

The Reformation *Messenger*

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International Missionary Society of S.D.A. Church Reform Movement



“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

We Believe

The all-wise, loving God created all things in the universe by His Son, Jesus Christ; He is its 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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The prophecy of Daniel, “Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed,” (Dan. 8:14) has been misunderstood by almost every Christian church.

Even that the angel Gabriel came to give understanding to this vision, it was not until after 1798 that people started to understand the meaning of it. No prophet after Daniel nor any of the New Testament writers gave light to this vision. Only the first part of it, the 70 weeks, was understood by Bible students before the time of the end began.

Daniel 9:24 explains the events that will take place before the 70 weeks were finished. “Seventy weeks are determined upon Thy people and upon Thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophesy, and to anoint the most Holy.”

All these seven events must take place before the 490 years were finished, and these events have a great meaning to us.

Seventy Weeks are Determined

The word “determined” comes from the Hebrew word “chathak” which is used in the Bible only once. The meaning of this word is also “to cut off.” This was a time period that was cut off from the 2300 years, for a certain purpose.

If the Jewish people had understood the meaning of these words, they would have been terrified to see that their time as a chosen people had almost ended and the holy city would not be the center of worship anymore. God had been patient with the Jewish people for many centuries, but finally came the time when they could not be the light of the world anymore. The holy oracles of God could not be trusted into their hands anymore.

To Finish the Transgression

The Jewish people finally filled the cup of their iniquity. When they rejected Jesus, and His message and crucified Him, there was no more chance that they could remain the chosen people. Individually they could be saved, but as a nation, they had become enemies of God. This has been repeated many times in the past. The churches that God had recognized as His own have been left alone without His presence.

Jesus said, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.” Matt. 23: 37, 38.

Churches that were faithful under the guidance of the Holy Spirit suddenly are left alone from His divine presence, and

become part of Babylon, confusion.

“Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.” Rev. 18:2.

When the Holy Spirit leaves the church, the evil spirits come in and often the congregation does not realize the change that has taken place. Isaiah explains this event. “And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto My chosen: for the Lord, God shall slay thee and call His servants by another name.” Isa. 65:15.

To Make an End of Sins

The word translated “sins” comes from a Hebrew word, “chatta’t’h” or “chatta’oth. It has been translated in the Bible sometimes as “sins” and other times as “sin offering.” It has been translated as “sin offering” 135 times. When Christ became the antitype of sacrificial offerings; then it was not necessary to offer animal sacrifices any more.

To Make Reconciliation for Iniquity

By His death upon the cross, Jesus made atonement for every sinner who accepts His sacrifice. This is our Gospel message. “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son.” John 3:16. This is the picture, Jesus dying upon the cross, that we should never lose sight of.

Contemplating on this scene will make sin hateful to us and love to Christ will awaken in our hearts. Many books have been written on this theme, and many beautiful songs we have in our hymnals of Christ's sacrifice that we love to sing.

To Bring in Everlasting Righteousness

Jesus did not provide only forgiveness for sins but He continued to bring in also everlasting righteousness. He wants to sanctify us after He has forgiven our sins. He offers to everyone His robe of righteousness freely. After we have received the imputed righteousness, He continues to give us imparted righteousness. His holy life on earth is an example to us how we also can overcome as He overcame.

The only requirement for receiving His righteousness is to hunger and thirst after it and we will be filled with it. This is one of the most wonderful themes for our study and meditation; it will change us from a sinner to a saint.

To Seal Up the Vision & Prophecy

By these events the vision and prophesy has been confirmed or ratified. To make sure that the beginning of the 2300 days or years is correct, it has been divided into sections which have been fulfilled accurately. Jesus was baptized in the year 27 A.D. and crucified in year 31 A.D. Other events also prove the vision to be correct chronologically. Now we know for sure that the ending in the year 1844 is correct.

To Anoint the Most Holy

This event also had to happen before the end of the 490 years. As Jesus left this earth, He went with His own blood into the heavenly sanctuary to anoint it for the service. He entered within the veil into the Most Holy to anoint it as did Moses with the sanctuary in the wilderness. "And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out and blessed the people, and the glory of the Lord appeared

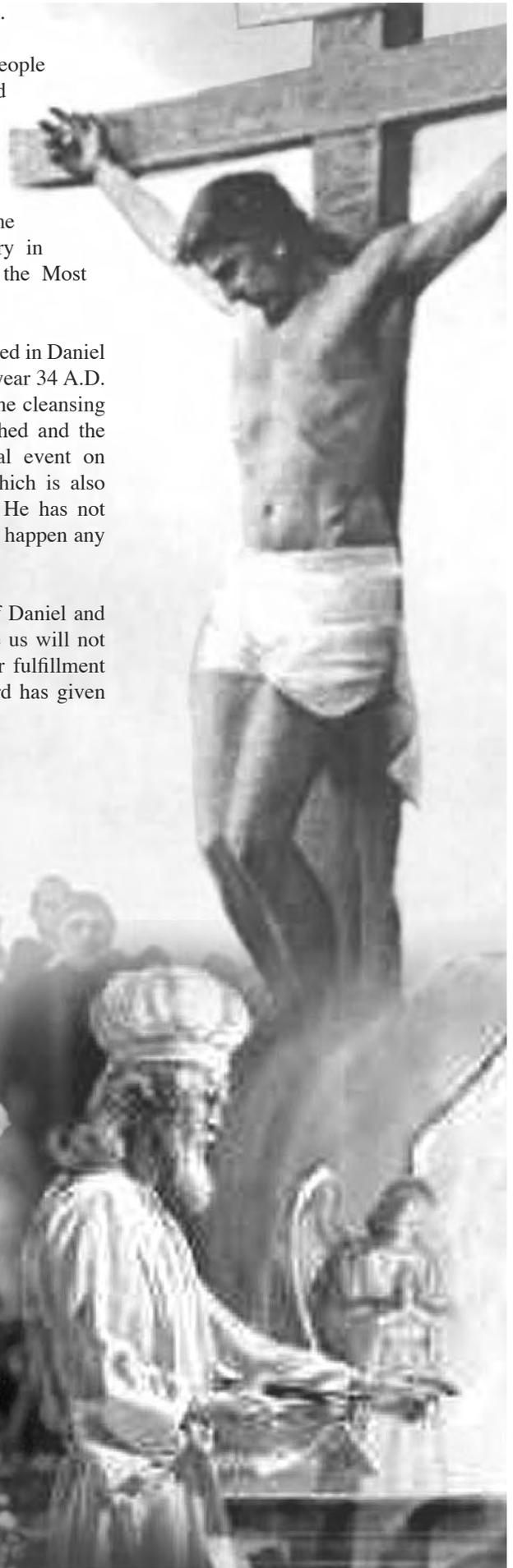
unto all the people." Lev. 9:23.

Jesus did also bless the people on the day of Pentecost and truly the glory of the Lord appeared again unto all the people. After this, Jesus continued the service in the first compartment until the time came to cleanse the sanctuary in 1844 when He entered into the Most Holy in the sanctuary.

All these seven events mentioned in Daniel 9:24 were fulfilled before the year 34 A.D. and now we are waiting that the cleansing of the sanctuary will be finished and the Lord will come and the final event on this earth will be fulfilled, which is also determined by the Lord. But He has not revealed the time to us. It can happen any time.

Let us study the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation that what is before us will not be a surprise to us but a clear fulfillment of the prophecies that the Lord has given us. *AMEN.*

Timo Martin, Canada





When we talk about a special day of worship, we have first to settle our mind in harmony to ask God to help us understand these themes in His own understanding. God in His love has given us a church upon the earth, who are His chosen people, who also in all ways keep His commandments. He is leading, not stray offshoots, not one here or there, but a people having to learn that we are the church of God on earth. And the question to ask ourselves is, do we really know the special day of worship, and how to keep it holy? Do we resemble and portray God in our characters and behaviour on this day? Our Lord Jesus Christ has given to the church a sacred charge, and every member who worships on this special day should be a channel through which God can communicate to the world the treasures of His grace, the unsearchable riches of Christ. There is nothing that the Saviour desires so much as His church being an agent who will represent to the world His spirit and His character; also there is nothing that the world needs so much as the manifestation through humanity of the Saviour's love.

What do we understand by a special day of worship? The book of Ezekiel 46:1, which says, "Thus the gate of the inner court that faces east shall be shut on the six working days, but on the Sabbath day, it shall be opened and on the day of the new moon, it shall be opened." So important is the day, the sanctuary in all its details, the ministration of leaders, priests, church elders and the correct worship that is related in many chapters of the book of Ezekiel. Our life upon this earth and our salvation therefore depends upon on what goes on in the heavenly sanctuary. This is a shadow of Christ and what it really meant to every human being who serves Him. The entrance of the temple of God was facing the east from where the sun rises, so that when the priests performed the ceremonies, their backs were turned to the east. And on the contrary, all the heathen cults were done facing the east; this was because their main source of worship was the sun. Even though at that time people were worshipping the sun, they knew the right day of worship. God in His love and mercy has given us six working days, from the first day to the sixth day, which is from Sunday to Friday, and only one special day, the seventh day, the Sabbath, Saturday. He put aside to go to the temple to worship. Genesis 2:2-4 says, "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them, and on the seventh day, God finished His work which He had done. So God blessed the seventh day all hallowed it, because from it, God rested from all His work which He had done in creation." This day that was set apart and sanctified by the Lord after He finished creation, was incorporated in the moral law He gave through Moses from Mount Sinai to all those who called themselves children of God. He gave him the law to guide and to prevent us from sinning, to make us come close to our Creator. He gave Moses the Ten Commandments in that the first four Decalogue's were to be between God and His people, and the remaining six between men. And so it is the fourth commandment of the Decalogue where God is talking to us about His Sabbath, how to keep it and how to make it holy. The book of Exodus 20:8-11 says, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall not do any work, you or your son, or your daughter, your manservant or your maidservant or your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates, for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it," and those who keep it receives a blessing.

It is a big privilege for we as Christians to have as a rest day, a day



of the Lord's, to be able to have special communion with Him, and to rest in His love and righteousness. The day, or the Sabbath day, according to the principles of God's creation, starts at sunset, therefore the new day starts in the evening. Genesis 1:8 says, "and the evening and the morning were the second day." When we look at the crucifixion and burial of Jesus, we can better understand the principles and the importance of this day. We know that Christ died on Friday afternoon. (Luke 23: 53-56). Then His body was wrapped in a linen shroud, and they laid Him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning... and they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath day they rested according to the commandments. As the setting of the sun was coming nearer, the women interrupted all activities and were ready to enter into the holy hours of the day of rest at the same time that their Master was resting in His grave. The sixth day, a day of preparation, was made known to everyone of the law-keepers, and that day we prepare everything, we clean our houses, we prepare our apparel, do all the shopping and the cooking so that on the special day of the Sabbath, we are fresh and rejoice with our guests. But on the contrary, it is really a big pity and sorrow, because the Sabbath is the most important thing that Satan is fighting with; he is not happy at any moment with the Sabbath-keepers. He tries by all means to persuade and lead them in one way or the other to do their own will by weakening their faith. There are many Christians who were shown this light (the day of worship) but up to date cannot keep the Sabbath and make it holy. And many are in the path of not knowing the exact day of worship but they call themselves children of God. They see that instead of observing the seventh day, the day that God

sanctified and commanded to be observed as the Sabbath, they are keeping the first or the fifth day of the week, but they honestly desire to do God's will by trying to search in His scriptures the reasons for their charge of worshipping on their own days, but failing to find any scriptural authority for the custom. The question arises, shall we (they) accept the truth that has become unpopular and obey the commandments of God or shall we continue with the world and obey the beliefs and doctrines of men as far as their understanding about the Sabbath is concerned?

In a time like this, we should have but one subject in view—the employing of every means that God has provided by which the truth may be planted in the hearts of men, and for that reason, it is the duty of every Christian who has known this truth and the light to strive to the utmost of his/her ability to spread abroad the knowledge of truth. It is our duty to watch, work and wait, to labour every moment for the souls of men that are ready to perish, because they don't know how to keep God's commandments and how to serve Him. Many people, professed Christians, have taken this day as a day of solving their problems, in their families, marital problems, community clashes, visitation and traveling, all these are planned on the holy day of Christ, the Sabbath day. Some gather at their friend's homes discussing things which cannot help and to make it worse, some Christians even open their shops on the Sabbath. We have turned the day of the Lord into a day of doing our own business and maybe this is the reason why God is still delaying to come, and maybe, this is the reason why there is no development and blessings towards our plans as individuals, because we have refused to listen to His voice and not keep His commandments. We are in a very solemn period, for souls are

deciding what will be their eternal destiny. Satan, on the other hand with his angels, is continually plotting to make void the law of God and thus to enslave the souls of men, by blocking their ears, their mentality to learn, to understand the basic means and ways of keeping the Ten Commandments of God.

Let us remember that on the holy day of Christ, the Sabbath, we are the guests, but also the hosts. We are invited to enter the temple of the Lord that has been closed the six days of the week, busy at work, and opens its door on the Sabbath day to receive all brothers and sisters in the same faith to rejoice together, praising the name of the Lord. What a wonderful event! What a spiritual feast! We are also the hosts because Jesus wants us to dwell in our homes, in our hearts, in our marriages, and be the Master of our life. This marvelous celebration will not take place only here on earth, but this is only a shadow of what is to come. Ask yourself, that if you cannot keep the Sabbath holy here on earth, notably in heaven you will not manage it. But can you scarcely imagine or feel what it is to be in the presence of the Lord and to be among the members of the heavenly family, the day will come and it will not delay in which... "from one new moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the Lord." Isa. 66:23.

May the Lord help us to know the special day of worship, to keep and to make it holy and to spread this knowledge among those who still do not know what it means by keeping the Sabbath. May He also help us to be among those who worship in heaven because we have learned upon this earth to worship in truth and spirit. **AMEN.** 

Willkister Akinyi-Outah



“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

It Is Possible

We can move mountains (Math 17:20). We can walk on water (Math 14:29). Yes, and we can “mount up with wings like eagles.” (Isaiah 40:31) How? By faith... “nothing shall be impossible unto you.”(v.17:20).

I was watching an eagle in flight when for no apparent reason it began spiraling upward. With its powerful wings, the great bird soared ever higher, dissolved into a tiny dot, and then disappeared. This flight reminded me of the words of Isaiah... “but, those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles.”(v.31)

Conquering Eagles

Eagles, which are birds of prey, are mentioned thirty-four times in the Bible. This is more than any other bird of prey. It must have some significance, therefore, for believers and readers of the scriptures.

Eagles fly better, longer, higher, faster and more impressively than any other bird. What other attributes are there of eagles that make it so important for us, that we can “mount up with wings like eagles”?

They have long broad wings, very well suited for gliding and soaring, plus massive legs, and more. But, importantly for us, their “swiftness and strength” is a particular characteristic we are likened to in the scriptures.

Center of the World

Ancient Delphi, a haunt for eagles and a popular archaeological site in Greece, is about two and one-half hours (180 km) from Athens, and was considered in ancient times as a religious sanctuary and oracle, a cult that was established in 8 B.C.

It was a place favored by emperors, and considered the “center of the known world,” where heaven and earth met.

In ancient Greek mythology, Delphi was the meeting place of two eagles, released by Zeus and sent in opposite directions. Where they met indicated the center of the earth. Delphi was known as the center of worship for the ancient God Apollo, son of Zeus. But, with the spread of Christianity, the sanctuary lost its meaning, and was permanently closed down with a decree of emperor Theodosius the Great.

Ancient Delphi’s spectacular scenery and dramatic ruins on a mountain slope, however, still remain, and is still the “meeting place” of eagles, their “sanctuary.” It is surrounded by jagged mountains (Mt. Parnassos), and to reach it from the valley was like the proverbial “passing of a camel through the eye of a needle.”

Above the ruins of the ancient Greek temple of Delphi, we can see eagles, nested, soaring, and hanging in the sky at great distances, ominously swooping down closely overhead at frightening speeds, streaking through the air with a gleaming flash and rushing sound to capture and overpower their prey, crushing and killing it with their awesome and powerful, heavy-taloned feet.

Watchful Perspective

All in all, the princely eagle symbolizes for us, not only strength, but a “watchfulness,” and a “perspective,” nowhere else to be found, for it is able to see twice as well as people and are able to detect very small movements many kilometers away! There is an old proverb from the Talmud that says that an eagle in Babylon can see a carcass in Palestine, which incidentally, is rich in eagles.

What does all of this, therefore, lead us to? Why the elaborate descriptions of this magnificent bird, its haunts, its characteristics, but based mostly on qualities of seeing from afar with a deep and brilliant perspective?

Focus In

Well, as they approach their prey at exceptionally high speeds, they must be able to adjust the focus of their eyes rapidly. In order to do this, eagles have well developed muscles controlling the curvature of the lens to be able to focus better. Furthermore, they have a hunting strategy based on these qualities.

We, too, can have this celestial perspective, and sharply focus on the “big picture,” the future, with our human qualities of understanding, that we may “with renewed strength mount up with wings like eagles.” How is this possible? This will be illuminated further by the following scriptures, in our approach to Jesus. We’ll see “afar.”

Greatest Prayer

John 17 is a prayer we need to memorize. We can endlessly study John 17 as we study the sanctuary or the Law. It is, however, the Lord’s own personal prayer to His father. It is Christ’s high priestly prayer. In it we see His grace and mercy to the multitudes. We can, in this prayer, look deeply into the heart of Jesus, the Son of God.

Great God

It is like a golden ladder to heaven. We can be there now, today! In fact, we are there today. The Sabbath comes down today and every Sabbath Day.

Jesus, firstly, prays for Himself (v 1-5); then the disciples (v 6-19); followed by us (v 20-26). Jesus says, “I desire.” The Father and Son, we can see, are the same and One God. What a great God!

We Are His

He prays for us, all Christians throughout the whole age of man. Furthermore, He speaks seven times of “Christians given to Him by His Father.”(v 2, 6). Jesus Christ’s prayer is ascending to His Father. He desires “that they,” (you, I, and we), be one, He loves us so much. The Saviour’s arms are around us. We are like the disciples, or even closer.

Precious Gifts

Because of the divine and trustworthy generosity of God, He has given us three precious gifts; three major themes with an astonishing perspective. We, like the high-soaring eagles, will vividly see this as we focus in on this marvelous prayer of Jesus in John 17. We will be able to see into Heaven by the heavenly prayer of Jesus in His intercessory prayer, the greatest and longest prayer in the Bible, and with three divine messages for us.

1. GOD’S UNITY

Oneness

Six times Jesus mentions unity, “that they may be one; even as We are One. Just as We are One in them and We in them.”(v 22). He speaks here, also, of a unity of leaders and disciples. This is not doctrinal; it is not just a common cause; it is not that. But, it is the sharing of the same life; the Holy Spirit; one with them.

Shared Life

In fact, it is a unity of a shared life. This is often misrepresented badly. How? By confessing to one who is prejudiced is a bad policy. It breaks the unity; racial, economic, envy, boasting, hatred, pride, etc.

We may be one. This is the foundation for people getting along together. It has already been laid down. The Spirit is in us. It is the gift of oneness in Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ in us (Romans 12:5).

Sanctified Look

It is found in the blood stream; in the blood. It is the “blood-beat.” For, “there’s life in the blood.” (Leviticus 17:11).

If Jesus Christ is in us, it is reflected by our conduct, words, countenance, appearance, mannerisms. We will have that “sanctified look;” “At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel.” (Isaiah 17:7).

2. GOD’S SHARED GLORY

Crowning Glory

This glory is the glory of the cross (v 24). It is already given to us; conferred upon us. But, we sinned away our glory. But, Jesus Christ on the cross gave His glory on the cross, not a penalty, but glory, and was “received up into glory” (1 Timothy 3: 16). We received the joy and glory of the indwelling cross (Psalm 73:24).

“The wise shall inherit the glory.” (Proverbs 3:35). “Heaven came down and glory filled my soul.” The glory of God radiated, like rays of the sun. It is the glory of Jesus Christ, without the veil! It will be seen by human beings. I cannot, and I do not believe anyone could describe it fully.

Parthenon

It is as if I were to describe the ancient Parthenon Temple, a finely dimensioned archaeological structure in Athens, Greece, the greatest building that crowns the Acropolis. It was designed and built by the Greek architect, Pheidias, the noblest work of this famous sculptor.

It was a temple built to please the gods and as a shrine of the goddess, Athene, the city’s patron goddess, in ancient Greece. It was founded in 447 B.C., and even today is one of the most visually satisfying buildings to be seen anywhere in the world. It is a rectangular building, with a central room and a surrounding porch built with the post and lintel system.

Its dimensions are 69.5 meters long x 30.88 meters wide x 10.4 meters high and consists of 46 impressive fluted Doric style columns, entirely built of white marble, with huge bronze doors at each end. During the Christian era the Parthenon was used successively as a church, a mosque and an arsenal, but was hit by a Venetian shell in 1687, and nearly destroyed. Athens was visited by the Apostle Paul twice, preaching from the Areopagus, and Mars’ Hill (1 Thessalonians 3:1; Acts 17:15-34).

Pitifully Inadequate

The Parthenon, in essence, cannot be fully described from the above. If words, therefore, are inadequate to describe the Parthenon, Areopagus, or Mars’ Hill, how can we describe Jesus Christ in all His glory? It is impossible. It is totally inadequate. “Father, I desire that they also,



whom You gave Me, may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me” (v 24). Moreover, “the wise shall inherit glory, but shame shall be the legacy of fools.”(Proverbs 3:35).

3. GIFT OF SHARED LOVE

Precious Beginning

We are now bordering on the brink of intellectual acumen or perception, as we penetrate deeper into the eternal gift of love. The Father loved His Son from eternity, before He created the sun, moon, and stars. God alone, poured His love and affection on His Son (2 Tim 2:9). You were loved from all eternity, as His Son! All eternity! This is beyond all human comprehension... mind boggling! God said, “we loved them so much we have to redeem them, rescue them!” This is precious, because it is an undeserved love. It is precious because He loved us! It is precious because the price paid for sinners is as much as he loved His son! (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Dreadful Desert

The church is an oasis in the desert. It is planted in the middle of a dirty world. But, “they are not of the world.” (v16). They have been accepted, forgiven, reconciled. We need to preserve this purity. It is a struggle, actually, with impurity, and impurities! Many more battles lie ahead.

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Our moral sanity and stability is at stake in a world that is a lifeless, reactionary desert.

But, the church is an island of hope in a lost world. The believers’ security and safety rests upon the Father’s faithfulness to His Son, Jesus Christ (Philippians 4:8).

Trusting Hope

In Jesus Christ we receive His forgiveness. Turn to Jesus. That is our message of hope, for failures, disappointments, life’s heartbreaks and tragedies. These can put an end to our resilience, our endurance, our nerves, and bring us to our knees.

But, if we put our hope in the Lord and rely on Him, He “renews our strength.” The key to our endurance lies in the exchange of our limited resources for God’s limitless strength. And, it is ours for the asking! With God’s strength we can “run and not be weary” even when days become over-demanding. With His strength, too, we can “walk and not faint,” even though the way appears dreary and long. The psalmist exclaimed, “Blessed is the man whose strength is in You.” (Psalm 84:5).

He Cares

He will renew your failing strength, because He is a God who cares for you. “He gives power to the weak.” (Isaiah 40:

29). “Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fail, but those who wait on the Lord, shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles.” (Isaiah 40:30,31). “For thou art the glory of their strength” (Psalm 89:17).

Look Up

There is an old story told, and only a story, of an abandoned eagle’s egg in a tree. Some children preserved it until it hatched, and put it in a pen of chickens. It began to act, look, and call like a chicken! One day the eagle saw an eagle soaring beautifully overhead. The mother hen said to the little eagle, “don’t look up! You are a prairie chicken, and nothing but a prairie chicken!”

But, with Jesus Christ, we don’t look down. We look above, far up unto the sacred, peaceful, breezes and heavens for **Unity, Glory, and Love.**

Believe! Be encouraged! You’re an “eagle”! **AMEN.** 

John Theodorou, U.S.A.

GOLD TRIED IN THE FIRE

Gold, tried in the fire—what is it and how do we obtain it?

Have you ever had fleas? If not, you have missed an experience. If so, you will understand my message today.

Fleas come out of the air, apparently; they bite, jump, and generally make themselves a nuisance. They make mosquitoes seem nice by comparison. They crawl on your skin. They are a fair comparison to sin. They hide in the folds of your clothing, and then bite at night. The only pleasure they afford is when you find them and destroy them.

They are hard to catch, though; and when you do find one, you must hang on to it, preferably with a wet finger. Then roll it between your thumb and forefinger until it is incapacitated. But don't think he is dead! Not until he is crushed will he cease to revive and bite again! Like David with Goliath, the stone only knocked the giant out; the sword must be used to destroy completely.

And so it is with sin. We may think we have killed it by rolling it in our fingers, but until it is crushed to blood by the sword, it will rise to bite again.

Pilgrims on! The day is dawning! Strike

your tents, and homeward haste; sleep not while the blush of morning, calls you on the desert waste. Though the way be dark and dreary, life's sharp anguish must be borne; courage then, ye faint and weary, linger not to weep and mourn. Pilgrims on! The storm is beating, beating wildly on your way; tarry not, the time is fleeting, shall the storm your footsteps stay? Hasten on, through joy and sorrow, or whatever may betide. Wait not for the calm tomorrow, faithful at your work abide. Pilgrims on! What though in dangers, life's eventful course pursue; labour on, ye friendless strangers, grace will guide you safely through. What if trials must befall you! What if fierce temptations rise! Shall earth's bitter strife appall you while contending for the prize? Pilgrims on! There's rest in heaven, rest from every anxious care; rest in Jesus' smiles, forgiven, peaceful and eternal there. O, 'twere sweet to toil in sadness, O, 'twere well the cross to bear. If, at last in joy and gladness, we may rest eternal there!

Tried in the fire? Don't think an infestation of fleas is a light matter. On top of weariness, pain, fear, sorrow, grief, and mundane troubles, they add their share of burning. (With joy and gladness. Don't think life is all hardship and suffering).

I thank God for His precious promises,

that our sorrows do not spring out of the ground. "Our Father does not willingly afflict the children of men." "Our light affliction, which is but a moment, works for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

Another thing about fleas, often they have to come to you, searching is time consuming and sometimes fruitless. But when one comes out into the open, out of your hair onto your forehead, take it. So by continually looking for sin--ourselves or some else's—we waste time, energy, and good temper, and rarely accomplish any good. but when sin comes out into the open, then is the time to deal decisively with it.

Another thing about fleas, don't worry about them. Forget them until they become unforgettable. Also—you may still feel the pain and itch of the bite long after the flea has died—it is not sin, just the aftereffects of it.

Pilgrims on! The day is dawning: strike your tents and homeward haste!

Kathleen Ross, Alberta, Canada

"If you would find happiness and peace in all you do, you must do everything in reference to the glory of God. If you would have peace in your hearts, you must seek earnestly to imitate the life of Christ... "You will have a serenity and happiness in rightdoing that you can never realize in a course of wrong." Youth Instructor, September, 1873

TIME NEARLY FINISHED



Sis. White states, I saw that the time for Jesus to be in the most holy place was nearly finished, and that time can last but a very little longer. As the subject was presented before me the period of Christ's ministration seemed almost accomplished. Am I accused of falsehood because time has continued longer than my testimony seemed to indicate?" No. It should be remembered that the promises and threatenings of God are alike, that is, conditional. How is it with the testimonies of Christ and His disciples? Were they deceived?

Paul Writes to the Corinthians:

"But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they were not: and they that rejoice, as though they rejoice not." 1 Cor. 7:29,30.

Again, in his epistle to the Romans, he says:

"The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." Rom. 13:12.

And from Patmos, Christ speaks to us by the beloved John:

"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." (Rev. 1:3). "The Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which most shortly be done. Behold, I come quickly; blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book." Rev. 22:6,7.

The angels of God in their messages to men represent time as very short. God had committed to His people a work to be accomplished on earth. The third angel's message was to be given, the minds of the believers were to be directed to the heavenly sanctuary, where Christ had entered to make atonement for His people... The message must be proclaimed with a loud voice, that all the inhabitants of earth might receive the warning.

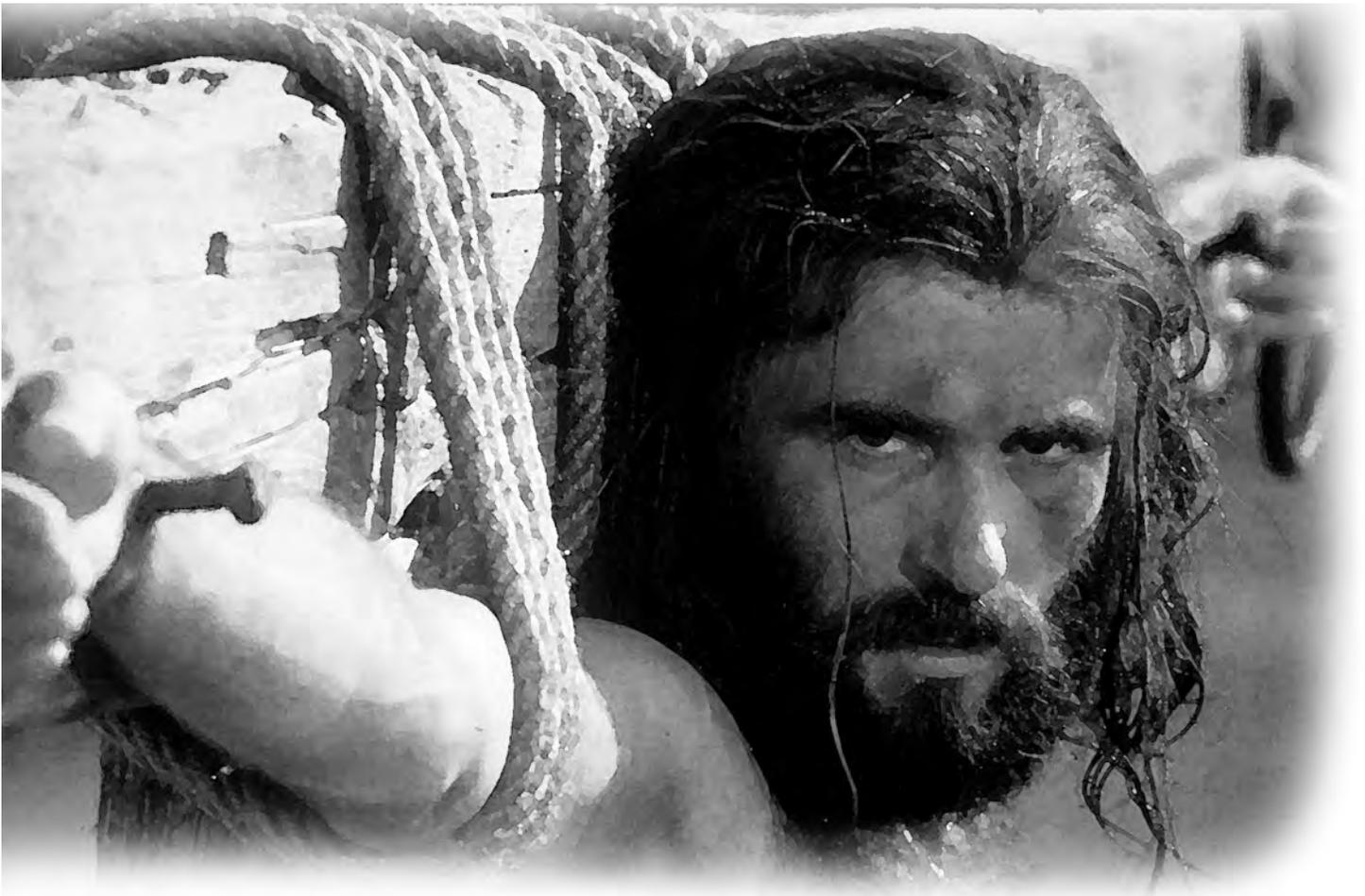
The people of God must purify their souls through obedience to the truth, and be prepared to stand without fault before Him at His coming.

The Precious Treasure of Time

"If we would at last share the reward of the righteous, we must wisely improve the time of our probation. Moments are more precious than gold...

"The coming of the Lord draweth nigh. We have but a little time in which to make ready. If precious opportunities are slighted, it will result in eternal loss. We need a close connection with God. We are not safe a moment unless guided and controlled by the Holy Spirit...

"The months... are swiftly passing. Soon this year, with its burden of records, will be numbered with the past. Let the precious months remaining be devoted to earnest soul labour for the Master. Could we behold a faithful record of the manner in which we have spent the months already past, would the view be satisfactory? Deduct every action which would benefit no one... and how little remains of willing service, performed for the glory of God: is not the record



alarming? How many precious hours have been squandered in selfish gratification! How often, to please ourselves, have we neglected opportunities to work for Christ!...

“Life, with its marvelous privileges and opportunities, will soon be ended. The time for improvement in character will be past. Unless our sins are now repented of and blotted out by the blood of the Lamb, they will stand in the ledger of heaven to confront us in the coming day...

“Life is short. The things of the world must perish with the using. Let us be wise, and build for eternity. We cannot afford to idle away our precious moments, or engage in busy activities that will bring forth no fruit for eternity. Let the time hitherto devoted to idleness, frivolity, worldliness, be spent in gaining a knowledge of the scriptures, in beautifying our life, and blessing and ennobling the life and character of others. This work will meet with the approval of God, and win for us the heavenly benediction of “well done”. E.G. White, *Our High Calling*, p. 187.

Let us pray to the Lord for all the isolated

souls in all our fields. Consider the question in Isaiah 6:8. “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And consider the fact that : “the harvest is truly plenteous. But the labourers are few.” Matt. 9:37. Are those who work directly with the church the only labourers that the Lord has? Set Jesus as your example. John 4:34 tells of Jesus’ unselfish love for us and for His Father. “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work.”

Is this not our main objective to do His will and finish His work? The Lord is calling you to make a sacrifice, and to get away from the comforts of life.

Answer the call with, “here am I; send me.” Like Nehemiah, take up the work in establishing the truth in the habitable globe, and be assured that God’s presence will be with you even there. Labour in faith and confidence; for the time will never come

when He will forsake you.

“Workers for Christ are needed everywhere. There should be one hundred earnest, faithful labourers in home and foreign mission fields where now there is one.” FE 488 (1903).

“Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth (you) labourers into His vineyard.” Matt. 9:38. 

Co-labourer with you in Christ,
Golden Kayawa Hingabantu, Zambia
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PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

OUR FATHER

“According to thy name, O God, so is thy praise unto the ends of the earth.” Ps. 48:10

WHICH ART IN HEAVEN

“Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary.” Ps. 77:13

HALLOWED BE THY NAME

“I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.” Ps. 145:1

THY KINGDOM COME

“Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.” Ps. 145:13

THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

“In the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.” Ps. 40:7, 8

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

“He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth; And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man’s heart.” Ps. 104:14, 15

AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS

“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.” Ps. 103:12

“To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.” Ps. 103:18

AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL

“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” Ps. 119:11

“Make me to go in the path of thy commandments.” Ps. 119:35

“He will be our guide even unto death.” Ps. 48:14

“And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.” Ps. 50:15

FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY

“The earth is the LORD’S, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.” Ps. 24:1

“All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power.” Ps. 145:10, 11

FOR EVER. AMEN.

“He hath shewed his people the power of his works... The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.” Ps. 111:6-8 

Clinton McNutt, Vancouver, Canada

"I'M A KEEPER"

Our youth conference motto was, "I am a keeper."

This, as you can see is also my title. I chose it because everything we did at this camp would revolve around this phrase. We all worked as a team and did all of the activities together. You certainly felt a bond of love for one another, and if you don't have love for your fellow brother, you are not a "keeper." Also, to God you are a keeper! You are extremely valuable to Him.

It was the first youth conference I was able to go to, along with a few more youth. It was such an enriching experience to all the youth that attended this trip. There is no doubt that it was the will of God to bring the

youth of the different churches together to catch up on old memories, but to also make new ones.

We left early on a Monday morning, maybe around 11 a.m. It was approximately an hour's drive to Drumbo (where the youth conference took place). When we got there, we had to unpack our things and get familiar with the place. We then had lunch and afterwards went for a swim.

Our first workshop took place that afternoon. These are the titles of the workshops and a summary of what we learned. (The workshops were twice a day):

Our Introduction—Spiritual Growth

1. Love—God's love for humanity and how we as Christians can share God's love with others.
2. Fear—The question we were asked was, "Can fear exist in your heart if the love of God is in your heart?" If we have fear,





we don't have the love of God within our hearts.

3. Anger—We learned how we can remain “cool” in angry situations.
4. Managing anger—We all got to say what things made us angry and why. We also said three things we would do to control our anger.
5. Spending time with God—It is important that we get in the habit of spending more time with God and less with friends. If we meditate with God, alone, it is possible for Him to speak to us.

6. You and God—it is important to spend time with God alone without any distraction from anyone or anything.

7. What does the Bible say of same-sex relationships and marriage?—To have a same-sex relationship or marriage is an abominable sin against God, but we as Christians must not treat them badly, but try our best to speak the word of God to them.

8. How you can be saved—We learned how we can overcome stress and how if we have stress we don't have God. We also learned how to forgive and what danger lies if we don't.

Thus you have an idea of what we learned. We dedicated spiritual time together to God, but we also got time to be with Him alone.

Apart from this, we would take nature walks through the woods, seeing God's creation around us. We saw plenty of frogs and were lucky to see a garter snake. We thought we saw a bear, but it was then discovered it was just Br. Magee getting wood for that night's campfire. And we can't forget the mosquitoes that got a little too friendly.

Every night, we all would get together around the fire. The beautiful stars were out, millions covered the sky. We would start off by singing songs and later playing fun games.

Worship would take place early in the morning after breakfast and before the campfire. Each day a youth would lead out at worship time. For Sabbath, everyone participated.



Then last but certainly not least, going canoeing. Although it was tiring, hard, and there was the “famous fall” of the “ruffryders,” it was still a lot of fun and there was a lot of laughs. At times, small races would begin, actually the whole way was practically a race. But seriously, canoeing is hard. By the end of it, you would think your muscles were an inch bigger.

So here I come to the end of my report. I really encourage the youth that didn't come this year to the youth conference to really think about coming next year. It truly is

a blessed experience. You will find you grow spiritually, mentally and physically (as in working out). So, please make that effort, and to the youth that came, I know I will certainly see you next year! May God bless you and be with you. *AMEN.* 

Veronica N. Garcia, Canada

• **See back cover for more pictures.**

• **Sign up for next year's Canadian Field Youth Conference:**

www.4truth.ca/youth



DISTRIBUTING FLYERS

AT THE POPE'S VISIT IN COLOGNE, GERMANY



Returning from the youth conference in Turkey to Düsseldorf, Germany, August 16, I met thousands of enthusiastic Catholic youth groups at the extremely busy airport and train station. They seemed all to arrive the same day, yet this went on for several days. But the day the Pope was to arrive in Cologne, August 18, (where he was to greet the youth from all over the world from a ship at the Rhine River and at the famous Dome of Cologne) was certainly for everyone a memorable one, though for different reasons. For us from the Reform Movement it was an interesting experience to give out flyers to thousands of Germans who were all kind and gladly took the little brochures, which had the title of the Catholic Youth Conference, "They all came to worship him." So, everyone thought we belonged to them, but the content was not about the Pope but of Jesus Christ, with a coupon for free Bible Correspondence Course Lessons, Steps to Christ, Great Controversy, etc.

We were two little sisters from a little group in Iserlohn and myself, two hours from Cologne. Meanwhile, the Bible worker from Düsseldorf and his wife were distributing with others already days before in their city, because there were programmes held previous to the visit of the Pope, also in Bonn. Cologne could not accommodate so many people from all over the world, so they stayed in the surrounding cities.

Thursday, August 18 was to be the big day for the truly ecstatic young people and also older ones. We left for the train to Cologne at 9:30 a.m. and arrived with thousands of others in Cologne near noon. The train service almost collapsed, and there were delays as expected. We picked up our pamphlets from a news shop agent, who was kind enough to keep them for us. We could not get in touch with our Bible worker, for the roads to the train station and the bridges over the Rhine River were to be closed in the early morning, so he deposited the papers for us in that shop the day before.

We filled our bags and the two sisters had their own wheeled shopping bags, so we could take them all at once with us. We needed not go anywhere; the train station was the perfect place. Situated right at the dome, it was the spot where all the action was, people streaming in by the ten thousand every hour, and meeting before the dome and around. One sister went beside the dome by the subway entrance, the other before the dome at the square, and myself stood right at the exit from the train station before the dome. We were very sorry, we had only German flyers, so we had to let many others go by, who came from so many different countries. You could see they were foreigners as each group carried their own flag before them. Some of them were so eager to get a flyer, they came to us to take them. Later we collected those thrown away and handed them out again. All went peacefully, the people were all in a happy, excited mood; some made such noise by singing and shouting, it was hard on the ears. The noise inside the building was much harder to bear than outside; the sun beating down, the masses of people streaming non-stop beside you through the exit, and many going back in, was tiring after several hours. 3500 flyers in a few hours, and had we had English and Spanish flyers, could have done double the amount.

Some people came to ask questions of all kinds, not rowdy, always courteous. But at the end, when I had only 4 flyers left in my hand, a woman rushed towards me, looked at the paper, said some strange things I could not make any sense of, then all of a sudden snatched the flyers from my hand, tore them up in a frenzy and began to shout, "Jesus speaks to me, you are all the whore Babylon, etc." She would

not let you say anything, she shouted the weirdest things, nobody had any idea what she meant. She was so fierce, her eyes bulging, hands waving in a craze. I almost thought she would attack me. I stayed calm and just went away, but she followed and I came to Birgitta, from her she also grabbed the pamphlets and tore them up. A man told her to leave us alone, she still shouted full of hatred, and always said Jesus speaks to her. This was the only incident, otherwise everyone behaved very well. Police were everywhere, but had nothing to do. They let the people sing and shout; nobody had anything else in mind than to see the Pope.

This event is surely another milestone to the future of the Catholic Church; such a success in a once Protestant nation, which does not protest any more. There were certainly no protesting pamphlets given out. We did not see anyone, at least not on this busy place. The youth came for what? "They all came to worship him." The Pope's agenda for them is: to worship Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. But the excitement is for the Pope and him alone, and he is the one they worship, if they realize it or not. Jesus Christ is secondary; it is the realization of, "and all the world wondered after the beast." (Rev. 13:3). "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." (Rev. 13:8).

May God grant the poor deluded souls the light of the Holy Spirit to see their error, worshipping a mere man, and learn to behold the true King of the Universe, Jesus Christ, to whom alone is adoration due, as their personal and only Saviour. May some of the pamphlets handed out do just that to His glory and honour. *AMEN.* 

Edda Tedford, Canada



HAPPINESS

*'If any man thirst,
let him come unto Me,
and drink.'*

ADDRESS TO THE READERS

Since time immemorial man looks for happiness. Has he found it? What is happiness actually? Is it possible to be happy in this world? Why is it so difficult to meet a happy person? Why aren't we happy? How can we obtain happiness?

These and many other questions have prompted this research in the word of God and some inspired books. I hope it may be of some help to all of us, because, who does not want to be happy?

INTRODUCTION

"Man's strongest impulse urges him to seek his own happiness, and the Bible recognizes this desire and shows us that all heaven will unite with man in his efforts to gain true happiness." ML, p. 160.

"God seeks our real happiness. If anything lies in the way of this, He sees it must first be removed. He will thwart our purposes and disappoint our expectations and bring us through disappointments and trials to reveal to us ourselves as we are." OHC, p. 81.

"The Bible places the responsibility of our happiness upon ourselves." ML, p. 184.

"We are so anxious, all of us, for happiness, but many rarely find it because of their faulty methods of seeking, in the place of striving. We must strive most earnestly and mingle all our desires with faith. Then happiness steals in upon us almost unsought." ML, p. 184.

WHY THERE IS NO HAPPINESS IN THE WORLD?

"The world is full of dissatisfied spirits who overlook the happiness and blessings within their reach and are continually seeking for happiness and satisfaction that they do not realize. They are constantly on the stretch for some expected, far-off good greater than they possess and are ever in a state of disappointment. They cherish unbelief and ingratitude in that they overlook the blessings right in their pathway." 2 MCP, p. 646.

"Multitudes are vainly seeking happiness in worldly amusements. They crave something which they do not have. They are spending their money for that which is not bread, and their labour for that which satisfieth not. The hungering, thirsting soul will continue to hunger and thirst as long as it partakes of these unsatisfying pleasures. O that every such one would listen to the voice of Jesus, 'If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.' Those who drink of the living water will thirst no more for frivolous, exciting amusements. Christ, the wellspring of life, is the fountain of peace and happiness." Ev., p. 266.

"Many who are seeking for happiness will be disappointed in their hopes, because they seek it amiss. True happiness is not to be found in selfish gratification, but in the path of duty. God desires man to be happy, and for this reason He gave him the precepts of His law, that in obeying these he might have joy at home and abroad. While he stands in his moral integrity, true to principle, having the control of all his powers, he cannot be miserable. With its tendrils entwined about God, the soul will flourish amid unbelief and depravity. But many who are constantly looking forward for happiness fail to receive it, because, by neglecting to discharge the little duties and observe

the little courtesies of life, they violate the principles upon which happiness depends." OHC, p. 63.

"He who seeks happiness by changing his outward surroundings without changing his own disposition, will find that his efforts will produce only fresh disappointments. He carries himself with him wherever he goes. His unrest, his impatience, his uncontrollable thoughts and impulses, are ever present. The great trouble is in himself. Self has been cherished. He has never fallen upon the Rock and been broken. His will has never been trained to submit; his unyielding spirit has never been brought into subjection to the will of God." RH, February 2, 1886.

"Sin is the cause of all our woes. If we would have true peace and happiness of mind, sin must be removed." OHC, p. 81.

"The way to true happiness remains the same in all ages. Patient continuance in well-doing will lead to honour, happiness, and eternal life." ML, p. 167.

"O that every one might realize that he is the arbiter of his own destiny! Your happiness for this life, and for the future, immortal life lies with yourself." MYP, p. 210.

WHERE CAN HAPPINESS BE FOUND

1. In Healthy Labour

"Labour Was Appointed for Man's Happiness. God is a lover of the beautiful. He has given us unmistakable evidence of this in the work of His hands. He planted for our first parents a beautiful garden in Eden. Stately trees were caused to grow out of the ground, of every description, for usefulness and ornament. The beautiful flowers were formed, of rare loveliness, of every tint and hue, perfuming the air... It was the design of God that man should find happiness in the employment of tending the things He had created, and that his wants should be met with the fruits of the trees of the garden." AH, p. 27.

"God ordained that the beings He created should work. Upon this their happiness depends. No one in the Lord's great domain of creation was made to be a drone. Our happiness increases and our powers develop as we engage in useful employment."

LS, p. 87. "Our usefulness depends on our own course of action." ML, p.184.

"To Adam was given the work of caring for the garden. The Creator knew that Adam could not be happy without employment. The beauty of the garden delighted him, but this was not enough. He must have labour to call into exercise the wonderful organs of the body. Had happiness consisted in doing nothing, man, in his state of holy innocence, would have been left unemployed. But He who created man knew what would be for his happiness; and no sooner had He created him than He gave him his appointed work. The promise of future glory, and the decree that man must toil for his daily bread, came from the same throne." AH, p. 27.

2. In The Home

"The principle inculcated by the injunction, 'Be kindly affectioned one to another,' lies at the very foundation of domestic happiness. Christian courtesy should reign in every household... The wife and mother may bind the hearts of her husband and children to her own by the strong cords of love, if in her intercourse with them she will manifest unvarying love in gentle words and courteous deportment." RC, p.190.

"The happiness of the family depends much upon the wife and mother." FLB, p. 256.

"To a large degree the happiness of men and women and the success of the church depend upon home influence. Eternal interests are involved in the proper discharge of the every-day duties of life. The world is not so much in need of great minds, as of good men, who are a blessing in their homes." GW, p. 204.

"No one can so effectually ruin a woman's happiness and usefulness, and make life a heart-sickening burden, as her own husband; and no one can do one hundredth part as much to chill the hopes and aspirations of a man, to paralyze his energies and ruin his influence and prospects, as his own wife. It is from the marriage hour that many men and women date their success or failure in this life, and their hopes of the future life." AH, p. 43.

"The happiness and prosperity of the marriage relation depends upon the unity

of the parties; but between the believer and the unbeliever there is a radical difference of tastes, inclinations, and purposes. They are serving two masters, between whom there can be no concord. However pure and correct one's principles may be, the influence of an unbelieving companion will have a tendency to lead away from God... The Lord's direction is, 'Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers' (2 Cor. 6:14, 17, 18)." CC, p. 57.

"But remember that happiness will not be found in shutting yourselves up to yourselves, satisfied to pour out all your affection upon each other. Seize upon every opportunity for contributing to the happiness of those around you. Remember that true joy can be found only in unselfish service." MH, p. 362.

3. In Good Health

"So closely is health related to our happiness, that we cannot have the latter without the former.... Many are drifting about without knowledge, like a ship at sea without compass or anchor; and what is more, they are not interested to learn how to keep their bodies in a healthy condition and prevent disease." CH, p. 38.

"The digestive organs have an important part to act in our life happiness. God has given us intelligence, that we may learn what we should use as food. Shall we not, as sensible men and women, study whether the things we eat will be in agreement, or whether they will cause trouble?" CD, p. 112.

"The sympathy which exists between the mind and the body is very great. When one is affected, the other responds. The condition of the mind has much to do with the health of the physical system. If the mind is free and happy, under a consciousness of right doing and a sense of satisfaction in causing happiness to others, it will create a cheerfulness that will react upon the whole system, causing a freer circulation of the blood and a toning up of the entire body. The blessing of God is a healer; and those who are abundant in benefiting others will realize that wondrous blessing in their hearts and lives." CS, p. 345.

"Health is a treasure. Of all temporal possessions it is the most precious. Wealth, learning, and honour are dearly purchased

at the loss of the vigour of health. None of these can secure happiness, if health is lacking." CTBH, p. 151.

4. In Nature

"There is not one family in a hundred who will be improved physically, mentally, or spiritually by residing in the city. Faith, hope, love, happiness, can far better be gained in retired places, where there are fields and hills and trees. Take your children away from the sights and sounds of the city, away from the rattle and din of streetcars and teams, and their minds will become more healthy." AH, p. 137.

5. In The Church

"God's church is the court of Holy life, filled with varied gifts and endowed with the Holy Spirit. The members are

to find their happiness in the happiness of those whom they help and bless." AA, p. 12.

"The principle illustrated in the lives of worldlings is to get, get. Thus they hope to secure happiness and ease, but the fruit of their sowing is misery and death." AA, p. 339. "Our happiness depends upon this cultivation of love, sympathy, and true courtesy to one another." AH, p. 15.

"The true disciple will not live to gratify beloved self, but for Christ, and for the good of his little ones. He is to sacrifice his ease, his pleasure, his comfort, his convenience, his will, and his own

selfish wishes for Christ's cause, or never reign with him on his throne." LS80, p. 246.

"Well does Satan know what heaven is, and what the influence of the angels is. His work is to bring into every family the cruel elements of self-will, harshness, selfishness. Thus he seeks to destroy the happiness of the family. He knows that the spirit governing in the home will be brought into the church." UL, p. 163.

6. In Little Things

"It is the little things which reveal the chapters of the heart. It is the little attentions, the numerous small incidents

and simple courtesies of life, that make up the sum of life's happiness; and it is the neglect of kindly, encouraging, affectionate words, and the little courtesies of life, which helps compose the sum of life's wretchedness." AH, p. 108.

"In many ways, life's happiness is bound up with faithfulness in common duties." AH, p. 89.

"Happiness is yours if you will have it; for happiness is composed of little things, as well as of large." SM, p. 130.

7. In Service

"Seeking the good of others is the way in which true happiness can be found. Man does not work against his own interest by loving God and his fellow men. The more unselfish his spirit, the happier he is, because he is fulfilling God's purpose for him." CS, p. 24.

"To love and to labour is the sum of living... just step out of yourself, and live for and in others. Go out with a brave spirit into the world, and minister to the wants of humanity. Everywhere hands are reaching out to you for help; everywhere bleeding hearts are needing the balm of sympathy and tenderness. The little children want your smile, the old people want some comforting word; and the strongest and the best have their hours of weakness and of need!" HR, July 1, 1868.

"Whatsoever your hand findeth to do, do it with your might, with a true, honest heart and purpose; and no matter how heavy

may be the darkness of the night through which you are walking, the morning will rise, the flowers will blossom, and the birds sing about you." HR, July 1, 1868.

"Real happiness is found in being good and doing good." MYP, p. 210.

"If our happiness consists in making others happy, we are happy indeed." LS80, p. 246.

INDISPENSABLE CONDITIONS TO OBTAIN HAPPINESS

1. Meekness

"There is an ornament that will never perish, that will promote the happiness of all around us in this life and will shine with undimmed lustre in the immortal future. It is the adorning of a meek and lowly spirit. God has bidden us wear the richest dress upon the soul.... Instead of seeking golden ornaments for the exterior, an earnest effort would be put forth to secure that wisdom which is of more value than fine gold, yea, which is more precious than rubies...." CH, p. 601.

2. Unselfishness

"We are children of God, mutually dependent upon one another for happiness. The claims of God and of humanity are upon us. We must all act our part in this life. It is the proper cultivation of the social elements of our nature that brings us into sympathy with our brethren, and affords us happiness in our efforts to bless others... We cannot be happy while we are wrapped up in our interest for ourselves. We should live in this world to win souls to the Saviour. If we injure others, we injure ourselves also. If we bless others, we also bless ourselves; for the influence of every good deed is reflected upon our own hearts." GW92, p. 326.

"We should be self-forgetful, ever looking out for opportunities, even in little things, to show gratitude for the favours we have received of others, and watching for opportunities to cheer others and lighten and relieve their sorrows and burdens by acts of tender kindness and little deeds of love. These thoughtful courtesies that, commencing in our families, extend outside the family circle help make up the

sum of life's happiness; and the neglect of these little things makes up the sum of life's bitterness and sorrow." AH, p. 428.

"Our happiness will be proportionate to our unselfish works, prompted by divine love." HL, p. 279.

"In all the teachings of Christ, he sought to impress upon the minds of his hearers that their happiness did not consist in self-gratification and amusements, but in the cultivation and exercise of useful lives in self-denying benevolence, as he was giving them an example in his own life. Idleness is sin in the wealthy as well as in those who are poor." HR, July 1, p. 1873.

"Our happiness will be proportionate to our unselfish works, prompted by divine love; for in the plan of salvation God has appointed the law of action and reaction, making the work of beneficence in all its branches twice blessed." HL, p. 279.

"Those who labour hardest to secure their own happiness are miserable. Those who forget self in their interest for others have reflected back upon their own hearts the light and blessings they dispense to them." HP, p. 325.

3. Simplicity

"True happiness is found, not in the indulgence of pride and luxury, but in communion with God through His created works. If men would give less attention to the artificial and would cultivate greater simplicity, they would come far nearer to answering the purpose of God in their creation. Pride and ambition are never satisfied, but those who are truly wise will find substantial and elevating pleasure in the sources of enjoyment that God has placed within the reach of all." AH, p.132.

"True happiness does not consist in the possession of wealth or position, but in the possession of a pure, clean heart, cleansed by obedience to the truth... To every one is given the opportunity to carry out the principles of heaven. The forgiving of injuries, not the avenging of them, is an exhibition of that wisdom which is true goodness." SD, p. 153.

OBEDIENCE TO GOD = TO HAPPINESS

"Obedience to God's Word is our life, our

happiness.” CG, p.80.

“In obedience to all the requirements of God there will be peace and happiness unaccompanied with shame or reproaches of conscience.” Con. p 72.

“You need not be surprised if with hammer and chisel God cuts away the sharp corners of your character, until you are prepared to fill the place He has for you. No human being can accomplish this work. Only by God can it be done. And be assured that He will not strike one useless blow. His every blow is struck in love, for your eternal happiness. He knows your infirmities, and works to restore, not to destroy.” CG, p. 168.

“God requires us to yield our own will to His; but He does not ask us to give up anything that it would be for our good to retain. No one can be happy while he devotes his life to selfish gratification. A course of obedience to God is the wisest course for us to pursue; for it brings peace, contentment, and happiness as the sure result.” RH, October 16, 1883.

“True happiness springs from a heart at peace with God.” 2MCP, p. 644.

CHRIST DIED TO FORGE OUR HAPPINESS

”The true principles of Christianity open before all a source of happiness, the height and depth, the length and breadth of which are immeasurable. It is Christ in us a well of water springing up into everlasting life. It is a continual wellspring from which the Christian can drink at will and never exhaust the fountain.” CH, p. 631.

“Christ is the fountain of living waters, and happiness and peace drawn from Him will never fail, for He is a well-spring of life.” FW, p. 89.

“HAPPY IS THAT PEOPLE, WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD.” Psalm 144:15.

“IF YE BE REPROACHED FOR THE NAME OF CHRIST; HAPPY [ARE YE]; FOR THE SPIRIT OF GLORY AND OF GOD RESTETH UPON YOU...” 1 Peter 4:13. 

Teresa Corti



OVIDEO FAMILY, LONDON, CANADA



SIS. WENDY EATON, AUSTRALIA

AN EXAMPLE



CHILDRENS CORNER

Johnny lived many years ago with his family on a farm. He had a good friend who lived on the neighbouring farm. Johnny was the minister's boy who was raised by very faithful and sincere parents. The neighbour's boy, Albert, was not a Christian and often Johnny had a difficult time being faithful when he was with Albert because he so much wanted Albert to remain his friend and not tease him about being a Christian.

Slowly, Albert's influence was affecting Johnny without him realizing it, until one day he decided to slip away from home – a home where honour, purity, cleanliness and goodness ruled, to go with Albert to smoke their first cigarettes. They walked across the back pasture and were nearing the stone wall that separated Mr. Meadow's cornfield from the road: and here, screened by the wall on one side and by corn on the other, they intended to roll the little cigarettes and smoke them unseen.

Johnny, an innocent, unsuspecting child, agreed that it would be a fine, manly thing to smoke. So the boys waited and planned, and now their opportunity had come. Albert had seen an old man drop the cigarettes by mistake when he was walking down the street and had quietly picked them up and hid them away.

At last their plan seemed about to be carried out. Albert's mother was nursing a sick friend and Johnny's father was busy preparing a sermon. Johnny's mother was

dead. His aunt Priscilla was his father's housekeeper, and she was usually so busy that she had little time for small boys. Today, as she began her sewing, Johnny slipped quietly from the house and joined his friend.

The boys reached the stone wall and sat down with the tobacco between them to enjoy what they considered a manly deed. As they were just about to pass the cigarettes into their lips a strange voice, almost directly above their heads, said, pleasantly, "Trying to kill yourselves, boys?"

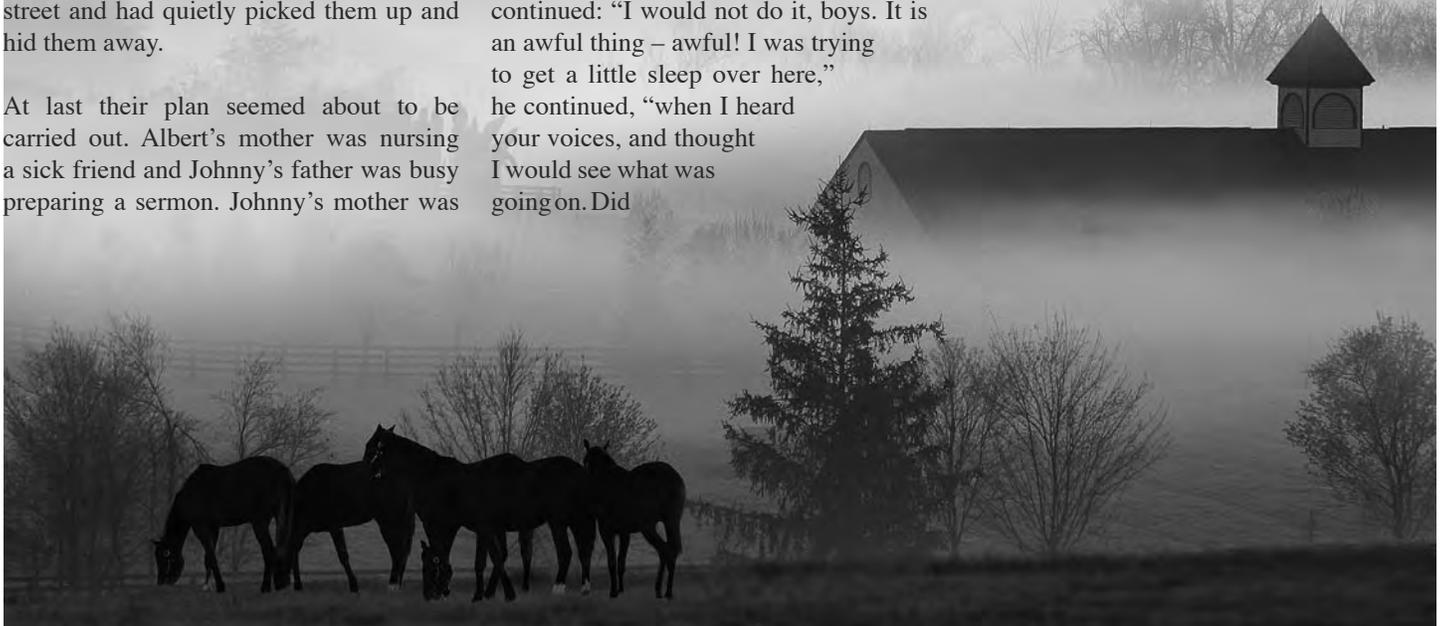
With a guilty start, Johnny and Albert turned instantly, and beheld the strangest person they had ever seen. An unmistakable tramp, with a pale, sickly face, covered partly with grime and partly with a stubby black beard, stood leaning with his arms on top of the wall, looking down at them. Although it was summer, he wore a greasy winter hat, and his coat, too, was dirty and torn. His lips resembled a smile; but as he spoke, his haunted, sunken eyes roved restlessly from one upturned face to the other.

As the only answer the boys gave him was an astonished, frightened stare, the man continued: "I would not do it, boys. It is an awful thing – awful! I was trying to get a little sleep over here," he continued, "when I heard your voices, and thought I would see what was going on. Did

not any one ever tell you about cigarettes? Why, each one contains enough poison to kill a cat; if it was fixed right, I mean." He passed a thin, shaking hand over his face, and went on: "Do you want to fool with such things? – Not if you are wise. You see, the cigarette habit will kill you sometime, by inches, if not right away, or else drive you crazy; and no sane person wants to kill himself or spoil his health. That is what I am doing, though," he admitted, with a bitter smile and a sad shake of his head. "But I cannot stop it now. I have gone too far, and I cannot help myself. I am a wreck, a blot on the face of the earth."

Both boys had thrown down their cigarettes to the ground, and scrambled to their feet. Johnny, sober-faced and round-eyed was gazing intently up at the man; but Albert, feigning indifference, stood digging his toe into the earth. He was listening, however.

"It is this way with me," the stranger went on, seeing he had an audience: "I have gone from bad to worse until I cannot stop, no matter how hard I try. Why, I was once a clean little chap like you, but I got to reading trash, and then I began to smoke, and pretty soon I had drifted so far into evil ways that I had no control over myself."



Here Johnny and Albert exchanged a painful glance.

“The worst thing about cigarettes,” the man continued, “Is that they usually lead to something worse. I am a drunkard and a thief, because of evil associations. Tramps never have any money; so when I have cigarettes, which is all the time, I either steal them or steal the money to buy them with. Besides,” with another shake of his head, “I am what is known as a drug addict and yes, I am everything bad. If your folks knew who was talking to you, their blood would run cold.”

“And it is all principally due to the cigarettes!” He broke forth, savagely, emphasizing his words with his fist and speaking more excitedly. “Just look at me and behold a splendid example of the cigarette curse! Why, I was naturally bright; I might have been a man of honour. But a bad habit, uncontrolled, soon ruins one. My nerves are gone. I am only a fit companion for jailbirds and criminals. I cannot even look an honest man in the face, yet I am not naturally bad at heart. The best way is never to begin; then you will never have to suffer. Cigarettes will surely hurt you some day, though you may not be able to see the effects at first.”

The man had changed greatly during the past few moments. At first he had spoken calmly but he was now more agitated. His eyes rolled and flashed in their dark caverns, and he spoke vehemently, with excited gestures. Johnny and Albert stood close together, regarding him with frightened eyes,

“I wish I could change,” he exclaimed, “But I cannot! The poison is in my veins. A thousand devils seem dragging me down. I wish I could make every boy stop smoking those things. I wish I could warn them of the horrible end.”

With a sudden shriek, the man threw up his hands, fell backwards and disappeared. After a second’s hesitation, both boys ran to the wall, climbed up, and looked over. In an unmistakable fit, the man was writhing on the ground. Johnny and Albert ran quickly across to Johnny’s father’s study. After learning that the boys had found a man in a fit, Johnny’s father called two passing neighbours, and the little group of rescuers followed the boys to the scene of

the strange experience.

It was a sorry sight that greeted them. The poor man lay still and lifeless, covered with dust and grime. The minister bent over him, and realizing that he was still alive, lifted him up; then, with the help of the other two men, took the outcast back home.

That evening, before the minister had asked his boy three questions Johnny broke into tears, and confessed to his father what had happened that day. Blaming himself for being too busy with his work and not having won his son’s heart to the Lord before this time, the minister did not censure his son very severely. He knew that after such an example as this, the sensitive lad would never go wrong as far as cigarettes are concerned.

Aunt Priscilla took her nephew in her arms, and, kissing him, said, “If I have neglected you, Johnny, I am sorry and after this I am going to spend much more time with you.”

Johnny slipped an arm around Aunt Priscilla’s neck – “That is just what I want,” he said, happily.

“I hope this will teach you a lesson also,” Albert’s mother said to him. “After such an example, I hope you will decide to be a Christian also like Johnny. Cigarettes certainly did not make a man out of that fellow. They unmade him.”

For several days, during which the minister thought of what could be done for the man, he continued to stay with them. He was invited to study the Bible. “If you will put yourself unreservedly in the hand of God, and remain steadfast,” said Johnny’s father; “there is hope for you. Besides I know of some medical missionaries who can help doctor the poison out of your system, if you will let them.”

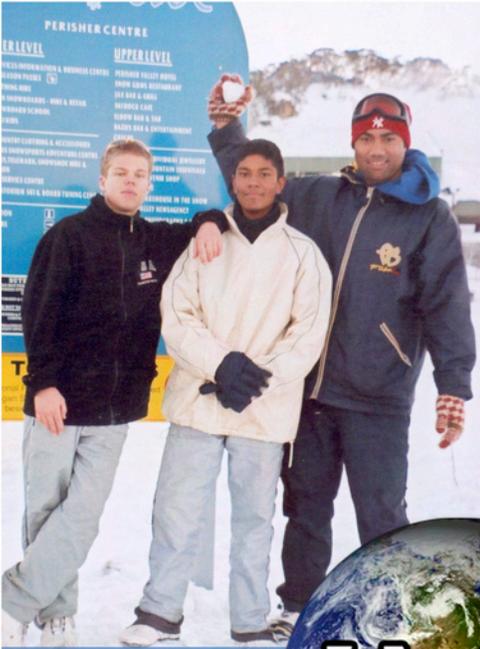
At last the poor man yielded. And after a hard bitter struggle,

during which a higher power helped him, he won the victory. He joined the church and was baptised. He, then went about doing missionary work to help rebuild wrecked lives; and although weak at first and never robust, he was still able to point the right way to many an erring mortal. He did much good; and Johnny and Albert, at least, never forgot the practical example he gave them of what the cigarette can accomplish for its slaves.

Although we may not smoke cigarettes, Satan has many temptations that he uses to turn our minds away from Jesus. Things we may think are not of a major importance. It can be listening to bad music, reading evil books, or watching inappropriate television shows. It also could be love of dress, eating harmful foods, or not keeping the Sabbath as well as we should. We may disobey our parents, have secret sins or tell “white” lies. They may seem small to us, but if we give in on just one little point, then we have given ourselves over to Satan and he will take more and more of us. Only with the help of Jesus can we overcome sin and be faithful. He will always help us to resist Satan when we ask Him. He is much stronger than Satan, so you have to decide who you will follow, Jesus or Satan.

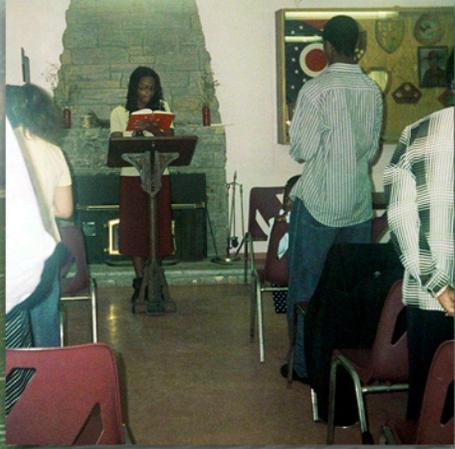
Joshua said, “as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” Joshua 24:15 





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