



# The Reformation *Messenger*



VOLUME 20, NUMBER 6, JUNE 2013

**"If we take Christ for  
our guide, He will  
lead us safely along**

**the narrow way. The road may be rough and thorny;  
the ascent may be steep and dangerous; there may  
be pitfalls upon the right hand and upon the left; we**

**may have to endure toil in our journey; when weary, when longing for rest, we  
may have to toil on; when faint, we may have to fight; when discouraged, we**

**may be called upon to hope; but with Christ as our Guide we shall not lose the path to im-  
mortal life, we shall not fail to reach the desired haven at last."** —*Our Father Cares*, p. 134

**WE BELIEVE:** The all-wise loving God created all things in the universe by His Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Owner and Sustainer. He met the challenge to His loving leadership and authority by reconciling the world to Himself through the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, the Word made flesh. The Holy Spirit, Jesus' representative on earth convicts of sin, guides into truth, and gives strength to overcome all unrighteousness. The Bible is the record of God's dealings with mankind and the standard of all doctrine, the Ten Commandments are the transcript of His character and the foundation of all enduring reform. His people, in harmony with God's word and under the direction of the Holy Spirit call all men everywhere to be reconciled to God through faith in Jesus. Bible prophecy reveals that earth's history will soon close with the visible return of Jesus Christ as King to claim all who have accepted Him as the world's only Redeemer and their Lord.

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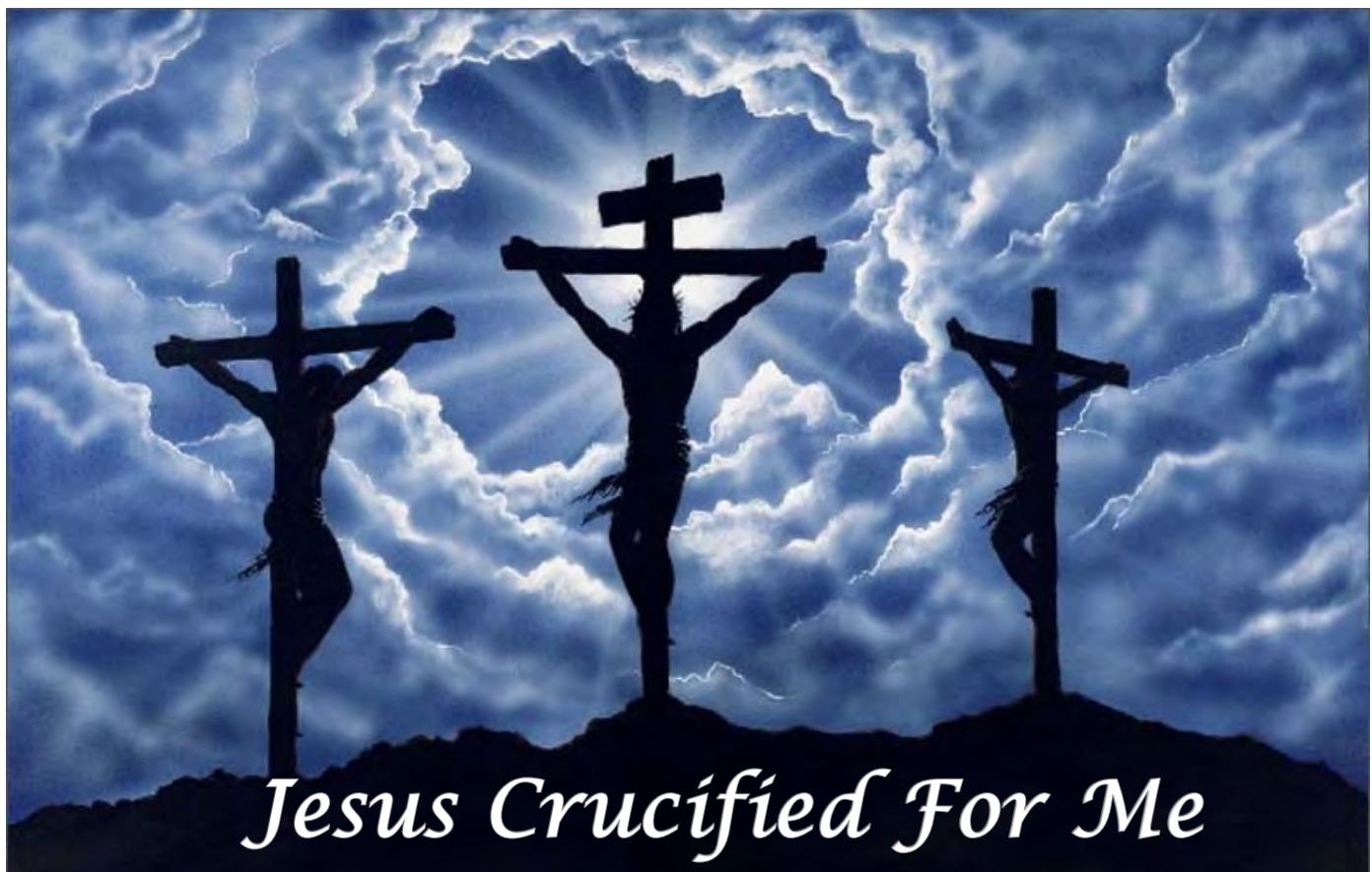
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## *Jesus Crucified For Me*

Jesus said in Matthew 15:9, "But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

"In all the affairs of this present life, my fidelity shall be unshaken, for here to lose or to gain is of no consequence to salvation. But when eternal interests are concerned, God wills not that man should submit unto man. For such submission in spiritual matters is a real worship, and ought to be rendered solely to the Creator." —Martin Luther. *D'Aubigné's History of the Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century*, book 7, chapter 11

Jesus crucified for me—in another words, Jesus in my place. Why does anyone need to take our place? As much as God loves us, He hates our sin with a holy, burning passion beyond what we can comprehend. The only way God could embrace us was to make someone else pay for our sin, and it couldn't be just anyone. It had to be someone perfect. It was Jesus. He willingly, lovingly, sacrificially paid for those sins that we chose for ourselves. He suffered and died upon the cross, and God, somehow in His infiniteness, laid all of our sinfulness there upon His Son. There was no other way for God the Father to save humankind from the destruction of sin, except to give up His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to die for those who believe in Him. As the Bible says, "for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12

The day of Jesus Christ's crucifixion was the most monumental event in all of human history. It was the day God poured out all of His hatred for sin upon His Son. In God's Word we find the sad reality of those who rejected Jesus as they watched Him being crucified, which urges us to make the life-transforming choice to accept Jesus Christ and be forgiven, my friend. The cross of Jesus was placed between two thieves. The two thieves represent all humanity; and all humanity is faced with the choice about this person, Jesus Christ. One thief says, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" (Luke 23:39). One thief thinks only of himself, only of the here and the now. The other thief thinks of eternity. As one thief is mocking Him, the other thief looks at Him and says, "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom." Luke 23:42. Today's desperate need, both in the church and in the world at large, is not for a greater number of intelligent people or gifted people, but for spiritual people. Spiritual carelessness leads to subtle compromises of character, and eventually to shame and guilt. But take heart. In his spiritual carelessness, ashamed by his inner compromise, the thief found forgiveness and mercy, and assurance of eternal life in Christ. Likewise, throw yourself at the foot of the cross and see yourself anew and hear the gentleness of Jesus giving you forgiveness, new power, and new hope.

Millions assume that Easter, one of the world's major

religious holidays, is found in the Bible. But is it? Have you ever looked into Easter's origins and customs and compared them with the Bible? What are the real origins of Easter? Easter is one of the most popular religious celebrations in the world. But is it biblical? The name "Easter" never appears in the Greek New Testament. If Easter doesn't come from the Bible, and wasn't practiced by the apostles and early Church, where did it come from?

Well, if we go to the annals of history we will notice something very important about the roots of this pagan feast which is called Easter. Although the Bible makes no provision for such observance, at the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D., it was decided that Easter should be celebrated as a memorial of Jesus' resurrection. It is interesting enough to notice how Satan tries to counterfeit the work of God, inducing millions and millions of Christians to perdition. He did it from the very beginning since evil took a place in his heart, deceiving

the third part of the angels in heaven and then Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Down through the centuries he has continued his work of deception, and he will continue to do this work until Jesus comes.

I remember in my childhood how my Mother used to prepare for Easter. She believes in this pagan feast as bringing honour to God, and that there is nothing wrong with that; she says it is in Jesus' remembrance. As a child, I was taught to fast the week before Easter—what I mean by fasting is abstaining from eating meat, eggs, milk and other animal products. Of course I did it sometimes, not because I believed in those things, but rather out of respect and obedience to my parents. I have never believed in those feasts, or that Ecclesiastical rules can bring you forgiveness or reconciliation to God. I believe there are many sincere souls in those denominations, godly people whom Jesus loves and it is our responsibility to make known to them the present truth as it is found in the Scriptures. Jesus said in John 10:16, "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear My



voice; and there shall be one fold, and one Shepherd." In Revelation 14:6–11 we find our mission—God's last message of grace and mercy towards humanity followed by the message in Revelation 18:4, "Come out of her My people."

"Every human invention that has been substituted for the commandments of God will be found worthless in that day when 'God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.' Ecclesiastes 12:14" —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 398

I give thanks to the Lord for His wonderful truth revealed to me, for His mercy and goodness. He gives me every day, for the possibility of being saved through grace, and only through the grace of Jesus, my Saviour. But here are some questions you and I should consider:

"What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are

receiving the worldly mould and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth—these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.

"Now is the time to prepare. The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. All who receive the seal must be without spot before God—candidates for heaven." —*Maranatha*, p. 240

"When the mind dwells upon self, it is turned away from Christ, the source of strength and life. Hence it is Satan's constant effort to keep the attention diverted from the Saviour and thus prevent the union and communion of the soul with Christ. The pleasures of the

world, life's cares and perplexities and sorrows, the faults of others, or your own faults and imperfections—to any or all of these he will seek to divert the mind. Do not be misled by his devices. Many who are really conscientious, and who desire to live for God, he too often leads to dwell upon their own faults and weaknesses, and thus by separating them from Christ he hopes to gain the victory." —*Steps to Christ*, p. 71

"No repentance is genuine that does not work reformation. The righteousness of Christ is not a cloak to cover unconfessed and unforsaken sin; it is a principle of life that transforms the character and controls the conduct. Holiness is wholeness for God; it is the entire surrender of heart and life to the indwelling of the principles of heaven." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 555

Do you understand the meaning of the cross? Do you believe that Jesus' death on the cross can make a difference in your life today?

Two thousand years ago, Jesus demonstrated an unselfish love. By His death, He made a second chance possible for you and me. We can decide today to accept Christ's sacrifice. But there is still a question that should be answered—"Why did He choose to die?" The answer is simply because He loves us so much that He does not want to lose anyone of us; and Jesus wants to make sure that there is sufficient provision for us to overcome, just as He overcame. At the cross we bring our failures, at the cross we bring our problems, and there at the cross we look upon Jesus who was pierced—how in His agony He cried, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34.

Yes, my friend, the cross makes a difference in our lives today, because the Father invites us to look at His beloved Son, pierced for our sins, paying the penalty that you and I deserve. Do you want to surrender completely to Jesus? Do you believe He can restore in your life what was lost by sin? Do you want to meet Jesus?

In the book of Romans 8:33 Paul said, "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect?" And the answer is "no one, Lord, no one, because it is God who justifies us." Satan did everything possible to deceive Jesus but he could not, because Jesus came out as a conqueror; He triumphed because He had a strong connection and relationship with His Father. This allows us to know that we can do the same, if our power and strength come from on high. Christ is not only crucified for you and me, but He is also risen from the dead. This is all about our salvation, because Jesus promises to come again and take us home. I wait eagerly for that day, don't you, my friend? He is coming, my brother, my sister, very soon.

Remember, the two thieves represent all humanity, and all humanity is faced with the choice about this person, Jesus Christ. One thief says, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" One thief thinks only of himself, only of the here and the now. The other thief thinks of eternity. As one thief is mocking Him, the other thief looks at Him and says, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." According to the choice you make today, your destiny is settled. May God richly bless us and help us to be ready for His soon coming.

*Br Nicholas Anca*

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# *In Egypt*

*But*

# *Not Of Egypt*



"And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him." Acts 7:9 (Genesis 37:28).

Jacob's sons were shepherds, "obliged to move from place to place to secure pasturage for their flocks, and frequently they were absent from home for months together. . . [Soon after Joseph had his dreams] they went to the place which their father had bought at Shechem. Some time passed, bringing no tidings from them, and the father began to fear for their safety, on account of their former cruelty toward the Shechemites. He therefore sent Joseph to find them, and bring him words as to their welfare. Had Jacob known the real feeling of his sons toward Joseph, he would not have trusted him alone with them; but this they had carefully concealed." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 210

"And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem." Genesis 37:14

"With a joyful heart, Joseph parted from his father, neither the aged man nor the youth dreaming of what would happen before they should meet again. When, after his long and solitary journey, Joseph arrived at Shechem, his brothers and their flocks were not to be found. Upon inquiring for them, he was directed to Dothan. He had already traveled more than fifty miles, and now an additional distance of fifteen lay before him, but he hastened on, forgetting his weariness in the thought of relieving the anxiety of his father, and meeting the brothers, whom, despite their unkindness, he still loved." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 210  
(Genesis 37:15–17)

"And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him. And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh. Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit . . . and we shall see what will become of his dreams. . . . And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren. . . . they took him, and cast him into a pit . . . and they sat down to eat bread." Genesis 37:18–20, 23–25

"His brothers saw him approaching; but no thought of the long journey he had made to meet them, of his weariness and hunger, of his claims upon their hospitality and brotherly love, softened the bitterness of their hatred. The sight of the coat, the token of their father's love, filled them with frenzy. . . . Envy and revenge, long secretly cherished, now controlled them. 'Let us slay him.'" —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 210

"Joseph came on, unsuspecting of danger, and glad that the object of his long search was accomplished; but instead of the expected greeting, he was terrified by the angry and revengeful glances which he met. He was seized and his coat stripped from him. Taunts and threats revealed a deadly purpose. His entreaties were unheeded. He was wholly in the power of those maddened men. Rudely dragging him to a deep pit, they thrust him in, and having made sure that there was no possibility of his escape, they left him there to perish from hunger, while they 'sat down to eat bread. . . .'

"Soon a company of travelers was seen approaching. It was a caravan of Ishmaelites from beyond Jordan, on their way to Egypt with spices and other merchandise. Judah now proposed to sell their brother to these hea-

then traders instead of leaving him to die. . . . To this proposition all agreed, and Joseph was quickly drawn out of the pit.

"As he saw the merchants the dreadful truth flashed upon him. To become a slave was a fate more to be feared than death. In an agony of terror he appealed to one and another of his brothers, but in vain. . . they delivered him into the hands of the heathen traders. The caravan moved on, and was soon lost to view." – *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 211

### ON THE WAY TO EGYPT

"As the caravan journeyed southward toward the borders of Canaan, the boy could discern in the distance the hills among which lay his father's tents. Bitterly he wept at the thought of that loving father in his loneliness and affliction. Again the scene at Dothan came up before him. He saw his angry brothers and felt their fierce glances bent upon him. The stinging, insulting words that had met his agonized entreaties were ringing in his ears. With trembling heart he looked forward to the future. What a change in situation—from the tenderly cherished son to the despised and helpless slave! Alone and friendless, what would be his lot in the strange land to which he was going? For a time Joseph gave himself up to uncontrolled grief and terror. . . .

"Accustomed to the tenderness of his father's care, he felt that he was unprepared to cope with the difficulties before him, in the bitter, uncared-for life of a stranger and a slave.

"Then his thoughts turned to his father's God. In his childhood he had been taught to love and fear Him. Often in his father's tent he had listened to the story of the vision that Jacob saw as he fled from his home an exile and a fugitive. He had been told of the Lord's promises to Jacob, and how they had been fulfilled—how, in the hour of need, the angels of God had come to instruct, comfort, and protect him. And he had learned of the love of God in providing for men a Redeemer. Now all these precious lessons came vividly before him. Joseph believed that the God of his fathers would be his God. He then and there gave himself fully to the Lord, and he prayed that the Keeper of Israel

would be with him in the land of his exile." –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 213

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." *Proverbs* 3:6

"Arriving in Egypt, Joseph was sold to Potiphar, captain of the king's guard, in whose service he remained for ten years. He was here exposed to temptations of no ordinary character. He was in the midst of idolatry. The worship of false gods was surrounded by all the pomp of royalty, supported by the wealth and culture of the most highly civilized nation then in existence. Yet Joseph preserved his simplicity and his fidelity to God. The sights and sounds of vice were all about him, but he was as one who saw and heard not. His thoughts were not permitted to linger upon forbidden subjects.

The desire to gain the favour of the Egyptians could not cause him to conceal his principles. Had he attempted to do this, he would have been overcome by temptation; but he was not ashamed of the religion of his fathers, and he made no effort to hide the fact that he was a worshiper of Jehovah.



"And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man. . . . And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand." Potiphar's confidence in Joseph increased daily, and he finally promoted him to be his steward, with full control over all his possessions. 'And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not aught he had, save the bread which he did eat.' –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 214 (Genesis 39:1–6).

"But Joseph's faith and integrity were to be tested by fiery trials. His master's wife endeavoured to entice the young man to transgress the law of God. Heretofore he had remained untainted by the corruption teeming in that heathen land. . . .

"Joseph's answer reveals the power of religious principle. He would not betray the confidence of his master on earth, and, whatever the consequences, he would be true to his Master in heaven. Under the inspecting eye of God and holy angels many take liberties of which they would not be guilty in the presence of their fellow men, but Joseph's first thought was of God. 'How . . .

can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God,' he said.

"If we were to cherish an habitual impression that God sees and hears all that we do and say and keeps a faithful record of our words and actions, and that we must meet it all, we would fear to sin. Let the young ever remember that wherever they are, and whatever they do, they are in the presence of God. No part of our conduct escapes observation. We cannot hide our ways from the Most High. Human laws, though sometimes severe, are often transgressed without detection, and hence with impunity. But not so with the law of God. The deepest midnight is no cover for the guilty one. He may think himself alone, but to every deed there is an unseen witness." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 217

Joseph's wife was an Egyptian princess. Because of this Joseph's sons would become Egyptian priests if they chose to stay with the Egyptians. They would have wealth and honour because their father was next to the King. Joseph would rather have his sons counted among the people of God than to have all the honours of the court of Egypt. He knew God's promises were worth more than all the glory and wealth of Egypt.

"Joseph outlived his father fifty-four years." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 240

After fifty-four years, "God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I. And He said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation. I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes." Genesis 46:2-4

#### THE LAST DAYS OF JACOB

"And Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen; and they had possessions therein, and grew, and multiplied exceedingly. And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years: so the whole age of Jacob

was an hundred forty and seven years. And the time drew nigh that Israel must die: and he called his son Joseph, and said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me; bury me not, I pray thee, in Egypt. But I will lie with my fathers, and thou shalt carry me out of Egypt, and bury me in their burying-place. And said, I will do as thou hast said. And he said, Swear unto me. And he sware unto him. And Israel bowed himself upon the bed's head." Genesis 47:27-31 (for further study, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 234:1; 237:3)

"In his first greeting to Joseph, Jacob had spoken as if, with joyful ending to his long anxiety and sorrow, he was ready to die. [And Israel said unto Joseph, Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou art yet alive. Genesis 46:30] But the seventeen years were yet to be granted him in the peaceful retirement of Goshen. The years were in happy contrast to those that

had preceded them. He saw in his sons evidence of true repentance; he saw his family surrounded by all the conditions needful for the development of a great nation; and his faith grasped the sure promise of their

future establishment in Canaan. He himself was surrounded with every token of love and favour that the prime minister of Egypt could bestow; and happy in the society of his long-lost son, he passed down gently and peacefully to the grave." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 233

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth." Hebrews 11:13

"Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints." Psalm 116:15

#### JOSEPH'S LAST WORDS

"And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die; and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Ja-



cob. And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt." Genesis 50:24–26

"When he saw that his end was near, he summoned his kinsmen about him. Honoured as he had been in the land of the Pharaohs, Egypt was to him but the place of his exile; his last act was to signify that his lot was cast with Israel. . . And he took a solemn oath of the children of Israel that they would carry up his bones with them to the land of Canaan. 'So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.' And through the centuries of toil which followed, the coffin, a reminder of the dying words of Joseph, testified to Israel that they were only sojourners in Egypt, and bade them keep their hopes fixed upon the Land of Promise, for the time of deliverance would surely come." – *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 240

#### IN THE WORLD BUT NOT OF THE WORLD

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16



"I have manifested Thy name unto the men which Thou gavest Me out of the world: Thine they were, and Thou gavest them Me; and they have kept Thy word." John 17:6

"I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given Me; for they are Thine. I have given them Thy word; and the world hath hateth them,

because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." John 17:9, 14

"I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth." John 17:15–17 (John 18:36; 14:1–3).

Brethren, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." 1 John 2:15–17

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Ephesians 4:22–24

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul." 1 Peter 2:11

"Be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless." 2 Peter 3:14

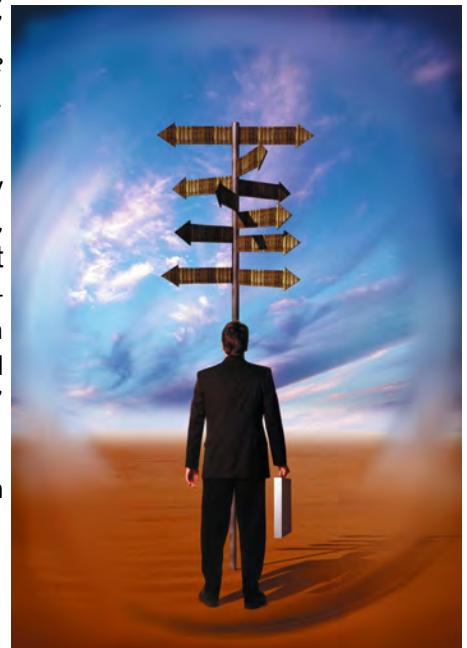
"Into the city of God there will enter nothing that defiles. All who are dwellers there will here have become pure in heart. . . not merely pure in the sense in which the world understands purity, free from that which is sensual, pure from lust, but true in the hidden purpose and motives of the soul, free from pride and self-seeking, humble, unselfish, childlike."

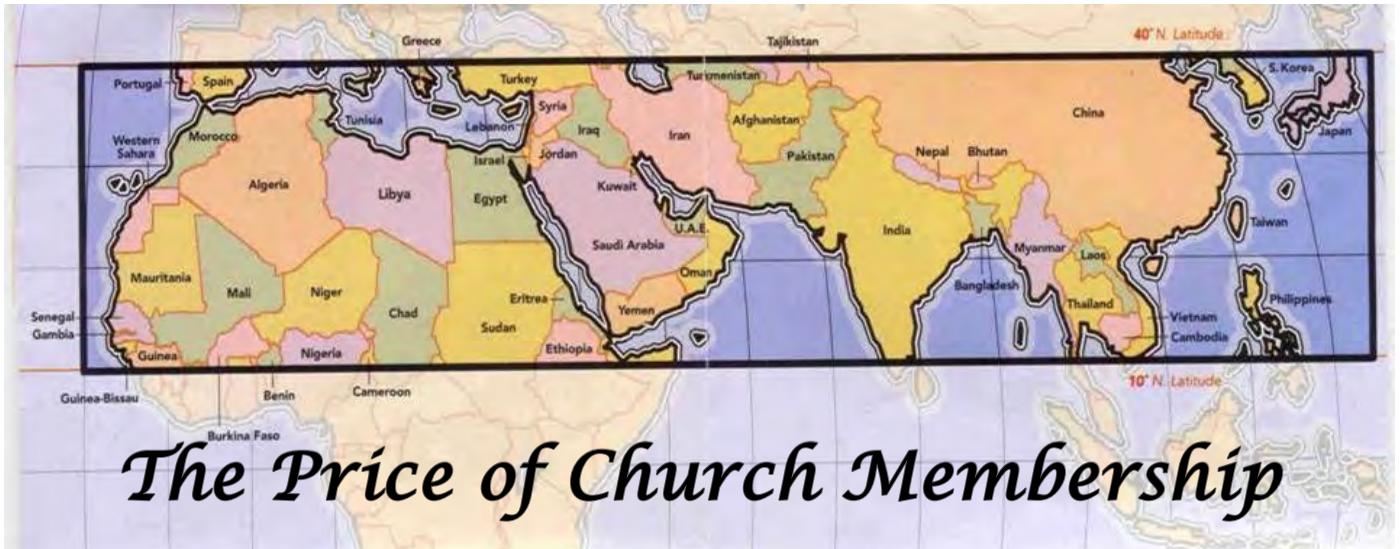
–*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 24–25

I beg of you, my brothers and sisters, to search your heart diligently and inquire "what road am I traveling, and where will it end?" AMEN

Your brother in Christ,

**Golden  
Hingabantu**





## The Price of Church Membership

Is there a price attached to win a soul? Should we compute the cost of converting a soul to Christ in terms of dollars and cents? Some of the popular churches have compiled statistics on membership increases and decreases and the cost involved in adding a name to the membership roll book. One well-known Protestant church has arrived at a figure of approximately \$4,000.00 to obtain one member. You may be astonished at this type of figuring in evaluating the price of a soul. Preaching the gospel to the masses of people on our earth requires finances that are continually going up. Through tithes and offerings Biblical truth is being proclaimed and it certainly requires a large amount of money. We cannot eclipse this fact. In our money-oriented society, many churches rely upon large money drives geared to appeal to the emotions of people. It may happen that practically the whole sermon deals with the procurement of needed funds. It is not wrong simply to ask for a contribution, but one should not dwell exhaustively on fund raising. When the members of the church are entirely converted, their heart, soul and body being laid on the altar, liberal offerings come naturally. All that will be required is a straightforward request for help.

Though the people of God should count their expenditures in winning a soul to Jesus Christ and the present truth, yet there is a price paid that is infinitely greater than the mere expression of monetary units. The personal involvement, love shown, time spent, prayers offered, the efforts of a lifetime, are all part of the price of membership.

Let us take a moment to look at a few of these immeasurable values to realize their importance. Love is a quality that is beyond computation. It is a divine attribute which is given to man for the purpose of bringing him happiness. Love is the only attribute that can win souls to Christ, and any other methods are doomed to fail-

ure. It gives victories where argument and authority are powerless to influence. It flows out naturally to others in good works. The recipient who is shown genuine love will react in a totally different way than when a dictatorial spirit, overbearing or holier-than-thou attitude is revealed. True love for our fellow man will lead us to action in various missionary endeavours. A genuine Christian has the desire, conviction and love to tell others of the joy and blessedness in serving the Lord. Even though we are not all full-time ambassadors for Christ in the sense of receiving compensation for our labour, nevertheless we still will make personal efforts to rescue souls. The greater their sin and the deeper their misery, the deeper will be our love and compassion, and the more earnest will be our efforts to direct them to our Saviour.

Our love-motivated work should not be directed only to souls in the world; those who have children have a great responsibility of saving them from the power of the enemy. This priority far outweighs many other missionary projects. The main concern for a God-fearing parent is the conversion of his children, which is of far greater value than mere membership in the church.

The divine injunction is to "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. Mothers and fathers are to teach their children that the only way to be happy is to love God supremely and in this to be a living example, which is a powerful influence for good. Let them see that the peace and love of Christ pervades your heart. The word of God is to be the guide in educating them for the future life. Morning and evening worship should be conducted with Bible reading and giving the children an opportunity to pray. A praying home is an asset to the church. The hours spent with the children can never be measured in monetary terms. It is certainly a price you pay for their membership. It is worth more

than a billion dollars when we dedicate our talents and time for the good of others—especially our families. The prayers that are offered may be mixed with many tears of earnest pleading and deep love.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. Christ gave up His life for a world that did not love Him. The angels and the whole universe were amazed to see the Son of God willing to leave the glory, honor, and majesty of heaven to suffer the cruel death on the cross.

"The value of a soul, who can estimate? Would you know its worth, go to Gethsemane, and there watch with Christ through those hours of anguish, when He sweat as it were great drops of blood. Look upon the Saviour uplifted on the cross. Hear that despairing cry, 'My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?' Mark 15:34. Look upon the wounded head, the pierced side, the marred feet. Remember that Christ risked all. For our redemption, heaven itself was imperiled. At the foot of the cross, remembering that for one sinner Christ would have laid down His life, you may estimate the value of a soul." —*Christ's Object Lesson*, p. 196

We cannot fully comprehend our Saviour's love and sacrifice. It will take all of eternity to appreciate the plan of salvation.

In the parable of the lost sheep recorded in Luke chapter 15, the shepherd goes out to search for one lost sheep. It has to be sought for by the shepherd (Christ), for it cannot find its own way back to the fold. So it is with the soul who does not know God or who has gone astray. He is helpless, estranged, and weary, unless divine love rescues him from the dangers that surround him. The shepherd loves his sheep and cannot rest if even *one* is missing. The darker the night and the more dangers there are in the way, the greater is the shepherd's anxiety and determination to find his lost sheep. Men and women may claim to deny the existence of Christ, they may choose some other master; yet they are God's property by creation and by redemption. "There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way." Romans 3:11–12. It was God the Father and His Son who first loved us before we repented. Salva-



tion does not come through our seeking after God but through God's seeking after us—lost sinners.

This parable does not portray failure by the shepherd but the success and great joy in the recovery: "Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. . . . Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Luke 15:6–7

What an infinite price was paid for a soul who had gone astray! Was it worth all the personal effort, self-denial, and sacrifice by the Chief Shepherd? Yes! It was amazing love that moved Christ to come down for a dying world. The day will come when Christ will speak face to face to His ransomed ones. What a joy that will be!

So, though the reward or result of personal labour may not materialize immediately, we should not be discouraged. It may take many years or even a whole lifetime to win a soul. In some cases we will not know the outcome until the redeemed meet and recognize each

other in eternity. "'I was a sinner,' it will be said, 'without God and without hope in the world, and you came to me, and drew my attention to the precious Saviour as my only hope. And I believed in Him. I repented of my sins, and was made to sit together with His saints in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.' Others will say: 'I was a heathen in heathen lands. You left your friends and

comfortable home, and came to teach me how to find Jesus and believe in Him as the only true God. I demolished my idols and worshiped God, and now I see Him face to face. I am saved, eternally saved, ever to behold Him whom I love. . . . I can now express my gratitude for His redeeming mercy to Him who loved me and washed me from my sins in His own blood.'" —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 311

The words of a beautiful song come to mind: "When I enter that beautiful city, Far removed from earth's sorrow and care, I want to hear somebody saying, 'It was you who invited me here.'" May we all work today so that some day we will hear, "like sweet music from others, 'It was you who invited me here.'"

**Henry Dering**



## What God Has Revealed . . .

In this year 2013, on Friday, April 5, I read an article full of fanciful theories. It had been handed to me by an interested soul who sourced it from the internet. (The hardcopy indicated the website as [www.enjoying-the-spirit-filled-life.com/10-hs-mystery-explained](http://www.enjoying-the-spirit-filled-life.com/10-hs-mystery-explained) ). He had so believed the writer of this article (an independent Adventist), that he felt I too should read it. It was not new however, to come across such writings, where men have had to “stretch” the scriptures as far as they possibly could, to prove their so called “present truth,” by filling the supposed gap that the scriptures are deemed to have created. After reading it, I felt I should write something against speculating on the scriptures, or making improper connections and filling “gaps;” after all, we can as well be faced with the danger that such a spirit can creep into the church.

Even though the intention of writing this article is not to discuss and contend against all the things written in the mentioned article, it is worthwhile to mention in brief the few things said to have been “explained” therein. It centers on who the Holy Spirit is, how He came into being in relation to Jesus—a popular subject where the controversial so called “trinity” is highly debated.

The article “explains” the way Jesus came into being “brought forth from God;” that when He became man, He “parted” or “left behind” the “Spirit” which, in the past, that is before His incarnation was part of Himself. It concludes that, that was the birth of the Holy Spirit as an individual “entity” or “person.” In other words, the “splitting” of Christ into Spirit and human gave rise to the Holy Spirit, which was left in heaven as Jesus was on earth as a Human. This is total foolishness and un-biblical. This article further claims that when Christ said “It is finished” (John 19:30), He meant that He gave up the Holy Spirit for ever, never to take it again and thus

It (the Holy Spirit) will be living independently from Jesus for ever and that it will be involved in the work of aligning the characters of people to that of Jesus. As mentioned earlier, these are just to mention a few. Can you believe this as truth?

The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy give us a view of the Holy Spirit’s personality, and that should be enough for us. Anything beyond this is human theory, concerning the danger of which we have been fully warned. We normally know a lot about someone when he explains himself to us as Jesus did. But of the Holy Spirit, it is said of Him that “He shall not speak of Himself.” John 16:13. Thus we read that His nature is a mystery (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 52). After all, it is not important to define just who the Holy Spirit is (*Ibid*, p. 51). Therefore, what has been revealed about Him is enough for us.

Sadly, the writer claims to believe in the writings of Sister White, and thus, has taken a number of portions from her writings to prove his views. The danger is that such false teachers are not one hundred percent in error. They, in certain cases, appear to have the “sound” truth, thus causing many to be led away from the truth. This used to happen even in Sister White’s time, when many used to write accusations against the church and then quote portions of Sister White’s writings, supporting their views, thereby making it appear that she was in favour of them.

God has warned us against occupying this ground. Never should we teach such doctrines or allow them to fill and control our mind.

“The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.” Deuteronomy 29:29

These words still have the force today. Furthermore, Sister White writes:

"It is a masterpiece of Satan's deceptions to keep the minds of men searching and conjecturing in regard to that which God has not made known and which He does not intend that we shall understand. It was thus that Lucifer lost his place in heaven. He became dissatisfied because all the secrets of God's purposes were not confided to him, and he entirely disregarded that which was revealed concerning his own work in the lofty position assigned him. By arousing the same discontent in the angels under his command, he caused their fall. Now he seeks to imbue the minds of men with the same spirit and to lead them also to disregard the direct commands of God." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 523

"In regard to entering into the subject of the divine mystery of the essence of God, Christ ever maintained a wise reserve. He did this that He might close the door where human conjectures should not be encouraged. The most sacred, holy, and eternal mysteries which God has not revealed are but speculations when considered from a human standpoint, mere theories that confuse the mind." —*Seventh-Day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, p. 1157

Then we have another firm injunction written by the same hand of inspiration that reads:

"To the curious I bear the message that God has instructed me not to frame answers to the questions of those who inquire in regard to the things that have not been revealed. The things that are revealed belong unto us and to our children. Beyond this, human beings are not to attempt to go. We are not to attempt to explain that which God has not revealed. We are to study the revelation that Christ, the Great Teacher, has given of the character of God, that in spirit and word and act we may represent Him to those who know Him not." —*Medical Ministry*, p. 92

Regardless of all these warnings, why is it that men still find it attractive to occupy the forbidden ground? The

word tells us that such men are always in search for something new and startling, getting weary of the often repeated truth, just as it was with the early church.

"Some of the younger workers... had become weary of oft-repeated truths. In their desire for something novel and startling they attempted to introduce new phases of doctrine, more pleasing to many minds, but not in harmony with the fundamental principles of the gospel. In their self-confidence and spiritual blindness they failed to discern that these sophistries would cause many to question the experiences of the past, and would thus lead to confusion and unbelief. As these false doctrines were urged, differences sprang up, and the eyes of many were turned from beholding Jesus as the Author and Finisher of their faith. The discussion of unimportant points of doctrine, and the contemplation of pleasing fables of man's invention, occupied time that should have been spent in proclaiming the gospel." —*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 580



"There are those who know the truth but do not practice it. These greatly long for some new, strange thing to present. In their great zeal to become original some will bring in fanciful ideas which are but chaff." —*Seventh-Day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, p. 1157

The article cited in this treatise is just one of the numerous articles, on various subjects found especially on the internet, laden with falsehoods, as people are in search for something new. Many have had to stretch the scriptures to arrive at this. God tells His church to reject walking in this path. Our lessons should be taught and presented in the simple and straight forward manner as they have been taught in the past. As we try to write complicated articles and books, the more danger ensues itself that we can start adding something to the scriptures. Even the Internet has to be rightly used as a source of information. This is enough warning to us. Amen

**Joel L. J. Msiska**



There is a type of wall that is built in your heart, an invisible wall, where each brick is made with hate, gossip, criticism, bullying, envy, selfishness; because of the attitude of others and their behaviour this wall gets bigger and bigger. It is a wall that you are not able to touch or climb; most of the time you hide behind this wall, and only with the help of God can you tear down this wall. "And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand." Matthew 12:25

Because of others creating false testimonies and gossiping, these walls stay there for years, creating pain and suffering. With the years this wall gets stains, scratches and fungus—they get damaged. Even though someone is doing something wrong, do we have the right to trespass and ruin their lives? Or are we strong enough to stop the construction of this wall and help this brother or sister with our prayers? Don't you think enough is enough? We should break this wall; we are the followers of Jesus and there should be nothing between us.

People have built walls for their own protection; they don't want anyone to hurt their feelings. A Christian book called *The Power of the Wife that Prays* by Stormie Omartian, says the following, "In order to break these walls in our hearts and destroy the barriers that stop communication we must be completely honest to ourselves and to God about our feelings. He knows the truth and He wants to see if we are ready to ask for His help; then He will be ready to start working in our

hearts. Jesus was the only one who broke down the wall between the Jews and Gentiles."

One day when I was a little girl, I was on the patio of my parent's home. I remember that day I had been punished for something that I did wrong, and the worst thing that my mother could do to me in those days was to send me to the patio. I didn't want to go, but I obeyed my mother. We had moved recently to that piece of land and my parents started building a very small home. The patio didn't have walls, and when the neighbours passed by I really felt that they were looking at me; I felt that they were pointing and saying, "you did something wrong, that's why you are there." Oh, how I wished to have walls, since I didn't want the people to look at me. I remember looking at the sky and thinking that I didn't belong in this world. For a moment I thought that my parents were not humans and that my real parents lived in the sky, and that for some reason they came to this world and dropped me there to perform a special mission. That day I was asking "why have you left me here where people don't understand me? Why do children pull my hair and make fun of me, why?" I really wanted to have walls; I wanted to feel protected from the people that were passing by. Not long after my father started building the walls I remember that the bottom of the walls had a good foundation of solid rocks and the rests of the walls were made of bricks. I was very happy when the walls were finished.

On Thursday, September 19, 1985, an earthquake struck the central, south and west areas of Mexico City;

it had been the strongest and deadliest earthquake in the history of the country. The evening of Friday, September 20 an aftershock impacted even more in the capital city of the country. The earthquake occurred at 7:19 a.m. with a magnitude of 8.1 on the Richter scale, and the approximate length was just over two minutes.

Hospital, schools and condominiums in the central area of Mexico City were the most affected. I remember that day we felt the earthquake, but we never imagined the magnitude of the destruction that had occurred. While in one part of Mexico City people were suffering from this tragedy, in other parts of the city we were not able to see what was going on. The earthquake left us without electricity and water for some days, and when we were able to see the news on the television it was hard to believe it. In two minutes some buildings were gone, the walls couldn't sustain them; the walls broke and fell, killing doctors, nurses, workers, mothers and fathers, children, and babies. These kinds of disasters don't recognize age, gender or education when it happens; it kills thousands, leaving complete disaster and desolation in many families.

Because of that earthquake some buildings had to be demolished. Since we had had two major earthquakes in a very short time, people were afraid. In the schools they were telling us how to evacuate in case another earthquake occurred. I remember my father told us that if it happens again, wherever you are, don't run, just go to the corners of the walls and stay there, that is the strongest part of the walls.

People from other countries started helping; Mexicans united in the rescue effort. People from different social ranks and especially the poor people gathered together to help other Mexicans. There was a group of people nicknamed *topos* which means "the groundhogs," who were people that volunteered, that would go into very small areas, risking their lives and rescuing people, using only their hands in the hope that they would find someone alive. A man named Marcos rescued 27 people and to the surprise of the groundhogs and volunteers, after some days they found a live newborn baby. They called him the miracle baby. When they rescued him they said he was born again. A documentary said that after they rescued the first baby, everybody remained silent and they turned all the machines off to hear the baby's cry. I can imagine all the excitement when they heard the baby cry. When this baby was rescued the volunteers became more inspired and they continued searching. In total, they were able to rescue 22 babies. Sadly, thousands of people died when the

walls fell in the earthquake of 1985.

The government reported the deaths of between 6,000 and 7,000 people. However, years later with the opening of information from various government sources, the record was calculated at approximately 10,000 dead. The amount of people rescued alive were approximately 4,000. There were cases of people rescued even ten days later.

Brothers and Sisters, don't you think it is time to break down these invisible walls and to remain silent to hear the cry of those who need us? We all have a mission and our mission is to defeat, break and tear down these walls of division, throw away all the remnants of the walls with prayers and go and rescue souls. We need to use our hands and put all the strength in our heart to see the necessity of the world. God will do the rest. There are people crying in the world for help, but we need to be silent in order to hear them. My Dad told us that if another earthquake comes, go to the corners of the building and stay there. My Heavenly Father says in the book of Revelation 3: 12 "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name." Amen.

***Lucy Flores***

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# The Plan Of God For Us

Have you ever made future plans for yourself, and were these plans successful? Our plans are normally temporary, for the life on this earth only. But God's plans for us are for eternity and in the perfect conditions. If you plan to build a house the first thing you need to do is to make a blueprint with all the measurements on it. The blueprint shows how many stories will be in the house, also how many windows and doors.

Also, if you plan to travel, you need an itinerary which shows the way and also the destination. If your plan is to go to heaven, and have eternal life, then you must follow the plan of God. He is the only one who knows the way, and the requirements for it. God's plan for our salvation is in the Bible and in the testimonies of Ellen White. If we follow the plan of God we surely will be in heaven, but if we follow our own plan, or the plans of many churches which do not agree with the Bible, we will be lost.

In the plan of God there are things that many do not appreciate. Jesus said, "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33. We cannot plan for a comfortable life ahead. Especially in the end, Jesus said, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." Matthew 24:21. We must prepare for the greatest storm ever witnessed. We must prepare to leave everything—houses, lands, possessions, and even our life.

The plan of God for us also includes study. Isaiah writes, "Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read." Isaiah 34:16. Jesus said, and "answering them said, Have ye not read so much as this, what David did, when himself was an hungered, and they which were with him." Luke 6:3

If we neglect Bible study, we will fail. This spiritual food we need to eat every day. Also we need to read the books written by Sister White. God did not give all the visions and dreams to her just for her own benefit.

In the plan of God for us is also the health reform. The same as God gave to Adam and Eve the food that they should eat and the food that they should not eat, He has given us the knowledge of the proper diet. Paul writes, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31. There are many foods that people eat that are not healthy and therefore God has forbidden us to eat them. We need to glorify God in our eating and drinking,

God has provided mediums for our salvation and if we neglect them we will be lost. One of the important mediums is the church meetings. Paul writes, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

"Those who appreciate the words of Christ will not turn aside from the prayer meeting, or from the meeting where the Lord's messenger has been sent to tell them concerning things of eternal interest." —*Messages to Young People*, p. 140–141

"The prayer and social meeting should be a season of special help and encouragement. All should find it a privilege to take part." —*Gospel Workers*, p. 171

Also in the plan of God we must be flexible. We need to be as soft clay in the hand of the Potter. "But now, O LORD, Thou art our Father; we are the clay, and Thou our potter; and we all are the work of Thy hand." Isaiah 64:8. We must become like a little child, ready for sudden changes. There is a picture of an ox, standing between the plow and the altar, ready for both service and for sacrifice.

We can make no firm plans for ourselves. We must let God lead us. He is leading us by circumstances and providences. Rather than telling Moses to leave the royal court and to go to the land of Midian to care for the sheep for 40 years, He used circumstances to accomplish it.

God used circumstances to bring Joseph to Egypt and eventually to be the Prime Minister of that country. But to accomplish it, God used first slavery and imprisonment.

God's plan for each one of us is to do missionary work, according to our ability. Jesus gave us a commission, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." Matthew 28:19. If you do not enjoy doing missionary work, and you do not care what happens to your fellow man, and you are satisfied to save yourself only, you will fail, because you do not follow the plan of God.

The condition for our salvation is to love our neighbours as ourselves. How can you prove in the day of judgment, that you did love your neighbour if you did not try to save him?

The seventh point in the plan of God is that we must be baptized. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mark 16:16. Baptism is necessary, but we must also believe; we need faith.

The next requirement includes constant prayer. "Pray without ceasing." 1 Thessalonians 5:17. Pray without ceasing, thinking that this could be your last day of life.

Also, we need to look upon Jesus constantly. "And look-

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"The churches in different localities should feel that a solemn responsibility rests upon them to train youth and educate talent to engage in missionary work. . . They should assume the responsibility of sending them to one of our training schools. There is excellent ability in the churches that needs to be brought into service." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 213

ing upon Jesus as He walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!" John 1:36. We are changed by beholding. Whatsoever we are looking at, we will change to that image. Never should we forget the scenes of Calvary. To see Jesus dying on the cross for our sins will change us to His likeness.

One more thing in the plan of God for us is to love Him and our fellow men. Jesus asked Peter three times, "Lovest thou Me?" And He will ask the same question of us. Without this love we will not make it to heaven.

Now you must decide if you will throw out all your own plans and accept the plan of God for yourself. This is your choice. Billions of people follow the plan of Satan, only to be lost in the end. Yet there are a few souls who have accepted the plan of God for themselves, and you can be one of them. Jesus said, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me." Matthew 16:24

If you will follow Jesus you will end up at the same destination, where He is now waiting for you to be with Him. Amen.

***Timo Martin***

## *The Gift*

*The day was long, the work was hard,  
And courage ebbed down low.  
Then someone came and took the load,  
While sweet hope seemed to grow.*

*The tears that came so close to drop  
From heartache dried away,  
Because a thoughtful person came  
To brighten up the day.*

*The act seemed simple to the one  
Who ventured out to share,  
But angels counted it with stars —  
God's love was shining there.*

***By Virginia Vess***  
***Submitted by Franziska Pedersen***

Why do we have to feel pain? When hurtful things happen to us we often ask, "Why?". Why do we have to go through these difficult times? Why doesn't God save us out of them, and prevent anything more hurtful from happening to us? When we

have been hurt, we must view it as a test, to see what we will do. Will we learn to truly forgive as Christ said "until seventy times seven"? Matthew 18:22. Or will we harbour bitterness and hatred in our hearts, allowing the devil to win?

If we don't learn the lesson of forgiveness the first time, God will bring the same test to us over and over again, in different circumstances and with different people. This is true of all lessons God is trying to teach His people. No matter how hard it is for us to learn the lesson, He is like a patient father, teaching His child to ride a bike. Each time we fall down, He is there to pick us back up again and put us on that bike. He doesn't stop the training until we can forgive others generously, quickly and with ease. Until we can learn this lesson, we cannot grow spiritually. Just like a plant, if we are not growing spiritually, we are dying.

It is hard to forgive others, especially when they have gone out of their way to hurt us. We should always try to understand and forgive others, especially because their behaviour may be a silent cry for help. Also, we should remember that we are all just as guilty before God. It is possible we have wronged the ones who have wronged us, maybe even more than they have hurt us. We are all under the same sentence; "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23. None of us should feel that we are so far above others that we don't have to forgive them. God forgave us, and we did far more wrong to Him than one human being could ever do to another.

Therefore, no matter how much wrong a person has done to you, or how deliberate you felt that wrong to be, always remember that Jesus was killed by people who hated Him. And Jesus used one of His last breaths in uttering His forgiveness to His killers (Luke 23:34). If we are called to be like Jesus, how much training in the art of forgiveness do we really need? We need Jesus alone to teach it to us, for Jesus is the only one who can. Our



## Passing From Death Unto Life

sinful, human hearts will not forgive. But if we recognize our problem, telling it to Jesus, we may have perfect assurance of victory over holding grudges.

Corrie Ten Boom was a woman

who lived through a German Nazi concentration camp. A German soldier cruelly tortured Corrie, and killed her own sister in front of her. Later, after the war, Corrie, who was a Christian, was giving a talk on forgiveness when she noticed the same soldier in the crowd! After the meeting he came up to her to shake her hand. He reached out to take her hand, while expressing his extreme sorrow over his actions. For a moment she hesitated and struggled inside, but she forced herself to make the action of forgiveness and take his hand. As she smiled and told the man she forgave him, it was then that she truly felt she had forgiven him. So, we see that we cannot rely on our own sinful heart for forgiveness. Our sinful human hearts will not forgive. **It is purely a conscious action that we do by faith, knowing that it is the right thing to do, even though we may have no feeling of forgiveness at all.** After we make the outward action of forgiving someone by faith, it is then that God will heal our heart.

It is solemn to think that if a person has wronged us, then sincerely asked for forgiveness, it becomes our Christian duty to forgive them. "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Matthew 6:14, 15. We must not only say we have forgiven them, we must act like it. Otherwise, it becomes sin on our part, and any sin will keep us out of heaven.

My wish and prayer for us all is that we may "Know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." 1 John 3:14–16. Amen

**W. Eaton**

The first time I met Br. Eddie Dunbar was a rich landlord living in a very rich, Kingston, Jamaica. One of my Bible rich Kington business man (who bemoaned that I see Mr. Dunbar to get an

After Sabbath close, Br. Ian Grant went Dunbar to see if I could rent an apartment ourselves to him as missionaries and he er (who had years ago become a Chris-studying with the Herbert W. Armstrong God) who believed in the Sabbath. He strong was a true prophet, and he strong's religious materials. I told Br. false prophet, and if he (Eddie) gave me ble with him, I would prove that Herbert

and that his organization, the Worldwide Church of God, was a false church.

Br. Eddie Dunbar accepted the offer to study the Bible, and the next week I started to study the Bible and the 3rd Angel's message with him. God convicted him, converted him and led him to commit his life to the Lord in baptism (within one year of starting to study the Bible with me). Br. Eddie Dunbar got baptized and joined God's church as a member of the local Kingston Church.

Br. Dunbar, served the church in several capacities, including Sabbath School Superintendent and teacher. He was always active in missionary work, always ready and willing to do anything and everything for God and God's people.

He was warm, generous, extremely educated and intelligent, a deep-thinking brother who was also very humble and unassuming. Br. Dunbar grew up in a British background and had a British accent. This brother was an extremely polite, well-spoken, forgiving and "polished" man who sacrificed a lot for Jesus, whom he dearly loved. He loved to study the Bible and the writings of Sis. Ellen. G. White.

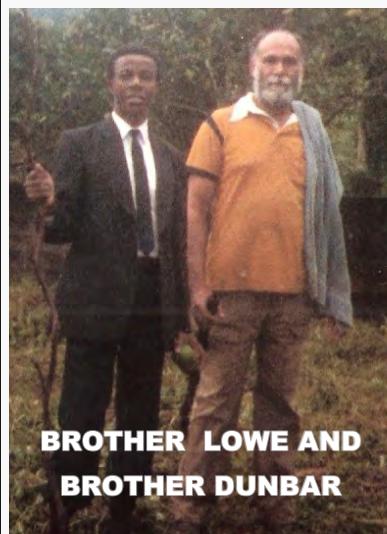
I am 100% certain that the Spirit of Prophecy books and the Bible(s) he left behind are marked and highlighted, and written up with personal notes. One of the most memorable things about Br. Eddie was that he was perhaps one of the most generous and kind people one could ever meet. He cared for the poor and fatherless, and opened his home to those who were less fortunate than himself.

He sold his property in Kingston and moved to a rural area of Jamaica in the Parish of St. Mary, where he bought and lived on a farm. We even had a Jamaican Field Conference on his farm at one time.

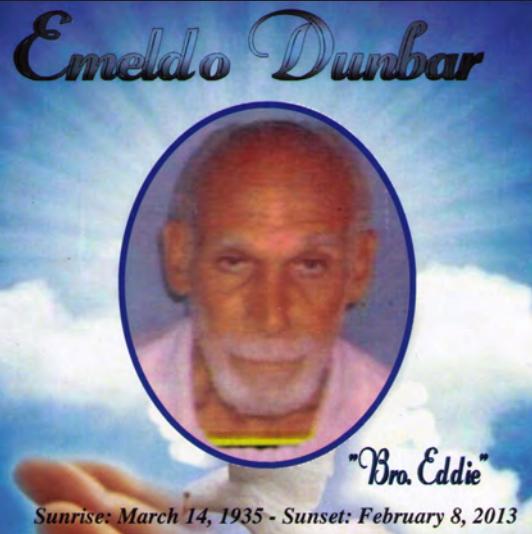
Br. Eddie gave a lot of help to at least two young men who later became Bible Workers in our church. Br. Eddie Dunbar had a sweet, melodious base/baritone voice... and he loved to sing Christians hymns. One of his favourite hymns was: "I Come to the Garden Alone." By the end of his earthly journey (life), Br. Dunbar may not have

had a lot of money in earthly banks. . . but by the grace of God, he laid up for himself much eternal treasures in the bank of Heaven, through the generous, faithful Christian life that he lived to the very end. He was a father to many, and a wonderful and warm brother to all who had the privilege to have known him in the Church of God. May his soul rest in peace, with the assurance that in the Partial Resurrection, he will be one of the 144,000 saints.

*Morris Lowe*



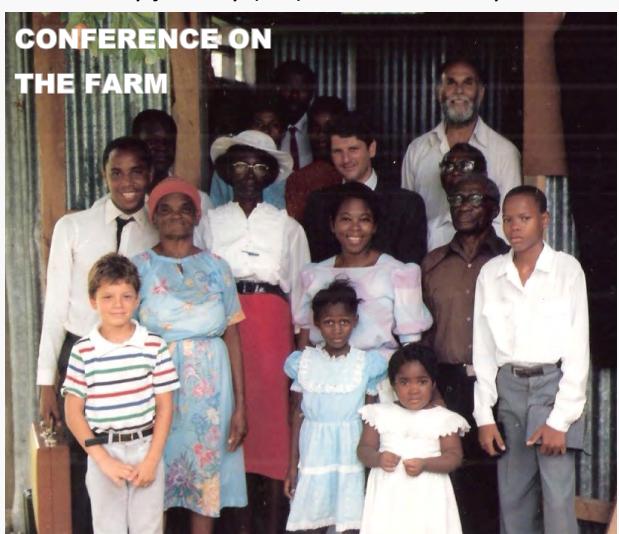
**BROTHER LOWE AND  
BROTHER DUNBAR**



was some time in May, 1984. He residential area (Havendale) in study students, who was another came my friend) had recom-apartment to rent.

with me to check out Mr. Eddie ment from him. We introduced started telling us about his moth-tian); he said he (Eddie) was people (Worldwide Church of said he believed Herbert Arm-would continue to read Arm-Dunbar that Armstrong was a the opportunity to study the Bi-W. Armstrong is a false prophet,

#### **CONFERENCE ON THE FARM**





# *Jesus Loves Children*

## *Introduction*

"And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them: and His disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them." Mark 10:13–16

Jesus loved the children so much. Although the disciples didn't want the parents to bring their children to Him because they felt the Master was tired and did not want to be bothered, Jesus showed a tender love toward them. They were so tender and innocent, but their faith was great and they would believe on anything. Jesus said in Luke 18:17 that "Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein."

Little children have a lot of faith in those who take care of them. They also show a lot of love to their guardians. Their young souls have no blemish because they haven't led a complete life marred by sin. Their innocence is what Jesus used to compare the kingdom of God with. A man must have the faith and love of a little child to be able to enter into the glorious kingdom.

Sister White writes to us that Jesus was the greatest example of how human children and youth should act and be like. There will be perfect children very soon in heaven. But even the children born into sin can become perfect. They must ask Jesus to forgive them for all of their sins and to make them as perfect as He was so

many years ago.

Throughout history there have been many important children mentioned in the Bible. Some of their stories are very long, while others are very short. Some of those children helped God's plans in big ways, while others helped in smaller ones. Whatever these children did, they are all important to Jesus. And remember, every single child in this world is loved so very much by Jesus. I hope all of you are blessed with the different stories and lessons to be learned of children in the Bible. Amen.

***Michael Cyrus Newby***

## *Jesus as a Child*

When Jesus was young He was always happy and cheerful. As a child he was obedient to his parents and helped with chores at home.



There also was an old man named Simeon, God said that He would let Simeon see the Son of God before he would die. Mary placed baby Jesus in Simeon's hands and Simeon blessed the baby boy.

When Jesus was 12 years old He and His family went to the Passover in Jerusalem. On the way back home Mary and Joseph were thinking that the boy was with them but He was not.

Mary and Joseph went to find Jesus. It took them 3 days and they found him sitting with the Rabbis and Elders.

It is my wish and prayer that we may be obedient to our parents and love God.

***Sarah Newby***

## The Boy Who Slept In Church

I want to tell you about a boy named Eutychus. Have you heard of this name?

"And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead." Acts 20:9

This boy was listening to a sermon Paul was preaching in Troas. This was Paul's last journey to Jerusalem, so he had much to say. Paul was preaching in a three-storied



building; a young lad named Eutychus fell into a deep sleep in the window. He suddenly fell through that window; everyone forgot about Paul and rushed outside. There they found Eutychus on the ground, dead. Paul struggled through the crowd toward Eutychus.

What Paul did next was remarkable. Let us read Acts 20:10. "And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him."

How can this be? This young lad fell three stories and still had breath? Everyone was amazed. The Apostle Paul had restored him back to life. They then went back to the top of the building and Paul continued preaching from where he left off.

"When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted." Acts 20:11-12



This story teaches us a lesson, a very important one. **Never sleep in church.** This is my wish and prayer. Amen

*Stephen Newby*

## Conclusion

"Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die." Proverbs 23:13. Also we read in Proverbs 13: 24, "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." The previous articles all spoke about children in the Bible. "But Jesus said, suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me:

for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14. So we see that Jesus didn't mind children. God even had plans for

children before they were born. For example we read in Jeremiah: "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the LORD said to me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak." Jeremiah 1:5-7

All of us have once been children and some of us here are still children. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Ecclesiastes 12:1. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17.

I hope we have learned much about children, and that we may be like children also.

*Matthew Romero*



# FRUSTRATION!

**"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel."**

**Philippians 1:12**

## LIFE PRISONER!

Like a light beam out of the dungeon comes this cheering message from the apostle Paul in his Roman imprisonment. You may put an eagle in a cage, but he will soon make his way to the highest perch, and there he will spend his enforced leisure looking out toward the sun. You may put a great man in prison and chain him to the floor between armed guards, but his soul remains free; his spirit cannot be imprisoned.

Paul wanted to go to Rome as a preacher, but instead he went as a prisoner! Yes, he could have written a long letter about that experience alone. Instead, he summed it all up as "the things which happened unto me." The record of these things is given in Acts 21:17–28; 31, beginning with Paul's illegal arrest in the temple in Jerusalem until when he finally appealed to Caesar (which was the privilege of every Roman citizen), and was sent to Rome—as a prisoner awaiting the trial he had requested before Caesar.

## INFECTIOUS CONTAGION!

Yet, we see here the care the apostle takes to prevent their (the brethren) being offended at his sufferings. This, however, as a prisoner at Rome, might be a stumbling block to those who had received the gospel by his ministry. They might be tempted to think, if this doctrine were indeed of God, God would not suffer one who was so active and instrumental in preaching and propagating it to be thrown by the side as a despised, broken vessel. They might be shy of owning this doctrine, lest they should be involved in the same trouble

themselves—a boding evil or omen for the end times? This becomes a vital concern in view of the coming day of Christ!

But the grandeur of Paul's courage inspired other believers also. Thus, when his voice was muted through imprisonment, they were constrained to proclaim the Gospel boldly in his stead. (Philippians 1:14).

Furthermore, as Paul's enemies were startled at his sufferings, so his friends, as well, were encouraged by them. "Upright men shall be astonished at this, and the innocent shall stir up himself against the hypocrite. The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger." Job 17:8–9

Paul wrote encouragingly to the Philippians, who were distressed, that what might have appeared as a setback was in reality an important advance. Prison is the last place from which to expect a letter of encouragement, but that is where Paul's letters to Timothy, Philemon, brethren, friends and churches originated! Not only had the entire Praetorian Honor Guard, in addition, learned of Christ, but the local church had been emboldened to proclaim the gospel openly and fearlessly now. The majority of the brethren were "infected with the contagion of Paul's heroism" (Rainey in ExpB, p. 52).

## PIONEER ADVANCE

To many, all of this too, would have looked like failure, but not to this man with a "single mind," concerned with sharing Christ and the gospel. We might consider here a lesson taught by the philosopher Blaise Pascal:

"The first rule of morality is to think clearly." Paul did not find his joy in ideal circumstances; he found his joy in winning others to Christ. And if his circumstances promoted the furtherance of the gospel, that was all that mattered! The word "furtherance," by the way, means "pioneer advance." It is a Greek military term referring to the army engineers who go before the troops to open the way into new territory (much like the "Seabees" of WW II; The Corps of Engineers today).

"*Procope*" (Greek: furtherance or advance), furthermore, is from a verb used originally of a pioneer cutting his way through brushwood (Souter, *Pocket Lexicon*, p. 216). So, instead of finding himself confined as a prisoner, Paul discovered that his circumstances really opened up new areas of ministry! Moreover, the circumstances (Greek: *ta kat' eme*) that had befallen Paul had unexpectedly proved to advance the Gospel actively and with power!

But imprisonment never was a matter to be lightly taken, and particularly in the experience of a man like the Apostle Paul. Not only was he a refined, educated, sensitive soul, but he was also an athlete in every fiber of his mind and spirit, a pioneer with expanding horizons, for whom three continents were not enough. Eh—and if America had been discovered before his day, he would in all likelihood have made his way to these shores also, to bring the gospel of Christ. Besides this, although advanced in years (some say age 60), he was still in his prime. And he was needed everywhere! The churches that he had established here and there were young, inexperienced, and bristling with problems.

#### **PRISON BEHAVIOUR**

Although zealous and eager to help, the Apostle was "in bonds"—in person, in total frustration, in the presence of a need so great that it must have wrung his heart from day to day. Yet, we do not find him fretting, tearing his hair, rending his clothes, or in ashes—as others. Instead, we find him serenely on top of his troubles and frustrations, having learned from the Lord Jesus Christ the difficult lesson of how to behave in prison. "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Philippians 4:11. This contentment does not have the least signs of frustration! Frustration is, in fact, disappointment; meaning "to defeat, balk, or deceive in fulfillment of desire; to defeat (of action, effort, etc.); to undo, destroy, overthrow." —*Compact Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary*, vol. 1, p. 738, Oxford University Press, 1971. Furthermore, "fail to meet the expectations or hope of." —*Merriam Webster Dictionary*, Merriam Webster, Inc., 11<sup>th</sup> edition, 2004, Springfield, Mass.,

#### **USA**

Ah—but the same God who used Moses' rod, Gideon's pitchers, and David's sling, used Paul's chains. Little did the Romans realize that the chains they affixed to his wrists would release Paul instead of bind him! Even as he wrote during a later imprisonment, "Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound." 2 Timothy 2:9. He did not complain about his chains; instead he consecrated them to God and asked God to use them for the pioneer advance of the Gospel. And God answered his prayers!

#### **PRISON BARS**

Ah—but we, who have never experienced imprisonment can scarcely realize what the apostle Paul endured. We have never known the experience of hearing the prison door clang shut behind us and then spending hours, days, weeks, months, and years behind locked doors in dark seclusion. But all of us have frustrations, and in many cases these frustrations are not less serious than prison bars! We might be surprised if we knew the frustrations of some of our acquaintances, like that of a man in the grip of an incurable disease, who is unwilling to take the first doctor's diagnosis, who goes from one physician to another, always to have the same diagnosis and prognosis confirmed. "There is nothing more that we can do; you may have only six months, and perhaps less, to wind up your affairs." A death sentence!

Such is the case for many more; utterly frustrated with a sickness or conflict of some sort, a relationship, an impending trial, and unable to do a thing about it!

The man with the case of an incurable disease is not unique. All around us people are dying, suffering, or breaking down with seemingly insurmountable gnawing circumstances; tens of thousands every year, because they have not the spiritual defenses and resources to endure or cope with the strains, pressures, and stresses of everyday living.

#### **SUCSESSES!**

Ah—but there is something we sorely need to learn from the Apostle Paul. He had achieved, at the time of his Epistle to the Philippians, several "successes" which point the way for us:

##### **I. PAUL SUCCEEDED IN FORGETTING ABOUT HIS IMPRISONMENT**

1. Listen to Him. "I do rejoice and will rejoice," he said. Four times he refers to his "bonds;" but sixteen times

in that brief epistle we read the words "joy," "rejoice," "gladness," and twice the Apostle speaks of "praise," and "thanksgiving!" Just look at him! There he sits. What for? For the crime of preaching the gospel he is in prison—hounded, persecuted, abused, threatened, rejected by those whom he had come to help! Just as the Son of God had suffered at the hands of those whom He had come to help. Paul does not know whether he will ever see the outside of prison again, whether he will ever walk the street again as a free-man; he does not know what day he might be led to the executioner's block.

And yet, instead of smoldering in bitterness, he is radiant and serene. From the tone of his letter, one might imagine him a freeman in a lovely garden setting, comfortable, relaxed, and surrounded by loyal friends. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

Ephesians 1:3

Thus he writes to the Ephesians out of the same imprisonment, and later in that Epistle he speaks of sitting with Christ in "heavenly places" (Ephesians 2:6). So, where was he sitting? In prison!! But that was not his real address. Where he really lived was, as he indicated, "in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

**2. Listen to Him Again.** "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Can we say that pensively without stuttering? Well, we have not really attained to maturity in our faith until we "can." We may need that kind of faith before we are through. We have been hearing and seeing over the media (if you have the courage) that in America and other major powers that there is no adequate defense against an atomic attack; the countries are vulnerable and must rely upon deterrents rather than defenses. The only thing they can see to do is to plant enough installations of long-range missiles pointed toward the potential enemy, so that at the pressing of a button they can bring destruction upon half a continent. This would bring desolation to much of the civilized world. If we think long enough and deeply enough upon the harrowing possibilities, it is something to make the blood run cold! Our hope is in God! (Psalm 43).

For the unaware and students of Biblical prophecy, we

remember in the past course of history that awe inspiring spectacle in the heavens over New England during the past century when, we are told and read, that it occurred from "two o'clock until broad daylight," with shooting stars flying in all directions. (November 13, 1833) (Mark 13:25; 24:29; Revelation 6:13; *The Great Controversy* p. 333–334; New York Journal of Commerce of November 14, 1833). A remarkable fulfillment of prophecy!

Thus was displayed the last of those signs of His coming concerning which Jesus bade His disciples; "when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors." Matthew 24:33. People were thrown into hysterics, believing that the end of the world had come. A maid-servant in the home of a certain ripe old saint burst in upon this man in his study and shrieked, "The world is coming to an end!" He, in all calmness, turned to her and said, "The world coming to an end? Let it!

We can get along without it!"

And that is exactly what every one of us will have to do one of these days—we shall have to "get along without it." (2 Peter 3:10). In the faith of the Apostles, we look toward "a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:13. Such was the faith which enabled the apostle Paul to forget about his imprisonment, and even to be

joyful in the experience!



## **II. PAUL SUCCEEDED IN DIGNIFYING HIS IMPRISONMENT**

**1. Whose Prisoner Was He?** Paul gives the answer; "... my bonds in Christ." It seemed to draw him nearer to his Lord, thus to dignify his imprisonment. Was he a prisoner of Rome, or of Nero? No! He was "the prisoner of Jesus Christ," "the prisoner of the Lord" (Ephesians 3:1; ..4:1).

**2. Why Was He Here?** Was it because of the evil intrigue of his enemies who had hounded and persecuted him and sought to put him to death? No! But for the "furtherance of the gospel." Why else would his Lord have permitted him to be imprisoned? Paul was saying in all sincerity, "I'm here on business for my King."

**3. Whence Came That Unquenchable Optimism** by which he was able to turn a dismal dungeon into a feasting chamber of rejoicing?

**(1) He was convinced**—that “all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28. This is what he had written to the Christians in Rome, some years earlier, while he was still in Corinth. The promise is not to the unbelieving who reject the grace of God, but to those “who love God.” Noteworthy also is the stipulation, “all things work together.” Taken separately, these things might have wrought his destruction; but taken together they were for his good.

The medicines which make you well are often compounded of poisons which taken singly would kill you. But, compounded by a skilled physician in the right proportions they make for the healing and restoration of the body. Grievous though some of the Apostle’s experiences were, he knew that the divine sentries would not let a single experience get through to touch him except such as his Lord would coin into his everlasting profit. Thus he knew in advance the outcome of the things that were happening to him. He knew that all would end well. The Apostle Paul was in a dark place in the plot against him, but he knew the outcome in advance, and knew that it would be good.

**(2) He was “joyful in tribulation.”** (2 Corinthians 7:4)—because he could see beyond. We may be sure that he did not enjoy tribulation any more than we enjoy it. But he suffered like the Lord Jesus, “who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame.” Hebrews 12:2. Surely one of the darkest nights this world has ever known must have been the night that Jesus went to Gethsemane. Just before, in the “upper room,” He had declared that He must suffer and die, and that one of the disciples would betray Him; another would deny Him, and all the rest would flee. Then, in the deep gloom of that hour, what does He do? He rises up and leads them in the singing of a “hymn” (Matthew 26:30). A hymn is a song of praise, a “doxology.” It is believed that the hymn which they are most likely to have sung was the 118<sup>th</sup> Psalm. This Psalm contains the middle verse of the Bible. “It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes” (v. 8). How perfectly this was suited to the unworthy behaviour of the disciples in Gethsemane! But the Psalm reaches its climax in the verse, “This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalm 118:24

### **III. PAUL SUCCEEDED IN CAPITALIZING HIS IMPRISONMENT**

#### **1. In His Imprisonment Paul was determined that**

**“Christ shall be magnified.”** And Christ was “magnified.” How perfectly human it would have been for the Apostle to become cynical and bitter! Humanly speaking, he had deserved so much better than he was getting. Instead of a loving response to his sacrificial ministry, he was suffering persecution. And even among professed believers there were “false brethren,” whose behaviour was calculated to “add affliction to his bonds.” But nowhere does his faith shine more brightly than in his imprisonment; nowhere does he bear a more convincing or effective testimony.

**2. Through his Imprisonment, Paul Secured a New Congregation.** He was not preaching to a church; but he now had, as his congregation, one person at a time, the Imperial Praetorian guardsmen that were set over him. Guard duty entails long, dragging hours without anyone-to-talk-to-anybody-about-anything! Here were these guardsmen, one after another, set over this strange and distinguished prisoner. And he was talking to them. What was he talking about? He was telling them about the Lord Jesus Christ. It seems that, in the aggregate, he must have had a fairly large audience there. And he had the most effective approach there is, as he dealt with them unhurriedly, one by one, man to man, telling them about Jesus. Even professional guards could not resist speaking of this remarkable prisoner and the reason for his imprisonment. Soon the entire city, “all the rest” (American Standard Version) knew that Paul was in chains for the cause of Christ.

Those Roman guardsmen with whom Paul was working, who were probably accustomed to witnessing cruelty and suffering cruelty and inflicting cruelty, were not the likeliest candidates for sainthood. But they were sinners for whom Christ died; and some of the finest saints that ever walked were made out of that kind of raw material. They were not the aristocracy of their generation, but as they came through the experience of the new birth and were born into the household of God, into the family of Christ, they were lifted into the highest aristocracy on earth or in heaven—the sons of God! They are mentioned in the concluding verses of that letter to the Philippians: “All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar’s household.” Philippians 4:22. So, through his imprisonment, Paul was enabled to reach even into Caesar’s household with the gospel. Incredible!

**3. From his Imprisonment Paul Extended his Ministry to the Ends of the Earth.** Here he was prompted to write those “imprisonment Epistles” which have blessed millions who have never seen his face or heard

his voice. There is not a person among us whose life has not been enriched by the fact that the Apostle was in prison in Rome and there he wrote these Epistles, nearly two thousand years ago.

### **JUST AS I AM**

Charlotte Elliott, 1836 (1789–1871), was a bed-ridden invalid for thirty-seven years, a devout Christian, with a deep longing to do something for her Lord. From her bed of affliction she gave to the world one of the greatest songs ever written. I am sure that if the coming of the Lord should be postponed another thousand years there will never be an invitation song written that will be better, that will say more, and say it with greater force and effect than this invitation hymn. Probably more people have walked down the aisles to confess Christ to the accompaniment of this invitation hymn than all the other invitation hymns put together:

"Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

"Just as I am, and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come."

This expresses the manner and spirit in which all must come who would enter the Kingdom of God—the rich and the poor, the high and the low, the slave and the king. Thank God for the bed-ridden, helpless, frustrating condition out of which Charlotte Elliott gave us this hymn! Among the redeemed in heaven there will doubtless be many who will gratefully testify, "The greatest hymn that ever was written, so far as I am concerned is the hymn that gave me the final prompting to yield my heart to Christ—"Just as I am."

### **FIGHT!**

What spiritual defenses and what spiritual resources did the Apostle Paul have that we do not have? Exactly none!

What Paul had, we too have or can have: "the helmet of salvation, the shield of faith, the breastplate of righteousness, the girdle of truth, the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" (Ephesians 6:13–17). "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

Thus it is possible to live with our **FRUSTRATIONS**, to the glory of God and the blessing of others. Amen <><

*John Theodorou, U.S.A.*

## ***Vegetarian (Vegan) Cooking Demonstration***

On Sunday afternoon, April 21, 2013, we held our spring cooking class at the Hamilton/Dundas church.

We were privileged to have Brother Morris Lowe give an excellent and informative Power Point presentation on a vegetarian diet as compared to a meat diet. Among other things, this presentation pointed out the differences in the digestive organs for meat eating creatures and vegetarian creatures, as well as the different teeth in carnivorous and non-carnivorous animals. It was also stated that a vegetarian diet decreases the risk of many diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, obesity, cancer, etc. Studies have shown that certain African tribes and Eskimos, who live almost exclusively on a meat diet, have an average life span of less than 50 years. A study of vegetarians tells us that they live considerably longer than non-vegetarians.

The recipes demonstrated were as follows: Sister Wendy Eaton demonstrated a Spinach Quiche and Vegan Nachos, which included Refried Beans, Salsa and Cashew "cheese". Sister Franziska Pedersen presented Quinoa with Lentil Tomato Sauce and a Fresh Fruit Cake with Carob-Peanut Butter Frosting, as well as Potato Phyllo Roll and Carrot & Beet Salad. Brother Jerry Eaton spoke about the Cream of Mushroom Soup which he had prepared ahead of time.

In the end Brother Evald Pedersen spoke on the benefits of Carrot, Celery and Beet Juice. Brother Evald had made quite a lot of juice ahead of time, enough for everyone to try some. We were all served a glass-full and it was delicious.

While the tables were being set up during the meal, which everyone enjoyed very much, our visitors had the opportunity to ask more questions. There was also time to browse over the display of books. We thank the Lord for everyone who attended and helped make this occasion a blessing. ***Franziska S. Pedersen*** (See Picture next Page)

(Recipes available upon request)

**Youth  
Conference  
March 28–  
April 1,  
2013**

**Pracht,  
Germany**



**Photos by Jens Müller**



**VEGETARIAN COOKING DEMONSTRATION**



**EDDA  
TEDFORD  
MENSAH,  
GHANA**



**"The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth so is every one that is born of the Spirit."**

**John 3:8**

**"Like the wind, which is invisible, yet the effects of which are plainly seen and felt, is the Spirit of God in its work upon the human heart. That regenerating power, which no human eye can see, begets a new life in the soul; it creates a new being in the image of God. While the work of the Spirit is silent and imperceptible, its effects are manifest. If the heart has been renewed by the Spirit of God, the life will bear witness to the fact. While we cannot do anything to change our hearts or to bring ourselves into harmony with God; while we must not trust at all to ourselves or our good works, our lives will reveal whether the grace of God is dwelling within us." –*Steps to Christ*, p. 57**