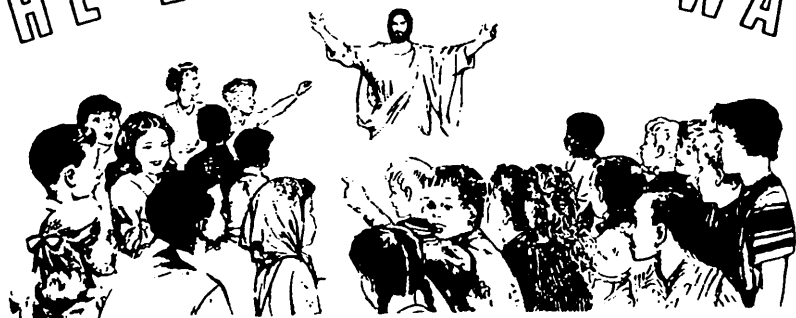


THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Jan. 5, 1992

Fanny Crosby A Blind Hymn Writer

Ruth placed the blue-eyed china doll in Fanny's arms. Fanny felt its soft golden curls, its fine little nose, its stiff black eyelashes, and long slender fingers. While Fanny was running her fingers over the doll, Ruth was saying, "It's a doll. My papa bought it. He took me to the largest city in Putnam County. Maybe it was the largest one in all New York." When Ruth finished her story, Fanny placed the doll to her breast and hugged it. Then she gave the doll back to Ruth and stumbled off down the dusty road.

Fanny's grandmother was watching from the porch of a little white cottage not far away. "Grandma," Fanny asked, as she neared the house, "Did God make me a daddy, too?"

Grandma laid down Fanny's skirt which she was mending and took Fanny on her lap. Then she told Fanny about her father being very sick. "He died before you could walk. That's why I came to live here so your mother could get a job to earn money." Hoping to cheer Fanny she added, "Come, let's go for a walk in the meadow."

She took Fanny's hand and led her to the meadow. It was Fanny's favorite place. "I hear a dove," Fanny said, "and

a meadowlark! Grandma, do you see brownish feathers on its back and its bright yellow throat?"

"Yes, there it goes, the white tail feathers can be easily seen when it flies," she told Fanny. "It may have a nest nearby. Shall we look for it?"

"Oh, yes, please do."

Before long, Grandma found the nest with five eggs. She carefully lifted one and placed it in the blind girl's cupped hand. "It is white, speckled with reddish brown," she told Fanny.

Later they found white and yellow daisies, and bluebells of Scotland blossoms. Fanny felt them while Grandmother explained how they looked.

"And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good," Fanny said, quoting what Grandmother had read from the Bible.

While they were examining a red clover, a hungry bumblebee landed right where Fanny planned to place her nose. "What's that noise?" she asked jerking her head back just in time.

"It's a fuzzy black and yellow bumblebee," Grandma explained. "It has a terrible sting, so stand very still when you hear one, and it will not hurt you."

Fanny was just a little girl, but she could identify many birds by hearing

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



A SONG OF JOY

(Written for the sons of Korah,
who were singers in the temple.)

Psalms 84:1 How amiable are thy
tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!

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

3 Yea, the sparrow hath found
an house, and the swallow a nest for
herself, where she may lay her young,
even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my
King, and my God.

4 Blessed are they that dwell in
thy house: they will be still praising
thee. Selah.

5 Blessed is the man whose
strength is in thee; in whose heart are
the ways of them.

6 Who passing through the val-
ley of Baca make it a well; the rain
also filleth the pools.

7 They go from strength to
strength, every one of them in Zion
appeareth before God.

8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my
prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob.
Selah.

9 Behold, O God our shield, and
look upon the face of thine anointed.

10 For a day in thy courts is better
than a thousand. I had rather be a
doorkeeper in the house of my God,
than to dwell in the tents of wicked-
ness.

11 For the Lord God is a sun and
shield: the Lord will give grace and
glory: no good thing will he withhold
from them that walk uprightly.

12 O Lord of hosts, blessed is the
man that trusteth in thee.

Psalms 122:1 I was glad when they
said unto me, Let us go into the house
of the Lord.

Hebrews 10:25 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.

**The Message: Be thankful for the
privilege of worshipping with others
and enjoy it.**



Questions:

1. For what did the singers long?
2. For what did their souls cry?
3. What will those who dwell in God's
house be doing?
4. What animal also finds refuge in
God's house?
5. What is better than a thousand
days?
6. Being a doorkeeper in the house of
God is better than what?
7. What will God withhold from those
who walk uprightly?
8. Why was the writer glad?
9. What should we not forsake?

Bible Verse

**"I was glad when they said
unto me, Let us go into the
house of the Lord. Ps. 122:1**

Let's Talk

The story is told of a woman who was very poor in this world's goods, but rich in thankfulness. She enjoyed very much attending church services, and demonstrated it by praising God in a loud voice.

During the worship service, she praised Him so much that others became annoyed. They went to the pastor and said, "We know Aunt Thelma loves the Lord, but couldn't she do her praising at home?"

"She should be more polite and not shout right while you are preaching," added wise, old, bald headed Bro. Fox. "And when visitors come, I feel embarrassed at her capers."

"Yes," agreed another, "She is just too noisy in church. Can't you please talk with her and see if she can't lower the volume a bit?"

The pastor explained the problem to Aunt Thelma. She promised to cooperate, but try as she might, she was so glowing inside, that the praises jumped right out of her mouth like hot popping popcorn.

So there was a second talk. This time the pastor offered to buy Aunt Thelma two new warm blankets for the coming winter if she would keep silent in worship service. "I will," she said with a hopeful gleam in her eye, for she badly needed the blankets.

The next Sunday, Aunt Thelma sat as silent as a stone. The following Sunday, she nodded her approval, but kept her mouth quiet. The Sunday after that, her head was nodding, and occasional muffled words of praise

escaped her lips, which she rapidly clinched after each escape.

Several more weeks passed without an eruption! Aunt Thelma had mastered her problem for the blankets. Finally the Sunday came when Aunt Thelma was brimming with praise! This happened to be the day the pastor preached a sermon about "The Joys and Blessings of Salvation." Aunt Thelma's head was nodding faster and faster, her lips were tightly clinched. Half-way through the sermon, Aunt Thelma's voice rang out, "Praise God! Blankets or no blankets, I've got my faith to keep me warm."

Are you as excited to be in Sunday worship as Aunt Thelma? Or are you one of those who use every excuse to stay away from the chapel on Sunday? David said, "My soul longeth for the courts of the Lord." He and Aunt Thelma must have felt the same way about worshiping God.

—Charlotte Huskey



(Answers: 1. To be in the tabernacle of the Lord (the place of worship). 2. For the living God. 3. They will be praising God. 4. The swallow. 5. One day in the Lord's courts. 6. Than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. 7. No good thing. 8. Because he was invited to go the Lord's house. 9. The assembling of ourselves together.)

their songs. She could describe the mockingbird, the red-headed woodpecker, the robin, the red-winged blackbird, the song sparrow, the goldfinch, the yellow warbler, and the wren. Her grandmother had told her the shape, color and size of the different birds. She could identify trees by feeling the bark and the shape of leaves, and flowers by smelling them. Today she learned about bees. She would remember the bumblebee by its buzzing sound. "Everything that God made is good, even the bees," she said as they walked home. "And, Grandma, please read to me again about God making everything."

That afternoon Fanny sat very attentively listening as Grandmother read the first four chapters of Genesis. "Please read it again," Fanny begged. Grandma, got herself a drink of water and starting at the very beginning, she read it through again. Fanny repeated the words as Grandmother read. Before bedtime, she had most of the chapters memorized.

Every day Fanny begged her grandmother to read from the Bible. Then while Grandma was cooking, sewing, or cleaning, Fanny was repeating the Scriptures which Grandma had read.

Not all of Fanny's days were spent sitting in the house. After she learned her way around the farm, she roamed the meadow, being careful to stay away from the water. She learned to ride her uncle's horse, to climb the rail fence, and even walk on top of it!

One day her mother brought home a newborn lamb. Mary fed it milk from a baby bottle until it learned to eat grass. She learned the nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb." Then she taught her lamb to follow her, and how they played together! All the while Fanny was enjoying the lamb, it was growing. It grew until it became a valuable sheep. Fanny's mother had to sell the sheep because

she needed some money. Fanny cried herself to sleep that night. Grandma and Mother prayed that God would comfort Fanny's heart.

A few days later Fanny asked her grandmother to write this little poem which had come to her mind:

*Oh what a happy soul am I!
Altho I cannot see,
I am resolved that in this world
Contented I will be.*

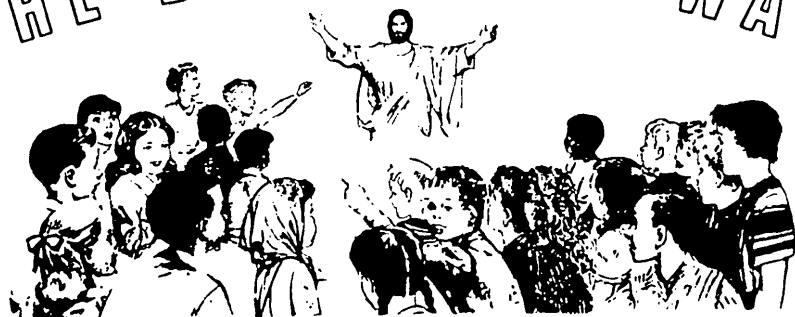
*"How many blessings I enjoy
That other people don't;
To weep and sigh because I'm blind
I can not, and I WON'T!*

"Oh, how I wish I could read," Fanny sighed, one day when she was wanting very badly to hear a Bible story and Grandmother was washing the clothes. They had been snowed in for three weeks now. How bored she felt. She slipped from her chair onto the cold board floor and bowing her head said, "Father in heaven, just as you answered my prayer and sent me a pet lamb, please make things so I can go to school." Fanny had often prayed to know how to read, but this prayer was more earnest than any other.

During the cold winter Grandma also taught Fanny how to knit. As yarn slipped through Fanny's keen fingers, she swirled it this way and that, as easily as any child with two good eyes. While knitting, she was quoting Scriptures. Often Grandma had to lay down her work to help Fanny with a difficult part. Before she was ten years old, she had memorized the first four books of the Old and New Testaments. She could also repeat from memory many Psalms, the Proverbs of Solomon, and the book of Ruth, before she was grown.

(To be continued next week)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Jan. 12, 1992

Fanny Crosby A Blind Hymn Writer

(Continued from last week)

Fanny Crosby folded her sweaters and skirts, placing them neatly in a traveler's trunk. She was going on the train to New York where she would attend New York's Institute for the Blind. She had prayed a long time for this opportunity.

Her happiness, however, was almost frightened away when Fanny arrived in noisy New York City. What were these strange vibrations and sounds that seemed so dangerous? A school attendant met her in the station and took her to the school. She wanted to ask a thousand questions, but felt too shy to ask a stranger. And her grandmother who had been her constant teacher for 14 years wasn't there. How Fanny longed to hear that soft voice explaining the things she felt and heard. How she longed to feel the soothing touch of Grandmother assuring her that everything would be okay.

The cement sidewalks did not feel like the soft grass of the meadow or the dusty road on which she walked to visit her friend, Ruth. The halls of the school dorms were long, and Fanny feared tripping over things accidentally left outside the many doors. The food served in the cafeteria wasn't like what Grandma cooked.

The first few weeks she often questioned why she had wanted to attend school. In her dark world, getting acquainted with new surroundings was a challenging task. Her

new friends helped. Friends who, like herself, were searching after knowledge with unseeing eyes.

The first two years, Fanny's keen fingers had to learn which raised dots (Braille) on the page represented "A's", "B's", "C's", or "D's". When she wanted to write, she had to remember which letter sounds the words contained so she would know how many and where to position the raised dots.

What a happy day when Fanny had the basics mastered and could read and write all by herself! Until this time, others had read to her and had written her poems as she recited them.

What fun to read poetry! But her special delight was when the teacher would read it to the class.

"How beautiful the poetry you read today," she exclaimed to her teacher after a class.

"I am happy you enjoyed it," answered the teacher, "but, Fanny, you are spending too much time reading and writing poetry. You should concentrate more on other subjects, like math, for instance. You must do better in math, or we will need to take the poetry books away from you."

Fanny went sadly to her room, and wrote the following note:

*I loathe, abhor, it makes me sick
To hear the word arithmetic!*

Nor did she improve her math grade, and the teacher took away the large book of poetry written in Braille, which Fanny studied so carefully.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



PRAISE GOD FOR SALVATION

New Words: *Benefits:* Anything for the good. *Oppressed:* To be kept down unjustly or by cruelty. *Transgressions:* Offenses; sins; faults.

Psalm 103:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

17 But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

138:1 I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.

2 I will . . . praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

3 In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.

136:1 O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

The Message: I will praise the Lord for His wonderful mercies unto men.

Questions:

1. What should we never forget?
2. Name four things for which David praised God.
3. How much mercy does God have?
4. In verse ten, how is God showing His mercy?
5. To what is God's great mercy compared? (verse 11)
6. How far has God's mercy removed our sins?
7. How lasting is the mercy of God to those who fear Him?
8. Why did David give thanks unto the Lord?
9. Name some reasons for praising God.

Bible Verse

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."
Ps. 136:1



Let's Talk

"Woo, woo," Patsy heard the cold wind blowing. She opened the draperies and saw a bank of icy snow which the wind had forced up against the cement block fence which separated her yard from that of Mr. and Mrs. Jones'. The sky was dark and it was still snowing, but Patsy didn't really care. She was happily playing with her best friend, Karen, who had come to spend the night and the next day.

Tomorrow was Patsy's birthday!

She could hear the humming of the washer and dryer as Mother did the laundry. Presently Mother stepped into the room and laid four clean wrinkle-free dresses on her bed, saying, "Hang these neatly in your closet so they will be ready to wear when you need them."

Patsy carelessly hung the dresses and hurried back to her game.

All evening and late into the night she played with Karen. What fun they had! The next day after a yummy breakfast they continued to play until Mother interrupted by saying, "Time to take baths and get ready for the party."

Patsy hurried to the closet. "This dress is wrinkled and looks awful!" she sighed as she pulled out her favorite dress. She laid it on the bed and began smoothing the wrinkles. Karen came over to help. The girls rubbed and smoothed, they shook, they pulled, but the wrinkles stayed in the dress.

Finally Patsy took the dress to her mother and admitted her mistake of carelessly hanging the dress. Mother laid the dress on the ironing board and with the hot iron smoothed the wrinkles away.

When we are careless about praying and reading the Bible, wrinkles may get into our spiritual lives. Then our words and testimony are not smooth. They are snarly and ugly, making us ashamed. We try in vain to take the wrinkles out by

thinking and thinking we will do better. That's called positive thinking. We try to remove the wrinkles by acting good and by being kind. But when we are least expecting it, the old, ugly, snarly wrinkles show up, embarrassing us again.

Give the wrinkled mess to Jesus, He will apply the heat, which is the fire of the Holy Spirit and smooth out all the embarrassing wrinkles.

No matter how often you come, He will not turn you away. "His mercy endureth forever!"
—Charlotte Huskey

*"O give thanks
unto the Lord;
for he is good:
for his mercy
endureth for
ever."* Ps. 136:1

(Answers: 1. All the benefits that come from God. 2. For forgiveness, for healing, for redeeming his life, for loving kindness, for good food, for youthful strength. 3. Plenteous mercy (lots of it). 4. By not dealing with us after our sins, nor rewarding us according to our iniquities. 5. To the distance between heaven and earth. 6. As far as the east is from the west. 7. It is everlasting. 8. Because His mercy endureth forever. 9. Answers will vary. Some reasons for praising God would be for salvation, for healing, for food, for clothing, for a family, for school, etc.)

These were sad days for Fanny, but they were brightened when visitors came to the school, for Fanny was often asked to recite her poems for prominent people. These included Presidents Tyler, Adams, Polk, and Cleveland, and famous senators such as Henry Clay.

Sometimes a visitor or teacher would send a poem to a newspaper office or magazine editor and it would be published. Fanny felt happy each time she heard about a poem being published, but she still wasn't happy about not being allowed to spend more time reading literature and poetry.

"A phrenologist is coming to school today," a friend told Fanny.

"A what?" questioned Fanny.

"A doctor who predicts what kind of person we will become by looking at the shape of our skull."

"That sounds weird," exclaimed Fanny, "but I hope he says I'll be a poet."

Dr. Combe examined Fanny's head and looked into her eyes, then he exclaimed, "Here is a poetess!" Fanny almost jumped out of her seat. Then she heard him say to the teacher, "You must encourage her in every way possible. Teach her to appreciate fine poetry by reading the best books to her. It is very possible that she will write some fine poems."

That very evening her teacher loaned her a book of poetry. Fanny read until the dorm mother made her stop. She began writing more poems. Soon the other students began saying nice things about her poetry. The teachers did not complain when she used her time studying rhyme and meter.

One day a teacher who had shown special interest in her writing asked her to stay after school. She could hardly wait to hear what praise he had for her. What a disappointment when he criticized a poem which she felt was extremely good. Then he added, "Fanny, I am sure it will be hard for you to understand what I have to say. You see Fanny, a lot of praise like you are getting is not good. It often makes a person proud. You must be very careful to stay humble, for God's Word says that He hates pride. It is

only God's ability in you that you are able to write anything. You must always remember that."

Fanny felt her heart would break, but trying hard to conceal her feelings she said, "Thank you" and went to her room. She had memorized enough Scripture to know that pride was displeasing to God and that many Bible characters had gotten into trouble after they became proud. "Oh, God," she prayed "please take pride out of my heart. Help me to stay humble and always trust in your strength and not my own." Letting her sensitive fingers run over the Braille, she checked several of her poems. She wanted to see if she was giving God the praise, or taking some for herself. She read:

*... To God be the glory
Great things He hath taught us,
Great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing
thru Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport,
when Jesus we see
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice! . . .*

Fanny continued giving God the glory each time she met with success. While still in school, she became the first woman to ever address Congress. The following year her first entire book of poetry was published.

After finishing school, Fanny taught at the Institute for the Blind for 11 years. She was a cheerful, understanding, and patient teacher, encouraging her students to do their best.

"It wasn't until Fanny was 44 years old that she began a career that would make her the most prolific hymn writer of all times. It is estimated that she penned at least 8,000 hymns. Over 40 musicians put music to her verses. On two occasions, she 'wrote' 40 hymns in her head before dictating them to a secretary."

Because Fanny was grateful and stayed humble, God used her for many years to inspire people all over the world to a closer walk with Him. —Charlotte Huskey

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 19, 1992

The Boy Who Put Joy in Hymns



Isaac Watts stood in front of the jail in Southampton, England, tugging at his mother's long skirt. "Stop, stop," he cried, "I don't want to go in there, it's cold, dark and smelly."

"But your father is hungry, I must take him this food," Mrs. Watts insisted. Then with a far-away look in her eyes, she sighed, "How much longer will he be here?"

"You really think Papa might get out? Seems like he's been in here forever."

"Since you were a baby," Mrs. Watts answered with another sigh.

"But why? My Papa is good."

"Yes, Son, he is very good, but he stands against evils in The Church of England. Those who stand against the Church of England are persecuted." "We're called dissenters. Some dissenters are fined large sums of money. Some are imprisoned, like your father." She covered her face and sobbed, "When your father does get out, he won't be able to find public employment. People will be afraid to hire him. Then she braced herself and added, "But God will provide for us."

"If you wish, you may stay here at the top of the stairs while I go down and take him this food and these warm socks I've knitted."

Months later Mr. Watts did get out of jail, and to earn money he kept a boarding-school for young gentlemen, and also made shoes. Isaac was one of his father's best students. "When just four years old, he was learning Latin. He had mastered the three "R's" by age ten. By the time he was 13, Mr. Pinhorne, a minister and master of the free school was teaching him French, Greek, and Hebrew. Because of his unusual skills, several wealthy townspeople offered to pay for his university education. Dissenters were not usually accepted into the university, for they were considered as rebels. Isaac's great potential, however, seemed to have opened this door for him.

"Shall I go?" Isaac asked his father.

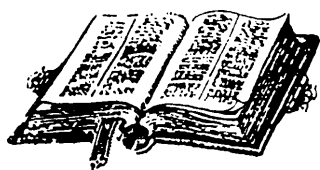
"Thou must pray and do as God directs," was Mr. Watt's answer.

Isaac chose to be an humble Christian, so he became another dissenter. Although he had a great desire to learn, he refused his opportunity to attend the university.

At the age of 16 he went to London to study at a leading independent academy operated by Mr. Rowe. At this

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



A SONG ABOUT LOVE

Songs of Solomon 2:8 The voice of my beloved! behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.

9 My beloved is like a roe or a young hart: behold, he standeth behind our wall, he looketh forth at the windows, shewing himself through the lattice.

10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

11 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;

12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;

13 The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

14 O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely.

15 Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.

16 My beloved is mine, and I am his: he feedeth among the lilies.

17 Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, turn, my beloved, and be thou like a roe or a young hart upon the mountains of Bether.

3:1 By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not.

2 I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not.

3 The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth?

4 It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, . . .

The Message: God is calling us into a loving relationship with Himself.

**“ . . . I will be their God,
and they shall be my
people.”** 11 Cor. 6:16

Questions:

1. Whose voice was heard?
2. What did the beloved say?
3. What had passed away?
4. What new things were appearing?
5. What voice was wanting to be heard?
6. What were they going to take away so it would not spoil the grapes?
7. At what time did she arise to seek her beloved?
8. Whom did she find?
9. Was her beloved let go again?

Bible Verse

“The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: . . .” Jer. 31:3



Let's Talk

In the lesson today, we see God's great love for people. He desires a loving relationship with people, just as a man desires a loving relationship with his wife.

The Church of God is also the Bride of Christ. All saved people in the world make this Bride; each one is a part of the Church. God is also calling for those who are not saved to become a part of His loving Bride.

Sometimes those who are a part of the Church become careless and their relationship with Christ is not very close. At these times He calls to them "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away." Notice the love He shows by using the words, "my love, my fair one." Both saint and sinner see God's love in nature, in supplying our food, shelter, friends, and in many other ways. But He is also wanting a deep friendship with us.

How do we know if He is calling us to this relationship? Whenever we feel a little guilty because we have not read our Bible or prayed, that is God calling. He is saying, "Come away with me. I want to show you more love. I want to supply your inner needs for security and happiness."

If you are not saved, God is calling when you feel unhappy doing sinful things that you once enjoyed. He is calling when an unsaved friend dies and you feel a need of changing your life. When you attend church and feel a need to go to the altar and pray, that is God saying, "Come. I want to love you. I will put new life, and flowers in your life, like spring brings to nature.

The cold hard winter can come to an end." (II Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.")

Sometimes people refuse to respond to God's call. They harden their hearts and go on living sinful lives. I knew a man who did this. He had once been saved through faith in Jesus' blood but had returned to a sinful life. Later he wanted to again have a close relationship with Christ, but God was not calling. (John 6:44 says, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: . . .") This man was very unhappy for many years because he could not find his way back into the wonderful relationship he once had with Christ.

By night he sought for God, the One whom his soul loved. But he could not find God. He arose early to seek for God, but found Him not. Finally when God called again, he hurriedly repented of his sinful life and found the One he loved so much. He then had that relationship with God he had wanted for many years.

Always be careful to respond when God is calling you to love Him.

—Charlotte Huskey

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:"

Isa. 55:6

(Answers: 1. The voice of her beloved. 2. "Arise and come away." 3. The winter. 4. The flowers, singing birds, leaves on the figs trees and tender grapes. 5. The voice of his beloved. 6. The little foxes. 7. In the night. 8. Her beloved. 9. No.)

school he met the poet, Mr. Hughes, also Dr. Horte, who was afterwards Archbishop of Tuam.

Isaac had started writing poetry before going to London. While studying at the academy and attending church each Sunday, he became more and more disappointed with the church songs.

When he had a chance to go home for a visit he complained to his father, "The psalms we sing at church have no spiritual meaning."

"Canst thou write one better? Then write it," his father challenged him.

"Listen to this," Isaac said, and began reading:

*'Ye monsters of the bubbling deep
Your Master's praises spout;
Up from the sands ye doccings peep,
And wag your tails about.'*

"It sounds like they are talking about little imps. 'And wag your tails about,' Isaac said. I don't believe that King David wrote Psalms to say things like that."

He picked up his Bible and read Psalm 137:

'1 By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion.

2 We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof.

3 For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Zion.

4 How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?

5 If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.

6 If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy.

7 Remember, O Lord, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof.

8 O daughter of Babylon, who art to be destroyed; happy shall he be, that rewardeth thee as thou hast served us.
9 Happy shall he be, that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones.'

"The Bay Psalm Book has it written like this. Listen.

*'Blest shall he be, that payeth thee,
Daughter of Babylon,
Who must be waste:
that which thou hast
Rewarded us upon*

*O happy he shall surely be
That taketh up, that eke
Thy little ones against the stones
Doth into pieces break.'*

"The whole Psalm is beautiful and maybe the people of Israel did want revenge. But tell me, what Christian today would be happy to break his enemies' little ones, their babies, into pieces?" Isaac questioned. "Why should we sing songs of revenge? Hymns should have words to help people do better; to forgive, to rejoice because of salvation, or to praise God for His many blessings." He threw the Bay Psalm Book on the desk in disgust. "I think I could do better."

"If thou canst, make a better one."

The following week Isaac Watts presented his first hymn at the church. It received much praise. Before long he had rewritten many of the Psalms already being sung. Perhaps the best known one is "Joy To The World." (Psalm 98).

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 26, 1992

The Boy Who Put Joy in Hymns

(Continued from last week)

After studying four years at the dissenters academy in London, Isaac graduated. Immediately he began earning money as a private tutor. A portion of his first earnings were given to the poor. Later, when his earnings had increased, he gave one third of them every year to the poor. He continued to retranslate the Psalms and began writing other religious books while teaching.

People were amazed at his ability in teaching. Then he became the pastor of the great Mark Lane Independent Chapel in London. He pastored this church for 50 years, using an assistant during his times of sickness, which were often.

Isaac was careful to use only the handful of meters of the old English metrical psalms. This meant his new texts could easily be sung by congregations who already knew these basic melodies.

Although Isaac's first songs were received joyfully by the common people, there were some men who did not want change. Isaac had written the hymns to help the church, but they were causing trouble. He met with a group of elders to try and solve the problem.

"Dr. Watts," a tall, dark elder addressed him, "What is your reason for introducing new hymns into the church?"

Isaac Watts answered, "When we sing we are employed in the part of worship which is nearest a-kin to heaven; and 'tis a pity that this should be performed the worst upon earth."

"What a bold critical remark!" gasped several elders.

"We like our old psalms and the usual way of singing them," complained one of the elders.

"The Psalms are great and have a divine message," Isaac answered. "They contain a most exalted spirit of devotion, yet when the best of Christians attempts to sing many of them in our common translations, the spirit of praise is lost. The singer feels no holy pleasure when singing these songs. If David were living today he would write Psalms of joy. David lived before Christ. He had not experienced the joyful saving grace of Jesus."

"We like for the leader to sing one line, and the congregation to repeat that line, just like we have always done," another complained.

"But the message of the song is often lost when the sentence is broken up," Isaac answered.

"And the Psalms are the only songs we need," stated still another elder. "We don't need any new hymns."

"But the New Testament message of salvation is more glorious than the Psalms

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



SONG OF THE VINEYARD

Isaiah 5:1 Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill:

2 And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.

3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.

4 What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

5 And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:

6 And I will lay it waste; it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briers and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

7 For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

Luke 13:6 He spake also this parable: A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.

7 Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?

8 And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung [fertilize] it:

9 And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.

Genesis 6:3 And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: . . . yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

The Message: God protects and supplies for the righteous, but those who refuse Him will not have His spiritual blessings.

Questions: (Read "Let's Talk" to help answer these questions.)

1. What did the man do to help the vineyard produce good fruit?
2. What do the vineyard and the plants represent? (verse 7)
3. Why does God put a fence and watchtower around His children?
4. Why did the keeper take away the protection of the vineyard?
5. What do pruning and digging represent in our lives?
6. What do the stones and rain represent?
7. If we sin, what is our fruit like?
8. If we refuse to live right, what will God do to us?
9. Are you producing wild grapes or good fruit?

Bible Verse

"Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right."

Prov. 20:11



Let's Talk

Don had a beautiful golden puppy named Biff. He and his father built a house for Biff, and put a chain link fence around the yard so Biff would not run into the street and be hurt by a car. Every day Don took food and fresh water to Biff. Every day they played together on the grass. When Don was away at school, he could hardly wait to return home and enjoy his puppy.

As Don grew older, he found other interests and didn't like to play as much with Biff. Then one day when Don returned home, he found a note on the door which read, "I've taken Biff to the vet. He scratched a hole under the fence and was hit by a car. I think his leg is broken. Mother."

Our Bible lesson today tells about a man who had many beautiful grapevines on a fertile hill. He loved his vineyard and wanted the plants to continue growing, so he removed rocks that would hinder their growth and built a watchtower and a fence to protect it.

Later he built a press to make juice from the grapes. Then he waited for the time to pick the grapes. How surprised he was when he went to pick the fruit. The vines had not produced large juicy grapes, but little hard wild ones. He said, "I have done everything suitable for these plants, but their fruit is no good. I will just let them grow wild. I will no longer prune, cultivate, nor irrigate them. The fence and press are useless here; I will tear them down."

This story is written about the people of God. The vineyard is the Church. God has given those in His Church clean hearts (fertile soil). He has removed the stones or hardness from their hearts. He has placed a wall around them and set up watchtowers for their protection so they can stay saved. God is so very good to do all this for us.

He is also very merciful and patient with Christians. However, He does expect them,

with His help, to produce good fruit—that is, to have good actions.

If God sees that they refuse to produce good fruit. He will leave them alone and let them have their own way. He will not prune nor cultivate them any more.

Pruning is when God takes things away from us that we want but are not good for us. Cultivating is when He brings good thoughts to our mind to encourage us to do right or makes us feel guilty when we do wrong.

Soon the weeds, briars and thorns will grow in those lives until they choke out interest in God's Word. The weeds, briars and thorns are little pleasures, school activities, studies, jobs, or anything that takes us away from God.

Neither was the rain to fall again on the vineyard. The rain is God's blessings, which will be removed from those who refuse to produce actions that a saved person should produce.

God wants to enjoy, help, and protect us just as Don did for his puppy, but if we refuse His help and protection, we will be hurt just as Biff was hurt. None of us want God to turn us loose to be destroyed by the Devil, so let us trust and love Jesus with our whole heart. —Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. He took out the stones, fenced it, pruned it, cultivated it, kept the weeds out, and watered it. 2. The house of Israel or the people in the Church. 3. To protect them. 4. Because the vineyard produced wild grapes. 5. Pruning represents God removing things we want that are not good for us. Digging represents thoughts we have that either encourage or reprove us. 6. The stones are hardness of heart; rain is God's blessings. 7. It is like wild grapes. 8. He will stop helping and blessing us and remove His protection for our souls so that we can have our own way, do our own thing without feeling guilty about it. 9. Answers will vary.)

of David. Should we not sing praises to our Saviour?"

"Many of the Psalms are speaking of Christ and His saving power," retorted the elder.

"Yes they are," agreed Isaac. "But the brightness of the gospel is clouded by the darkness of the law of Moses."

Isaac dismissed himself and left. He knew the common people wanted his songs. Although he was a very intelligent educated man, he continued to write songs in simple language.

He also wrote many books of religious instruction. It was difficult for a person to read a page without learning or at least wishing to be better. The attention to one's soul was caught by indirect instruction. Even though a person sat down only to read for enjoyment, he would be suddenly compelled to pray. Isaac's textbook on logic was used at several universities, including Harvard, Yale, Oxford, and Cambridge.

During the years that Dr. Watts pastored a very large church and wrote university textbooks, he took time out for the children. He wrote religious books for children, also poems and songs. His children's hymnal, *Divine and Moral Songs for Children*, made him the founder of children's hymnody. It may be the most popular children's classic ever published.

Isaac was 32 years old when he published his first book of hymns. The book had 210 songs. Before he died, he had written 700 hymns. One collection of psalms and hymns was still selling as many as 60,000 copies per year over 100 years after it was first published. In 1729 Benjamin Franklin reprinted Isaac Watt's *Psalms of David*. This same year John and Charles Wesley used his hymns in the Holy Club at Oxford University.

Although Isaac was praised and his wonderful songs sought after in every English-speaking country; he never found a girl who wanted to marry him because he was such a homely boy.

Isaac was a homely boy, but he gave beauty to English hymns. Each time you sing hymns, thank God that Isaac Watts had the courage to make the needed changes which put joy into congregational singing.

Here is one of his famous songs:

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.*

*Thy word commands our flesh to dust,
'Return, ye sons of men':
All nations rose from earth at first,
And turn to earth again.*

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.*

—Charlotte Huskey

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THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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His Eye is on the Sparrow

Johnny Catalin slipped out of his bed and ran to his mother's room. "Get back in bed," shouted his father. Fear gripped Johnny's heart when he heard his father's heavy footsteps coming from the kitchen. Two-year-old Johnny raced back to his room and was climbing into bed with his older brother, Tom, when his father came staggering in. "What you doing bothering ya mother?" he asked. "Don't ya know she's sick? Gonna have ya a baby sister or brother 'fore morning."

John snuggled under the covers and lay as still as death until he went to sleep. Hours later he was awakened by shouts. "My baby's dead—it's dead," he heard his father shouting. "You dropped him! That's what ya did."

"You—sat—on—him," shouted another voice in drunken slurs. "I saw ya. You're so drunk ye sat right on your baby, and I had to pull ye off."

"And my wife's dead, too. Get out o this house, ye drunken sot. That's all ye are a drunken sot, not a doctor. There's the empty bottle on the table; evidence that what I'm saying is true. Ya sat here drinking and let my wife and baby die. Get out! Get out!"

Poor Mr. Catalin couldn't handle working in the mines and managing the two

small boys with his drinking problem; so he put the boys in an orphanage. John's great black eyes were solemn and sad as he clung to his father that day. Later at the orphanage he clung to his brother.

One day a young couple visited the orphanage. "I'd like to adopt the boy with the beautiful sad eyes," said the lady.

The orphanage manager was happy for Johnny, but Johnny clung to his brother, crying, "I don't want to go, I want Tom." But Johnny was separated from his brother and taken to live at the couple's home.

He was given a dog, new trucks, cars, and a tricycle, in fact most anything he wanted, even a lot of attention. Then after a few months things changed. His new mom and dad began fussing. When the arguments became too loud, Johnny put his hands over his ears; it made him feel less afraid. He hid under his bed when dishes and books were being thrown.

One day when the man was gone, Johnny noticed the woman putting pans, books, towels, and the few remaining dishes into a big box. "Where are we going?" he asked.

"We are going to live with my parents," she answered. "Here, take this box and put your toys in it."

During the two years that Johnny lived on the farm with his adopted grandpar-

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



LEARNING TO PRAY

Matthew 6:5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

1 Chronicles 29:10 Wherefore David blessed the Lord before all the congregation: and David said, Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.

11 Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the

victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all.

12 Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.

13 Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

The Message: Everyone can pray, for prayer is praising God and telling Him our desires.



Questions:

1. When we pray, where should our attention be centered?
2. Where is the best place to pray?
3. Does God like long or short prayers best?
4. With what should a prayer begin?
5. What attitude should we have when we pray?
6. What things should we ask for when we pray?
7. Why should we ask God to help us forgive?
8. How should our prayer end?
9. With what did David's prayer begin?

Bible Verse

"But thou, when thou prayest, . . . pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

Matt. 6:6



Let's Talk

The story is told about a man named Jim who wanted to pray, but did not know how. He had been taught that people must go to church to pray, so he looked until he found an open church. Slowly he walked into the magnificent building and looked up at the beautifully painted ceiling. Then he looked at the walls and wondered about the meaning of the statues along them. His eyes were rather dim, but as he walked down the aisle, drawing nearer to the altar, his half-blinded eyes opened wide when he saw that the entire front of the building was covered in what looked like pure gold!

The sun shining through a skylight in the dome-shaped ceiling caused the gold to glitter. "Looks like everyone who prays must pay money, or the church couldn't look like this," he told himself. "I have no money, God. But I do want to know you."

Finally after much thought about what he should do, he knelt at the altar and said, "God, if you are anywhere in this building, I'm here. This is Jim."

Jim felt a little better after this, so the next day he came again. This time he had only a few minutes so he went straight to the altar, knelt down and said, "God, this is Jim again."

Every day Jim came to the church and said these words. One day a tourist, visiting the church, heard Jim. He followed Jim out of the building and explained to Jim how he could be saved. Jim was saved and the Holy Spirit taught him how to pray.

There are many different ways to pray. Jim was really praying. Praying is a deep sincere desire of the heart. Sometimes it is difficult to express our desires in words. Sometimes we do not

know what we need. Just tell Him about it in whatever way you can and He will understand.

Jesus taught His disciples to pray, and you can learn from what He taught them. He told them to pray in a quiet place alone. They were not to repeat words to make their prayer longer, for the length of a prayer is not important.

There are several important things that God does want included in our prayers. Number one is *praise*. Begin your prayer by praising and thanking God for food, clothing, your family, and whatever else you wish to thank Him for. Number two, *submit yourself to Him*. Ask for His kingdom to reign in your heart and for His will to be done in your life.

After we have praised Him and prayed about our spiritual needs, then we *ask Him for our needs* of food, clothing, a home, or whatever we feel we need. Also we *ask for the ability to forgive* those who hurt us, for if we do not forgive them, neither will God forgive our mistakes and faults. We must also beg Him *to protect us from evil* and sin that might tempt us so much that we will yield and do wrong.

Our prayer should end with more submission and praise to God, the great Creator.

If you have never prayed before, take this paper with you to some quiet place and begin talking to God about the things mentioned above.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. On God. 2. In your closet, (any quiet place). 3. Neither. 4. With praise and thanksgiving to God. 5. A submissive attitude. 6. For food (as well as for all our needs), ability to forgive, and protection from temptation. 7. Because if we do not forgive, neither will God forgive us. 8. With praise and submission. 9. With praise and thanksgiving.)

ents, he was taken to church every Sunday morning.

His sad eyes were beginning to shine most all the time, and he was feeling quite secure at this home, when his father came. He wanted to take Johnny, but to six-year-old Johnny, his father was a stranger. Disregarding the feelings or wishes of Johnny the arrangements were made.

"This is your new mom," Mr. Catalin told Johnny as he introduced his new wife. "Hi, Mom," Johnny said cheerfully as he had been taught to do.

She stood back and looked Johnny over from head to toe. Her beady eyes caused cold chills to run down Johnny's back. Her coldness was like the cold blast one feels when opening a walk-in freezer. "Looks mighty little to do much work," she said coldly.

Johnny shrugged off what she had said. He felt confident that he could win her love. He had won the hearts of the workers at the orphanage, the man and woman who wanted to adopt him, and his adopted grandparents. The next day, however, something happened that made him wonder. While playing with his step-mother's small children, Sid and Sarah, Sid threw Sarah's doll in the mud. Sarah cried. Johnny got a boxing for it. Then he was made to wash the doll, its clothes, and the dinner dishes.

All summer Johnny tried to win his step-mother. Sometimes he brought her flowers he found in the fields. Sometimes he saved candy the neighbor gave him and brought it home for her. "I don't want ye dirty candy," she scolded. "Give it to Sid and Sarah." All Johnny got in return was hard work and very little time to play. He began to look forward to the time school would start so he could be away.

September finally came. He saw the neighbor children going to school. Hurrying up the long flight of stairs to the back door, he asked, "May I go to school?"

"Who would do the work?" the step-mother questioned in a rage, and ordered him to get the kitchen cleaned up. So Johnny's education was learning to be a slave. However, his performance never satisfied his slave master. His day's work often ended in a beating and being run out of the house.

Johnny soon learned that when he was run out, he could get under the house. There he built houses, stores, and fences with small sticks he gathered from the yard. He also built a castle in the sand. Around these he smoothed out narrow strips of dirt for roads. Using stones as imaginary trucks and cars, he would speed over the hills and around the curves among the buildings. His step-mother never complained about how dirty he got. She never bathed him or washed his clothes, that was Johnny's responsibility. Under the house, he kept from freezing in the winter. The next summer he found the same spot to be quite cool.

Johnny was ten when his step-mother, in a rage, hit him on the head with a broom. It knocked him down the long flight of stairs from the back porch. He lay lifeless for a while. When he awoke, a neighbor woman called him into her house. "Johnny, you must leave that place before they kill you," she cautioned.

Trembling with fright, and knowing that what the woman said was true, Johnny thanked her, walked through her house and out her back gate. He ran through the alley for many blocks until he was exhausted. Then he walked on and on and on. Where he was going he did not know, and where he would sleep he did not know, nor did he think of what he would eat when he got hungry. But God was watching over the homeless boy.

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 9, 1992

Johnny Finds Some Friends

(Continued from last week)

It was getting dark when Johnny Catalin found a large house where many men were sitting on the long porch. He thought this must be what was called a boarding house, a place where men pay for a bed to sleep in and meals. He went to the back door and said to a woman who was washing dishes, "I will help you in exchange for a place to sleep and something to eat."

The lady took one look at Johnny's great sad eyes and his tiny thin body and answered, "I'll give you something to eat, Son, but I think you're too small to do much work."

"I'll help you with those dishes," he said cheerfully. He did. When the dishes were all washed and dried, Johnny ate the huge plate of food she had put on the table for him.

The days that followed proved that John could do a lot of work and he knew how to do it well. "Son," she said, "you can stay here as long as you like if you will help me every morning and every evening. I will buy you some clothes and you can go to school during the day. Would you like to do that?"

"I sure would, Madam," he answered.

That night when he laid down, he was happy he knew how to do housework, even though learning had been very hard under his step-mother slave master.

When John went to school, he was a little ashamed of being so far behind other students of his age. But his teacher, Miss McKinley, gave extra lessons to help him learn some of the skills which others had already mastered. During Christmas vacation, she took him with her to her father's farm. For three weeks he hunted in the woods, rode horses, and went sleighing. What fun! All that year, John was truly a happy boy. His great dark eyes sparkled.

The next year, however, a new teacher and the longing to see his father, caused John to lose interest in school. He just couldn't keep his mind on his lessons. A great fear of never seeing his father again seemed to torment him day after day. His father had moved, but he did not know where. One day he heard that his father was living in Princeton. John left the boarding home and went to Princeton.

It was a hot summer day when John arrived at his father's home. He stood trembling as he remembered being knocked from the high porch of his father's last house. Summing up courage, he tapped lightly at the door. Sarah opened it. "Hi, Johnny," she said. His step-mother looked up from the couch where she lay and said, "What are you doing here? Go away and never come back." Sarah closed the door.

John's great black eyes saddened. A huge knot swelled in his throat. With his
(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



JESUS PRAYS FOR US

John 17:1 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

6 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.

7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, . . .

9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: . . . and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition: . . .

13 And now come I to thee; . . .

14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through thy word;

21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, . . .

23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

The Message: Jesus' great desire is that Christians be one even as He and His Father are one.

**Jesus prayed for
His disciples
to be one.**



Questions:

1. Who was Jesus talking to?
2. In the first part of His prayer what did Jesus want God to do?
3. For whom was Jesus praying?
4. Did Jesus feel it was very important that the people know He came from God and that God had sent Him?
5. What did Jesus want God to do for those left in the world?
6. Why does the world hate those who are kept in God's name?
7. How are those He left to be sanctified?
8. What was Jesus' greatest desire for His followers?
9. How was the world to know that God loved His followers and had sent Christ?

Bible Verse

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; . . . that they also may be one in us: . . ."

John 17:20-21



Let's Talk

Jesus knew the time was nearing when He would return to His heavenly Father. He was concerned that God would be glorified even in His death. But His greatest concern seemed to be that His disciples would retain the Word of God in their hearts and be one in spirit as He had kept them while He was with them. He may have been thinking about the time when James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came unto him, saying, "Master, . . . grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory." Mark 10:35, 37.

To be one in spirit, each follower must love others as himself. This kind of love is possible only if God's Spirit dwells in the heart. As God's Spirit was in Christ, so it must be in Christ's followers, and it can be. Jesus promised to give this glorious Spirit to us. He said, "The glory which thou gavest me, I have given them, [so] that they may be one, even as we are one."

Men may form clubs, churches, and leagues to have a oneness. They may make promises and pledges of all kinds, but without the love of Christ in their hearts there will be problems among the group. They will not be one as Christ and God are one.

Men have withdrawn themselves from society to live in solitary places, to be one with Christ or God. But they have found that even in being alone the sinful nature of man separated him from being one with God.

In the middle ages, the monks lived in groups of "holy" men that they might be in constant communion with God. But news of trouble among them has leaked out. Records show that sin was present among even the best groups. Heartless cruel rebels came from these isolated monasteries, showing clearly that the heart of man is desperately wicked, and that wherever Christ is not, in that place is sin.

An old legend tells about a group of monks in a monastery who were unusually devout men who fervently prayed and got along quite well. But their worship service was embarrassing because not one of them could carry a tune.

One day a brother from another monastery was visiting them and joined in their evening worship. As they sang, the visitor's voice stood out strong and beautiful. The others stopped singing to listen. Realizing this, the visiting monk swelling with pride, threw back his shoulders and sang with all his might.

As the legend goes, during the night an angel visited the singing brother. The angel told him that at other times his songs of praise had reached into heaven because it came from the outpouring of a sincere heart. But his song this night had only reached to the ceiling, because it came from a heart filled with pride. Instead of being a blessing, the monk was a curse, for strife began that night.

A heart filled with pride causes trouble and keeps God's children from being one with Him.

—Charlotte Huskey



**GOD HATES
A PROUD
HEART**

(Answers: 1. He was talking to God.
2. To glorify Him so that He could glorify God. 3. For the ones whom God had given Him out of the world.
4. Yes. 5. He wanted God to keep them in His name so they would be one as He and the Father were one.
6. Because they are not of the world.
7. Through God's Word, the truth.
8. That they would be one in spirit.
9. The world would know if the followers were made perfect in one.)

fists clinched he descended the stairs and walked away.

"Where shall I go in this strange city?" he questioned. "Where will I sleep? I'm hungry. I should have stayed at the boarding house, but I have no money to get back there." He shuffled along the road, kicking small rocks.

He walked aimlessly for a while. Then he spotted some big trees and headed for the shade. To his surprise he found a swimming hole full of happy boys!

He jumped in and soon had a friend who invited him home. What a nice mother his friend had. John knew from the start that she loved him.

Seven days later when the boys returned again from swimming, she said, "John, your dad and a policeman were here today. He's planning on putting you into a reform school."

"Why, I ain't done nothin'," John protested.

"I'm sure you haven't, but you know the judge will believe your father instead of you." Then pulling him down onto her lap, she bowed her head and told God all about John and his needs. She asked God to be merciful and to protect and to guide him. When she was finished praying she said, "Here now, take this ten dollars and get the next train out of town."

John entered the train car with his head down. A quick movement to his right caught his attention. Looking up he saw his angry father coming at him. The train was already moving, but John jumped through the open door, tearing away from the clutch of his father's hand on his collar. The next day he went to Bluefield.

In Bluefield he slept in hidden places, found a little work to get money, and went on to Charleston.

John arrived in Charleston with a little money, so he bought a few newspapers and sold them on the street for twice the amount he had paid for them. He saved half of the money so he could buy papers the next day and bought supper with the other half. That night he found an un-

locked rest room and locking himself in had a hard but safe night's sleep on the cement floor.

The street gang soon learned of a new boy in town, so they came to test him out. He must either submit to their rules for the neighborhood or be whipped. John wasn't a bad boy and didn't mean to become one, so a fight was on. John won. Then he was the new leader. This afforded some companionship for John. Many of the boys were good at heart like himself, but some were mean. The boys knew of places where several could sleep together thus keeping each other warm. The boys also knew what time the milkman delivered milk to the homes and would steal it for breakfast. Milk with a loaf of stolen bread was pretty tasty on an empty stomach. John felt uncomfortable when he would steal, so avoided it whenever he had money.

As you may expect, the boys were often in trouble with the police. One day a boy, towering head and shoulders above John, tried to knife him. John's quick actions and strength saved him from being killed. The boys were taken before a judge. John was released with a warning that if he got caught fighting again, he would be put in a reform school. On the way out of the courtroom, a man came up to him.

"Young fellow," the man said, "I saw that fight of yours. You have the makings of a fighter. Any time you want to come down and train at The Boxing Club, come on down. Show the boy in the office this card and he will let you in free." He placed a card in John's hand.

John smiled. "Hey, thanks, Mister," he said as he stretched up on his tip-toes, hoping to look older than 11.

John wasted no time in finding "The Boxing Club." The fighters at the club found an old pair of trunks and used safety pins to make them stay on John. He was also allowed to sleep there, and in return he kept the place clean.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 16, 1992

God's Mercy

(Continued from last week)

By the time John Catalin was 14, he was a really good boxer. But he was too young to fight for money. Sure he had fun matching with one of the guys now and then, and many times won when fighting boys older than himself. He had lived at The Boxing Club and trained faithfully when he wasn't selling papers or doing other odd jobs to earn money for food. The Club had been a good home and he was grateful that Mr. Wise allowed him to sleep there.

With several years to wait before he could enter the boxing profession, he decided to fake his age and get a job. Although he was short and light weight, his body was well formed, making him look older than he was. He found a full time job running a loader in a coal mine. Then he moved away from The Boxing Club.

Some months later he got a job as brakeman on a string of cars that hauled coal to the surface.

He hated going down into the mine, but this job would bring him out often during the day. For some reason, going down in the mines seemed very dangerous. On the other hand, something about caves intrigued him. One day while exploring an abandoned mine he became hopelessly lost. A stray dog had followed him into the mine. After wandering for many hours trying to find his way out, he decided to follow the dog. This stray dog led him out to safety.

Another time, his string of mining cars crashed into a loaded car that protruded from a siding. John jumped from his cars and outran the string to keep from being crushed to death.

One morning John reported for work an hour late. "What's ailing you that you can't be here on time?" his boss roared. "Go on back home and see if ya can get here on time tomorrow."

John hated to miss a day's pay, but he obediently turned to walk away.

"Naw, better yet, I'll give ya a day on the end of a shovel. Get that one right there and go to Seventh Left and clean the track."

John got the shovel and started to the elevator that would take him to Seventh Left. As he was getting in the elevator the boss called, "Let's change that. Go to Seventh Right. It needs cleaning up worse than Seventh Left."

"Okay," John called back.

When John got to the mine shaft they called Seventh Right, it was dark and no one was around. He knew the boss wouldn't come down, so he turned off his light and sat down. He was very tired from being up so late the night before. In a few minutes he became drowsy and stretched himself out to sleep.

Sometime later he was awakened by a loud explosion.

He jumped to his feet! The earth under him was trembling! Putting on his light he could see shale falling from the ceiling and dust rising slowly from the earth. The muffled

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



PRAISE TO CHRIST

Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord; to the glory of God the Father.

Matthew 12:18 Behold my servant [Jesus], whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased:

...

23:11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

I Corinthians 9:19 For though I [Paul] be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

John 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Colossians 3:24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

The Message: We should serve others, just as Christ humbled Himself to be a servant to others.



Questions:

1. What form did Jesus take upon Himself?
2. Who was Jesus serving when He died on the cross?
3. What was Jesus' reward for being a servant?
4. Will serving others cause one to lose his self esteem?
5. Which is greater, he who serves or he who is served by others?
6. Did Paul make himself a servant to others?
7. Does Christ treat us as His servants?
8. What reward will we receive if we serve Christ and others?

Bible Verse

"... Every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, ..."

Phil. 2:11



Henry Moscow, in *Russia Under The Czars*, tells about Peter the Great who ruled between 1672-1725. He came to the throne at the age of 10, but did not assume supreme power until he was 17.

Peter loved to serve. He served as a common soldier. For seven months he served as corporal, fighting beside the poorest in a war that ended in defeat.

To learn ship building, he went to the Netherlands and lived in a blacksmith hut and found jobs for himself and his Russian companions in the shipyards. At home he lived in a two-room shack and worked as a skilled carpenter building ships. Then he served as captain of an eight-vessel squadron, sailing the ship he had built himself.

His life ended prematurely at the age of 52, when he caught a cold while trying to save some soldiers from drowning.

Although he ruled by force and was not at all perfect, he did many great things for his country. He truly transformed Russia, giving it a vigorous start on the path to modernization. The influence of his constant work was lasting.

There is no comparison between Christ and Peter the Great. Christ, without any imperfections, left the splendor of heaven and served on the earth, ending His servitude on earth by death on the cross.

Peter the Great is just an example of an earthly minded man who won great fame by serving.

Don't ever forget that serving will cause one to be great. It will not cause a person to lose his self esteem if that

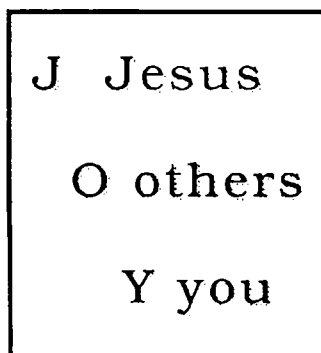
person believes what the Bible says. For the Bible tells us, "He that is **greatest** among you shall be your servant." (Matt. 23:11).

Mabel learned the secret of serving, and it brought her happiness. When everyone else was sad, you could always count on Mabel to be smiling.

Finally someone asked, "What is your secret to always being happy?"

"Well," she said, "I have the SON in my heart, and a poster on my wall that reminds me every day what to do to have JOY.

Here is Mabel's poster:



—Charlotte Huskey

(References: *The World Book Encyclopedia*, volume P & R, Chicago, Field Enterprises Ed. Cor., 1976. Henry Moscow, *Russia Under The Czars*, American Heritage, 1962. *Standard Lesson Commentary*, Cincinnati, Standard Pub. Co., 1991.)

(Answers: 1. He took the form of a servant. 2. All people. 3. He was so exalted that every knee shall bow before Him. 4. No, serving others will make a person great. 5. He who serves. 6. Yes. 7. No, Jesus treats us as His friends. 8. The reward of inheritance which is eternal life.)

rumbling of the explosion caused John to believe that it had happened a distance from where he was, but he wasted no time getting out. As he made his way toward the main portal he noticed that some of the air-current doors had been blown off their hinges and sand was all over everything.

Luckily the elevator was still working. As he neared the foreman's station he heard men talking excitedly and saw some running here and there. "How's it in Seventh Right, Kid?" the foreman asked.

"I felt a big blast, but the top didn't come down."

"It did in Seventh Left. The explosion seemed to be centered there. Probably killed every man."

"That's where you started to send me! Am I lucky!" John exclaimed.

It wasn't luck, it was God's mercy.

Not long after that a boxing manager came looking for John to compete in a fight at Huntington. John never worked in another mine.

He soon learned that boxing was as dangerous as the mines. Although he was winning and earning substantial money, the injuries were piling up. He fought seven rounds with a broken rib. Next was a broken jaw, and his right thumb was torn from its socket. Later, though, something happened that really worried him. While training, his opponent landed a pretty good punch. The next thing John remembered, he was in the shower room and his trainer was saying, "I never saw you do better."

John couldn't remember one thing after the first round, but he had fought.

The same thing happened during the Doyle fight. John received a hard left in the second round and blacked out. But he fought the following four rounds and never knew he did. That time he also fought well while he was blacked out.

The next nine fights, John won every one. The tenth one he was so sick that he barely managed to stay the sixth round to get his money.

He went back to Charleston, where he had made his home for three years in The

Boxing Club. There he saw a doctor who told him to check in at the hospital for an examination. He didn't have a car, so he started out walking to the hospital. As he was walking along the sidewalk a man leaned out of his parked car and yelled, "John." He looked around and saw his old trainer, Charlie.

"Are you feeling bad?" Charlie asked. "Can I help you?"

"I'm on my way to the hospital," John told him.

"Get in. I'll take you."

On the way to the hospital John said, "Hey, Charlie, I hear you got religion."

"Well, don't know if I got religion or not, but I have the love of God in my life. God loves you too, John," he added.

John laughed. "Not me, Charlie. I'm too dirty for God to love."

All the way to the hospital they talked about God. About all that John remembered was Charlie saying, "No one is too dirty for God to love." John thought of it very often during the time he was sick.

When John was well, Charlie took him to a mission where he heard a man tell how he had been a terrible drunkard, but God had saved him and taken away all his bad habits.

John was saved that night.

The next day as he was walking down the street, a long-time friend met him. After visiting a while the friend remarked, "You don't seem like the John I used to know. What's the change?"

"I am a Christian, now," John told him.

"A Christian, well, I am, too."

"I mean that I know Jesus as my personal Saviour. I got saved," John said, trying to explain.

"Saved from what?"

"Saved from sin and hell."

"I'd like to do that. Could you tell me how?"

"I can take you to the mission and they can tell you. They told me," John answered.

So motherless Johnny, born of a drunk and driven into a dangerous life at a very young age, was protected by the mercy of God and has now become a soul winner.

(A true story)

—Charlotte Huskey

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 23, 1992

Barney Can Go

"Say, Barney, ye got a right good voice there. Ever thought of using it for the Lord?" asked Bro. Fisher. "You could sing bass in a gospel quartet. You know singing is an important part of God's work."

"I love to sing," Barney answered with a smile on his freckled face, his red curly hair dancing in agreement.

"Feeling like God wants you to be a preacher, too?"

"Well, yes, Sir."

"Then do it, boy, do it, and God bless you."

"But my dad says I must stay home."

"What a man. Many a father would be glad if they had a son who wanted to do such a noble work."

"But not my dad."

"Well, Son, the Bible says to obey ye father and ye mother, so best just stay home with them until they give you permission to go. When they do, then you can go with their blessing. God gives a double blessing when youngsters submit to their parents. We'll be praying for God to change your dad's mind."

A few months later, Bro. D. S. Warner's evangelistic team was holding cottage prayer meetings around Geneva Center, Michigan.

"That Warner group is holding a prayer meeting over at Joseph Smith's house," Tom Warren told his wife. "Be ready when I get home tomorrow and we'll go over."

When the prayer meeting was over and the farmers were putting on their coats getting ready to go home, Bro. Warner came over to Tom Warren and said, "Sure appreciate your presence tonight, and I want to especially thank you for bringing Barney to sing with us. Your son has a wonderful voice, and I'm glad to see him using it for the Lord."

"We are still needing him in the quartet. Any chance that you have changed your mind and will give your permission for him to travel with us? You'll be happy you did when he becomes a great musician. Believe me, he will be well cared for. We will see that he writes you often and lets you know where he is and how he is getting along."

"Barney knows how to take care of himself," muttered Mr. Warren. "We've taught him how to do that, but I ain't about to see him gallivanting over the country. It's not good for boys to be loafing around when there is work to do at home."

"Yes, I know. I grew up on a farm myself. But isn't it important that a

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



SONGS OF VICTORY

New Words: *The beast:* Papal governed churches. (There are many, Russian Orthodox, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and many others. They are all branches of the same church.)

His Image: All Protestant churches governed by men. (too many to name).

The whore: The Catholic church during the time they put to death over 60 million saints.

Omnipotent: Unlimited ability.

Revelation 15:1 And I saw another sign in heaven, . . .

2 . . . I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, . . . stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

3 And they sing the song of Moses [this was a song of deliverance] . . . and the song of the Lamb [of Jesus], saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; . . .

19:1 And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.

3 And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.

5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.

6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb [Jesus] is come, and his wife [all saved people] hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

The Message: All praise and glory for salvation must go to God and His Son, Jesus.



Questions:

1. What did John, the writer, see?
2. What song did they sing?
3. From what does Jesus deliver people?
4. For what did the people praise the Lamb?
5. Who will worship before God?
6. Why did God destroy the whore?
7. What did the voice from the throne say?
8. What did the great multitude say when they praised God?
9. Who was ready for this great time of rejoicing?
10. How was the Bride (the Church) dressed?

Bible Verse

"... I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:"

Rev. 19:1



Let's Talk

At the time when the apostle John wrote the Bible book called The Revelation Christians were being severely persecuted. Some were put in prison. Some were tortured until they gave up their faith. Those who did not give up were many times beaten, thrown from heights onto stones, and treated so cruelly that the treatment brought death. Some were killed outright. Many were being driven from their homes into deserted places, where it was hoped they might soon starve to death. The Roman authorities were trying to rid their territory of all who believed in Christ.

The Jews had begun this persecution in the land of Israel soon after Christ's death. Many Christians had fled from Jerusalem into Asia where they lived unnoticed and even protected by the Roman government for a few years. However, in most every city where the Christians lived, there soon sprang up a group of believers that daily grew larger.

The Roman government also began to persecute Christians. In most every country Christians were being sought out and persecuted, so they needed much encouragement. The book of Revelation gave the Christians this needed hope and encouragement.

Apostle John was banished by the persecutors to the Island of Patmos, where he "camped" in the wilderness, without any "camping gear." Food was very hard to find, and shelter of the crudest kind. Yet while he was there God gave him prophetic visions.

The first visions he saw were of Christ speaking warnings and encouragement to the churches in Asia. These warnings and encouragements were good not only for those churches, but also good for churches and peoples throughout the years since that time, right unto this very day. Read chapters one through three and see if you don't find them full of comfort, good counsel, and great support for the faith and hope of God's people.

Other visions which he saw were about happenings in heaven and things that would happen on earth. Some were of beasts, horses,

storms, good and bad women, angels, scenes of heaven and many other things. Most of these things represent something about religious or political powers that would struggle sometimes against and sometimes for one another. John just wrote what he saw, therefore some parts are hard to understand. But there are many, many verses which are not the least bit confusing and have wonderful messages for young people. Don't be afraid to read Revelation, just be afraid to believe all the interpretations that you hear about it.

The portions we are studying today are easy to understand. They are two pictures of people singing praise to God and the Lamb (Jesus) for deliverance from the slavery of sin, from persecution, and from false religions. The false religions are represented as *the beast, his image, and the whore*. Read again the **New Words** if you have forgotten what they represent.

Some people call this portion of Scripture, "The Hallelujah Chorus." I would rather call it "The Songs of Victory." Both groups of people were praising God for victory. One group was praising God for deliverance from sin and for victory over false religions (the beast, and his image). The other voice of much people was praising God for salvation and that the whore (false religion) was being punished for killing so many saved people. Really, they were both praising Him for about the same thing.

Yes, there is a reward for all who will suffer for Jesus. Although Christians may have to suffer persecution in this world, there is a better world for them to enjoy, where "The Songs of Victory" will be sung for endless ages.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. He saw those who had gotten the victory over the beast and his image, standing on a sea of glass mingled with fire, singing praise to God. 2. They sang the song of Moses, which was a song of deliverance. 3. From sin and the power of false leaders. 4. For His great and marvelous works, His just and true ways, His holiness, and because He was king. 5. All nations. 6. Because she corrupted the earth and destroyed the saints. 7. "Praise our God." 8. "Alleluia; for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." 9. The Bride, (all the saved people). 10. In righteousness.)

young man with Barney's abilities be free to use his talents for the Lord?"

"Ha! All you preachers say 'The world is coming to an end! 'Repent, the Lord is coming any day!' Be that as it may, somebody's got to keep food on your table and clothes on your back until it does come to an end. Young men need to learn the responsibilities of a home, and that's what Barney will be doing."

Warner looked Mr. Tom Warren straight in the eyes. He took one step closer as if to be sure Mr. Warren would hear what he was about to say. "Tom Warren, you are fighting against God. You can not fight with God and come out a winner. No one can."

At that instant, Mr. Warren began to tremble. Suddenly he sank to the floor. "God has smitten you, and you can not get up until you are willing to let Barney do what God wants him to do," Bro. D. S. Warner said, as he looked down at Mr. Warren who was shaking violently.

Mr. Warren stopped trembling. He cleared his throat, then made an effort to get to his feet. But he fell back. Each time he got half-way to a standing position, he would fall again to the floor. There he would lay shivering again for a while. Then he would try again to arise. Again he would fall. In desperation, he pounded the rough floor with his fists.

"Mr. Tom Warren has never acted like this before," neighbors whispered in amazement.

Finally he stopped fighting and relaxed his body. The room was quiet as death and all could hear when Mr. Warren sighed, "Barney is the Lord's. He may go!"

A pleasant smile played on Bro. Warner's face as he said, "Now you may get up."

Almost without effort, Mr. Tom Warren got to his feet, finished putting on his gloves, and left the house.

Barney soon joined the gospel quartet with the "double blessings" of God because he had submitted to his parents. He traveled and sang with the quartet for the next four years. For many more years he traveled as a singing evangelist. He studied music and composed both words and music for many of the songs he sang. He also set music to hymns written by many other Church of God reformers, including D. S. Warner, C. W. Naylor, and others. He even wrote the harmony for songs written by Bro. Fisher the man who had preached the day he got saved and who later instructed him in the right way.

Barney Warren contributed more to the Evening Light Reformation songs than any other person. One of his songs, "Joy Unspeakable" is now being used by churches all over the United States. The next time you pick up the *Evening Light Songs* book, see how many songs are written by B. E. Warren. Some songs only have his initials, B. E. W. Many are songs of joy, but he has written songs on many other subjects also.

Because he was willing to be a servant for God, what a great blessing Barney Warren was.

—Charlotte Huskey



Joy Unspeakable

I have found His grace is all complete,
He supplieth ev'ry need;
While I sit and learn at Jesus' feet,
I am free, yes, free indeed.

I have found that hope so bright
and clear,
Living in the realm of grace;
Oh, the Saviour's presence is so near,
I can see His smiling face.

—Barney Warren

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Mar. 1, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

"Margarethe, my dear," said Mr. Hans Luder to his new wife. "I think we shall move to Eisleben, Saxony." (Luder was the original way Luther was spelled.)

"And be orphans in a strange country way up in the northwestern part of Germany?" she asked.

"You know it is the custom that the home place go to the youngest son. I am the oldest son in my family. The elder must seek his own fortune."

"My honored husband, what will we do there? We are but peasants. What can a peasant do on his own?"

"The mining business is an open field, my dear. Our country hardly has a ruler these days. While Emperor Frederick III is lazing around at the castle, quarreling with the counts over his part of the palace, the working men are taking over the copper mines. I've got two strong hands, and a broad short body, just right for working in the narrow low shafts."

Swinging a pick 16 hours a day didn't seem hard to Mr. Luder, for he had a hope that someday he would have a better job. Sometimes he dreamed of having a mining business of his own.

"I have good news," he announced to his wife a few months later, "I've been appointed head over all the south shafts."

"And I have good news, too," Margarethe answered. "You're going to be a father."

"I couldn't be happier," Hans answered with a hearty laugh.

In 1483 their baby was born. "What a fine son," Hans exclaimed. "Our little Martin is here at last."

Taking the baby in his arms, he said, "Martin, you will be a good boy. Your mother and I will see that you are."

Martin was usually a good boy, but not always. One day he stole a hazelnut and his mother spanked him so hard that the next day he was black and blue. "God will put your soul in a lake of fire if you steal," she scolded.

Martin's heart quaked. "How can I make God happy again?" he asked.

"You may confess to the priest and ask him to say a prayer for you. Or you may do some good deed, or hurt yourself in some way to show God you are truly sorry," she answered."

His father also thrashed him unmercifully over the slightest offence. Poor little Martin thought God must also be heartless and ready to punish him.

Everywhere Martin went, he saw hard cruel fearful lines on people's faces. Everyone seemed to be laboring against claws of despair. They worked hard for long hours under strenuous labour until they sometimes fell faint. For entertainment they enjoyed bloody battles between opponents.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



THE GOOD NEWS

Mark 1:1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

2 As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

6 And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;

7 And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.

8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

12 And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.

13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God.

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

The Message: John announced Jesus' coming and the "Good News" that He would bring.

**Share the Good News
with others!**

Questions:

1. What is the meaning of the word "gospel"?
2. Who prepared the way for Jesus and the Good News?
3. What must the people do to receive the Good News?
4. What Good News did John preach?
5. Who went out to hear the Good News?
6. Who was to preach the Good News after John?
7. How was Jesus' baptism different from John's?
8. Where was Jesus tested to see if He was capable of bearing the Good News?
9. What was Jesus' first Good News message?

Bible Verse

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." Prov. 25:25



Let's Talk

As Tom's mother lay dying, she earnestly entreated her nearest relative to care for her little crippled son. The relative whom Tom called "Granny" took him because she felt it her duty, not for any tender feelings of love or compassion in her heart. Crippled as Tom was, he was made to feel it his duty to provide for himself. For this reason he sold papers on the street corner and did jobs for others for a morsel of bread. Sometimes he crept into the mission among the drunks, drug addicts, and street people to get a bite to eat and warm himself on cold winter evenings. Here he heard the "Good News" of Jesus.

As long as Tom could move around, he rustled food for himself. But the time came when he could no longer do it, so then his old Granny put his bed up in the attic and rented the downstairs room he had been occupying. Being in the attic was like being in prison to Tom, for he could not go outside again.

As he lay on his bed day after day, he developed a great longing to know more about the Good News he had heard in the mission. Then a friend bought him a Bible. What wonderful things he found in this Book. The news was so good he wanted to share it with others.

He thought for many days about ways to tell others the Good News. Because most every way he thought of was impossible for him, he decided to write Bible verses on paper and drop them from the little window in his room. To get his Granny to supply paper and a pen, he ate only bread and water for many days.

Do we appreciate the Good News as Tom did? Do we realize what a blessing this message of salvation can be to others?

John the Baptist realized its importance and preached that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. John lived in the wilderness, but when God spoke to him, he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the

baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. He was an humble man filled with the Spirit of God, yet bold enough to preach a gospel that he knew people would reject.

Jesus gave up the blessings of heaven to bring this Good News to earth. He was driven by the Spirit into the wilderness and there was tempted and tested of Satan. He was offered all the kingdoms of the world if He would bow to Satan, but He refused, for He knew the value of this Good News.

II Kings 6:24 through 7:20 tells about a time when Samaria was besieged by enemies and the people in the city were starving to death. Hidden away in the surrounding wilderness lived four leprous men who were starving to death. They said one to another, "Let's go to the enemy camp and ask for bread. If we stay here, we will surely die of hunger. If we go, they can but kill us, but they may keep us alive. We have nothing to lose."

They went to the camp and found it deserted of people, but plenty of food and clothing was left behind. "We do well," they said, "this day is a day of good tidings. Let us go now and tell the king! If we tarry till the morning light, something may happen." So they hurried and told the king that there was food for everyone in the enemy's camp. This saved the entire city. It was a day of good tidings.

Our world is a desert spiritually, but today is a day of glad tidings. We have truth that will save all who hear and believe it. We have Good News for them and nothing to lose by sharing it. Let us do as well as crippled Tom. He had only one way of sharing the Good News, but there are many ways we can share it.

—Charlotte Huskey

[Answers: 1. "Good News." 2. John the Baptist. 3. Make straight paths for their feet, repent, and be baptized. 4. The remission of sins, [that God will remove your sins]. 5. All the people of Judaea and Jerusalem. 6. Jesus. 7. John baptized with water; Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit. 8. In the wilderness. 9. "The Kingdom of God is at hand, repent and believe.")

An old man told the story about "a special show" put on at one of the official town meetings by a great counselor named Kunz. He tied up a fat pig to a stake in the marketplace. Then he assembled the blind people of the town. He handed each of them a club and promised the pig to the one who killed it." The greedy blind men, clubbed and beat each other in a bloody fight, while princes and people stood by laughing.

Martin didn't like the story; he ran away. He ran to the mountains and walked in the forest. In the forest he was afraid. It seemed that a devil lurked behind every tree. Later, he found some stones and took them home. His mother found him in the corner counting stones as he had seen older boys do.

"You have a very smart son," Margarethe told Hans as she sat a bowl of hot sauerkraut on the table beside the tallow candle.

"Ah, my beloved wife, it is but your love for him that makes you say such."

"But he is, look he counts the stones, and he is very small."

"Veri vell," exclaimed the proud father. "Our son shall go to school. I will work harder, I will save. Our son shall learn to read and write. He may become a great man and perhaps help me to have my own mining business someday."

"I will help, too," Margarethe agreed. "I will gather kindlings for our use and perhaps there will be enough to sell, so we can buy books for him."

When Martin was five years old, his father said, "You are old enough to learn to read. Tomorrow you will go to the grammar school in Mansfeld. We can be proud of our town because it has a school. The school is on the far side of town, but we have many good relatives. I will have one carry you pickaback."

Martin wanted to learn to read. At first he thought school was fun especially the going and coming from school with the larger boys.

A birch whip the size of a broom was the scepter of every schoolmaster and used far more often than words of encouragement.

"The master birched me 15 times today," Martin complained to his father one evening. "I don't want to ever go to school again."

"But you will go," ordered his stern father. "For what were you being punished?"

"'Cause I kept talking in German and I didn't know my Latin lesson," Martin said, his head hanging low. "Every time we speak in German, the master calls out 'wolf, wolf' and writes down our name. Sometimes he puts that wooden asses' halter around my neck and makes me wear it. And sometimes, like today, he dist beat us with his birch."

"So you've been speaking German instead of Latin at school? You must obey the master and speak in Latin."

"I don't like to speak Latin. We don't speak Latin at home. Why should I learn it?"

"Latin is the language of the rulers, the kings, the lords, the priests, and the businessmen. All important business and political affairs are done in Latin."

"Do you speak Latin at the city council meetings?" Martin questioned.

"No, my son, we all speak German, we miners do."

"Then I want to," Martin insisted.

"Martin, my boy, you will learn to speak, read, and write Latin. You will do more important business than your father does."

"But I want to read German; then, I can read funny books for our family, and we will all be happy."

"Wonderful idea, but there aren't many books written in German."

"Then I'll write some," Martin said defiantly.

"And you'll go back to school and learn Latin. I'll give you some more birchens at home if you don't learn Latin."

Martin endured eight horrible years at Mansfeld grammar school until the master and his father were satisfied that he had learned what the school offered, and that was only Latin.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 8, 1992

Martin Luther **The Man Who Cracked** **The System**

(Continued from last week)

"Martin is old enough to go away to a boarding school," Mr. Luder said to his wife. I hear there is a group of dedicated monks in the great city of Magdeburg. They call themselves the 'Brothers of the Common Life' and run a school for boys. I think we should send Martin."

"I do hope it is better than the school here," sighed Margarethe. "Martin didn't really enjoy going to it."

"Hum-bug, a man is not supposed to enjoy life. We are under the curse of God. It is a good school. Well, at least it has a good reputation."

Thirteen-year-old Martin left home with a heavy heart. He had so many unanswered questions about the spirits that lurked in the forest. He had tried to get an answer from his father and mother. But his father had no time. He grappled all day long with metals in the earth trying to earn bread for the family and save for Martin's schooling. His mother only saw the sunlight when she went to pick up sticks from the fields and the forest. Her face was in the

cupboard, pots, and baby cradles, nursing her eight youngsters.

Martin felt like he was lost in a forest. A forest of darkness, superstitions and fears. Sometimes his mother with her old wives' tales caused him to feel like the world was a forest of devils, devils ready to seize the poor soul who wandered too far from his hut, or questioned the injustice and hypocrisy he saw all around. Especially was one not to question the religious systems. The old dames shrieked in horror if anyone mentioned that the pope or the church council could make a mistake. The kings, the doctors, the merchants, the professors, and the common people all trusted in the foolish decisions of the church, as being directed from God. It was because they were all in a forest of unbelief, stumbling in the darkness, with just enough light to see a shadow. They believed the shadow to be the real light.

His father told of one of his companions who had died in agony after Satan's minions had torn the skin off his back. Neither did he disagree with his mother when she swore that the neighbor witch caused the death of her child.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE

Mark 2:23 And it came to pass, that he went through the corn fields on the sabbath day; and his disciples began, as they went, to pluck the ears of corn.

24 And the Pharisees said unto him, Behold, why do they on the sabbath day that which is not lawful?

25 And he said unto them, Have ye never read what David did, when he had need, and was an hungred, he, and they that were with him?

26 How he went into the house of God in the days of Abiathar the high priest, and did eat the shewbread, which is not lawful to eat but for the priests, and gave also to them which were with him?

27 And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:

28 Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.

3:1 And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand.

2 And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him.

3 And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth.

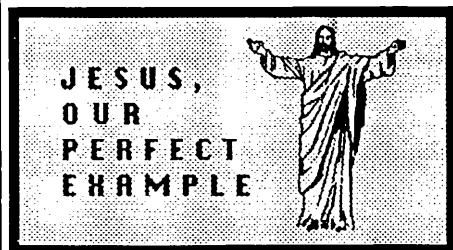
4 And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.

5 And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine

hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

6 And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.

The Message: Truth comes from right attitudes, and will clash with traditions which come from obeying the letter of the law.



Questions:

1. What did the disciples do which the Pharisees condemned?
2. How did Jesus defend what His disciples had done?
3. How did Jesus explain the law of keeping the Sabbath?
4. What was happening to Jesus when He entered the synagogue?
5. In what way did Jesus show courage in the synagogue?
6. What question did Jesus ask His accusers?
7. Did the accusers have courage to answer Jesus?
8. Why was Jesus angry at His accusers?
9. To whom did the Pharisees go to get help to destroy Jesus?

Bible Verse

"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner."
Acts 4:11



Let's Talk

In every lesson this month we will see Jesus' strong character. Last Sunday, March 1, we saw Him resist Satan's strange temptations and be victorious over His own body. We also saw the strong Son of God humble Himself and be baptized in the dirty Jordan River.

This week's lesson shows that He is not afraid of the respected religious leaders of His time. He is not afraid even if they band together with the political rulers against Him. (The Pharisees were the religious leaders, and the Herodians were the political rulers.) Neither is He afraid to break traditional interpretations of Moses' laws.

Jesus also shows loving tender feelings for others. He felt the pain of His disciples when they were hungry and picked food to eat. He felt the misery of the man whose arm was withered. "Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath, or evil?" He asked the accusers. Then He healed the man's arm.

Elizabeth (Gurney) Fry also showed she was not afraid to break social and religious traditions to help others. When just a little Quaker girl, she wrote in her diary, "I love to pour wine and oil onto the wounds of the afflicted." To do this Elizabeth had to break many social and religious traditions of her time.

When 65 years old, she said, "Since I was 17, I believe I never have awakened from sleep without my first waking thought being 'How best might I serve my Lord?'"

Elizabeth served the Lord by tenderheartedly serving others. Although from a wealthy family, she went among the poor and the outcasts helping them. She was horrified by conditions in Newgate Prison in London. She went into the women's section of this prison, speaking kindly to the women, studying the Bible with them, and even kneeling in the filth to pray for them. She formed the Association for the Improvement of the Female Prisoners. The work of this association was so successful that soon the half-naked, foul-mouthed, fighting prisoners were decently dressed and living together like members of

a well-run family. Her methods were adopted by many prison authorities.

One time Fredrick William IV, king of Prussia, asked to be taken to the prison where Mrs. Fry ministered. He joined her in the damp dark cell while women and children inmates crowded around. Elizabeth read and spoke from the Bible then knelt to pray. The king was so touched that he knelt to pray also. Once she told the king of France, "When thee build a prison, thee had better build with the thought ever in mind that thee and thy children may occupy the cells." Her constant work with the poor outcasts was opposite the traditions of the ladies of her time.

Yes, Jesus taught by word and example that Christians should be tenderhearted compassionate people, willing to lay aside any tradition that hinders them from manifesting this kind of love.

—Charlotte Huskey

Explanation of the Sabbath

Jesus observed the Sabbath law, but not all the traditions. Much of His teaching and healing was done on Sabbath days in the synagogues. After His resurrection, His followers continued to attend synagogue services to preach His gospel. However, when the Christians came together to remember Him in His sacrifice for their sins, they did so on the first day of the week, Sunday. The thrust of the gathering was not to remember the creation of physical life, but as a memorial of the giving of eternal life through Jesus' resurrection on the first day of the week. It was a day of rejoicing, worshiping, and spiritual refreshment, not a day of physical rest—it was not instituted to kick back in a recliner and snooze.

—Charlotte Huskey

[Answers: 1. They picked food on the Sabbath. 2. He said that King David had also broken a commandment. 3. He said man was made before the Sabbath, and it was made for man, or to help people. 4. He was being watched. 5. It was the Sabbath, and He told the man he was going to heal to stand up. 6. "Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath or to do evil?" 7. No. 8. Because it grieved Him that their hearts were so hard. 9. To the Herodians.]

Martin carried his fears as burdens across his back. He could not strike at his fears, for no one gave him any truth with which to strike.

Martin settled down to live with the "Brothers of the Common Life." There were prayers to repeat and memorize, psalms to sing, chores to do, and more Latin lessons to study. He was as disappointed in this school as he had been in the other. Like the other school, it had no classes of history, geography, politics, civic affairs, math nor physical science. The students were taught that the earth was flat, a disc, with its center at Rome or Jerusalem (depending on the teacher).

Martin and his new friends sometimes walked around in the great city when the brothers gave them permission. He often saw a holy beggar dressed in a gray robe. The man looked so ghostly that Martin kept a great distance between them. Was the man holy, or might he be one of those devils ready to pounce?

One day when the boys were up-town, his friend said, "I'll race you." As the boys raced down the cobblestone street, a beggar stepped from around the corner of a building and Martin plowed into him. The two went sprawling.

"I'm sorry," Martin called as he resumed full speed, propelled by fright.

"Come back," the beggar called. "Help me. I can't get up."

Martin knew better than to ignore the man. He'd get a flogging from the brothers at the school if anyone squealed on him, and the street was full of boys.

"God bless you, God bless you," the beggar repeated in a soft mellow voice as Martin helped him to his feet.

Suddenly Martin wasn't afraid; instead, he felt sorry for the skeleton-like man. "Why are you so withered?" he asked. "Don't you get enough alms to buy food?"

"Yes, my boy, I get plenty of alms, but I give them to the church. I go without eating to show God I am sorry for my sins."

"Is God angry with you, too?" Martin questioned.

"God is angry with the whole world. He's angry at sinful men."

"How can we make God happy?"

"We must sacrifice," the old beggar answered as he straightened his Franciscan robe. "We must not have things we enjoy, and we must punish ourselves."

"And then God will like us?"

"I am sacrificing the three things men love most, love, money, and a family."

Martin remembered very little of what he learned at school that year. But he remembered the lesson he learned about begging. His father had taught him it was honorable to work for his bread, but in Magdeburg begging seemed to be more honorable. Begging was practiced by monks, by every church, even wealthy friars, and highly organized begging guilds, (who were often heavily armed bandits). Martin also became a kind of beggar. He went from door to door singing with some boys. People tossed a few coins to them.

Martin lived one year at "The Brothers of the Common Life," school in Magdeburg. He would never forget the lesson learned from the "holy beggar."

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 15, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

It was Martin's first day at the parish school in Eisenach. The school was called St. George, and Martin knew right away that he was going to like this school. His cousin Heinrich Schalbe clung tightly to his hand. "I'm afraid of all these strangers," Heinrich said.

"No one will hurt you," Martin said, trying to comfort him. "Remember, we kissed the blessed virgin and asked her to care for us today."

After living with the Schalbe's family a few weeks, Martin realized it was much different from the heartless strictness of his own family. Martin was at last enjoying some love and freedom.

He soon became guardian and homework tutor for their young son, Heinrich. Martin never once used a birch stick on him for not knowing a lesson. They went off to school with a smile and returned in the evening in triumph. The Latin that Martin had learned to the "beat of a birch stick," served him well. He was the best student in his class. His attitude changed from gloom to buoyance. He soon out-ranked the students in the higher class. This earned him lots of attention and much praise. Before long, he was called

the "lively, cheerful fellow" by the other students.

He still studied every lesson carefully. Many boys his age were working hard helping their fathers earn food. Many were slaving in the mines, cutting lumber from the forest, or plowing behind oxen in the field. He was glad his father allowed him to study. He tried to work just as diligently studying as his father and mother worked to save for his schooling. Even singing for alms didn't seem like begging any more. It was fun and was his way of earning money. Besides the Kurrende (the boys choir) was a group of happy boys who went to celebrations of all kinds. He cheerfully played the role of the *Partekenhengst*. His job was to collect the gifts of coins. "We always do better at feasts held to celebrate the slaughter of pigs or cattle," he told his friends. "Look how much money we collected today!"

"Hurrah!" "Bravo!" they shouted, "It's because of our merry *Partekenhengst*."

What a happy place the world had become. He was hardly aware of the old fears that had tormented him. He could laugh, play, have fun, and even ask questions.

When he heard about the trial and imprisonment of Bro. Johannes Hiltten, he thought it was unjust. He wasn't afraid to ask about it.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



WITHOUT HONOR IN HIS OWN COUNTRY

New Words: *The Christ:* The Messiah, or the liberator of the Jews. *Synagogue:* The Jews' building for worship.

Mark 6:1 And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him.

2 And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue; and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?

3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Josès, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

4 But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.

5 And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.

6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.

7 And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;

8 And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in their purse:

9 But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats.

10 And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place.

11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.

12 And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

13 And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.

The Message: Jesus was rejected by those of His own country, and He told the disciples how to handle rejection.

"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it." Mark 8:35

Questions:

1. Into what country did Jesus come?
2. What was the people's attitude toward Jesus' teachings?
3. What questions did they ask about Jesus?
4. In what place is it hard for a prophet to be honored?
5. What effect did this rejection have on Jesus' abilities?
6. What were Jesus' disciples to do if they were rejected?
7. What trouble will come to those who reject Jesus' disciples?
8. What did the disciples do for those who did not reject them?

Bible Verse

"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you."
John 15:18



Let's Talk

In this lesson we see that Jesus' strength is again tested when the people of His hometown failed to give Him due honor and respect. Jesus did not allow this to hinder Him. He just went into the surrounding villages and continued teaching and healing. He also sent out His disciples to teach and heal, giving them authority over the Devil and all sickness. While His countrymen were questioning where Jesus got His authority, Jesus was multiplying His efforts by giving this authority to His disciples and sending them out.

His fellow countrymen missed out on the blessings and healings they might have received had they not rejected Him.

Jesus said, "A prophet is not without honor, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house." He also said, "A man's foes shall be they of his own household." (Matt. 10:36). Many times the worst problems a young Christian has are from his own family. If they are unsaved, they can not understand a Christian's love for God nor his dislike for things that worldly-minded people love. Sometimes even in a Christian family there are misunderstandings and conflicts. These hurt and discourage more than problems coming from someone not so loved.

Eva Grant's love for Christ was misunderstood by her father. She was a good obedient girl but could not satisfy him. The friction between them grew so great that he ordered her to give up Christ or leave home. She could not desert Jesus who had saved her soul and brought so much inward happiness into her life. She chose to leave.

Because Faith Stewart accepted new truths from the Bible, she was rejected by her father who was a Christian. "You have become a fanatic in this new teaching," he said bitterly. "There is but one answer, and this choice must be made as soon as possible. Unless you consent to dress in more fashionable clothing, and give up the fanatical teaching you have learned from those pecu-

liar people, you must go from the shelter of your home. If you fail to comply, you are no longer welcome under my roof."

"What shall I do? What would Jesus do?" she asked herself. She knew that down through the years these questions had been wrung from the lips of many pilgrims on the narrow road to heaven. Summoning God's strength that would help her surmount the aching void in her heart, she arose and began gathering her clothing and the very few possessions she would be able to carry. "Truth has always been high-priced," she realized as she departed from her home.

Faith made her way to the railway station and bought a paper. She found a job in a hotel where she stayed until she saved enough money to buy a ticket for Denver, Colorado where some friends lived.

Years later, she brought her father to a knowledge of real salvation and there was peace between them. This is one of the rewards that many a person has received after they have suffered rejection from their family.

We find from studying the four Gospels, that Jesus also had some conflicts with His brothers. However, in the end they believed in Him, and some were killed because of their active faith in Christ.

Young people, be strong. Believe in Christ and His saving power, even though you are rejected by those who once loved you. There will be a reward in the end.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Into His own country (hometown). 2. They were astonished and offended because of the wisdom and authority He had. 3. They asked where He got His wisdom and authority and if He were not the carpenter, the son of Mary? 4. In the place where He grew up. 5. He could do no mighty works there. 6. They were to shake off the dust of the place that rejected them. Today we might say, "Just forget them and go to others who may accept the gospel." 7. They will be judged worse than Sodom and Gomorrah. 8. They healed many sick and cast out many devils.)

"It's because he prophesied a falsehood," Father Schalbe told Martin, as he looked out over the top of his glasses. "Hiltlen seriously affirms that in just 18 more years great changes will come on the earth. That is right. He says that the year of 1516 will be the turning point in the history of the world. Now how could he know such things?"

"What if he is right? Didn't he say that he found this information in the sacred Holy Scriptures, in the book of Daniel?"

"Yes, he did, but he probably has no business studying the Bible. It's a dangerous Book. Only the most holy and educated fathers of the church can understand it."

Martin quaked at the thought of poor Hiltlen making God more angry. Martin had learned from the old Franciscan beggar at Magdeburg that God was already angry with the whole world. How severe would poor Hiltlen's punishment be? Had a devil pounced on him and caused him to speak blasphemies, or was it just a thought he had expressed. A thought, Martin was convinced, should be expressed. "Shouldn't a fellow have the right to speak what he thinks?" Martin asked.

"Not if it contradicts the teachings of the mother church. One must always submit to the authority of the church. Martin, you're just like your daddy, curious, motivated, and ready to try anything he thinks is better. Your dad wouldn't have what he does now if he hadn't been ready to try new things. But there are some things that a person mustn't try, and there are some things that can't be changed. And that is the church."

Martin shook his head in agreement. He hadn't thought of church changing. He only wanted the church to answer his questions.

"Always be careful, Martin. I know you love to study, but do be careful about the Holy Scriptures. Reading the Bible could get you into a lot of trouble. You're 17 now, just the age to be curious about things

you have no business being curious about. Don't let your curiosity about the Bible get you into the same situation that Bro. Hiltlen is in."

Martin shuddered again. The darkness of the forest where the demons lurked seemed to come over him. Would he have to always be in that darkness not seeing the light nor knowing how to make God happy?

In the spring after Martin had lived with the Schalbe's for three years, a message from his father was brought to him. He anxiously unfolded the paper.

Dear Martin,

The mining business has done well this year. Franz von Piquit and I have paid our debt to the copper merchants and have split the profits. I will be bringing money for you to attend the University at Erfurt. It is said to be the greatest school in all Germany. I am sure you will learn more there than anywhere else.

Hans Luder

"Well old buddy," Martin said turning to Heinrich, "guess I'll soon be leaving."

"Who will take me to school and help me with my homework?"

"Not me. I'll be far, far away before long."

"You want to go away?"

"No, Heinrich old buddy, I don't want to leave. I've had so much fun living here with your folks."

"But sometime, you're unhappy."

"Only when I think," Martin hesitated.

"Only when I puzzle over a question."

"What question?" asked Heinrich.

"How does a person find favor with God?"

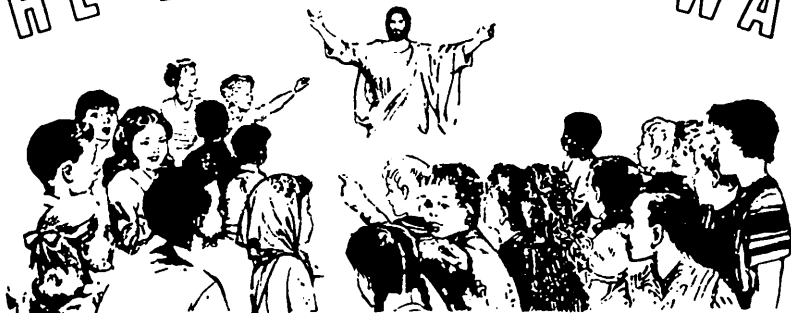
"I don't know, Martin, really I don't."

"I don't either, but maybe someday I will."

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 22, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

After a long tiring walk, Martin neared the city of Erfurt. It was one of the four largest cities in Germany. Busy trade routes intersected in the city filled with church and cathedral spires. "Surely I will find the answers to my questions about God in this city," he said to himself.

Seeing a merchant beside the road, he asked, "Sir, which of these roads leads to the university."

"Are you to be a student?" the old man asked.

"Yes, Sir."

"Then follow this road, and I wish you well. It is a big school for such a young boy, but perhaps the discipline will be good."

April, 1501, Martin wrote on the enrollment card, then he handed over the money which his father had earned working a copper mine.

In the *hostel*, he was assigned a bed. "Students must wear this uniform," the master said, handing him a garment.

"What?" Martin asked, holding up what looked like a priest's robe. "I'm going to be a lawyer, not a cardinal."

"That is what you will wear if you wish to be a student here. And here is your sword and sheath."

"Is this an army or a school? Why do I need a sword?"

"It's for your own protection, gets kind of rough in here sometimes."

"There will be black bread and drink in the great hall for supper. Bedtime is eight o'clock, promptly."

Martin ate supper beside a student named Jonas. "Where do you sleep?" Jonas asked.

"My bed is in the *Biertasche*," Martin answered.

A young professor sitting across the table burst out laughing, "That's the hostel we call the beer pot. Lots of drinking goes on over there." Then with a wink he added, "I know better places in town to drink."

The fears of the forest gripped Martin that night. How could he ever sleep in a dormitory full of strangers, each with a sword, and some with a bellyful of beer? He quietly got out of bed and knelt down. Then he made the sign of the cross and said the prayer for protection which he had learned. All the while he was praying, he doubted that an angry God would answer his prayer.

The church bell clanged loudly at 4:00 a.m. The boys yawned and climbed off their bunks. Martin put on the priestly looking robe, donned his sword and sheath and went into the chapel for prayer. While many of the boys complained, he went gladly.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



JESUS HEALS

Mark 7:24 And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it: but he could not be hid.

25 For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:

26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.

27 But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.

28 And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.

29 And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

31 And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, he came unto the sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis.

32 And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him.

33 And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue;

34 And looking up to heaven, he sighed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.

35 And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain.

36 And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it;

37 And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

Luke 11:9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

The Message: Jesus will supply our every need if we with humility and determination seek Him to supply them.

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Questions:

1. Who came to Jesus for help?
2. What did Jesus say that could have discouraged the woman?
3. Did the woman let Jesus' words discourage her?
4. Why did Jesus cast the devil from the daughter?
5. What afflictions did the man have?
6. What did Jesus do before healing the man?
7. What was the reaction of those who saw Jesus heal the man?
8. What did the people say about Jesus?
9. Were the men determined that others know what Jesus did?

Bible Verse

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:"

Matt. 7:7



Let's Talk

"Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Heb. 13:8. Oh, the strength and power He showed when He cast out the unclean spirit and healed the deaf and dumb. Let us trust in His strength as those people did and we shall also see Him doing great things.

When we must wait, our trust is tested, but Jesus encourages us to be patient. He once gave a lesson about a judge who would not help a woman, just because she asked for help. However, he did help her because he saw her determination and knew she would continue coming and that it would become a bother to him. Jesus finished the story by saying, "Shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them?"

The Syrophenician woman was determined to get help. "The children (the Jews) must get my blessing first," Jesus told her. "Then the dogs get some."

"Sure," she agreed, "but the dogs under the table get some crumbs while the children are eating."

"Because of your words," Jesus said, "I will heal your daughter."

Determination is very important to success. We need it to become a Christian. We need it for studying. We need it in almost every area of our lives. The following story shows how determination made Bill Knibbs successful.

Bill Knibbs was determined that the slave business in Jamaica must come to an end. His brother had died on the island while ministering to the slaves. After his brother's death, Bill had given up his printing business, graduated from a teaching school and come as a

missionary. Many slaves were saved. Many had learned to read. Bill was training teachers and building schools and churches.

He preached that slavery was indecent and unchristian. The slave owners did not like that. The newspapers published lies about him and his fellow missionaries. Even the leading island magistrates tried to persuade him to keep quiet.

Finally he was placed in jail. During his imprisonment, schools and churches were wrecked or burned. Christian slaves were threatened and some of their homes burned.

After he was freed from jail, Bill returned to England where the missionary board advised him to keep silent. "If necessary, I will walk barefoot through this nation and tell the people what the Jamaican slaves are suffering," he told them. He waged a one-man campaign against the shackles of slavery for the next two years. Before the end of the second year, a bill to abolish slavery was passed.

Bill hurried back to Jamaica. As the clock struck midnight on the appointed day, he shouted, "The cruel monster is dead! The Negro is free! Thank God!"

Bill's determination made his efforts successful. The Syrophenician woman's determination brought healing for her daughter. Determination will help you also.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A Syrophenician woman. 2. "It is not good to give the children's bread to the dogs." 3. No. 4. Because of the faith the mother demonstrated by her words. 5. He was deaf and had an impediment in his speech. 6. He took him away from the multitude. 7. They were astonished beyond measure. 8. "He hath done all things well." 9. Yes.)

"You pray with your whole heart," Jonas remarked as they left the chapel.

Martin answered, "I always pray before starting a school day."

As the months went by, Jonas and Martin became good friends. "What are you doing after class?" Jonas asked.

"I plan to study in the library. My family sacrificed a lot for me to be able to study here, so I'm trying to get out as soon as possible."

"Just thought you might like to walk around town," Jonas suggested. "This is a famous city." Martin hated to pass up a chance to talk, so he agreed to go. He was already known at the school as "the philosopher" and was famous for winning debates. But he was too much like his father to waste time or money partying, drinking, or playing around.

They walked down streets bordered by markets, tall cathedrals, and simpler chapels. "What is the very tall spire?" Martin asked, pointing to one that seemed to be piercing a soft white cloud.

"It is the church of St. Severus," Jonas answered. "There is a whole town within its walls where the aristocratic hierarchy of the church live. They say that St. Severus lies in a magnificent solid silver coffin inside the church. It is built like a fortress to protect all its riches."

"Every church seems to have its own industry," Martin remarked. "In one churchyard we saw carpenters making ornate chairs. In others we saw men carving images of saints. In another churchyard marketers were selling silver artifacts."

"Yes, the 96 churches and 30 monasteries and convents in this city provide multitudes of jobs for its people, and they are all Catholic."

"Whoa!" gasped Martin. "That many churches should make God happy." Just then they walked past a man selling blue dye. "Take me to see the dye being made." They saw peasants crushing leaves in a large vat. In another vat the leaves mixed with water were fermenting in the open

air. In another area they watched men straining the blue liquid through cloths into large jugs, ready to be shipped all over the Holy Roman Empire.

Martin's burning desire to pass his examinations in the shortest permissible time caused the months to fly. "I knew I would find you here. You're always in this library," Jonas said softly. "But come outside. Professor Hermann von dem Busche is burning a hallowed textbook of church tradition."

"I'd be afraid to do that," Martin said, following Jonas. "Most everyone who utters a word against the *pope* or against *indulgences* has been severely punished."

"But St. Petrus Damiani, bishop of Ostia, did; and he got away with it. He called Gregory VII, 'his Satanic Holiness,' a 'wolf,' and a 'tiger.' Then he withdrew into his hermit's cloister and wrote four volumes on *Sodom and Gomorrah of the Priesthood*. Wouldn't you like to read those books?" Jonas asked.

"No, I don't think so," Martin told Jonas. "But I did read what Nikolaus, a Benedictine monk said about the archbishop of Mainz. He said, 'The people are willing to be good sheep if they have a good shepherd! But the shepherd wants more than simply to shear and protect the sheep from the wolves; he also wants to tear the flesh from their bodies and devour it. But comfort and piety he has little, if anything, to offer to his sheep.'"

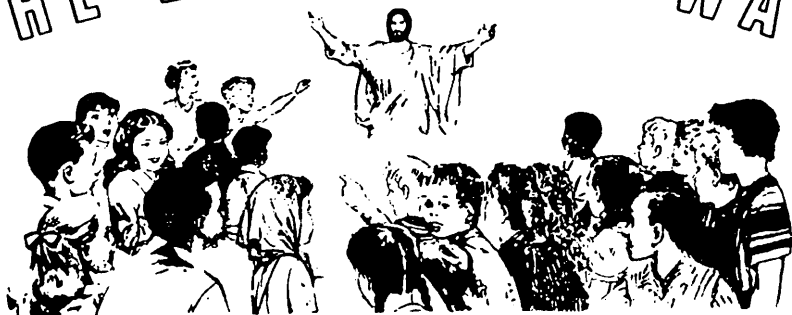
As they watched the "holy book" vanish into ashes, Jonas said, "Something like this is always happening at this school. Some of our teachers don't believe there is a God."

"Oh, I know there is a God," Martin affirmed. "Well, I've got to get back to studying. If I pass one more examination, I'll be graduating this year."

A few days later Martin told Jonas, "I've written to my father about graduation. I know it will make him happy."

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 29, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

Three years had passed since Martin had received his B. A. degree. It was spring, new life was budding from the trees, and May flowers adorned the trails around the university in Erfurt, Germany. Martin Luther sat at his desk. The quill pen swayed and bobbed as he wrote.

April, 1505

Dear Father,

Good news. I have passed my last examine and will be receiving a Master's degree. There are seventeen graduating. I am second from the top in my class. . . .

Your loving son,
Martin

Mr. Luder (his father's way of spelling Luther) was overjoyed and began at once to call Martin by the respected *Ihr* instead of the familiar *du*. For a gift he bought Martin a large set of law books that covered most every law. He hoped to see Martin become a great lawyer, a legal adviser to princes and city councils, like his university teacher Professor Henning Goede. There was no man in all Germany as happy as the father of Martin. No

sacrifice nor expense had been too great to make for this son who had been obedient even to carry out his father's dream.

The graduation was a grand affair. Men marched ahead of the graduates carrying bright torches.

Soon after graduation, Martin went to the city of Gotha and bought books for studying law. While returning, he was caught in a summer thunderstorm.

A few days later he had a great dinner prepared for his student friends and some modest girls and women. He had a rip-roaring time during the dinner, entertaining his guests by singing and playing his lute.

That night he vanished.

"Have you seen Martin this morning?" asked a friend.

"He's usually around here talking. Listen awhile and you'll hear him telling a story."

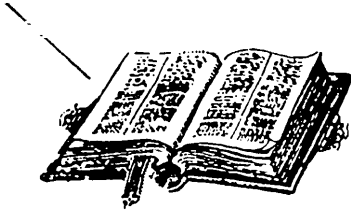
"That's the philosopher Martin. Best guy in the whole university. Too bad we aren't all like him. But where is he? Come with me to the hostel, maybe he's sick. Perhaps the dinner party last night was too much for him."

At the hostel the boys said that Martin packed his clothes and left during the night. "Said he was going to the monastery and become a monk."

"What? A monk? But he just bought his law books."

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



SUFFERING FOR THE GOSPEL

Mark 8:27 And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28 And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

29 And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

30 And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

31 And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32 And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33 But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

9:1 And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.

The Message: Jesus shows the disciples the importance of suffering for the gospel.

Questions:

1. Name some things Jesus said He would suffer.
2. What would happen after Jesus suffered?
3. What must all followers of Jesus do?
4. What will happen to the person who will save his life?
5. What will happen to the person who loses his life for Jesus?
6. Is suffering involved if we lose worldly things to gain spiritual things?
7. Is saving our soul worth the suffering involved?
8. What is involved in not being ashamed of Jesus?
9. If we are ashamed of Jesus, will He be ashamed of us?

Bible Verse

"When he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Mark 8:34



Let's Talk

Diana Duran, an 11-year-old student at East Coventry Elementary School in Pottstown, PA, was not ashamed of Jesus. An assignment was given to Diana and other students in the school's Academically Talented Program. The students were to pick a topic dealing with "power" and prepare an oral report. Diana chose to research the power of God and was given permission to do so.

She made a survey and distributed it to other students to find their opinions on the power of God. She researched the subject and prepared the report. But when the day came for her to share the information with the class, her teacher Linda Nitsche required her to give it privately.¹

Ms. Nitsche must have been ashamed of the power of God, but Diana certainly was not! Neither should any Christian be ashamed of their Saviour.

Not being ashamed of God may bring rejection from friends, mental harassment, embarrassment, and even violation of our rights of free speech, academic freedom, and equal rights, as in the case of Diana. However, if you are an adult and stand for principles that Jesus stood for, it could mean being taken to court, fined because of false accusations and sometimes imprisonment. In some countries it could mean death, or imprisonment and years of terrible suffering.

In years past, there are many records of Christians being thrown into dens of wild beasts, and being torn to pieces by starving animals. Others were dragged through the muddy stone-paved streets by their feet until they died. Some were

burned. Whole families lived for a lifetime underneath Rome in the network of underground caves called the Catacombs.

One Christian was caught and brought in the public place and commanded to sacrifice to an idol god. When he refused, he was stripped of his clothing and whipped with a metal tipped whip that cut his flesh. He was again asked to sacrifice, and upon refusing the second time, salt mixed with vinegar was poured over the lacerated parts of his body. Still he refused to deny his faith, for God has said, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."²

Does the Devil tempt you to be ashamed just because someone might laugh at you? Are you ashamed just because you act or dress a little differently than others your age? Are you ashamed because the church you attend is small and humble looking compared to others in the town or city where you live? Why should anyone be ashamed of Jesus who loves people so much He died for them?

Don't be ashamed of Jesus. Remember, "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." Mark 8:38. —Charlotte Huskey

References: ¹ Southern California, *Christian Times*, San Diego, CA, 1991

² Eusebius, *The History of The Church*, (Dorset Press, New York)

(Answers: 1. Being rejected of the elders, chief priest, and scribes and being killed. 2. He would rise again. 3. Suffer. 4. He will lose it. 5. He will save it. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. Suffering. 9. Yes.)

"But a monk he'll be. He told me, too," added another student with a mug of beer in his hand. "I think he's afraid there will be another fight in here and he will be killed like his best friend was during the last fight."

"He's not afraid of that. He knows everyone in here likes him," said a friend. Then he paused a moment and added, "But he may be thinking he should repay the blessed virgin. He called on her to keep him from bleeding to death a few weeks ago when he got that terrible cut from his own sword."

"Maybe he had received a heavenly message that day we found him lifeless here in the floor."

"When?"

"Remember when you put his lute in his hands and he began to play?"

"Yes, but he said that a spirit of gloom from the Devil was on him and he would play music because the Devil couldn't tolerate joy."

"I'd have a spirit of gloom, too, if an angel told me to quit studying and become a monk," said the law student. "Say wasn't he crazy last night? I've never seen him so happy. But we're not solving anything this way. Let's find Jonas. If any one knows what's happened to Martin, he would."

They found Jonas in the library sitting at the study table where he and Martin had so often sat studying together. "Do you know anything about Martin?" questioned the boys.

"He's gone," was Jonas' sad answer, "gone to live at the monastery."

"Why did he do that?"

"He said he saw a vision from heaven during the storm the other night. He said it meant that he must give his life to the church as a monk. He has already sold all his law books."

"And he left late last night?"

"Yes."

"Well, that explains it all, but I wonder what his father is going to say?" questioned the law student.

Luther's father was in a rage. "We have sacrificed ourselves down to bare necessities to put him through school, and he turns his back on it all. I thought sure he would become a great lawyer. Then I could have asked one of the rich squires for his daughter to be Martin's wife."

"Tell him I will have nothing more to do with him if he stays in the monastery," stormed his angry mother.

"I will," he said, and wrote a letter addressing Martin with the familiar *du* instead of the honorable *Ihr* with which he had addressed Martin since receiving his Master's from the university.

Martin answered the letter:

Summer 1505.

My Precious Father and Mother,

With a sad heart I write this letter, knowing how I have offended you. I have not come to the monastery for my stomach, or to make an easy living, nor for honor, or fame. At home I learned to fear God and pay vows to Him. I am here because I promised God I would give my life in service to Him. What better way could I serve than to give all my time to the church? I do not know how long I shall live, so I must serve while I am living. I am sinful to the last corner of my being. Of what profit could I be if God sends me to the lake of fire for my sins? I am doing all I can to find favor with God.

I am sick at heart for disappointing you. I have always obeyed, but now that I am a man, I see the church is a higher authority, and I must submit to it. You taught me to obey authority, no matter how hard it was. That is what I am doing.

Your loving son,
Martin

Separated from his fun-loving friends at the university and torn from his once caring parents, Martin knuckled down to a solitary life behind the stone walls of the Augustinian monastery.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 5, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

Lonely for his fun-loving friends at the university, and rejected by his family Martin fell on his hard bed in the monastery cell and cried. How he wished his father would forgive him for leaving law school and becoming a monk.

His loneliness was intensified by rejection from other monks. Some were jealous of him because he had more education than most of the superiors. Martin had become a monk, hoping to save his soul. But there were many reasons why others became monks. Many did so to escape a life of peasantry, some to learn a skill or get an education. Others were seeking honor. Some, like Martin, believed that being a recluse was the only way to be holy. "Keep yourself apart and you keep a pure heart," he had often heard.

Martin soon learned that living away from the world did not cleanse him from sin. "The more we wash, the less clean we become," he said one day to another monk. The other monk ignored him, for it was against the rules to communicate with others.

"It is the business of the monks to weep, to be silent, to wait in wholesome quietude before God," the prior had often told him. Martin loved to talk and would often be engaged in conversation before remembering the rules of "Holy quietness."

Mornings consisted of long prayers, hours of quiet meditation, endless dry lectures, and a little work. Most of the work, however,

was done by the monks who could not read or write. Twelve hours later, around noon, the first meal was served. By that time, Martin was terribly hungry. However, he was at the monastery to gain favor with God, and he thought that his long prayers and fasting were making God happy.

Once a week, usually on Friday, the monks gathered for *Schuldkapitel*. It was a time for reciting faults. When the prior said, "Let us consider our faults," the monk brothers threw themselves to the ground. Martin threw himself to the ground like the other monks. The prior said, "What are you reciting?"

Lying facedown on the floor, the monks answered, "Our faults." Then they arose and one after another began confessing their faults. One said, "I was late for early morning prayer."

"Do penance by eating your meals sitting in the corner," the prior retorted sternly.

A very tall monk confessed he went to sleep in the choir. "Your penance will be getting up at 1:00 a.m. and reciting psalms for one hour before the rising bell," the prior said.

An old monk confessed to looking at a pretty lady. "That is a terrible offence. To be forgiven, you must endure a flogging" the prior stormed.

"I did not hold my goblet with both hands while drinking," another admitted.

Another confessed to breaking the silent rule. Martin's heart pounded. Should he confess? What punishment awaited him?

Martin's heart was still pounding when the last monk confessed. He was summon-

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



The Greatest Commandment

New Word: *Charity:* Love; supreme respect for God and others.

Mark 12:28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

32 And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:

33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

34 And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.

I Corinthians 13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

The Message: Whole-hearted love does not change according to our feelings or the treatment we have received.

Questions:

1. What did the scribes ask Jesus?
2. Which is the greatest commandment?
3. Name the four ways we must love Jesus.
4. What did Jesus say was the second greatest commandment?
5. What is more important than all sacrifices?
6. If a person doesn't have love, will it profit him to give all he has to feed the poor?
7. How does love act after it has suffered a long time?
8. What does love envy?
9. Give a verse which tells how long love will last?
10. Which is most important, faith, hope, or love?

BIBLE VERSE

"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."
Deut. 6:5



Let's Talk

"I love your new dress!" Susan exclaimed to Marcela.

"I love that red Mercedes!" Skipper remarked to Michael, as it swished past.

"I love you," Mother whispered to Debbie, as she left for school.

"Look, Ken signed his letter, 'I love you,'" Martha said.

"I love the puppy you gave me for my birthday," Bobby said to his father.

How many times a day do you hear, "I love"? What is love?

The word is used so carelessly that its real meaning is confused with affections toward dresses, cars, children, friends, and animals. Because the word is used so often, we are sometimes confused about its meaning in the Bible. What is God saying when He tells us to love Him with all our hearts and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We all know that some neighbors' ways and actions are unlovable. Then how can we obey the Scripture and love them?

Let's have a little discussion about "love."

"I've heard that we don't know what real love is until we know and love God," Dan said. "How can I understand God's love?"

"We can experience God's love because He provided a way for us to love Him. As our love for Him grows, we begin to love the things He loves," Jim answered.

"But I love my dog, King. How can I love God with all my heart and still love my dog?"

"I also love my boa, Stretch, but love for a pet is not the same as love for God.

"And we love to play soccer, eat pizza, and go fishing with Grandpa. Love is a confusing word. It seems to mean a lot of different things."

"Yes, it has different meanings. There is spiritual love, or love for God and spiritual things. There is love for our family, and the love for animals and earthly things. Then there is romance. Very often books

and magazines use the word love when referring to romance."

"Well, what is the feeling we have for our pets? I sure thought I loved King."

"You have an affection for King, but having a great time with something is not the same as God's love. Jesus had God's love. He would not have died so painfully for us if He had only what you have for your dog."

"Your feelings for King would change if King began to bite and mistreat you. Jesus loved and died for the people who killed Him."

"But I could never do as Jesus did; I'm just human."

"When we are born again, we become children of God, just as Jesus was a child of God. Then when we surrender our whole life and everything else to Him, He cleanses our hearts and places a seed of love in it. Then we can love God with our whole heart."

"Now I see that I truly love God, because I love Him more than anything or anybody else!" —Charlotte Huskey

Love God Supremely

(Answers: 1. They asked, "What is the greatest commandment?" 2. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength." 3. We must love Him with our heart, soul, mind, and strength. 4. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." 5. Loving God with our whole being and our neighbor as ourself. 6. No. 7. It keeps acting kind. 8. Nothing. 9. "Charity never faileth." 10. Love.)

ing courage to tell his fault, when the prior spoke again. "It is now time to present observations. It is everyone's duty to report faults you have seen another commit."

"I saw a monk looking in another monk's room."

"Confess, he who committed this fault," the prior ordered.

A brother with a long nose admitted doing this, and the prior gave out the penance.

"A brother was seen looking around during prayer," a monk said of another.

"Gross offence," the prior stormed, pronouncing a hard punishment.

"A brother was heard talking while washing," said the monk with whom Martin had talked.

Martin's heart raced. He tried to speak. He tried again. Finally he squeaked, "Me." A rigid penance was announced.

Martin had been accustomed to rigid self discipline before coming to the monastery, and in his heart, he was glad to suffer, for he thought his suffering would save his soul from God's anger.

After the day's activities, Martin was sent in silence to his cold cell. It was a hole in the wall without a door. Each cell was unheated and had no decorations, not a picture, nor flower could adorn the walls.

The same routine was followed day after day until a year had passed.

A sad-hearted Martin lay on his hard bunk that evening. He was still wondering how to make God happy. "I have gone three days without eating. I have spent nights without sleep. I have slept on the cold floor with no blankets until I almost froze to death. I have flogged myself. Have I suffered enough to pay for my sins?" he asked himself. He felt no assurance in his heart that God was happier because of his sufferings.

Suddenly he felt a burning desire to read the Bible. "It is a dangerous Book," his uncle had warned that day when Martin left his home to study at the Erfurt University. Martin had been careful not to read it. Only once had he glanced at it. The prior often spoke of it as God's Word. He said that only the high church officials could understand it. "Surely I have enough education to understand whatever they understand," Martin mused. "Maybe by reading the Bible I could find a way to cleanse my sins and save my soul."

He slipped from his cot and lay on the icy floor to lengthen the day's suffering. "I will do anything to make you happy," he told God. He beat his chest. He got up and threw himself hard on the floor. All the while he was flopping around hurting himself, the desire to read the Bible was growing stronger and stronger.

Hours later when Luther heard no noise except the prior's loud snoring, he crept out of his cell and over to the chapel.

A large Bible was chained to the lectern in the chapel. He trembled at the very sight of the Book and imagined God holding up a sword ready to strike him dead. With trembling body and shaking hands he opened the Bible. Its wooden back made a noise as it fell against the lectern. To Martin it sounded like a clap of thunder. He ducked under the nearest bench and waited for the night watchman to come.

A rustling followed. Martin listened. He heard the watchman's steps fade away as he went the other way toward the cells.

The Bible had opened to the epistle of Romans. Martin began reading. Soon he read, "The gospel of Christ: is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," and "The just shall live by faith." Martin read on and on.

He was so spirited by the wonderful messages from the Bible that he began reading faster and faster and turning the pages more and more rapidly. He forgot all about the watchman who had located the noise and come to the door to the chapel. "Why are you here?" he asked.

Martin jumped like a frightened deer and stared speechless.

"Answer me," the watchman demanded.

"I am weary because God is angry with me," Martin answered. "I came here to find a way to make Him happy."

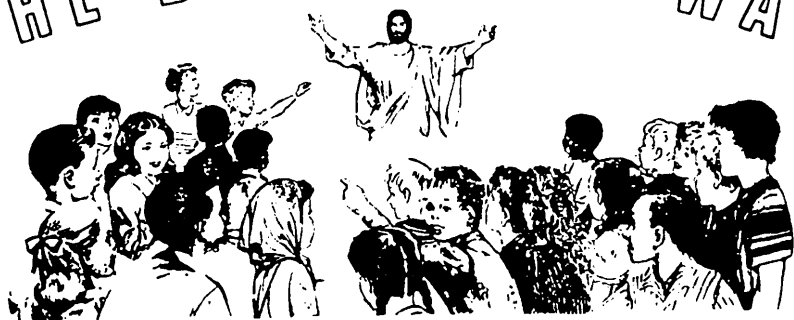
"God may be more angry with you now."

"But this Book tells me that God is love and that we must live by faith."

"To bed," stormed the watchman. "Your quest for knowledge may have gotten you in serious trouble. I wondered when you came here, just how long you would last."

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 12, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

Martin had been called into the preceptor's office because he had been sneaking into the chapel reading the Bible. He stood trembling before Professor Usingen, the preceptor. "I will not dismiss you for reading the Bible," he said. "Instead I am presenting you with one. With your brilliance, you may some day bring fame to the Augustin Order of the Holy Roman Catholic Church."

With trembling hands Martin took the red leather Bible and clutching it to his breast, he bowed and thanked the professor. Then, hurrying to his room he began reading. Every spare moment was spent with his Bible. When the others monks were snoring, Martin was not only reading his Bible, he was *memorizing* it.

After a few months had passed, he began asking questions. "Ah, Brother," said Professor Usingen after Martin had exhausted him with questions. "What is the Bible? One should read the old teachers. They extracted the sap of truth from the Bible. The Bible gives rise to every kind of tumult and revolt unless one is grounded in the teachings of the church fathers. The Augustinians have never produced a heretic, but it sounds like you will soon be one if you do not stop studying the Bible alone. You must first get more rooted in the church's teachings. Now leave it with me, lest you be tempted again to

study it and lay aside the books of the fathers."

Martin arose, bowed reverently, and surrendered his beloved Bible.

Catholics are taught to confess their sins to a priest. The next time Martin went to confess, he said, "I have read the Bible too much and neglected to study the church books. Sometimes I have not said every word while repeating the psalms in the choir. Also I raised my head while walking, that is very unlike a humble monk. On and on Martin went with a list of actions which he felt God was angry about. He finished by saying, "The other monks fear not so much the wrath of God. As for me, I know God is very angry with me."

"Stop, stop!" shouted Dr. Staupitz, the old priest to whom he was confessing. "You are a fool! God is not angry with you—it is you who are angry with Him!"

"Oh, but my sins, my sins, my sins," wailed Luther.

"You have not sinned," Dr. Staupitz assured him. "To sin is to murder one's parents, to blaspheme in public, to scorn God, to commit adultery. If Christ is to help you, you must keep a list of real, honest-to-goodness sins and not go hobbling around nursing toy ones and imagining you commit a sin every time you need to say excuse me."

"As for the Bible, I will get it for you, if you promise to study it properly. Luther, you have not enough to do. You must get busy. I will have you sent to Wittenberg so you can teach at Frederick's new university. The

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Christ is Crucified

Mark 15:22 And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull.

23 And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not.

24 And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.

25 And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

26 And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

27 And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left.

28 And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

29 And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days,

30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross.

31 Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save.

32 Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.

33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted,

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

35 And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Elias.

36 And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down.

37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.

39 And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God.

The Message: Jesus gave Himself up to be crucified because He wanted to be the sacrifice for our sins.

Questions:

1. Where was Jesus taken?
2. What did Jesus refuse to drink?
3. At what time of day was Jesus crucified?
4. Who was crucified with Jesus?
5. Describe the actions of some who saw Jesus on the cross.
6. Did some people say they would believe if Jesus came down from the cross?
7. What happened between the sixth and ninth hours?
8. What were some of Jesus' last words?
9. What happened to the veil of the temple?
10. What did the centurion say about Jesus?

BIBLE VERSE

"When the centurion saw that he cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God." (Mark 15:39)



Let's Talk

The twelve apostles believed they would soon be leaders in the great powerful kingdom of Jesus. Jesus, however, knew that establishing His kingdom would mean suffering for Him. He had plainly told His disciples He would suffer many things in Jerusalem. But they still dreamed that in a short time He would be crowned king of a new Jewish empire. Just a few days before hadn't multitudes followed Him crying, "Blessed is He the king of the Jews"?

Jesus had a special meal prepared only for the twelve disciples. During the meal, He told them He was going away and would send a Comforter who would be always with them, day and night, wherever they went. Still, having stars in their eyes about a great earthly kingdom, they believed He would soon be back and set everything in order, giving them of course their greatly desired positions.

Not yet having the Holy Spirit in their hearts, they could not understand that Jesus' kingdom is a spiritual one. Today lots of Christians still believe Jesus is coming again to set up an earthly kingdom and rule a land filled with only peace and love.

What did Jesus say about His kingdom when Pilate asked, "Art thou the king of the Jews?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world."

He also told the repenting thief, "Today thou shalt be with me in paradise."

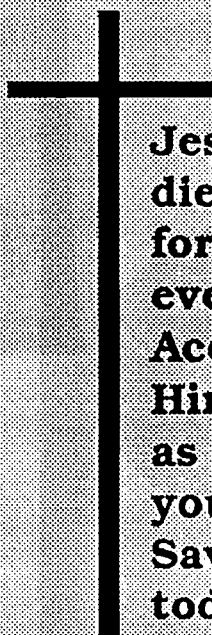
When Jesus died on the cross He prepared a way for us to get into His kingdom. If we would enter His kingdom, we must ask forgiveness of our sins, believing that His righteous sacrifice paid for them.

When Jesus died on the cross, the great heavy veil of the temple which protected the Holy of Holies was torn in two from top to bottom, as if by an unseen giant hand.

This is spiritually symbolic of a spiritual experience of entering into a holy life.

We may enter into this life by first being saved and then giving our life completely to Jesus, receiving the Holy Spirit, to do His will, whatever it may be. He moves into the temple of our heart and is there as our Comforter, our Guide, our Strength, our Righteousness, and everything else we need.

Don't let Jesus die in vain for you. Turn your life over to Him and enjoy His spiritual kingdom! —Charlotte Huskey



**Jesus
died
for
everybody.
Accept
Him
as
your
Saviour
today!**

[Answers: 1. To Golgotha (the place of the skull). 2. Wine mixed with myrrh. 3. At the third hour, or 9:00 A.M. 4. Two thieves. 5. Some rallied on Him; some made fun of Him; others said, "Come down from the cross," "He saved others, himself he cannot save." 6. Yes. 7. The earth was darkened. 8. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" 9. It was ripped from the top to the bottom. 10. "Truly this man was the Son of God.")

Order will loan you to him. You can also study towards getting your doctoral degree. And I have something else to tell you. The monastery heads have noticed your extreme self-denial and self-punishment. It has bought for you a reputation as a very holy man. You have progressed unusually fast from monk, to sub-deacon, to deacon, and now we have decided that you must be ordained a *priest*."

Luther trembled. "I am not worthy," he cried, "that I should be an instrument for the miracle working power of God."

"You are worthy; if ever a man is," the fine old man answered.

They talked over the plans for the day he would become a priest.

Catholics believe that when a priest performs his first mass, the bread and wine actually change into the real body and blood of Jesus. That night Martin tossed and turned on his hard bed as thoughts raged in his mind. Although he liked the honor of becoming a priest, he really felt too mean and sinful to be used as the instrument for such a miracle. Neither did he feel capable of standing in Jesus' place as a priest is supposed to do. How could he, so hot tempered and evil, represent Jesus. Something in Martin's heart wanted to fall at Jesus' feet and worship Him. Then he remembered how often he had been told that Jesus was angry with all men. "Why should I want to worship a God who is angry with me?" he questioned. Then came the thought of the doctor, "You fool! God is not angry with you." What a turmoil was Martin's mind.

A priest's first mass is a time of great festivity. Formal invitations were sent out for the occasion. The next morning he awoke thinking about this and seeing a chance to be with his old friends. He wrote many invitations. Since leaving the university, he had seen only a few friends. Those were the days he had begged in the streets. All monks had to beg. It was believed it would make them humble. However, the university authorities had complained so bitterly to the monastery authorities about their former *honor student* begging in the city streets, that from that time on Martin had been sent into neighboring villages to do his begging.

Above all else, he wanted his father to come and accept him again as his son.

When the day came, his father, who was now a well-to-do man, also arrived. He came in style with twenty horsemen accompanying him. He also gave money to the monastery, the amount with which he could have built a small house.

During the dinner that followed the mass, a friend, remarked, "Your father surely loves you to make such a to-do over you." This remark, and learning that death had taken his only two brothers, caused Martin to think perhaps he had been forgiven for turning down his career as a lawyer and coming to the monastery. He ventured over to the table where his father was eating and said, "Dear Father, are you now satisfied that I have done the right by consecrating my life to the church?"

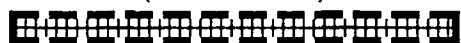
His father addressed Martin with the honorable "Ihr," something he had not done since Martin quit law school. But his words cut like a dagger. "Did you give any thought to obeying the fourth commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother? You have left your mother and I to look after ourselves in our old age."

Martin was humiliated by an accusation that he was not obeying one of the Ten Commandments. And did his father have a right to accuse him, a priest? "But Father," he stammered, "during the lightning storm, a voice from heaven called me to be a monk."

"God grant it was not the voice of a devil," his father answered.

Martin was so tormented by his father's words that he went into deep depression. "Was it the voice of a demon which spoke to him?" he questioned. He had conformed to all the regulations to make himself a good monk, hoping this would save his soul. Now he had taken the responsibility of being priest, but none of these things gave him any assurance that he had found mercy with God. "If ever a man gained mercy by works I should have, for I would have martyred myself if I had kept up my watching, praying, reading, and self punishment", he told himself. "I have tried for many years to make God happy. Maybe I am angry with God." Then he wailed out, "Oh, God, what can I do to be saved from your wrath?"

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 19, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

Placing his red, leather-bound Bible and a few other books in the beggars pouch, Martin started out reluctantly for his new job in Wittenberg. His reason for coming to the monastery at Erfurt had been to find an assurance of salvation, but he had not yet found it. Fasting, praying seven times each day, saying mass, administering the holy communion and all his self inflicted sufferings had not earned it. He thought about this day after day. He had hoped that being a good monk might help to save his soul, and that was what Martin wanted more than anything else.

The trip took many, many days and the cities he passed through had things of special interest. However, Martin with his head hanging low, saw very little. Wittenberg was a small town on the Elbe River in northern Germany. It was quite different from the wealthy and famous city of Erfurt, with its old established university and 76 urban areas. The great prince Frederick, Elector of Saxony, ruled Wittenberg. He had founded the new university, and not having much money with which to run it, was happy to have a teacher loaned to him by the Augustinians, who were accustomed to a very simple life.

At the university Martin was told to lecture on Aristotle, whom he detested, and still worse, on physics, which he knew nothing

about. He was also to lecture on ethics, and somehow to find time to continue his own studies. The reception given him by the other 22 professors was like a cold, haughty, north wind. The 200 students, some only children, offered little challenge to him.

After a few months, however, the supervisor recognized his capacity for hard work and gave him every imaginable teaching task. In less than a year he was promoted and sent back to the University of Erfurt to study for his doctor's degree. He hadn't learned one thing about how to find God's mercy.

At first the University at Erfurt did not want to cooperate with the small new university. Finally arrangements were made for Luther to teach and study at the old monastery where he had lived four years. Now he had more free time. He set to work learning Hebrew so he could read the Old Testament in its original form. At the same time, he was studying the New Testament in the original Greek. The epistles of Paul were his favorite.

One of his favorite verses said, "Therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'" Sometimes he thought that might be the answer to his question. But surely obtaining salvation was not that simple!

About a year later, serious problems developed among the Augustinian monasteries. He and another monk were selected to go to Rome, in hopes of getting the problem settled.

This was very dangerous, but also a great privilege, for going to the "holy city" of Rome
(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



An Empty Tomb

Mark 15:42 And now when the even was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath,

43 Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus.

44 And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead.

45 And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph.

46 And he bought fine linen, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre.

47 And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses beheld where he was laid.

Mark 16:1 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.

2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?

4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.

5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the

right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.

6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.

7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.

8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.

The Message: Jesus arose after being crucified, and was seen by many people.



Questions:

1. Who asked for Jesus body?
2. What was Joseph's attitude about the Kingdom of God?
3. Did Pilate believe that Jesus was already dead?
4. Can you describe Jesus' tomb?
5. Why were the women going to Jesus' tomb?
6. Why did they fear being able to anoint Jesus' body?
7. What was their surprise?
8. Who did they find in the tomb?
9. What did the man ask?
10. What did he tell them to do?

BIBLE VERSE

"I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. (Matt. 28:5-6)



Let's Talk

The eastern sky was beginning to light up with the promise of a new day when the women came to the garden. They found the tomb empty and wondered who had stolen the body of Jesus. Mary hurried away to tell Peter and John.

After she had gone, the other women saw an angel sitting in the tomb. They were frightened speechless, but the angel said, "Don't be afraid. Jesus is not here, He is risen. Go quickly and tell His disciples and Peter that He is alive and will meet them in Galilee."

The women ran from the place, filled with joy and yet trembling with excitement and fear. The news seemed too good to be true, but they hurried on to tell the disciples and their other friends.

They did not know where Mary had gone, nor did they see Peter and John who were running into the garden by another entrance.

Both Peter and John went into the tomb and saw the grave clothes that Joseph had wrapped around the body of Jesus. They too, believed that surely Jesus was alive once more.

Mary, who was following them, came back into the garden and when she looked again into the tomb she saw two angels. One asked, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

"Because they have taken my Lord away, and I know not where they have laid Him," she answered. Then turning about, she saw another man who also asked why she was crying. "Sir," she said, "if you have carried away my Lord, tell me where you put Him."

Then the man said, "Mary!" and she knew the voice was that of Jesus.

"Master, Master!" she cried, falling at His feet.

"Go now and tell the others that I will see them before I ascend to my Father and your God," He told her.

While these things were happening, the soldiers who had been guarding the tomb came into the city. They told the chief priests, "An angel has opened Jesus' tomb and He is out walking around. Just where, we do not know."

Quickly the chief priests called a council. In a few minutes the council decided to give the soldiers money so they would keep this a secret. They were to tell that they had fallen asleep and someone stole Jesus' body while they were sleeping. The Roman soldiers gladly took the money and told the lie.

Jesus was seen by more than 500 people after He arose from the tomb. Then 50 days later He took His disciples out on a hill and He ascended into heaven. Soon a cloud came between Him and those gazing up.

Today He is alive, in heaven and in the hearts of every believer!

—Charlotte Huskey

Jesus is alive!

(Answers: 1. Joseph of Arimathea. 2. He was looking for it to come. 3. Not until he asked the centurion. 4. It was like a cave, chiseled from a rock and had a large stone for a door. 5. To place sweet spices on Jesus' body. 6. They were afraid they could not move the heavy stone. 7. The stone was already moved. 8. A man in a long white garment. 9. "Ye seek Jesus which was crucified? He is not here, behold the place where they laid him." 10. To go tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before them to Galilee.)

was the ardent desire of every monk. For this long hard trip, they were also to receive a great indulgence. The idea of "indulgences" is very simple. When a Catholic sins he confesses to a priest and the priest assures the person they received God's forgiveness. Then, however, the priest imposes on the forgiven person certain penalties according to the seriousness of the sins confessed. These "penances," as they were called, could be many things such as saying prayers, walking on one's knees, giving money etc. What the church imposed as a penalty for sin, the church would also erase. Erasing the sinner's penance is called an "indulgence." Indulgences could be bought or earned to be used when needed.

In November the two monks, one following the other, with downcast eyes, and hands in their sleeves, started the long walk to Rome. They mumbled their prayers as they trudged along, and slept in Augustinian monasteries that were along the route. The trip took five months. Four weeks of this time was spent at Rome.

According to the Catholic doctrine a person could also do penances for a dead ancestor and bring them out of their state of suffering which is called "purgatory." Luther wanted to help his Grandfather Hein out of purgatory, so while in Rome he climbed the steps which Christ had climbed to Pilate's palace. It was a most sacred place and was said to have been brought in one piece by angels from Jerusalem. Nine years' indulgence was guaranteed for each step climbed on hands and knees. Double time was given for the step on which Jesus had tripped. Martin climbed the stairs, stopping on each stair to repeat the Lord's prayer. Tired and worn he reached the top, then asked himself, "Who knows if this is true?"

Luther had not come to Rome as a tourist. He came on business, and as a pilgrim to better his standing with God. He said his prayers before the many altars in the "holy city." He gazed reverently at the many "sacred relics."

Martin liked the efficient way the church carried on business. It was very organized and no time was wasted. He did, however, puzzle over the many things for which one had to pay. There seemed to be a fee for every service. Also he noticed the priest's impa-

ttence at him taking a long time to say mass. They would rattle through six or seven while he was saying one. Priests are paid for each mass they say.

Then there was the gossip he heard at the monastery where they stayed. It seemed there was shameful wickedness among the monks, the priests, nor was the pope exempt. Martin had never taken stock in gossip. Armed with a rich store of indulgences, he went home a staunch Catholic.

He had no thought of changing the church. He only wanted to find mercy for his soul. Going on this pilgrimage to Rome, climbing the sacred stairs, saying mass on "holy grounds," and taking the communion in the "holy city" was supposed to earn him entrance into heaven. "Maybe it did," he thought. Yet doing these things hadn't erased his fear. He was still terribly afraid of God, His wrath, His judgments, His punishments, of hell and purgatory.

When he got back to Erfurt, it was time to return to the university in Wittenberg. Dr. Staupitz was then working in Wittenberg. One day Martin confessed to him for six hours. He confessed many trivial things and even sins of his childhood. Then he confessed the time he had said, "I wish I had never been created. I hate God."

Dr. Staupitz looked sternly at Luther and said, "Don't you know God commands you to hope? You must not allow yourself to think of God's wrath. You must have faith in His mercy. You must trust His goodness."

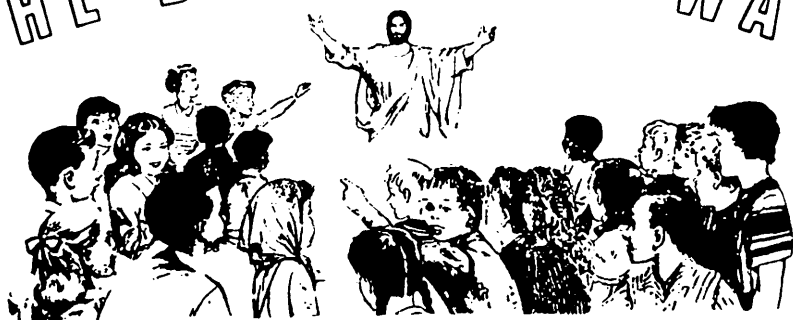
Suddenly Martin understood the meaning of, "The just shall live by faith." The darkness of his mind changed to light. He felt the heavy burden of his sins roll away. He laughed! He cried! It was like the dawn of a new day. The Son was shining. A resurrection had taken place in his heart.

By the time he had reached his little room above, his happiness had turned to anger. "Why had not anyone told him this before?" He had worried and groaned and punished himself, almost unto death, trying to save his soul. No one had told him that it would not help, that he must believe in God's mercy. He determined right then that he would tell the world what he had experienced.

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 26, 1992

Martin Luther **The Man Who Cracked** **The System**

(Continued from last week)

Martin Luther received his doctor's degree on Oct. 19, 1512, and became a doctor of theology at the Wittenberg University. Now the door was open to tell the Good News he had discovered. When receiving this degree, he had taken an oath that he would not teach doctrines which conflicted with those of the Roman Catholic church. Confident that the church taught whatever was in the Bible, he set to work studying the Scriptures and sharing what he learned from them.

He soon began understanding God very differently than he had been taught. These ideas began changing his way of thinking.

To his students he issued printed texts with wide spaces between the lines so they could take notes of his lectures. Most of Luther's lectures were simple methods of applying these Bible texts into solutions for their everyday problems. This was giving the students the pure Word of God without the church's interpretation which had so confused him.

Also in his lectures much was said about ungodly behavior that was condemned by the verses being studied. His temper often flared up on the subject of drunkenness. He also scolded the students for dancing in the streets. Parents admired the severe discipline he held over

the students. This, with his strict lectures, soon won him a large following.

Seeing the effect Luther was having on the townspeople, Dr. Staupitz came with one more honor, or request. "You must start preaching," he said.

"Herr Staupitz," wailed Luther, "you will be the death of me. I shan't endure it for three months."

"Quite all right," said Dr. Staupitz, "God has plenty of work for clever men to do in heaven."

In those days all the German Bibles had been translated from the Latin Bible. They were hardly understood by the uneducated Germans. So Luther wrote his sermons in language easily understood. He always wanted to be understood. Now, especially, he wanted his listeners to understand not only him, but God. He wanted them to know that having faith in Jesus' sacrifice for sin would give them the assurance of sins forgiven. He wanted them to trust in God's mercy.

Each time he preached the crowds grew larger. His desire for the people to hear about God's love and mercy burned like fire in his heart. Seven times a day he prayed for the people. When he was away on some business and couldn't pray that much, he made up the time lost. Each time he prayed alone in his little room, fuel was added to the fire.

"The just shall live by faith!" he cried from his pulpit. "Apostle Paul never men-
(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



A Christian's Hope

I Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

The Message: Believing that Christ's death on the cross is the needed sacrifice to cleanse sin gives a living hope to every one who accepts it.

Believing in Christ gives us hope!

Questions:

1. What does the resurrection of Jesus give to the believer?
2. For what does a Christian hope?
3. How is the Christian's hope kept strong?
4. How great is the joy of the believer's hope?
5. What will be the end of the Christian's hope?
6. Name some ways to keep hope to the end.
7. How must a Christian live to gain heaven?
8. By what is a hopeful Christian redeemed?
9. Why was Christ raised from the dead?

BIBLE VERSE

"Blessed be . . . our Lord Jesus Christ, which . . . hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"

I Pet. 1:3



Let's Talk

Hope is a feeling that what we wish for will happen. Hope will give a person energy and strength to do a lot of things that they could not do without hope. In Russia during the years when the communists were in full control, many people wished to have a Bible, but to have a Bible was against the law. A person could be put in jail for having one. There was one house church which didn't have a complete Bible. They had only portions of it which had been copied by hand.

In a town 1,100 miles away, some Christians had smuggled in many Bibles. When this congregation heard about the Bibles, a new hope welled in their hearts. "I will go get a Bible," volunteered a very old lady.

"But you are too old and weak to travel so far," the younger Christians said.

"God will help me," she said. "I know He will help me get a Bible that we may have the Word of God."

Hope in the old woman's heart gave her assurance that she could get the Bible. She was striving for something of eternal value, therefore her hope was very strong.

Florence Chadwick, the great swimmer was capable of swimming Catalina Channel. But in 1952, when she attempted to swim it, a heavy fog lay over the channel. After swimming 16 hours, she was only one mile away from her goal when she lost hope and quit. The heavy fog prevented her from seeing land. "I could have made the goal, if I could have seen the land," she stated after being told how close she was. Genuine hope gives a reasonable expectation of obtaining the goal. Florence's goal was an earthly goal, and her hope failed.

The old woman who traveled alone across a large country to obtain God's Word, had an eternal goal, and her hope stayed strong. The Bible tells us in Romans 8:24-25, "We are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a

man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it."

A believing Christian can have a living hope that never fades away.

—Charlotte Huskey

Hope of the Righteous

"Beyond this world of toil and care,
Beyond this veil of gloom;
There is a land, a happy land,
A place we call our home.

"Oh, what a blessed hope is this,
An anchor to the soul;
And if we do our Saviour's will,
We'll safely reach the goal.

"God says, 'Ye must be born again';
To us this truth is giv'n;
And if we do not His commands,
We shall not enter heav'n.

"To enter heav'n we must be pure
And holy in His sight;
And ev'ry day we surely must
Be walking in the light.

"We'll pray for God to keep our feet
Upon the Corner Stone;
We'll give our hearts and lives to Him,
For we are not our own.

Chorus:

"Oh, yes, we'll trust Him while we live!
We'll trust Him when we die;
And then when all our work is done,
We'll reign with Him on high."

—Luella E. Henry

(Answers: 1. A lively hope of eternal life after death. 2. For an inheritance in heaven. 3. By the power of God. 4. It is joy unspeakable. 5. The salvation of his soul. 6. "Gird up the loins of our mind," which means to think only good thoughts; be obedient; be sober; don't fashion yourself after the world. 7. He must live holy as God is holy. 8. By the precious blood of Christ. 9. So the Christian's hope would be a living hope.)

tioned sacred relics, religious pilgrimages, confession to a priest, penance, or purgatory and how to get out of it. These can not save the soul. Accepting God's mercy and believing in His Son, Jesus, is the only way to get forgiveness and salvation."

"Through faith in Jesus, my fears are gone!" he added with a contented smile. "I feel like a new man who is ready to go through the open doors of paradise. God gave me a living hope. What more would anyone want? Lay down your dead works that cannot save."

The Germans had never heard such a message. They listened carefully. Dr. Luther continued, "Oh, my dear brethren, why pay money for indulgences, when they can not save you? Today in a nearby village, Tetzel is robbing the Germans by selling them indulgences."

"Tetzel is saying, 'Listen to your dear dead relatives and friends in purgatory begging you and saying, 'Pity us, pity us. We are in torment from which you can redeem us with a small gift of money.' Open your ears! Hear the father saying to his son, the mother to her daughter, 'We bore you, nourished you, left you fortunes, and you are so cruel and hard that now you are not willing to give a little to set us free. Will you let us lie here in flames? Will you delay our promised glory?'"

"As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, The soul from purgatory springs." Remember that you are able to release them," Tetzel persuades."

Luther continued preaching. "If the pope has power to release anyone from purgatory and will do so for money, why, in the name of holy love, does he not put an end to it by letting everyone out?" Luther stormed from his pulpit.

Every sermon in the parish church was filled with compassion for his listeners. "Faith in Jesus' righteousness is man's only hope of salvation," he told them many times.

"As I travel over Germany I see the roads lined with people going on pilgrimages, hoping in this way to receive salvation. I see people working for indulgences

everywhere I go. It is only a way for the church to raise money for new buildings, bridges, great cathedrals, and to fatten their own pockets.

"Others are buying sacred relics, believing through these relics to obtain forgiveness of sins. Prince Frederick has a collection of 5,005 sacred relics. The collection supposedly contains a piece of straw from the manger, one of virgin Mary's hairs, besides there is a complete corpse of one of the children murdered by Herod in Bethlehem. My people, hear, salvation is not found in these things."

One night when Luther was in his room praying, the fire in his heart began to burn. "The church must teach differently," he said, as if talking with someone. "I'm sure it will change when the people see the truth." So he began writing up some changes. These were all contrary to the church's teaching on "indulgences."

He wrote them on a list:

1. "Thou shalt repent to get salvation."
2. Christ said that everyone must stand before God and be judged as an individual.
3. Forgiveness is attained only by true repentance.

4. Man must follow Christ through suffering, death and temptation."

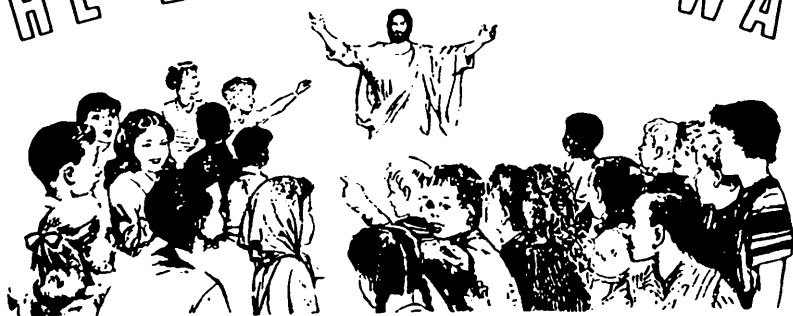
He wrote on and on until he had written many reasons why indulgences were wrong. When he had finished, he counted the list. There were 95. This list became known as the 95 Theses.

After checking the list over, he wrote a letter to his superior, the bishop of Brandenburg. He also wrote to the archbishop Albrecht of Mainz. In each letter he put a copy of the 95 Theses.

He made another copy and tacked it to the church door. This was not an act of rebellion against the church. The church door was used as a bulletin board. It was Luther's way of stirring up the educated people so someone would debate with him. In those days of no radios nor televisions, debates were a way of publicly broadcasting an idea.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 3, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

"Dr. Luther, Dr. Luther," shouted an excited student holding a pamphlet in his hand. "Look, it's *The 95 Theses*, and it's printed in German! A traveling merchant from Munic passed through last night with this. He says all along the way he saw Germans huddled together reading pamphlets like this one."

Luther took the pamphlet and read it hastily. "This is hard to believe," he said, "Only fourteen nights ago I scribbled this list of truth for the church leaders to read. I wonder who translated it?"

"I don't know, but they have gone everywhere and are causing quite a stir," the student said. Then, taking the pamphlet, he hurried away.

Some people were very angry about what Luther had written and said he should be burned at the stake. Many of his friends were afraid that something like that might happen. "What do you hope to accomplish by writing against the pope?" his friends were asking. "It will not be permitted."

"What if it has to be permitted," Martin answered with a determined look. "The people must know."

Most of the poor were glad to hear. They were saying one to another, "At last, here is a man who will stand up against the wicked sale of indulgences. Maybe this will stop our money from being carried away to Rome."

Great Dr. Staupitz was happy that Luther had said what he wished he had courage to say. However, he cautioned Luther about saying too much. Frederick the Wise of Saxony was both angry and happy. Angry about what Martin had said, but happy because it was making his university popular. Opened-minded students had already started arriving to study at the feet of this valiant Dr. Luther.

When news reached the pope about the *Theses*, he shrugged it off saying, "Just a drunk German. He'll think differently when he sobers up." Later, however, when the stream of money from Germany slowed to a trickle, he started taking action against Luther.

Meanwhile, in Germany, the Dominican order of the Catholic church, of which Tetzel was a member, was angry because indulgence sales were slowing down. To make matters worse for Luther, the Augustinian order, of which Luther was vicar, and the Dominicans were rivals. The angry Dominicans now saw an opportunity to strike. They struck! At a convention in Frankfort-on-the-Order, they drew up 106 reasons for "indulgences." Tetzel, who was wealthy from the sale of indulgences, printed these in a book and distributed it everywhere. They also decided to denounce Luther formally in Rome as a heretic. An heretic is a person who holds a different position than that of the church. Heretics were tried, and if found guilty were burned to death.

A wagon load of Tetzel's books were carried into Wittenberg. The enraged university

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Becoming a Child of God

I Peter 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

The Message: Becoming a child of God is like a new birth. The person changes from the inside out until he is known to be God's child by the things he or she does.

**"Experience the
new birth!"**

Questions:

1. How does a person become a child of God?
2. How does a child of God purify himself?
3. Name some things the Christians should lay aside.
4. What do new children of God desire?
5. What kind of stones should God's children be?
6. What will God build with these lively stones?
7. What should those called out of darkness do?
8. From what should God's children abstain?
9. To what do God's children submit?

BIBLE VERSE

"But ye are a chosen generation, that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

(I Pet. 2:9)



Have you seen a newborn kitten or puppy? What will happen to the little kitten if its nose is covered and it can not breath? It will die. What will happen if the puppy can not breath? It will die. What will happen to the animals if they have nothing to eat? They will die. What will happen if the puppy breathes and eats, but is not kept warm? It will die.

What will happen to a human baby if it can not breath, eat, and be kept warm? It will die. So we see that baby animals as well as humans must breathe, eat, sleep, and have need of loving care. Humans, however, are created in the image of God. (Gen. 1:26). A human has a living soul hidden away within the body that we can not see. Animals do not have a soul. The soul makes a human very different from an animal.

When a child becomes old enough to know he is sinning and he sins, his soul dies. For the soul to become alive again so that it can live forever after the death of the body, it must be born again. (See John 3:3-8; James 5:19-20; and *Words of Gold*, I Pet. 1:23.)

When a person is "born again" he still looks the same on the outside, but he is different on the inside, because his soul has become alive again. He is now a child of God by a spiritual birth. God is His spiritual father. The new Christian will be hungry to know God's Word, just as a baby is hungry for milk. (*Words of Gold*, I Pet. 2:2). He will begin studying the Bible. By studying and obeying what the Bible says, the new child of God will purify himself. Habits of envying others, being angry and getting even, telling and acting lies, and talking evil about others will be put out of their

life. He will begin loving others. The world and the pleasures found there will seem empty and useless. He will begin spending his time with the Lord and helping others.

The new child of God is living in the same body, but he is thinking and acting very differently. He now loves to pray and read his Bible. For the soul of the child of God, praying is like the newborn baby breathing, and reading the Bible is like the newborn taking nourishment. —Charlotte Huskey

My Old Bible

Though the cover is worn

And the pages are torn,

And though pages bear traces of tears,
Yet more precious than *gold*,

Is the Book worn and old,
That can shatter and scatter my fears.

This old Book is my guide,

Is a friend by my side,

It will lighten and brighten my way,
And each promise I find

Soothes and gladdens my mind
As I read it and heed it today.

To this Book I will cling,

Of its pages I sing,

Though great losses and crosses
be mine,

For I can not despair,

Though surrounded by care,
While possessing this blessing Divine.

—Selected

(Answers: 1. Through being born again by the Word of God. 2. By obeying the truth. 3. Malice, guile—which is deceit. 4. The milk, or simple Word of God. 5. Lively stones. 6. A spiritual house. 7. They should give praise to God. 8. From worldly lusts which war against the soul. 9. To all ordinances of man for the Lord's sake.)

students collected 800 of them, then, inviting the townspeople to a bonfire, they burned all 800 books. While Tetzel's books were going up in smoke, Luther was prayerfully writing a book called, *On Indulgences and Grace*. This book compared the blessing of grace with the foolishness of indulgences. Rapidly the book was printed and spread like a fire in dry prairie grass. Although it had to be carried in wooden kegs on carts or on horseback, it sold as fast as the printers could get it printed, until it was reprinted twenty times.

The Dominicans made a counterattack. They had a man, Dr. Eck, that they thought could handle Luther. He was a brilliant writer and speaker and a fighter by nature. Both he and Luther had come from peasant families. He was a broad man, his name was on everyone's lips. But his writings never caught fire like those of Luther. So he challenged Luther to a debate.

Eck was a good diplomat, rich and handsome, but he was a heavy drinker. One day, possibly a little tipsy, he lashed out at the pope saying, "All that remains in the papal penitentiary is gold and silver. Church offices are sold to people who know as much about the Bible as a donkey about singing. The worst sinners are allowed in the church, but the poor little sinners who can not pay their taxes are kicked out. The 'father confessors' are interested only in the money," he continued. Then added, "They get rid of the penitents as quickly as possible so that many more can come and pay to confess," he stormed.

"There is something eery about the way Eck pounds the system almost word for word as I have, yet he wants me burned for what I have said," Luther thought.

Luther and Eck could not debate about the corruption in the church. They agreed perfectly on that. Eck was too smart to debate "indulgences," for he knew many Germans felt they were being ripped off by Rome through the sale of them. So this first debate didn't last long.

But there was more to come. Eck set out to persecute Luther, and that is what he did for many years; he wanted him burned.

Luther went home hoping to settle down and study the Bible and laws of the church.

However, the Augustinians were not happy. They wanted him to do something to save the reputation of Wittenberg and their whole Order. There had never been an Augustinian heretic, and they didn't plan to have one now.

The Augustinian Order held a big convention in Heidelberg and invited him to be the main speaker. His friends warned him not to go. "You will be assassinated on the road," they said, "or be captured and taken to Rome to be executed." Nevertheless, he walked the entire 300 miles in disguise.

What a big surprise Luther met in Heidelberg. Word had gotten around that he was speaking up to the church for justice that the Germans needed. Powerful knights and nobles like Ulrich von Hutten and Franz von Sickingen, although not interested in the gospel, were there to welcome him. He was guest of honor of the town. The ruling count invited him to dinner and personally conducted him on a sightseeing tour of the city. On every side he was treated with respect and admiration.

After Luther spoke, scholars, professors, priests, vicars, and influential government men from all parts of Germany were convinced that Luther was right. His diligent Bible study enabled him to quote Scriptures like they had never heard before.

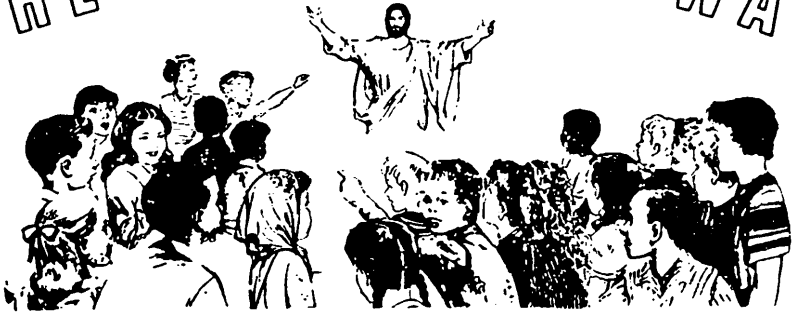
When he was ready to return home, his Augustinian brothers wouldn't let him walk. They took him back to Wittenberg in a wagon. He was making their Order famous just as the old professor had hoped. He went to Heidelberg anxious and fearful for his life; he left a famous man.

While Germans were rallying for Luther against Rome, Eck was staging his plan to get Luther executed. Luther was worried too. When he was only 15, an Italian monk, Savonarola, had tried to reform the church just a little and he was burned to death.

In Rome, Luther was being called, "a leper with a brain of brass and a nose of iron." Luther knew that people who were too noisy in church affairs didn't last long. But in the quiet of his little room, Martin felt the assurance that he was God's beloved child and that God would take care of him.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 10, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

The Dominicans were out to get Luther killed. They sent out spies. His sermons were recorded (who knows how accurately) and sent to Cardinal Cajetan, who relayed them on to the pope. A Dominican monk hid behind the door while Emser, the court chaplain, pumped Luther for information that could be used to condemn him. Eck, too, was busy sending letters to the pope and preparing another debate. The dying Maximilian, hoping to secure a ruling seat for his family when he died, used Luther as a means to get this favor from the pope.

When Luther heard that the pope had ordered him taken into custody, he wrote a letter to the pope, for he was sure the pope was only a misinformed man of God. "When I took the oath of a monk, I promised to remain loyal to the church, even until death. I have always been loyal. I am sure you do not understand what is going on here in Germany," he wrote.

The pope ordered Cardinal Cajetan who was already in Germany to examine him at Fugger Palace where Emperor Maximilian was staying. Fugger palace was the most sumptuous modern building north of the Alps. Before Cajetan would come, he demanded that the rooms allotted to him be lined in purple satin, that silver plates be provided on which he could eat. He rode a very gentle horse adorned in purple. Luther walked the approximate 280 miles, stopping

at Augustinian Monasteries to rest at night. At one monastery he was given a new robe because his own was so tattered.

Cajetan had no plans to examine Luther nor follow the pope's orders. He planned to tell Luther what to do and expected Luther would do it. He said, "My son, you have three things to do: 1. Recant the new doctrines. 2. Stop teaching these errors. 3. Do not disturb the peace of the church again."

Luther proved his doctrines were old, not new, because they came from the Bible. He promised to not teach error, because he never had taught error. As for not disturbing the peace, he said, "I have not intended in any way to disturb the peace and am sorry that some think I have."

What Luther called a public argument lasted for several days. As the days passed, more and more people sided with Luther. Cajetan saw he could do nothing to Luther without causing a rebellion. Therefore he allowed Luther to write a letter saying whether he would or would not recant. To recant means to take back what one has said.

Luther wanted to write, because when he was quiet and alone with God he was more sure the wording was right. When he stepped out and faced the world to proclaim God's message, he felt uncertain of himself, although one would never know it by his quick wit and loud forceful way of speaking.

The very night after Cajetan had shouted, "Recant! Recant!" God showed Luther that he must break with the church. Luther said it was the hardest thing God had asked him to do.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Witness While Suffering

New Word: *Charity:* Love for others; the love of God.

I Peter 3:13 And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?

14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

16 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

2 That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

The Message: Christians who suffer patiently for Jesus are witnessing to others while they suffer.

"If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed." (I Pet. 4:16)

Questions:

1. How should Christians feel if they suffer for righteousness?
2. For what should a Christian always be ready?
3. Should we be willing to testify for Christ even if it will cause suffering?
4. What will happen to those who cause Christians to suffer?
5. Why did Christ suffer?
6. What should every Christian be prepared to do?
7. Is it more important to suffer for Christ or to have charity in our hearts?
8. Who should get the praise or glory when a Christian suffers for Christ?

BIBLE VERSE

"For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing."

I Pet. 3:17



Let's Talk

"Jasmin's mother is taking her to Sea Port Village this afternoon," Sis. Lynse said to Kinwe. "We can meet them there if you like."

"I'd love to," shouted Kinwe. Jasmin and Kinwe were best friends, mostly because they were Christians, and sometimes Kinwe felt very alone when at school.

"Good, then get your chores finished this morning. We'll have a sandwich and go immediately afterwards."

Kinwe hurried about her work. First she swept the walks. Then she emptied each basket of trash. Next came the job she hated, cleaning her own room. Slowly she straightened and dusted the books on her book shelves. Then she took the soiled sheets from the bed and called mother to help her remake it.

"Oops!" Mother grunted as she almost tripped over Kinwe's panda bear.

When the bed was finished, she began putting her toys in place. As she hung her jump rope in the closet, she saw the box of chocolates which she planned to give her mother on Mother's Day. She held it to her nose, "M-m-m, it smells so yummy." Under the box lay the library book she had been wanting to read. Kinwe began reading.

The next thing she knew Mother was calling her to eat. It was 12:00 o'clock. Her room was not clean.

Mother canceled the trip to Sea Port Village.

Kinwe was so angry that she went to her room and pouted for a while. After that she crawled into a corner of the closet and finished her book. While she read, she munched candy.

On Mother's Day morning, Sis. Lynse got up early and made a picnic dinner to take to the park after church was over. Kinwe put her sneakers and play clothes in the trunk of the car. She was still angry at mother.

At the park, her older sister, Jan, who had a job, gave Mother a new blouse. "How beautiful!" Mother explained, then she hugged and praised Jan for being so thoughtful. Joel, her younger brother had saved his allowance and bought her a pink African violet. He got the same treatment that Jan received. Kinwe felt terrible for eating the chocolates.

At school the next day her friends asked, "What did you give your mother for Mother's Day?"

"Nothing," Kinwe answered. "I bought some candy, but ate it myself."

"What?" the girls asked. "That is terrible!"

"You should have given her something," her friends criticized.

"Come on, let's not play with Miss Selfish," Nancy said, and they ran away leaving Kinwe alone.

Was Kinwe suffering for her own mistakes, or because she was a Christian? Very often Christians suffer because of the way they act, not because they are Christians.

I Peter 2:20 reads like this, "For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God."

Children, be careful what you do and how you act so that you do not bring unnecessary suffering on yourselves. There is no reward for that kind of suffering, and in it a Christian isn't being the real witness that he should be.

If we suffer only because we are Christians, then there is a great reward for that suffering.

—Charlotte Huskey

Always be loyal to Christ!

(Answers: 1. They should be happy. 2. To give a reason for his hope in Christ. 3. Yes. 4. They will be ashamed. 5. So He might bring us to God. 6. To suffer for Christ. 7. To have charity in our hearts. 8. Jesus and God.)

Now Luther was faced with the problem of whether to leave Germany. His friend Frederick, elector of Saxony, was in danger if he did not arrest Luther. Luther decided to go to France, so he had a farewell dinner with his friends, planning to leave at midnight. Towards the end of the dinner, a message came from Frederick saying another envoy from the pope wanted to talk with him.

The envoy, Herr von Miltitz, was to award Frederick with the Golden Rose from the pope for clearing up the Luther affair. Miltitz, however, deposited the rose at Fugger Palace, thinking to use it as a bribe to get some things for himself. First he spread gossip about the pope to appear he was as disgusted with the pope as Luther. He proved Tetzl guilty of embezzlement of indulgence funds and had him confined to his cell. The poor old man died shortly afterwards. But Luther wrote him a good letter before he died. Miltitz praised Luther's strong body, his intelligence, his great following, and added, "I would not haul you off to Rome if I had 25,000 soldiers behind me."

Then he talked about the terrible wars that had been caused over church schism and the innocent little ones that were killed or crippled for life; of the orphans left fatherless to suffer hunger and cold for years to come. He even shed tears.

This had an affect on Luther. He didn't want his people to suffer more than they already had. He promised Miltitz he would stop writing and preaching his views if his enemies would stop their attacks against him and his teachings. Miltitz arose and kissed Luther, and wrote the report to the pope.

Eck and the Dominicans were still out to destroy Luther. Duke George added himself to this list and challenged Wittenberg University for a debate against his university at Leipzig. In those days there were no radios, nor televisions. Debates or disputations as they were also called, were a way of getting news out to the public. The news they wanted out was, "Luther is a *heretic and must be burned.*"

Cajetan's examination of Luther had only fired Luther to produce some of his best writings, exposing the evils of the Catholic church. Miltitz's sly, soft interlude had done more good. It had gotten Martin to be quiet.

Luther kept his promise. Two months later, however, when his enemies were still talking and writing, Luther had liberty to resume his work, which he did with renewed vigor after the short rest.

Karlstadt, with Luther as his helper, debated Eck in the Pleissenburg Castle, at Leipzig. Fearing trouble, the civil guard, accompanied by a pipe band, paraded in the city every day. Eck had 76 body guards. Many professors and 200 heavily armed students had come with Luther. The Leipzig students carried daggers and swords in their belts. Thirty persons recorded the debate, besides the verbatim report written before a notary. Many of these reports were promptly printed and sent all over Germany and to the pope at Rome.

Mosellanus gave a two-hour discourse explaining clearly the rules.

For over a week Eck attacked Luther's doctrines, one by one, Karlstadt defended them. Then the time came to ask Luther some personal questions.

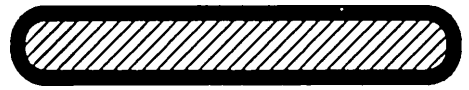
Eck very shrewdly began comparing Luther's teaching to those of the 'Bohemian heretic Huss.' In no way did Luther want to be associated with Huss, neither did he know the doctrines Huss taught. Eck knew what Huss taught and skillfully prodded and pushed until step by step he maneuvered Luther into declaring himself a believer of the same doctrines which Huss taught. The audience exploded! Hearing the word Bohemian struck horror into every German's heart. They remembered the terrible wars that followed Huss's execution.

Now Eck had good evidence to prove Luther was a heretic. This was what was wanted, so the debate ended.

Mail was slow in those days, but very shortly Luther received a letter saying he had 60 days to submit or be excommunicated from the church.

But he hated to be excommunicated from the church. It would bring a reproach on his aged parents, and they would die with broken hearts. He too still loved the church, he only thought it needed some improvements.

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 17, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

Martin Luther went home from Leipzig a disturbed man. Again, in the quiet of his study over the walkway that connected the monastery and the brewery, he found peace of mind and guidance. Now he could see clearly what he had done and what he must do. He had tried to get the Catholic church going in the right direction by reforming its officials. Letters explaining needed changes had been sent to bishops, archbishops, and the pope. The letters had been ignored or rejected. He saw they cared nothing for the souls of its sheep. He must lead the sheep away from them to Christ.

For three years, Eck had been trying to get Luther burned at the stake. After the debate in Leipzig, he hurried off to Rome with the evidence he thought would do the trick. Using this evidence and great force he got an excommunication document, called a "bull" signed by Pope Leo X, who died eight months later. Even Cajetan, who had also examined Luther, tried to slow down sending the bull, but being carried into the council on a litter because of sickness, he couldn't do much.

Hundreds of these bulls were printed and carried to the Netherlands and all parts of Germany. The bulls denounced Luther as an heretic and an enemy of the church. It forbade the reading of Luther's books, calling on Christians to burn them. All who disobeyed would be cast out of the church.

Soon whole wagon loads of his books were burned. Martin Luther had 60 days to decide if he would recant or be burned.

On December 10, 1520, sixty days after the bull had been posted in Wittenberg, Luther and some of his staunch followers gathered outside the city. With solemn faces and trembling knees, they placed the three books of canon law of the Catholic church and other church rule books around a stake. Then they lit a fire. In this way they showed the world that they believed the Bible was superior to all church laws. After these books had burned, Luther pitched the bull into the flame to show that he was willing to die as a heretic for what he believed.

Knowing this might get his ruler, Prince Frederick, in trouble he quickly returned to his room and wrote Frederick a letter stating what he had done and explaining that he had to do it to save his fellowmen from hell.

While Luther was prayerfully writing the letter, the students in costumes were parading the town. They were gathering the town church books and books written by Luther's enemies. Then with ceremony and pomp they condemned them to the flames.

Five months later Luther was respectfully summoned to the city of Worms to be investigated before the emperor, Charles V. He was promised protection from the emperor for the 200-mile trip. Against the advice of his friends, he determined to go. He did not walk as usual; the city of Wittenberg supplied a small carriage and money for the trip. As promised, the emperor also sent forth one to herald Luther's coming.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Following and Leading

I Peter 5:3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

7 Casting all your care upon him: for he careth for you.

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

I Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Philippians 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel

of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

James 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

The Message: The Christian life is like the game follow the leader because we are following Jesus and other leaders in the Church, and others are following us.

Follow others, *only* as they follow Christ.

Questions:

1. In what way did Peter instruct elders to lead the flock?
2. What will Christians receive when the Chief Shepherd comes?
3. Who is to submit to the elders?
4. With what grace should each of us be clothed?
5. Should both leaders and followers be submissive and humble?
6. To what has God called His followers?
7. What happens to Christ's followers after they have suffered awhile?
8. Whom does God resist?
9. To whom does God give grace?

BIBLE VERSE

"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:"

I Pet. 5:6



It was recess time and we were playing "follow the leader." Our leader, Don, was tall and easily seen from where I was ninth in the line. When he hopped, those closer to him hopped. Jack, the boy in front of me hopped, and finally I hopped. Then Jan, Sally, and Tom who were behind me also hopped. Soon other children broke into the line ahead of me. Then came others. Before recess was over I was so far from Don that I could not see him any more. As we snaked our way across the playground and around buildings, I realized I had to keep my eyes on Jack, the boy in front of me. Whatever Jack did, I did. Whatever I did, Jan, Sally, Tom, and those behind Tom did.

The Christian life is much like this game. Jesus is our primary leader. He began by being our earthly example. Behind Him came the apostles and the early disciples. They could see Jesus and walk and talk with Him. They passed on what they knew to those following them. They passed it on to the generation following them, and on and on the gospel went until it has come down to us.

Each of those who handed the gospel to us were following someone, and they in turn became leaders, teaching and training those coming after them. While each was a leader, they had also been a follower. So it is with every Christian. We are in submission to authority over us, but at the same time we are leading others.

You may feel that your life is all following. Perhaps you are tired of it, but remember, there are those of your friends, or younger children who are looking to you as a very important per-

son. They are watching you and doing the things that you do, just as I did when I played follow the leader. Take your actions very seriously and be a good leader for the small children who think you are a hero.

Remember, it takes a good follower to make a good leader.

—Charlotte Huskey



I'll Follow Jesus

"I'll follow Jesus here,

I'll never, never fear.

Tho' Satan's tempting pow'rs assail'

And tho' I'm tempted sore,

I'll trust Him evermore

For thro' His grace I shall prevail.

"I'll follow by His side,

Whatever may betide,

Tho' perils thickly throng the way;

Tho' billows deep may roll,

There's naught can harm my soul,

For He is with me night and day.

"I'll follow, follow on

Until the crown is won,

And heaven's gates unfold to me;

Then with my harp in hand

I'll join that happy band,

And praise Him thro' eternity.

Chorus:

"I'll follow, I'll follow,

I'll follow Jesus all the way;

I'll follow. I'll follow.

To the home of everlasting day."

—W. J. Henry

(Answers: 1. By being a good example to them. 2. A crown of glory. 3. Those who are younger. 4. With humility. 5. Yes. 6. To eternal glory. 7. They will be established, strengthened, and settled. 8. The proud. 9. To the humble.)

Posted along the roads, Luther saw signs protesting his teachings. Side-by-side with these signs, men, women, children, grandfathers, and grandmothers waited to get a glimpse of the famous Dr. Luther. Some town councils gave him gifts, and at other places he preached. So the emperor who so hated the truth was being used to spread it.

Hundreds had gathered in the City of Worms for the great event. Five to eight knights slept in a room. Nobles fought for the best seats at mass. When Luther entered the crowded city April 16, 1521, the streets were lined with people eager to see the man who stood for what they believed. The imperial herald, with his cloak emblazoned with the emperor's coat of arms, went ahead of Luther's carriage. Hundreds thronged behind Luther cheering him. This came as a surprise for Luther thought he had lost public support after the debate in Leipzig.

Being shut away in Wittenberg for five months writing, the poor heretic hadn't heard the report taken to Rome. The report stated, "Nine-tenths of the Germans are crying 'Luther, Luther' and the other tenth is saying, 'Kill the pope.' In Mainz, the people built a stake at which they burned, not Luther's books as the bull commanded, but those of his enemies." It had been whispered to Charles V, that Wittenberg was prepared to supply 100,000 men if he would march into Rome and reform the church.

Not knowing these things, Luther put his confidence in God. He told his friends, "Victory has to be won by the Word of God, not by force of arms." The next day he had to be escorted into the "Hall" by a side door to avoid the mobs. He took the stand trembling and spoke slowly and uncertainly, as if he were afraid.

On the second day Luther was asked two questions: "Do you acknowledge the books that have been published under your name?"

After looking at the books, Luther answered, "I have written these books."

Second question: "Do you wish to uphold what you have written, or do you wish to take back some things?"

Luther asked for time to think about this answer. The meeting adjourned.

The crowds were even larger the third day. There were so many that Luther stood almost in the face of Emperor Charles V.

When all the preliminaries were over and he was asked to speak, he said, "Everyone knows that the laws promulgated by the pope and the doctrines made by men ensnare, harass, and torture the consciences of believers in the most woeful manner. If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil. Show me my error from the Bible and I will be the first to burn my books." Then he preached a fiery sermon. The people responded by shouts both friendly and hostile.

When he finished, exhausted and out of breath, he was asked to give the same speech in Latin.

The council went out to decide the verdict. They returned, and warning Luther of death at the stake if he did not recant, asked him to give his decision in a few words that could leave no doubt.

Luther answered, "Unless I am convinced by testimony from the Holy Scriptures and—because it is noted that people err—I am bound by my conscience and the Word of God. Therefore I can and will recant nothing, because to act against one's conscience is neither safe nor wholesome. So help me God."

After a short uproar, the proceedings ended. "Take him away," the emperor shouted.

Few people knew what happened to Luther that day. What happened to him in the days that followed was also a puzzle. Instead of being put in prison, as most thought, he was escorted back as a hostage.

There was much deliberation as to what should be done. Charles V wanted him executed, the princes knew it would start a civil war. Later Luther was called and offered a high political position in the church if he would only recant. For two hours the officials used bait and force, trying to get Luther to take back what he had said about the church and its governmental system. Then they talked of the dangers of a revolt and war, and at length, his own burning at the stake.

Standing steadfast, Luther answered, "If this work be of men, it will come to nought: But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it. My answer is, 'NO.'"

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 24, 1992

Martin Luther The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

Being condemned in an edict, Luther was now an outlaw. He could be arrested anytime and sent to the emperor who wanted him executed. On the way back to Wittenberg a band of armed masked men kidnapped Luther, taking him to Wartburg Castle to be under the watchful eye of Hans von Berlepsch. He was taken across the draw bridge and up into two small rooms that could be entered only by a ladder, which he drew up behind himself. Thus he was guarded from the emperor, the empire, the pope, and church council. When he came out, he called himself Junker Jorg, and was dressed like a knight, and his hair and beard had grown long. Because he was a monk, Luther always shaved his face and the top of his head.

Knowing this was to happen to him, he had hidden under his robe the things he loved best, a Hebrew Bible and Greek New Testament. His two small rooms were both a prison and a sanctuary. Now he had plenty of time to be alone to study God's Word, which he had staked his life on.

While Luther was saved in the castle, hundreds of people in Worms were dying of a terrible fever which broke out a few days after he left.

Luther did not realize how much he depended on his friends. In his study at the university he wrote God's messages for the people, but as soon as he stepped out of his

study he could present these to any number of confidential brethren and get their opinion. Doubts from the Devil or inspirations from the Lord were readily divided. Now he was alone with God. He was also open to the Devil, and the Devil saw his opportunity. "Who do you think you are to storm 1000 years of Christian doctrines?" the Devil asked. Day and night thoughts hounded him like dogs at the foot of a tree in which their prey is safely perched. "Always I have one or two devils keeping a watchful eye over me. If they make no headway with my heart they try my mind," he wrote.

When Luther finally got over his battles with the Devil and boredom, he settled down and began translating. He translated the whole New Testament from the original Greek into the German language. Later, with the help of others he translated the Old Testament from Hebrew to German. Even now, more than 400 years afterwards, Luther's German translation of the Bible has never been equaled.

Could it be possible that God had to shut Luther away from everyone so this great task would get done?

While Luther was hidden, many changes were taking place. Priests, who according to Roman Catholic law, could never marry, were getting married. Even monks and nuns were escaping their cloisters and marrying. Meat was eaten on fast days, the sacred statues and images were being smashed. All this caused an uproar.

"The dam has been broken, and I cannot stem the waters," his friend Melancthon

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Growing in Your New Faith

New Words: *Divine:* Of God; godly.

Godliness: Conforming to God's will and ways.

Tabernacle: The human body which is the temporary dwelling of the soul.

Virtue: Moral excellence, or purity of mind and body.

II Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

12 Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;

14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

The Message: Growing in the Lord is adding godly character traits to our life.

Questions:

1. Through what avenue may a person obtain the precious faith, or salvation?
2. What has Christ given to those who are faithful Christians?
3. What kind of nature will the faithful develop?
4. To grow in the Christian life, what should be added to faith?
5. Which should be sought first, knowledge about God, or a pure life?
6. Name three things which should be added to the Christian's life after knowledge is added?
7. What can a Christian do so that he will bear fruit?
8. What happens to the person who does not grow in the Lord?
9. Will a Christian fall if he keeps growing and developing godly character traits in his life?

BIBLE VERSE

"His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue." (II Pet. 1:3)



Let's Talk

Thousands of people had been saved because of Peter's preaching. The words which flowed from his mouth were so charged by the Spirit of God that people felt the sweet warm love of God. They also saw their sins, and trembling with fear cried out, "What must we do to be saved?"

"Turn from your wickedness and pride," he said to the Jewish people who already believed in God. "Destroy your idols and worship the true God," he said to the Greeks who worshiped idols. "Then believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," he assured them all.

When Peter walked through the streets of Jerusalem, people brought the sick and laid them on beds and couches along the streets ahead of him. When his shadow passed over them, they were healed. (Read this in Acts 5:14-16) I can imagine the uproar caused by the many angry doctors, who were then out of business.

The priests in the temple of the idols were equally angry because worshipers no longer brought offerings of jewels and gold for their healing and salvation.

The Jews no longer worshiped the Old Law which Jesus had destroyed. Neither could they be swayed into supporting the Jewish rabbis, so the rabbis were also angry.

Now Peter and the other disciples had three groups of highly influential people boiling with anger. They had already had some of the twelve apostles killed. Peter was next on the list. Knowing that he would soon die, he wrote a letter of encouragement and instruction to the Church. This letter is called Second Peter.

Peter said that our precious faith or salvation comes through the righteousness of God and Jesus, not by our own abilities. He also instructed Christians to develop a godly nature by adding godly character traits to their lives. The first thing he said to add is virtue. Virtue is purity of mind and body, so a Christian must, by the grace and power of God, clean up his life. After he has stopped thinking impure thoughts and doing unclean things, he can add knowledge, temper-

ance, patience, good will, kindness, love, and other traits.

Jesus likened our Christian growth to a growing tree. He said, "A good tree cannot bear evil fruit, neither an evil tree good fruit." If our mind is pure, we will not be thinking unholy thoughts, nor will we be doing impure things. Purity is at the root of every Christian life.

Sin is like rot at the base of a plant. The plant will fall after the stalk has been eaten away. It may look like a healthy plant until the stalk has decayed to the point where it can no longer support the plant. Some people may be able to talk soft and kind, but if there is impurity in their hearts, those unholy thoughts will come bubbling forth in an unguarded moment.

Young people who have been developing good character will not have as much growing to do as those who are rebellious and have developed ungodly habits. The change in your life will not show as much on the outside, but there will be a wonderful change inside.

What warning did the apostle Peter give to those who did not grow in the Lord? He said that they were blind. Now we know that persons who are blind think they are going the right way, when really they are going the wrong way. Those who will not take Peter's advice and add godly character traits to their lives, will also think they are doing right when they will be doing wrong. Many will go on thinking they are doing right and will be lost in the end.

We must all keep changing and adding more godly character to our life. Just as our bodies grow, so must our souls grow.

—Charlotte Huskey

Grow in God's grace!

(Answers: 1. It is obtained through the righteousness of God and our Savior Christ Jesus. 2. All things that pertain to life and godliness. 3. The divine nature. 4. Virtue, which is purity of body and mind. 5. A pure life. 6. Temperance, patience, godliness, kindness, and charity. 7. He must add godly character traits to his life. 8. He will become spiritually blind. 9. No, he will never fall.)

wrote. Rioting young people broke up church services of the old order. Then some fanatics came into Wittenberg. They brushed aside the Bible and claimed themselves prophets of God, saying that soon all the ungodly folk were going to be slain either by the Turks or by the godly people.

The Wittenberg town council sent for Luther. He went. This was one of the bravest things he ever did, knowing he could be arrested and burned by authorities or killed by these fanatics. He had lit the reformation fire. Could he control it?

He began by preaching every night for eight days. He said, "We must be humble obedient servants of Christ. Both you who are forcing change and you who are afraid to change are wrong. Be patient and do good to your neighbor. It took me three years of constant study to have the understanding I have now. Can the common man be expected to get the same understanding in three months?" The storm calmed.

Multitudes, especially the poor, were seething with rebellion, not only against the old church but against all sorts of injustice. Violent revolts were breaking out. Even civil war was threatening. Luther, standing out against violence, became the one most necessary man in Germany. Even those who did not like him began depending on his advice.

When the rulers held their next assembly, the pope urged them to take action against Luther. They decided that each prince could do as he pleased about it. Luther was then safe in Saxony, because Prince Frederick the Wise had always protected him.

Now people felt more free to accept the truth. In one town after another, reforms were made in the church that changed them from being Roman Catholic toward being what we now call Protestant. The gospel fire was sweeping Germany.

Again things were going smoothly in Wittenberg, so Luther turned his attention to the New Testament. With the help of the university's Greek professor, every page of the manuscript was studied and corrected. In September 1522, the New Testament was published. Luther's lifelong dream that the common man have a New Testament which he could understand had come to pass.

Martin's encouraging of the monks to be married was creating another problem. Nuns

were also running away and they needed places to live. Luther wrote tracts and preached that the people must show kindness to these homeless girls. To put in practice what he was preaching, he too had to help. The university monastery which at this time only housed himself and the prior was opened to the run-away nuns. This was good bait for wagging tongues. But Luther never let gossip stop him from doing what he thought was right.

One early morning just before sun rise, a delivery wagon covered with tarp and twelve fugitive nuns came to the university. It had come during the night from the convent some 15 miles away. Some say that each girl was hidden in an empty fish barrel. The girls stayed at the monastery until they either found a home or were married.

While the Germans were reforming their churches, other countries of Europe were doing the same. Ulrich Zwingli in the German portion of Switzerland was preaching the same as Luther. In the French portion of Switzerland, John Calvin was preaching justification by faith also. In France and in England people were crying for change. It seemed that it was God's time to break the yoke of papal bondage under which the people had suffered for 1200 years.

These changes gave hope to the poor that perhaps changes could be made in the government to improve their living conditions. More and more of the peasants began demanding better treatment. The rulers refused and began trying to put the peasants down by using cruelty. This angered the peasants more until they broke loose in a wild war. They started killing all who opposed them. In one principality alone, they burned 270 castles and 52 monasteries and nunneries. This was called The Peasants' War.

More and more people began blaming Luther for all this trouble. They said he encouraged rebellion. He was no more the great sought-after teacher.

(To be continued)

**Martin Luther was an
important figure in
the Great Reformation.**

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 31, 1992

Martin Luther

The Man Who Cracked The System

(Continued from last week)

"The just shall live by faith," was Luther's message. This meant that every man must with faith go directly to God for his justification. The person who believed Christ's death was the sacrifice for his sins would then be freed from the guilt of his sins. He could then stay justified before God by studying and obeying the Bible. The people had been bowing to the authority of a church which taught them to pay for their sins by doing penance. Doing penance had taken them into a tunnel of which there was no end. Luther encouraged the people to turn around and get out of the tunnel. They did start out of the tunnel, but then war broke out.

The people had failed to study and obey God's commandments. Of course there were honest humble Christians all over Germany who were living to please God. These were hidden in the shadow of the great war that raged. Luther retired to the university in Wittenberg fighting depression and guilt, just as he had fought the Devil while hidden away in the castle.

Then God, who is merciful and kind, sent Martin Luther two great surprises.

Katharina von Bora was the only one of the escaped nuns who had not yet married. It worried Luther, so he found a man interested in marrying her. When he presented her with the idea, she politely refused, saying, "There are only two men that I would consider marrying, and one of those is you."

Luther had not considered marrying because of the possibility that he might yet be burned as an heretic. But as he thought about it, he began to realize that he was no longer in danger. He was not the sought-after great teacher, and neither was he sought after as an heretic.

Luther married her. The next year Luther proudly placed his new son into his old father's arms. His father, Hans Luther, had been happy that Martin married. Now every trace of resentment left and the family, after 21 years was again bound together in love.

Luther was a devoted husband and father. He called his wife, "Lord Kathe," and tended her gardens and helped with the children. As was the custom in those days, newborns were wrapped very tightly. As Luther looked at his little son all bound up, he said, "Kick little fellow, kick! The pope had me bound like that, but I got loose."

At another time he commented, "Christ said we must become as little
(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Keep Looking Ahead

II Peter 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

The Message: Keep our hearts and mind set on the target—heaven.

**Jesus could come
at any time,
so be ready!**

Questions:

1. What will scoffers be saying?
2. What might a 1000 years be to the Lord?
3. What was saved when the world perished with water?
4. Is God slack about keeping His promises?
5. Will the last day come as a surprise?
6. What will happen to the earth when the Lord returns?
7. Why is the Lord delaying His coming?
8. What has God promised to the godly?
9. How should a Christian act because he knows the earth shall be destroyed?

BIBLE VERSE

"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

II Pet. 3:13



Let's Talk

Apostle Paul said, "Forgetting those things which are behind, I press toward the mark of the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus." It is very important that the Christian keep his eyes on the mark. The mark is the target; it is our reward at the end.

On the barrel of a rifle is a sight. There are different kinds of sights. But regardless of the kind, each are used to better hit the target. Some rifles have two sights. When aimed properly the rear sight, the front sight, and the target should be in alignment. The hunter must move his rifle so that his game and the two sights line up. To do this he must keep his eyes on the game and keep the game in alignment with his sights.

We as Christians have a target. Our target is heaven. We must keep our heart and mind in alignment with this target. If only our mind thinks and talks about this target, but our heart is set on things of the world, the target will be missed. If our heart is set on the target, but we allow our mind to think on the things of the world, we will miss the target. The mind will soon change the affections of the pure heart, and heaven will be missed. The evil heart will control the good mind so that sight of the target will be lost and the soul damned. Both our mind and our heart must be focused on our target beyond this life.

Remember, children, some day this earth will be burned up. At that time, the elements from which everything on earth is made will melt with fervent heat. What a sad day that will be if we have not kept our sight fixed on the new heaven and the new earth that God has promised to all who believe on Him.

To truly believe on Jesus means to continually believe in Him and His Word; we must daily believe on Jesus and prove our belief by obeying Him.

We have spotted our target, and we must keep it continually first place in our attention. Should the hunter turn his head at some noise at his side, he will possibly lose his game. If we let ourselves be diverted from the goal of eternal life by the things around us, we too could lose our goal.

Always remember that the things which seem so interesting today will hold no interest to you in years to come.

When you are tempted to turn your attention to something of the world, ask yourself this question: "How valuable would this be to me if this were my last day to live?"

If we live each day as if it were our last, we should not have much trouble keeping our sights aligned with the target.

—Charlotte Huskey



**Keep your eyes
on Jesus!**

(Answers: 1. "How can we believe Jesus is coming? Since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." 2. One day. 3. The heaven and the earth. 4. No. 5. Yes. 6. It will pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 7. Because He is not willing that anyone should perish. 8. A new heaven and a new earth. 9. He should be diligent that he be found in peace without spot and blameless.)

children. Dear Lord, this is too much. Have we got to become such idiots?" Luther loved, laughed and played with his little children. Family Bible reading and prayer were a daily must. He trained through loving restraint, instead of the fear and strict harshness that was common in those days.

As a wedding gift, the prince gave the Wittenberg monastery to Luther for his home. "Lord Kathe" after escaping the convent had lived for two years in the home of one of the most wealthy men in Wittenberg. Here she learned how to manage an estate. Soon she turned the monastery into an attractive productive estate. She planted fruit trees and vegetables where the old cemetery had been. She added an elegant bathroom, dug a cellar, and attractively decorated the sitting room that had a large window looking over the moat surrounding the city.

Luther and Lord Kathe had six children. After his sister died, they took her six children as their own. One by one they took in four more nephews, making 16 children in all. The empty rooms that had once been monk's cells were filled with students who boarded with Luther and his family. Commonly as many as 25 persons gathered around

the dining table at meal time. Luther loved having these young people around.

One reason we know so much about the everyday human side of Luther and the way he taught his children is that the students took notes of the things he said at the dinner table. After he was dead, someone collected these notes, or at least 6596 of them. These they published in a book called, *Luther's Table Talks*. The stress of the battles he had fought and seemingly lost also affected his body. He was not a well man. Having a loving wife and a house filled with activity, however, was good medicine for his wounded spirit. His hearty laugh returned and he picked up his pen and continued writing for the reformation. A sick body and the loss of one eye could not stop the man whom God had called to break the light of justification to the world.

Lord Kathe was a great manager all right, but there was one thing she could not manage like the rest of the huge estate. It was always a total disaster—Luther's study in the tower over the walkway. Every table, window sill, chair, and stool was covered with letters, books, inquiries for city councils and parishes, petitions, book proofs, and tracts. In this room he had fought and

won many battles with the Devil. From this room had come the books that were changing the world.

From this room came the message of salvation by faith and not by works.

"How can I find salvation and an assurance of heaven?" was a question that troubled Luther for many years. We thank him for sharing the answer to this question with the world.

(The End)



Martin Luther and his wife

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 43, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 7, 1992

Your Name

— — —

Our names are a very important part of us. Have you ever met someone who had the same name of someone who had badly hurt you? How did you feel about that person? Did you feel better when you were no longer near them? Just hearing a name sometimes causes us to feel sad. When the people of Bible times heard the name "John" they immediately thought about God, for the meaning of the name is that God has blessed and given grace.

Let's ask ourselves this question: What do others think when they hear my name? Do they think of a selfish, proud person. Do they think of a happy person, or someone who can smile through their problems? Do they think of a great athlete? Do they think of someone determined to be famous or rich?

Many boys and girls are born into good honest families and have a clean name that is respected by those who know their families. What will the name become by your actions? Will it become a name that

when people hear it, they will think of a thief, a jail bird, a drug pusher, or a dirty, low down person? Will it become a name that will cause people to think about God, as John the Baptist's name did?

My name will become whatever I am.
—Charlotte Huskey

Much More Than This

— — —

"The Lord is able to give thee much more than this." (II Chron. 25:9)

Amaziah, king of Judah, was going to war against the Edomites. He thought he would make sure of victory by hiring a hundred thousand soldiers from the king of Israel, and he paid them beforehand a hundred talents. But a man of God warned him not to let the army of Israel go with him, for Israel had forsaken the Lord, and so He was not with them. It seemed a great pity to waste all that money, and so Amaziah said, "But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel?"

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



We Reap What We Sow

Obadiah 1:1 The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord God concerning Edom; We have heard a rumour from the Lord, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, . . .

3 The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?

4 Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the Lord.

9 Every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

10 For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off for ever.

11 In . . . the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, . . . even thou wast as one of them.

12 But thou shouldest not . . . have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress.

13 Thou shouldest not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; . . . nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity;

14 Neither shouldest thou have stood in the crossway, to cut off those that did escape; neither shouldest thou have delivered up those of him that did remain in the day of distress.

15 For the day of the Lord is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done,

it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

17 But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

18 And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau; for the Lord hath spoken it.

Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Hebrews 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

The Message: We reap what we sow.



Questions:

1. What had Obadiah heard?
2. Why did the Edomites think no one could bring them down?
3. How was the land of Edom to be cut off forever?
4. Why did the people of Edom rejoice?
5. Why would Edom be cut off?
6. What was Judah's house to become?
7. What was Edom to become?
8. Where is deliverance to be found?
9. What is the only way to find favor with God?
10. Did Edom get paid back for what she had done to others?

BIBLE VERSE

"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (Gal. 6:7)



This lesson is about two countries, Edom and Judah. The people from Judah had come from Jacob's family, and the people of Edom had come from the children of his twin brother, Esau. The people in both of these countries had sinned against God. But one of these countries was completely destroyed. The other country, however, repented of their sins and was restored.

A place called Petra is where the capital of Edom was located at that time. "Petra" means "rock" and it is one of the wonders of the world. To enter into the city, the traveler must go through a narrow passage which is more than a mile long. On both sides of this passage are cliffs which are hundreds of feet high. Many temples were cut out of the rock walls that surrounded the city. Most of the homes were caves cut out of the rock, also. For this reason Obadiah said, "thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock."

The people of Edom never forgot their bitter hatred toward the Jews of Judah. They were always ready to help any army that attacked Judah. When the Babylonians attacked Jerusalem, the capital city of Judah, the Edomites were right there helping. After the Babylonian soldiers stripped the Judeans of their clothing and herded them like cattle away from their homes to be slaves in Babylon, the Edomites rushed into Jerusalem and looted it. The prophet Obadiah told them they should not have done these terrible things to their brethren. The proud people of Edom paid no attention to him.

Being surrounded by huge rock cliffs, Edom had no trouble defending itself against attackers. With great confidence the men would go on raiding expeditions and then retreat into their great fortress city. Obadiah warned, "As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head." That is just

what happened. They were driven from their safe city by Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, whom they had helped to attack Jerusalem only five years before.

Hundreds of years later, after the crucifixion of Jesus, the people of Edom completely disappeared from history.

The people of Judah repented of their sins and begged for God's mercy. God, who is full of compassion and mercy, saved their nation. He restored their city; the land of Edom was also given to them.

Repentance was the key to Judah's success. It can also be the key to your success and happiness. If you have failed and done wrong, repent. Tell God you are sorry. Beg His forgiveness and the forgiveness of any person you may have wronged. Humbling down before God and people is the way to victory. —Charlotte Huskey

To My Son

Do you know that your soul is of my
soul such part,

That you seem to be fiber and core of
my heart?

None other can pain me as you, dear,
can do:

None other can please me or praise me
as you.

Remember the world will be quick with its blame.

If shadow or stain ever darken your
name.

"Like Father, like Son" is a saying so true.

The world will judge largely of "Father" by you.

—Selected

[Answers: 1. A rumor from the Lord. 2. Because of their safe city surrounded by rock cliffs. 3. By a slaughter. 4. Because Judah was being destroyed. 5. Because of their violence against Judah. 6. A flame of fire. 7. Stubble before a fire. 8. Upon Mount Zion. 9. Repentance. 10. Yes.]

And the man of God answered, "The Lord is able to give thee much more than this. So Amaziah simply obeyed, and sent the soldiers away, and trusted God to help him to do without them. Was it any wonder that he gained a great victory over the Edomites?"

Does not this teach us that we should simply do the right thing at any cost? When you do this, you will find that in hundreds of ways which you never thought of, "The Lord is able to give thee much more." The trial comes in many different ways. One may be tempted to hurry over prayer and Bible reading because there is something he very much wants to get done before breakfast, and is afraid of not having enough time. Another shuts up her purse when a call comes to give something for God's work, because she is afraid of not having enough left for another purpose. Another is tempted to look at a score key, or to glance over another's shoulder at a lesson, because without it he would not get the grade for which he is trying. Another is tempted not to tell the exact truth, or to conceal something which she ought to tell, because she would lose something by it. Oh, resist the Devil, and do what you know is right, and trust God for all the rest! For "the Lord is able to give thee much more than this," whatever your "this" may be. And His smile and His blessing will always be "more than this," more than any thing else!

—Frances Havergal

Our Great Example

— — —

Do you really wish to follow the footsteps of the Holy Child Jesus? Have you asked God to make you more like Him? Are you ready to begin today? Then here is a motto for today? "Even Christ pleased not Himself." Will you take it and try to imitate Him? You are sure to have plenty of opportunities of acting upon it, and thus proving not only to others, but to your dear Saviour Himself, that you mean what you say, and mean what you pray.

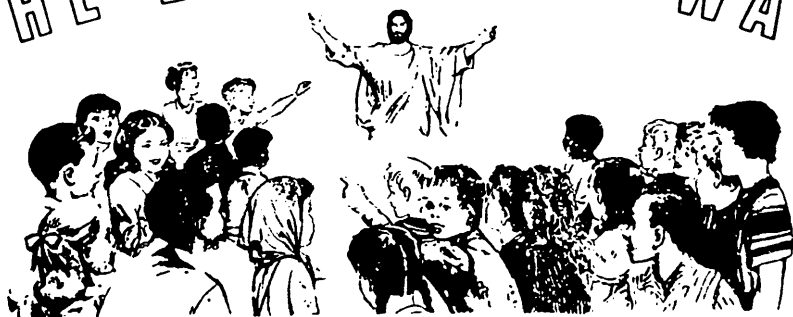
You cannot tell, till you have fairly tried, how happy you will feel when you cheerfully give to another, for Jesus' sake, something which you would have liked for yourself; nor how happy you will be when of your own free will, and by God's grace, you choose to do what your conscience tells you would please the Lord Jesus instead of what would please yourself.

If you have never tried it, begin today, and you will find it is quite a new happiness.

Ah, what would have become of us if Christ had only "pleased Himself," and had stayed in His own glorious home instead of coming down to save us! Think of that when you are tempted to please yourself instead of pleasing Him, and the remembrance that even He pleased not Himself because He so loved you, will help you to try and please Him, and to please others for His sake.

—Frances Havergal

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Tom Never Left the Bars Down Again

There is a fine story that comes from a New England home of years ago, it is told by one of the boys concerned, grown to manhood. As he tells the story:

Once I saved Tom from a promised whipping for leaving down the bars when he went after the cows at milking time, thus giving the young cattle left in the pasture a chance to get out, of which they always approved. If they were on the back side of the lot when Tom got the cows he thought it unnecessary to put up the bars. It would be so short a time when the cows would be driven back. Father cautioned and reproved him several times, till finally he threatened to whip him if it happened again. Several weeks passed and he left the bars down again. The young cattle got into the corn, doing much damage. The next morning Father said nothing, but went about his usual work. Tom was gloomy, there was an air of depression in the house and I was greatly troubled. I could not bear to have Tom whipped, nor could I blame father. At last I resolved to go and speak to him.

The sun was shining brightly and he was opening up some bales of hay in the meadow. I approached him slowly, for I

did not feel sure of my ground, and stood still without saying a word.

He looked at me and said, "Well, Joe, what is it?"

"I have come to speak to you about Tom, I do not want him whipped." "I do not see how I can help it, my son. I can not have my crops destroyed in this way, and I must keep my word."

"Father, didn't you read this morning in the lesson, 'He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, and by His stripes we are healed?'"

"Yes, what a boy you are to remember, Joe."

"Well, I will take half the blows you intend to give Tom."

"I can't do that, Joe, Tom is the transgressor, not you," answered father, his face softening and his voice trembling a little. Then looking at me kindly, he asked, "Did Tom send you to me?"

"No, he knows nothing of my coming." My father stood leaning on his pitchfork with both hands, looking down at the ground. At length he said, "Go and bring Tom."

I found him on the front porch with a sober face, trying to study. "Come with me, Tom, father wants you."

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Disobeying God

Jonah 1:1 Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah . . . saying,

2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

3 But Jonah rose . . . and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, . . . unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.

4 But the Lord sent . . . a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

5 Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it . . . But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he was fast asleep.

6 So the shipmaster came to him, and said . . . O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, . . . that we perish not.

7 And they said . . . Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

8 Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us? . . .

9 And he said . . . I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.

10 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, . . . For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

11 Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? . . .

12 And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; . . . for

I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.

13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: . . .

14 Wherefore they cried, . . . O Lord, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O Lord, hast done as it pleased thee.

15 So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

16 Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, . . . and made vows.

17 Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

The Message: We must obey God, even if He tells us to help our enemies.

Always obey God!

Questions:

1. What did God tell Jonah to do?
2. Where did Jonah start to go?
3. What was Jonah doing when the mariners were working to save the ship?
4. What were the mariners' attitude toward God?
5. How was Jonah made to repent of his evil?
6. Name some ways you could disobey God.
7. Is disobeying our parents disobeying God?
8. Where can a person go to escape God?
9. Which of God's creation may chose to disobey Him?

BIBLE VERSE

**"The Lord our God will we serve,
and his voice will we obey."
(Josh. 24:24)**



Let's Talk

In 1850 British archaeologists discovered thousands of clay tablets at the site of Nineveh, the capital city of Assyria. These clay tablets formed part of a library in the palace of King Sennacherib. Since 1850 many other things have been unearthed such as many temples and palaces (including the royal palace which had 71 rooms), a water system which brought water into the city from the mountains far away, the high stone walls surrounding the city, and an even larger library of clay tablets.

King Sennacherib was the Assyrian king who attacked Jerusalem in the time of King Hezekiah. The people of Assyria were bitter enemies of God's people, and they were growing more powerful. Israel's people were afraid they would be conquered by the Assyrians and become their slaves.

The Assyrian people worshiped many gods, but they were extremely wicked. God told Jonah to go warn this powerful enemy that they were doomed unless they changed their ways. The Bible tells us that Jonah did not want to warn Nineveh. Perhaps he secretly hoped God would destroy these enemies.

Would you obey if God asked you to help your enemy? Would you try to escape doing it?

I am sure none of my readers are foolish enough to think they could escape God by changing their location. We know that God is everywhere. Sometimes, however, we try to escape obeying God by drumming up ways of justifying our disobedience.

For instance, if your mother asks, "Why didn't you empty the wastebaskets?" and you begin making excuses, your making excuses is a way of saying that what you did was all right. We know disobeying our parents is wrong, so we make excuses. That is our way of trying to hide from

God's displeasure. We are saying, "God, don't count me as doing wrong, I didn't disobey. But the full wastebaskets are still in the house."

John's little brother, Phillip, was sick in bed. Their father, Mr. Hayward, said to John, "Put Phillip's puppy in the backyard and hook the gate so he can not get out again."

John hated Phillip's puppy because it had chewed up his baseball mitt. He hoped it would get killed by a car. "Phillip is always tattling on me, too," John thought. "This is a good time to get even." He put the puppy in and hooked the gate very loosely.

When Mr. Hayward got up the next morning, the crushed puppy was laying in the street. John hid from his parent's punishment by making excuses which they believed.

How often have you tried to hide from God by making excuses? Remember, we can not hide from God. If we have done wrong, God will catch up with us, and He may put us in a WHALE of a lot of trouble until we become willing to obey His commands.

—Charlotte Huskey

**"You can't
do wrong
and get by!"**

(Answers: 1. To go to Nineveh and cry against it. 2. To Tarshish. 3. He was sleeping. 4. They feared Him. 5. Through being cast into the sea, but by being spared while in the fish's belly for three days. 6. By disobeying any of God's written commandments. 7. Yes. 8. There is no place to escape God. 9. Only humans.)

"I know what he wants," he said, turning a little pale. After a moment's hesitation he arose, saying, "I might as well go and have it done with." As we walked along I thought it best to give him a little advice, for he generally did as the occasion served him. There was no knowing beforehand what he would do. "Now, Tom, you must not flare up or show any spunk; you must be humble and answer father's questions in a good kind of a way. You must not talk any, only answer his questions. I do not think he will be hard on you." Father stood as I had left him. I can see him now after the lapse of so many years, with his back to the sun, leaning forward a little on the handle of his fork, looking down at the ground, one hand above the other and his chin on his hands and some forkfuls of hay scattered about him.

He did not seem to see us; he was lost in reverie. "Father," I ventured timidly, "Tom is here." He looked up at us both quickly, then said, "Tom, do you remember these words in our Scripture lesson this morning, 'He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, and by His stripes we are healed?'"

"Yes," answered Tom greatly surprised.

"What do you think these words mean?"

"That Christ suffered for us," replied Tom, his voice unsteady and his face blushing.

"Well, Joe offers to suffer for you."

Tom turned to me with a look on his face I shall never forget and exclaimed, "No, Joe, you shall not do that." Then flinging his arms around my neck, he kissed me and as quick as a flash, he stepped up to father and held out his hand, saying, "The stripes belong to me, Father, I am ready."

Tears were falling down father's face and for a moment he could not speak. Then he said. "No, Tom, I cannot punish any one now. I do not think you will ever forget this day. If you do, remember Joe's offer holds good. I love my children and I want to do to them all the good I can. But I must be obeyed, and this is one way of doing them good; you may go now."

Tom did not stir. He was evidently waiting for me, and yet, for some reason I could not explain, I hesitated, then stepping closer I said, "Father, I want to kiss you." He caught me in his arms, saying: "Oh, my boy," and kissed me.

Then taking Tom, who was ready, he said: "God bless you, dear Tom," and kissed him with swimming eyes.

Then with great awe upon us we went to the house. Tom never left the bars down again. —Selected

Parents of True Love

Children of Christian parents may feel they are being abused when they are only being disciplined according to God's principles. From reading the Bible we understand that parents are responsible to train their children to *know* and *obey* the laws of God.

While children are young they must obey the rules of their Christian parents. If they don't obey them, the rod and reproof must be used. The Bible says in Proverbs 29:15 "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." When children become older, reproof, counseling, and other methods are used to bring them under God's principles.

The next time the Devil tempts you to think you are being abused, realize that your parents are trying to help you to become a better person.

—Charlotte Huskey

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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A Life of Victory

On the round hand-carved dining table, Mrs. Fletcher place a platter of roasted pork, surrounded by potatoes and carrots which had been cooked in its broth. Alongside it sat a bowl of steaming turnips and round red beets. There was also whole wheat bread, home churned butter, and a pitcher of cold milk.

A long prayer of thanksgiving was offered, and then John Fletcher put a small amount of potatoes, turnips, and beets in his plate. He buttered one slice of bread and poured a glass of milk.

"I'd just as well quit cooking anything but a few vegetables and bread," his wife complained. "That is all you will eat."

"Yes, my beloved," John answered. "My body is the 'temple of the Holy Spirit,' and my diet of milk products and vegetables keeps it in good condition for the Spirit."

"And you never went to bed again last night, did you?" questioned Mrs. Fletcher. "I wonder what staying up two nights every week is doing to your 'temple of the Holy Spirit?'"

"Oh, my dear wife, I wish you understood how much I love to be with my beloved Saviour, Jesus. Teaching at the university, pastoring this large congregation here in Madeley, making evangelistic trips, writing books, and counseling so many students takes up most of my day. There is not enough time left to spend with Him, so I must do it at night. I had the most wonderful experience last night!

"Today I am to speak in the hall at the university, usually hundreds of students come."

"The Countess of Huntington said that 'Deep and awful are the impressions made by your preaching,' but she says the students love it," Mrs. Fletcher commented. "She says they lose all interest in their studies when you speak about the Holy Spirit, and that the questions afterwards last much longer than your sermon."

"Yes, the students seem to be hungry for the holiness of God," Mr. Fletcher said. Then telling his wife good-bye he left.

John Fletcher began his speech before hundreds of students who were preparing to become ministers of the gospel. His topic was "Where Sin Doth Abound, Grace Doth Much More Abound."

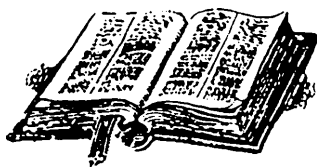
"Do you sin everyday?" he asked the students.

Most of the student heads dropped as if they were ashamed. Others nodded, "yes."

"What caused sin to abound in your lives? Was it not those inner desires which seem to be bent on evil? Yes, unrestrained passion, temper, and natural tendencies are evil. Does not pride, anger, self-will, and unbelief, overpower your soul? When the Spirit of God strove with you about your sins, did you not secretly rebel against His convictions? When you did this, you became the servants of sin. Yielding to sin freed you from righteousness. But each of you profess to be Christians. Christians are saved and made free from sin and are the servants of God. Then holiness should overspread your whole being so that

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



A Bad Attitude

New Word: Score: Twenty.

Jonah 3:1 And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying,

2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.

4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

4:1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

2 And he prayed unto the Lord, and said, I pray thee, O Lord, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

3 Therefore now, O Lord, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

4 Then said the Lord, Doest thou well to be angry?

10 Then said the Lord, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

11 And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

Zephaniah 2:13 And he will stretch out his hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and will make Nineveh a desolation, and dry like a wilderness.

The Message: We need to watch that we do not develop an attitude like that of Jonah.



Questions:

1. The second time God spoke, what did He tell Jonah?
2. How did Jonah respond this time?
3. How did Nineveh's people respond to Jonah's message?
4. Why was Jonah angry?
5. How did Jonah describe God?
6. How did Jonah show a bad attitude?
7. How many people lived in Nineveh?
8. What do you think God should have done?
9. Do you ever show an attitude like Jonah did?

BIBLE VERSE

"I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness."

(Jon.4:2)



Jonah prayed earnestly for three days while in the fish's belly. When he did get out, he was willing to obey God. Away to Nineveh he went. Nineveh was such a large city that a person could walk for three days going from one side to the other. Jonah walked for a full day into the city, then he began calling, "Nineveh will be destroyed because of its people's sins. Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days."

The king of Nineveh believed that God was going to destroy them, so they began to mend their ways. They stopped eating for three days to show God they really wanted His forgiveness. During these three days, they prayed and repented of their wickedness. God saw their changed ways and heard their prayers. He did not destroy the city, because it was not evil any longer.

This angered Jonah. He must have been ashamed. He angrily said to God, "I told you I didn't want to come, because I was sure you would do this. You are so merciful. Oh, Lord just take my life. I would be better off dead than to have all these people making fun of me because my prophecy didn't come true."

Have you ever acted like Jonah? Have you told your brother or sister that they would be punished for doing wrong and your parents let the child get by without being punished? Quite often we humans feel someone needs to be punished, when God thinks they need mercy.

There were 120,000 people in the city of Nineveh. I'm sure you would not want God to destroy so many people. Do you wonder why Jonah could be so hard-hearted?

The people of Nineveh had been enemies to Israel, Jonah's country, for many years. Perhaps Jonah was hoping that God would destroy them. He might have feared that the people of Nineveh would soon make war with his people. We do not know all that Jonah thought. We do know he showed a terrible attitude by sitting outside the city and pouting when God did not destroy it.

God was merciful to Jonah also, for He caused a large vine to grow to make shade to keep him cool in the heat of the day. Jonah was very grateful for the vine, but he didn't know that it was just part of a lesson.

The day after the vine had grown up, God sent a worm to gnaw at the vine, and it wilted. Then God caused a hot east wind to blow and made the sun burn down on Jonah's head until he was overcome by the dreadful heat.

He felt sorry for himself.

God showed him how ugly it was to think of himself and his comfort and not have mercy on the 120,000 souls living in Nineveh.

Do you suppose that another trip to the whale's belly would have gotten Jonah straightened out? I do hope we will watch our attitude and not display one like that of Jonah's.

—Charlotte Huskey

God is merciful to everybody!

(Answers: 1. He told him to go preach to Nineveh. 2. He obeyed. 3. They believed and fasted and prayed for God to have mercy on them. 4. Because God had mercy and did not destroy Nineveh. 5. As gracious, merciful, slow to anger, and great in kindness. 6. He pouted and complained. 7. 120,000. 8. Just what He did do. 9. Answers will vary.)

your temper and passions shall be governed by Jesus who now sits upon the throne of your heart. As you once resisted the Holy Spirit, so now you shall have power to resist all the subtle frauds or fierce attacks of Satan. No one has to sin. God has a plan to keep the soul in purity and perfection before Him."

Mr. Fletcher then lifted his hands and cried, "Who will thus be saved from his secret sins? You are not a true believer if you reject this. Who is a believer? One who believes a few things which God has spoken? No, but one who believes all that ever proceeded out of God's mouth. These are God's words: Just *'as sin abounded [in your life, now] grace shall much more abound!'*"

"As no good thing was in your nature, so now no evil thing shall remain in your nature, for Jesus makes all things new. Do you believe this? Or are you only a half-believer? Come! Jesus is offered to you as a perfect Saviour. Take Him and He will make you a perfect saint. Oh ye half-believers, will you still plead for the murderers of your Lord? Which of these will you hide as a serpent in your bosom? Will it be anger, pride, self-will, or unbelief? Oh no longer be fooled! Bring these enemies to your Lord and let Him slay them."

"Beg God to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is a better qualification for the ministry than classical learning."

John's preaching had a great effect on the students, because he spent hours on his knees praying for them to be filled with the Holy Ghost. One time while he was thus praying, he became so filled with the Holy Spirit's power that he cried out, "My Lord, withhold thy hand. I feel like I'm going to burst!" Later he said, "I wish I had asked God to make me large enough to hold His blessing, for it was so sweet."

The class was over and the students went to lunch. After lunch, some begged him to explain a statement he had made: "On all who are renewed in love, God bestows the gift of prophecy."

"Hand me a Bible," he said. Then he read the second chapter of Acts. "In this Scripture *prophecy* is magnifying God with a new heart of love and a new tongue of praise, as the people did on the day of Pentecost after they

were filled with the Holy Spirit. Just as those disciples spread the flame of love throughout their cities and countries, so we today are called upon to witness with this new tongue. We are free to speak for Him when we are filled with His fulness. If you are unable to speak for Him, seek the Holy Spirit. If we have the Spirit and we do not speak for Him, the power of the Holy Spirit will fade away.

After singing a hymn, he cried, "Oh, be filled with the Holy Ghost! Oh, my friends, let us wrestle for a more abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit!" Turning to the student who had asked the question, he said, "Come, my sister, will you covenant with me this day to pray for the fullness of the Spirit? Will you be a witness for Jesus?"

She answered with flowing tears, "In the strength of Jesus I will."

He cried, "Glory, glory be to God! Lord, strengthen thine handmaid to keep this covenant even unto death!"

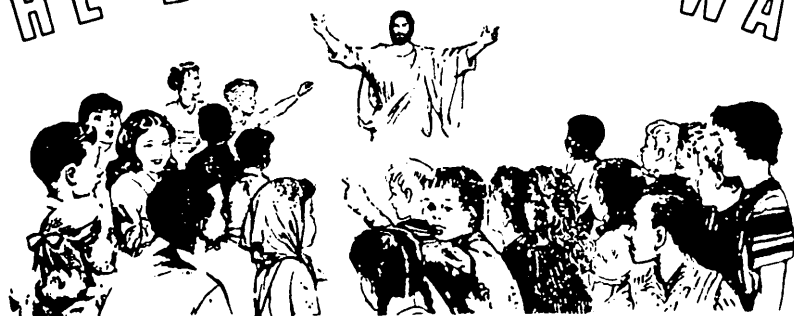
Quite a crowd had gathered by now and he addressed them all, "My dear brethren and sisters, God is here! I feel Him in this place, but I would hide my face in the dust, because I have in the past been ashamed to declare what He has done for me. For many years I grieved His Spirit because I did not testify of this purifying fire that has cleansed me from all sin. I fell back and could not govern my passions and temper. Then I sought God again to renew me in His powerful love so I could have victory all the time. Praise God! He has restored me. God said to me, 'Reckon yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.' Yes, I am free from sin and alive in Jesus. I rejoice to be a witness of this grace."

Besides preaching at the university, John Fletcher often preached in the open air. Sometimes thousands gathered to listen. There were no public address systems in those days. God alone gave the volume to John's voice so that the multitudes could hear. Only through the great Holy Spirit could this vessel have been used to minister to so many people. Staying up all night in prayer and meditation twice a week, kept him recharged with great holy power.

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Open Doors

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John swung into his saddle and bid good-bye to his wife, Mrs. Fletcher. She wiped tears as she watched him ride away. He would be gone for a long time and be outside in the cold wind, rain, or snow, for he and John Wesley were going on a preaching tour. The worst she feared was that they might be stoned or beaten by mobs. Her husband was such a gentle kind man. It seemed so unfair that anyone would mistreat him.

Mr. Fletcher had preached with John and Charles Wesley for three years. He started soon after he had gotten saved and received the Holy Spirit. Wesley's followers had shown him the way of salvation. But for the past ten years he had pastored a large church and spent much time in prayer and studying the Bible. He would miss these hours of being with his Jesus in secret prayer, for John Wesley was a man of action, preaching four or five times a day.

After meeting Wesley at the appointed place they rode on together. Fletcher was enjoying the great outdoors, while Wesley was reading a book and preparing for his next sermon. After about an hour Wesley put his book in his saddlebag and said, "Tell me about your trip to Switzerland."

"It was great going back and seeing my family again. I really enjoyed the scenery, too. I think I had forgotten how beautiful the Jura and Alp Mountains were."

"Did you get many opportunities to preach?"

"Yes, I was invited to speak in many churches. God blessed with great power. I preached the need of a new birth and being filled with the power of the Holy Spirit as the believers were on the day of Pentecost. Those aren't the doctrines of the state church, you know, but they seemed to receive what I taught. I was also able to preach to the descendants of the Albigenses. Some think I believe like the Albigenses because I eat so little," he said laughing.

"I hear that the Albigenses teach the human spirit is the only good and that it is imprisoned in the body as punishment for sinning. Do they really advocate suicide, especially by starvation?"

"I believe they do. They think the highest good is to free the spirit from the body. I read to them from I Corinthians 6:19, 'Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost' and II Corinthians 6:16 'Ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my

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WORDS OF GOLD



The Judgment of God

New Words: *Adversaries:* Opponents; enemies.

Stronghold: Fortress.

Vengeance: Giving punishment in return for a wrong.

Nahum 1:1 The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum. . . .

2 God is jealous, . . . the Lord will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.

3 The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, . . .

5 The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

6 Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.

7 The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

8 But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place. . . .

10 For . . . while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured. . . .

12 Thus saith the Lord; Though they be quiet, and likewise many, yet thus shall they be cut down, . . .

13 For now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder.

14 And the Lord hath given a commandment, . . . out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile.

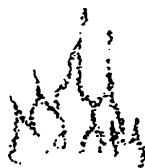
2:6 The gates of the rivers shall be opened, and the palace shall be dissolved.

3:1 Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not;

3 The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcases; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses:

7 And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee?

The Message: God always helps His obedient children, but punishes those who do evil.



"God is a consuming fire."

Questions:

1. What was the burden of Nahum?
2. On whom will God take vengeance?
3. Is God quick to get angry?
4. What is God to those who put their trust in Him?
5. What would happen while they are drunk?
6. Will being in a multitude help the people to escape?
7. What was to happen to the river in Nineveh?
8. What kind of city was Nineveh called?
9. What would the people say about Nineveh?

BIBLE VERSE

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption."
(Gal. 6:7-8)



Let's Talk

Jonah preached in Nineveh saying that God would soon destroy it. The people repented and stopped their evil doings, so God had mercy and did not destroy the city. Years later, however, they fell back into their old wicked ways. When the book of Nahum was written about 150 years after Jonah, it was so wicked, it was called a bloody city.

Frances Blankenbaker said that the city had walls 100 feet high. These great walls were so thick that four chariots could ride on them side-by-side. Watchmen stood guard in hundreds of towers on these high walls. Surrounding these walls was a moat 140 feet wide and 60 feet deep. The people of Nineveh were wealthy and proud. They thought nothing could destroy their city. God, however, saw their wickedness and saw how they mistreated the smaller countries around them. God was especially touched when the people cried to Him under the oppression of Nineveh.

The prophet Nahum wrote his message as a comfort to God's people and also as another warning to the Ninevites. He even tells in chapter 2:6 that the city was to be destroyed by a flood.

The destruction of Nineveh happened exactly as Nahum had described. A sudden rise of the Tigris River carried away part of the great wall. This made it easier for the Medes and Babylonian troops to enter the city. Part of the city was also burned.

Zephaniah 2:13-14, says, "He will stretch out his hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and will make Nineveh a desolation, and dry like a wilderness. And the flocks shall lie down in the midst of her." Today, shepherds graze sheep on what was once the mighty city. There is nothing left of this great city, except what archaeologists have unearthed.

Galatians 6:7-8 reads, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption." The people of Nineveh sowed to the flesh. They did not love and respect God, but they followed the desires of the flesh to do sinful wicked things. God had patience on them for many years, but finally their cup of iniquity was full and God allowed their enemy to punish them.

History shows us that wickedness is always punished. Every nation which has rejected God and followed the lusts of the flesh have brought upon themselves pain, sorrow, and sometimes complete destruction of their nation.

Our nation and other nations are this very day destroying themselves through evil practices.

Young people, you are not responsible for what is being allowed by your country's laws. But you are responsible for keeping yourself free from sin so that you do not add any to God's wrath toward your nation. Today you should be strong and have pure morals. Then someday you can be a positive influence for your country to help turn it away from sin.

Take a look at yourself today and see if there are habits in your life that are sinful. Some things may not be gross sins now, but if they are let go, they will grow into sins that God can not tolerate. Get those things out of your life now, before they become chains that will bind you.

—Charlotte Huskey

God can not tolerate sin.

(Answers: 1. The sins of Nineveh. 2. On His adversaries, or opponents. 3. No. 4. He is a strong hold, or fortress. 5. They will be devoured. 6. No. 7. It would flood. 8. A bloody city. 9. "Nineveh is laid waste.")

people.' Then I told them that their body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, and that they must take good care of it.

"One old Swiss brother humbled me very much. He said, 'Everywhere you go you are regarded as almost superhuman.' Then weeping he said, 'How unfortunate for my country! During my lifetime it has produced but one angel of a man, and now it is our lot to lose him! Why can you not stay in your own country?' "

"I agree with him, John. You are the most blameless man, in every respect, that I have found in Europe or America. I hope you will take over my work when I die."

"But Wesley," John stammered, "you don't know how much I have had to pray to keep victory over my passions and temper. Sometimes I have prayed the whole night to get anger and bitterness out of my heart. The Devil has tempted me many times to hate those brethren who are not teaching the people what the Bible teaches. I have felt so low and mean about my attitude that I lay flat on the floor when I prayed. Oh, if the Holy Spirit had not come into my heart, I would be a miserable mean man. All glory be to God the Father for any gentleness and meekness that I have."

"Don't try to be humble by knocking yourself down," Wesley chided.

"I'm not," John said in all seriousness. "I was born with an evil nature like every man. The purifying fire of the Holy Spirit has cleansed me of it. Why the Devil has even tempted me to commit suicide. Of course I didn't listen to him, for I know that I am the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in me, and if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.' "

"I have known you for more than twenty years and I nor any of my friends

have seen you blow your temper or heard you utter a rash expression on any provocation whatever," Wesley said, as he brought his horse to a halt. "Look," he said, pointing to the mining village not far away. "The people are already gathering for the service."

"What a crowd!" Fletcher exclaimed.

"Probably a couple thousand, and they are waiting to hear you preach."

"I'll preach whatever God gives me. I feel the Holy Spirit aflame in my bosom right now.

"Near us, assisting, Jesus, stands;
Gives us the opening heavens to see;
Thee to behold at God's right hand,
And yield our parting souls to thee

"My Father, O my Father, hear,
And send the fiery chariot down;
Let Israel's famous steeds appear,
And whirl us to the starry crown.

"Yes, we would die for Jesus too:
Through tortures, fires, and seas of blood,
All triumphantly break through,
And plunge into the depths of God."

"Seized by the rage of sinful men,
I see Christ bound, and bruised
and slain,
'Tis done, the Martyr dies!
His life to ransom ours is given,
And lo! the fiercest fire of heaven
Consumes the sacrifice.' "

John Wesley and John Fletcher worked together for many years. Wesley hoped that Fletcher would take over their work when he died, but Fletcher died first. —Charlotte Huskey, adapted from *Deeper Experiences of Famous Christians*, by J. Gilchrist Lawson

**Ask for the gift
of God's Holy Spirit!**
