

THE NEW CREATION

A publication of the Christian Discipling Ministries International

A magazine published bimonthly and dedicated to the spiritual welfare of God's New Creation on earth.

CDMI Main Office

36 Chapel Lane, Somersworth, NH 03878

Website: **CDMI.org**

New Creation Editor

Bob Whittaker
356 Fairgreen Pl
Casselberry, FL 32707
bobwhittaker64@gmail.com

Printing & Distribution Center CDMI

36 Chapel Lane
Somersworth, NH 03878
Manager: Bruce Blake
bblake351@gmail.com

Donations CDMI

2462 E. Laurel Street
Mesa, AZ 85213
Laureen Shaw
bowenshaw@msn.com

Bible Correspondence Courses CDMI

P.O. Box 540
Warrenville, IL 60555
Manager: Allan Crawford
ahcrawford@ameritech.net

CDMI Website: <http://www.cdmi.org> **Phone:** 239-237-6319

2021CDMI Board Members: Dan Anas, Bruce Blake, Allan Crawford, John DiCesare, Dan Donnarummo, Henry Gmiterek, Dennis Gorham, Joe Knapp, Bo Shaw, Steve Teunis, Gus Vassilopoulos, Elmer Weeks, Bob Whittaker

Note:

1. All correspondence or requests in regard to **magazine subscriptions, booklets, and tracts** should be sent directly to the *CDMI Printing and Distribution Center* shown above.
2. All **donations** made to CDMI should be sent directly to the *Donation Address* shown above. **Donations are tax-deductible.**
3. All correspondence or requests in regard to **Bible Correspondence Courses** should be sent directly to the CDMI branch shown above.
4. All other correspondence should be sent to the **Main Office.**

Reminder: *If you move or change your address, be sure to send your new address to the CDMI Printing and Distribution Center as soon as possible. See the address above. Thank You!*

Contents

	Page
Contents.....	1
Editorial: He Gives the Victory.....	2
Our Sacred Feast.....	4
Christ's Victory over Death.....	10
Eldad and Dedad.....	13
Patience.....	18
Taking Responsibility.....	20
The Solid Rock.....	23
Respect – A Lost Virtue.....	25
We Would See Jesus.....	28
A Portrait of Jesus: <i>Perfect Love</i>	31
Children's Story Corner: <i>Obedying Governing Authorities</i>	32
Prayer List.....	34
Grads/Websites.....	35
Letters/Poem: <i>Not My Will but Thine Be Done</i>	36
Conferences and Conventions.....	37

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.

The New Creation magazine and all of CDMI's other publications are sent out *free of charge* to all who request them. This magazine and all other publications are totally supported by the voluntary and generous donations of those who wish to help us in this work for the Lord. Your support makes it possible for CDMI to provide this magazine and booklets and tracts to the poor around the world. All donations are tax exempt.

He Gives the Victory

The Apostle John writes, *“this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith. Who is the one that overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”* (1Jn 5:4,5 NASB). As Christians we know the secret of overcoming; it is full surrender to the will of God through faith in the atoning blood of Jesus.



Annually, we remind ourselves of Jesus' great sacrifice as he poured out his soul unto death. What an example he left us! As the Memorial of our Lord's death approaches we are glad to partake of the emblems of the foundation of all our hopes. And further, His resurrection on the third day assures the fulfillment of all God's precious promises.

The poem which follows inspires us to keep close to our Lord that through him we too may be victorious. May the Lord bless your memorial meditations.

R. Whittaker

<i>Trust in the Lord</i>	
<p>O TRUST thyself to Jesus, When conscious of thy sin-- Of its heavy weight upon thee, Of its mighty power within. Then is the hour for pleading His finished work for thee; Then is the time for singing, "His blood was shed for me."</p>	<p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When tempted to transgress By hasty word, or angry look, Or thought of bitterness. Then is the hour for claiming Thy Lord to fight for thee; Then is the time for singing, "He doth deliver me."</p>
<p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When faith is dim and weak, And the very One thou needest Thou canst not rise to seek. Then is the hour for seeing That He hath come to thee; Then is the time for singing, "His touch hath healed me."</p>	<p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When daily cares perplex, And trifles seem to gain a power Thine inner soul to vex. Then is the hour for grasping His hand who walked the sea; Then is the time for singing, "He makes it calm for me."</p>

<p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When some truth thou canst not see For the mists of strife and error, That veil its form from thee. Then is the hour for looking To Him to guide thee right; Then is the time for singing, "The Lord shall be my light."</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, In bright and happy days, When tasting earthly gladness, Or winning human praise. Then is the hour for hiding In the shadow of His wings; Then is the time for singing, "Praise to the King of kings!"</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When thou art wearied sore, When head or hand refuses To think or labor more. Then is the hour for leaning Upon the Master's breast; Then is the time for singing, "My Savior gives me rest."</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When thou art tried with pain; No power for prayer, the only thought How to endure the strain. Then is the hour for resting In His perfect love for thee; Then is the time for singing, "He thinks and cares for me."</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, In days of feebleness, When thou canst only dumbly feel Thine utter helplessness.</p>	<p>Then is the hour for proving His mighty power in thee; Then is the time for singing, "His grace sufficeth me."</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When thou art full of care For wanderers whom thou canst not win Our blessed hope to share. Then is the hour for trusting Thy Lord to bring them nigh; Then is the time for singing, "He loves them more than I."</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When loved ones pass away, When very lonely seems thy life, And very dark thy way. Then is the hour for yielding Entirely to His will; Then is the time for singing, "I have my Savior still."</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, When flesh and heart do fail, And thou art called to enter Death's dark, o'ershadowed vale. Then is the hour for saying, I will no evil fear; Then is the time for singing, "Lord, Thou art with me here."</p> <p>O trust thyself to Jesus, As thy spirit takes its flight, From every earthly shadow, To the realm of perfect light. Then is the hour for shouting, "Christ hath done all for me!" Then is the time for singing, "He gives the victory!"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Poems of Dawn</p>
--	---

Our Sacred Feast

*“This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, whenever you drink it, **in remembrance of Me**. For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim **the Lord's death until He comes.**” - 1 Cor. 11:25, 26*

Soul refreshing and precious truths are contained in this inspired text bearing on the Last Supper. As we review the several accounts of that memorable feast, the meditative spirit is carried back over the long intervening centuries and is reclining at a table in an upper room, intimately associated with at least eleven men like ourselves, sharing with them in the surprises, the gentle rebukes of love, being profoundly impressed with the strange actions and heart stirring words of our Lord and Master. We hear His significant statement, *“I have longed eagerly to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.”* Momentous words we yearn to fully comprehend! And what if nearly twenty centuries have passed away since these words were uttered in that upper room? Had they been the utterance of any other but Jesus, they would today be no more than a faint echo and meaningless to present generations; but the words of Him *who spoke as never man did speak* can never become any mere projected echo.

Who that has known in experience how that divine love can draw to itself, and whose heart has been made more tender through the condescending grace of God, as Jesus revealed in that upper room, can be otherwise than affected more and more by pondering its many exhibitions and by taking to heart the lessons to be learned in that hallowed spot. Memory, mind, and will, having caught the meaning of the words, *“this do in remembrance of me,”* can never forget that which is so blessed to remember, and to daily call to mind, for it was not only an hour of feasting, it was also an hour of never-to-be-forgotten revelations of the heart of Jesus.

Then, too, it was not only a matter of asking us to employ this simple method of keeping His love in remembrance, but

there was a further remark. He adds another measure to our cup of hope and joy by saying that this feast is to last only *“Till the day I drink it new with you in the Kingdom of my Father.”* This is a promise of another and greater feast. It speaks of a time when this present feasting, symbolic in its joy, will give place to a banquet of sublime, celestial grandeur such as our loftiest language could never adequately express. Hence, Jesus is asking us to now join Him in a beautiful perpetuation of a feast which, by its very simplicity and richness in hope, will keep fresh and ever green in our affections the reality of His unchanging love, and enable us to continually share with Him the joy of unfading anticipations of the eternal feast to come.

But the Apostle would have us pause for a moment to make an examination. In the keeping of this feast of remembrance, there are fundamental principles of the greatest possible importance. These principles, or conditions, determine the degree of blessing and profit any participant therein shall receive. The most careful conformity to these conditions, therefore, will bring the heart into a close and precious sense of relationship with the Lord, whereas any neglect or carelessness, lukewarmness, or unforgiven sin, will be sure to bring condemnation. It is this very vital fact that Paul wants all to keep in mind, and so he points out the dangers, and consequences of eating and drinking unworthily, improperly (1 Cor. 11:29). As in the typical feast there was a putting away of all forms of leaven from the abode of the participant, so we must be exercised with the same zeal to obey the divine law of heart purity. (See 1 Cor 5:7, 8.) Like all of God’s arrangements for our approach to Him, this, the greatest of all provisions, must be held in true reverence; and above all other things required is that of heart purity and a humbled spirit.

There must also be uppermost in our thoughts a very real sense of *gratitude* as we keep fresh in mind the sacrifice of Christ on our behalf. The full import of the words of Jesus must be pondered: *“This do in remembrance of Me ... for you do show the Lord’s death till He come.”* This sense of overwhelming gratitude will make possible the attitude of heart in

which to properly survey the sacrifice Jesus asks us to remember.

The eleven men assembled in that far away upper room are truly representative of the rest of us, and therefore from them, in their dull-mindedness, illustrating what is often our own, we may, by carefully observing the tenderness of Jesus in seeking to correct their far too limited vision, learn greatly needed lessons. Joy and sorrow are strangely blended in that same upper room. Compassionate love speaks there by both word and action, in rebuke and pity. Along with His words of happiness over the occasion, Jesus must also speak of things sad and regrettable. Side by side with the sublimest of opportunities ever afforded any of His own, there are things present which are like a dark blot on what might have been a spotless page of their loyal devotion. And over it all, our minds should prayerfully ponder. Is it possible for us to find these things of a regrettable character, a true picture of our own fickleness, or a much too real illustration of our own self-seeking and lovelessness? If into that most hallowed room the dark stain of human weakness came; if in the sacred seclusion of that upper room where all that was unworthy and unclean should have been shut out, or shamed into silence, we hear contending voices, not over an eagerness to be the one to wash the Savior's feet, but in clamor over who ought to be considered greatest among them; if in that place apart and alone with Jesus is found the sinister spirit of betrayal in which, a traitor's heart asks in unison with the others, "*Lord, is it I?*"-- where, then, are we safe from the baneful presence of inbred sin? Where is there a place so far removed from Satan's influence that nothing defiling can come? -- Yes, where indeed, if from this spot selected by Jesus Himself, for so sublime a farewell feast with His own, the inherent weaknesses of our flesh or the malignant forces of evil were not put out!

May God grant to us the undimmed spiritual perception so needed, and by which alone we may hope to be kept from the baneful results of a deceitful heart. May we have been so taught of God, and so received of the love of Jesus that He

can now say of us as He said of His *faithful ones* in that room, "He that is washed...is clean every whit; and *you are clean.*" And yet a greater cleansing came to these disciples, and so it can come to us. We can know that if those men could return to that upper room in after days, not with contention over any supposed right to highest place, nor with a preoccupation with self, sufficient to blind them to golden opportunities, there would be indeed the marked evidence of the salutary effects of the loving tenderness of Jesus. Assuredly there would be humble confessions made by all. Each would feel that his own deflection had been the most reprehensible and inexcusable, and all would regret that in an hour of such solemnity they had been so slow to grasp the glorious opportunities of that quickly passing hour. Upon every heart there would have been stamped an indelible reminder of how a perverted vision must inevitably weave into the web and woof of life's record those sad mistakes over which many a tear will fall when grace has refined and mellowed the heart. Such mistakes, though graciously forgiven, still linger on in memory like shadows across our heaven-ward path.

We are remembering, then, that Jesus has asked us to make this feast *a special remembrance act*. Manifestly the story of that first Supper is not told us with several repetitions just to make known the sad mistakes of the disciples, but rather to forewarn us of imminent dangers surrounding ourselves, and also to strengthen our hearts when our weaknesses are all too painfully revealed. How we too have need of the same words of comfort spoken to our prototype, Peter, "*I have prayed for you that your faith fail not.*" We have not acted better than they. Perhaps we shall yet see when all things are fully revealed to us, that ours has been the most perfidious conduct, and inexcusable shortsightedness. We should not forget that these men made their mistakes before the Spirit was given, while ours have been after receiving it. Thus viewed, *how manifestly we need the lessons of that upper room.*

Jesus girded Himself to do this menial service of washing the feet of men so concerned over claims for highest place in His Kingdom. Let us not forget here that we are in our meditations now as one among them. We are thus not only seeing their neglects, need of instruction and of a richer measure of His love, but **we** are being most mercifully and needfully humbled also. They had called Him Lord and Master, but lips and heart were out of harmony. Peter's reactions to having Jesus wash his feet reveals much of the inward sense of his soul's awakening. This would have been our own inner feeling and alas, even yet might be our confessed sense of shame and regret.

Often, disguised angels come close to us, bringing priceless moments into our daily round of duties, but our eyes are dimmed with earth-born mists, or our hearts have not been sufficiently purified by the cleansing blood to see that God comes thus near, and so our *backward* look reveals, when too late, how greatly we too have failed. "*Inasmuch as you did it not,*" has a solemn warning for us. Oh, you who are even yet contending for the right to recognition above others of God's children, who lay claim to greatest faithfulness among His people, will you not pause in your disputing for a moment and gaze on this upper-room scene, while from the lips of Him who came from God and is soon to return to God are heard these momentous words, "*This do in remembrance of Me?*" Be not concerned over who shall be greatest, but be alert to perceive that he who *would be* greatest, must be *now* in heart and spirit *servant of all*. Oh, the blessedness of our *remembrance of Jesus* by which we are assured of His abiding love for us notwithstanding all our failures.

Then with these upper-room lessons forever fixed in heart and mind we follow Him to the Garden of Gethsemane. He knows how much we want above all things to be as near as possible to Him in this another secluded and sacred spot. In mind, we are of the privileged three who went furthest with Him on that occasion. Their story is ours too. Not once, but alas many times, we have been found sleeping amid circum-

stances when every faculty of our spiritual being should have been in lively animation. Certainly we knew of trials to come by which many would prove deficient in qualities we were assured we possessed ourselves: *we would never, no never forsake the Lord, though all others did so!* Perhaps, because of some special knowledge imparted to us relative to a wider vision of God's completed redemptive purpose, we have become imbued with a spirit of uncharitableness by which the highest seat at even this sacred remembrance feast was unblushingly claimed as *our* special right. Pitiful revelation! Instead of revealing that such unmerited grace had humbled us, it has revealed how easily we can fall into spiritual pride. How regrettable it is that such lack of humble gratitude on our part should attempt to shut away from this table any of those redeemed by the same precious blood. The atmosphere of this feasting upper room is pervaded with the blessed assurance that *"at the Cross there's room" for all!*

In the little while that yet remains we will *"keep the feast."* We will continue to bless God for *"the blood of the covenant wherewith we are sanctified,"* and keep under that all-sufficient cleansing blood. Before long the number of God's elect will be complete. In a little time, perhaps shorter than we think, we will have proved our devotion to Christ up to the measure He seeks in all His own. Then the toils of the way will be over, the waiting ended, our suffering for His sake finished. Till then, this *remembrance of Him* will be treasured and sealed up in our inner heart -- *"till He come."* Home is near and each day draws nearer!

J. J. Blackburn

¹In mem'ry of the Saviour's love
We keep this simple feast,
Where ev'ry consecrated heart
Is made a welcome guest.

³This cup shall e'er recall the hour
When thou didst set us free;
Soon with new joy in Kingdom pow'r
We'll drink it, Lord, with thee.

²By faith we take the bread of life
Which this doth symbolize;
This cup in token of his blood,
Our costly sacrifice.

⁴What rapturous joy shall then be ours,
Forever Lord, with thee!
Clothed with our resurrection pow'rs,
Thine endless praise shall be.

Christ's Victory over Death

The transgression of our first parents in Eden is the cause of death for all mankind. The Apostle Paul says in Romans 5:12, "Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned." Without this violation of the Law of God, there would not have been any death. Man would have lived forever in a condition of Edenic perfection in endless peace and happiness to this very day.

In harmony with the Bible we come to the conclusion that God has subjected man to death according to a pre-ordered plan which will reach its completion in due time -- at a time when all mankind will have learned the great lessons that sin and death teach us. Then God will restore all the dead to life, not for a few centuries, or a few millennia, but for eternity.

God's plan holds only one hope for the liberation of the whole human race. This hope has always been a *living hope* to God's chosen people, even many centuries before the first advent of Jesus; this living hope is the *resurrection of the dead*. Speaking of God's ancient chosen people, the writer to the Hebrews says, "By faith women received their dead risen to life again." These words simply mean that they had faith in that future time when there will be a resurrection and they will receive their departed loved ones alive -- back from the dead.

This hope was based on God's promises such as we read in Hosea 13:14 -- "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plague; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes." Also in Ezekiel 37:12 "Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel." These promises and many others like them were the hope and the heart of that people. In due time, they will see these fulfilled in their long awaited Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ when he returns again.

Jesus' resurrection was the only reason for this splendid hope which, like the morning star, gives light to the world. No one before Jesus had been raised from the dead with any right to life. The prophet Elijah had returned a dead boy to life, and Elisha had done the same, but these were not true resurrections but only resuscitation to their former life.

Jesus himself had awakened three persons from death. But all of these died again because they had no right as yet, to eternal life. Jesus was perfect, holy, sinless and thus not subject to Adamic death as all of us are. Jesus perfectly obeyed the Mosaic Law as given by God – that Law which none before him had been able to obey. Because of his obedience and being the perfect sacrifice, his *ransom for all* was acceptable to the Father. He suffered death for the salvation of the entire human race.

In prophesying the redemptive mission of Jesus, Isaiah wrote: “He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed...Yet, it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he shall make his soul (life)an offering for sin. By his knowledge my righteous servant shall justify many, for he shall bear their iniquities.” Isaiah 53:5, 6, 11.

By his death, Jesus offered a perfect sacrifice. His was a voluntary death, which he could have avoided if he had so desired. He had told his disciples of his coming death, as well as his resurrection; but evidently they had not understood the full meaning of his words, therefore, the crucifixion was, to them -- a terrible shock.

For the evil creature, Satan -- the death of Jesus seemed his greatest triumph. However, when our Lord rose from the dead, Satan realized his greatest defeat. Actually, Jesus’ resurrection was the greatest event in all of history – the most splendid light in this world of darkness. Such an event reassured the broken hopes of his disciples, because it was proof and an undeniable manifestation of his divine power, and as such, it filled the hearts of his disciples with a living hope, peace and joy.

He is Risen

“He is not here” said the angel to the sorrowful but surprised women who had come to the sepulcher. “He is risen!” This great news filled their hearts with wonder and joy as they ran to bring these tidings to Jesus’ grieving disciples. After the manifestation of skepticism by the disciples at this unbelievable news, later in that evening, it gave place to joy and wonder when the Lord appeared among them. That day darkness was changed to light because death had finally been conquered and the brilliant star of the Resurrection was shining across the sky.

The Resurrection of our Lord furnishes us the divine assurance of the coming liberation of all the prisoners in that huge prison house of death, which is the grave. Jesus proclaimed in Rev. 1:18,

“I have the keys of hell (the grave) and of death,” and in God’s due time, he will unlock and open wide the gates and let the prisoners free. He predicted this would take place in due time by saying, *“Marvel not at this, but the hour is coming in which all those who are in the graves shall hear my voice and shall come forth (John 5:28).* The Apostle Paul also affirmed there shall be a resurrection for all in 1 Corinthians 15:22 and Acts 24:15.

In view of these wonderful promises in the Word of God, we have strong faith in the promised resurrection of the dead. Before long we shall see the miracle of millions and billions of the dead returning to life, and there will be untold numbers of families and good friends reunited with joy and happiness. At that time no one will ever die again the Adamic death – rather there will be a great flood of life and vitality for all which will enrich the human family from generation to generation with complete victory over the forces of evil. In that new world there will no longer be any temptation for drugs, alcohol and other vices; no more diseases, no more hospitals, clinics, funeral parlors or cemeteries; there will be no more constant struggle for money, privilege or power. All these things will be over forever. The return of Christ will bring undreamed of joy, peace, health and life to all the obedient in that blessed Millennial Age.

In the resurrection not only will all these wonderful things be restored to mankind, to all who will obey the laws of the Kingdom on their way to the perfection that was lost in Adam, but death itself will be finally destroyed (Isa. 25:7, 8; Rev. 21:1-4). The Apostle Paul in his glorious vision of the Kingdom of God on earth, evidences its triumph with these words, *“For he must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet, the last enemy to be destroyed is death” (1 Cor. 15:25, 26).*

Thus God’s Plan will reach its glorious fulfillment, when heaven and earth will again be united in full harmony under the Fatherhood of God, in a spirit of universal brotherhood, because of the death and resurrection of Jesus – the precious Lamb of God, “which takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29), the Mediator between God and man (1 Tim. 2:5,6), the One “Who is worthy to receive power and riches, and wisdom and strength, and honor and glory and blessing” (Rev. 5:12)!

Therefore, let us humble ourselves so that in due time the mighty Hand of God will exalt us. Let us place all our plans, worries and problems in His hands, because, *He cares* for us.

1 Peter 5:7

Gaetano Boccaccio

Eldad and Medad

Eldad and Medad had been slaves in Egypt. Born slaves of a nation of slaves, they hardly dared hope that deliverance would come in their own lifetime, until Moses came their way. The name of Moses had been familiar for many years to all their friends and acquaintances in the slave village which was their home. He was a great man and lived at the King's Palace, and was reputedly the son of the King's daughter. Eldad and Medad knew better; it was whispered from mouth to mouth, when the Egyptian taskmasters were looking the other way, that Moses was in reality one of themselves. Some of their own kindred had seen and spoken with his father and mother. Miriam his sister, and Aaron his brother, were slaves like themselves. There was a reason, too, for Moses being at the King's Palace. He was learning all the wisdom of the Egyptians so that one day he could lead the slaves out of their bondage into a land where they could live as free men. Eldad and Medad, young men both, straight-ened their backs and their eyes glowed with pride and hope as they talked about that. They had been brought up by godly parents and although very few of their fellow-slaves believed in God or had any hope that He might one day deliver, Eldad and Medad had been well instructed in the ancient stories of their ancestors and they knew of God's promise to their forefather Abraham, that after many years in Egypt He would cause them to be delivered. There was no outward evidence that the time had yet come or was anywhere near, nevertheless there were days when they hoped, and talked with brighter eyes and fast-beating hearts.

Then came the bitter disappointment when Moses left the King's Palace and disappeared—none knew where. There was talk of some trouble; an Egyptian overseer had been killed and Moses was concerned in it; no one seemed to know much about the details but one thing was definite—Moses was no longer their hoped-for champion. Eldad and Medad conversed about it at times but for the most part they kept their thoughts to themselves, even yet hoping against hope that in some wonderful way God might remember them and fulfil his promise.

They had waited a long time—forty years since the disappearance of Moses and in all that long period no sign that God

either knew or cared. Eldad and Medad were no longer young men now; they had both passed their three score years and began to find the daily task of brickmaking strangely arduous, much more so than of yore. But there were compensations. To the little circle of slaves that, unlike the majority of their fellows, refused to worship the gods of Egypt but held fast to the dim traditions of Abraham and the promise, Eldad and Medad had become pillars of strength. They still believed, strong in faith, and looked daily for the coming of the Deliverer. Somehow there was in them the workings of a Spirit, telling them that the time would not be much longer delayed...

He came with breathless haste, that young man, so zealous for the honour of his master and leader, the great Moses. From the centre of the camp of Israel he had run, across the level sand shimmering in the blinding glare of the noon-day sun, to where Moses stood at the gate of the Tabernacle. The seventy elders, grave, dignified sons of Israel, supremely conscious of their position of ministers to the Lord's people, made way somewhat reluctantly to give him access to the Leader. Joshua, taut and rigid in his soldier's attire, stepped forward a half pace, hand on sword, almost as if to challenge the newcomer's progress. Only Moses remained calm, unruffled.

The runner halted, panting. He was almost out of breath, but not so much that he could not turn and point, with not altogether steady finger, to the dense crowd of men and women which could be discerned, even at this distance, in the great space at the centre of the black goatskin tents. He spoke, hurriedly, his voice one in which subservience and indignation were strangely mingled, and as he spoke the enquiring eyes of the listening elders sought the face of Moses and remained fixed on him. "*Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp!*" (Num. 11:26-27)

It was true! While the rest of the elders of Israel had gathered at the Tabernacle to hear the instructions of God at the mouth of Moses, the Divine Spirit had rested upon those two who had remained back there in the Camp and now they were telling them of the things of God, without any mandate or permission from Moses the Leader. Disapproval showed itself on each counte-

nance; resentment that these two men should apparently have appointed themselves to proclaim and teach the truth of God without waiting for or seeking an ordination from Moses the accepted leader of the people in things relating to their covenant with God. A whispering began, a shaking of heads; these two men were surely slighting the company of the elders, setting up their own judgment as against the judgment of the majority. This independence of thought and action ought to be stopped; the Lord surely had already shown that his favour was with the organised body of elders and the priesthood in whose care reposed the Tabernacle and all its ceremonies. What right had these two, owning responsibility to no influential company in Israel, subject to no kind of control from priest or prince, to assert for themselves the privilege of preaching to the people? Surely Moses would quickly put a stop to this incipient heresy. He had been in the mountain with God and had spoken with God and God had given him the Law which he had written with his own finger; Moses would surely very soon put these upstarts in their proper place. The elders turned towards him expectantly, still burning with indignation at this audacity. "*Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp.*"

Joshua had sprung forward, his youthful features alive with fiery zeal. The hand grasping the sword twitched nervously. There was outraged loyalty and hot jealousy for his Leader's honour in his tone, as he cried impetuously "My lord Moses, forbid them!" (Num. 11:28)

The magnificent figure of Moses stood motionless, his clear eyes piercing into the distance straight to those two dynamic forms in the middle of the crowd, moving from side to side and gesturing with hand and arm as they addressed the multitude. Long did he gaze, and slowly withdrew his eyes from viewing that distant scene to turn them upon those who now crowded around him so closely. He looked upon the runner, waiting before him, so secure in his knowledge of duty well done; upon the righteous elders, every movement of their robes betokening the quivering of outraged dignity; upon Joshua, standing there in wrathful indignation; and as he looked, the keen eyes suddenly softened, the stern lips, almost hidden by the shaggy beard, parted in a

half smile and in an indulgent, almost fatherly tone, he asked them "*Enviest thou for my sake?*" (Num. 11:29) The strong hands moved suddenly in a gesture of entreaty; the fine eyes looked upward with an expression of unutterable longing. "*WOULD GOD*" cried the great Prophet of Israel "*WOULD (TO) GOD THAT ALL THE LORD'S PEOPLE WERE PROPHETS, AND THAT THE LORD WOULD PUT HIS SPIRIT UPON THEM!*" (v.29)

More than three thousand years have passed since that memorable day. We have not learned the lesson yet. We, many of us, still circle around our favourite leader, our favourite organisation, our favourite avenue of service, and refuse to admit to ourselves the supreme truth that God, Who has all the resources of all his creation at his command, all the heart's devotion and life's endeavour of all who have given their lives to him on which to call, is not limited to one means of expression or one channel of revelation in the world of men. The One Who "hath made everything beautiful in his time:" (Eccl. 3:11) Who has evolved the flowers and the trees, the insects and the birds, the mountains and the valleys, into a thousand different forms and has never made any one sunset exactly like another must surely be pleased to beautify his truth with the same variety of expression and diversity of ministration. The Apostle Paul tells us as much. Does he not say "*there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all...all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will*" (1 Cor. 12. 4-11)? We must needs be positive in our own beliefs in Divine Truth and zealous in the discharge of the work that has been committed to our hands; that does not entitle us to assume that there can be no other acceptable service for our Lord nor that none who have not received their ordination to ministry through our own channel can share in the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit. No single well can give forth all the stored waters of the earth and no one river can carry all the rainfall from the heavens; neither can any one of us comprehend, far less expound and minister, more than the veriest fraction of the accumu-

lated treasures of wisdom and knowledge that are gathered up within God's holy Word.

Let us then in our own service and ministry bear this great truth in mind and look with sympathetic brotherliness upon all who are serving with their talents our gracious Master. Let us seek to find true fellowship wherever the Spirit of Christ is manifest and let us, in our own allegiance to the things we ourselves have received, try to help, rather than hinder, those who are labouring in a different corner of the vineyard. The disciples tried once to restrain one who "followed not (with) us," and Jesus reproved them. "*Forbid him not*" He said, "*for there is no man that shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me.*" (Mark 9:38-40) When Peter, more concerned about the Lord's intentions for others than for himself, asked "Lord, what shall this man do?" (John 21:21) he was told, very kindly but none the less plainly, to mind his own business and see to the execution of his own commission. "*Go thou and preach the gospel.*" So with us; we enter most into the spiritual presence of our Lord if we realise that He is conducting a great work here on earth in this our day; that to each one of us is committed some very small and yet some very definite and very important part of that work; that we individually are not permitted to view the whole work in its entirety and indeed could not do so, but that our Master has all the threads in his own strong hands and will bring all together in one harmonious pattern in his own due time. Meanwhile we do well to pray and labour for the increase of the number of those who will serve the Lord. "*Pray ye...the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into his harvest.*" (Matt. 9:38) The need is great, there is room and yet room for all who will come and serve our Lord. Would to God, let this be our prayer, would to God that *all* the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his Spirit upon them!

A.O. Hudson
Bible Student Monthly, England

They condemn, who do not understand.

Patience

Patience – latin “pati” – “to suffer”

Webster’s Dictionary - “The quality of calmness – quiet perseverance.

The only reference to patience found in the Hebrew Scriptures is in Ecclesiastes 7:8 that says, “*The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.*” In the Greek scriptures we find it 32 times from the word “hupomene” and 17 times from the word “hupomeno”, meaning to endure.

For two thousand years the Lord’s disciples have been anticipating His return as was promised at His departure. “*And they said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”* Acts 1:11 Likewise, we are looking for Him today, and Lord willing, He will return soon.

However, we know that God’s timetable is different than ours. Since our Lord ascended, much disappointment has been felt by His faithful followers who expected the Lord to return in their lifetime. Let us not be guilty of that mistake. True, we have been given many “signs” foreshadowing His return and many of these are occurring now. But no man knows that date or hour. “*But about that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.*” Matt. 24:36

We are told to watch and pray. See Matthew 24; Mark 13 & Luke 21. This watching is a test of our patience. In Luke 21:19 Jesus tells us “*In your patience possess Ye your souls.*”

The faithful patriarchs such as Job showed great patience, and we are instructed to follow their examples in Hebrews 12:1 and “*... run with patience the race that is set before us.*” James writes “*Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts! For the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.*” James 5:8 He also writes

“Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect.” Jas. 1:3-4 The Apostle Peter reminds us to *“... add to your temperance, patience; and to patience godliness...”* 2 Peter 1:6

The church at Ephesus was commended for their patience. *“I know your deeds and your labor and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil people, and you have put those who call themselves apostles to the test, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured on account of My name, and have not become weary.”* Rev. 2:2-3 Likewise, the churches in Thyatira (2:19) and Philadelphia were praised for their patience, *“Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.”* Rev 3:10

In Revelation 13:10 we have the prophecy of the beast coming out of the sea and making war with the saints and we are warned *“... Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.”* This warning is repeated in Revelation 14:12, when the fall of Babylon is pictured.

May we ever remember Jesus’ admonition to us, *“In your patience possess ye your souls.”* God bless!

D. Anas

<p>PATIENCE. THE purple grape must be crushed To make the sweet, red wine, And furnace fires must fiercely burn, The drossy gold to refine; The wheel must cruelly grind, Else where the jewel's light? And the steel submit to the polish- ing, Or how would the sword grow bright?</p>	<p>How then, my soul, wilt thou The Spirit's fruits possess, Except thou lovingly yield thyself To the Hand that wounds to bless? Then patiently let the fire Consume all earthly dross-- Thou canst not hope to wear the Crown, If thou refuse the Cross!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Poems of Dawn</p>
---	--

Taking Responsibility

It is my hope that this article will reveal not just how important it is to take responsibility for our errors, but more importantly to develop the understanding of the heart condition that allows it. Taking responsibility when we err is a good thing because it is the first step of overcoming, through the act of repentance. This process of overcoming is enabled by humility that allows us to see the truth of the matter at hand, not being blinded by our baser instincts centered in self, or self-worth (pride), and instead, the Word of God that should guide us in every position we take.

Mark Twain coined a truism that can be sorrowfully witnessed, especially today. He wrote, "It's easier to fool people than it is to convince them that they have been fooled." It takes humility to search the heart, and not to lean on a sense of "duty" that today seems to justify ungodly behavior and blindness to the truth, and what is right. Lying has become so common place in the world that "Christians" have become numb to the sting of lies and the seriousness of "being a false witness." Blinded by a false sense of duty, many Christians are willing to get into bed with the devil to help God rid the world of sin, forgetting that they themselves are sinners, and in need of forgiveness. With that sense of "duty" they ignore the clear admonition and warning given them that "*ye will know them by their fruits*" (Mat 7:15-20). This warning is given that we do not become deceived by deceivers and liars and fall ourselves into condemnation. We, who have put on the whole armor of God, should be able to see a lie and a false witness whose message may appear to be purposeful, but is opposed to God's Word and character.

Do children of God ever want to support the lead of liars and self-aggrandized sinners for any cause? Is there ever any justification for doing so? Christians should know their Shepherd...the One they should look to for the healing of the nations, and not be deceived by self-absorbed liars and those hungry to maintain their power, without a shred of integrity.

These are anti-Christ's that Jesus and the scriptures warn us not to fall prey to. Jesus told the Scribes and Pharisees of His time that *"ye are of your father the devil."* (Jn 8:44) But instead of seeing what is so evident, some are blinded by greed and power, much like the Scribes and Pharisees that Jesus spoke of, while others fall prey to a false sense of duty and perhaps the feeling that the end justifies the means, which should be readily seen as an abomination to the Lord. The world in ignorance has an excuse, but the Christian who should know the Word of God ought not to be deceived.

In 1Kings 13 we read of the Man of God sent to warn King Jeroboam of his disobedience. After finally accepting and taking to heart the Man of God's warning, Jeroboam offered his hospitality to the Man of God, who refused it, having been commanded by God not to eat or drink or return home by the same route. Having a sense of duty, the Man of God told the king that he would not accept his offer, even if he was given half of the king's house. Yet on his way back to Judah, the Man of God was so easily deceived by a lie, that he broke the Lord's commandment not to eat or drink and was punished by the Lord with death. This account instilled fear in me, that a well-meaning servant of the Lord was put to death for being deceived, and thereby disobedient. Why was this so, what was the Man of God lacking? He had a sense of duty, but unfortunately was lacking the humility to immediately repent and take responsibility for his disobedience....to immediately stop eating, and drop to his knees to ask God for forgiveness. Instead he proceeded home as if nothing was wrong, and consequently was unable to receive the Lord's mercy.

In 1Kings 21 Elijah was sent to King Ahab to condemn him and his evil wife Jezebel for their great wickedness. We read in verse 27, *"...when Ahab heard the words of condemnation from Elijah, he immediately rent his cloths, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly."* The Lord's response to Elijah in verse 29 was, *"Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days..."*. Per-

haps Ahab did not have the proper sense of duty and listened to his wicked wife, but because of humility, he took responsibility for his evil deeds, and unlike the Man of God, was spared.

I have witnessed well-meaning people who become easily offended over interpretations of the scriptures that they see differently. Paul addresses what should be a proper spirit in Rom. 14. I have witnessed the positions of some who support and justify leaders who outwardly break God's commandments, saying God is using them to support prophecy, when what they are doing dishonors the Lord. When Jesus was accused of casting out demons by the power of Satan, He explained *"that every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation...."* (Luke 11:17). All evil doers of this world who willingly defy God's Word are of their father the devil, and are opposed to God, NOT doing His will.

On the other hand, taking responsibility or credit for achievements is easy, because it bolsters the flesh and reflects pride, which is perhaps equally offensive and damaging to our wellbeing, because it fails to recognize the true Giver of our successes. The discernment of Godly principles presented in God's Word must always be our guide when considering choices, and not falling prey to a lie and a liar. In every situation, we must humbly look to the Lord for guidance, with a humble and forgiving heart.

J. DiCesare

You cannot mend your way with the weak thread of excuses

A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else.

The only failure a man ought to fear is failing to cleave to the purpose he sees is best.

The Solid Rock

One of my fondest memories of growing up in northern New Hampshire in the 60's and 70's was being surrounded by the natural beauty of the White Mountains and the cascading radiance of the Presidential Range landscape that surrounded my home where I lived. One of nature's grand wonders in the North Country was the natural rock formation that became known as "The Old Man of the Mountain", made internationally famous by Nathaniel Hawthorne back in the early 1900's in his short story called "The Great Stone Face".



The "Old Man of the Mountain" remained a huge tourist attraction for over 200 years until nature once again took its toll and, undone by natural erosion, the "Old Man of the Mountain" eventually broke apart and fell down the Franconia Notch mountainside in May of 2003.

The Bible reminds us that there is a solid rock that will never break and whose foundation will never crumble – that Rock is Jehovah God, the Almighty. Moses in making his final declaration to the Nation of Israel before his death, spoke to them reminding them of the awesomeness of the one true God:

"For I proclaim the name of the LORD; Ascribe greatness to our God! The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He." Deut 32:4 (emphasis added)

What a wonderful reminder for the children of God. That in a world of uncertainty, with social values that change like shifting sand, with evil and godlessness seemingly running rampant, one thing we can be sure of is that our God is solid and unchanging – a very present help in times of trouble (Ps.46:1) -- A glorious note of assurance in these turbulent and decadent times.

The question each child of God needs to ask themselves daily is 'Am I building my life on a true and solid foundation?' Jesus gives us the simple answer in His parable on the two foundations, found in Matthew chapter 7, when He said, "*Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.* ²⁵ *And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.*" (emphasis added)

When we take the words of Jesus from God's Holy Bible, and make a dedicated effort to have them become a viable & purposeful facet of our everyday way of life, Jesus says then we will have the wisdom needed to face life with an assured confidence and trust like no other, no matter how the tides of circumstance flow.

What solid rock are you building your life on today? There is truly only one you can trust - the Almighty God of heaven and earth. He will never let you down. He is the Omniscient and all-powerful God of the universe, who wants to hold you in the palm of His hands and to bless you to the fullest. He has given you His only begotten Son and asks you to trust Jesus like you trust Him. Jesus says the only way to do this is by listening to His every word and living our lives according to that word. That's as solid as it can get.

"On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand." William Bradbury – "The Solid Rock."

D Gorham

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him."
John 6:53-56 NASB

Respect - A Lost Virtue?

A mixed feeling arises frequently when looking at our world. The technological progress of the last 150 years is breathtaking. Are we still aware the Internet was made available for everyone only since April 30, 1993? Previously, it was only possible to write emails. A common mobile phone does more than a main-frame since the time of the moon landing. The world seems to turn ever more rapidly through a sustained technical explosion. You get the feeling that everything is faster, better, higher and often much more spectacular.

And what about the people? - Do the people change also? Certainly! There has been, in the course of recent decades, a profound change in the lives of people altogether. And this still take place. Today, there is no difficulty with a computer-mouse click to send data around the world, to talk with people from a different part of the world, and to see them on the screen at the same time (Ex: Skype). And all of these communicative possibilities are good, if *they are not abused*. But with a glance in the recent past we notice also quite a few negative developments. So many values and principles of life remain in danger on the human track. What was kept earlier of high moral value, loses its importance in certain situations.

I still remember my childhood - It was completely natural in the bus or tram to stand up when approached by an elderly passenger when there was no free space otherwise. My parents put great value in education on mutual respect for the other person, whether colleagues, neighbors, customers.... but it is, unfortunately, not self-evident as it once was.

And how do we as Christians do? - Is our life in community with others one of respect? *"In humility one considers the other higher than himself"* (Philippians 2:3). These words are timeless and will never expire. It doesn't matter how fast the world may revolve. On the other hand, I bring to your attention those who don't respect our brothers and my sisters. And some may respond with a loud inner 'yes!' that respect is missing. Jesus Himself once said that people who obey Him, recognize one an-

other as His followers, and that they meet each other in love. *Love and respect go together always.*

We take a look into our daily life - What about my friends, my family, my relatives, what do they see when they look at me? Do they see the hand of God in my life? Do they feel my honest condolences, my respect and my sincere interest towards them?

Here in Austria, many foreign men from southern Europe came to our country in the 1950s and 1960s. They were recruited as guests of companies, to be here to carry out activities, which none of us wanted to do anymore. Thousands of migrant workers not only came, but often also remained. Over the years, they moved their families here, and in turn, grew their own families. Many foreigners came to us along the way. This trend intensified as years later the borders opened in Europe, especially after the "iron curtain" fell.

For a long time, people from all over the world also sought refuge in our country - There may undeniably be some who have no credible political or religious reason to leave their homeland. How do we meet the former migrant workers, the new migrants and the other refugees? Shouldn't they receive the same respect as our German fellows show us?

God is very unique. For example, in the Old Testament we find an important hint: *"and if a stranger comes where you live in your country, you shall not oppress him. He should stay with you like a native among you, and you shall love him even as yourself"* (Leviticus 19:33-34a). Here then is how to live with those from other countries who now live in our country with us. It is not mercy, nor an act of grace, but it is the Word of God that we must obey. Nothing more and nothing less! It does not matter what skin color, or what origin, or what religion and what culture someone belongs to.

When we look to the New Testament and to Jesus, we can learn perfect respect. We see the woman at Jacob's well (John 4) who at the time had very few rights. Her case was still even worse; for she had had sexual contact with various men, and was therefore considered by her neighbors to be violated and was despised. Therefore she comes also *in the heat of the*

day alone to the fountain, to draw water. And what did Jesus do? He broke through the social barrier, addresses her and her situation and communicates with her. Why does He do that? *Because He looks at her with respect, with eyes of divine love.* He knows that she, too, was created in the image of His Father in heaven as well as any other person. He glossed over nothing, but pointed out her sin by name and although he is the Son of God, He speaks to the woman on a new level. There is a very honest respectful interest shared with her.

We need to copy this example 100% and live it as Christians. We have the privilege to imitate Him, to do it just as He did. This is not just religious advice. No, these are clear examples and instructions from God's Word. Jesus is the example in life for each of us. We must meet every person with love and respect. This is not a task just for pastors, elders, and deacons. This affects all of us.

Every human being deserves respect, appreciation and sympathy. This starts not only when we are on the same wavelength, but it should start when first we meet. Jesus died on the cross for me, and I wanted to know everything about Him. He held out His hand to me first and I was privileged to follow Him.

In the New Testament, we find in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13 an impressive, very clear and strong statement for our lives as Christians. It is the song of love. Without love, the Son of God would not have been a perfect man. Without love, Jesus would not have bled and died for our debt. Without love, even if He draws us forward, we are completely unable to live such a life. Without love we are totally useless to Him in His eyes. *We do not produce this love ourselves.* We can receive this only through Him. With this Agape love there develops a coexistence with one another. Substitute in 1 Corinthians 13, each place where love is, and use the word respect. Of course, love means much more. But even so, *love is not possible without respect.*

I pray that we will all have good experiences in living out these words. Perhaps, we can better see our fellow human beings with the eyes of love and deep respect, bringing us into accord with God's way. Let us never forget this. May this be an encouragement to us all.

H. F. Ofner

We Would See Jesus

"He is altogether lovely" - Canticles 5:16

Life has its battle grounds, where fierce conflicts are waged against opposing forces. Life has its fjords and crossing places, where we go over from one great experience to another. Life has its mills, where are ground out the product of a greater love and a sener trust. And life has its gardens of peace, where one can sit beneath the blossoming boughs and rejoice in the warbling of the feathered songsters of the place.

And it was one of the gardens of peace that Jesus found in a certain home in Bethany. It was for Him a little oasis in the world's desert. We know not what took Him there on the occasion of His first visit, but we are told that He conceived a love for Lazarus and His sisters, Mary and Martha. There were many homes that might have entertained the Master, but they failed to do so. They failed to see their opportunity. It has been said that opportunity knocks once at every door. We do not know. But we do know that it can be turned away. It does not insist on entrance. It just comes. In appearance it may not even seem pre-possessing, but it is opportunity none the less, and it has precious jewels to give to those who can receive it.

Much has been said on the subject of Mary and Martha. No doubt they were both very good women. During one of our Lord's visits to their home it would seem that Martha was occupied with the house work more than was necessary. Consequently she was missing a thing of great value. Mary saw something of this and desired it. Yet at a later time Martha manifested great faith in Jesus, and we can believe that in heart she was His true friend to the last.

There were times when Jesus needed comfort and refreshment, just as His followers do. The world is a hard, stern place in which to live. We do not refer to the natural world, but to the world of affairs that man has reared. There are times when the heart grows weary with the incessant struggle and with the inclement elements, and when we yearn to step out of it all for ever so brief a span. Then perchance, we think of the home of a friend, one who will understand and whose words will buoy us up and cheer us along life's way. For *a true friend is a priceless possession in a dark world.*

Mary and Martha appeal to us as being the friends of Jesus. And the Master did not have many friends on this earth. The people did not understand Him. He had been called with a calling of which they knew nothing. They failed to discern the temple wherein He dwelt. And little did they know that the dome of that temple reached up to the very skies. The thoughts of Jesus soared far above the selfish

schemes and ambitions of men. He was in the world, and yet the world saw Him not for what He was.

And the world sees Him not for what He is *today*. Yet the world needs to see Him more than it needs anything else. *To see Jesus is the highest vision that God can grant to man.* And if we belong to the favored few who do, His friends under all conditions of life, we have a source of joy that the sum total of the world's hardships cannot remove from *us*.

Suppose that by pressing a magic button we could transfer ourselves from this modern sphere of existence to the little town of Bethany over nineteen centuries ago. Here we are in the home of Lazarus. And here is Jesus, travel-worn and weary, yet able to speak as *never man spoke*. And of what is the Master talking? Is it politics? Is it about the recent arrest of some criminal? Is it about the affairs that make up the Roman world? Is it about any one of a thousand things that frequently engage our conversation when we meet together? Evidently not, it is something higher than these things that so completely chains the attention of Mary. Jesus must have spoken some beautiful words in that quiet home. We are not given the discourse. But it must have contained something about His Father, something about salvation's mighty plan. How our Lord must have loved to speak of these matters to those who had the heart and mind to receive them! Ah, yes! here in this simple abode *we see Jesus - not in the palaces of the great, but with the meek and lowly of heart, with those who possessed the capacity for faith and love.*

But the *spell is broken*. We are back again in our modern world. Men are clamoring for dollars and cents. Pride and selfishness are turning human hearts to stone. Nations have brought upon the scenes the grim terrors of war. Darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people. Wild beasts of destruction have been unleashed! Oh! that I might see Jesus with the human eye. Oh! that we might hear the tender accents of His voice. *The world is waiting for the sunrise*, a sunrise to be brought to men by Him. Poor human hearts that by the million are breaking. Oh, golden Day of God, with your unspeakable plentitude of joy! *Come soon! Come soon!*

But while we cannot see Jesus with the natural eye, we can see Him in a higher sense with *the eye of faith*. We see His tenderness, His compassion, His love. There are times when His presence is so real that other things just fade away. But for the most part the vision of His face is reposefully calm, and as we reach out in the darkness and touch His hand, He speaks to us in a still small voice, yet with words of strength and assurance that drive all our fears away.

We would see Jesus with a still closer and truer vision. Before long the thunders of the world shall crash, and the billows of human

passion shall surge upon the land. But *"there's a river the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the dwelling place of the tabernacles of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved. God shall help her, and that right early."* Let us then look up above the blackness and gloom, and we shall see a star, and while we gaze and gaze upon it, it assumes a form. It comes nearer and nearer...now there can be no doubt about it... it is indeed the very Christ, the Son of God! Ah! yes, He is looking on, and He knows that the world's approaching change is now at the doors.

And soon this Mighty One shall wield the rod of His power over a boundless domain. No more then shall the pale specter of death stalk about the land. No more shall rivers of blood flow because of devastating wars. No more shall the gaunt hand of famine lay millions in the tomb. No more shall the sons of toil be exploited by the plutocrat and the profiteer. One country shall arise to catch the beams of glory poured forth by the Sun of Righteousness, and that country shall be *the world*. One people shall dwell therein in freedom, in happiness and in life, and that people shall be *mankind*. One law shall shine forth in a mundane paradise to eternally safeguard the interests of the human family, and that shall be *the law of Love*. And upon a new foundation shall be built a new world -the theme of all God's ancient prophets - *to reflect the radiance of righteousness, joy, and peace forevermore. That is what the vision of the Christ will mean to the sons of men.*

We would see Jesus *when morning gilds the skies*, before we start in on the tasks and duties of the day. We would see Him in the evening when night clothes the earth in sable robes, and we want to feel the assurance that His guardian angel will be with us during the hours of sleep. We would see Him when temptation assails us, and receive the overcoming power that He promised to His own. We would see Him when trouble like a gloomy cloud has settled down, and the flail of anguish beats upon the heart. We would see Him every day, and under all the vicissitudes of the years.

Then **let us** see Him! *Let us take care that nothing robs us of our heavenly vision. Let us follow the example of Mary of Bethany, and sit at His feet. Let us enjoy the good portion that cannot be taken from us while our hearts are right.* Over two thousand years of sorrows, and over the world's dark sea of death, *let us see the Master's face smiling upon us in love, and let us hear His words, pure and tender and sweet as when he uttered them so long ago, "Come unto Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me," or "I am meek and lowly in heart, and you shall find rest unto your souls."* And, *"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom."*

W. Sargeant

A Portrait of Jesus -- Perfect Love

It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.” John 13:1



Jesus knew the end was getting closer. The time of His suffering was about to begin and these disciples he had groomed and grown to love so much were about to be on their own, without Him to guide them. There was one last lesson to teach them before he left, the lesson of servanthood. He washed each one's feet, even those of Judas, who He knew would betray Him. When He finished He explained why He had washed their feet, *“I have set for you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”* John 13:15

We learn from other accounts that Jesus partook of the Last Supper with them. He shared the bread and wine and explained that they represented His body and blood that would be shed for them. John tells us that Jesus predicted His betrayal and then Peter's denial, which would all take place in the coming hours. He promised to send the Holy Spirit, assuring them that He would not desert them and leave them alone without guidance.

It was His love for His Father and His love for them that would dictate what the next hours would bring. He would go to the garden of Gethsemane and pray, asking them to watch with Him, but they fell asleep. He would agonize alone with His Father. His Father would send angels to comfort Him. He would be betrayed by Judas who He loved. He would be beaten and led to the cross to die a shameful death...all for love! He died for the love of His Father in heaven, for the love of His disciples, for the love of His enemies, for the love He has for you and I. John says He loved His disciples to the very end. Beyond that He loved you and me before we were even here to take our first breath! Love ruled His life on this earth and love dictated His death. Love, perfect love is who He is, it is who His Father is and it is who we must become.

D. Mathewson

Children's Story Corner: Obeying Governing Authorities



Dear Ones,

I know that you respect authority. I know you honor and obey your parents. I know you respect and obey your teachers. By obeying your parents and teachers, who represent the government, you are obeying God.

Exodus 20:12 says, "Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long upon the land which Jehovah your god is giving you." "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." (Ephesians 6:1) Colossians 3:20 puts it this way, "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is right in the Lord."

But what if your parents tell you to do something wrong, like to steal something? God tells us, "Thou shalt not steal." (Exodus 20:15) What if your father tells you to go into the hardware store and get him a wrench, to shoplift? Should you obey your father, or obey God? Your father is responsible for taking care of you while you are young. You want God to take care of you forever, so you must obey God. Perhaps you could tell your father you will work at odd jobs and save your earnings until you can buy him the wrench.

We are told to obey our government and its representatives. Paul tells us to, "Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities..." (Romans 13:1) Your teachers are representatives of the government. But what if your teacher wants you to do something that is wrong? My father and his five brothers went to school at a one-room schoolhouse with one teacher for all eight grades. They respected their teacher and obeyed her. Their father told them if they got into trouble at school they would be in twice as much trouble when they came home. One day my uncle Bill did something bad at school. The teacher wanted to beat him with the cast iron poker used to stoke the fire in the school's potbellied stove. She wanted the five brothers to stand by and watch. All the brothers stood up to her; the oldest, Jack, took

the poker out of her hands. Jack told the teacher she could cut a branch off the hickory tree outside and whip Bill with that, but not with the poker. So that's what she did. When the five brothers and Bill got home, Grandpa said they were right to disobey their teacher. He did not punish them for disobeying her, but Bill did get punished for misbehaving at school.

Sometimes we have to choose whom we are going to obey. If our parents or our government tell us to do something that is the opposite of what God tells us to do, we must obey God. The high priest of Jerusalem, who represented the government, told Peter and the apostles to stop teaching in the name of Jesus. But Peter and the apostles said, "We must obey God rather than men." They kept on obeying God and teaching everyone about Jesus. (Acts 5:29) Thankfully, it's not very often that we have to choose between obeying God and obeying people or the government. We honor and obey our parents and those in authority because this pleases God.

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

Your Aunt Nancy Shobe

"Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord." Proverbs 16:5

ONE of the severe ordeals of the New Creature is the conquering of the love of the spirit of worldliness under the leadership of pride. Worldly pride challenges faith in God and obedience to Him, and only those who are of good courage and full of confidence in the Lord can overcome this giant. It is necessary, too, that the victory should be made complete--that pride should be thoroughly humiliated, killed, so that it can never rise up again to destroy us. It is an individual battle, and the only proper armament against this giant is a stone from the brook, the message of the Lord, showing us what is pleasing and acceptable in His sight, and assuring us that he that humbleth himself shall be exalted and he that exalteth himself shall be abased. As the poet has expressed it: -- "Where boasting ends, true dignity begins."

Daily Heavenly Manna

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
Anderson, Family– WI (d)	Karavas, Anna - CA
Bews, Sandra and Family TX (d)	Knapp, Jamie – NH
Boswell, Arlene – IL	Knapp, Joseph – IL (d)
Buxton, Jean & Family - UK	Leavitt, Denise & Richard – ME
Carpenter, Gloria – KY	Lepitre Family - IL
Cline, Ruth – MO	Howes, Paul & Carla - UK
Cooper, Carmela – NJ	Kingsmith, Beresford - UK
Csutor, Judith – CT	Mazzotta, Eva – VA
Day, Ronald – PA	Miller, Alain – Canada
Dewys, Mary & Family – MI (d)	Moore, Ralph & Maryellen – CA
DiCenso, Sabatino - AZ	Munoz, Sue - NY
Dickson, Roberta Jo – CA	Orsburn, Judi – CA (d)
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
Hauslein, Karen – MD	Thomassen, Sandi – NM (d)
Hawk, Barbara – PA	Tuscia, Priscilla – FL
Hildebrandt, Lois - FL	Trent, Thelma – FL (d)
Hogrebe, Joan – MO	Weaver, Eddie - NY
Hopkins, Linda & Andrew – VA (d)	Weeks, Jeannie (Mitchell) (d)
Iannaccone, Marie & Family – IL (d)	White, Ken & Joan - NY
	Wisdom Hezekiah Ikpo - Nigeria
	Zychal, Ruth & Craig– NJ

d) = death in the family

Entered into rest:

Dolores Andrada, CA – January 2021

Arthur Jezuit, IL – January 2021

Bible Correspondence Course New Graduates & Websites

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



Africa

Peter Kabunda completed the Basic Course
Lusaka, Zambia

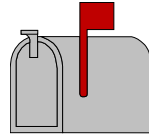
USA

Rodney Sperry completed the Advanced Course
Houlton, Maine

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



There are no letters to publish in this issue, but here is a poem submitted by our Br. Dan Donnarummo:

“Not My Will, but Thine Be Done”

Luke 22:42

Knowledge and obedience go hand in hand,
For God’s will to be accomplished in man;
To know the Father’s will takes some heed,
Studying the Scriptures is our daily need;

Knowing God’s will is surely a must,
To obey it with our full trust;
In our Heavenly Father, who knows what is best,
To do His good pleasure will result in His rest;

Submitting our wills is a daily task,
He supplies our needs, what more can we ask?
Our wants may not be in His will,
But we must continue to surrender still;

The Only Begotten of God had to submit,
The “Cup” didn’t pass – Jesus drank all of it;
Death on the Cross was the ultimate submission,
And God’s plan, through His Son, came to fruition.

By Daniel A. Donnarummo
(March 1988)

**The date for celebrating the memorial of our Lord’s death
is Friday, March 26 in the evening.**

Conferences & Conventions

Note: There is a dearth of physical conventions at this time due to the coronavirus. However, if you are having an online convention and would like to advertise it in the New Creation, please send full information to the editor at least 3 months in advance of your conference or convention.

Donations

Many people around the world appreciate the New Creation magazine. For many, it is their only source of Christian communication. Also, for many, they only have it through the generous contributions of others. If you feel moved to help them in continuing to get the New Creation, please consider a donation to CDML.

Article Contributions

Please send articles for possible publication to Dennis Gorham,
4 Alicia Street Somersworth, NH 03878
email: dennisgorham@comcast.net

*Any information published in this magazine that you know is incorrect should be brought to the attention of the editor at his email address:
bobwhittaker64@gmail.com. We strive for accuracy but do not have full knowledge.*