

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Jan. 2, 1994

## Princess Elda

Elda was the cook in Willingham Estates. The beautiful old mansion sat on a hill overlooking Lake Erie. The place had once been a productive dairy farm which Mr. Murrey's grandfather had owned before he fell heir to it. Mr. Murrey was president of the First National Bank in nearby Detroit. His wife loved social life and was away from home much of the day. When the children were not at school or entertaining themselves in other ways, they came to the kitchen to chat with old Elda.

Elda often told them Bible stories. She told about Daniel being cast into a den of lions, about the three Hebrew boys being thrown into the fire, or about David, who killed a bear, a lion and a giant. Sometimes she told them about the rainbow and that it was God's promise to never again destroy the world by water. At other times she talked to them about her Savior, the Lord Jesus.

One day Ashley, the youngest child, came bursting into the kitchen shouting excitedly, "I've just made a great discovery."

"Now what on earth have you discovered, my child?" Elda asked,

as she placed a thin slice of tomato on the bacon and cheese sandwich.

"That—that—you're a princess, a real princess."

"Me a princess? Do I look like a princess? Does a princess wear old, ragged shoes, a patched work apron, and slave among the pots and pans?"

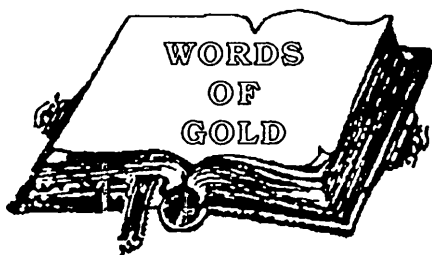
"No, no, you don't understand."

"Ashley, if I were a princess, I'd be out in a yacht on the lake. I would be sitting in a lounge chair fishing, and I'd have this pitcher of ice cold lemonade with me," she replied as she sat the frosty pitcher of drink on the kitchen bar.

"But Elda, you are a princess. You told me you trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. You said you were a Christian."

"Yes, I am a Christian," Elda affirmed as she moved about arranging the gold-rimmed plates for the children's lunch. God has cleansed my sins and has put my name in the Book of Life. Some day I can be with Him in heaven."

"Then you are a real princess. You were born into God's family when He saved you. God is a king. Everyone in God's family is a prince or princess. That's what I learned in Bible school today. I just thought you would like to know."



## Keeping Victory

**Revelation 15:1-8**

1 And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

2 And 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, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, 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; for thy judgments are made manifest.

5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:

6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.

7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever.

8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

**I Kings 8:10-11**

10 And it came to pass, when the

priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the Lord.

11 So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord.

**Matthew 5:10-12**

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

**The Message: God's people have victory over all religious spirits and they will not be hurt when God's wrath is poured out.**

### Questions:

1. What did John see in this Revelation?
2. What were the seven angels holding in their hands?
3. Where were the victorious standing?
4. What did they hold in their hands?
5. Over what had these gotten the victory?
6. What songs were they singing?
7. Why could no man enter the temple?
8. Jesus said we would be blessed when others \_\_\_\_\_?
9. Do those who rejoice in persecutions have a great reward in heaven?

### Verse to Memorize

**...They sing the song of Moses  
...and the song of the Lamb,  
saying, Great and marvellous  
are thy works, Lord God Al-  
mighty; just and true are thy  
ways, thou King of saints.**

**Revelations 15:3.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

God's children are singing songs of victory and deliverance in this Revelation picture. They have gotten victory over the beast, his image, his mark and his number. They are standing on a sea of glass mingled with fire. On the other side of the picture we see the holy temple of God. Seven angels dressed in white come out of the temple. Each angel is given a golden pitcher full of God's wrath. Then the glory of God so filled the temple that no man could enter into it.

Now let's talk about what some of these symbols represent. Angels are ministering spirits. Often angels represent ministers or pastors of churches, but in this picture the angels do not come to the earth, so they are not people. These angels hold vials full of God's wrath and in the sixteenth chapter of Revelation they pour this wrath out upon the earth. God never allows His ministers to pour His wrath out on others. He reserves all vengeance for Himself.

The people in this vision had harps and were singing, a symbol of melody and praise. What kind of songs did they sing? They sang the song of Moses, which is a song of deliverance from bondage, also they sang the song of the Lamb, which is a song of deliverance from sin through faith in Jesus' death.

Over what had they gotten victory? They had gotten victory over 1. the beast, 2. his image, 3. his mark, and 4. his number.

1. The beast represents the Roman Catholic Church and all its divisions which received power from pa-

ganism, or worshippers of evil spirits. (Rev. 13:4.) People do not have victory over the beast if they are trusting men for the forgiveness of their sins, or bowing before images of Christ, the Virgin Mary, the apostles or any other image.

2. The image of the beast is the Christian churches which have separated themselves from the beast but worship the beast because they still have the spirit of the beast. (Rev. 13:12-15.) This multitude of churches has its own creed and rule that permits people into their fellowship according to whether or not they obey church rules. Christians who do not have the spirit of God through a new birth do not have victory over the image of the beast.

3. In chapter 13, the people could not buy nor sell unless they had the mark of the beast. Buying and selling are symbols of being able to operate spiritually such as teaching, preaching or spreading the gospel. The Apostle asked the authorities, "Is it right for us to hearken unto you or unto God?" (Acts 4:19.) Christians have the victory over the mark of the beast when they will obey God knowing it may bring suffering from people in authority.

4. The number of the beasts is 666 (Rev. 13:18.) *Vicarius Filii Dei* is the official title of the Pope. The meaning of these Latin words is Vicar of the Son of God. Total the Roman numbers in this name and it will equal 666. Both U and V were formerly used to denote five. Keeping victory over the number of the beast is to never believe that any man or religion can take the place of Jesus.

The people who have victory will not be hurt when God pours out his wrath on men. Those who have victory will be able to enter into the temple that is filled with the glory of God.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 285-289.) —Charlotte Huskey

"Why yes! Why hasn't anyone told me this before?" Elda exclaimed with a smile on her face. "Hum-m-I don't feel so tired. She whirled on one heel and began lifting first one foot and the other high in the air. Then she marched past the bar and around the long dining room with her head high like a princess in a parade.

"Stop!" Ashley cried, "I have one more thing to tell you. I'm a princess, too, 'cause I became God's child this morning."

"So we are princesses together," old Elda said, grasping Ashley's arm and marching her back and forth across the room.

As they marched, Ashley drew a card from her dress pocket saying, "This is the Bible verse we are to memorize for tomorrow. Stop! I'll read it to you. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Romans 8:16-17."

—Charlotte Huskey



## "They Love Me"

Tom was a poor boy who walked many blocks each Sunday morning to a certain Sunday school.

"Why do you go so far to that Sunday school?" someone asked him. "Why don't you go to a Sunday school that is nearer?"

"Oh," the boy replied, "I like to go to that Sunday school 'cause they love me over there."

How many lonely hearts there are around us. People who are longing for someone to love them, and who could be guided into that good way that leadeth unto life. We who know the Saviour's love in our hearts have the wonderful privilege of showing and telling that love to others. Are you showing God's love to others? Would others say about your Sunday school, "I like to go there 'cause they love me?" You can make a difference about what others say about your Sunday school.

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." 1 John 4:10.

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

—Selected

(Answers: 1. He saw inside heaven. 2. They had plagues filled with the wrath of God. 3. On the sea of glass. 4. Harps of God. 5. Over the beast, his image, his mark and the number of his name. 6. The song of Moses and the lamb. 7. Because the glory of God filled it. 8. Persecute us and say all manner of evil against us. 9. Yes).

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## We Reap As We Sow

Paul lived in the mountains of Vermont. It was a two day walk into the city where he did business. He had been in town and was returning home on an unfamiliar road, when angry clouds suddenly shut out the pleasant sunshine. In the distance he thought he heard the rumble of thunder. The rumble grew louder and louder. Now there was no question. Rain was coming, and there were no houses in sight. On down the road, however, were many trees, so he ran to find shelter under the branches of the trees.

How surprised he was to see a small cabin among the woods. Running to the cabin he knocked on the door. "Madam," he said to the young lady who opened the door, "Could I please step inside your door until this terrible storm passes?"

The woman looked Paul over real good, then she agreed to share her small cabin with this stranger.

"Thank you, thank you," Paul explained joyfully as the rain began falling in torrents. A flash of lightening was followed by a deafening clap of thunder. Paul noticed the woman was trembling. "Are you afraid?" he asked.

"Yes," she answered and held her little girl close.

"Let me down, let me down," the little girl said. "I want to see the rain." The mother sat the child down and the child ran to the window to watch the rain pouring down.

"I wish I could be like her," the mother explained, "but I've always been afraid of thunderstorms. Did you seek shelter because you were afraid, too?"

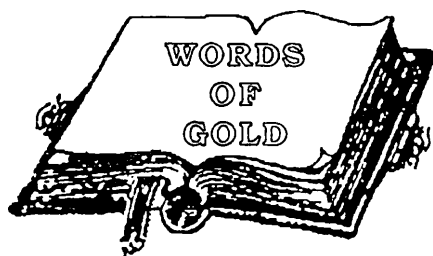
"No, I just didn't want to get wet. I am on my way home, but I've another day to walk. The weather is pretty chilly to be wearing wet clothes."

Paul wanted to tell this woman about the Lord who controls the storms, but he didn't know how to start the conversation. He thought for a while then said, "Have you ever read the Bible story about Jesus' disciples being on the sea in a windstorm?"

"I've never read in a Bible," she answered.

"Never read a Bible? Well, one time Jesus and His disciples were out in the middle of the sea when a storm almost tossed thier boat upside-down. Jesus was asleep in the bottom of the boat and they awoke Him saying, 'Don't you care if we perish?' Jesus got up and commanded the winds to be at peace. Immediately the storm calmed. You see, God controls the storms, so you needn't be afraid if you trust in God."

Now the little girl was standing beside Paul listening eagerly to the story. "Your little girl isn't afraid. God gives little children faith. Older people do not have as much faith because they have sinned against God. After a person seeks forgiveness of their sins, and accepts Jesus as his Saviour, he can again trust God like a little child. He is God's child



## The Vials of God's Wrath

**Revelation 16:1-11**

**New Words:** 1. *Noisome* is offensive or disgusting. 2. *Vials* are small glass bottles or shallow bowls.

1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

3 And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man; and every living soul died in the sea.

4 And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood.

5 And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus.

6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.

7 And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments.

8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.

9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues; and they repented not to give him glory.

10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain,

11 And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

**The Message: God's mercy is everlasting to those of an humble spirit, but sometimes His wrath is poured out upon those with ungodly spirits.**

### Questions:

1. What did the voice tell the angel to do?
2. What was poured from the first vial?
3. Upon whom did this wrath of God fall?
4. What happened to the sea after the second vial was poured on it?
5. Upon what was the third vial poured?
6. What did the angel of the waters say?
7. Why were these given blood to drink?
8. What did the sun do after the vial was poured upon it?
9. What did the men who were scorched do?

### Verse To Memorize

**For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.**  
Romans 1:18.

# Let's



## Talk . . .

To understand this Revelation, we must answer five questions. 1. What was poured out? 2. Where was it poured? 3. Upon whom was it poured? 4. Why was it poured? 5. When were these vials poured?

1. What was poured? The wrath of God is being poured out. We often hear of God's love, His kindness, His mercy and other positive characteristics, but seldom do we hear about His wrath. But Romans 11:22 reads, "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." In verse 5 of our lesson the angel also said, "Thou art righteous, O Lord,...because thou hast judged thus."

2. Where was the wrath poured? God's wrath is poured upon the earth, not in heaven or hell.

3. Upon whom was it poured? It was poured upon those which had the mark of the beast, and those who worshipped his image. Do you remember? The beast is the Roman Catholic church and all its sects. A person would receive this mark by having faith in religious beliefs taught by these churches. The image of the beast is all the different Protestant churches. Those who worship "his image" are those who obey church doctrines which they know are contrary to God's Word.

4. Why was the wrath of God poured out? It was poured out because the people of these churches had shed the blood of the saints and prophets. God says, "...Vengeance is mine; I will repay,..." Romans 12:19. God's children should never seek vengeance. God will do it for His children.

5. Where was God's wrath poured out? To understand this we must read

history to find where the churches were located which shed the greater part of the saints' blood. Millions of saints were slaughtered when the Roman Catholic Church had great power. Protestant churches also persecuted those who did not agree with their doctrines. Most of these churches were in Europe. So the wrath of the first five vials is poured upon Europe.

The first vial of wrath was a "noisome and grievous sore." The awful cancer of atheism called the "age of reason" that erupted into the bloody French Revolution was a grievous sore for the people in Europe. It undermined all truth, until people had no fear of God nor respect for man.

During the second vial, the sea became as blood. Water represents people, (Rev. 17:15.) It is recorded in history that during the French Revolution 15,000 people were slaughtered in one month. This was not religious persecution, but it was a grievous sore.

The third vial was poured upon the rivers and fountains of waters. Rivers flow in and out of seas. God's wrath not only fell upon all people represented by the sea, but also upon those around the sea. The wars following the "age of reason" spread all over Europe causing so many deaths that it was like the nations were given blood to drink. Verse 6.

Next, God's wrath was poured on the sun and it scorched men. A scorching sun is a proper symbol of tyrant rulers. God raised up Napoleon, whom He used to punish the nations who had torched, banished and killed thousands upon thousands of God's faithful children.

The fifth vial of wrath was poured upon the seat of the beast. This is the throne or ruling power of the great Catholic churches. The pope's great power which had controlled all men from beggars to kings was broken, after the fifth vial of wrath was poured upon the earth.

God's wrath poured upon the earth made many changes.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 290-328.) —Charlotte Huskey

and knows God will do him good, not evil." Paul talked to the woman until the rain stopped.

"I must be going now," he said. "Thank you for your kindness. Get a Bible and study it, then God will help you."

"We are too poor to buy books," she said.

"I wish I had a Bible to leave you," Paul said sadly, for he saw tears in her eyes.

He started walking on with his head cast down, hands thrust into his pockets. "That poor woman really wants and needs a Bible," he mumbled. He fidgeted the money in his pocket and continued talking to himself. "I have enough money to buy a Bible, but if I gave it to her, I couldn't pay for a bed at the hotel tonight. It's too cold and wet to sleep outside, and I need to buy food so I have strength to walk." As he thought, his steps grew slower and slower.

Then he heard repeated the words he had spoken to the woman. "You don't have to be afraid if you trust in God."

"I do trust you, God," Paul answered, looking around as if God might be hiding behind a tree, for he was sure God had spoken.

"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord;" God said, "and that which he hath given will he pay him again." Proverbs 19:17.

"But I'll get weak without food," Paul said.

"Trust in the Lord...and lean not unto thine own understanding." "Trust in the Lord, and do good;...and verily thou shalt be fed." (Proverbs 3:5, Psalms 37:3), God answered.

"Yes, God," Paul admitted. "You've convinced me." He spun around and started back.

But God wasn't through. "...Whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe." Proverbs 29:25.

"Thank you," Paul said.

The woman was surprised to see Paul, but joyfully received the money to buy a Bible.

That evening Paul found free lodging with a friendly couple who also invited him to eat supper with them.

While Paul was eating, he remembered God's words, "Trust in the Lord, ...and verily thou shalt be fed."

Paul had never before been treated so kindly by strangers. "I am reaping what I sowed," he thought.

About a year and a half later, Paul found out his sowing had produced abundantly. A stranger came to his door asking for a meal. Paul invited him in and placed before him a nice meal. While the man was eating, Paul asked, "Where do you live?" The man lived in the vicinity of the woman to whom he had given his money.

"Are there many Christians there?" he asked.

"For many years there weren't any but there are some now. They say a traveler stopped for shelter at a poor woman's cabin and gave her money with which to buy a Bible. The woman bought a Bible and read it. Then she became a real Christian. After seeing the change in her, neighbors became interested. Now they say there are about thirty Christians in that area."

Paul knew that he was the traveler. "I have reaped much good from the money I gave the poor woman that rainy day last year. It was hard at the time, but then the Bible also says, 'They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.'" Psalms 126:5.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. To pour out the vials of God's wrath upon the earth. 2. Noisome (disgusting) and grievous sores. 3. Upon those who had the mark of the beast or who worshipped his image. 4. It became as blood and every living soul died in the sea. 5. Upon the rivers and fountains of water. 6. Thou art righteous, O Lord, ...because thou hast judged thus. 7. Because they had shed the blood of the saints and prophets. 8. It scorched men. 9. They blasphemed the name of God.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 16, 1994

## The Secret Box

Peter raced across the large potato field and ran, breathless into their thatch roof hut. "Mother," he said, "there is a fire, and an awful smell in town, and soldiers and priests everywhere. What's it all about?"

"A terrible thing is happening in England this day," she whispered.

"Terrible? Everyone seems happy. Why is it terrible?" Peter asked excitedly.

"Speak softly; someone might report us," Mother cautioned.

"For what? We've done nothing wrong."

"The authorities are angry at John Wycliffe. We will be persecuted and our home will be searched if anyone hears us saying just one good word about him. The Council of Constance has ordered that in every country his writings and translation of the Holy Scriptures be burned."

"It doesn't smell like paper burning," Peter whispered loudly into Mother's ear.

Mother wiped tears from her eyes, and said, "Wycliffe's dry bones have been dug up and are being burned today. His ashes will be thrown into the Swift River."

"What a strange thing to do."

"It is strange, but maybe it is an omen that the translated Scriptures will spread all over the world. The river will carry his ashes into the sea. The sea

runs into the ocean and the currents of the ocean could carry his ashes all around the world.

"It is wonderful that Wycliffe has translated scriptures so that we can read them! People all over Europe have longed for many years to have Bibles written in their own language. The church fathers have made it impossible for us common people to read God's Word."

"Wycliffe must be a good man. Why is he so hated?"

"Ask your papa when he comes home. I've got to get this washing on the line or the clothes won't get dry."

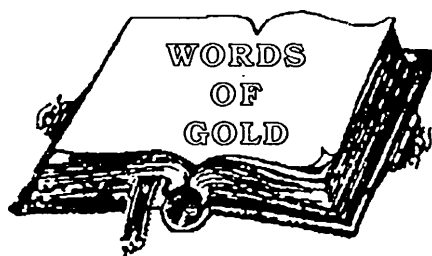
That night Papa bolted the door and locked the shutters. Then he sat near to Peter and told him all he knew about John Wycliffe. "John Wycliffe was a very brilliant priest of the Roman Catholic church. He was also a professor at Oxford University and was respected as the greatest philosopher, not only in England, but throughout the world."

"What a great man!" Peter explained.

"Yes, a great man indeed! He studied the Bible diligently and taught its true meaning to his students. In the beginning he hoped this would bring changes in the church, which were greatly needed."

"Then why do the church authorities hate him?"

"It's this way, son. John Wycliffe loved and respected poor men. The church owns about one-third of all the



## The Sixth and Seventh Vial of God's Wrath

**Revelation 16:12-21**

**New Words:** *Euphrates River* is the river which ran through the city of Babylon and supplied it with water.

2. The *dragon* represents the pagan religions. 3. The *beast* represents the Catholic faiths. 4. The *false prophet* represents the false protestant churches.

**12** And the sixth angel poured out his vial [of the wrath of God] upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

**13** And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

**14** For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

**15** Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

**16** And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

**17** And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.

**18** And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not

since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.

**19** And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

**20** And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

**21** And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

**The Message: There are unclean spirits in every false religion. For this reason we must be very careful to study God's Word and obey it.**

### Questions:

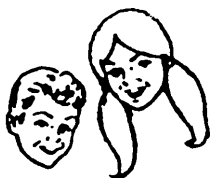
1. Where did the sixth angel pour out his vial of God's wrath?
2. Why did the waters of the river dry up?
3. From where did the three unclean spirits come?
4. What were the three unclean spirits?
5. Where did the three unclean spirits go?
6. Why should we all be watching?
7. What happened after the seventh vial was poured out?
8. How was the great city divided?
9. What did God remember to give unto Babylon?

### Verse to Memorize

**Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.**

**1 John 4:1.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

This is the third week we have been studying about the seven last plagues. This Revelation of the sixth and seventh plague will show what God will be doing right up to the end of the world. When the seventh vial of God's wrath is poured upon the earth, that will be the end.

The first five vials were poured upon people who either had the mark of the beast or worshipped his image. However, the sixth vial affects the "whole world." Verse 14.

In this vision we see the great river Euphrates being dried up and three unclean spirits like frogs appear. These unclean spirits did not come from the bottomless pit, as we might suppose. They came out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet. These represent all religions of the world: 1. The dragon represents a pagan worship; a religion of worshipping things other than God. This could include evil spirits, heathen gods, images, the state, a person, oneself, reason, etc. 2. The beast is papal worship. This is any worship, having the name of Christian, but worshipping images, dead saints, rituals, etc. 3. The false prophet is a new symbol. It represents Protestant worship. Christian religions who use the Bible, have a false humility, but do not live in harmony with God's Word are found in this group. From all these religions came the unclean spirits.

The unclean spirits are spirits of devils, sent out to deceive all who will not stay close to God. These spirits can work miracles. They go to kings,

or to leaders of nations where they can have an effect on more people.

There is one unclean spirit that perhaps is the most seducing of all. It is the spirit of, "I'm alright, you're alright." This sounds like a good way of thinking. It appears kind, thoughtful, and considerate of others. We must be kind, thoughtful and considerate of others, but to make a person feel good about his spiritual condition when he is headed for great suffering, is not being very kind. This spirit will also cause people to accept sin in their own lives. This will cause them to also lose their souls, unless it is discovered and pardoned by Jesus.

When the seventh vial of God's wrath is poured upon the earth, the angel said, "It is done." The judgment of God will be set and that will end time and the world. The lightnings, great earthquake, cities falling, islands and mountains not found, and the great hailstorm are a descriptive picture of great destruction at the end.

Another thing to note is that through all this destruction, no one dies. The hail weighed a talent. The weight of a Jewish talent was said to be 114 pounds. Such a mass of descending ice would kill and destroy everything it fell upon, but nothing is said about anyone being killed. These hailstones must have fallen on the souls of men.

The soul cannot be killed. Everyone's soul will stand before the judgment of God and give account of the things he did while living. To be protected from God's wrath, we must seek salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, then make it our life's goal to live according to God's Word. In this way we shall escape the plague of God's wrath.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 328-334.) —Charlotte Huskey

land in England. Wycliffe said some land needed to be given to the poor. He accused the church of abusing the common people. He said the poor men should have a right to public and church offices; that the offices should be given to the person best qualified for the job. This angered the men in position, for they were giving vacant offices to their sons and best friends.

"They knew Wycliffe was so smart that his students would believe what he taught, and that could cause them trouble, so they wanted Wycliffe out.

"Needing something to accuse Wycliffe of, they began reading his writings and listening to his lectures. How surprised they were to find that he taught the Bible truths against purgatory, the sale of indulgences, and that the bread and wine at communion is not the real flesh and blood of Jesus."

"Papa," Peter interrupted again, "Is there no purgatory?"

"No, son, there is none. No amount of money can buy forgiveness for a bad boy."

"No chance for a bad boy to be forgiven after he dies?"

"No, my son, everyone who will be saved must trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of his sins before he dies. That is the only way to be accepted into heaven."

Peter twitched his mouth a bit, as if thinking seriously, then he said, "Go ahead. Tell me more about Wycliffe."

"Immediately Wycliffe was accused of teaching doctrines against the Church which is called heresy. He was soon deserted by his political friends, and banished from his teaching job.

"He escaped to Lutterworth. It was quite an adjustment to lose his home, friends, job, and his books which he loved so well. God strengthened him and didn't let him get down. He was soon working again. He obtained a complete Latin Bible. It was 1,000 years old and had to be handled with upmost care. Some student, who believed the truth, joined him there and undercover they translated the Bible from the Latin language into English. That old Bible

and their manuscripts were guarded at all times."

"Were some of his manuscripts buried today?"

"Hopefully they were just copies of his writings. I too, have a copy of something he wrote about the Bible." Papa then began prying a plank loose in the floor.

"What, a secret chamber?" Peter exclaimed.

Papa said nothing. He just took out a paper and replaced the board, then began reading, "God's Word...overpowers strong men in arms, softens hard hearts, and renews and changes...men who have been brutalized by sins. Such miraculous power could never be worked by...a priest, if the Spirit of...the Eternal Word did not...work with it."

"Did you know Wycliffe?"

"No Peter, Wycliffe has been dead for thirty years. I learned about him from other poor men who studied the blessed scriptures with him at Lutterworth."

While Papa was carefully replacing the paper, Peter peeked in. "What else do you have in there?"

"Portions of the blessed Bible that were copied from Wycliffe's translations. They are priceless, Peter. Don't ever touch them until you are a man, and don't tell anyone about them or this secret box."

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Upon the river Euphrates. 2. To make way for the kings of the east. 3. Out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast and the false prophets. 4. The spirits of devils working miracles. 5. Unto the kings and the whole earth to gather them to the battle of that great day of God. 6. Because Jesus will come when we are not expecting Him. 7. A great voice from the throne said, "It is done." Then lightnings, thunders and a great earthquake followed. 8. Into three parts. 9. The cup of the fierceness of His wrath.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 23, 1994

## Where Is John?

John Brenz was a Christian reformer who lived in Wurtenburg, Germany. He was so hated by the king that a troop of soldiers was ordered to arrest him.

When Brenz heard this he immediately found a quiet place and began praying. While in prayer he heard as it were a voice saying: "Take a loaf of bread and go into the upper end of town; and where thou findest a door open, enter and hide thyself in the loft under the roof."

Brenz got up from praying and began sneaking behind trees and buildings until he worked his way to the far end of town. There he bought a hot loaf of bread and found an old barn. The door was open so he thought that must be where God intended for him to hide.

He looked around carefully to see that no one was watching. Being assured that all was safe, he crept in, and quietly climbed the ladder up to the loft. Clutching his loaf of bread, he crawled behind a stack of lumber and sat down on a pile of straw. This would be his hiding corner.

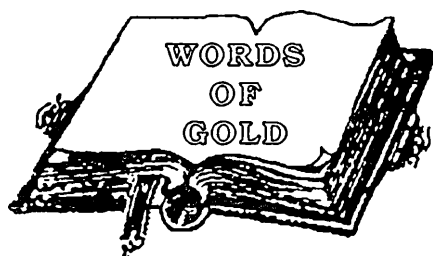
The very next day the emperor's troops entered the town. He could hear the horses neighing and the sound of their heavy hooves on the cobblestone streets. Sometimes he

could hear the captain shouting orders to the soldiers. He was sure that guards were set on each road leading away from the city and that soldiers were entering every house. Beds and straw lofts were being stabbed with their swords and spears. Trunks and chests were being opened. Everything in every room was being searched carefully.

The first day John ate only a few bites of bread, for he wasn't sure how long he might have to stay hidden. Toward evening a hen came up to the loft. She scratched a while, then settled herself on a nest of straw and laid an egg. Then without the usual cackling, she went out again. John was so hungry. He picked one end of the shell off and sucked the egg into his mouth. The second day the hen came again and laid another egg, which John thankfully ate. The third day she did the same.

Each day John prayed for God's protection. Each evening when the town was quiet and he thought the soldiers must be sleeping, he thanked God for protecting him another day. He also thanked God for his loaf of bread and another egg. Then he ate.

After twelve days of searching, the soldiers reached the upper town where Brenz was hiding. Now he could hear the heavy breathing of the



## Mystery Babylon

### Revelation 17:1-10, 12-18

1 And there came one of the seven angels....saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore...

2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

3 So he carried me away in the spirit ...and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

4 And the woman was...decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:

5 And upon her forehead, was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and...the martyrs of Jesus:...I wondered with great admiration.

7 And the angel said...I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

8 The beast that thou sawest...shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition:...

9 ...The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive

power as kings one hour with the beast.  
13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, ...are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

16 And the ten horns...upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked,...

17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast,...

18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

**The Message: This is a symbolic picture of the Christian churches which practice image worship. They may confuse those whose names are not written in the Book of Life.**

### Questions:

1. What did the angel show John?
2. Who was drunk with her wine?
3. What was the woman's name?
4. Describe the beast which carried the woman decked with gold.
5. From where did the beast come and where is he going?
6. From what was the woman drunk?
7. What were the seven heads and the ten horns?
8. What were the waters?
9. What will the ten kings (horns) do to the woman?

### Verse to Memorize

**The beast...shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life...**

**Revelation 17:8.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

In today's lesson, MYSTERY BABYLON is pictured as a lewd, impure woman who has made herself drunk with the blood of martyred saints. These she killed while warring to stamp out Christ's true church. She is riding on a beast which has seven heads and ten horns and is full of names of blasphemy. Being carried by a blasphemous beast shows us that a pagan civil power with seven kings will sustain her for a long time. Later, however, ten other kings will give their power and strength to her, (verse 13). Throughout the book of Revelation "women" represent churches. So we see that MYSTERY BABYLON is a church that will control kings, multitudes, nations and tongues (verse 15). What church controlled the kings and rulers of all Europe for many years? This church is pictured as not just drunk with wine, but drunk with the blood of martyrs. It is a picture of a pretty bad church. Besides being drunk herself, she caused the people of the earth to be drunk (verse 2). This church is rich for the woman is richly dressed. Therefore she may look good to the natural man, but at heart she is a beast. The organization that supported her was named blasphemy.

The church is called MYSTERY BABYLON. A mystery is something not clearly understood. How this church could be pictured as a drunken, impure, unholy lady is a mystery to people who are not saved, for the church teaches men to believe in Jesus Christ, to love their neighbors, etc. It is also called Christian. It also encourages idol worship by the prayers people are taught to say as they bow before images. God's commandment is "Thou shalt not make... any image.... Thou shalt not bow

down...to them." (Exodus 20:4-5.) All over the world one can see cathedrals adorned with beautiful images used for worshipping. All those whose names are not written in the Book of Life will wonder at her. Verse 8.

She made the inhabitants of the earth drunk. A drunk person is one whose mind is intoxicated so he is unable to make right decisions. People who attend false churches become intoxicated on the doctrines of those churches. They are then drunk and unable to understand what God's Word is speaking to them.

This evil church will continually make war with God's true church. Verse 14. Some of the wars in years past have been bloody and cruel, and many of God's children have died. Today the war is a quiet seductive war. Its main purpose is still to destroy God's work in the earth by killing men's godly spirits.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 335-354.)

—Charlotte Huskey



horses. He could hear what the soldiers were saying to each other, and hear them sharpening their swords and spears. All day he lay smothering under the great pile of straw, expecting any minute to hear soldiers entering the barn. He passed another day the same way. On the fourteenth day, he heard the loud crash as the soldiers broke open the door.

His heart pounded so loudly, he was sure they could hear it. His body broke out in a cold sweat. Stiff and silent he waited for death. He heard heavy footsteps coming up the ladder. Others were searching below. He could hear it all.

"Nothing's up here," muttered one soldier. "Hasn't been a human here since —"

"Don't be so sure," interrupted another gruffly. "That John Brenz can outwit the wisest. Search this place good." John could hear their footsteps as they climbed over the stack of lumber. Now they stood right over where he was hidden deep in the straw. Afraid that they might hear him breathing, John held his breath as long as he could. Suddenly he realized that spears were being thrust into the straw that covered him. One slid down through the straw just missing his cheek, another barely missed his left shoulder. He could feel another near his leg, then one near his foot. Like a petrified log he lay motionless. Stab, stab, stab, went the spears as the soldiers worked their way to the other end of the loft. Not one spear touched him!

"Guess you were right," the gruffy soldier said. He could hear the soldiers climbing back down the ladder. He took a deep breath and thanked God. Yet he trembled in fear that any minute another might come up and do another search. He dared not stretch an arm or leg.

He thought he heard them leave. But it might be a trick. He lay still for what seemed a long, long time.

Then at last he heard the commander's order, "March! He is not here."

"Tomorrow I can go down," he told himself. Then suddenly he felt weak and hungry, so hungry. "The hen?" he questioned. Had she come today? Then he heard a little noise. Peeking off the loft, he saw the hen. She laid one more egg. John had his daily ration of food.

The fifteenth day Brenz heard people walking in the street below. A man said, "They are gone at last."

"Now we shall have peace," the other answered. John Brenz was free. God had protected him although the emperor and his troops had tried very carefully to obey the pope's command to kill him.

"...Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." Psalm 50:15.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A great whore which is a debased or wicked church. 2. The inhabitants of the earth. 3. MYSTERY. BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. 4. He had seven heads and ten horns. 5. He ascended from the bottomless pit and is going into perdition (verse 8). 6. The blood of saints martyred for Jesus. 7. The seven heads were mountains or governments and seven kings. The ten horns were ten more kings. 8. Peoples, multitudes, nations, tongues. 9. They will first give her their strength and power. Then they will hate her, and shall make her desolate, and naked.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Jan. 30, 1994

## The Search

(Based on a true story.)

Lela was an orphan who lived with a stingy uncle. Had it not been the customs in India that orphans be taken by the nearest kin, she might have been left to live on the streets. She was not to tell anyone, but her uncle expected her to pay rent for the tiny room where she slept, to buy her own food, and a new sari or sandals when she needed them. All this had to be done with the few rupees she earned each day cleaning a clothing shop.

Besides all these problems, Lela also had emotional needs. Living in a country of 750 million people, (1980 census), and no one to love her, she often felt lonely. At night she feared evil spirits. Sometimes she feared robbers (her uncle or his children) might take the money she had hidden.

These problems were severe, that is true, but Lela had another problem which troubled her more than any other. The problem was sin. Although she knew very little about God, and had never heard of Jesus, she felt condemned by her sins. The more she worried about them, the heavier they became.

"You must go to a Hindu temple where Vishnu is worshipped," the owner of the shop told her. "Vishnu is the ruler of the world. She will solve your problems."

"I do hope so. I've been praying three times a day to Krishna and Shiva at the

shrine in my uncle's home. It hasn't helped."

The nearest temple of Vishnu was many miles away. Lela lost a days earnings when she took off work and walked over the mountain to the temple. On the way she used her last rupees to buy some marigolds. These she gave as an offering to Vishnu. She was given a prayer and told to murmur the prayer every day for a month. Every day for a month she murmured the prayer. She tried hard to believe her sins were forgiven, but her heart still felt so heavy.

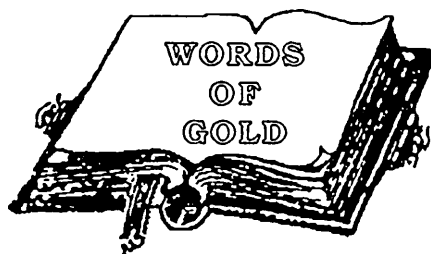
A wealthy woman who often bought clothing in the shop said to Lela, "Go to the temple in Maduria to rid yourself of sin."

"I could never go so far," Lela answered.

"Then go to the temple in Patna, it's only across the Ganges River." Lela took her daily food money and hired a boatman to take her across. She arrived hungry at the temple and was told by the Brahmin to eat nothing for two days and to murmur another prayer. Returning home, Lela felt so tired, hungry and discouraged and her sins seemed heavy enough to sink the boat.

She fasted. She prayed. She continued with the burden of sin.

Two months later, as she was working, she heard a man telling about the ancient city of Varanasi. "It's the holiest place on earth!" he said. "Thousands go there each year and wash their sins away in the Ganges River." "That surely



## Escape From Babylon

Revelation 18:1-5, 8-9, 11,

15-17, 21-24

1 ...I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

2 And he cried mightily...saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit,...

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

8 Therefore shall her plagues come ...and she shall be utterly burned with fire:...

9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning.

11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

15 The merchants...which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,

16 And saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with

gold, and precious stones, and pearls!  
17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought....

21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

22 And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee;... and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee;

23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom [Jesus] and of the bride [the Church] shall be heard no more at all in thee:...for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

**The Message: Escape from churches where the voice of Jesus is no longer heard, so that you will not lose your soul when they are destroyed.**

### Questions:

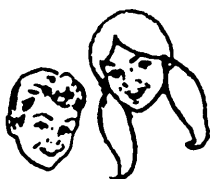
1. Who lighted the earth?
2. What was the angel crying?
3. Why had Babylon fallen?
4. What did the angel tell God's people to do?
5. How far had Babylon's sin reached?
6. Who was sad when Babylon was destroyed?
7. Who rejoiced when Babylon was destroyed?
8. With what is Babylon to be destroyed?
9. Name things which would no more be found in Babylon.

### Verse to Memorize

**And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**

**Revelation 18:4.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

John sees in this vision an angel bringing a message to earth. The glory of the angel gives light to all the earth. Jesus is the light of the world, and His gospel gives men spiritual light. This light is understanding. Many years ago the prophet Zechariah said,...At evening time it shall be light. Zech. 14:7. We are now living in the evening-time of the world and God is showing men more truth.

It seems absurd to us that the majority of men could believe that people should be put to death because their religious beliefs differed from the leaders of a nation, yet for hundreds of years men of all religious faiths were put to death as heretics. This is just one example of the darkness from which men have come.

This angel cried, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit,...". The people of God were held captive in the old city of Babylon. They were released when an enemy diverted the flow of the river away from the city and marched under the wall into the city through the riverbed.

Many of God's children have been in spiritual bondage in false churches. When a church refuses to obey God's revealed Word, evil spirits come into that church. When this happens, God says, "come out of her my people." Those who obey the call and come out are safe. Those who do not will die a spiritual death.

Verses 10-16 deal with the fame, glory, honor, and material riches that kings, rulers, preachers, and teachers have gained through so-called

Christian churches. All these shall wall when Babylon falls. This falling of Babylon is taking place right now. It commenced about 100 years ago when God's Word began revealing to men the sin and evil in "Christian" churches throughout the world. There are spirits in the churches brought from MYSTERY BABYLON. There are spirits of impureness, spirits of worldliness, spirits of man-rule, and many other spirits. God wants His people to separate themselves from such churches who claim Christianity yet in reality are worshipping evil spirits.

The tower of Babel was built in Babylon. It is now a symbol of confusion because God confused men's languages as they were building. So there is much confusion because of the many Christian churches. "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." I Cor. 14:33. He is not pleased with the multitude of churches. His desire is that all His children fellowship together in one.

Ministers (angels) are spreading this gospel message over the world, and Babylon is falling. We see large church buildings almost empty on Sunday mornings; Sunday school teachers without many students. On the other hand, churches where God's truths are being taught and lived, are growing in numbers.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 355-375.)

—Charlotte Huskey



must be the place to get free from sin," Lela thought. She asked her boss for permission to go. She took all her money and bought a round trip ticket on the train to Varanasi.

A jumble of temples lined the steep banks of the Ganges, in Varanasi. She wondered which temple she should go in. Then she remembered that not all classes of Indians could go into the temples, so she followed a crowd through a narrow alley and found herself on top of an enormous flight of stone stairs that led down to the river. Out in the river was a young man, with eyes closed and hands folded as if in prayer. A sacred thread worn over his left shoulder signified he was of high class. Nearby were more men dripping wet, their eyes shut tight in meditation. Not far away women were washing themselves. A lady on the bottom step was laying an offering of flowers in the water. "All these people are seeking relief from their sins," Lela thought. "Surely this will be the answer to my sin problem."

A priest under the shade of an umbrella was selling flowers. Lela bought one, then went slowly down the stairs and lowered it into the water as an offering. She then bathed in the river. The offering and this trip would mean many days of hunger for Lela, but she felt it was a small sacrifice.

At the river she met many others who had come from distant cities and villages. They were camping on the streets. An elderly woman in one group had been there many times. "Why do you come so often?" Lela asked.

"Do you not know that when people die in this city their souls go straight to heaven? I'm hoping to die here."

"They will not have to live another life on this earth?" Lela asked.

"That is right."

"But if our sins are washed away and we live good, we'll be born into a high caste?"

"Yes, but who can live good enough for that? I'd rather die here and go straight to heaven."

The woman was right, who could live sinless. Lela seemed unable. She got angry so easily, and she often stole from the rich women who came into the shop. She also felt bitter towards God because she had no family that loved her. She knew these things were sins.

"How did you come?" the woman asked.

"On the train."

"Didn't you know that all immoral sins will be forgiven if you joyfully endure the long walk?"

"Really? But I didn't have time to walk. I'll lose my job if I take off too many days." Lela slept in the camp near the old woman that night.

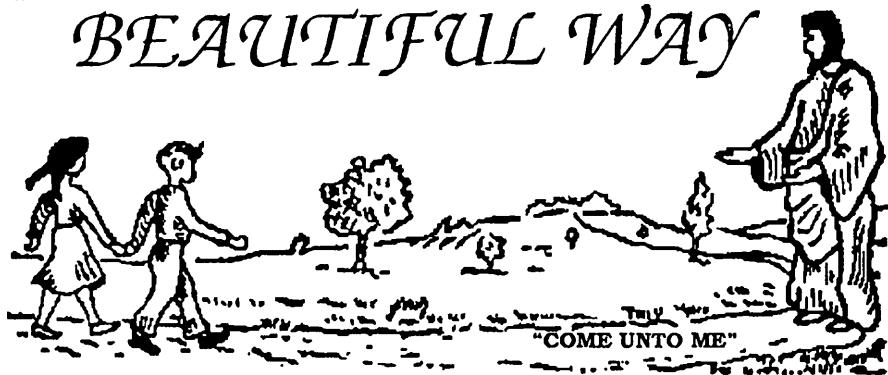
The next day she bathed again in the Ganges River near the camp. This time she saw people sprinkling ashes of their deceased loved ones in the river. They were trusting that the act would enable those souls to enter into bliss.

Lela started home weak and hungry. She went to sleep on the train hoping she would feel better when she awoke. She awoke with the same heavy feeling, however she did not feel so discouraged. "So many people couldn't be wrong," she told herself. "I must be patient. Perhaps the gods are busy and will get to my case soon."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. An angel. 2. "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit." 3. Because all nations had drunk of her fornication. 4. "Come out of her, and be not partakers of her sin." 5. To heaven. 6. The kings and the merchants who were made rich by her. 7. Heaven. God's holy prophets and the Apostles. 8. With fire. [Our God is a consuming fire. Heb. 12:29] 9. Harpers, musicians, pipers, trumpeters, craftsmen, lighted candle, nor the voice of the bride [God's church] nor the bridegroom [Jesus]).

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 6, 1994

## The Search

(Continued from last week.)

Day after day Lela waited and longed for the burden of sin to lift. Three weeks passed, then four, one month, then another month. "So the trip to Varanasi didn't relieve my burden of sin," Lela told herself. "Then I'll try something else."

In Varanasi she had seen men with arms outstretched to the sun standing for hours in adoration to the gods. Others with horizontal white ash lines painted across their forehead did rituals to their gods, while others repeated prayers counting with a string of beads. Lela knew these acts were to bring God's approval. She chose to sit in the hot sun to rid herself of sin. When winter came she went to the river and sat in the cold water.

Lela's employer was a zealous worshipper of Lakshmi, the giver of wealth. In autumn a five day celebration was dedicated to this goddess. Lela sacrificed the fun of this five day festival to go again to Varanasi. This time she joyfully walked the long distance. She spent all her money on offerings and did acts of penance on the way. She returned home sick from the exposure. Everything she had done had failed to help.

Then one day a Christian came

into the shop. India is a deeply religious country, so religion is a topic of everyday conversation. "What God do you worship?" the shop owner asked. "You seem like a holy man, but your dress is different, and you have no marks painted on your face."

"I worship Christ," the Christian answered. "Christ is the Lord over all gods. He is the Creator of the universe."

"Another Brahma?"

"No, Christ is greater even than Brahma. He created all men. Then He allowed the men whom He had created to kill Him. In this way He proved His divine love for all."

"What can your God do that India's gods can't do?" the shopkeeper questioned.

"He can save people from sin and keep them from sinning," the Christian answered.

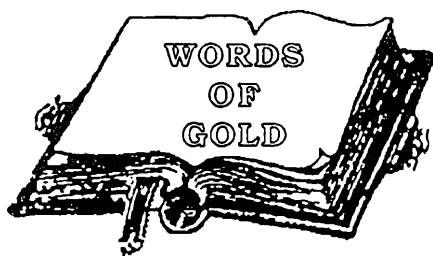
That was just what Lela wanted to hear. She kept an eye on the Christian. When he left the shop, she followed him out.

"Please sir," she called as he started away, "may I ask you a question?"

He stopped and turned to Lela. "Why, yes."

Lela twisted her hands shyly. "What must I do to get your God to forgive my sins?"

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved from sin," he



## Jesus And The Church are Married

### Revelation 19:1-10

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.

4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.

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 is come, and his wife 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.

9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

### Romans 7:4

4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

**The Message: We may be a part of the marriage supper of Christ and the Church if we are married to Him by a spiritual birth.**

### Questions:

1. What did John hear?
2. Why were the people rejoicing?
3. What did the 24 elders do?
4. What were the people commanded to do?
5. Why were the people happy?
6. How was the bride dressed?
7. What did the fine linen represent?
8. Are those blessed who are called to the marriage?
9. Who are we to worship?

### Verse to Memorize

**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.**

**Revelations 19:8.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Weddings are exciting! The flowers, the candles, the cake, and other refreshments, the crowds of happy people, and most of all the handsome groom and the lovely bride make a wedding fantastic. A marriage is two people uniting into one. Believers are united to Christ when they are saved. For this reason they are said to be married to Him, and they do become a part of His Bride.

Christ's Bride is all the saved people. She is a holy virgin, pure and clean. No sin or filth of any kind is in her. Therefore, if we expect to be part of this Bride, we too must keep ourselves free from sin, pure and holy. We can do this by daily watching and praying and trusting in Christ's strength. If we do this and walk humbly before God, Jesus' blood will keep us free from sin. Christ's Bride is clothed in clean, white linen, which is the righteousness of the saints.

Jesus is betrothed or engaged to the Church and someday He will come for her. Then there will be great rejoicing. The Church has the promise of an eternal union with Christ, but now she is left in this world going through trials and tribulations. For a long period of time she was driven into the wilderness, where God cared for her, while MYSTERY BABYLON, the great whore, was the visible church in the world. After that, many other churches, called daughters of MYSTERY BABYLON, sprang up and His people were scattered among them. Now the judgments of God are on Babylon, and she is fallen. God's people are coming out of many dif-

ferent churches and forming His Bride on this earth as it was in the Church's beginning. This Bride is to shine in the world. The next great event will be her eternal union with Christ when she will be caught up to heaven to forever be with Him.

The following song found on page 29 of *Evening Light Songs*, is a message about the wedding which is shown to us in this Revelation.

### The Bride of Christ

O church of God, thou spotless  
bride,

On Jesus' breast secure;  
No stains of sin in thee abide,  
Thy garments all are pure.  
Of unity and holiness  
Thy gentle voice doth sing;  
Of purity and lowliness  
Thy songs in triumph ring.

She stood attired in spotless dress  
The early morning thro',  
And then into the wilderness  
On eagle's wings she flew.  
And nourished there from heav'nly  
clime,

She lived for many years;  
Now in this blessed evening time  
Her glory reappears.

She leans upon an arm of love,  
No sin her garments taints;  
They're made of linen wov'n  
above—

The righteousness of saints.  
The marriage of the Lamb is come,  
His bride all ready stands;  
The bridegroom soon will take her  
home  
To dwell in heav'nly lands.

—Clara M. Brooks

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 376-379.)

—Charlotte Huskey

answered. "Do you believe in Jesus?"

"I believe in all gods," she answered. "And I've tried ever so many ways to rid myself of sin, but nothing has helped."

"Is there any sin you are not willing to quit?"

"Oh, no, I'd be glad to stop sinning, if I could."

"If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," he explained.

"How do I confess my sins?"

"By talking to God about them just as you are talking to me. Tell Him you are sorry for all the evil things you have done. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

"I do believe!" Lela said. "My heart tells me this is the Saviour I have been looking for so long."

"Here is a book for you to read. It will be a light to your pathway in this darkened country." He handed her a New Testament. They exchanged names and addresses. Lela watched as he disappeared into the crowd. She longed to run after him. She wanted to never let the man go who had shown her the way to peace.

Lela went home that night with a hopeful heart. She prayed a long time, until she felt all the burden of sin lift. She had never before felt like this. She loved her uncle and his naughty children. Her attitude toward God was one of thankfulness. Her tiny room seemed like a palace. She looked out the door, even the trees looked different.

A month later the Christian, Mr. Carey, and his wife Dorothy, visited Lela. "I don't feel lonely now," Lela told them.

"Jesus said, 'I will be with you always, even to the end of the world.'" Mr. Carey said.

Dorothy added, "Christ is always near because you have become part of

His family on earth. He has a special love for all saved people. The Bible calls them His bride."

Lela was baptized in the Ganges River, not to wash away her sins, but as a testimony that her sins were already gone, and that she was a part of God's church which He loves so dearly.

India is a small country, but one sixth of all people on the earth are Indians. Only the Chinese are more numerous. The majority of these follow some form of pagan religion. Only five persons out of every five hundred profess to be any kind of Christian (Protestant, Catholic, or other kind).

The government however does honor Mr. Carey. Their Department of Posts celebrated the life and ministry of William Carey by printing a 6 rupee stamp with his picture. Bibles for the World are placing Bibles in the homes of every Indian who has a telephone. Can we help the brethren of the Church of God place Bibles in the homes of those who do not have telephones? Don't you think people so engrossed in idolatry need God's Word?

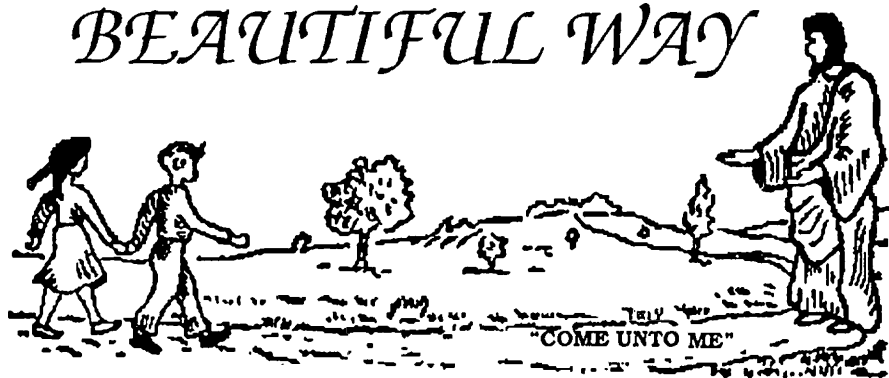
—Charlotte Huskey



(Answers: 1. The voice of many people saying Alleluia. 2. Because God had judged the great whore. 3. They fell down and worshipped God. 4. To praise God. 5. Because the marriage of the Lamb had come. 6. She was dressed in fine linen, clean and white. 7. The righteousness of saints. 8. Yes. 9. God.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 13, 1994

## Helpless Horror

Walter Skowron lived in a cabin on the side of the mountain near the Big Thompson River. When the terrible flash flood surged down the canyon on that fateful night of July 31, 1976, Walter and his family were safe in their cabin. But many others died in the horrible flood. The following is what Walter told about it.

"The electricity went out at approximately 8:45 p.m. The rain continued. By this time it was a torrential downpour, and we could only see a few feet in front of us.

"We had no idea what was happening for we had no battery-powered radio. Jerry, a friend who lived near by, had a CB radio in his Scout, so we tried to get news about the storm on the CB emergency band. All we heard were calls for help from people in panic who were camped along the river. Since CB reception is limited in the mountains, we knew those calling out were close by. 'I'm trapped in my van with my wife and two children,' said one. 'Help us! oh,...' And then, silence. We heard calls of terror, calls of panic, and calls of pain all through the night.

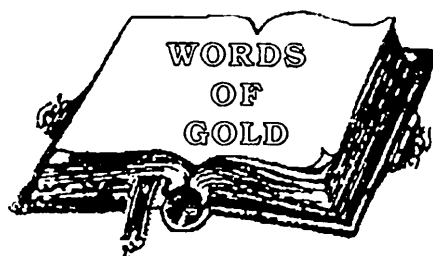
"I've never been so close to death before—and it's something you don't easily forget. I still wake up in the middle of the night and think about

what happened. I only pray no one ever has to go through anything like that again."

That great flood that surged down the Big Thompson Canyon was terrible, but infinitely more fearful will be the judgment of God against sin. God's judgment will sweep over this whole world. By their actions, many have put to death the Son of God. This world is stained with His blood. This world is guilty for the death of His Son. Yet God in grace, has used the death of Christ to bring salvation to man. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Walter Skowron could only listen in helpless horror to the cries of terror of those caught in the flood. This reminds us of the impossibility of helping those who wait too long in their sins. Someday it will be too late to come to Christ for salvation.

How Walter longed to rescue those in the flood. Just so your Christian family and friends long to rescue you from sin, but they cannot rescue you. You alone must make the contract with Jesus to be saved from sin and be ready to meet Him when he comes. Jesus has signed this contract with His blood. Many saints of old also



## Christ's Second Coming

**Revelations 19:11-21**

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

**Matthew 24:30**

30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

**I Thessalonians 4:17**

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air:...

**The Message: God will allow evil spirits to devour everyone who will not obey his Word.**

### Questions:

1. What kind of animal was seen in this vision?
2. Who was riding on the white horse?
3. What were his eyes like?
4. Describe his clothing.
5. What was proceeding from his mouth?
6. What did the angel do?
7. What were the fowls to eat?
8. Who were the losers in the war that followed?
9. Where were the losers thrown?

### Verse to Memorize

**For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.**

**I Thessalonians 4:16.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

Many of the symbols used in this lesson have been used before, and will of course have the same meanings. 1. The *white horse* is a symbol of conquering. 2. *Eyes as a flame of fire* denotes Christ's power to search the hearts and minds. He knows every thought. 3. *Crowns* are signs of victory. 4. *Clean white linen* represents righteousness. 5. *Fowls* are evil spirits. 6. The *Beast* is an idolatrous form of worship underneath the name of Christianity. 7. The *False prophet* is any false form of Christian worship. 8. The *sword* is the Word of God.

Now that we have reviewed the symbols, let's interpret the vision. On the rider's clothing is written, KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. We know then that the vision is of Jesus, when He comes to judge the world and conquer evil spirits. In other Revelations we have seen Jesus as a meek Lamb being slain. That was His mission as our Saviour. In this vision, however, He is treading the winepress of the wrath of God. He is coming to judge evil deeds and avenge the saints who have been martyred.

God speaks to men by bringing thoughts to their minds, of their condition before Him. But after He has dealt many times and they do not respond, He often allows evil spirits to deceive them into thinking they are all right. This is symbolized by the fowls eating men's flesh. Remember, Babylon was full of evil spirits and staying in Babylon is an easy way to become the prey of a false spirit and be deceived.

Number 404 in *Evening Light Songs*, describes this condition:

## The Great Sacrifice

God is sweeping thro' the nations,  
With an awful searching eye;  
Ev'ry spot of imperfection  
Must be purged, or hope must die.

Jesus gave his life to purchase  
For himself a spotless bride  
All who fear him and obey him,  
Cleansed beneath the crimson tide.

To preserve her pure and spotless,  
He must make a sacrifice;  
Give to evil spirits supper,  
All who give to sin a place.

See, his sword is bathed in heaven,  
And the mountains strewn with  
dead;

"All ye birds and beasts assemble,"  
Lo! a feast for you is spread.

## Chorus

God is coming, O my brother,  
Can you face the solemn day?  
All the pure his angels gather,  
The defiled become a prey.

Some have taught that literal fowls will eat the dead men after a terrible battle. They believe this to be a battle man against man; the righteous riding white horses with Jesus as their captain battling against the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies. It is not that kind of battle.

It is the grand confederacy of wickedness formed under the mission of those three unclean spirits. They will deceive every man who will allow them. In the end, Jesus, the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, will overcome and eternally destroy all the forces of sin.

When this KING OF KINGS comes again, every person will die. The souls of all people will then stand before God and be judged. There will be no more temptations to do wrong, for all the evil will be destroyed. The righteous will be taken into their eternal abode of happiness. The wicked will also receive reward according to how they have lived.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 379-386.) —Charlotte Huskey

signed their part with their blood. Sinner friend, are you not ashamed to turn down a Saviour who has suffered so much for you?

The Bible says that all men shall stand before God, the Judge of all the earth. It tells of those who have not repented, those who have never turned to Him to receive forgiveness of their sins. In the judgment day they will be cast into outer darkness where there shall be weeping, and walling, and gnashing of teeth. How fearful it will be to be unsaved and in sin in that terrible day.

"...Flee from the wrath to come."  
Matt. 3:7.

Walter Skowron and his family were safe on the higher ground. Oh, that more would seek the "higher ground" of God's salvation in Christ.

"On Christ salvation rests secure,  
The rock of ages must endure,  
Nor can that faith be overthrown  
Which rests upon the Living  
Stone.

"...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...."  
Acts 16:31.

—Selected

## Why Jim Was Saved

"Are you saved, Jim?" Mrs. Day, the Sunday school teacher asked.

"Yes, I'm quite sure that I am," Jim answered.

"How do you know you are saved?"

"Well, I used to think I was all right because Daddy and Mother were saved, but I have found out that everyone has to answer to God for himself, so I have surrendered my heart to Jesus. He is now King over me."

"Then you are ready to stand before God and be judged?" asked Mrs. Day.

"Yes."

"You are not afraid that He will judge you and turn you away into everlasting darkness?"

"Oh, no," Jim answered with a radiant smile. "I know for sure that Jesus is my Saviour. His death on the cross hides all my sins and mistakes from God," he said, as he put his chubby hands over his eyes.

"Tell me, Jim, why doesn't the Lord Jesus take us to heaven as soon as we are saved?"

Jim thought for a minute. "Must be 'cause He wants us to tell others 'bout Him. He wants everyone in the whole wide world to know about His love." Then he stretched his short little arms as far apart as possible. "And they should also know about the beautiful home He will take us to after we die."

"That is right, and the Lord Jesus never turns anyone away. Anyone can come just as they are, and He will receive them. When they repent of their sins, He will save them. No one is too great a sinner for Jesus to save."

"This is a faithful saying,...that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;..." I Tim. 1:15.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A white horse. 2. A person called Faithful and True. 3. Like flaming fire. 4. His vesture was dipped in blood, and on it was written KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. 5. A sharp sword. 6. He called all the fowls saying, "Come unto the supper of the great God." 7. The flesh of all men. 8. The beast, and the false prophet. 9. Into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 20, 1994

## Christianity Bound the Dragon

Emperor Constantine did for the Christians what Abraham Lincoln did for the American slaves.

Flavius Valerius Aurelius Constantinus (his official name) was born to Emperor Constantine and his wife Helena. Constantine's father believed in one God and was considered to be a godly man. He showed a gentle, kindly spirit toward all his subjects, and a friendly attitude toward divine truths. He did not allow God's children to be abused, nor did he take their churches and private properties, as other emperors did. After he died, he was proclaimed as one of the gods by the Romans, and great honors were bestowed on him.

Constantine had many reasons to admire his father. He also had reasons to dislike him. When Constantine was seventeen, his father abandoned and divorced his beloved mother, and married Emperor Maximian's stepdaughter.

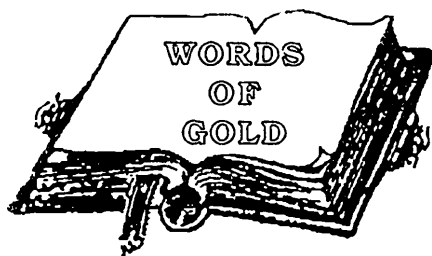
Constantine had been appointed emperor by his father before his death. However, others struggled for the seat. The tyrannical Maxentius was the one who posed the most threat to Constantine. In October, 312 A.D. Constantine met with Maxentius near the Tiber River outside of Rome. He was in great distress, because of his inferior

troops. He also felt sure that Maxentius was relying on magical enchantments of evil spirits to destroy him. "Should I sacrifice to these Roman gods? Will they protect me?" He questioned. He thought of different things that had happened in his life, and decided that the pagan gods did not protect their worshippers. Then his father's belief in the one true God came forcibly to his mind. "The God of my father protects his children, so I shall pray to Him," he decided.

It was in early afternoon. His soldiers lay resting while he prayed. "I don't know who You are, but I do so need help," he said to God.

Suddenly a beautiful cross appeared in the sky. Under the cross were written these words, "In this sign you will conquer." The astonished soldiers and Constantine trembled with fear. They all knew the cross was a sign of Christ.

Using the sign would associate them with the hated Christians. Although a persecuted, sought-out people, the Christians were growing in numbers every day. When one was martyred, sometimes ten or more would join the ranks. The blood of the saints was the seed which produced more Christians. Famine, pestilence, and wars were raging in the land. A new, strange disease had attacked, leaving hundreds of men, women, and children blind. The famine was so great that in some city centers beggars fell down in the streets, too



## Binding and Loosing the Dragon

**Revelation 20:1-10**

1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city:

and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

**Matthew 16:19**

19 And I will give unto thee [Peter and all who preached the gospel] the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

**Ephesians 2:1**

1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.

**The Message: The preaching of the gospel in Jesus' time bound the dragon. He was loosed when atheistic beliefs again invaded many men's hearts and laws to protect such beliefs were established.**

### Questions:

1. What did the angel which came from heaven have in his hand?
2. To whom did Christ give the keys of the kingdom?
3. Did the apostles receive power to bind things?
4. Whom did the angel bind?
5. Is the dragon to be loosed a little season?
6. What will satan do after the dragon is loosed?
7. With whom shall the deceived make war?
8. What shall be the end of the devil and his agents, the dragon, the beast, the false prophets?
9. How does Christ make men spiritually alive?

### Verse to Memorize

**And he called unto him the twelve,...and gave them power over unclean spirits; And they cast out devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.**

**Mark 6:7,13.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

In Revelation a dragon has represented a pagan form of worship. It is one form of devil worship, therefore the dragon is called the devil and satan. Throughout the ages, artists have used dragons as emblems of evil, destructive forces which, of course, have their roots in the devil. Many pictures of good men or angels as victors over a dragon were painted to symbolize Christianity conquering paganism.

Now that we understand the dragon is an evil spirit, not the devil himself, nor a huge animal running around on the earth, let's see how he was bound. When Jesus came to earth, the majority of people worshipped evil spirits by worshipping idols. Jesus brought a salvation that freed people from these spirits. This was the beginning of the dragon being bound. As this Christianity spread over the earth, more and more people turned from worshipping evil spirits to worshipping Christ.

So many people became Christians that civil laws were established that prohibited any other form of worship. Thus the dragon was truly bound for a long period of time. Remember that Revelation is a book of symbols, so 1,000 years is not actually 1,000 years, but a long period of time.

After that long period of time, the dragon was loosed, and is now deceiving the nations. His anti-Christian spirit began to be loosed before the French Revolution. Men, filled with evil spirits, organized secret clubs whose secret password was "crush the wretch." The wretch was Jesus.

These club members spoke blasphemies against Christ. They printed evil books and either sold or gave them to others. They went into schools, universities, churches, governments and workplaces and changed the way people thought about being Christian. It was soon called the "Age of Reason" and the Goddess of Reason was worshipped every ten days. Some of these clubs such as the Masons are active today, but many have disintegrated. However, the spirit against Christ, which they loosed, is gathering more strength every day.

The world's Parliament of Religions met in Chicago to unite all religions. Baptists and Buddhists, Catholics and Confucians (Chinese philosophers), Presbyterians and Parsees (fire worshippers), Methodists and Moslems (disciples of Mohammed) were there worshipping together. Yes, satan is gathering the dragon, the beast and the false prophet together to war against his people. It is now being taught that all religions are good. "We are all going to heaven," they say. "Each has his own road to get there." But the Bible teaches that only through faith in Christ can a person enter heaven.

We must all be careful that the spirit of the dragon does not get hold of us. It will, if we try to know God through false religions.

(Smith F.G., Revelation Explained, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 387-415.)

—Charlotte Huskey



weak to walk, and cried out for bread until they died. Sometimes their dead bodies lay for days before anyone would bury them.

Among the Christian community death from hunger did not exist. Bread was delivered to the poor daily. The Christians helped each other bury his dead, sometimes three or four of the same family at one time. Yes, the Christian way was better, Constantine knew that.

Crosses were inscribed on his soldiers' armor. Some historians say he ordered the Greek letters, chi and rho, to be marked on their shields. These are the first two letters of Christ's name.

The Milvian Bridge, where Constantine met Maxentius is still standing. The event was strange and very much like that of the Egyptians being drowned in the Red Sea for the protection of Moses and God's children. Maxentius had constructed for his troops a strong bridge of boats from one bank of the Tiber River to the other. As Maxentius, his body guards, and other special men were crossing, the floating bridge collapsed and in a moment the boats, men and all went to the bottom.

His victory gave Constantine authority to make laws favorable for the Christians. Immediately he gave "command that Christians and non-Christians alike should be allowed to keep the faith of their own religious beliefs and worship." This caused great rejoicing among the Christian community.

Soon afterwards he sent personal letters to the leaders of the churches throughout the empire. These letters were accompanied by honors and gifts of money. Churches were to be re-established and new ones built. A few years before Christians were meeting in secret; now congregations from different cities and providences met together. Great dedication ceremonies were held where thousands met, also huge outdoor gatherings.

Next Constantine sent copies of imperial ordinances commanding that

all confiscated property be handed over to the Christian body immediately, "by energetic action...without any delay." Money prestige and honor poured into the church.

Constantine's mother, Helena, also became a leader among the Christians. Still having a pagan mind, she found and restored historical sites sacred to the Christian community. She made pilgrimages to Bethlehem and Jerusalem, and sponsored the building of churches there.

Beautiful cathedrals were being built all over the empire. People everywhere turned from the pagan worship and became Christians. Now the pagan temples were empty. These temples filled with idols were also given to the Christian church. How was all this used to bind the dragon? Before Constantine ruled, being a Christian was forbidden by law. After him, being a pagan worshipper was forbidden by law. When these laws were enforced, the pagan spirit was bound. This spirit is represented as a dragon, so the dragon was bound.

God used Constantine to free the Christians just as He used Lincoln to free the slaves.

(Eusebius, *The History of the Church from Christ to Constantine*, Dorset Press, New York, p. 357-414.

*Glimpses*, Christian History Institute, Worcester, PA, 1990

*World Book Encyclopedia*, Volume 4, Chicago, 1990, p. 993.)

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A key to the bottomless pit. 2. To those who preached His gospel. 3. Yes. 4. The dragon, an agent of the devil. 5. Yes. 6. He will deceive the nations and gather them to battle. 7. With the saints. 8. They shall be cast into the lake of fire. 9. He quickens them by His spirit.



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Feb. 27, 1994

## God Hears Prayer

(Based on a true story.)

Everything seemed fine when Bob entered *Queen Elizabeth*, a coastal submarine. Routine procedures of letting in sea water were followed for lowering her into the Atlantic, off the coast of Great Britain. The submarine was full of students eager to study ocean life at different depths. It wasn't to be a long excursion like some Bob had been on.

In those days studying ocean life was very dangerous. Most people considered it only an excuse for adventure. The last two days of the excursion, they were to set the submarine down on the sand at the very bottom. Those would be the most exciting days of all.

When the day finally came, valves in the bottom of the tank were opened to let in more sea water. The sub tilted, lowered and leveled as expected. The students examined and recorded information about plant and animal life and rock formations at depths they had never seen before.

Two days later everyone was excitedly talking of getting up out of the darkness and into fresh air again. Bob and his friends anxiously waited for the tremor and the tilt that always accompanied the lift. By evening the students were worried and hungry. They had only eaten emergency ra-

tions that day. The more tasty food they had brought had already been eaten. Some were very restless, some seemed fearful, others were aggravated. All wanted to get out of the darkness and home to see their families, their sweethearts, and their friends.

The following morning Bob went to the captain. "Weren't we to be home last night?" he asked.

"We were, but something has gone haywire. This craft won't rise"

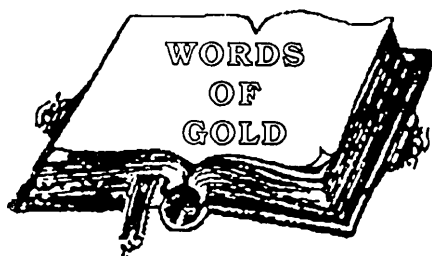
"What? Are we stuck forever in this darkness? Are we being buried alive in water? Can't we signal for help?"

"At this depth? Impossible! But don't worry, the crew's been working all night. They will soon have her going."

"It's too gloomy in here. I want to see the sky again," Bob said and went back to tell his friends what was happening.

Another day and night passed. *Queen Elizabeth* wouldn't budge.

Panic was gripping the men. Unless changes were made, death wasn't many days ahead. The oxygen in the sub was almost gone. It was all so sickening. The captain knew that such mental pressure had driven men insane. Fearing such things, he called the crew together. "Men," he said in a trembling voice. "Our destiny is in God's hands. It is best then that we



## Standing Before God

### Revelation 20:11-15

**11** And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

**12** And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

**13** And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

**14** And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

**15** And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

### Matthew 25:31-32, 34-37, 40-43

**31** When the Son of man [Jesus] shall come...then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

**32** And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another,...

**34** Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you...

**35** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

**36** Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

**37** Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee

an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

**40** And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

**41** Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

**42** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

**43** I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

**The Message: All nations shall stand before God and be judged according to what they believe and how they have acted.**

### Questions:

1. What happened to the earth and heaven when the great white throne appeared?
2. Who was standing before God (Rev. 20:12) and Jesus (Matt. 25:31)?
3. What was opened?
4. How were the people judged?
5. Who was cast into the lake of fire?
6. What did Jesus say to the people on his right side?
7. Why were these to inherit the kingdom?
8. How did these minister to Jesus?
9. What happened to those who had not helped the stranger, the sick, the hungry, or the naked?

### Verse to Memorize

**But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.**

**Romans 14:10.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

John, the writer of Revelation, is now seeing a vision of the resurrection and final judgment of all men. There is no symbol for some things in this vision, so the real things are used. Others are only pictures representing something else. Book is one. God does not have a secretary in heaven writing in a book the actions of every man. God is all-wise and knows what every man is doing and has done. Neither is there a book having a list of names. It is just a symbol to let us know that God knows His children. The books also represent the books of the Bible. But God will not need to open these books and see if each man has obeyed the laws written there. God already knows.

This whole vision is to teach us that every person shall be resurrected at the end of the world. Those who have lived in the past, those who are living, and those who will live in the future shall all be there and each will be judged. Then those who have lived ungodly and those

who have lived godly will be separated. Each will then be sent to an eternal home of blessedness or destruction, according to how each has responded to God's Word. We are all responsible to God for our actions.

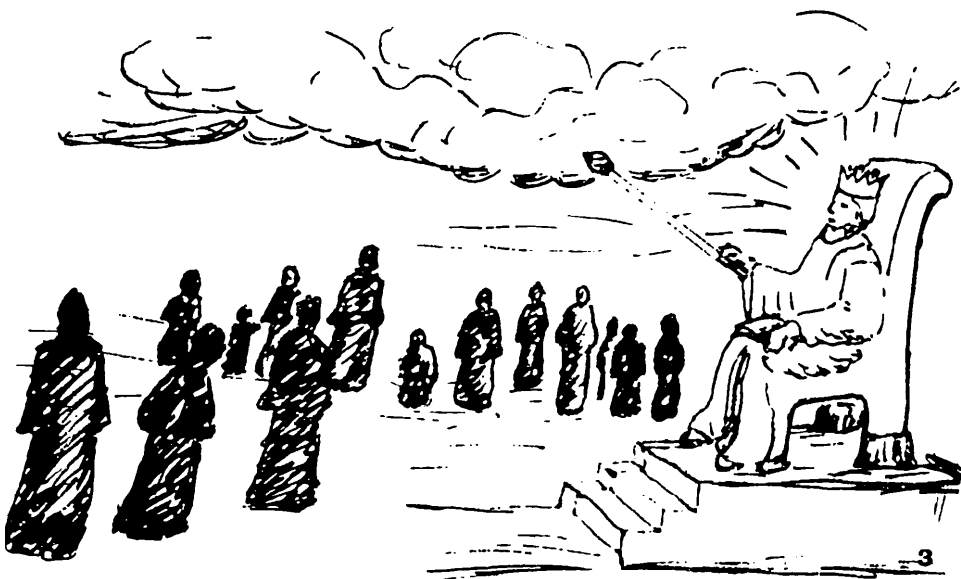
When God appears to judge the world, the earth and sky will be dissolved. II Peter 3:10. There will be no more opportunity to be saved.

St. Matthew told us that God will also judge us on how we have helped others. Besides living a pure, sinless life, God requires us to be unselfish. He tells us to feed the hungry, help the strangers, visit the sick and imprisoned. Ask yourself, "When was the last time I visited a sick or imprisoned person? How long ago has it been since I befriended a new child in my school or neighborhood? Do I give to the poor?"

When we stand before the judgment seat of God, He will know everything we have done. Let's all live very carefully. Let us not look at what others are doing and judge ourselves by them, or judge them by what we are doing. God does not judge as men. He judges the secrets of men's hearts. Let us live righteously so we will be free from condemnation when we stand before God on the judgment day.

(Smith F. G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 416-418.)

—Charlotte Huskey



call upon Him. Although I do not know how to say prayers, I do have in my hand a copy of the hymn "Abide With Me." I'll read it to you then we can sing it as a prayer." He read it. The men sang:

"Abide with me; fast falls the even-  
tide;

The darkness deepens; Lord, with  
me abide!

When other helpers fail, and com-  
forts flee,

Help of the helpless, Oh abide  
with me!

"Swift to its close ebbs out life's little  
day;

Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass  
away;

"Swift to its close —," Bob could sing no more. His life was swiftly coming to a close, maybe today, maybe tomorrow. He shuddered. What kind of death would it be? Would he suffocate, starve, or be butchered by a crazy crewman gone wild. Before Bob realized it, they were singing, "Where is death's sting?" He hadn't thought about it before, but death did have a sting. He wasn't ready to die, nor prepared to stand before God. What would he say to God? He could only hang his head in shame, knowing he had rejected a Saviour who had died for him, for he had never sought Jesus to save him from the death penalty that is on all men. It hurt too, to think of how his mother and his sister Betty would cry should he never return.

Then he heard the men singing: "I triumph still if thou abide with me." From the depths of his heart he prayed, "Oh God, save us! Cause this submarine to go up."

The men finished the song. Then the captain spoke again, "Each of you take this pill. I know it isn't much to offer in such a dark time, but it should ease the pain a little and should help us be more calm." As he passed out the pills, Bob looked over the crew. Every face was solemn, as if each was seeing the open "jaws of death" ready to devour

him. Some looked angry, others had tears in their eyes. He wondered how many were praying.

As the men began moving away, one of them stumbled against a part of the submarine's equipment. Immediately a tremor was felt. It was the old familiar tremor before a sub tilts and starts rising. The captain rushed into the cabin and looked at the instruments. "It's working!" he shouted.

Everyone cheered. They clasped hands in triumphant hand shakes. One student danced a happy little jig.

That night they were all safe on England's shore.

Bob wouldn't deny that there was a connection between the singing of the hymn and the circumstance that caused the rising of the sub. He knew God was down there in the darkness of the ocean floor, and he thanked Him for His mercy to the crew.

God had delivered him from death but not from spiritual death. He was yet under death as the penalty of sin. Could he believe that Jesus became a man in order to be men's Saviour, that He bore everyone's sin in His own body when he died on the cross? Faith in Jesus' death would save from spiritual death.

Then he remembered the scripture: "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,..." Acts 16:31.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. They vanished away and could not be found. 2. The dead from all nations. 3. The Book of Life and the books of the Bible. 4. According to their obedience to what was written in the books. 5. All those whose names were not written in the Book of Life. 6. Come and inherit the kingdom prepared for you. 7. Because they had ministered to Jesus, by ministering to the needy. 8. By giving food and drink to the hungry, by taking in strangers, by clothing the poor, and visiting the prisoners. 9. They were sent away into everlasting fire.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 6, 1994

## A Praymeeting Revival

(Actual facts.)

"The end of the world is coming soon!" shouted the evangelist. "Get ready now. All ye sinners fall before the Lord in repentance. Come, oh, come today."

Jonathan, dressed in black nickerbocker pants and starched white shirt, sat cross-legged next to his tall papa, Mr. Kelly. Jon snuggled closer to Papa. God's awful judgment was coming. He trembled with fear.

The evangelist continued, "Jesus will come before the New Year."

John looked at Preacher Deacon to see if he agreed. He was nodding his head. The huge hand embroidered calendar that hung on the wall read March 8, 1857. "Will Christmas not come?" he whispered to his older brother, Wilbur.

"Maybe not," Wil answered.

Just one glance from Father silenced the boys.

Every morning Jon wondered if this would be the last day. He would quickly slip into his trousers and kneel beside his bed. "Lord, make me good today. Make all my brothers and sisters good too, so we can be a whole family in the new earth that you will bring."

Every evening before going to bed he prayed again, asking God to forgive any wrong he'd done that day and make his dreams sinless.

Spring passed and the hot summer. The fear of the world ending had slipped away for Jon. Then one day in early

September, Jon noticed the headlines of a newspaper. It read, END OF THE WORLD NEAR. He read it and there was the exact day that Jesus was coming. He rushed home to tell Papa.

"Son," his father said, "I've heard that all my life. Why the last ten years, a dozen men have predicted the day of the end. None of them were right. I don't believe any of them. The world may always be here."

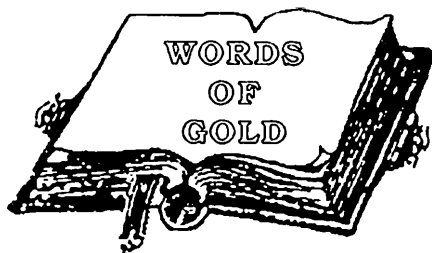
"But what if Christ does come and we're not ready?"

"I'm all right, I treat all men good and go to church on Sunday. You're a good boy. You are all right, too."

Jon could tell his father was unconcerned. He soon found out that his Uncle Theodore, Uncle George, and Aunt Polly were also unconcerned. Everyone's heart seemed bent on getting rich, having a good time and putting God in a charm box to carry around and use when they needed Him.

Then one day Preacher Deacon made an announcement. "As you all know the Dutch Reform church was first started right here in Manhattan Island. It is a perfect spot to evangelize all of New York City. However, our church is steadily losing members, so we have hired missionary Jeremiah Lamphier to reverse this trend. He will be conducting a visitation program that will bring many into the church."

It wasn't long before Jeremiah visited in Jon's home. He tried hard to talk about the Lord, but Jon's papa liked



## The New Heaven and Earth

### Revelation 21:1-e8

**1** And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

**2** And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

**3** And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

**4** And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

**5** And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

**6** And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

**7** He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

**8** But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers [people living very immoral, impure lives], and sorcerers [witches], and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

### 2 Peter 3:10-13

**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.

**The Message: Eternal happiness in the new heaven and earth is awaiting the righteous.**

### Questions:

1. What did John see in this vision?
2. What had happened to the first heaven and earth?
3. From where did the New Jerusalem come?
4. How will the new earth differ from our earth?
5. Where did God promise to dwell?
6. What was He who sat on the throne going to do?
7. What name did God give himself?
8. What will happen to the murderers, whoremongers, sorcerers, idolaters, and liars?
9. For what are God's people looking?

### Verse to Memorize

**Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.**

**2 Peter 3:13.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

There is a story about a small girl whose mother died. Some of the mother's last words to her only child were, "I am going to heaven. Do meet me there."

The sad little girl missed her mother so much that one day she packed a bundle of clothing and started out to find her mother. Knowing that trains went to different places, she got on the train. When the conductor came down the aisle collecting tickets, he asked, "Where is your ticket?"

"I don't have one," she answered.  
"Where are you going?"

"I am going to heaven. My mother went there and I want to go find her. Sir, does this train go to heaven?" the innocent child asked.

The conductor found out the little girl was an orphan so he became her father and took care of her.

We might say the little girl was very ignorant about heaven, but many people are just as ignorant about it. Many believe that God is going to burn over this earth and set up the new heaven and earth on the ashes. Then the people who are very good Christians will be the "big guys;" kings, presidents, lawyers, detectives, etc. of the new earth.

Verse 4 says there will be no tears or sorrow in the new earth. The prophet Samuel tells us that kings bring sorrow, for they tax, they take men's sons for soldiers and their daughters for servants. Jesus will be the only King in the new earth. Also there is to be no more pain in the new earth. Will there be any need for lawyers if there are no more painful problems to bring before lawyers?

The new heaven and earth will be a place of eternal bliss. God will dwell among His people. In one way God dwells with His children now. His spirit is in our hearts as a Comforter, but there are times of chastisement when He seems far away. In that new earth, He will always be near.

Although this is not quite the end of this book, it is a picture of what will happen after the earth is destroyed. Notice that God calls himself Alpha and Omega. That is the name He gave Himself in the beginning of these revelations (chapter 1:8,11). It is very important that we believe that God is the beginning of all things, (the Creator of all) and He is the end of all things. In the end, He will judge and decide if we are eligible to enjoy the new heaven and earth, or if we will be one of those cast into the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone. That is the second death. Revelation 2:11 reads, "...He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death." We must keep our faith in Jesus, and He will help us to overcome every temptation or trial that comes into our lives, then we will be ready to go to heaven as the little girl's mother did.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 419-425.)

—Charlotte Huskey



talking about the great success men had made finding gold in California. Jon had often heard Papa talking excitedly about making more money. He was sure Jeremiah had found that most men he visited had the same interest as his papa.

After several weeks of walking and talking, Jeremiah had to admit that his visitation program was not bringing more people into the church. He then rented a building on Fulton Street in New York City and advertised for prayer meetings. The first prayer meeting five men came and prayed with him. "Mighty few of us," remarked one of the men.

"But God's promise is, '...That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them...'" Jeremiah encouraged. So the few men prayed that God would wake up the thousands that lived in New York City.

Two days later, on September 25, the Bank of Philadelphia failed. "Say Ma," Jon heard his father say, "Squire Boon lost all his money. I'm glad I pulled ours out to buy that cow." Jon could tell his father was uneasy. "Suppose more of us ought to go to Jeremiah's prayer meeting?"

"I'm sure it would help us all," Ma answered.

On October 10 the stock market crashed. People all over New York and the surrounding cities were thrown into a panic. Many families lost, in one day, what they had worked a lifetime to get. Businesses all over town were going broke. Factories closed down. Men were out of work. Women were unhappy. Children were hungry.

"To whom does one turn in times of crisis?" Jeremiah asked the weary people. Then he answered his own question. "Turn to God in prayer. He has the answer for every problem."

Men did turn to God. They flocked to the prayer meetings. Six months later 10,000 people were gathering daily for prayer in New York City alone.

This was one prayermeeting that the media actually helped. Gordon

Bennett of the New York Herald printed many articles about it in February 1858. Not to be outdone, The New York Tribune devoted an entire issue, not only to the prayermeeting but to the revival that had sprung up as a result of the prayermeetings. The telegraph which had been invented in 1837 now had thousands of miles of wire. It carried the revival news westward.

Jon read the newspaper articles. He knew they were true. He also remembered the predictions that the world was to end last year. It hadn't ended. The New Year had come and now it was spring again. He was glad the world hadn't ended. He thought his papa, Uncle Theodore, Uncle George, and Aunt Polly were all in better shape to be judged by God.

Now the news was that revival was spreading to other cities. "Look," Wilbur said, showing Jon a newspaper, "In Chicago the Metropolitan Theater is being filled every day with 2,000 people gathering to pray, and you sure won't believe this. In Louisville several thousand are gathering at the Masonic Temple for prayer each morning, and as far south as Cleveland and St. Louis churches are filled with praying people every day."

"You suppose that God is getting all these people ready cause He's coming soon?" Jon asked.

"Who knows? It would be a good time," Wil answered. "I guess Preacher Deacon and Jeremiah Lamphier found out that prayer meetings will get the people to church faster than any visitation program."

—Charlotte Huskey

[Answers: 1. He saw a new heaven and earth, and the holy city, New Jerusalem. 2. They had passed away. 3. Out of heaven. 4. It will have no more tears, death, sorrow, nor pain. 5. With his people. 6. To make all things new. 7. Alpha and Omega. 8. They will have their part in the lake of fire. 9. For a new heaven and earth.]



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 13, 1994

## Everlasting Happiness

(A true story from history.)

In Carthage, North Africa, a slave answered a knock at the door of her mistress, Perpetua. "It's your father," she called.

Felicitas, the slave, opened the massive hand carved door and let Perpetua's father come in. "What brings you here so early in the morning?" Perpetua asked.

"Emperor Septimus Severus is cracking down on traitors. He's ordered your arrest."

"Me? I'm not a traitor."

"But you've joined the Christians and they show a dangerous lack of loyalty to the Roman government. You know that refusing to sacrifice makes the authorities suspicious. I hear you refused to burn incense to the Roman gods."

"My beloved father, Jesus is my Lord. I cannot worship any other god."

"Perpetua, it's only a patriotic gesture. Worship the god of your choice, but you should comply to the laws of the land..."

A loud crash interrupted her father. The door burst open! "Are you Perpetua?" demanded a burly soldier. He grasped Perpetua's delicate arm in his huge rough hand, whirled on his heels and stared at Felicitas who was crouching in a corner. "And you're Felicitas?" he snarled. "Both of you follow me."

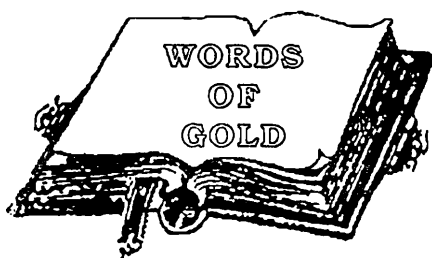
"My baby," cried Perpetua as she struggled to get loose. She felt the soldier's grip tighten as he dragged her on. Knowing she would fall, she hastened after him, calling back to her father, "Please take my dear baby home to Mother."

As she stumbled along, she looked back at Felicitas, great with child, waddling meekly behind. What would become of her beloved slave? They had always been best friends, but now they were real sisters in the family of God.

Thankfully they were both thrown into the same dark dungeon. There they prayed together and encouraged one another. Perpetua could endure joyfully being in prison for Christ, but being away from her son was almost more than she could bear. Felicitas soon gave birth to a son, also. Helping care for him only increased the longing Perpetua had for her only child.

Each time Perpetua's highly respected father visited her, he begged that she give up her faith. "Think of me, your aging father," he would say. "Do not the laws of Christianity teach respect for parents? You are bringing our noble family so low. No decent daughter in this patriarchal society would deny her father's pleas and cause him public disgrace as you have done. The embarrassment is more than I can bear."

Perpetua took her father's large wrinkled hands in her smooth dainty ones. "Father, listen to me," she said as



## Jesus' Bride, The Heavenly Jerusalem

**Revelation 21:9-18, 21-27**

**9** And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

**10** And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

**11** Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

**12** And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

**13** On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.

**14** And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

**15** And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof:

**16** And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

**17** And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.

**18** And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.

**21** And...the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

**22** And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

**23** And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

**24** And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

**25** And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

**26** And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

**27** And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

**The Message: The new Jerusalem is too great to describe, but it is available to all who have their names written in the Lamb's Book of Life.**

### Questions:

1. Who is talking to John?
2. Where did the angel take John?
3. What did he show John?
4. For whom were the gates of the city named?
5. Whose names were on the twelve foundations?
6. What was the shape of the holy Jerusalem?
7. Of what is the city and its wall made?
8. What kind of light does the city have?
9. Why are the gates of the city not closed at night?

### Verse to Memorize:

**And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.**

**Revelation 21:27.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

We have a beautiful picture of the new Jerusalem. It is representing the eternal home of God's saved children. We have no way of knowing just what our future home will look like, so God used the most costly gems and precious metals of the earth to represent it. In last week's lesson, God showed John that our eternal home would be all happiness and no evil of any kind would enter into it. Now we shall take a look at its beauty.

To see the beauty of this city, John was taken up on a mountain. His first impression was that it looked like a "jasper stone, clear as crystal" — a huge diamond! Then he saw that it had twelve gates, each gate named as one of the twelve tribes of Israel. This denotes that the people before Christ, who obeyed Moses's law, were also saved and will live in this holy eternal city. Under the high walls of this city are twelve foundations made also of costly gems. Each is named for one of the twelve Apostles. So the truth which the Apostles preached laid the foundation for the gospel throughout the ages since. That gospel is the foundation of our heavenly city. In the olden days the city walls were for the protection of the city's inhabitants. Twelve layers of foundation under a wall lets us know that it will never sink. Our protection is secure.

Gates are on all sides of the city and they are never closed. What could this mean? I think you know. Yes, it is that people can enter into

this city at any time, and from all parts of the earth.

The city is foursquare. The symmetry is perfect, adding to its beauty. So the perfection of God is in this city. The angel measured the city to be 12,000 furlongs, or 1,500 miles on each side. Who has seen a city so large? Two hundred seventy four cities, the size of New York City with all its suburbs added together could fit into this city. It could reach from New York City on the Atlantic coast going west to Oklahoma City, OK, and from the Gulf of Mexico going north to Winnipeg, Canada. Can you image a city covering all that area? God used these measurements to relay to our minds just how great it is. Its inhabitants will be all the saved from the beginning of this world to the end of this earth.

From where did this great city come? It descended from heaven. This denotes that it originated with God. He is the author and finisher of our faith. Faith in Him will carry us safely through to death, then we may also enter into this glorious city. In one sense we are in the city when we get saved, but oh, how much more glorious to be free from pain and sorrow and forever be with the Lord.

There is never darkness in the city, for God and Jesus shall light it. What will the presence of God be like? In the olden days, when God's presence filled the temple, people could not enter, but some day we will be able to enter into His holy presence and rejoice with Him for the ages of eternity.

Don't you think God did a great job of picturing to us the grandeur of the New Jerusalem?

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 425-436.)

—Charlotte Huskey

tears trickled down her cheeks. "I love and respect you more than I did before I became a Christian."

He shook his head from side to side and went on talking. "Think, too, of your son, so sweet and small. He will be rejected and scorned by society, if you..."

"You must go now," the guard ordered.

Sometime later Perpetua's son was brought to stay with her in the prison. A few days after he came she told Felicitas, "This prison has suddenly become a palace. Why, I would rather be here than anywhere else should that separate me from my son, and I'm feeling better. My worrying about him was breaking me down." Felicitas smiled at the babies. Perpetua knew she understood.

Perpetua and Felicitas both had court trials. Both chose to follow Christ no matter what the cost. They felt to deny Christ was worse than death.

One day while awaiting execution, Perpetua asked, "Have you ever thought about the meaning of our names?"

"Felicitas, means 'happiness,' Perpetua, 'everlasting,' put them together — 'everlasting happiness.' If things don't change, we shall soon enter into everlasting happiness."

"Oh, Perpetua," said Felicitas hugging her new baby, "think of leaving our sons to suffer in this evil world. What if they grow up thinking it more important to obey *state laws* than to obey God's laws? It almost takes away my joy."

"Remember the day we were taken out of prison and to the river and baptized? The brethren promised to care for our little ones. I know they will be in good hands. I feel sure they will diligently teach sound Christian principles to our boys."

"Pray for me that I will be comforted as you are."

Perpetua did pray daily for Felicitas while they were in prison.

The fatal day came. Perpetua and Felicitas were taken from the dungeon with the other two Christians. As they

were being lead to their death, a prison guard commented, "They act as if they are on their way to paradise, not on their way to death."

The huge stone bleachers that enclosed the arena were almost filled to capacity. Men, women, and children waited anxiously to watch the Christians struggle unto death with hungry wild animals. When the Christians were led into the arena the crowd of spectators began shouting, "Turn the lions loose! Clean up the city of Carthage! We don't want Christians here! We don't want Christians!"

A hungry lion was not chosen to kill Perpetua and Felicitas. Instead, a wild, mad, heifer with huge horns was turned loose on them. It charged at Perpetua. In a flash it hooked a horn under Perpetua and tossed her into the air. Then the angry heifer plowed into Felicitas, leaving her sprawled in the arena. The crowd cheered the heifer.

Perpetua jumped to her feet and helped Felicitas up. The beast charged again and again at the two girls.

"You must all stand fast in the faith and love one another. Do not be weakened by what we have gone through!" Perpetua called to the other Christians who would soon be martyred.

The beast did not kill either Perpetua or Felicitas. Their throats were slit by soldiers whose hands were trembling so violently they could hardly control their swords.

Together Perpetua and Felicitas had accepted the Christian faith. Together they endured prison, and together they entered into "everlasting happiness."

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. An angel with one of the seven last plagues. 2. He took him in the spirit to a great and high mountain. 3. The great, holy Jerusalem. 4. For the twelve tribes of Israel. 5. The twelve apostles. 6. It was foursquare. 7. Of jasper and pure gold, like unto clear glass. 8. God and the Lamb (Jesus) are its lights. 9. Because it has no night.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 20, 1994

## A Twenty-five Mile Hike

(A true story.)

"Careful there," a tall Welsh mother said to her six year old daughter, as she stumbled on a tree root growing out across the path.

"It is so dark tonight," Mary answered. "I wish God was here."

"Why do you say that?" Mother asked.

"If God was here, we'd have light on our path."

Mother laughed. "You must be thinking of God's words that the preacher read in church tonight. 'God's Word is a lamp to my feet and a light unto my path.'"

"Oh, how I wish I had a Bible," Mary sighed. "Could we buy one? Teacher says I can read good."

"Bibles are expensive! I could never save that much money! These four years since your father died, I've barely kept food on the table and clothes on our backs."

"Is it really the most important book in the world? Teacher says it is."

"It is, and I do wish you could have one. I tell you what, Mary, if you keep doing well in reading, I'll ask Mrs. Evans if you may read her Bible."

Mary faithfully walked the two miles to school every day. She studied hard. Finally the day came when Mother took Mary to Mrs. Evan's home and asked if Mary could read her Bible.

"Yes, you may," she said. The big, beautiful Bible lay open on a table. "Sit on the chair beside the table and only turn the pages. Don't pick up the Bible," Mrs. Evans told Mary.

Mary began reading. After what seemed to Mary a very short time, Mrs. Evans said, "Mary, you've been reading an hour already. I am shocked that you find the Bible so interesting. You go home now, and next Saturday you can come again and read longer."

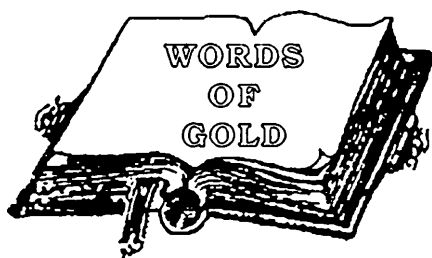
Every Saturday Mary arose early to finish her chores before hurrying to Mrs. Evans to read the Bible. She read two hours each week. Soon she finished one book and started on another.

One Saturday morning while she was kneeling in the river washing her clothes on a smooth rock an idea popped into her mind. "I'm ten years old now. I can wash clothes and earn money to buy a Bible."

She excitedly told her plan. Soon she was earning money. When Mrs. Evans heard about it, she gave Mary some chickens to raise. "When they are grown, the hens will lay eggs which you can sell," she told Mary.

The chickens did lay and Mary sold the eggs. She also found other ways of making money; watching children, pulling weeds from gardens, and knitting socks. Her pile of money grew.

At the end of the first year, she counted her money. She had only about one tenth of what she needed to buy a



## The River of Life

### Revelation 22:1-10

1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

7 Behold, I come quickly; blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

8 And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.

9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book:

for the time is at hand.

### Psalms 1:3

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

### Genesis 3:22,24

22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

### I John 1:5

5 ...God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

**The Message: If a person stays saved, he will drink eternally from the river of life.**

### Questions:

1. From where did the river of life come?
2. What kind of tree was growing beside the river?
3. How often did the tree bare fruit?
4. For what were the leaves of the tree of life?
5. Did any curse remain in this city?
6. Who shall give light to this place?
7. Those who keep the sayings in this Book will be \_\_\_\_\_?
8. What did John do after seeing this vision?
9. Were these prophecies to be sealed?

### Verse to Memorize

**Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.**

**Revelations 22:14.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

We are now finishing up the last book of the Bible. God is showing His people what the end of His great plan of salvation is to be. We have already had two lessons about the new heaven and earth. They are the glorious award awaiting all Christians who are faithful to the end. Another picture of the new earth is before us today.

To be able to enter into this marvelous place, one must have been born again. He must be eating of the tree of life, and drinking of the river of life. We do this by daily studying God's Word, and daily committing our lives anew to Christ. Then in our eternal abode, we shall eat and drink of the good things of that new world.

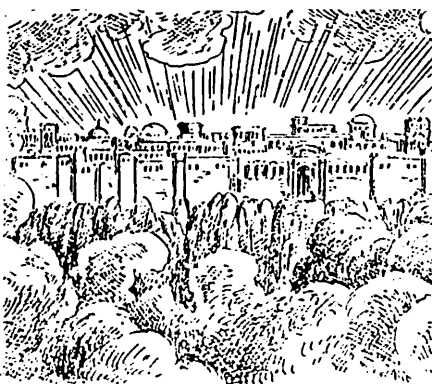
God is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending of all things. Let us compare the beginning with the end, and we shall see how much more glorious the end will be. In the beginning God "created the heaven and the earth." In the end John "saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away." In the beginning Satan entered the domain of God's people to deceive and destroy. In the end he is "cast into the lake of fire and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." In the beginning sickness, pain, sorrow and wretchedness came into the world. In the end, "God shall wipe away all tears, and there shall be no more sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." From the beginning death has claimed millions. In the end, "death and hell were cast into the lake of fire." In the beginning a curse was placed upon this earth.

In the new world, "there shall be no more curse." In the beginning was a beautiful garden containing the tree of life, but man was kept from eating of its fruit. In the end we find the tree of life "in the midst of the Paradise of God," and "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

John was so awed by this vision, that he fell down to worship the angels that showed it, but the angel was not one of the holy Trinity, so he shouted, "See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren...worship God." So the Word is telling us today, worship God. Do not worship anything that God has created. Only worship Him. The devil is trying hard to get people to worship mother earth, the god within you, riches, fame, the physical body and hundreds of other things. The Bible plainly teaches that we are worshipping whatever we love most. Children, do be careful that your affections stay stronger for God than for anything else. You will then have entrance into the new earth that God has been showing us through these revelations.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 437-442.)

—Charlotte Huskey



Bible. However, she never gave up. The following year she worked harder and earned more money. For six years she worked and saved her earnings. When she finally had enough money, she couldn't find a Bible to buy. She was told that only in Bala could she get a Welsh Bible.

"Where is Bala?" Mary asked Mother.

"A long ways from here, Mary. But maybe someone will be going to Bala and can buy it for you."

Time passed and no villager went to Bala. Mary could hardly wait.

"Please let me go," she begged her mother. "I'm sixteen now, old enough to care for myself."

"You can't walk the distance in one day, and where would you stay at night?"

"God will care for me," Mary assured her mother.

Although Mother hated to see Mary go alone, she felt sure God would protect such a noble girl.

Mary bounced along the road like a happy puppy going for its food. When she noticed her shoes getting scuffed, she took them off and walked the rest of the way barefoot.

When she arrived in Bala, she inquired and found Thomas Charles, who sold Bibles.

"I have come to buy a Bible," she said confidently laying her money on his table.

"I am sorry," he answered. "I have only one more Bible which I have already promised to a friend."

Mary fell into uncontrollable crying. "Come quick," Mr. Charles called to his wife. "Something's happening to this girl."

"What is it my dear?" Mrs. Charles asked, as she helped Mary into a chair. She wiped the uncombed hair away from Mary's face. It was then she noticed Mary's parched lips. Hurrying away she brought back a glass of water for Mary.

Mary controlled herself and drank the water. Then she explained, "I live in Llanfihangel. It's twenty-five miles

away, and I've walked all the way. I was tired, hot and afraid, but the thought of having a Bible helped me to trudge on."

"Surely my child, you are making up that story, why your shoes are not worn," interrupted Mr. Charles.

"I carried my shoes most of the way," Mary confessed.

"Let's look at her feet," Mrs. Charles suggested. "Then we will know the truth."

One look at Mary's scuffed, bruised feet convinced Mr. and Mrs. Charles that truly she had walked the twenty-five miles.

"You must take the Bible," Mr. Charles exclaimed. "You deserve it. I will get another Bible for my friend when I go to London."

"Thank you, thank you," Mary said, hugging the Bible. "How nice you are. You see my mother is a widow, too poor to buy me a Bible. I have worked and saved my earnings for six years to buy this book."

Mr. Charles was very impressed with Mary's desire to have a Bible. He spoke to men in London about publishing Bibles in the Welsh language. Fifteen months later the British and Foreign Bible Society was formed. Similar Bible societies were later formed in Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Russia, France, Greece and the U.S.A.

Mary never knew how many people were blessed by her sacrifice to have a Bible. God's Word is now a light to many feet and a lamp to the paths of people in many different countries.

(American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, N.Y., NY 10023.)

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. From the throne of God and the Lamb. 2. The tree of life. 3. Every month. 4. For the healing of the nations. 5. No. 6. The Lord God. 7. Blessed. 8. He fell down and worshipped. 9. No.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 27, 1994

## Two Birthdays

Ann thought birthdays were wonderful! Many weeks before her own birthday, she began looking forward to the great day. Ann also loved to know the date of other's birthdays, so her mother bought her a birthday book.

Each time a guest came to their house she would bring out her birthday book and have them sign their name on the date they were born. One day her father's Christian friend, Mr. Thomas, came to visit. Ann brought out her book. "Would you please write your name on your birth date?" she asked politely.

Mr. Thomas took the book, turned the pages to the correct month and signed his name. Ann reached out her hand to take the book again. Mr. Thomas said, "Wait a minute. You see, I have two birthdays."

Ann's mouth fell open. "How could one man have two birthdays?" she questioned.

Mr. Thomas looked into Ann's questioning eyes and answered. "Every person is really two persons," he explained. "Each has a body. You see my body; I see your body. Everyone also has a spirit, which we cannot see. This spirit is dead while a person is living in sin. Jesus said, 'Except a man be born again, he cannot see the

kingdom of God.' I was born again on October the 10th, ten years ago."

Ann watched as he wrote his name on October 10. "May I hear more about this second birth?" she asked.

"A verse found in Ephesians 2:1 reads like this, 'You hath he quickened, who were dead in...sins.' To *quicken* is to make our dead spirits alive again. The apostle Peter says that 'we are born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible....' I Peter 1:23."

"What is corruptible seed?"

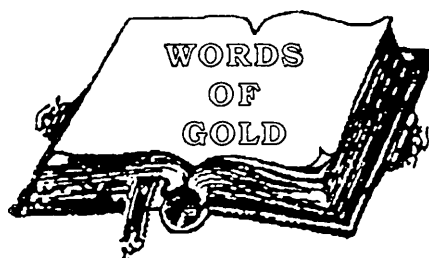
"Our bodies are made of corruptible seed. Anything made of corruptible seed can be destroyed. Our soul is incorruptible. It can never be destroyed. It will be forever in darkness, unless we are born again. If we have this second birth we shall forever live with Christ in happiness."

"But I don't understand how I could be born again. Would I shrink and become a baby again? Would I have to die?"

"Only the spirit is born in the second birth. Jesus makes the spirit alive by removing our sins. This happens when a person is sorry he has offended God."

"Oh, is that becoming a Christian? That doesn't seem so hard," Ann said.

"It isn't hard," answered Mr. Thomas. "You can be born again right



## The End

### Revelation 22:10-21

**10** And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

**11** He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

**12** And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

**13** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

**14** Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

**15** For without are dogs [the unrighteous], and sorcerers [witches], and whoremongers [people living very immoral, impure lives], and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

**16** I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

**17** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

**18** For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

**19** And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

**20** He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

**21** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

### Joshua 1:8

**8** This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

**The Message: We must be careful to know and obey all the Word of God, then we shall be ready when He comes.**

### Questions:

1. Why were these sayings not to be sealed?
2. In what manner will God come?
3. What right will those who keep his commandments have?
4. Who were outside the gates of this city?
5. To whom was the angel sent?
6. What was the angel to do?
7. What does the spirit and the bride say?
8. Who are allowed to come?
9. What will happen to the person who adds to or takes away from this book?

### Verse to Memorize

**This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein...**

**Joshua 1:8.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

We have come now to the very last revelation that God gave to John. In this vision, John sees an angel who talks with him. The angel said, "Do not seal up the saying of this prophecy." It is a history of the Church on earth. God wanted men to understand what was to happen in the church world, and to the Church of God. Enemies of the Church of God were to ride in triumph over her, treading under foot and slaughtering the dear children of God, while they boast themselves to be His universal church. Men might have been discouraged and given up the cause had God not given warning.

God also had a reason for warning that no man should add to, or take away from the prophecies of this book. In this book, He painted ghastly pictures of Mystery Babylon, then committed it into her hands to preserve it. She could have changed it, but if she did, the plagues of the book would fall on her.

The main message in this last chapter is that men must be ready before the end comes. Whosoever is unjust, will remain unjust. Those who are filthy will stay filthy. The righteous and holy will also remain the same when Jesus comes. There will be no special period of time called a millennium in which men will have another opportunity to get right with the Lord. He will come as a thief in the night. A thief comes when he is least expected, so is the coming of our Lord.

Let us all be ready, for those who are ready can go through the gates

of the new earth and eat of the tree of life and live forever. But outside the city, wanting to come in will be the unsaved. This includes, those who are in witchcraft, those who have lived impure lives, murderers, those who love anything more than they love God, and all those who love and make lies.

It seems that the angel felt sad about those being left out, so he gave another call to the unsaved. He says, 'Come, if you are thirsty. Come, whosoever will and drink of the water of life freely.' Jesus' heart is pleading for the unsaved. It is not His will that anyone should perish. He gave His own self a sacrifice that you and I could be saved. Come to Him today.

### **Come and Be Saved**

Jesus came, the Son of God,  
Shed for you his precious blood,  
Oh, behold him dying on the  
cursed tree!

Can you slight his love so true,  
Holding out a crown for you?  
Hasten, sinner, Christ is calling  
loud for thee.

Jesus comes in melting love,  
Drawing you to joys above,  
Gently knocking for admittance in  
thy soul;

Harken to his voice within,  
Warning thee to flee from sin,  
To the kingdom of the Savior's  
sweet control.

Come and be saved, come and be  
saved,  
Take the cross and you shall wear  
a starry crown.

D.S. Warner

Page 411, *Evening Light Songs*.

(Smith F.G., *Revelation Explained*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, p. 442-447.)

—Charlotte Huskey

now if you are willing to stop sinning. Are you willing to do this?"

"Yes, I am," Ann answered.

"Then you must confess your sins to Jesus, ask His forgiveness and He will make you a new creature."

Ann's father who had been listening to the conversation knelt with Mr. Thomas and Ann as he prayed with Ann.

By this time Ann was crying, for she felt so very sorry that she had done wrong. She told Jesus her sins and asked Him to forgive her. She looked happy when she finished praying.

"Now, you have another birthday," Mr. Thomas told Ann. She promptly wrote her name on the date in her book.

Two weeks passed and Aunt Michelle came to visit. Ann brought out her birthday book, as usual, and asked Aunt Michelle to write her birth date. She wrote on the date and handed the book back to Ann. "Write in your other birthday," Ann said.

"I am only one person, so I've only been born once," Aunt Michelle answered. "What kind of creature do you think I am?"

"Mr. Thomas has two birthdays. See, I'll show you. She opened the book and showed Aunt Michelle where he had written his birthday and then showed the date where he had written *born again*. You should have another birthday like that," Ann said.

Aunt Michelle hung her head in shame. "I do not have a second birth," she confessed.

"You can have another birth," Ann encouraged. "It isn't hard. Mr. Thomas helped me pray and now I have two. Look I'll show you." Ann quickly found the page, "See, *born again*."

"Oh you cute little girl," Aunt Michelle said. Then hoping to get Ann to stop talking about it she added, "Will you please show me your new doll?"

Ann laid down her book and ran to get the doll. Aunt Michelle visited just

a short while, and then hurried off home.

"Why did Aunt Michelle leave so soon?" Ann asked her mother.

"I don't think she wanted to talk about being born again. We've all asked her to be saved, but she continually refuses."

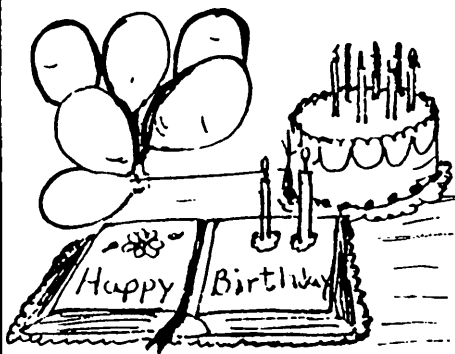
A few weeks later Aunt Michelle came again. "Ann, where is your birthday book?" she asked eagerly. "I have another birthday now. What you said caused me to change my mind about being a Christian."

Happy Birthday to you!

Only one will not do.

You must believe and have two,  
Be born again, won't you?

—Charlotte Huskey



(Answers: 1. The time was at hand that they should happen. 2. Quickly. 3. A right to the tree of life and to enter into the city. 4. Dogs [the unrighteous], sorcerers [witches], whoremongers [people living very immoral, impure lives], murderers, idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. 5. To the churches. 6. To testify of what God was going to do. 7. Come ye that heareth. 8. Whosoever will. 9. If he adds, the plagues of the book will be on him. If he takes away, his name shall be taken away from the Book of Life.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 3, 1994

## Pedro

Pedro stood alone on the corner of the wide empty plaza. Everyone in his village of Calzoncin, Mexico was gathered at the old (Catholic) church for Easter. A great festival of eating, drinking and dancing would follow Easter Mass in the chapel. Pedro's family and a few others were the only ones who didn't believe in these old rituals.

His *papa'* was visiting with Sr. Gomez, the owner of the tortilla shop. Pedro waited patiently by his shaggy donkey loaded with corn. He could smell the fresh corn tortillas cooking on the griddle. *Papa'* had promised to bring him some hot ones, but that was about two hours ago. His empty stomach growled in protest to the long wait. The donkey stomped restlessly.

Suddenly Pedro heard someone saying, "Pedro, come down to the fiesta with us." He turned around and there were his two best friends, Carlos and Lupe. "We've come for you," Carlos said. "Come and eat *posole* and tortillas with everyone. Tie your donkey to a tree. He'll be all right."

"*Papa'* said to stay here until he returns," replied Pedro.

"We'll be back before he comes. You've been waiting a long time. We could see you from the old stone wall of the church courtyard. Come on. We'll help you climb up the bougainvillea vines so you won't have to pay to get inside."

*Posole!* Pedro could taste the spicy meat and corn. But how could he join a crowd which was worshipping idols? They had persecuted his *papa'*, and threatened to burn their house, all because his father believed in a living Savior.

Pedro couldn't be a part of this fiesta that honored a dead Christ. His stomach howled again. Carlos begged. Pedro wanted to keep his promise of loyalty to his Savior, but he was so- o- o hungry.

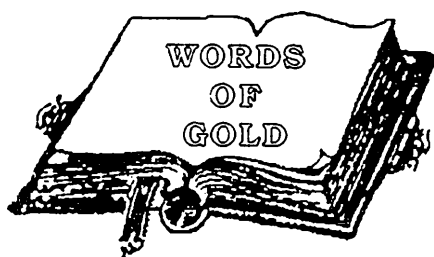
"I won't. I won't! I don't believe its right," he answered.

Lupe shrugged his shoulders. Carlos smirked and said, "Be that way if you want. Hurts you, not me."

Pedro watched his friends running to the big stone church. His hungry eyes sought out the big black pot full of *posole*, and his friends lapping it up with hot tortillas.

Pedro gently patted his donkey. He slumped down to the ground and began drawing pictures in the dust.

Loud shouting awoke him. Jumping up he saw the wailing crowd of people come pouring out of the church courtyard. Towering over their heads he saw a tottering image of St. Mary, carried on four men's shoulders. Beside her, six men struggled under the weight of a coffin. Pedro knew a wooden image of Christ was in the coffin. Men wearing crowns of thorns were singing a sad, mournful song. Boys, in white muslin breeches and shirts, ran here and there shouting joyfully to their friends. Some



## Jesus is Alive!

**Luke 23:42-47, 50, 52-56; 24:1-8**

**New word:** The temple veil was a thick, heavy, leather drapery used as an inside wall between the holy and most holy places.

**42** ...He said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

**43** And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

**44** And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

**45** And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

**46** And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

**47** Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man.

**50** And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just:

**52** This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus.

**53** And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.

**54** And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.

**55** And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid.

**56** And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

**24:1** Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they

came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

**2** And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

**3** And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

**4** And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

**5** And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

**6** He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you...

**7** Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

**8** And they remembered his words.

**The Message: Men have founded many religions, but Christ is the only religious leader who arose from the dead.**

### Questions:

1. The day Jesus died, how many hours was it dark?
2. What happened to the veil (leather drapery) of the temple?
3. What did the Centurion say about Jesus?
4. Who took Jesus' body to bury?
5. Where did he bury the body?
6. What did the women do to help with the burial?
7. When did the women go to anoint Jesus' body?
8. Who met the women at the tomb?
9. What did the angel say to the women?

### Verse to Memorize

**...They said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen:...**

**Luke 24:5-6.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

There are many, many religions in the world, but only the Christian faith can boast that their leader arose from the dead. Each religion was started by some man or woman. Many of these religious leaders were outstanding persons. Some had extraordinary love for others and made unusual sacrifices to demonstrate this love. Some had great wisdom and solved deep mysteries that have helped men. Others had deep spiritual insights they were able to share with others. Many taught people how to live more peacefully upon this earth. Yes, many were wonderful persons and did much good in their lives. However, each one is now dead. Some died for their faith, as did many of their followers. Christ, the founder of the Christian faith is the only religious leader who died for His cause and then rose again.

The account of Christ's resurrection is not only found in the Bible but in history books as well. However, it is not found in the Jewish history. The Jewish people have been taught that Jesus' disciples stole his body to make it appear that He had risen. We shall read about that another Sunday.

Many of the Jews who were at the crucifixion did not believe that Jesus was the Saviour. But when darkness fell in the middle of the afternoon, and the earth began quaking, and graves were opened, many changed their mind. The centurion cried out, "Truly this was the Son of God." Others looked on Him and smote their breast.

In Luke 23:47 it says the centurion said, "...Certainly this was a

righteous man." The centurion believed as other Jews. They believe that "...There is none righteous, no, not one." (Romans 3:10.) When he said that Jesus was a righteous man he was saying that Jesus was truly a God, for only God is righteous.

Often we read about someone boasting that he or she has died and returned to life. I find this hard to believe, for Hebrews 9:27 reads like this, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Is God giving all these people a second chance, or is this a kind of illusion to deceive? Yes, we know Jesus resurrected Lazarus and a few others have been resurrected. But there is real danger in believing every story we hear about "life after death." There is only one "life after death," story we can believe. It is the story that Jesus was crucified and arose on the third day!

—Charlotte Huskey



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mimicked the staggering men who carried half empty wine bottles. Old women waddled along, wiping tears from their eyes with the corners of their long black rebosas. Girls dressed in bright satin blouses walked like queens beside Indian women carrying rainbow colored bouquets of gladiolus, bougainvillea, chicory, daisies, and carnations.

"What a celebration!" Pedro muttered to himself. "Christ isn't dead. He is alive. If only these men knew. But many don't want to know. Mr. Gomez wants to know, that's why *Papa* went to see him." Pedro felt happy that he had helped by caring for the donkey.

He watched the throng as it moved down the dusty street. Surrounding the men carrying the images were other men dressed as Roman soldiers. Judas and Peter followed. Judas wore a dress and a stocking pulled down over his head. He carried a long horsewhip and popped it at the boys who teased him. Peter, in a robe, walked with his head cast down.

Pedro watched as the whole procession stopped. They set down the platform with its images, then bowed on their knees and began chanting mournfully. Then the chanting died away. The images were lifted and the procession moved on to the next street corner. Again people fell on their knees and chanted a song prayer. One drunk man fell against Judas and received a stinging swat with the horsewhip. He howled and fell over into a drunken daze. The crowd stepped around him and moved on.

Clouds of dust, raised by thousands of scuffling feet, almost hid the image from Pedro's view. It neared the corner where Pedro stood and was again set down. Immediately the crowd fell to their knees.

Suddenly from out of the dust Pedro heard a harsh voice cry out, "Kneel down, boy. Kneel down, I say. Don't you see God is here?"

Pedro shuddered. He remember the commandment, "Thou shalt have no

other Gods before me...nor bow down to them."

"No," he replied politely, "that is not God. God is not made of wood; He is a Spirit, and He tells us to worship Him in spirit and in truth."

The man looked at Pedro with sad, curious eyes. He chanted his prayer and shuffled along with the crowd when it moved on down the dusty street.

Later that same day Pedro's *Mama* sent him with some fresh mint tea for Sr. Gomez. Pedro saw the man who told him to bow, standing in front of the tortilla shop. He hurried to the rear door. When he came out the man caught Pedro by the arm and said, "Who taught you how to worship God?"

"God's Word, the Bible," Pedro answered.

"Where can I find a Bible? I want to read it," said the man.

"I will give you a book of the Bible," answered Pedro. "Come here to the plaza next week and I will bring it with me."

The next week Pedro took with him some gospels that a missionary had left at his father's house. Several men were waiting for him and each of them took a gospel. They had a long talk. Pedro invited them to a Bible study in his father's house.

The men returned many times to Pedro's home to pray, study the Bible and sing praises to a living Christ.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. It was dark three hours. 2. It was torn in the middle. 3. He was a righteous man. 4. Joseph. 5. In a new sepulchre chiseled from a rock. 6. They prepared spices and ointments for His body. 7. Early the first day of the week. 8. Two angels. 9. He is not here! He is risen! Remember He said that He would be crucified and the third day rise again.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 10, 1994

## Jim, The Crossing Guard

Old Jim was the school crossing guard. To the children, old Jim was very important, because he always got them across the street safely. What was more, *he always knew the time.*

When Jim walked to the middle of the road and raised his hands and stopped the traffic and blew his whistle, they knew it was safe to cross. Usually as they walked past him, they would ask, "How many Jim?"—meaning, "How many minutes before the school bell rings?"

Sometimes the answer was "Four!"—sometimes, "Three!"—sometimes "Two!" When there was but one minute to go, he would shout: "One minute to go—run for your lives!" And run they would.

All through life we shall find that we are the losers when we are late. If late for school, we break a rule; if late for dinner, we may have to go hungry; if late for the bus, we are left behind. And so it goes, as everyone knows.

But there is One who is never late; the Eternal God is always on time. "In the fulness of time God sent forth His Son." (Gal. 4:4.) "In due time Christ died for the ungodly." (Rom. 5:6.) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, He will come again for His own. (1 Cor. 15:52.) And God has appointed a day in which He will judge this world for its wickedness. (Acts 17:31.)

Old Jim knew the time because he believed his watch. We know God's time

to be saved, because we believe the Bible.

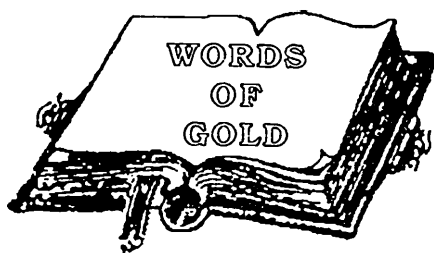
"Behold," He says, "now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (II Cor. 6:2.)

When the bell was about to ring, Old Jim warned the children "Run for your lives!" And long ago a man named Lot was told to do the same thing. God said to him, "Escape for thy life." (Gen. 19:17.)

That was a life-or-death warning, for shortly afterwards brimstone and fire from the Lord rained down upon the city where Lot lived. Everything and everybody was destroyed. Why? Because of its wickedness. Oh that everyone would obey God's warning today and "flee from the wrath to come;" or He will come "in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. (II Thess. 1:8.) If you repent and believe the gospel His coming will not be an unwanted surprise. —Selected from *Messages of the Love of God*

## Grandma Thelma's Surprise

Grandma Thelma lived in a cottage at the edge of a great woods in Michigan. She was 85 years old and almost blind, however she could see light and some shapes. She had lived so many years near the woods that she had some favorite trees. These she could still identify by their shape.



## Mary's Surprise

John 20:1-7, 10-18

**New word:** *Rabboni* means: "My honored and beloved Teacher."

1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.

3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.

4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.

5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.

6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie,

7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping; and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

**Message: Jesus has surprises for those who love Him and will take time to visit with Him.**

### Questions:

1. Where did Mary go early in the morning?
2. What was her first great surprise?
3. Who came with Mary to see if Jesus was gone?
4. After the disciples had gone away, who lingered at the tomb?
5. What was Mary's second surprise?
6. Her third and greatest surprise was?
7. What problem was Mary hoping to solve?
8. What did both Jesus and the angel ask Mary?
9. Did waiting help Mary solve the problem?

### Verse to Memorize

**But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;...they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.**

**Isaiah 40:31.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Peter and the other disciple raced to the tomb. So to start this lesson, let's have a race. Divide into two groups and let's see which group can answer the most of the questions about this lesson. Each correct answer brings you nearer the tomb.

Here are more questions to add to those on page two: 10. What did Mary believe had happened to Jesus? 11. Who told the disciples that Jesus had been stolen? 12. Which one entered the tomb first? 13. Where were the two angels? 14. Who did Mary believe Jesus to be? 15. What did Mary call Jesus? (Answers on page 4.)

What did the winning team gain? What did the young disciple gain, who outran old Peter? You gained satisfaction. The disciples gained evidence that would help themselves and millions of others to believe that Jesus is the living Saviour of the world. Although Jesus had hinted to His disciples that He would rise again, they did not know the Old Testament scriptures that prophesy of His death and resurrection. They had to base their decision on whether He was alive, on factual evidence. For the next four Sundays we shall study the evidence that proves Jesus to be alive.

Mary was first to discover that Jesus was missing from the tomb. She thought that someone had forced open the tomb and robbed His body, so she went to get the disciples to help her find where the body had been taken. The men had come and seen the tomb empty. They left and she was again alone in the cemetery. Restlessly, she peeked with tear-filled eyes into the tomb again. Then she saw the

angels! One said, "Why are you crying?"

"Because they have taken away my Lord," she sobbed.

Immediately she felt the presence of someone behind her. Turning slightly she caught a glimpse of a man whom she supposed to be the caretaker. He said, "Why are you crying?"

Not wanting to waste time talking, she blurted out, "If you have taken my Lord away, tell me, where have you put him?"

Jesus answered, "Mary." Then she knew it was Him!

How surprised Mary was. "My honored and beloved Teacher!" she exclaimed.

Would Mary have received these happy surprises had she hurried away from the cemetery? No. Mary's love and patience caused her to get a special surprise. Her determination to seek a solution for her problem got her this blessing. How many times have we missed a blessing because we hurried away from our secret place of prayer? How many surprises have we missed because we did not seek God for the solution to our problems? God wants to bless people, but to get these blessings from God, we must go by God's rules of seeking and knocking. Yes, God has great surprises for the Christian who will take time to be alone with Him.

—Charlotte Huskey



Nothing made Grandma happier than to sit in her rocker by the window and watch the snow flurries floating to the ground. The light reflecting off the flakes made them very plain for her to see. One day she had watched it snow all day. Late in the evening she was so overcome with delight by the whiteness that lay in every direction that she ventured outside.

She shuffled her unsteady feet down the long driveway to her favorite Douglas fir. Its branches bowed by the weight of the snow. She scooted under its branches and pretended she was in a cave, protected from the storm that raged outside. Tiring of this simple play, she moved on from tree to tree, shaking the snow from their branches. In her mind she was again a child, maybe 13,  $(8+5=13)$ , instead of 85. On and on she went, deeper and deeper into the woods, until suddenly she was surrounded by unfamiliar tree shapes.

She looked up, the snow was falling harder. The north wind howled. She tightened her coat belt to keep the icy wind out, and started back to the driveway. But where was the driveway? The snow had covered her footprints so that her eyes could not find them. Where was her cottage? "It's this way," she told herself, rushing ahead in panic. Everything looked so much the same, white, white, white. Tears filled her eyes making it more difficult to see.

In her excitement Grandma had forgotten He who had helped her through many difficulties. Suddenly she remembered and cried out, "God, please help me."

At that moment her weary cold feet stopped their hurried shuffling, and stood still. Then Grandma Thelma turned around and started back the way she had just come. She felt a sweet calmness edging its way into her mind, forcing away the fear. Step by step she inched her way through the trackless snow. Before long, she saw a strange

shape. Reaching out, she felt the fence. "My boundary line!" she shouted. "I can follow it to my back door."

Clinging to the fence she moved slowly along until she came to her back gate. "Thank you God for the surprise," she said as she entered her back door.

The next morning when Dan came to shovel snow for Grandma Thelma, he noticed the footprints on the drive, leading to the front door. Someone had been prowling around, he thought. He walked all around the house to see if they had tried to get in a window. There he found footprints right up to the back door. So, the prowler had come up from the woods, he thought. He followed the tracks down the fence through the woods and to the river, then back and forth through the woods. "This is odd," he exclaimed. "Footprints are everywhere, going in all directions."

He hurried back to the house to tell Grandma Thelma. "Mrs. Thelma," he said excitedly. "There are footprints..."

"Don't worry, they are mine," she said.

"Your? Yours? I followed those footprints, and they lead right up to the riverbank, right to where the drop-off is most steep. If you had taken even one more step forward..."

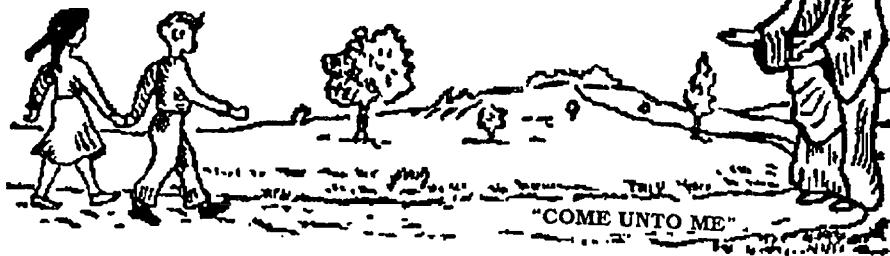
"Thank you, God, for another surprise, for turning me around just before I plunged down the riverbank to my death."

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. She went to see about Jesus. 2. The tomb was open and Jesus was gone. 3. Peter and another disciple. 4. Mary. 5. An angel spoke to her. 6. Jesus speaking with her. 7. She was hoping to find Jesus. 8. Why are you crying? 9. Yes. 10. That Jesus' body had been stolen. 11. Mary. 12. Peter. 13. One sat at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus had lain. 14. The gardener. 15. Rabboni.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 17, 1994

## One Solitary Life

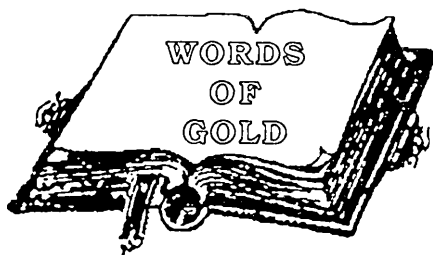
Here is a man who was born of Jewish parents in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put his foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. He had nothing to do with this world except the naked power of His divine manhood. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying—and that was His coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and today He is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that One Solitary Life.

## The Holy Time

The holy time of Easter is the time when green buds break... The time of rising sap when blossoms burst and seeds awake... The time when fresh and glorious life pulsates in everything... When sunlight warms the fields, when flowers unfold and songbirds sing.

The time when Nature lifts her voice to hail her risen Lord... and in the soul new hopes are quickened and old faith restored... The holy time of Easter is the time when there should be... a resurrected Christ in every lovely thing we see.



## The Lie

**Matthew 27:62-66**

**62** Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate,

**63** Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again.

**64** Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first.

**65** Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can.

**66** So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

**Matthew 28:1-7, 11-15**

**1** In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

**2** And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

**3** His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:

**4** And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

**5** And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

**6** He is not here: for he is risen,...Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

**7** And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

**11** Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done.

**12** And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers,

**13** Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept.

**14** And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.

**15** So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

**The Message: It is unreasonable to believe that Jesus was not the divine Son of God, for the entire world has changed because of Him.**

### Questions:

1. Who asked Pilate to have Jesus' tomb guarded?
2. Why did they want the tomb guarded?
3. Do you believe Pilate doubted the tomb could be made sure? Why?
4. Who broke the seal and moved the stone?
5. What happened to the security guards when the angel appeared?
6. Did the guards tell the priest what had happened?
7. What was given to the guards so they would not tell the truth?
8. Who promised to protect the guards if the truth came to the governor?
9. What is commonly told among the Jews?

### Verse to Memorize

**A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish.**

**Proverbs 19:9.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Jesus really is the Son of God, for the whole world has changed because of Him. It is very evident that many things about His trial and death were done dishonestly. (Telling the lie that the disciples stole Jesus' body is just one of them.) Have you known of anyone who was arrested in the evening and who was tried the same night? Yes, all night long Jesus' prosecutors hounded accusations at Him. What happened to Jesus' chance to get an attorney to speak for him? Why was He not given the opportunity to build His case and defend Himself? Why did the presiding judge not adjourn the trial in the evening and continue it the following morning? There might be different answers to these questions. But a very important one is that Jesus was being tried by people feverishly anxious to convict and kill him.

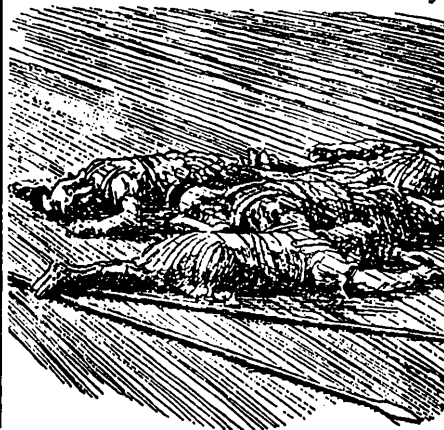
Their anxiety increased when he was still living Friday evening. The following day was the Sabbath. They pretended to be wanting to keep the Sabbath to please God. "We must get Him off the cross before sundown," they said, "for God would be displeased if we do any work after that time, for it is a holy Sabbath of God." They must have forgotten that God said, "I love mercy rather than sacrifice," and that all God's laws are based on love. He wants only justice for every man.

How could any person in Jerusalem believe a report that came from such prejudiced, bloodthirsty leaders? But many did and that is why it is commonly reported among the Jews that Jesus was not resurrected.

There are people who are not Jews, who say that Jesus was not Lord but only a man. They say He never arose. If He was only a man like other religious leaders, why has the world never been the same since He lived? The broad ages that span time from the first Easter morning until now have always had followers of this Jesus. Today there are millions of Christ's believers around the world. Even those who choose not to follow Him are affected by His coming, for every calendar has its reference point in the year of Jesus' birth. Jesus wrote no books, established no school nor university, led no armies, explored no new territories, nor conquered a nation.

He died at the age of 33. His death was not honored, but was that of a common criminal. Yet after His resurrection His small group of frightened disciples became filled with His power and boldly preached, "There is salvation only through the *name of Jesus*." This small movement changed the entire world. Who then could believe that Jesus' body was taken out of the grave by His followers, and that He did not walk out of the grave by His own *power*? Yes, Jesus' trial and crucifixion were a fraud, but it was all in God's plan that each of us could have salvation through His resurrected Son.

—Charlotte Huskey



## A Roman Soldier's Story

I loved Him not—and yet, I could not  
hate Him.

I was a ROMAN...He was but a  
Jew.

Yet, there He hung, and agonized for  
others.

Was ever love of MAN so pure and  
true?

Upon the cross between two thieves  
they hung Him.

(And now, my stylus falters as I  
write—

For I must stand and see His awful  
anguish;

Must watch the daytime turn to  
darkest night.)

One thief cried out, "If Thou be Lord,  
then save us!"

The other looked at Him with glaz-  
ing eyes,

And said, "Remember me, Lord, in  
Thy kingdom."

Christ said, "Today, thou'lt be in  
Paradise."

The hours dragged on; yet there He  
hung suspended

'Twixt Heaven and earth. Ah, 'twas  
an awful sight!

I'd seen such sights before—I was a  
soldier—

Yet ne'er before did day become as  
night.

For three long hours the darkness lay  
around us;

The rocks were rent and lightning  
flashed around.

One called, "The veil is rent within the  
Temple!"

And saints rose from their graves  
within the ground.

I dared not look.... The sky grew  
darker, darker—

Until it seemed like midnight all  
around.

And then I cried out, "Stop my ears, O  
Father!"

For I had heard His blood drip to  
the ground.

They said to me, "Go pierce His side,  
proud Roman."

But ah...my spear hung heavy at  
my side—

For, once more He had cried out to  
His Father.

I would that in His place I might  
have died!

I could not thrust...and so they called  
another.

The blood and water poured out  
from His side.

The people smote their breasts and  
left Golgotha.

I knew then that it was THE  
CHRIST who died.

His seamless coat lay folded on the  
ground there.

(They said the lot had fallen unto  
me.)

With reverent, trembling hands I  
touched its border.

Then placed it where no human  
eye could see.

The day grew old. The thieves' legs  
had been broken;

And men came now to take our  
Lord away.

More worthy lips than mine shall tell  
the story

Of how Christ rose that Resurrec-  
tion Day.

—Mrs. Leo R. Goodwin

(Answers: 1. The chief priests and the Pharisees. 2. So no one could steal the body of Jesus. 3. Yes, because he said, "Make it as sure as you can." 4. An earthquake and an angel. 5. They became as dead men. 6. Yes. 7. A lot of money. 8. The elders. 9. That Jesus' disciples came by night and stole him.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 24, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

*(The Conversion of Amador Roberto)*

Amador looked out the rickety bus window watching the rugged Sierra Madre Occidental mountains of Durango, Mexico, fading in the distance. The ancient diesel passenger bus roared onto the highway and headed north. His best friend, Hilberto, occupied the seat with him. "What did your dad say when you told him you were leaving?" Hilberto questioned.

"He said, 'You're old enough to make your way in the world.'"

"And your mom?"

"Ah, you know how mom's are. She cried, and said, 'Don't go too far away, I want to see my little boy again.'"

"Did they say a prayer for you?"

"They sure did. We went to the church Sunday. There we bowed and prayed at the feet of the Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, and the Señor del Aflijido (Lord of the Afflicted). He is my patron saint and my dad's."

"Those saints are nothing but stone idols," snarled a man who was sitting across the aisle. "Do they help a guy when he's sick or in trouble?"

"Sure, they help everyone who prays to them," Amador answered confidently.

"Didn't help me when I had eye surgery. That's why I'm blind today."

"Did you pray and give an offering?" Hilberto questioned.

"Yes, I did. I gave those dumb idols everything I had, even sold my house and gave 'em that money. They are nothing but statues of marble or cement, just stone, that is all, or maybe plaster of Paris."

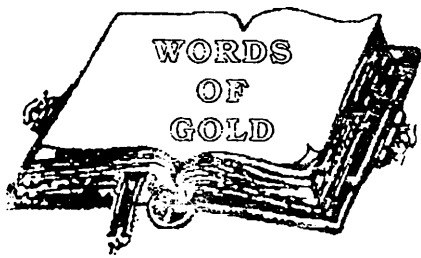
"Say," Amador shouted, his voice sounding high pitched and angry, "if you weren't blind, I'd smack you one. There's nothing I hate worse than a man disrespecting a holy saint."

"You sound like a mighty young guy. Just wait, life will teach you a few things, too. Some day you'll think differently."

Amador said no more. He remembered that Dad had cautioned him not to fight, and Mom said to always respect elders.

After two days and a night jostling over narrow, winding roads, Amador and Hilberto stepped off the bus in Mexicali, a city on the U.S. and Mexico border. Amador thought that only being inside a pot of boiling water could be as hot as that July day. He licked his parched lips and looked at his fingers to see if they were curling up like he'd seen bacon curl in a hot skillet.

"Got any more of that bread your mom baked?" Hilberto asked, as they



## Jesus Goes Through Walls

**John 20:19-20, 24-31**

**19** Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

**20** And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

**24** But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

**25** The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

**26** And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

**27** Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

**28** And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

**29** Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed; blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

**30** And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

**31** But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son

of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

**Mark 16:14-18**

**14** Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

**15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

**16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

**17** And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

**18** They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

**The Message: All things are possible for Jesus, even going through walls, and living eternally as He is doing.**

**Questions:**

1. Was any door opened when Jesus entered the room?
2. How did Jesus prove that He was not a spirit?
3. Which disciple was not in the room?
4. What must Thomas do in order to believe?
5. How many days was it before Thomas saw Jesus?
6. Were the doors shut this time when Jesus entered the room?
7. What were Jesus' first words to Thomas?
8. Did Jesus do many other signs which are not written in this book?
9. Why are these things written?

### Verse to Memorize

**...Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.**

**Mark 10:27.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

In a small town in mid-Oklahoma the sun is just coming up on Sunday morning. Michael awakes just enough to remember that his best friend, Don, was killed by a sniper bullet last Wednesday. He moans. Don was a great guy, always laughing and saying something funny. Regardless of how low they felt, Don could cheer them.

Thursday, after Don's death, Michael failed a spelling test. Now he has to write every misspelled word ten times. He moans again. Just the thought makes his arm ache. Friday he failed a math test. Now he can't go on the field trip. "Oh, if I could just talk to Don, I'd feel better," Michael mutters. But Don is gone. He will never again come to Michael's house.

Quietly he pulls on his clothes and sneaks out of the house. Getting out his bike that he hadn't ridden for months, he peddles towards the near-by cemetery where Don is buried. Nearing the entrance he meets Kent, Phil, Tip, Debbie, Heather and Allison running like frightened rabbits out the gate and down the sidewalk. Michael rides up beside them. "Grave robbers have stolen Don!" Phil says between gasps. "The casket is there, but it's empty"

"And I saw his ghost," Heather added. "He even talked."

"I don't believe a word of it," Michael retorts. "I never did believe in ghosts. I'll see for myself."

"Better be careful." Kent cautions. "If you're seen in the cem-

etery, you might get prosecuted as the thief. We're getting away from here."

Michael enters the cemetery and quietly nears the grave. Wow! There is a mound of freshly turned dirt at the side of a huge hole. An empty casket is at the bottom.

Later that day the whole gang is sitting in Michael's family garage which they call their *club house*. Suddenly, Don appears. He is laughing, as he always did. He had not knocked. Neither door is open, and the window is still locked shut. No one asks, "Is that really you, Don?"

Sounds like a make-believe story? Well, it is. But that is exactly what happened to Peter, John, Andrew, James and some of the other Apostles. Without opening a door or window, Jesus was in the room with them. This happened two different times.

Many other times he visited with them. At one of these visits there were 500 brethren in the group.

—Charlotte Huskey

## There Is No Death

There is no death: spring's  
cuckoo bird repeats it;  
The hills and valleys echo and  
commend it;  
Like Lazarus, the spirit hears  
and greets it;  
The death watch ends; the weary  
watchers end it.

There is no death: death's very  
headstone proves it  
For lo, an unseen hand as light  
as breath  
Stirs in the dark, stirs the great  
stone and moves it—  
And He stands there...O soul,  
there is no death.

walked among the buses looking for another bus going to Algodones.

"I have one hunk and some crumbs," Amador answered as he set down his blue plastic backpack and began fishing around in it.

"There's the bus!" Hilberto shouted.

"Then hurry, I don't want to spend the night in this station among all these strangers," Amador said. He crammed the bread back in the pack and dashed behind Hilberto as he darted in and out among a dozen or more large transport buses.

While seated on the bus going to Algodones, he gave Hilberto half the remaining bread. "You're always welcome to half of what I have," he said.

"And you, half of mine," Hilberto answered. "We'll stick together wherever we go, whatever we do."

"It's a deal."

The boys found work harvesting crops in the fertile Mexicali valley. The hateful, ceaseless pounding of the blazing sun burned their skin. Their skin cracked, blistered and peeled away in great sheets. It reminded Hilberto of the time he had watched a snake shed its old skin. When the old, tough, thicker skin was gone the soft, new skin was exposed. The teeth of the sun bit into the tender skin making new blisters, which turned into sores, and the salty sweat sharply pricked. At night they bathed in this stinging sweat and fought mosquitos who drew blood as if they were public donors.

Mr. Ramirez, another suffering worker, invited them to share his meals and the tree under which he found a little protection.

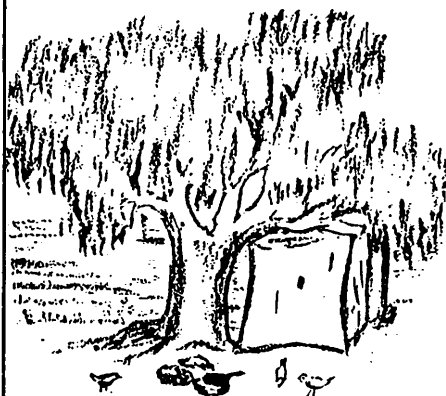
All the months of July, August and September they endured the savage hammering of the scorching sun. By October the harshness of the sun had slowed, and as suddenly as it went,

the cold came rushing in. The tarpaulins hanging from the tree branches afforded little comfort. The boys knew they must find a better place to live before winter.

When the boys left home, they were headed for the United States to find a good paying job. But every time a chance came, well, suddenly it disappeared. One day after another disappointment came and they decided to go to Tijuana and try their chances of getting over the border from that point.

One look at that busy border city and the boys decided to go south to Ensenada, the next big city. "At least we can catch fish out of the bay if we haven't anything to eat," Amador said.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. No. 2. He showed his pierced hands and side. 3. Thomas. 4. He must see and put his finger into the print of the nails and thrust his hand into Jesus' side. 5. Eight days. 6. Yes. 7. "Reach thy finger and behold my hands and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side, and be not faithless, but believing." 8. Yes. 9. So "that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God: and that believing ye might have life through his name.")

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 1, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

(Continued from last week.)

Amador and Hilberto used their last pesos for the ticket and slept in a bus station in Ensenada that night.

The sun was shining brightly when they awoke. They walked around town a bit, then headed straight into the cool ocean breeze, hoping to find the wharf. The streets were wide and clean. There were no smug stains on the building like they had seen in other large cities. Soon they turned a corner and saw boats of many shapes and sizes. Behind them was a big, white oceanliner with a strange flag billowing from its mast. Beyond the boats and the ship, blue water stretched as far as they could see. On the left was a yacht in dry dock. Some men were painting the yacht red and gray. Sea gulls circled over the fishing boats anchored in the bay and dipped into the water when wastes were thrown overboard. Sea lions were sunning themselves on a small wooden dock out in the water, and in the distance they saw an island.

"All this water must have plenty of fish," Hilberto said. "I'm hungry enough to eat a raw one."

"There is a boy fishing, maybe we could borrow his line," Amador suggested, hurrying towards him. "Having any luck?" he questioned as he sat down on a rock beside the stranger.

"Sure," the boy answered displaying his fish.

"Wow! What big ones!" both boys gasped.

"They're small. Most always I catch 'em as long as my arms," the boy bragged.

"Mm, they look delicious," Amador said as he counted: one, two, three...ten. "Say what could one boy do with so many big fish?"

"Share them with friends," he answered. "I live with my aunt and she is away, working in Los Angeles, so I'm all alone. Would you boys like to have lunch with me today?"

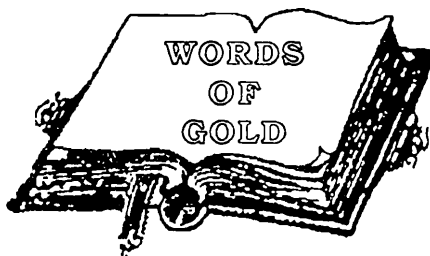
Amador could hardly believe his ears! This was great!

"Well, would you?" he repeated.

Quickly they both answered, "Sure!" Later, while wolfing down fried fish filet and corn tortillas they told their new friend that they needed a job and a place to stay. "I can't let you stay here without my aunt's permission, but our friend, Sr. Ayala, has a car repair shop. Maybe he has work for you."

The shop where the boys found work was on one of the busiest intersections of Ensenada. Five main streets intersect at this point, forming what looks like the spokes of a large wheel. In the hub of this great wheel is a small round park and a huge, bronze statue of Benito Juarez. He was the poor, Indian shepherd who became Mexico's great defender of the oppressed.

Day after day the boys washed cars, carried out trash, swept floors, and ran dozens of errands. With Mr. Ayala's



## Fish For Breakfast

**John 21:1-15, 21-23**

1 After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberia;...

2 There were together Simon Peter,... Thomas... Nathanael... the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.

3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.

6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he... did cast himself into the sea.

8 And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land,...) dragging the net with fishes.

9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.

10 Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.

11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

12 Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine....

13 Jesus then cometh, and taketh

bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.

14 This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.

15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

21 Peter seeing him [another disciple] saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?

22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.

23 Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?

**The Message: In Christ's kingdom, love is the ruling motive, and greatness is attained by serving others.**

**Questions:**

1. What did the disciples decide to do?
2. When Jesus appeared, how many fish had they caught?
3. After obeying Jesus, how many did they catch?
4. Since arising, how many times had He appeared to them?
5. What did Jesus serve the disciples?
6. What did Peter love more than fishing?
7. In what way did Jesus ask Peter to serve?
8. Can you name some ways Jesus served others?
9. How can we be greatest in the kingdom of God?

### Verse to Memorize

**...Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.**

**Mark 10:44.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Everyone of us have certain manners about our lives. It is our way of life. Is the way we are living proving to the world that we are truly Christ's follower?

Criminal investigators look careful at the way a crime is done. That is the *method of operation*, called the M.O. of the criminal. Very often the M.O. discerned in a crime is a clue that helps investigators identify suspects. Every criminal leaves little "tattle tale" clues at the scene of each crime. Sometimes serial killers can be identified by the way they kill or the weapon they use. Certain thieves rob only specific kinds of businesses, etc.

Jesus' M.O. was serving. That was plainly seen in everything He did. Even His appearance after His resurrection was to serve others. He came to Mary in the garden to comfort her. He calmed the fears of the frightened disciples who were shut up in a room for fear of the Jews. Later He made a special effort to show Thomas His hands and side. Always serving, that was His M.O.

Jesus and also the angel told the disciples that He would meet them in Galilee, so Peter, John and some other disciples went on north to the sea of Galilee. There they fished while waiting for Jesus. One time they fished all night but caught nothing. Returning to shore early the following morning, the hungry disciples heard someone call, "Do you have any meat?"

"No."

"Then cast your net one more time on the right side of the ship," the voice called. Suddenly the net had 153

large fish caught inside. They struggled to get the net to shore without breaking it.

Jesus had taught the people that to be great, one must become a servant. Throughout His life He had demonstrated this teaching by serving others. Again He chose this role, and served the weary fisherman a breakfast of bread and fish.

When they were through eating, Jesus assured Peter that he was again one of the Master's chosen servants. Jesus told Peter he could serve by feeding Christ's sheep and lambs. How comforted Peter must have felt that he could again be useful to his Master whom he had denied. Peter accepted the offer and formed a *method of operation*, M. O., that is a great example for anyone to follow. What kind of a M.O. are you leaving? The M.O. of Jesus is servitude. His followers can also be identified by the M.O. of servanthood. If you were arrested today for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?

—Charlotte Huskey

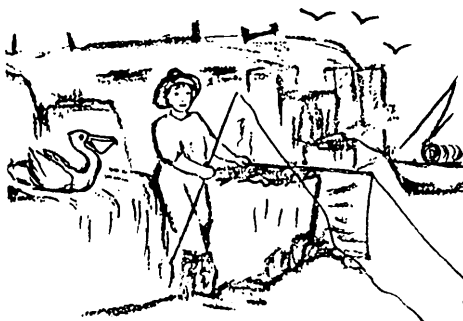


permission, they slept in a junk car behind the shop. Wages were enough to buy food, clothes and sometimes a little entertainment. Things were pretty good until one cold February morning when Mr. Ayala came to work very grumpy. "Boys," he said, "you'll have to find another place to sleep."

Amador and Hilberto had made friends with other boys living on the street. Now they pooled their money and rented one small room about 2 X 3 meters. Each paid an equal share of the rent. Some of the gang were known by nicknames. One of the boys kind of danced when he walked. He was called *Vailador*, (dancer). Another was called *Espejo con Patas*, (mirror with feet), because it seemed impossible to sneak up on him. One liked darkness; they called him the *Cucarachá* (roach). *Manos Grandes*, (big hands) was the nickname of a boy who carried in a lot of stolen goods. Not long after they got set up, Ramon joined them. He was a quiet mysterious person, but gave them no trouble, so the seven lived together peaceably.

"We've all been invited to a *fiesta*," announced Vailador one rainy March evening. Three things make up a *fiesta*; people, good food and music. *Fiestas* are a time of escape, of leaping out of the walls of problems. Nobody talks quietly. Hats fly, laughter rings and music blasts. In less time than a monkey can pick a splinter from his toe, five of the boys were dressed up and on their way to the dance.

(To be continued next week.)



## Give Them The Flowers Now

Closed eyes can't see the white roses,  
Cold hands can't hold them, you know,

Breath that is stilled cannot gather  
The odors that sweet from them blow.

Death, with a peace beyond dreaming,  
Its children of earth doth endow;  
Life is the time we can help them,  
So give them the flowers now!

Here are the struggles and striving,  
Here are the aches and the tears;  
Now is the time to be smoothing  
The frowns and the furrows and fears.

What to closed eyes are kind sayings?  
What to hushed heart is deep vow?

Naught can avail after parting,  
So give them the flowers now!  
Just a kind word or a greeting,

Just a warm grasp or a smile—  
These are the flowers that will lighten  
The burdens for many a mile.

After the journey is over  
What is the use of them; how  
Can they carry them who must be  
carried?

Oh, give them the flowers now!  
Blooms from the happy heart's garden  
Plucked in the spirit of love;  
Blooms that are earthly reflections  
Of flowers that blossom above.  
Words cannot tell what a measure  
Of blessing such gifts will allow  
To dwell in the lives of many,  
So give them the flowers now!

—Leigh M. Hodges

(Answers: 1. Go fishing. 2. None. 3. 153. 4. Three. 5. Fish and bread. 6. He loved Jesus most. 7. By feeding the sheep and lambs. 8. By healing the sick, by feeding the 5,000 men, by dying for the sins of the world. There are also many other ways He served. 9. By serving others.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 8, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

(Continued from last week.)

At one place, as the boys made their way to the *fiesta*, the street dipped sharply into the "usually dry" riverbed. A small, Ford van was off the cement and stuck in the wet sand. "Say, boys," the driver asked, "could you push me out?"

"Sure, if you'll give us a ride?" The agreement was made, and the van was soon back on the street. "I am a Christian," the driver said, as he drove them toward the *fiesta*. "The Church of God has Young People's meeting every Saturday afternoon. You're all invited. Come anytime."

A few weeks later the boys found the little brown church. "It looks like a house; no stained glass windows, no bell tower, no arches nor decorations," Hilberto whispered.

Peeking in the open door, they saw two rows of hard benches facing a simple pulpit covered only with a pink scarf. The man, speaking to a dozen or more teenagers, was dressed like a business man. "What kind of church is this without one image of a saint?" Amador questioned.

The boys sat near the door, and listened as the pastor, Sr. Arevalo, read Luke 15:8, "...What woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?... Likewise, I say unto you, there is

joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

"You see," he said, "each of us are valuable to God. He is looking diligently for each sinner to repent and confess Christ. And when a soul does this, all heaven is happy."

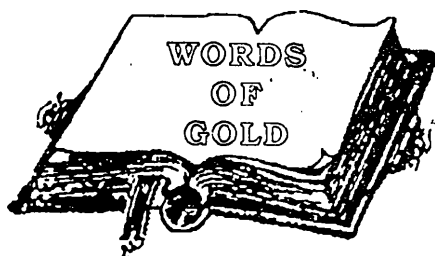
Amador wondered where a boy would confess in this church. He saw no confessional. He felt guilty about some things he had done. However, the devil soon got Amador's mind off his need by getting him to look at the pretty girls who were there.

The following Saturdays the boys went again to the church. They thought it to be a good place to find new friends.

Ensenada is on the bay called *Bahia de Todos Santos*, so it has the *Fiesta of the Marineros* (seamen) on the first day of June. Mexican's *fiestas* can be family affairs, celebrating a birthday, a baptism or first communion. Sometimes it is a city affair, celebrating a special Catholic saint, dead loved ones, the wisemen's visit, or the main profession of the city. Every town has many *fiestas* through out the year.

Amador and Hilberto woke up early on June the first to go to the *fiesta*, but to their surprise four of the boys had already gone out. They had planned for weeks for this day. Just as they were ready to step out the door, two well-dressed men knocked at the shanty. "Is Ramon here?" one man asked.

"He's asleep," Amador answered, pointing to a bundle on the floor.



## Jesus Appears And Disappears

**Luke 24:13-20, 22-32**

**New Words:** 1. A *furlong* is about one-eighth of a mile. 2. A *score* is twenty.

**13** ...Two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. [60 X 1/8 = 7 1/2 miles.]

**14** And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

**15** And it came to pass, that...Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

**16** But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

**17** And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have...as ye walk, and are sad?

**18** And...Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

**19** And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:

**20** And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.

**22** Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;

**23** And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.

**24** And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.

**25** Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the

prophets have spoken:

**26** Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

**27** And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

**28** And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.

**29** But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening....And he went in to tarry with them.

**30** And it came to pass, as...he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

**31** ...Their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

**32** And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

**The Message: Seek to understand the Bible, for it will increase faith.**

### Questions:

1. Where were the two disciples going?
2. What were they talking about?
3. How did the two men feel?
4. Why did Cleopas think Jesus was a stranger in Jerusalem?
5. What did they tell Jesus about himself?
6. Did Jesus think they were foolish?
7. From what scriptures did Jesus begin explaining about Himself?
8. When did the disciples recognize Jesus?
9. What happened to Jesus when they recognized Him?

### Verse to Memorize

**Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

**John 5:39.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

(A note about the men walking to Emmaus.)

*One was Cleopas, often called Alphaeus. He was the father of Apostle James (Mark 3:18) and the husband of the Virgin Mary's sister, (John 19:25). Historians believe the other man was Luke, the author of the Bible book called Luke.*

If the disciples had understood the scriptures they could have rejoiced at Jesus' death. For they would have known that He would rise again. However, they did not understand the prophecies of Christ and were terribly sorry that He had been crucified. Sadly, two of them left Jerusalem for Emmaus. As the men walked they discussed whether or not Jesus was the King that God had promised to send. "Could He be?" one questioned.

"He could be, if He is again alive," the other answered.

"But is He alive or is this a rumor we have heard?"

The Jews believed that knowing the law of God was the most important thing in life. It was common for them to talk about it as they walked from place to place. Deuteronomy 6:7 says, "...talk of them...when thou walkest by the way,..." As the men continued walking, Jesus, in form of a stranger, joined them. After listening a while He questioned them about the happenings which had made them so sad. Then He began helping them understand that it was God's plan that one man die for the sins of the world.

Cleopas and Luke felt a warm, soothing feeling in their hearts, as He spoke the holy scriptures.

"Oh foolish men why do you not believe all the prophets have spoken?" He asked. How the two men wished they had studied and understood the things that the stranger spoke. It would have saved them a lot of worry and trouble. By evening when they reached the village, this stranger had proved by the scriptures that their friend, Jesus, was the man God had sent to give His blood to save all men.

As they sat down to eat together, Jesus took the bread and blessed it and gave a piece to each of the men. Suddenly they realized the stranger was Jesus. Then He vanished.

"Let's hurry back to Jerusalem and tell the Apostles that Jesus is alive and well," one said.

"If we had known all those scriptures He told us about, we could have rejoiced when Jesus died," the other answered. In the darkness, the two started back over the long, dusty road that they had traveled during the day.

—Charlotte Huskey



### To Meet With God

Faith comes to some, a gift serene,  
Unquestion, unmarred,  
Yet to some men it comes with pain,  
Hard-fought and battle-scarred.

Some men in restless search of peace  
Must suffer first the sword,  
And some, like Jacob meeting God,  
Must wrestle with the Lord.

And yet to each, God still is God...  
Immutable His place...  
Who meets some men in quiet walks,  
And some in rugged way.



"That's fine," the man said as he entered. The other man stepped squarely into the door and blocked it.

"Wake up, son," the man said, as he bent over Ramon. "Come and go with me."

"Where?" Ramon asked sleepily.

"How long have you known Ramon?" he asked Amador.

"Six months, Sir."

He turned to Hilberto, "And you?"

"Six months, Sir."

(To be continued next week.)

### Somebody's Mother

The woman was old, and ragged, and gray,  
And bent with the chill of the winter's day;

The street was wet with a recent snow,  
And the woman's feet were aged and slow.

She stood at the crossing and waited long

Alone, uncared for, amid the throng  
Of human beings who passed her by,  
Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eye.

Down the street, with laughter and shout,  
Glad in the freedom of school let out,  
Came the boys, like a flock of sheep,  
Hailing the snow piled white and deep;  
Past the woman so old and gray  
Hastened the children on their way,  
Nor offered a helping hand to her,  
so meek, so timid, afraid to stir  
Lest the carriage wheels or the horses' feet  
Should crowd her down in the slippery street.

At last one came of the merry troop,  
The gayest laddie of all the group;  
He paused beside her, and whispered low,  
"I'll help you across, if you wish to go."  
Her aged hands on his strong young arm  
She placed, and so without hurt or harm,

He guided her trembling feet along,  
Proud that his own were firm and strong;  
Then back again to his friends he went,  
His young heart happy and well content.

"She's somebody's mother, boys, you know,  
For all she's old, and poor, and slow;  
And I hope some fellow will lend a hand  
To help my mother, you understand,  
If ever so poor, and old, and gray,  
When her own dear boy is far away."  
And "somebody's mother" bowed her head  
In her home that night, and the prayer she said  
Was—"God be kind to the noble boy  
Who is somebody's son, and pride, and joy."

—Author Unknown



(Answers: 1. To a village called Emmaus. 2. They talked about Jesus being crucified and resurrected. 3. They felt sad. 4. Because Jesus seemed to not know about the excitement in Jerusalem. 5. That (1.) He was a mighty prophet before God and all people. (2.) That He had been crucified. (3.) That his body was missing from the grave. (4.) That angels said He was alive. 6. Yes. 7. From the book of Exodus. 8. When Jesus blessed, and brake the bread. 9. He vanished out of sight.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 15, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

(Continued from last week.)

"I am sorry I have to do this," the stranger said, "But you are all under arrest."

"Why? We've done no crime," Amador protested, as Ramon jumped to his feet.

"Hands above your head!" the man ordered, pointing a revolver first at Ramon, then whirling around to the others.

The man blocking the door pulled out handcuffs and locked them in place first on Hilberto, then Ramon and then Amador.

Amador felt weak and dizzy, but somehow he managed to get into the police car. He thought of his parents; what if they knew he had been arrested? When he left home, his dad had said, "You are old enough to make your way in the world." Now Amador doubted it.

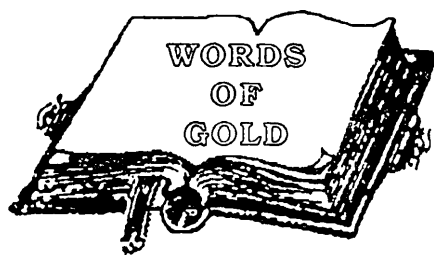
As the police car worked its way across town, Amador saw two boys playfully chasing each other. He wished for their freedom. A woman was handing a piece of bread to a boy. How he wished he was home eating a piece of his mother's warm bread. He could see it baking in the old iron Dutch oven hanging over the hot coals in the fireplace, and his mother standing nearby ironing with her new gas

iron. He watched a girl licking an ice cream cone and wondered when he would again taste ice cream.

He saw Hilberto, looking frightened and pale. He hoped Hilberto hadn't forgotten their promise to always stick together. If ever they needed each other, it was now.

Being arrested was like a bad dream without an end. The Ensenada jail wasn't bad compared to some other jails, but Amador didn't know that. He had never before been inside one. The gray cement walls and floors, and the iron bars, looked hard and cruel to him. He shuddered when he was locked alone in an empty cell. If only he could be with Hilberto. All the rest of the day he wanted to scream, "Why am I here? What have I done? I am not a criminal. Why can't I watch the boats race at the Fiesta del Marino, like thousands of other boys?" He sat on the cement floor in the corner with his head between his legs while the ceaseless pounding of these questions hammered away at his mind. The savage teeth of anger gnawed at him, like a lion gnawing over his prey, and a steady rush of fear swept over him like the fierce breakers on the Pacific.

From time to time when a door somewhere in the jail was opened he could hear the brassy blast of trum-



## Other Visits With Jesus

**Luke 24:33-49**

**New Words:** 1. *Honeycomb* is a mass of wax cells built by honeybees.

2. *Remission* is pardon or forgiveness. 3. *Endue* is to clothe.

**33** And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,

**34** Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

**35** And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.

**36** And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of [or among] them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

**37** But they were terrified and affrighted [frightened], and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

**38** And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

**39** Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

**40** And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

**41** And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

**42** And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

**43** And he took it, and did eat before them.

**44** And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all

things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

**45** Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

**46** And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

**47** And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

**48** And ye are witnesses of these things.

**49** And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarrye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

**The Message: As Jesus appeared to His followers after the resurrection, so He is still appearing to people, but in different ways.**

### Questions:

1. Where did the disciples go?
2. Who did they find in Jerusalem?
3. What news did they share with the eleven?
4. Who came in while they were visiting?
5. Why were the disciples afraid?
6. How did Jesus prove He was not a spirit?
7. What did Jesus eat?
8. What had the prophets said about Jesus?
9. Why were the disciples to tarry in Jerusalem?

### Verse to Memorize

**For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Teaching us that,...we should live...godly, in this present world.**

**Titus 2:11-12.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Jesus appears in some way to all men. He had spoken to Mary in the garden early in the morning. Later that day He appeared as a stranger and walked along talking with two disciples as they went from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Being late in the day they convinced Him to spend the night with them, and while He blessed the food before eating, they realized the stranger was Jesus! Then He vanished!

The excitement of seeing Jesus alive again spurred the weary disciples. They walked the seven and one half miles back to Jerusalem to find the apostles. Excitedly they said, "Jesus is risen indeed. He did appear to Simon, and to us."

Suddenly, without a door or window opening, Jesus was with them. He said, "Peace be unto you."

The terrified disciples and apostles looked at one another. "Oh my, a spirit!" each wanted to say, but no one spoke. The dread silence was broken when Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why are you afraid? Why do you think so? Look at My hands and My feet. Touch Me. Does a spirit have flesh and bones?"

They breathed a sigh of relief, as happiness replaced their fears. "Now let's have something to eat," Jesus said. "Do you have any meat?" They gave Him a piece of broiled fish and part of a honeycomb. He ate it.

Some unbelievers say they, too, would believe if Jesus would ap-

pear to them as He did to the disciples and to apostle Paul. But Thomas said, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails,...and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." Jesus reproved him saying, "Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." (John 20:25, 29.) Do you believe in Jesus although you have not been able to put your finger into the print of the nails, and thrust your hand into His side? If you do, you are blessed.

Titus 2:11 reads, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." So Jesus does appear to all persons, sometime during their life. He may appear by a still small voice talking to your heart about your need. He may appear during sickness, or at a death in your family. Jesus also appears through His Word. Sometimes it is by hearing it preached. It may be by reading a tract, or just reading the Bible. Sometimes Jesus speaks to us through a child, or through something in nature.

There are very few persons who have a vision of angels calling them to a duty. Fewer yet have seen a vision of Jesus pleading with them to serve Him. If you are yet an unbeliever and feel that Jesus has not appeared to you, get a Bible and start reading the book of John. I am sure you will soon see Jesus as the real Saviour of man. When you do, that is God appearing to you. It is easy to overlook or ignore God's voice. Be careful not to do it, for that is your opportunity to have the *powerful, world-Creator* on your side.

Remember, in one form or another, Jesus appears to all men.

—Charlotte Huskey

pets ripple through the air, and he imagined hearing the marimbas, flutes and guitars as they played for the happy families at the *festa*. He imagined seeing the food stalls which had popped up on the walkways and smelling the chicharrones, beans, and hot tortillas. He could see the children's eyes shining brightly as they watched the excitement. Some might be chewing on a stalk of sugar cane, or perhaps a fresh slice of watermelon, papaya, or maybe a banana or strawberries. He sure was hungry, but he supposed that being left hungry was part of a prisoner's punishment.

As darkness was falling, he heard the distant screaming of the fireworks, and heard the rockets exploding. He knew they were bursting into brilliant colors and showering sparkling bright lights into the dark sky over the midnight ocean. Oh, if he could only go to sleep and forget it all.

The next morning Amador was taken out of the bars that unjustly held him prisoner. He walked lightly behind the guard down a corridor and into a room where several important-looking men were sitting. "How long have you known Ramon?" asked an old man looking over wire glasses that hung on the end of his nose.

"Six months, Sir"

"Where did you meet him?"

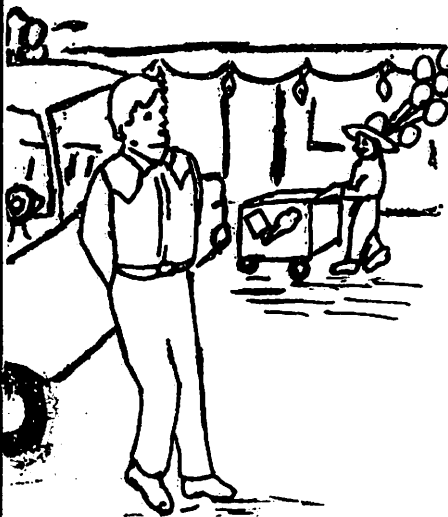
"On the street, Sir."

"Why was he living with you?... Do you know where he lived before?... What has he told you about himself? Tell me some stories he has told." The men hammered questions at Amador until he became so confused he hardly knew his own name. After three hours the rush of steady pounding came to a grinding halt. Amador was relieved when at last he was again locked in the cold, musty cell. He took his head in his hands and carefully felt it all

around to see if perhaps it had been stretched a bit out of place.

This savage interrogation was repeated the next day, and the day after that. It always lasted three endless hours. Were Hilberto and Ramon also being questioned? He felt sure Hilberto would tell the truth. But would the teeth of the question bite so hard that he would lose control or be confused? Would he or his best friend end up in prison? What had Ramon done? Was he telling the truth? Would he place the blame on them, trying to keep himself out of jail?

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. They returned to Jerusalem. 2. The eleven apostles and other disciples. 3. That Jesus had arisen and appeared to Simon. 4. Jesus. 5. They thought Jesus was a spirit. 6. He let them feel His body and He ate food. 7. Fish and honeycomb. 8. That He would suffer, rise the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations. 9. They were to tarry until they were endued with power from on high.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 22, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

(Continued from last week.)

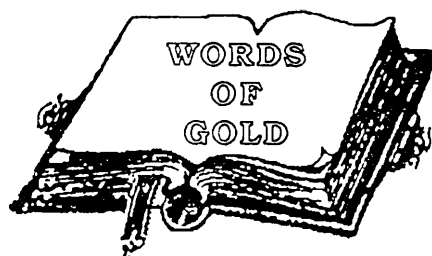
Later, Amador, Ramon and Hilberto were transported together to the Tijuana jail. This jail is famous for its cramped quarters, lack of food and unsanitary conditions. Relatives are expected to bring food, clothes, blankets, etc. to the prisoner. The more trusted prisoners are allowed to have lumber brought in with which they build their own shelters. Amador and Hilberto's families were nearly 1,500 kilometers (900 miles) away. Who would help them?

At 7:00 A.M. the next morning a guard unlocked the bars, opened the wooden door and placed on the floor a small chili-pepper can, full of hot water with a few oats cooked in it. Five hours later, one hard piece of bread and one-half slice of bologna was put inside the cell. In the evening, they received another piece of bread and bologna. The menu never changed. They ate only oats, bread and bologna, every day the whole month of June.

Besides the daily three hours of savage interrogation, Amador had nothing to do. He never saw Hilberto, and wondered if he had been sent to another prison or turned loose. He was never given anything to read, no paper on which to write, nor any

small craft to occupy his time. There were many days that he never left the cell. He had no exercise nor any sun shine. The tiny, concrete block cell was empty except for a piece of cardboard. He tried talking to the stone walls, hoping the echo of his voice would calm the emptiness he felt from lack of conversation. The cell was too small to produce an echo. All he heard was the dry mournful sound of his own dehydrated voice. His only companions were the ceaseless hammerings of the question, "Why am I here?" and a beastly, gnawing of anger.

The cell had a wooden door inside the bars. An earlier prisoner had carved a picture of the *Virgin of Guadalupe* on it. On the last day of June, Amador fell on his knees before the image and began desperately begging it to get him out of jail. "I will walk on my knees from Floresta St. through the church doors and on up the aisle to the altar," he promised the Virgin. Amador knew it would take a long time to make this "knee walk" for the church entrance was long and rough. He could picture his bloody, battered knees embedded with gravel, showing though fresh holes worn in his only trousers. But he was willing to do most anything to be free again. Being dizzy from weakness, and look-



## Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit

### I Corinthians 15:1, 3-6

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once;...

### Acts 1:3-5, 8-12; 2:1-2, 4

3 ...He shewed himself alive after his passion [death] by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father,...

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold,

two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind,...

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost,...

**The Message: The Holy Spirit gives us power to be a vessel that God can use for witnessing and working miracles.**

### Questions:

1. Why did Christ die?
2. Did Jesus appear to 500 brethren after He arose?
3. For how many days did the disciples see Jesus after He arose?
4. The subject of which Jesus spoke most often was \_\_\_\_\_.
5. For what were the disciples to wait?
6. With what was Jesus to baptize His followers?
7. What were the disciples to receive from the Holy Ghost?
8. What happened to Jesus on mount Olivet?
9. On what day did the Holy Spirit come?

### Verse to Memorize

**But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me...unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

**Acts 1:8.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Jesus gives power to those who will tarry before Him until they are filled with the Holy Spirit. This is the eighth lesson we have had about Jesus' visits with men, after His death on the cross. Easter Sunday is the day we celebrate His resurrection, (His returning to life). Early that morning He appeared to Mary, then to a group of His disciples. That same afternoon He walked the road to Emmaus with other followers and in the evening appeared suddenly among His apostles and other disciples who were together in a room. What a busy first Easter that must have been!

Jesus was seen of the believers for thirty-nine more days. During this time all were convinced that He was not a spirit but a living human. On one occasion He was seen of 500 brethren at the same time.

On the fortieth day, a group of followers met with Him on the Mount of Olivet. There He gave His last two commandments. The commands were: 1. Tarry in Jerusalem unto you are endued with power from God. 2. Be my witnesses throughout the world.

After giving these instructions, He ascended up into the sky, and the cloud of distance hid Him from His admirers who were straining to catch just one more glimpse.

Jesus' last words were for all believers. He is speaking them to us today. He says, "Tarry before God until the power of the Holy Spirit fills your being, then you can witness for Me." The Greek word that was translated "power" can also mean "energy." You have studied in science that "energy" is the capacity for performing

work. There is internal *energy* and *inherent energy*. *Inherent energy* is energy that is permanently joined, that is, it cannot be separated. This kind of energy is obtained by a permanent decision to do God's will.

In physics we learn that energy has two forms. One is *kinetic energy*. It can be reduced to nothing by no motion, or increased by rapid motion. The other, called *potential energy*, is related to position. Potential energy is always present, but it can be increased according to the position of an object.

The Holy Spirit is potential energy in our lives. The power is always there, but it can be increased by our position. A person's position is the stand he takes on an issue. Taking a strong stand to live for God and never giving up, will increase our energies for living and witnessing for Jesus.

Are you ashamed to tell others you are a Christian? Does living a pure, modest life, embarrass you? When the opportunity comes, do you avoid telling others you believe that salvation from eternal damnation comes only by faith in the blood of Jesus? The Holy Spirit will cause you to feel differently about these things. It supplies an inward confidence and boldness that is above a natural ability. His spirit gives power to do for God instead of for self. Let us all tarry before God until He fills us with the Holy Spirit.

—Charlotte Huskey



ing through teary eyes, he thought he saw the Virgin moving. He took this for a sign that she was alive and had heard his prayers.

Believe it or not, the very next day a guard unlocked his cell and said, "It has been proven that you had no part in the murder and robberies that Ramon committed," he said. "Stop by the office and pick up some money for a bus ticket."

Hilberto was waiting in the office. They were each given \$2.35.

Arriving in Ensenada, Amador walked directly to the Catholic Church on Floresta and Sixth St. He was weak and worn from the stay in jail, but wanted to do what he had promised the Virgin. "I shall first say a thanksgiving prayer," he told Hilberto. "Then I shall tread on my knees from the street to the altar of the church as I promised to do if I got free."

"I'll meet you over at the shanty," Hilberto said.

Amador hurried past a woman inching along on her knees, and wondered what had happened to her that she made the same promise. Near the rear of the church was a statue of his patron saint, *Señor del Afligido*. He bowed before the image and began, "Our Father which art in heaven..." Suddenly, a heavy hand fell cruelly on his shoulder, and a rough voice ordered, "Get out of here."

"But I have a debt to pay," protested Amador as he looked up into the face of the sexton.

"You can't pay it now."

"But I must. I promised."

"Get out!" he demanded, pointing to the door.

"Isn't this a church for all people?" Amador asked as he walked slowly towards the door.

"Yes, but look," the sexton said, pointing toward the beautiful altar in front. "The Padre (priest) is giving a

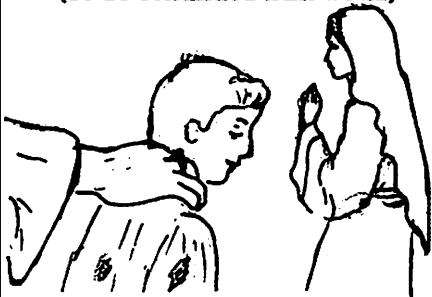
lesson to the Daughters of the Virgin Mary."

Near the beautiful altar, Amador saw thirty or forty women, each dressed in white, listening to the Priest give a lecture. "I won't bother them. I'll pray quietly and go out," he promised.

The sexton shook his head, "No."

Amador lingered anxiously outside the massive church doors for an opportunity to return. He wondered why the world was so cruel and unjust. For befriending a homeless boy, he had suffered a month of starvation in jail and had lost his job. Now he was penniless, weak and hungry. He had only come here to pray and do his duty to God, before looking for a bite to eat and a place to sleep. The other boys had no idea why he had been missing for a whole month, and they may have been kicked out of the shanty without having Hilberto's, Ramon's and his money to help pay the rent. But he couldn't leave the church, things might get worse in the future if he didn't keep his promise to the Virgin.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. For our sins. 2. Yes. 3. 40 days. 4. Things pertaining to the kingdom of God. 5. For the promise of the Holy Ghost. 6. With the Holy Ghost. 7. They were to receive power to witness. 8. He was taken up and a cloud received him out of sight. 9. The day of Pentecost.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 29, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

(Continued from last week.)

Amador waited until the sexton was out of sight, then quietly he slipped back into the church and bowed again before the image and began silently praying. "Our Father which art..."

"I said, 'Get out!'" the sexton said.

Amador's temper soared, "Okay," he snapped. "I will never again return to this dirty chicken house."

In the churchyard was a marble statue of The Suffering Christ. His bleeding heart entangled in thorns was engraved on the outside of his body. Amador was usually so awed by this Christ that he would stop and kiss his feet. Today he hated it. Out came his foot and before he knew what was happening, he'd landed a hard kick against the sturdy marble. "Ow!" he cried, holding his almost broken toe.

He limped out the gate and down Floresta St. He passed Seventh, Eighth and Ninth streets. The farther he walked, the heavier he felt. He had disrespected The Suffering Christ and an elder, (which his mother had told him never to do). He had not kept his promise to the Virgin of Guadalupe, nor finished his thanksgiving prayer to his patron saint. Why had not he patiently waited? It all seemed so

confusing. He just wasn't acting like himself.

In front of the telegraph office on 15th St., a car pulled over to the curb and honked. Amador was surprised to see Sr. Arevalo, the pastor who had taught the Bible lessons at the Church of God. "Jump in," he said. "The church has been praying for you."

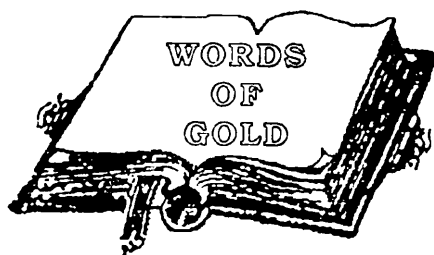
"For me?" Amador questioned. "How'd you know where I've been?"

"We didn't know, but we love you and want you to come back to the Young People's meetings. My you are thin. Have you been in the hospital, sick?"

"No, but it couldn't have been worse than what I've been through." Then he told the whole story about his arrest and month of solitary confinement in the Tijuana jail.

It felt good to talk to an older man. How he had missed his dad these days! But when silence fell again, he began to think, "so this humble church wants me, and I can't even force my way into the other one." He burned hot with anger. He felt a tightness in his chest, like something had to explode. Bitterness and confusion mounted and crashed one against another like he'd seen the waves of the ocean do. "I can't take this any longer," he thought.

Amador had never in his life gotten drunk. But the savage anger of



## Why Go To Church?

**Hebrews 10:24-25**

**24** And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

**25** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,...but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

**Psalms 73:1-3, 5, 7, 11-14,**

**16-18, 21-28**

**1** Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.

**2** But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.

**3** For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**5** They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.

**7** Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish.

**11** And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?

**12** Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.

**13** Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency.

**14** For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.

**16** When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me;

**17** Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

**18** Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them

down into destruction.

**21** Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.

**22** So foolish was I, and ignorant:...

**23** Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.

**24** Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

**25** Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

**26** My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

**27** For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them...

**28** But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works.

**The Message: Attending church service helps to keep our values in the right perspective.**

### Questions:

1. What should we do for each other?
2. What are we not to forsake doing?
3. To whom is the Lord good?
4. Why had the author of Psalm 73 almost slipped?
5. Did David feel as if he was plagued all the day long?
6. How did David feel about the wicked having what they wanted and the righteous being in poverty?
7. Where did David go before he understood the end of the wicked?
8. What will happen to the wicked?
9. What will happen to the righteous?

### Verse To Memorize

**...I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.**

**Psalms 73:17.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

A person gains many things by attending public worship service. All week we are busy going to school, doing homework, helping around the house and, of course, playing. Sometimes we struggle against temptation to cheat, to fight, and to be dishonest, until it seems that doing right is all an uphill climb. Then we look around us and see others happy who do not try to live right. Some are earning good grades, some excel in sports, while others have plenty of money to spend. You struggle to get a half decent grade, make a fool of yourself in sports and have hardly any money to spend.

When these pressures build it is easy for the devil to get a Christian to begin doubting that there is any value in living right. Soon he gets the Christian to secretly envy the unsaved person. "The truth is supposed to make you free," he says, "but you are bound by many restrictions and your worldly friends are free."

King David, author of Psalm 73, felt this same way. He said, "The wicked are getting rich. They have everything they want, and no fear. It appears that God does not see and punish their wickedness. Why do I have trouble all the day long, and I am doing right?" he questioned. It caused him to feel so badly that he said, "I believe I have cleansed my heart in vain."

But when David went into the sanctuary and communed with God, he understood things differently. "How foolish I have been," he cried. "The wicked are in slippery places. They will soon be cut off and destroyed, but the righteous shall be held by God's hand, guided by His Spirit, and received into glory!"

The sanctuary was a place in the temple where David could talk to God.

Attending church is a way we can communicate with God. While we are quietly listening to God's Word he talks to us, helping us see that living for God is the best way after all. We visit with others whom God is blessing. We may hear a testimony that encourages our hearts. Suddenly we say with King David, "It is good for me to draw near to the Lord." Attending church has gotten us back on track.

—Charlotte Huskey

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### Not On Sunday Night

I love the church that Jesus bought,  
She is the dark world's light;  
I always go on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

I love to sing the Gospel songs  
And worship in daylight;  
That's why I come on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

I love to hear the Gospel horn,  
It gives me such delight;  
It thrills me every Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

I'd go through storm, and rain, or snow,  
Do anything that's right;  
To be at church on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

I hope the faithful few keep on  
Engaging in the fight;  
I'll do my part on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

Too bad someday we all must die.  
I hope the morn is bright,  
For I want to die on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

I know that Christ is coming soon,  
And He will find me right,  
If He appears on Sunday morn—  
But—not on Sunday night.

The Holy Spirit sent this poem,  
It set my heart aright;  
You'll see me there next Sunday morn  
And also—Sunday night.

—H. E. M. Snyder

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being cruelly treated by men in authority and the doubts that hammered at what he believed from a child, made him want to be knocked out. Were the saints only idols of marble and stone as the blind man had said to him? Was life teaching him a few things? But almost everyone he knew offered prayers to the saints. Were they all misled? Suddenly the tightness was gone and he felt a great emptiness he had never felt before. He felt without form and void, like the earth had been in the beginning. Who am I? Why was I born? Does life have any real purpose? He felt like a glass of water with mud in the bottom, being violently shaken. Every dirty attitude in him was coming to the surface. He thought that getting drunk would bring some relief.

Sr. Arevalo broke the long silence when he asked, "Won't you come home with me for a while?"

A clean comfortable place to relax and get his thoughts all sorted out was just what Amador needed. That would be much better than getting drunk. A large lump in his throat was keeping him from accepting the invitation. Finally he managed to say, "*Si como no* (yes, why not)."

Amador sank into a soft chair in Sr. Arevalo's home. How different this was from the cement jail floor he'd sat on for the last month. They each drank a big glass of ice-cold lemonade, ate Mexican sweet breads and chatted. After a while of small talk, Sr. Arevalo said, "Amador it will help you to regularly attend worship service at the church. It will help you to value most the more important things of life. Also I'd like to read these Bible verses to you. He opened the big, black Bible which lay on the low table, and read John 3:16-17. "For God so loved the world, that he gave

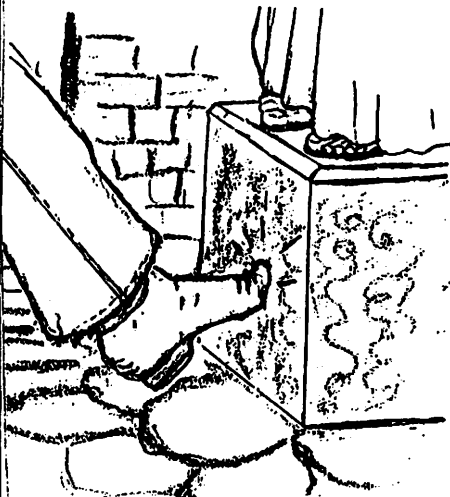
his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

This sounded strange to Amador. He thought that God and His Son, Jesus, were angry with people because men had killed Jesus. He believed, for this reason, that everyone should pray to the Virgin Mary.

Sr. Arevalo continued reading, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Amador understood that verse; he knew he had sinned, but he wasn't a criminal.

(To be continued next week.)



(Answers: 1. We should provoke each other to love and good works. 2. Assembling of ourselves together. 3. To those of a clean heart. 4. Because he was envious of the wicked who prospered. 5. Yes. 6. He felt very painful about it. 7. He went into the sanctuary of the Lord. 8. The wicked will be destroyed. 9. The righteous will be held by their right hand, guided and afterward received to glory.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 5, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

(Continued from last week.)

"And 'the wages of sin is death;...' Sr. Arevalo continued, "but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23.) "Amador, God has a gift of eternal life for you."

"Not for me, I'm too bad. I'll probably end up in fiery purgatory. I just hope my folks have enough money to have me prayed out," he said jokingly.

"You don't have to go to purgatory. Listen to this promise from God. Truly, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24.)

"Sr. Arevalo, do you really not feel condemned before God?"

"No, I do not," he answered assuredly. "for I believe God for Jesus' sake has forgiven my sins."

"I don't believe any of those things. Sometimes I wonder if there is a God. Why is there so much injustice if God is in control?"

"I can't answer all your questions. I wish I could." Amador saw the tenderness in his eyes. He felt sure this man really loved him, and would like to answer his questions. "I have read

to you the plan that God has for men to be saved and have eternal life."

"But - but - I - can't believe what you have read," Amador protested. "I can't trust what my parents and the Catholic Fathers have taught me. How can I believe what you just said?"

"I read the eternal Word of God. That Word will be true after this earth is consumed in fire. Permit me to read another, and listen carefully to what it says." Amador gripped the chair arms and braced himself. Every verse from the Bible seemed like a hammer hitting his stony heart. "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:18.) "You see the condemned feeling will remain unless you crush your doubts and believe. Condemnation makes a person feel terribly bad, doesn't it Amador?"

Then Amador broke. "I do want to believe," he said, his voice trembling. He tried to conceal his deep feelings but tears were dropping on his pant legs.

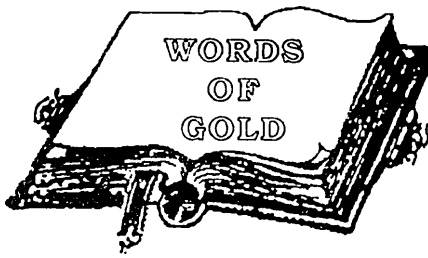
"Do you really want to accept Jesus as your personal Saviour?"

"Yes, I do."

"Then let us bow and pray."

After prayer Sr. Arevalo asked, "How do you feel?"

"Great!" Amador answered. "I be-



## **The Apostles Worship Together**

**Acts 20:7, 9-12**  
**They Preached**

**7** ...Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together...Paul preached unto them,...and continued his speech until midnight.

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

**10** And Paul went down,...and embracing him said,...his life is in him.

**11** When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed.

**12** And they brought the young man alive, and were...comforted.

**Sang, Prayed and Exhorted**  
**Colossians 3:16**

**16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

**I Corinthians 14:15**

**15** ...I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

**Propheesied**

**I Corinthians 14:3, 29**

**3** ...He that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

**29** Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge.

**Acts 11:27-30**

**27** ...In these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch.

**2**

**28** ...one of them named Agabus,... signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.

**29** Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:

**30** Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

**Gave Offering**  
**I Cor. 16:1-2**

**1** Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.

**2** Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

**The Message: The apostles met together on Sunday and worshipped God by singing, praying, preaching and exhorting.**

**Questions:**

1. What day was Paul preaching?
2. How long did he preach?
3. In what ways do Christians admonish each other?
4. How must we pray and sing?
5. How does prophesying help people?
6. How many should speak in one service?
7. What is our duty toward the prophets or preachers?
8. What was another part of the apostle's worship?
9. On what day did each set aside an offering?

**Verse to Memorize**

**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**  
**Colossians 3:16.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

The apostles worshipped much the same way we do today. On the first day of the week, they met either in a public building or in someone's home. There was one person in charge of the activities. Although there may have been many ready to speak, only two or three spoke and the others judged. Sometimes even when there was only one speaker, the meetings lasted a long time, as in the case when Paul preached until midnight and the young man fell out of the window from the third floor. He was taken up for dead, and Paul quit preaching and rushed down to pray for the man, who was revived. Then they ate a midnight snack and Paul talked on until the break of day.

The congregation was also expected to contribute to the service. They were to study God's Word and be able to converse about it, using a Psalm or other scripture to exhort the others. They were also expected to sing and pray in the spirit and with understanding, and to have special hymns to share.

Collecting offerings was another activity of the service. Each person was instructed to put aside a portion of money according to how God had blessed him that week. Then when a need arose, there was money ready for the need.

How exciting to have been in a worship service with the apostles! I can imagine Peter in his quick impulsive ways, blurting out when a period of silence lasted too long. I can imagine Matthew keeping notes of all that was said.

We have the same conditions in our congregations; people of different temperaments and backgrounds are

worshipping God together. One may think the service is dragging, another believes it is perfect. One thinks there is too much emotion, another believes there isn't enough. We lay those individual ideas aside and worship God in spirit and in truth, as Jesus commands.

On the first day of the week, we gather with other saints and worship God, singing, praying, listening to a sermon, exhorting and giving an offering. That is the way the apostles worshipped God after Jesus went back to heaven.

—Charlotte Huskey

## The Model Church

Well, wife, I've found the model  
church—I worshipped there today!  
It made me think of good old times,  
before my hair was gray.  
The meetin'-house was fixed up more  
than it was years ago,  
But then I felt when I went in, it wasn't  
built for show.

I wish you'd heard that singin'—it had  
the old-time ring;  
The preacher said, with trumpet voice,  
"let all the people sing!"  
Was Coronation, and the music up-  
ward rolled,  
I heard the angels all striking their  
harps of gold.

The sermon wasn't flowery, 'twas simple  
gospel truth;  
It fitted poor old men like me, it fitted  
hopeful youth.  
Of consolation for weary hearts that  
bled;  
Of invitations to Christ, and not to  
creed.

How swift the golden moments fled  
within that holy place!  
How brightly beamed the light of Heaven  
from every happy face!  
I longed for that sweet time when friend  
shall meet with friend,  
"Congregations ne'er break up, and  
Sabbaths have no end."

—John H. Yates

lieve I could conquer the world."

"Just one bit of advice," Sr. Arevalo cautioned, "You must take care of your experience. You will not always feel so great, but your faith can be constant. Every day you must communicate with your Saviour. You do this by reading the Bible and praying. Do you have a Bible?"

"No, I do not."

"I wish I had one to give you. I'll try to get one as soon as possible. And come to church service as often as you can."

Amador left with confidence that God would help him.

He went to the shanty and found Hilberto and his old friends. They were willing to share food with him until he found a job. Hilberto had already told them all about being arrested and put into jail.

To celebrate, each pitched in a little money and they all went to the movies. The following Friday night all the boys went to a free dance. Saturday was Young People's meeting but Amador had no desire to attend, so he didn't. Instead he went fishing with the boys. Sunday morning he felt he should go to church but excused himself, saying he needed to go shopping for some shoes.

His profession of faith in Jesus had brought to him a need to write to his parents and let them know where he was and how he was getting along. As he walked into the post office to mail his letter, Sr. Arevalo was coming out. "Good evening," he said. "I've been wanting to see you. Say we're going to a camp up in the mountains for a few days next week. Won't you come along with us? There will be good meals, games and evening worship. You'll enjoy it and will have a chance to learn more about God's ways."

"That sounds great! I think I can

go for I'm not tied to a job yet."

It was afternoon when Sr. Arevalo's old pickup truck pulled up to the campground gate. The narrow curving highway had led them into the heart of the rugged Sierra Juarez Mountains. Amador and the other boys dumped their bedrolls and clothing in cabin number five and hurried away to explore the place. To the left, near to the gate was a caretaker's house. A plaque on the wall read, "Built by Christians from Albany, Oregon." Amador wondered how far it was to Oregon. He was still hoping to go to the U.S., maybe he could go to Oregon. Around the house and extending behind it, was an orchard. Ripe plums were hanging on the plum trees. To the right of the entry drive was the white chapel, and dotted here and there were the cabins. The only other building at the camp was the dining hall. Amador peeked in the window and saw a huge tray of spicy tacos. He knew he was going to love this place.

(To be continued next week.)



[Answers: 1. The first day of the week. 2. Until midnight. 3. By knowing God's Word, by using Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. 4. In the spirit and with understanding. 5. Through edification, and exhortation, and comfort. 6. Two, or three. 7. We are to believe what they say. 8. The gathering of an offering. 9. On the first day of the week.]

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 June 12, 1994

## Saved Under The Water

(Continued from last week.)

The first two days at the camp Amador had great fun! On the third night, the evangelist preached from Romans 10:9. "...If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved," he said. The Words ripped into Amador's heart, tearing his profession to threads. Had he confessed that he was a Christian? Did his old friends know? He had done with them the same things they had always done, (movies, dances, parties). At first he felt confused. Before the sermon was over, however, he realized he had not been born again. He was not saved from sin, nor was he a new creature in Christ Jesus.

Now the evangelist was inviting those who weren't saved to come forward. Amador didn't go. After praying with those who went forward, Sr. Arevalo announced, "Those who wish to be baptized tomorrow, see your pastor after we're dismissed."

Amador went to him and said, "I want to be baptized tonight."

"You must wait until tomorrow," he answered.

"What if I die before morning? I would be lost if I haven't been baptized."

"No, Amador, we must be saved and ready for heaven before we are baptized. Baptism is only a testimony that a person is born again and has died to the sinful ways of the world."

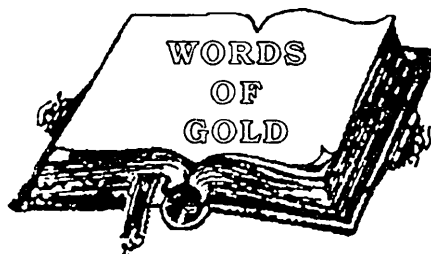
Amador hung his head and walked away sadly.

Later in the night, a boy asked, "Are you getting baptized tomorrow?"

"No," Amador answered. "I don't know about this religion. I believe in the Virgin of Guadalupe. I begged the Virgin carved on a wooden jail door to get me out of jail, and was free the following day." He acted very bold to calm the ceaseless pounding of the thought that he was not saved. The hammering of his heart was so strong that he could hardly breathe. All the while he was babbling away about the Virgin, he felt like screaming out, "OH, GOD SAVE ME!"

Long after the other boys were asleep, Amador was pondering his condition. How he wished he was saved so he could be baptized the following day.

After a breakfast of *huevos rancheros* (eggs cooked with tomatoes, onions and peppers), fried potatoes, corn tortillas and hot cinnamon tea, he helped the boys load benches into the back of Sr. Arevalo's pickup and hauled them to Lake Hanson. All the while, the ceaseless hammering of



## Giving God What is Due Him

**Mark 12:1-10, 12-17**

1 ...He began to speak unto them by parables. A certain man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the winefat, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country.

2 And at the season he sent to the husbandmen a servant, that he might receive...of the fruit of the vineyard.

3 And they caught him, and beat him, and sent him away empty.

4 And again he sent unto them another servant; and at him they cast stones, and wounded him in the head, and sent him away shamefully handled.

5 And again he sent another; and him they killed, and many others; beating some, and killing some.

6 Having yet therefore one son, his wellbeloved, he sent him also last unto them, saying, They will reverence my son.

7 But those husbandmen said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance shall be ours.

8 And they took him, and killed him, and cast him out of the vineyard.

9 What shall therefore the lord of the vineyard do? he will come and destroy the husbandmen, and will give the vineyard unto others.

10 And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner:

12 And they sought to lay hold on him, but feared the people: for they knew that he had spoken the parable against them: and they left him, and went their way.

13 And they send unto him certain of

the Pharisees and of the Herodians, to catch him in his words.

14 And when they were come, they say unto him, Master, we know that thou art true, and carest for no man: for thou regardest not the person of men, but teachest the way of God in truth: Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not?

15 Shall we give, or shall we not give? But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said unto them, Why tempt ye me? bring me a penny, that I may see it.

16 And they brought it. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? And they said unto him, Caesar's.

17 And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him.

**The Message: Christ is rejected by those He wants only to help.**

### Questions:

1. Who was to take care of the vineyard while the owner went into a far country?
2. Why did the owner send a servant to the husbandmen?
3. What did the husbandman do to the servant?
4. What happened to all the other servants?
5. How did they treat his son?
6. Was the owner asking an injustice of the husbandmen?
7. Did the men know Jesus spoke the parable against them?
8. How did they respond to the parable?
9. Did the men marvel at Jesus' clever answers?

### Verse To Memorize

**Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:**

**Acts 7:52.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Jesus told this parable to some men so they could understand what they were doing. It was just a story, but told to bring out a truth. It's like the story of the hare and the tortoise which teaches that to be slow and steady is sometimes better than being fast.

The parable of the vineyard teaches that men will be punished who continually reject God's messengers and refuse to give Him what is due to Him. The owner of this vineyard is God. The vineyard is the world. God planted this vineyard on the third day of creation. That is when He created "grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind." Then on day six, God made man to tend His vineyard, the beautiful earth.

As you know, man was not content to do as God said, so he disobeyed and got into much, much trouble. From that time until now, God has been sending godly men to help the ungodly come again into communion with Him. But as the parable says, men (the husbandmen) have rejected those leaders and prophets which God has sent. Some have been ignored, others stoned, beaten or killed. Samuel, Moses, Elijah, Isaiah, Zacharias and Jeremiah are just a few whom God has sent, and men have refused.

Was God asking for something which the men could not give? Was He asking for something that was not rightfully His? If you owned a garden wouldn't you expect the person who tilled the garden to share what it produced with you? People expect a share.

What kind of fruit could men give to God? Many kinds. First, we can give

Him money and material goods, by giving to the church or to some needy person. We can give some time to Him praying, reading the Bible, or helping others. In Galatians 5:22 is a list of the fruit of the spirit. God especially loves these fruits. They are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

When a person produces these fruits he is not only giving back to God what is due Him, he is also doing good for himself. *Love* and you will be loved. Give *joy* and you will be joyful. Be peaceful and you will stay out of a lot of trouble. *Suffer* instead of exploding when things go wrong, and you'll find that things work out better. Be gentle and *gentleness* will mold you into a beautiful person. *Faith* will keep down worry, which will make a person more healthy. Continually worrying can cause a lot of health problems. Israel's strong leader, Moses, was said to be the meekest man on earth. *Meekness* will also cause others to respect you. The last of the fruit listed is *temperance*. The many ways it will help cannot be listed on this page. The hare who went slow and steady was temperate.

Let us never be like the men who refused to give God the fruit due Him. Let us give Him every fruit, for in doing so, we are also helping ourselves.

—Charlotte Huskey



his conscience spoiled his fun. He just wanted to go away somewhere and cry.

After the crowd had gathered at the lake, the congregation sang, "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder." Amador trembled. He was not ready to answer God's roll-call. He tried to join the singing, but the pressure in his chest cut off his breath. The next song said, "In these waters of baptism, I confess my faith today." That was just what Amador wanted to do. Suddenly hot tears gushed from his eyes. Embarrassed, he turned away from the boys and wiped the tears away. Señora Ester Villanueva, sister of Sr. Arevalo, came over to him. "I saw your tears," she said. Amador was more embarrassed than ever. He looked straight ahead as if ignoring her. "I want you to know that Jesus loves you. If you are sorry ..." On and on she talked.

Amador stood like a statue, watching Sr. Arevalo standing waist deep in the water. Now Sr. Arevalo was motioning for someone to come. Was he motioning to him? Amador pointed to himself to be sure that he understood correctly. Then he heard Sr. Arevalo saying, "Amador, come and be baptized."

The walls of pride and confusion that held Amador captive began crumpling. He broke loose and plunged toward the lake, not ashamed now of the tears streaming down his cheeks. Down, down, the bank he went into the water.

Sr. Arevalo held his hand high above his head and said, "According to your confession of faith, I now baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." Amador covered his nose and mouth, then down on his back, and under the water he went. At that moment Amador had a vision. He saw piles of

rock under the water, surrounded by beautiful flowers. Instantly he understood, that from the rock, hard trials he had passed through, were sprouting beautiful spiritual flowers. When he came out of the water, he knew without a doubt that he was born again. He was saved while under the water.

*(Amador Roberto was baptized July 13, 1966. We met him in 1967, when his friend Mark Anonio brought him to James' dental clinic. He has been living for God 27 years.)*

—Charlotte Huskey



(Answers: 1. Some husbandmen. 2. To get some fruit. 3. They beat him and sent him away empty. 4. They were either stoned, beaten or killed. 5. They killed him. 6. No. 7. Yes. 8. They went away and sent the Pharisees and the Herodians to catch him in his words. 9. Yes.)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 June 19, 1994

## A Lesson On Disobedience

(Based on facts.)

"Mom, are we going to Monark campmeeting this year?" asked Chuck.

"I don't know, Son. Let's pray that we can."

Later that week they visited a friend who lived twelve miles out in the country. On the way home the car would only go about 35 miles an hour. While driving along slowly Mother was gazing at the countryside and thinking how wonderful it would be to go to the campmeeting. The more she gazed, the more she wished they could go. "Oh, Lord, please let us go," she prayed. A warm feeling came over her and God said, "You will go to campmeeting."

Two days later Dan put a new fuel filter on the car. That took care of the problem except once in a while it would act like it wasn't getting enough gas. Dan took it to a mechanic who said, "I think all your car needs is a trip out of town to get the carbon cleaned out."

Mother and the children were glad to hear that, so they began preparing to go. Mother invited their two cousins, Curtis and Anthony. She was hoping the boys would get saved at the meeting.

Dan had again checked the car, and everything seemed okay. Before leaving town, they stopped by a grocery-service station. "Get a few snacks,

and pay for everything while I pump the gas," Mother said to Chuck.

The children hurried inside. After they came out, Curtis secretly showed Chuck two packs of cigarettes.

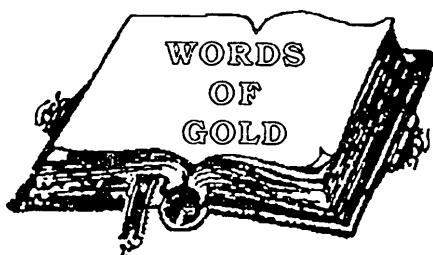
Just outside of town Mother pulled off the road to have prayer. "Dear Lord," she said, "thank You for making it possible that we could go to campmeeting and take Curtis and Anthony with us. Amen."

Everyone seemed happy the first couple of hours, but Mother noticed the beads of sweat on the children. "I'm sorry the air conditioner isn't working," she said. "Let's stop, stretch our legs, get a cold drink and a snack; maybe I can find a garage open to get someone to unhook the fan. It's blowing hot air off the motor onto us."

As they walked toward the store, Curtis whispered to Chuck and Anthony "I've got an idea. Let's steal our snacks and save our money to spend on the way home." That is just what they did.

At last they arrived at Monark. What joy to see the saints! Mother hurriedly got herself and the younger children ready for service.

Afternoon service was very uplifting. Every service was so strengthening; Mother enjoyed them so much but noticed the boys weren't being very attentive. Each time an invitation was given, she hoped the children would go



## Obeying God Is Best

**Exodus 22:6**

6 If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the stacks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field, be consumed therewith; he that kindled the fire shall surely make restitution.

**Judges 15:1-6, 9-11**

1 But it came to pass...in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife...and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in.

2 And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her.

3 And Samson said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the Philistines, though I do them a displeasure.

4 And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails.

5 And when he had set the brands on fire, he let them go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards and olives.

6 Then the Philistines said, Who hath done this? And they answered, Samson, the son in law of the Timnite, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion....

9 Then the Philistines went up, and pitched in Judah, and spread themselves in Lehi.

10 And the men of Judah said, Why are ye come up against us? And they answered, To bind Samson are we come up, to do to him as he hath done to us.

11 Then three thousand men of Judah went to the top of the rock Etam, and

said to Samson, Knowest thou not that the Philistines are rulers over us? what is this that thou hast done unto us? And he said unto them, As they did unto me, so have I done unto them.

**Judges 16:21, 24**

21 But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.

24 And when the people saw him, they praised their god:...

**Luke 6:31**

31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.

**Romans 12:19**

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

**The Message: It is better to obey God's Word, for he who disobeys will pay.**

### Questions:

1. Who is to pay for the loss in an accidental fire?
2. Why was Samson angry?
3. What did he do while he was angry?
4. Did Samson's actions almost cause a war?
5. How did Samson explain what he did? (Verse 11.)
6. Does Jesus' teaching agree with Samson's thought?
7. How is it different?
8. What does Jesus say about vengeance?
9. Is it best to obey our emotions or God's commandments?

### Verse to Memorize

**If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the stacks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field, be consumed therewith; he that kindled the fire shall surely make restitution.**

**Exodus 22:6.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Samson paid a high price for breaking God's law. There is always a penalty paid when one of God's laws are disobeyed. The one we will discuss today is pertaining to accidental fires. The law said, "If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the stacks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field, be consumed therewith; he that kindled the fire shall surely make restitution."

This means that if a fire we have started destroys the property of another person, he who starts the fire must pay for the damages.

Samson set a fire that destroyed corn, grapes and olives. He made no restitution to the owner, therefore he disobeyed God.

Samson had a reason to be angry, but yet he should not have broken God's law. Anytime a law is broken, there is trouble. People may get by for a long time, but sooner or later the trouble will come. Samson broke several laws and got out of trouble, time after time. After many years, he was captured by his enemies. Then his eyes were put out and he was taken down to Gaza where he was bound with fetters of brass in the prison house and forced to grind their grain. Day after day he worked in darkness. He ate the meager rations of a prisoner and slept in the damp dungeon.

Samson suffered severely because of his disobedience, and so does every person. The devil often tricks people into thinking that they can disobey and not suffer. Cain, Lot, Esau, Jacob, Saul and Judas suffered for breaking God's laws.

Regardless of the excuse, all who disobey God will suffer for it.

—Charlotte Huskey

## Only A Dad

Only a dad, with a tired face  
Coming home from the daily  
race,

Bringing little of gold or fame,  
To show how well he has  
played the game,

But great in his heart that his  
own rejoice

To see him coming, and to hear  
his voice.

Only a dad, with a brood of four,  
One of ten million men or  
more,

Plodding along in the daily strife,  
Bearing the whips and the  
scorns of life,

With never a whimper of pain or  
hate

For the sake of those who at  
home await.

Only a dad, neither rich nor  
proud,  
Merely one of the searching  
crowd,

toiling, striving, from day to day,  
Facing whatever may come  
his way.

Silent, whenever the harsh con-  
demn,

And bearing it all for the love of  
them.

Only a dad, but he give his all  
To smooth the way for his  
children small

To do, with courage stern and  
grim,  
the deeds that his father did  
for him,

This is the line that for him I pen,  
Only a dad, but the best of  
men.

—Author Unknown

for prayer. Both girls did.

During one of the evening services Anthony seemed especially sober. After service he brought Mother a package of the stolen cigarettes. "We found these behind a cabin," he said. The other boys agreed with his story. Mother felt a little suspicious about it.

The time quickly came to pack up and go home. Mother picked up some things belonging to Curtis and Anthony. While putting them into their bag, she noticed five New Testaments. "Maybe the boys love God more than I think," she mused, as she moved the books to make more room. But then she saw what the books were covering—a deck of cards, two more packs of cigarettes, two lighters, dice and a few other undesirable items. Mother rapidly crushed the cigarettes and smashed them in a brown paper bag. Tears trickled down her cheeks as she carried them to the trash barrel. Seeing Chuck at the nearby drinking fountain, she said, "Tell the boys I want to talk with them."

Neither of the boys were willing to confess or explain, so Mother went away to pray. While praying she thought of the scripture, "Be sure your sins will find you out." (Numbers 32:23.) Their sin of disobedience had revealed the hidden items. "What would happen to cause them to confess?" Mother wondered.

Mother's heart was heavy as lead when she bid good-bye to the dear campmeeting and started home with three unsaved boys. She so wanted them to be happy, but she could tell by the half-hidden sad look in their eyes that they were not. The July sun blasted down on them, but thank the Lord, the fan was not forcing more hot air inside the car. A brother at the campmeeting had unhooked it.

Two hours later they stopped at Kaw Lake and swam a couple of hours. Then they started for Oklahoma City. It was dark when they entered the Will

Rogers Turnpike. The children were all asleep, the air was cool, the car running good, so Mother relived the happy moments at campmeeting and prayed for the boys. Before starting, she had prayed for God to give them a safe trip home and to bless the other part of their family who had not gotten to come. They should be home in the morning, about the time Dad and Dan would be going to work, unless she decided to stop in Oklahoma City and take the children to the zoo. "Did they deserve a trip to the zoo?" she questioned.

Then it happened, the motor quit. Mother pulled the car to the shoulder and began praying. She tried to start it. Nothing. She prayed again. She tried again, prayed again. Now all the power from the battery was gone. Except for the light from the cars that swished by, all was darkness. "Lord," Mother prayed, "send someone to help."

At 2:00 in the morning, a highway patrolman stopped. He and Mother talked a while. Then he telephoned a relative living nearby and stayed until they were packed inside the relative's small car and driving away.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The persons who kindled the fire. 2. Because his wife had been given to another man for his wife. 3. He caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails. Then he lit the firebrands and turned the foxes loose in the fields ready to harvest. 4. Yes. 5. He said, "As they did unto me, so have I done unto them." 6. No. 7. It is opposite. Jesus said, "As you want men do to you, do you also to them." 8. He said, "Don't try to get even for, Vengeance is mine: I will repay, saith the Lord." 9. God's commandments.)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 45, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 June 26, 1994

## A Lesson On Disobedience

(Continued from last week.)

Mother thanked God for finding a reasonably priced motel that night and begged Him to watch over their things in the car, for there wasn't enough power to lock the doors. The following morning she called one of the saints who picked them up at the motel and took them to her home. What a great time she had visiting with the sister! The boys, however, weren't very happy to be so near the zoo, and yet outside of it.

It was evening before the car was running again. Then the dear saints took them to the shop to pick up their car. The boys quickly examined their luggage. "Not a thing is missing," they exclaimed.

"How much do I owe you?" Mother asked the repairman.

"Not one cent," was the answer. "I just hope I have the problem solved."

"I think I should go on tonight," she said after telling the different ones of her appreciation. "It will be cooler driving at night."

About sixty miles out of the city, the car started acting up again. Being fearful of spending another night alongside the highway, they quickly stopped and rented another motel. This took almost all of Mother's money.

Early the next morning the car started. Mother checked the oil and

gas, and away they went. Just one hour later the motor again refused to run. This time they were going downhill toward a town, so the children pushed. They were tired out when a man stopped and said, "I'll push you down to a garage. It is two or three more miles."

Now Mother asked for everyone's money. They had only \$2.00 left after paying for a regulator and having it installed. Away they went again.

"When will we ever get home? I'm tired of this trip," Chuck complained after they had traveled about an hour.

"It won't be long now," Mother answered, "if the car doesn't break down again."

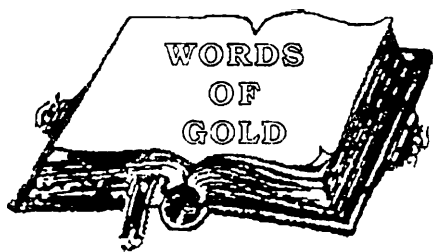
Almost immediately, it stopped and refused to start again. The boys jumped out and began kicking the car. "Why won't you go?" Curtis asked it.

Mother leaned over the steering wheel and sobbed. Alan laid his head on her shoulder and patted her. Angie cried, "I want'a go home."

"So do I," Mother said. "We started home Monday and now it's Wednesday night." She wiped her tears and continued, "But all this trouble must be for our good, for God never lets anything happen to His children that isn't to help them."

"Didn't God want us to go to campmeeting?" Diane questioned.

"I am sure God was happy that we went," Mother answered. Then she remembered the story of Jonah. "Am I the cause of this?" she wondered. She



## A Law Jesus Changed

**Exodus 22:1-5, 7-8, 12**

**Newword:** 1. *Restitution* is giving an equal amount for loss or damage.

1 If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.

2 If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him.

3 If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be blood shed for him; for he should make full restitution; if he have nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.

4 If the theft be certainly found in his hand alive, whether it be ox, or ass, or sheep; he shall restore double.

5 If a man...shall put in his beast, and shall feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field,...shall he make restitution.

7 If a man shall deliver unto his neighbour money or stuff to keep, and it be stolen out of the man's house; if the thief be found, let him pay double.

8 If the thief be not found, then the master of the house shall be brought unto the judges, to see whether he have put his hand unto his neighbour's goods.

12 And if it be stolen from him, he shall make restitution unto the owner thereof.

### Jesus' Law About Stolen Goods

**Luke 6:28-30, 32-35**

28 Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.

29 And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also.

30 Give to every man that asketh of

thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again.

32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them.

33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same.

34 And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

35 But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.

**The Message: Moses' law allowed a man to fight those who were stealing his things. Jesus said to not defend our things.**

### Questions:

1. Would a man be punished who at night wounded a thief stealing from him?
2. What must a thief do if stolen goods were found in his hand?
3. What must a man do if his cattle eat another man's crops?
4. What was a man to do if goods were stolen while in his care?
5. Jesus said to \_\_\_\_\_ those who curse us.
6. What should we do if our cloak is stolen?
7. Are we to ask again for our stolen things?
8. When we loan, are we to expect it to be returned?
9. How must a Christian act to be doing better than a sinner?

### Verse to Memorize

**Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again.**

**Luke 6:30**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Jesus said He did not come to abolish the laws that God had given to Moses, but to fulfill them. He did, however make some changes in the laws. The law about stealing is one. He did not reverse the law and say that stealing is okay. No. He said, if you have been a thief, quit stealing. Go to work and provide for yourself and family. Then give to others in place of taking from them.

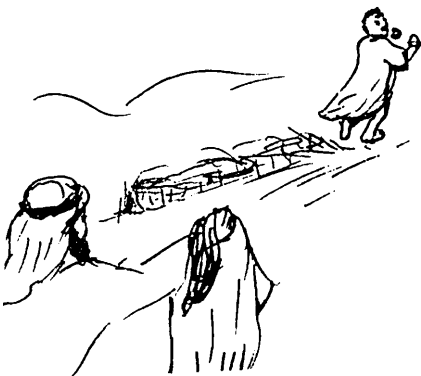
The part of the law that Jesus changed was how we deal with the thief. The Law said, "If a thief be found [stealing]...and be smitten [hit] that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him. But, "If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be blood shed for him...." In those times, a person who committed a planned murder was to be killed for it. That is what is meant by the phrase "blood be shed." If a man protecting his things killed another, in the darkness, it was not considered murder. Fighting until someone was killed to avoid loss was considered murder during daylight. Jesus said, "Don't fight over *things*. If a man takes away thy cloak forbid not to take thy coat also." That is the only part of the law that Jesus changed.

Jesus commands Christians to make restitution for things they have stolen while in sin. Restitution is giving back or paying the equal value of something. Sometimes it is paying more than the value. In the olden times a man earned his living by using his oxen. If an ox was stolen, the man not only lost the ox, but also the money he could have been earning with the ox. A thief was expected to pay back either two or four prices of an ox, depending on what the situation was.

Many, many people have gotten special blessings for repaying stolen goods. Some have confessed to crimes which should have required a jail sentence. In every case I have heard about, the person was forgiven the crime. Many have been forgiven of great amounts of money and never had to pay. Others have experienced leading the offended person to salvation after making restitutions. Jesus commands thieves to make restitution, and He will bless them for doing it.

Jesus taught that the offended person is not to require a restitution. The offended one is to forgive the thief. He is not to fight with his fists, with words, or in attitude to protect his things. Jesus knew that material things are not really very important, when compared with a human. He said we should love our enemies. This is something a sinner cannot do. A sinner gives to those who will return the favor. He loans to those who will pay him back. Jesus said, "My followers must do better than the sinner. They must loan and not expect to be repaid. They must give and expect nothing in return. They must let their things be stolen and not get them back. They must forgive not only seven times in one day, but seventy times seven. All this is impossible without the Holy Spirit living within a person. No, Jesus did not come to take away the responsibility of obeying Moses' law. He came to give us grace to live even better than the law required.

—Charlotte Huskey



searched her attitudes and thought about the things she had been doing. She had done nothing to displease God.

"Boys," she said. "Have either of you done something to displease the Lord? We are certainly having a lot of trouble!" No one said a word.

Then she told them the story of Jonah. "His disobedience caused everyone in the ship to suffer. The angry waves were closing in on them mighty fast. The crew had done all they knew to do. Then they said to Jonah, 'Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us?' It wasn't until Jonah confessed and told them to throw him into the sea that the others were once again on calm, safe water."

She paused again. No one spoke, so she continued, "This trouble may have come upon us because of something one of you has done that is displeasing to God. Do you understand? We didn't get to do the fun things we had hoped to do. Right now we are out of money and don't know how we shall get home."

The boys sat for a long time with heads down. Finally Anthony spoke. "I stole a bag of chips and a coke."

Chuck was next, "I stole some candy-bars and two cans of Pepsi."

"I'm the one who stole the cigarettes," admitted Curtis.

"And the cigarettes I said we'd found behind a cabin were some we had stolen," Anthony said.

On and on they went, confessing first this thing and then that which they felt was not pleasing to God. Most of the confessions were for stealing on this very trip.

"It sounds like you boys have stolen almost every time we've stopped!" exclaimed Mother with dismay.

"We thought if we stole our snacks and drinks we would have more money for fun things when we returned home," Curtis admitted.

Mother threw her hands into the air. "Oh, how foolish," she said.

"Do we have to pay it all back?" Chuck asked.

"Yes," Angle spoke up.

"Each of you get your notebook out and make a list of the things you have stolen," Mother demanded. "Beside each item, write where you stole it from."

The boys were now wiping away tears. They felt so ashamed. Now they knew why the fun things of the trip had been cut out.

All the while the boys wrote the long lists, Mother was pleading with the Lord for mercy and guidance concerning the remainder of the trip. Afterwards they had a good prayermeeting.

Then the children pushed the car to a KOA campground. There they were allowed to sleep on the ground and on the picnic tables near-by.

After the children were sleeping, Mother sat on a picnic table and thanked God for providing the safe place to rest. The Lord had been mindful of them each time they had broken down and given them rest and other things for which to be thankful. Yes, the trip had been very difficult, but it had provided what she desired most—*spiritual blessings and three saved boys.*

Dad and Dan came the following morning and towed them home.

Dear children and young people, your mother and father may not always be able to see you...but God does. You may think you are "getting away" with something you have done wrong—but that is not true. Sooner or later God is going to punish you. "You can't do wrong and get by, no matter how hard you may try." Our heavenly Father sees and hears everything.

—Selected

(Answers: 1. No. 2. He must repay double the amount or more according to the need of the stolen article. 3. He must make restitution. 4. He must go to the judges to settle the case. If the goods were stolen, he must make restitution to the owner. 5. Bless. 6. Not refuse the thief to also take our coat. 7. No. 8. No. 9. We must love our enemies. (lend or give and expect nothing in return.)