Who are you Lord?" "I am Jesus who you are persecuting." This must have cut Saul to the heart. Here he had thought he was doing God's will in trying to stamp out this new religion, and what did he find out? That he was opposing it. Acts 26:14 adds, "It is hard for you to kick against the goads." The goads were sharpened prods or sticks that goaded or moved the sheep of the herder forward in the desired direction. Here, our Lord refers to Saul's recognition that his persecution of the saints is troubling to his conscience, at least somewhat. Elsewhere Saul says he worshiped God in all good conscience -- yet he must have had a tinge of guilt

from his observation of the character shown by those he was violently persecuting. Think of the witness that Steven gave to the Sanhedrin and further to the men doing the stoning, "Lord, do not lay this sin to their charge."

Saul was told to *"get up and enter the city (Damascus), and it will be told you what you must do."* Chapter 22 adds *"appointed for you to do"*. And Chapter 26 adds even more words from Jesus: *"Get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things, which you have seen, but also the things in which I will appear to you; rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in me."* What a calling Saul had! What responsibility and what hardships he would endure!

When Saul got up, he could not see, having been blinded by the light. Others there heard the voice and saw evidence of a bright light all around, but did not understand the words, nor were blinded by the light. Thus, the Lord has shown he can work with the one he wants while others are oblivious to what has truly occurred. His companions took him by the hand and brought him into Damascus to the home of a man named Judas on Straight Street.

Saul did not eat or drink for three days. The experience had a marked impact on him. No doubt, he was doing much reflection on his past and acknowledging his wrongs to the Lord, while at the same time there must have been a measure of relief to be free from ignorance and recognize Jesus as the Messiah promised in the Holy Scriptures.

On the third day, a disciple named Ananias heard the Lord Jesus speak in a vision, giving him directions to Saul's lodging and sending him there to lay his hands on him and

restore his sight. Ananias was troubled for he knew Saul's reputation and that he had come to Damascus with authoritative letters from the chief priests at Jerusalem to bind all who profess Jesus as the Messiah. *"But the Lord said unto him, 'Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear my name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel, for I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake.'"* Was our Lord comforting Ananias by telling him Saul would come to know how it felt to be persecuted in proclaiming the gospel? It appears so. We know Saul went through many deep waters in his Christian walk.

(In 2Corinthians 11:24-28 NASB, he summarizes some of the difficulties he experienced. *"Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; I have been in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. Apart from such external things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches."*

Saul had also seen in a vision a man named Ananias come to him and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight. And so, Saul was ready and expecting Ananias. After laying his hands on him, Ananias said, *"Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the holy spirit"* -- Acts 9 account. In the Acts 22 account, we find additional words spoken by Ananias, *"The God of our fathers has appointed you to know his will and to see the righteous one and to hear an utterance from his mouth. For you will be a witness for him to all men of what you have seen and heard. Now why do you de-*

lay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on his name."

Saul regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized; he took food and was strengthened. Then during the next several days he was with the disciples in Damascus and proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the son of God." They all were amazed at his conversion for they knew his reputation and that he had come on a mission to destroy those who called on this name. But Saul kept increasing in strength and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that this Jesus is the Christ (Messiah).

In Acts 13:9 NASB, we learn that Saul, was later known as the apostle Paul. He became great in the eyes of the Lord and in the esteem of Christ's true followers. As he said, *"Follow me as I follow Christ."* Life was to him to live and to die for Christ. And this he did. He always had the reminder of his past, but forgetting the things which are behind, he pressed on for the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. He used his past as an encouragement for others to receive forgiveness of sins and walk the narrow way to glory, honor, and immortality, -- eternal life. What an example of consecration and determination, and all by the grace of God.

In Gal 1:15, we are told by Paul that God had set him apart even from his mother's womb and called him through His grace. Perhaps, this meant that on hindsight Paul could trace God's hand in his upbringing and see that God was overruling his circumstances to prepare him for a vessel made meet for the Master's use. He fulfilled his commission: *"he is a chosen instrument of mine, to bear my name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel."* *"I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light, and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in me."*

R. Whittaker

A Portrait of Jesus—*Giving Hope*



“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed...today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” **Luke 4:18-21**

Jesus’ ministry was and still is one that gives hope to those who struggle in this world. Whether one struggles with doubt or fear, sorrow or emotional scars, illness or suffering of any kind, whatever it is that weighs us down, Jesus is there to give hope.

This particular day Luke tells us that Jesus walked into the synagogue in Nazareth, his home town, to worship and was handed the scrolls of Isaiah to read. Jesus read this passage; He knew it was his commission from His Father. He came to this earth to give the good news to the poor, to heal the sick, to bind up the broken-hearted, to give sight to the blind, the set the captives free...He came to this earth to give hope to the hopeless.

He had seen what sin had done, sorrow and suffering were everywhere. He had seen the poor widows struggling for existence. He had witnessed the beggars at the side of the road crying for alms. He had felt the weight that the chains of sin had put on the people around him and Jesus desired to do more than just encourage those who have been bound by Satan, he had come to bring freedom!. Whatever means Satan uses to keep people captive, whether it is sickness, addiction, poverty, depression, fear, none of these things will prevail against Jesus who was sent to release all captives. At the cross he paid the price to deliver the captives from sin.

Yes, he came not only to bring hope, but he came to bring freedom to all who would receive Him. He did not come to condemn people for their sin, but to release them from their sin. We must continue the work that He left behind. The commission is ours as well. We, too, are called to bring hope to the hopeless, to preach the good news, to help people to see that sin does not have to weigh them down, but for one look at their Savior, they, too, can be free. Jesus continues to bring hope to the hopeless through you and me. Will you be Jesus to someone today?

D. Mathewson

Children's Story Corner

God's Foreknowledge



Dear Ones,

Before you were born God knew you and loved you. While you were still in your mother God thought of you as alive. He made plans for your future. How do I know this? God's word the Bible tells us that God already knew and loved many people before they were ever born.

Jacob and Esau were twin brothers who lived many years ago. Before they were born, God told their mother, *"Two nations are in your womb. Two peoples shall be separated from your body. One people shall be stronger than the other and the older (Esau) shall serve the younger (Jacob)." (Genesis 25:23)* God was interested in the two boys and had plans for their future. He knew what kind of men they would be while they were still inside their mother.

King David praised God for knowing David so well. In Psalm 139:13-16, David writes, *"For you formed my inward parts; you covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are your works. And that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from you. When I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth, your eyes saw my substance being yet unformed, and in your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me when as yet there were none of them."* God knew every part of David, and how long he would live, before David ever took his first breath.

John was about three months from being born when his cousin Mary came to visit his mother Elizabeth. Even though John wasn't born yet, he jumped for joy when Elizabeth heard Mary's voice. At that moment God put joy into John's tiny heart because God loved him. God loves us and has plans for us from our earliest beginnings.

You might be wondering, "Why was I born?" We were born so we could give honor or glory to God. Matthew 5:16 says, *"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven."* We honor God by obeying Him, by living our lives the way Jesus lived. Don't wait until you are grown up to start honoring God. Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, said, *"Remember now your creator in the days of your youth"*. All our lives we can give glory to God and do everything that is required of us, which is to fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole obligation of man. If we honor God all our lives, we can be assured that He knows us and loves us, because *"the Lord knows the days of the upright and their inheritance shall be forever"* (Psalm 37:18).

Please send your questions to the editor of this magazine. I am praying for you.

Your Aunt Nancy Shobe

*1Pe 1:1-2 KJV Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, Elect according to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.*

*Act 2:22-24 KJV Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know. Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and **foreknowledge** of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.*

The Family Corner:

One of the Most Honorable Institutions in the World

"I will walk in my house in the integrity of my heart." - Psa. 101:2



Bet you can't guess what one of the most honorable, most impacting institution that this world has ever seen since the beginning of our human race, is? You may be thinking of a government or perhaps some important Christian ministry, but while many of these organizations are important, none of them can hold a light to this one: *Motherhood!* Surprised? Well, let's examine and build a case for all the wonderful moms who probably are not appreciated as highly as they should be.

God has ordained that societal stability is directly proportional to the development and health of the family unit. If you are not convinced of this, then you might want to consider spending some time in Leviticus and see how much value God Himself places on the integrity and longevity of the family lineage. When you see a person with an attractive, delightful personality, it is safe to assume that those traits have been molded and blended by a mother who took time and care with that child as they were growing up. If you see a strong reflection of Christ in someone, understand that a large part of Jesus being manifest in them is often due to a mother's godly input.

The institution of motherhood has tumbled from the heights of importance, till hardly any value is placed on the vital role that a mother has in the life of her child. In today's world, for anyone to consider staying home to raise children is often a laughable idea. *We* have long since left behind such an old-fashioned idea. Today, women have *far more important things* to do with their lives. Women have more choices to make than they have ever had at any other time in history. These choices are not wrong in and of themselves. I am personally thankful there are women in the workplace. My office co-worker is great to be around and is a strong member of our team. I believe women bring a unique perspective to processes, and come up with many ideas that would be overlooked in a male dominated work place. However, the opening of new horizons for women

has often shifted the number one priority from raising a family to enhancing a career. Balancing a family and career has always been a problem for fathers, but now more mothers are choosing to spend time in developing their careers rather than being there for their children. The result is that society is crumbling at an accelerated rate.

Let us examine the importance of a mother's place in the family. Proverbs 24:3-4: "*By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.*"

Notice the way Solomon describes how a house is built. Not with hammers and nails but by *wisdom, understanding* and *knowledge*. In the case of a family, *understanding* is a trait that cries out -- "*Mom*". Who is most often approached when it comes to a time of emotional crisis? Mom, of course. Understanding is a gift that God gave in special measure to women. Without a doubt, there are a few moms who don't have this gift, but most do. I can recall how many times I sought understanding from my mom growing up. I can't remember her ever failing me when I needed her to listen and feel my emotional pain and state of mind. What an impact this devotion has on children! Perhaps the most important need we have is to have someone understand us and our emotional needs. This is a specially important role for all mothers. What a dignified and honorable position to have in life. Yet this is not considered important anymore. If children are going to learn what it means to be tender, they need to learn it from their moms. Dads can *stabilize* children's lives, but it is usually along the lines of logic, not emotion. Tenderness, love, compassion, unswerving devotion; these are all qualities that a child receives mainly from their mom. Women have a nine month advantage on us men. They feel their child growing and moving within them and thus tenderness and love begins to develop for their baby in a special way that dads do not yet know. These qualities of mothers, when passed on to their children, are a major part of the "*beautiful treasures that fill the house.*" Abraham Lincoln is quoted as having said, "No man is poor who has a godly mother." He couldn't have expressed it any better! I wouldn't trade the treasures and riches that my mother impressed on me for anything this world could offer.

The problem with this world's outlook on motherhood is that there are few short term rewards for the endless effort put forth by mothers. Where are the *rewards* for wiping runny noses; caring for sick children; matching the socks; getting the sticker books ready to be used; kissing the pain away; hearing the words that are *not* being said when tears are flowing? Yet each of these acts lay a solid foundation for a child's sense of well-being that will follow on into adulthood. The child won't remember having a runny nose, but will remember the love and care mom demonstrated. These small acts add layer upon layer of *solid rock* to a child's foundation, the benefits of which others will reap when that child matures and they understand what it means to give deeply of self so that others may grow and prosper. A child's best way to develop these qualities is by seeing that mom's 1st priority is the family above this world's allurements.

. If a mother *has a choice* and chooses other priorities over her children, they will learn and adopt the belief that caring for *Self* is more important and rewarding than caring for others and serving the Lord. In pursuing a career first, the reward is like a vapor. Take it from one who has worked in a *fortune 100 company* for over 11 years. I have *nothing* to show for my labors other than providing for my family. When I walk away from my job, all I have is memories of the products or services I worked on. When compared with meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of our children, a career truly seems an empty choice. The longing for recognition and self-fulfillment may be gratifying for the moment, but that choice will have impacted and deprived lives down through the future, reaching many generations.

Mothers, please take heart. It may not seem very gratifying now, but the rewards for caring for your children are enormous and enduring. You may not get accolades in this life but you will have it before the judgment seat, for God is well pleased with your sacrifice and devotion. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these...*you have done it unto me.*" Blessed are all women who faithfully fulfill their roles as mothers and see it as part of God's grand plan for them.

Andrew Weeks

Continue On

A woman once fretted over the usefulness of her life.
She feared she was wasting her potential
being a devoted wife and mother.
She wondered if the time and energy she invested
in her husband and children would make a difference.

At times she got discouraged
because so much of what she did
seemed to go unnoticed and unappreciated.
“Is it worth it?” she often wondered.
“Is there something better
that I could be doing with my time?”

It was during one of these moments of questioning
that she heard the still small voice
of her Heavenly Father speak to her heart.
*“You are a wife and mother because
that is what I have called you to be.
Much of what you do is hidden from the public eye,
But I notice.
Most of what you give is done without remuneration,
But I am your reward.
Your husband cannot be the man I have called him to be
without your support.
Your influence upon him is greater than you think
and more powerful than you will ever know.
I bless him through your service
and honor him through your love.
Your children are precious to Me.
Even more precious than they are to you.
I have entrusted them to your care to raise for Me.
What you invest in them is an offering to Me.
You may never be in the public spotlight,
But your obedience shines as a
bright light before Me.
Continue On.
Remember you are my servant.
Do all to please Me.”*

Roy Lessin

Prayer List

“Far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you.” (1 Samuel 12:23)



Let us be Prayer Warriors for our Brethren!

Allen, Peggy & Russell – VT	Jones, Arlene - VA
Anas, Dan – FL (d)	Karavas, Anna - CA
Anderson, Family– WI (d)	Knapp, Jamie – NH
Andrada, Delores & Family – CA	Knapp, Joseph – IL (d)
Bews, Sandra and Family TX (d)	Ketko, Marion – MI
Boswell, Arlene – IL	Leavitt, Denise & Richard – ME
Buxton, Jean & Family - UK	Lepitre Family - IL
Carpenter, Gloria – KY	Howes, Paul & Carla - UK
Cline, Ruth – MO	Kingsmith, Beresford - UK
Cooper, Carmela – NJ	Mazzotta, Eva – VA
Csutor, Judith – CT	Miller, Alain – Canada
Day, Ronald – PA	Mitchell, Mitch - France
DiCenso, Sabatino - AZ	Moore, Ralph & Maryellen – CA
Dickson, Roberta Jo – CA	Munoz, Sue - NY
Dobbins, Esther - NH	Niewiemiński, Elaine – NY
Donnarummo, Dan – OH (d)	Parker, Geraldine – CA
Duhaime, George & Family – CT (d)	Penton, Jim – Canada
Dunn, Kim - IL	Phillips, Stella – OK
Fantuzzo, Tony – NY (d)	Riggio, Fran – NH
Feliciano, Carmen - NY	Rowe, Bryan - UK
Fischer, Mike & Liz – WI	Schultz, Becky & Family – MN (d)
Foster, Jean – IL	Schwartz, Ruth – TX
Gary, Inez – VA	Seminoff, Brenda – CA
Gmiterek Family (d)	Thomassen, Sandi – NM (d)
Hauslein, Karen – MD	Tuscia, Priscilla – FL
Hawk, Barbara – PA	Trent, Thelma – FL (d)
Hildebrandt, Lois - FL	Weaver, Eddie - NY
Hogrebe, Joan – MO	White, Ken & Joan - NY
Hopkins, Linda & Andrew – VA (d)	Wisdom Hezekiah Ikpo - Nigeria
Iannaccone, Bob & Marie – IL	Zychal, Ruth & Craig– NJ

d) = death in the family

Entered into rest:

Bible Correspondence Course New Graduates & Websites

Congratulations to the following students who have completed their course and have been awarded a Certificate.



USA

Basic Course - Rodney Speer, Maine
Ransom Course - Emmie Stanley, NC

Ghana

Advanced Course - Evans Koduah

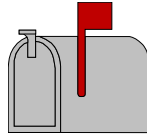
Zambia

Basic Course - Pastor Rogers Chuulu

You are invited to view the following websites:

<http://www.cdmi.org> (Christian Discipling Ministries International)
<http://www.cbchurch.com> (Christian Believers Fellowship in NH)
<http://www.biblefellowshipunion.co.uk> (Bible Fellowship in UK)
<http://www.bbschurch.org> (Lombard, IL)
<https://sites.google.com/site/quietwatersdevotions/home>
<http://www.cartyorkshire.co.uk> (CART)
<http://www.campblessing.com> (Camp Blessing)
<http://www.homechristians.net> (Fraser Valley, B.C.)
<http://www.bibelgemeinde.at> (Free Bible Students, Austria)
<http://www.bibelgemeinde.org> (Mission Work Bible Students, Austria)
<http://bibelforscher.heimat.eu/> (Free Bible Students, Germany (English))
<http://www.softgrafic.com/bibbia> (Italian Bible Students)
<http://www.newcovenantfellowship.org.au> (New Covenant News, Austr.)
<http://www.ebbereanos.org> (Berean Bible Students, Brazil – Portuguese/Span)

Letters from Our Fellowship and Readers



No letters to publish this issue.

“Whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins”

Acts 10:43

There is no other means of approach to God than through the remission, the covering, of our sins; and there is no other means of covering than through faith in the precious blood of Christ. All suggestions, therefore, of salvation without a belief in Jesus, all suggestions of salvation of the heathen in ignorance, all suggestions of there being no necessity for a knowledge of the historic Christ, all suggestions that a recognition of the Christ spirit of righteousness is sufficient, all suggestions of harmony with God through any other than the One appointed “Mediator of the New Covenant,” receive a thorough condemnation in the words of this text. The entire plan of God sets forth and honors not only divine justice, wisdom, love, and power, but it likewise sets forth and honors the Lord Jesus as the only way by which access may be had to the Father, and by which everlasting life may be attained by any. In view of these limitations, how comforting are the assurances of the Scriptures that for the vast majority of our race the time of knowledge, and hence, the time of probation for everlasting life is future, during the Millennium.

Songs in the Night

Rom 8:19-21 ESV For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

Conferences & Conventions

~~112th Christian Believers Conference~~

CANCELED due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

This decision was made to ensure the safety of all who would have attended. God willing, the conference will be held next year – Bo Shaw, Conference Chairman

Note: If you would like to have your Convention, Conference, Camp, or Seminar published in The New Creation Magazine, send information or a program *at least three months in advance* of the issue month of the magazine to the editor, Bob Whittaker.

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