

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Jan. 3, 1999

I Surrender All

"Remember—chapters eleven and twelve are on the test tomorrow!" the young teacher called above the clamor. He turned toward the blackboard, eraser in hand, as the students crammed out the door. A man in a faded suit squeezed through the tide of children and approached the desk.

"Judson, how are you?" he asked.

The teacher spun around and smiled, "Mark! What brings you here?"

"I've got some news for you." Mark perched on a corner of the desk, "Revival meeting starts tonight at 7:00! Can you come?"

"Sure! Absolutely." Judson smeared down a half of the board, "Who's holding it?"

"Bro. Paul Hanson. Today we've been passing out fliers. Here's yours for your bulletin board," Mark set the paper in the only clear spot on the desk.

"Thanks," Judson said over his shoulder. "Too bad I didn't know before all the students left...."

Mark studied a sheet of paper in his hand. "What's this?" he asked curiously.

Judson glanced back, "Oh...

that's just a sketch I've been working on."

"Looks like 'The Sower,'" Mark observed.

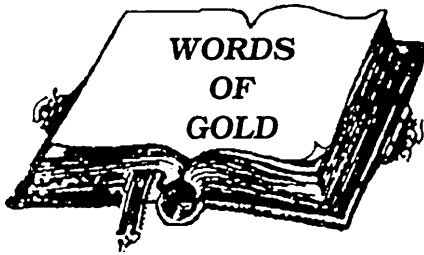
"That's right," Judson grinned. "I'm working it out for a painting. If it's good enough I'd like to enter it for consideration in our art museum."

"That's great," Mark encouraged, then bounced toward the door. "Hope to see you tonight. We can use all the help we can get."

When service started that night Judson was on the second row, joining wholeheartedly in song. The little chapel was only about half full but they listened intently as the evangelist brought forth his message about "Loving God with all your heart." Then, at the minister's invitation, several, including a young boy, went forward. As Judson stood at his seat he felt impressed to go and pray with the boy. Obeying God's voice he joined the boy at the altar.

"What are you needing?" Judson put his hand on the boy's shoulder.

"I'm not...I don't love God enough," the boy confessed as he raised solemn eyes, "'Cause I really want to be on the football team, even though practice would run through church on Wednesday nights." He sighed. "And I don't know what to do



Give All To Jesus

Matthew 19:16-17, 20-22

16 And, behold, one came and said unto him [Jesus], Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

17 And he said unto him,...If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

Philippians 3:7-10, 13-15

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for...Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ,...

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the

fellowship of his sufferings,...

13 Brethren,...this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Let us therefore,...be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

The Message: Surrender your hopes, dreams, friends, failures and all to Jesus and He will bless you.

Questions:

1. Who came to Jesus?
2. What did the man want?
3. What must he do to have eternal life?
4. Was the rich man willing to give up his wealth?
5. How did Paul consider the things that were gain to him?
6. For whom had Paul suffered the loss of all things?
7. Why was Paul willing to lose all for Christ?
8. Should every Christian be willing to lose all for Christ?
9. Have you given up all to Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

**And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?...
Acts 9:6.**

Let's



Talk . . .

A rich young man came to Jesus asking how he could have eternal life. Jesus told him what he must do. He went away sad because he was not willing to do what Jesus wanted.

Saul was quite different. When Jesus spoke to him, Saul asked, "What would You have me to do?" Then he did what Jesus said to do. Each of us should be asking Jesus the same question. We should want to do what God wants for God knows what is best for us.

Paul realized God knew what was best for him so he surrendered all. He began preaching only a few days after being saved and this caused immediate persecutions. Paul submitted that to Jesus and kept on preaching. He tried to impart to everyone his spirit of doing what Jesus wanted. He taught that evil was an unseen power at work in the world, a strong power of darkness and spiritual wickedness, surrounding all Christians. Christians must keep fighting against it no matter how hard the struggle, for in the end they will see it was best.

God is a great architect. Even before birth, He has a plan for each person. The plan He has is just right. We will be content if we surrender our desires and follow His plan.

As we study God's Word we may learn we are doing some things displeasing to God. When this happens, we should ask forgiveness and stop doing them. When we are tempted to do wrong and resist it, we are surrendering to His plan. We have to surrender our desire to do wrong and accept God's way.

All through life we are choosing one thing or another. If we refuse evil and choose the good, we will be satisfied and our spirit will grow stronger. Let us not be like the rich young man, but let us say like Saul (Apostle Paul), "What will you have me to do?"

—Charlotte Huskey

I Surrender All

All to Jesus I surrender;
All to Him I freely give.
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

Chorus:

I surrender all.
I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Saviour,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Make me, Saviour, wholly Thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Lord, I give myself to Thee.
Fill me with Thy love and power;
Let Thy blessing fall on me.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Now I feel the sacred flame.
Oh, the joy of full salvation!
Glory, glory to His name!

cause I do want to go to heaven.... But can't God use football players too?" he pleaded.

Judson began slowly. "Well, have you...submitted yourself to God? Have you told Him you'd do whatever He wants?"

"Yeah," the boy nodded.

"Did you really mean it—whatever He wants?" Judson pressed gently.

The boy lowered his head slightly, "Pretty much. But then tryouts were last Friday and I just couldn't resist, so I tried out and the coach says I'm really good! I just don't feel like I can give it up."

"That's exactly what you have to do!" Judson said urgently but kindly. "God doesn't need football players. He needs people fully submitted to Him. Think of it in the light of eternity. Who would you rather be: Bud Wilkinson or Abraham?"

The boy grinned.

"Do you see what I mean?" Judson gripped the boy's arm softly. "It's not going to matter in eternity how fast a quarterback you were, what's going to matter is if you were doing what God wanted you to. God's not unkind," Judson assured. "He knows what your skills are; He put them there. He just wants to direct them into His way and He'll help you to do it if you'll ask Him."

The boy was silent.

"Shall we ask Him?" Judson encouraged. The boy agreed and they bowed their heads and prayed.

After the service Bro. Paul approached Judson and shook his hand. "Thank the Lord for your help, Brother. Maybe the Lord will lead you into this full time." Judson smiled vaguely.

He drove home to his cozy one room apartment and picked up his

sketch pad and pencils. "Maybe some day, if the Lord calls me," he thought.

Five years passed.

"You all did very well today," Judson passed out the last graded test and returned to his desk. "And I hope you do as well on the finals next Monday."

Groans turned to joyful shouts as the bell rang.

The students streamed out, all but one girl who leaned excitedly over Judson's desk. "Did you hear, Teacher? There's an art show to-night in the library," she bubbled. "I've seen some of your art so I thought you'd like to know. Even Mr. Jargas is going to be there. He's going to look them over and consider some for entrance into the art museum!"

Judson's heart sank as he slowly drove home. This was Wednesday night, his turn to teach Bible study. But this was the chance of his art career! Didn't God need artists too? He wrestled with it all evening until finally he knelt, like the boy five years ago, and said "...I surrender all."

Judson W. VanDeVenter became an evangelist, and two years later—recalling that decisive moment—wrote the song "I Surrender All." Look on page 3 to find this song.

—Joanna Booher

(Answers: 1. A rich young ruler. 2. He wanted to have eternal life. 3. He must give up what he loved most (his riches). 4. No. 5. He counted them as loss. 6. For Christ. 7. Because he wanted Christ's righteousness. 8. Yes. 9. I hope your answer is, "yes.")

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Jan. 10, 1999

What A Firm Foundation!



*How firm a foundation,
ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith
in His excellent word!
What more can he say
than to you he hath said—
To you, who for refuge
to Jesus have fled?"*

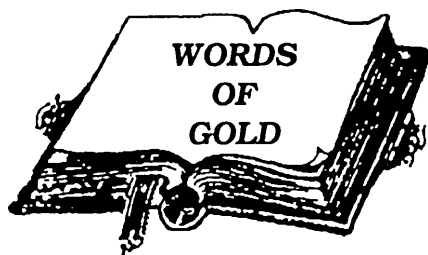
On June 20, 1984, Vicki Darlene Sorrell died of Rocky Mountain spotted fever in her home. Her parents, Dwane and Connie Sorrell, believe in trusting God for physical healing, and so accepted it as God's will when she passed away. A law stated that parents must provide medical help for their children "where permanent physical damage could result." Consequently, Dwane and Connie were charged with second-degree manslaughter for what the authorities felt was failing to provide medical help for their daughter.

*"When thro' the deep waters
I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow
shall not overflow;
For I will be with thee
thy trouble to bless,
And sanctify to thee
thy deepest distress."*

Police surrounded the house and escorted Dwane and Connie to the hospital where doctors examined their daughter. Connie and Dwane were still numb with grief as they were taken into the hospital chapel and callously questioned by the police. Connie hadn't eaten since the night before and was weak and tired from caring for her children. But at the doctor's request that they bring in their oldest son, Lyndall, for examination, they agreed.

*"Fear not, I am with thee,
Oh, be not dismayed,
For I am thy God,
and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee,
and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my gracious,
omnipotent hand."*

They returned to get him but found that he and one of their daughters had already been taken by the police to the hospital. They rushed back to the hospital and were shocked to see the medical staff sterilizing the room



A Good Foundation

I Corinthians 3:10-11, 13-14

10 ...I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth...

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

13 Every man's work shall be made manifest:...and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

Luke 6:45-49

45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

47 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like:

48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.

49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

II Timothy 2:19, 21

19 ...The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his....

21 [And]...he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

The Message: Jesus Christ is the foundation of our salvation.

Questions:

1. Who is the foundation of our salvation?
2. What shall try every man's work?
3. Who shall receive a reward?
4. A man who does God's saying is like _____.
5. Did the house stand whose foundation was on a rock?
6. What happens when a house has no foundation?
7. What foundation always stands?
8. Does God know those who are His?
9. Are those on Christ's foundation prepared for good work?

Verse to Memorize

...The foundation of God standeth sure,...

II Timothy 2:19.

Let's



Talk . . .

Humans are a strange creation. They are a combination of a physical body and a spiritual body. The physical shall die and return to dust. The spiritual shall live forever.

Another strange thing is that a human doesn't really belong to himself. The Bible says, "...Ye are the temple of God, and...the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Corinthians 3:16-17. "What? Know ye not that your body is...of God, and ye are not your own?" I Corinthians 6:19. These verses teach us that God designed our body to be a temple for Him to dwell in. If we do not allow God's spirit to dwell in us, then Satan will take it over as his temple.

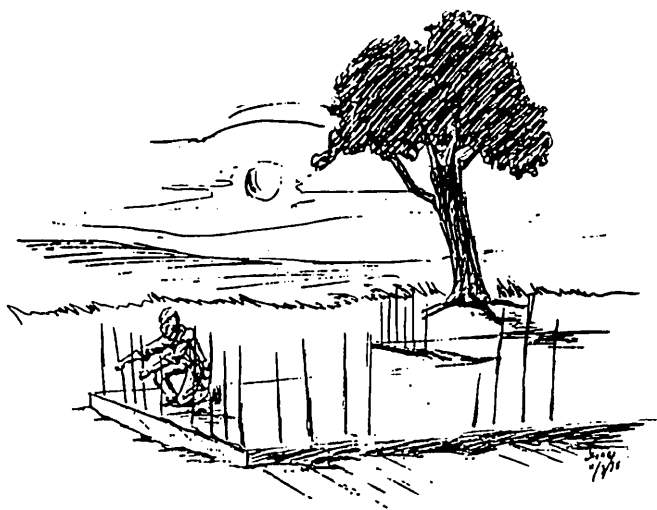
Life, then, is like building a temple for God or Satan. What is the most important part of any building? Isn't it the foundation? Does a healthy body make a strong foundation? Will

getting a good education make a strong foundation? How about being an obedient child? All of these will make our life better, but a person cannot build a temple for God on them. Jesus must be the foundation (the main interest of our life). Asking Jesus to be Master of our life is the way for Him to become our Foundation.

When we are on this Foundation, we can begin building. Each day we live we are adding a little to our structure. Surrendering our desires for His is an important part of building. Jesus said, "He that does my saying is like a man who built his house on a foundation." (Luke 6:47-48.) When we do right it makes our building stronger. When we do wrong it weakens our structure.

Being on a good foundation will keep your structure from falling when it's under pressure. When we are mistreated, get an F on a report card, or our best friend dies, we will not go down. We will be upheld by God. We are like a house with a foundation on a rock. The storms can beat upon it but it will not fall. Our spiritual body is founded on the rock, Christ Jesus, and we are His temple.

—Charlotte Huskey



and talking about a contagious disease. Connie explained that she'd found ticks in the children's hair a few days before they got sick. She and Dwane were allowed to be with their children in the room until the police arrived and ordered them out.

The police hinted that their children might be taken away from them. Dwane and Connie were put into jail cells and Connie, who was expecting another child, was afraid that it might be born in the jail. She didn't want this child to be taken away so she prayed and God was merciful and helped her not to have it until after they were released.

*"When thro' fiery trials
thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient,
shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not harm thee;
I only design
Thy dross to consume
and thy gold to refine."*

A trial was set for 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 16, 1985. The courthouse was crammed with people as testimony after testimony went forth. The saints were there in support and also, across town in the chapel, others were praying as Connie was called to the witness stand. Even though many had been hateful or completely misunderstanding, she was able to give her testimony calmly and sweetly so that all were impressed by her peaceable spirit.

*"The soul that on Jesus
doth lean for repose,
I will not, I will not
desert to his foes;
That soul, tho' all hell
should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never,
no, never forsake!"*

The jury returned a unanimous "Not Guilty" verdict and even the judge and prosecuting attorney were relieved.

God has blessed and the family is still together today. —Joanna Booher

— — — — —
"How Firm A Foundation" first appeared in Rippon's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787.

It was signed only by a "K" and the author remained a mystery for a long while.

John Rippon, a Baptist minister in London, put together the hymn book with the help of Robert Keene.

Although most hymnals simply list the author of this hymn as "K," it is believed that Robert Keene was the author and simply wanted to remain anonymous.

The first title of this hymn was "Scripture Promises," and in the 1787 hymn book, "Exceeding great and precious promises—II Peter 1:4," were printed above the first stanza. If you will notice, each stanza emphasizes a different promise of God's Word.

—Charlotte Huskey

— — — — —
But now thus saith the Lord that created thee,...and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour:... Isaiah 43:1-3.

(Answers: 1. Jesus Christ. 2. Fire. 3. Those whose works will not burn by fire. 4. A house whose foundation is on a rock. 5. Yes. 6. It will fall when the storms come. 7. The foundation of God. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 17, 1999

I Love To Tell The Story

(Based on a true story.)

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Kate's eyes shone as she smoothed open the next page. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Tap. Tap. The door cracked open and the crisp, white, ruffled cap of the maid appeared.

"Miss Kate, your mother wishes to see you in the drawing room."

"Thank you, Lucy," Kate's head remained bent over the book. "Tell her I'll be down in a minute."

"Excuse me, Miss Kate," Lucy insisted uncomfortably. "She said she wishes to see you immediately."

Kate sighed softly as she closed the Bible. "Very well." She slipped it carefully back into its slot on the bookshelf and grinned at Lucy as she approached. "What important matters of state must she be needing me for this time?"

Lucy smiled.

"Catherine, darling!" Mrs. Hankey rushed over to straighten her daughter's collar. "What have you been doing all this time? Reading a book again, no doubt." Kate's eyes darted up. "Well, no matter," she patted her hair. "Go upstairs and have Elsa put you into your blue Sunday frock. One

of your father's banking partners is coming for dinner tonight. We only have half an hour!" She reached over to pull the bell. "And Catherine," she implored, "Please don't bring up your Bible studies in public."

The Carlsbads arrived in half an hour with their daughter, Lorraine. She and Kate hit it off right away. After dinner the adults settled down for a game of Bridge, but Kate headed for the stairs with Lorraine.

"Mother, Lorraine and I are going up to my room for awhile." Mrs. Hankey shot her a look, but the girls were already gone.

"Can you imagine..." Kate glowed, "God's Son...right there in the same room with us? The most perfect being there ever was and He couldn't even talk yet. He was the promise of redemption in the flesh, and they killed Him—their only hope."

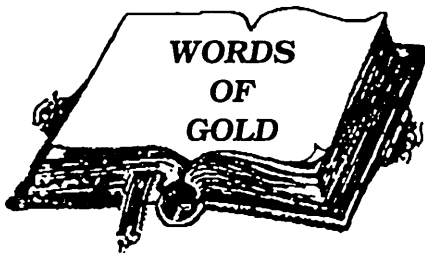
"But if they hadn't, they wouldn't have been redeemed," Lorraine judged.

"Yes, but I think if the Jews honestly hadn't wanted to kill Him, He could have used someone else," Kate added.

"Girls," Lucy interrupted from the doorway. "The Carlsbads are ready to leave." She closed the door behind herself.

"Pity," Lorraine moaned. "This was so much fun."

"I'd love to do it again," Kate agreed. "Maybe we could have a Bible study



A Maid Tells About God

II Kings 5:1-9

1 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man...and honourable, because by him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, *but he was a leper.*

2 And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.

3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.

4 And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.

5 And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.

6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.

7 And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter,

that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.

8 And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

The Message: A captive maid shares her faith in God's prophets.

Questions:

1. Why was Naaman honorable?
2. What was Naaman's affliction?
3. From where was the maid?
4. Was the maid old or young?
5. How did the maid share her faith?
6. How did Naaman hear about the prophet?
7. Who did Naaman tell?
8. What did the king of Israel say?
9. Who told the king of Israel there was help for Naaman?

Verse to Memorize

**Whosoever...shall be ashamed
of me and of my words...of him
also shall [Jesus] be ashamed,
when he cometh in the glory
of his Father with the holy
angels.**

Mark 8:38.

Let's



Talk . . .

One never knows how much good might come of something we do for God. The little maid in today's Bible lesson did not know thousands upon thousands of people would read about what she did. When Lydia invited Jesus' disciples to make her home their home, she did not know many people would hear about it and follow her example. When Dorcas made clothes for the widows and their children, she never thought of people being blessed by it for hundreds of years. When the apostle Paul told his comrades on the sinking ship that God would deliver them, he didn't realize it would inspire faith in thousands of people going through trials.

The little Israelite maid told her mistress about the prophet because she wanted her suffering master to be healed. This was told to Naaman who told the king. The king then sent a letter with Naaman to Jehoram, king of Israel. Greatly disturbed by the letter, Jehoram rent his clothes and shouted, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy?... He seeketh a quarrel against me."

Elisha sent a message that solved the king's problem. "Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel," the message said.

The Israelite maid had little chance to express her opinions, but love for the family she served compelled her to share with them.

Katharine Hankey who wrote "I Love to Tell The Story" gives many

reasons why she loved to tell it. She loved to tell it because it was true, it satisfied her, it did much for her and because others wanted to hear it.

Do you love to tell "The story?" Remember when we tell "The Story" of Jesus it may be a blessing to many people for years and years to come.

—Charlotte Huskey

I Love To Tell The Story

I love to tell the story—
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory,
Of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story,
Because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings
As nothing else would do.

I love to tell the story;
More wonderful it seems
Than all the golden fancies
Of all our golden dreams.

I love to tell the story,
It did so much for me;
And that is just the reason
I tell it now to thee.

I love to tell the story;
'Tis pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it,
More wonderfully sweet.

I love to tell the story,
For some have never heard
The message of salvation
From God's own holy word.

I love to tell the story;
For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting
To hear it, like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story
That I have loved so long.

—Katharine Hankey

—Music by William G. Fischer

with Elizabeth and Susan!" she exclaimed. "They've been wanting to also!"

"But where?" Lorraine questioned.

"We could have it here... except...Mother," Kate faltered, then set her jaw. "Well, I'll ask."

"Absolutely not," Mrs. Hankey drew herself up to her full five foot six inch height. "It'd be scandalous!" She raised her hands in horror. "We'd be the talk of the town!"

"Papa, please," Kate addressed her father who sat reading in the corner armchair.

"Charles," Mrs. Hankey warned. "Do not contradict me on this. She will ruin her reputation and ours as well!"

"But why?" Kate pleaded. "What's wrong with a Bible study?"

Mrs. Hankey folded her hands majestically. "Young ladies do not study the Bible," she ruled. "They're too young for it. They might get wrong ideas."

"Now, I don't know about that," Mr. Hankey disagreed. "Kate's got a very good head on her shoulders." He adjusted his reading glasses and turned a page. "I think it'd be good," he declared and continued reading.

Mrs. Hankey closed her gaping mouth. She smoothed her shirt front. "Very well, Catherine," she finally managed. "Do as you wish."

Kate beamed.

For months afterward the library hummed with voices as Sarah, Lorraine, Kate and Elizabeth discussed the Scriptures. Kate even started Bible studies with other girls in her neighborhood.

"Guess what, Papa!" Eighteen-year-old Kate bounced into the room. "I have been made an offer to teach a Bible class in London!"

"That's wonderful," Mr. Hankey rose with a smile to take her hands.

"What is it, darling?" Mrs. Hankey entered the room with her embroidery.

"She's going to teach in London," Mr. Hankey explained.

"Lovely, dear," Mrs. Hankey dropped gracefully onto the sofa. "And what will you be teaching?"

Kate set her chin. "A Bible class for factory girls."

"Factory girls!" Mrs. Hankey laid her hand to her head. "Charles, please," she beseeched, "Talk some sense into her. She'll ruin all her matrimonial chances! She almost did at her coming out—getting into a discussion with Mr. Clark."

Mr. Hankey exchanged an understanding smile with Kate as he took his wife's hand. "Go pack your bags, dear," he said.

This was the beginning of a life work for Kate. After this class she went on to start other Bible classes for factory girls. In her early thirties, however, she came down with a serious illness.

"No more teaching," the doctor ordered sternly as he closed his black bag. "I want complete bed rest for twelve months."

Kate gave her best hound dog face.

"No exceptions," he said with a gruff smile.

But Kate couldn't stop telling the story. Even when she couldn't teach it she was thinking about it. Two months into her illness she wrote "Tell Me the Old Old Story" and ten months later she wrote "I Love to Tell the Story."

As soon as she was well she was out teaching again. When she got too old to teach regularly she started a prison ministry. All her life she continued to tell the story of Jesus.

— Joanna Booher

(Answers: 1. Because by him God had given deliverance to Syria. 2. Leprosy. 3. From the land of Israel. 4. Young. 5. By telling her mistress about a prophet in Israel who could help Naaman. 6. He heard because the maid had told his wife. 7. The king of Syria. 8. "Am I God to kill and make alive?" 9. The prophet Elisha.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 24, 1999

I Know My Redeemer Lives

Tap. Tap. Tap. At the sound of Bro. Jacob's baton on his pulpit the choir shuffled to their feet. Sarah ducked into the pew beside her best friend, Marie.

"You're late," the tall brunette winked at her.

Sarah grimaced as she lifted her songbook to hide her mouth. "My lousy computer would not send that e-mail forever..." she began.

"Sarah," Bro. Jacob interrupted. "Could you tell us what we're about to sing?"

Sarah snatched a glance at Marie's open songbook. "I Know?" she guessed.

"I know what?" he pressed. Snickers trickled around the room.

Her face warmed as she shot another covert look at the page. "That My Redeemer Lives."

"Thank you," Bro. Jacob said with a slight smile. "And what does that mean to you?"

Her eyes drifted blankly to the ceiling. "Um..."

Marie cupped her hand beside her mouth. "I shall conquer death," she whispered.

"That since Jesus conquered death...we will too," Sarah stated triumphantly.

"Very good," Bro. Jacob's eyes twinkled. "Marie, could you sing the first verse for us?"

Marie's eyes flickered only momentarily with surprise before her rich contralto voice broke into song.

"Now remember, next choir practice is Wednesday at 6:00!" Bro. Jacob called as the young people tramped out. "And Easter's only a month away so practice, practice, practice! Oh, Marie and Sarah, could I have a word with you?"

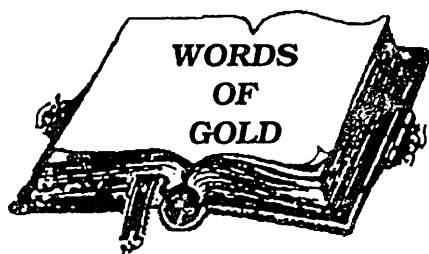
Marie scooped up her books and approached the pulpit. Sarah slunk along behind.

"Girls, I'd like to compliment you on your harmony," Bro. Jacob beamed. "And I'd like you to do something for me." He flipped open the book with one hand. "Could you two try a duet...Just the third verse," he explained. "Sarah, work on the alto and you, Marie, on the soprano. I may have Daniel and Robert do the same thing with another verse. I think it'd sound nice—add some variety."

The two girls' voices bounced back and forth in the soft evening breeze as they walked home.

"It goes like this—" Marie set her books under a green leafy tree and sat down on them.

"Well, couldn't we add something?" Sarah protested, grasping the sheet of



My Redeemer Lives

Job 19:6-16, 18-21, 23-27

6 [Job said] Know now that God hath overthrown me, and hath compassed me with his net.

7 Behold, I cry out...but I am not heard:...there is no judgment.

8 He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths.

9 He hath stripped me of my glory,...

10 He hath destroyed me on every side,...and mine hope hath he removed...

11 He hath also kindled his wrath against me, and he counteth me unto him as one of his enemies.

12 His troops come together, and raise up their way against me,...

13 He hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me.

14 My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me.

15 They that dwell in mine house, and my maids, count me for a stranger: I am an alien in their sight.

16 I called my servant, and he gave me no answer;...

18 Yea, young children despised me;...

19 All my inward friends abhorred me: and they whom I loved are turned against me.

20 My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh,...

21 Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.

23 Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!

24 That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!

25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:

26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet...shall I see God:

27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.

The Message: Keep believing Jesus is alive although troubles like storms are crashing in all around.

Questions:

1. What did Job say God had done?
2. Did anyone hear Job's cries?
3. What happened to Job's path?
4. Of what had Job been stripped?
5. What had happened to Job's family and friends?
6. Did Job want his words written in a book?
7. Whom did Job believe still lived?
8. Who would stand on the earth in the latter days?
9. Would Job see his Redeemer?

Verse to Memorize

For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

Job 19:25.

Let's



Talk . . .

We all know the story of Job. He lost everything—his ten children died and all his wealth was taken by different enemies. Yet he said, "Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21.

After this Job suffered with several afflictions until he became so thin it looked as if his skin stuck to his bones. Boils eventually covered his body from the sole of his feet to the crown of his head. He was so miserable he sat in ashes and scraped himself with potsherd. Potsherd was used to control itching in those days. There are different opinions of what affliction Job had. Many believed he had the dreaded leprosy. For this reason he lived by himself in an unclean place and his friends beheld him afar off. (Job 2:12.) We are sure it must have been infections.

At this point his wife criticized him saying, "What? Bless God for His goodness while He is destroying all that thou hast? Bless Him for His support while He is casting thee down and destroying thee? Then bless God and die! Better, 'Curse God and die.'" (From Adam Clarke.)

Then came his three friends. Instead of comforting him, they too began trying to convince him that God was sending all these troubles because of his sins. Many of the chapters of the book of Job are the criticisms of these so-called friends.

In the lesson today we see that not only these three friends and his wife, but all other friends and relatives also turned against him. Poor Job faced his problems all alone. When he tried to be friendly, he was shunned. Even the children did not show the respect that was due an old man.

Job trusted God through all these problems. He was convinced his Redeemer lived and confident that someday he would see that Redeemer. —Charlotte Huskey

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Samuel Medley (1738-1799)

*I know that my Redeemer lives:
What joy the blest assurance gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everlasting Head!*

*He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.*

*He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.*

*He lives, all glory to His name;
He lives my Savior, still the same;
What joy the blest assurance gives;
I know that my Redeemer lives!*

music as she dropped beside her. "Like maybe go into minor or something?"

"I don't think so." Marie retrieved her paper with a teasing look of condescension.

"Now, come on, let's get serious." She cleared her voice stuffily.

Sarah flattened beside her. "At least raise it," she groaned. "I can't sing that low."

The sun had set and rain was pattering down as they jogged across the wet road. Then suddenly there was a screeching of tires and blinding headlights and Sarah went flying into the curb but Marie flipped and slammed back into the road. Sarah opened her eyes once and saw rushing figures and heard shouting voices then everything mercifully went black.

Sarah clenched her icy hands and braced her trembling legs against the cold metal of her chair. The casket, bedecked with flowers, lay before her. Her eyes burned as she stared straight ahead. Her mother, beside her, gently squeezed her hand.

The minister stood and approached the casket. "This is a sad occasion for all of us," he began. "The passing of Marie Norman was a shock none of us expected...."

Sarah's mind drifted away. She remembered waking up in a hospital room with a pounding headache. But she was soon able to go home, having only a mild concussion and bruises. Marie had been killed instantly.

"It's not fair," Sarah bit her lip. "Marie never got to do anything. It wasn't fair of God to take her when she was this young...."

"...Now we might think it's not fair for God to take someone so young—" the minister continued. "Who knows what she might have done for God! But we also know that God knows everything. He knows best."

"But why?" Sarah thought bitterly. "Why would God see it best to take her now?"

Sarah sat on her bed staring out into the sunlight. She absently fingered her fading bruises.

Her mother's voice drifted up to her from the phone downstairs. "Oh, I don't really think she feels like doing that yet. It's only been two weeks since the funeral. Well, I'll tell her. All right... Good-bye."

A few moments later mother's kind face appeared at the doorway. "Honey, that was Bro. Jacob on the phone. He was wondering if you're still interested in singing in the choir for Easter."

Sarah didn't feel able to turn her head or speak for the lump in her throat.

Mother sat carefully on the edge of the bed. "You haven't been to practice or any other function in weeks. Won't you go tonight?"

Sarah walked down the street toward the church but couldn't bring herself to go in. So she slumped down on the grass outside.

The choir voices drifted out to her through the open windows.

"He lives and grants me daily breath:

He lives and I shall conquer death:

He lives my mansion to prepare:

He lives to bring me safely there."

And she cried as the words sank into her soul. She finally saw—that life is a gift not a right; each moment is a gift. She would see her friend again. Because He lives she would live also. When Bro. Jacob asked her again if she wished to sing in the choir she agreed, and Easter morning stood and sang as a solo what had been the duet.

—Joanna Booher

(Answers: 1. Compassed him with a net and overthrown him. 2. No. 3. His path was fenced up and dark. 4. His glory. 5. They had failed and forgotten him. 6. Yes. 7. His Redeemer. 8. Job's Redeemer. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Jan. 31, 1999

Lead Us Like A Shepherd

Ma was clanking around the campfire when Sally stumbled out of the covered wagon into the bright sun. She could hear in the distance a moaning and groaning—Pa was praying like he always did in the morning.

"What's for breakfast, Ma?" Sally inspected the gathering of pots and pans on the coals.

"Paint," Ma shoved a bucket and brush into her hands. "Pa wants that sign on the wagon spruced up before we arrive in Cedarville this morning. Tell your sisters to get up and then we'll have some hotcakes."

Sally squinted at the lettering on the side of the wagon. "You Have a Saviour?" sprawled in faded white letters. She dipped her brush into the paint.

Before noon they rolled into town. A stern face stared out of the drugstore window as the dingy wagon creaked past. Two ruffled, laced and curled young women on the boardwalk snickered and pointed.

"Do you think these folks'll come to the meetin', Pa?" Sally leaned up to whisper.

"Everybody needs the Gospel of Christ," Pa gave the reins another calm flick.

Cowboys, lounging on the saloon porch, spat into the dust and nudged

each other as the droopy horses trudged past.

"Clem," Ma said in a hushed voice, "It doesn't look like they have a single decent person in this town."

"Well, then it's about time they got some," Pa said cheerfully as he halted the horses in front of the blacksmith's shop. He swung down to tie up. "I'll go check it out. You just wait here a bit." He strode off down the street.

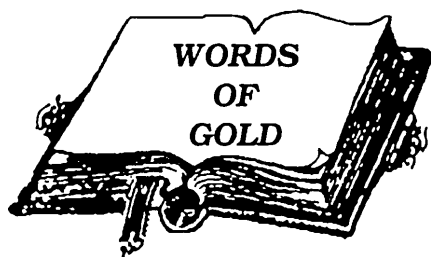
After a moment the blacksmith's door darkened and the blacksmith appeared, hammer in hand. He looked the wagon and Ma and Sally over silently. Ma drew her shawl closer about her and gave a weak smile. He shrugged and went back inside. A few minutes later the ragged cloth of the window curtain lifted a crack and a small wrinkled face appeared. But that was all.

Pa came back with a grin on his face. "Well, there's a Hall down the street that won't be used for gambling 'til tomorrow. So we can use that for the meeting. It only costs a dollar a night."

"Clem," Ma cautioned, "Where are we going to get a dollar?"

"Don't worry, Eliza," he said calmly. "The Lord will provide. The blacksmith accepted my pocket watch as down payment."

Ma bit her lip.



Jesus the Shepherd

John 10:1-5, 7, 9-12, 14-16

1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

3 ...The sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

9 ...By me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

10 ...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them,

and scattereth the sheep.

14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

The Message: Jesus is the Shepherd of man's spirit. He will lead us just as a shepherd does his little lambs.

Questions:

1. How does the shepherd enter the sheepfold?
2. Whose voice do the sheep hear?
3. Who puts forth the sheep and leads them?
4. From whom do the sheep flee?
5. Who is the door for the sheep?
6. Those who enter by the door will be _____.
7. Who gives His life for the sheep?
8. Who flees when the wolf comes?
9. Who knows the name of each sheep?

Verse to Memorize

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

I Corinthians 6:20.

Let's



Talk . . .

Shepherds stack stones carefully one on another to make high walls around an enclosure to protect the sheep. Even in these rough stone enclosures, which serve as folds, there is constant danger from thieves and wild beasts—lions, leopards, and bears, also wolves and hyenas, jackals, snakes and scorpions. For this reason the shepherd stays with the sheep day and night.

Most shepherds were not owners of the sheep. In Bible times, if sheep were stolen the shepherd had to repay his master. If they were attacked by wild beasts he had to prove it with evidence. Shepherds were poor and it was not easy to pay for stolen sheep nor to find evidence of an attack.

The shepherds know each sheep by name, and watch over them like they are his beloved children. He carries a staff to catch hold of any sheep which falls. When the sheep must leave the protection of the fold, the shepherd goes before the sheep to show them the way. There was no sitting under a shade tree and letting the sheep take care of themselves.

In the Bible, Christians are called sheep. Jesus is the Shepherd of these sheep. He is constantly caring for, loving and protecting His sheep. As a shepherd knows each sheep by name, so Jesus knows each Christian by name.

As the shepherd builds a fold for his sheep's protection, so Jesus gives us a wall of salvation for protection. Although we have this wall, there are still many dangers. Satan seeks to destroy each Christian's faith just as the wild animals seek to destroy the sheep. But Jesus is always present to protect us from the lies of the devil, for He is our Good Shepherd.

—Charlotte Huskey



"Now you and the children go on down and straighten it up while I canvass the town."

Sally took the feather duster and stirred up some dust while Rose, Marie and Anne picked up beer bottles. Ma swept up the cigar butts, then they shoved the tables out of the way and arranged the chairs. There was no pulpit, but some chairs served as an altar. They stacked their three song books on the altar and returned to the wagon for lunch.

As the sun started to set at 6:00 they gathered in the Hall and Pa stood up to lead them. They sang "Hallelujah, What A Saviour" and "I Will Sing Of My Redeemer" but no one came. So they sang "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" and "A Wonderful Saviour Is Jesus My Lord." But still no one came.

Finally Pa said, "Let's pray." So they knelt down and he shook the walls with his prayer for God to touch the hearts of the sinners in this town and show them their need for God. Pa was very long-winded and he prayed for half an hour. Ann fell asleep, fell off the bench and bumped her lip. They finally rose to sing again. But Pa started to preach and she fell sound asleep the second time. And still nobody had come. Finally they got up to sing their last song: "Saviour Like A Shepherd Lead Us." They sang the whole thing and Pa was about to dismiss when a shuffling in the doorway caused them to turn. An old man, with the same wrinkled face that had peered out the blacksmith window, tottered down the aisle and knelt before the altar. Ma and the girls sang on softly while Pa stooped beside the man. The prayer was rather short but the man got up with a smile. "Praise the Lord," he said, "I've been in this town for sixty years. I've done just about every wicked thing you can

imagine. Now I'm getting old and I thought there was no hope for me. I heard there was a meetin' but I didn't have courage to come in so I just sat outside. But when I heard those words it was like angels speakin' right to me: 'Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be...'" his voice cracked, "I knew that was me. And praise the Lord, He had mercy!"

Well, nobody else came and Pa never got his watch back. But what they remembered most about that town was that song and the one precious lamb the Shepherd found and led back to His fold. —Joanna Booher

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Savior, like a Shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast brought us, Thine we are.

We are thine, do Thou befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us, when we pray.

Early let us seek Thy favor,
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

—*Hymns For The Young*, 1835. Attributed to Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779-1847)

(Answers: 1. By the door. 2. The voice of the Shepherd. 3. The Shepherd. 4. From strangers. 5. Jesus. 6. Saved. 7. The Good Shepherd. Jesus. 8. An hireling. 9. The Good Shepherd.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 7, 1999

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Adelaide eagerly tore open the sealed envelope.

"Dear Ms. Pollard," it read, "We appreciate your desire to serve on the mission fields of Africa, but we regret that at this time we are unable to supply any funds...."

With a sigh she dropped the crumpled letter on the table and sank her face into her hands. "Oh, Lord," she prayed, "How can I go to Africa without a ticket? And how can I get a ticket without money?" She creased her forehead, "The Ladies Aide Society couldn't help.... The church couldn't because of the Sloan's fire. And all the rest because...I'm a single woman."

She sat silently for a moment then her eyes lit up, "Mr. Harrison owns a ship! Maybe he'd give a ticket for a good cause." She bound her hat over her graying hair, slung a cloak around her shoulders and rushed out into the damp October air.

"Strike in San Francisco! Read all about it!" the dirty-faced paper boy shouted to the uninterested pedestrians who picked their way past him over the slimy sidewalk. Adelaide gave him a glance as she passed. But then a subheadline caught her attention: "The Starving Children of Malawi."

"How much?" she grabbed up a paper.

"A nickel, ma'am."

She paid him and drifted on, oblivious to the beginning drizzle. Fifteen minutes later she stood before the luxurious door of Mr. Harrison's home.

"He'll see you in the study, ma'am." The maid opened the indicated door.

"Ms. Pollard?" a tall thin man questioned, rising from his desk. "How may I help you?" He offered her a chair.

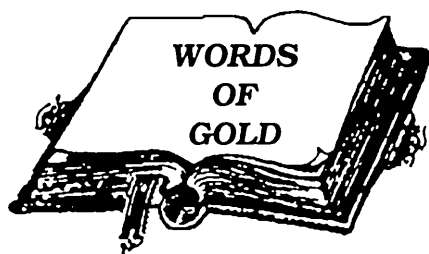
"I'd like to go to Africa," she began abruptly. He raised his eyebrows.

She slowed herself. "What I mean is, I feel the Lord has called me to go there as a missionary." She leaned forward earnestly, "So many there are hurting, starving, but, more than that they need the Gospel." She remembered the paper in her lap and showed him the article.

He scanned it coolly.

"Can't you see, Sir," she beseeched, "How much they need help? Would you consider...donating to this cause? A ticket, perhaps, on one of your ships to Africa?"

He adjusted his spectacles. "Ms. Pollard," he began, "you have a compassionate heart. But, that does not mean you have a calling." She opened her mouth to object. "And," he con-



The Potter

Jeremiah 18:1-13

1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

2 Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words.

3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels.

4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

5 Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

6 O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

7 At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it;

8 If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.

9 And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it;

10 If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

11 Now therefore go to, speak to

the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the Lord; Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you: return ye now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.

12 And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.

13 Therefore thus saith the Lord; Ask ye now among the heathen, who hath heard such things: the virgin of Israel hath done a very horrible thing.

The Message: Israel was like a lump of marred clay which the Lord wanted to remake, but they refused.

Questions:

- 1.** Where did God send Jeremiah?
- 2.** What was Jeremiah to hear at the potter's house?
- 3.** With what was the potter working?
- 4.** What happened to the clay?
- 5.** Did the potter make another vessel out of the marred one?
- 6.** Was Israel in God's hand like the clay in the potter's hand?
- 7.** What would happen if a nation repented of the evil it was doing?
- 8.** What would happen if the nation being blessed began doing evil?
- 9.** What did Israel say they would do?

Verse to Memorize

...As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

Jeremiah 18:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

King Josiah had turned Israel back to God. After his death, his son Jehoiakim was made king by Pharaoh Neco and had to pay taxes to Egypt. Jehoiakim was greedy and cruel. While sitting in his winter home, he burnt the scroll of Jeremiah's prophecies page by page as it was being read to him. He undid all the good of his father's reign and soon the people were ungodly again.

In our lesson today God tells Jeremiah that Israel was as a marred clay vessel. God offered to remake the nation into a good one if they would turn from evil. When Jeremiah told the people what God wanted to do, they said, "There is no hope for us. We will walk after our own ways and will do the imaginations of our evil hearts." God let them do what they wanted, but they suffered for it.

We are God's creation and therefore should be like clay in a potter's hands. We should allow God to form us into the person He wishes. He will make us into a beautiful useful person if we will let Him. If we do not submit to His will then He cannot make us into that person.

There is also hope for a person who has already marred in God's hands. God says He will not do the evil He had planned if that person will turn from their sins.

Let us each one say to God, "Make me into the person You want."

—Charlotte Huskey

The Potter

The Potter sat at his wheel. One foot pumped the pedal to keep it going

while his fingers molded the spinning clay. He scooped some water from his dish and wet the clay to make it more pliable. Then he put the fingers of one hand into the center and pressed down while holding the outside firmly with the other hand. A shallow cup formed.

He dipped down again and drew upwards, guiding the outside with the other hand, and a vase appeared. Carefully he reached in again, but his finger snagged on a lump in its base and the vase tilted. It spun off center and out of control, sagging down over itself into an ugly lump.

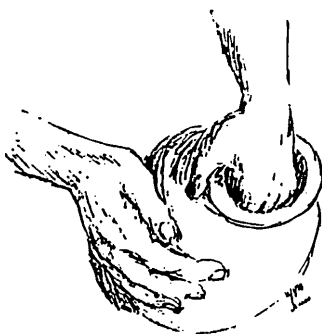
The potter then scooped it off the wheel and laid it on the table. He pounded it and kneaded it into a smooth ball of clay again.

He set it in the center of the wheel and started it to spinning, splashing water on as he held it steady with his hands. He again molded out the center and each time he touched it deep in its core, the outside changed. When he pressed in one spot at the top—the lip of the vase appeared. When he drew one finger slowly up the outside—a spiral encircled it. However he touched the vase—it did exactly as he planned.

He baked it in the heat and fire of his oven until it was solid and strong. Now it could be used. Whatever he poured into it, he could pour out again.

"O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord." Jeremiah 18:6.

—Joanna Booher



tinued, "I feel it would be wrong—cruel—for me to take an impressionable young woman," Her mouth dropped—impressionable? Young? "and abandon her across the ocean in the midst of savages."

"Sir," Adelaide corrected, "I am not impressionable and at forty am hardly young. I have been saved for over twenty years and feel the Lord has definitely called me to go."

Mr. Harrison reconsidered. Finally he asked, "May I see your ordination papers?"

Adelaide faltered. "I'm...not a minister," she admitted.

"I'm sorry, Ms. Pollard," he said firmly, "but I really cannot help you."

She wept frustrated tears over her table that night as she poured out her heart to God again. "God, if I'm really supposed to go to Africa why isn't it working out? Is this really Your will or am I 'young' and 'impressionable'?"

Her burden remained.

She waited all week, hoping for a letter of acceptance. No apologies. No changed minds. Weeks turned to months. Discouraged and dejected she slunk into prayer meeting one chilly Wednesday night. Only a handful of faithful women had congregated in the small slat chapel. They croaked out "Amazing Grace" and "What A Friend" then knelt to pray.

Minutes of silence. Finally one old sister began in her high trembling voice, "Our Father, Which art in heaven...where I hope you'll take me some of these days...hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come—"

"Yes, Lord," another affirmed.

"Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. And oh, Lord," she pleaded, "It doesn't matter what You bring into our lives, just have Your way with us."

Adelaide plodded home deep in thought. She pulled out her Bible and

it flipped open to Jeremiah, the eighteenth chapter:

"Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words."

She read through the short account of the potter and opened her heart to God's voice. "Maybe that's my problem," she mused. "Perhaps my questioning of God's will shows a flaw in my life. So God decided to break me, as the potter broke the defective vessel, and then mold my life again in His own pattern."

As she bowed her head and surrendered her life completely to God, these words flowed into her heart. She wrote them down and they became the song we sing today: "Have Thine Own Way." —Joanna Booher

Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

*Thou art the Potter; I am the clay:
Mold me and make me After Thy will,
While I am waiting, Yielded and still.*

Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

*Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow, Lord,
wash me just now,
As in Thy presence Humbly I bow*

Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

*Hold o'er my being Absolute sway!
Fill with Thy Spirit Till all shall see
Christ only, always, Living in me!*

—Adelaide Addison Pollard (1862-1934)

(Answers: 1. To the potter's house. 2. The Word of the Lord. 3. A wheel and clay. 4. It marred in the potter's hand. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. God would bless it. 8. God would not bless it. 9. They said, "There is no hope...we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.")

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 14, 1999

A Troubled Beginning

"In the beginning," ages and ages ago, farther back than any of us can even imagine, and before earth was inhabited, there was God. The Bible tells us everything begins with God, the Creator. The ancient heathen stories about the creation tell of fabulous monsters and quarreling gods. None of these tales have the literary charm or the sublime inspiration of the Bible story. There are three accounts of Creation in our Bible, two in Genesis and one in Psalm 104.

The world's first pioneers, Adam and Eve, did not live like pioneers we know today. They lived in the beautiful, awesome garden of Eden. It was watered by a river and heavy dew each night. The trees gave plenty of delicious fruit so Adam and Eve were never hungry. The birds sang, the animals were friendly, the climate so pleasantly warm no clothes were needed.

The only task Adam had was tending this garden, which must have been a delightful job. He and Eve had about everything they desired and complete freedom, except for one small commandment. One tree bore fruit called "the knowledge of good and evil." Of its fruit they were not to eat.

We all know the story of the talking serpent, and of his cleverly deceptive remarks on the day when he met Eve not far from the forbidden tree. The serpent's first question suggested they were not allowed to eat the fruit of any

tree in the garden. Eve rejected this suggestion by the serpent that God was unreasonable. "We may eat of all but one tree," she said.

The serpent scoffed—as people do today. "There's no harm in eating from that one tree." Then Satan said, "It will make you wise." This is a common suggestion of Satan today.

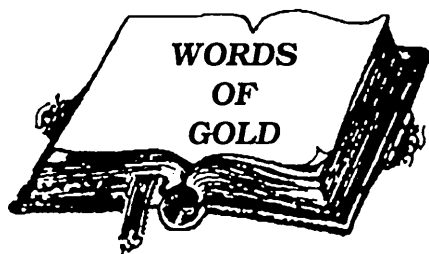
Eve allowed herself to look at the forbidden fruit. "How delicious it must be," she told herself. After gazing at it a long time she picked a fruit and tasted it. "It's good!" she exclaimed. Then she ran to Adam. "Here, Adam, taste it."

He did.

Instantly they felt guilty about being naked. Quickly they looked around for something to clothe themselves. There was nothing. "Ah, these fig leaves will do," Adam may have said. In the evening, when God came for His daily visit, instead of running out to meet Him, they tried to hide from Him.

"Where are you?" God called. God knew they had eaten the fruit, but He said nothing until they showed up with fig leaf aprons. When He questioned them about it, each tried to pin the blame on someone else. Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent. God pronounced judgment on all three. Adam and Eve were expelled from the garden and began the struggle against the harsh, natural elements everyone struggles against today.

After being driven out of Eden, they turned to see the entrance to their earthly paradise barred by awesome cherubims. A flaming sword, swinging



Earth's First Angel

**Genesis 1:27, 3:1-14,
16-19, 21-22, 24**

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

1 Now the serpent...said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree [of knowledge of good and evil] which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman...took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband...and he did eat.

7 ...And they knew that they were naked;...and they...made themselves aprons.

8 ...And Adam and his wife hid themselves...amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And...God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said,...I was afraid, because I was naked;...

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree,...that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest...me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13 And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

14 And the Lord God said unto the serpent,...thou art cursed above...every beast of the field;...

16 Unto the woman he said,...thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree,...cursed is the ground...

18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee;...

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground;...

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

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...Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

The Message: An angel protected Adam and Eve from eating of the tree of life and thus living forever under a curse.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

Adam and Eve were special creations of God. They were made in His image. Being able to communicate with God was just one of the many differences between them and the animals.

The animals were controlled by the instinct God created in them so they did what God designed them to do. Adam and Eve, however, had complete freedom to choose. They could fulfill God's design or they could refuse.

We all know the story of how they chose to disobey the one and only commandment God had given. Until then they were like happy children, doing whatever they wished. Suddenly they were miserable and didn't want to see God, who had been their best friend.

When God questioned them about disobeying, they began fighting. "The serpent is to blame. He told a lie and caused me to do it," Eve wailed.

Adam said, "That woman You gave me brought it to me. It's her fault."

"Sorry," God said, "you both did wrong; you'll both have to suffer the consequences." And they did. From that time, Adam and Eve had trouble. They had been promised a "forever" life in an awesome garden with nothing much to do.

Now they had to wrest a living from ground infested with weeds, thorns and thistles. Eve had problems giving birth to children. Their sons fought until one killed his brother. Now Adam and Eve had to deal with the anguish of losing a child, and feeling of hatred for the

murderer, their other son. It was a constant moral fight against the brutish forces threatening to drag them down and a daily struggle for physical survival.

God was wise to send an angel to guard the tree of life. It protected Adam and Eve and their children from eating of it and living for ever and ever in their misery.

Often it seems a strange power is keeping us from doing what we want to do. It may be God has sent an angel to protect us from some unseen danger. The things we desire today may be what will make us miserable tomorrow. Although we don't always understand, thank God for the angels He sends to protect us.

—Charlotte Huskey



Questions:

1. In whose image were Adam and Eve created?
2. What was Adam and Eve's only commandment?
3. What did Adam and Eve learn from eating the fruit?
4. Why did Adam and Eve disobey God?
5. Did God place a curse on the serpent?
6. In what way did Eve's life change because she disobeyed God?
7. In what ways did Adam's life change because of his sin?
8. Do you think Adam and Eve were happy after they disobeyed?
9. Why did the angel and sword protect the tree of life?

in all directions, flashed this message to them, "Never again can you enter this delightful garden."

Each of us go through a similar experience. We pass out of innocence in early childhood when we begin feeling guilty and afraid about inappropriate actions. We shall never again be able to tell lies, hit and throw temper tantrums without feeling guilty. We have passed the age of childish innocence and are now responsible for our actions. A life-long struggle has begun. We may all win this struggle and rise above the brutish forces trying continually to drag us down. The one who God said would bruise the serpent's head is Jesus Christ. He will cast Satan, the old serpent, out of our hearts and we can triumph.

Outside of Eden, Adam and Eve began their toilsome life. They now had to wrest their living from the soil, to battle with weeds, thorns and thistles and to fight off wild beasts. They had to find a shelter for protection from the cold wind and hot sun which all at once were harsh and seemed determined to oppose them at all times.

The Bible says little about the details of their struggles. It tells of the birth of Cain and Abel who were taught to worship the God whom their parents had disobeyed. Cain was a tiller of the soil and Abel was a shepherd. They each offered to God some of the fruit of their labor. When God rejected Cain's offering and approved of Abel's, Cain raged.

Why did God reject Cain's? Cain had followed the example of his parents; he did wrong and didn't want to accept the responsibility for it. God said to Cain, "If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?" He could have changed. However, instead of seeking to do better, he nursed sullen jealousy and resentment. One day, when the two boys were together in the field, a blind rage mastered Cain. He slew Abel.

Imagine the grief of Adam and Eve. To bury their beloved son was great sorrow, but to see the face of his murderer every time they sat down to eat was almost more than they could bear.

Although we are confident Adam and Eve treated Cain kindly, his conscience tormented him day and night.

In desperation Cain fled into the "land of Nod," which means the land of wandering. He became "a fugitive and a vagabond." But no matter how far he wandered, he could never escape conscience, the undying reminder of what had happened. Wherever he went the hand of men was against him, but God spared his life. Later he married and had children.

To comfort Eve, God gave her another son, Seth. He was a gentle, good man who served God. From Seth's children came Noah, Abraham, David and Christ.

With Cain's family in the land of Nod and Seth's family in the regions not far from the garden of Eden they did not bother each other. The Bible does not paint a very heroic picture of earth's first pioneers—a very black sheep was in the family. It does show that the world's first family endured many hardships and struggles as did the pioneers of our country. But their problems came because they disobeyed God. These first pioneers made history all right; they started a trend of disobedience which persisted many generations and ended in a catastrophe, the Flood.

—Adapted by Charlotte Huskey from *Youth Explores the Bible* by David R. Piper.

(Answers: 1. In the image of God. 2. They were not to touch nor eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. 3. They learned to know good from evil. 4. Because they listened to the suggestions of others. 5. Yes. 6. She was to be ruled by her husband. 7. In the garden of Eden Adam and Eve could eat of the fruit that grew on the trees, after he sinned he had to work hard to grow food in the ground that grew thorns and thistles. 8. No. 9. So Adam and Eve would not live forever in their miserable condition.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 21, 1999

Can You Believe It?

Perhaps Isaac puckered his eyebrows in puzzlement at the sad look that covered his father's leathery old face. Abraham, his father, was so rigid about obeying God. Isaac thought the sadness had something to do with it.

More and more his dad was also doting over him. Sure, he was now less active, though still remarkably strong for his age of more than 100 years. But why were they spending so many hours together? They took many long hikes together to view the far-flung flocks and herds. His father's greatness overshadowed Isaac so that he held his father in awe almost like a god, and he trusted him without reservation.

Abraham had built a new family altar to God at Beersheba. Here Isaac joined his father in worship and watched the smoke from the sacrifices ascend into the blue dome of heaven. Abraham must have known, by this time, about God's promise that his descendants would number as many as the stars of heaven, and that all nations would be blessed through them.

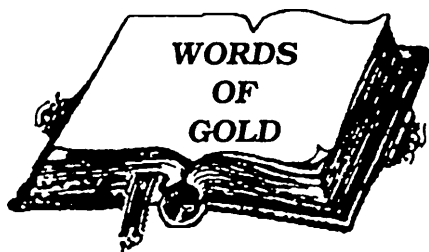
One day Abraham said, "I must go to Mount Moriah and sacrifice. Come with me." They took along servants, some provisions and a large bundle of wood. Abraham rode. Isaac wondered that he seemed too old and too weary to walk. As they picked their way over the narrow mountain trail, Isaac must have marveled at his father's mood swings. At times he was quiet as if in deep thought. Sometimes his features were hard as flint, only to change abruptly into anguish.

On the third day they ascended out of a valley and came to Mount Moriah. Isaac knew his father was coming to this high place to offer a sacrifice. The bundle of wood told him so. "Stay here," Abraham told the servants. "We will come again."

Isaac and Abraham trudged up the slope together. Abraham carried a knife in one hand and in the other a smoldering torch. Isaac bore the bundle of wood. His father was so serious, Isaac hardly dared to speak, but he felt something had been forgotten.

"My father," he began.

"Here am I, my son," Abraham answered.



An Angel Protects

Genesis 22:1-13, 15-19

1 ...God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him,...

2 ...Take...thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there...

3 And Abraham...saddled his ass, and took...Isaac his son, and...went unto the place of which God had told him.

4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here...and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

6 And Abraham took the wood...and...the fire...and a knife;...

7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father,...Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide...a lamb for a burnt offering;...

9 And they came to the place...and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son,...

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand,...to slay his son.

11 And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven,...

12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad,...for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

15 And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

16 And said,...because thou...hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

17 ...I will bless thee, and...multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore;...

18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed...

19 So Abraham returned unto his young men,...

The Message: God sent a protecting angel to save Isaac.

Questions:

1. What was Abraham to do with Isaac?
2. Did Abraham promise to come again with Isaac?
3. What did Isaac ask his father?
4. Was Isaac willing to be sacrificed?
5. Who stopped Abraham from sacrificing Isaac?
6. What did the angel say?
7. What had God prepared for a sacrifice?
8. What did the angel tell Abraham the second time he spoke?
9. Why would all the world be blessed through Abraham and Isaac?

Verse to memorize

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Psalms 91:11.

Let's



Talk . . .

Angels are messengers from God. It is almost like God Himself coming to Earth and speaking to a person. God had spoken with Abraham at different times, sometimes by an angel, sometimes in person.

In the land where Abraham lived the people worshipped the moon god. Often they sacrificed humans to their god. God told Abraham to leave that country and go where he could worship God correctly. Now God was asking Abraham to go into the mountains which surrounded Jerusalem and sacrifice his only son, Isaac. Abraham could not understand why God asked him to do such a thing, but he knew God had spoken and he would obey.

Mount Moriah, where God told Abraham to go, was forty-two miles away. I am sure the angel of the Lord was watching over them every step of the way. He saw the anguish in Abraham's aged heart. He saw his tears dropping along the dusty road. It had broken his heart to give up his older son, Ishmael, and now Isaac, the son of promise. What more would God ask?

I am sure during the three days they were traveling to the mountain Abraham was praying for grace and strength to obey God. By the time he arrived at the

foot of the mountain, he was convinced God's power would raise Isaac from the dead, so he said to the servants, "Stay here and I and my son will return."

When Abraham was ready to sacrifice Isaac, an angel from heaven called, "Abraham, Abraham, don't touch the lad." Startled, Abraham looked around. There, behind him, was a ram caught by its horns in a thicket.

I'm sure Abraham threw his arms around Isaac and cried, "My son, my son, did I not say that God would provide an offering?"

Perhaps the angel also shed a few tears, knowing he had been the one used of God to save Isaac's life. We know the angel stuck around to see the end of this great test, for after Abraham had gone through all the rituals of sacrificing the ram, the angel said, "Because thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son...I will bless you...and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed."

You may have seen pictures of Isaac as a small boy lying on the altar. But according to the great Jewish historian, Josephus, Isaac was 25 years old. Other historians believe he was around 35. Adam Clark says he was 33. Isaac was well able to resist his aged father.

Isaac was a man who also believed obeying God was very important. He willingly gave up his life so his father could obey God therefore God sent the angel which spared his life. Now all nations are being blessed through one of his descendants, Jesus.

—Charlotte Huskey

"Behold the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

"My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering."

They went on and on in silence until they reached the top of the mountain.

Suddenly Abraham had plenty of strength. He began hurriedly piling rock as if some unseen force was compelling him. When the altar was finished he breathed heavily and sat down on it. "Son," he said without looking up at Isaac. "God wants me to sacrifice you."

A thousand questions must have flashed through Isaac's mind, but he knew there was no question about his father knowing God's voice.

After a long pause, Isaac said, "You must obey God."

Quickly Abraham bound Isaac's hands and feet, and laid him across the altar.

With his eyes closed, Abraham raised his knife.

In that instant, he heard a voice saying, "Lay not thy hand on the lad." Looking around for the voice, Abraham saw a ram caught in a thicket close by.

Isaac saw the sadness drop from his father's weathered face. A light shone through as if a weight of unspeakable anguish was

dropped from his heart. His white head bowed in solemn prayer for a long moment.

Then quickly he unloosed Isaac, and together they bound the ram, caught by its horns in the thicket. It was placed upon the altar where Isaac had lain.

The faith of Isaac and his father had been proved. We can understand how the memory of those tense moments on the altar must have burned into Isaac's heart! His life had been offered to God. It may also help to explain why he too served God so faithfully all his life.

—Adapted by Charlotte Huskey from *Youth Explores the Bible* by David R. Piper.



(Answers: 1. He was to sacrifice Isaac to God. 2. Yes. 3. "Where is the lamb to be sacrificed?" 4. Yes. 5. An angel. 6. "Lay not thy hand upon the lad." 7. A ram. 8. "In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because thou hast obeyed my voice." 9. Because of their obedience.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Feb. 28, 1999

Isaac Gets Married

Isaac was almost forty years old now and had never married. Doubtless there were plenty of attractive Hittite and Canaanite girls at Hebron, but they worshiped idols and their standards were low. Isaac's descendants were to be a special blessing, so he must have a wife who would honor and worship the true God.

One day Abraham called his oldest and most trusted servant, Eliezer. "You must go to my older brother, Nahor, who lives at Haran in Mesopotamia. There you are to find a devoted girl who will make my son a good wife."

"What girl will come from so far and be a wife to someone she doesn't know?" Eliezer must have questioned.

"If none will come, then you will have done your duty. But go in faith, I know my God will send an angel before you. He will prepare the heart of the girl and her parents. You will see."

After traveling many days, the old servant arrived with his ten camels at the well just outside Haran. The sun was setting, and the maidens were coming with their clay pitchers to draw water. Which would be the right girl? Old Eliezer did not know.

He made his camels kneel near the water while he prayed. "God,

please lead the right maiden to respond to my request for a drink by offering also to water my camels."

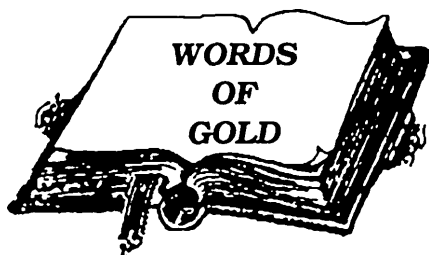
Drawing water from a well was a hard, tiresome job. In a pit type well, a girl went part way down into the well, filled her pitcher and carried the heavy water-filled jug up out of the well. In a narrow well the heavy pots of water were drawn up by a rope. If the clay pitcher swung and hit the rock side of the well wall, the pot would break. It would take many pots of water to satisfy the thirsty camels. Would any girl offer to do that?

After awhile a beautiful girl came to the well. Eliezer asked her, "May I drink from your pitcher?"

"Yes," she answered, "and I will draw water for your camels until they are filled."

"Thank You, God," Eliezer said to himself, "Your angels have come before me and prepared the heart of this beautiful maiden."

His job, however, was not completed. He must now get permission from her parents. He gave her gold jewels, and she ran home and showed her brother, Laban. When Laban saw the gold, he hurried out and invited Eliezer to her father's home. There Eliezer found out Rebekah was a granddaughter of Abraham's older brother, Nahor. A perfect relationship for a marriage in those days!



A Cupid Angel

Portions of Genesis 24

2, 4 ...Abraham said unto his eldest servant...go unto my country,...and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

5 And the servant said unto him, Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me...

7 The Lord...shall send his angel before thee,...

10 And the servant...went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor.

11 And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time...women go out to draw water.

12, 14 And he said, O Lord...the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher,...that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know...

15 ...Before he [was done praying],... Rebekah came out,...with her pitcher upon her shoulder.

16 And the damsel...went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

17 And the servant...said, Let me,...drink a little water of thy pitcher.

18 And she...gave him drink.

19 And...she said, I will draw water for thy camels also,...

20 And she...drew for all his camels.

23 And [he] said...is there room in

thy father's house for us to lodge in?
25 She said.. We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge...

26 And the man bowed down his head,...

27 And...said, Blessed be the Lord...who hath...led me to the house of my master's brethren.

28 And the damsel ran, and told...these things.

29 And Rebekah had a brother,...Laban: and Laban ran out...unto the well.

31 And he said, Come in...I have prepared the house, and room for the camels.

33 And there was set meat before him to eat: but he said, I will not eat, until I have told mine errand....

34, 37 ...I am Abraham's servant... And my master made me swear, saying,

38 ...Thou shalt go unto my father's house,...and take a wife unto my son.

49 And now if ye will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me: and if not, tell me;...

58 And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.

61 And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man:...

The Message: God sent an angel to prepare Rebekah to go with Abraham's servant and become Isaac's wife.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Matthew 28:18.

Let's



Talk . . .

We all know a cupid angel is supposed to put love in a heart. For this reason, I call the angel in this story a cupid angel. Eliezer had to choose a wife for Abraham's son, Isaac. What a task!

Knowing well that he could not successfully do this by himself, Eliezer asked God to help him. Abraham had already promised that an angel would go before him. After reading the story, we are sure an angel went ahead of Eliezer to prepare Rebekah's heart. How else could she have so easily agreed to leave her family and go with this stranger to become Isaac's wife.

If you are a girl, would you go with a stranger to become the wife of a stranger? If you are a boy do you know any girl who would do what Rebekah did? I believe only the divine power of God could have convinced Rebekah and her family to do what they did. Rebekah must have been of outstanding character.

In those days, travel was hard and dangerous and women only traveled when absolutely necessary. When daughters left home, they sometimes never saw their parents again. The parents never saw their distant grandchildren. Grandchildren knew only the grandparents with whom they lived. Rebekah and her family probably never saw each other again. It would have been a very sad parting had it not been for the comfort of the heavenly angel.

Isaac also had a strong, outstanding character. He demonstrated it years before when God told his father to sacrifice him. He could have easily saved his own life but he submitted.

He also showed his strength of character by living in a country full of women of low moral standards without marrying one of them.

How many divorces would there be if every couple let God direct the choosing of their companion like Isaac and Rebekah? Most young people feel they are capable of choosing whom they want to marry but Jeremiah 10:23 says, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."

Many feel like a cupid has struck their heart when they are attracted to someone when really they are attracted by how the person looks or acts. This is not the same kind of angel that touched Rebekah. She had not seen nor talked with Isaac when she decided to become his wife. Each one of you should decide now to let God direct in choosing your spouse.

—Charlotte Huskey



Questions:

1. What must Abraham's servant do?
2. Who would go and help the servant?
3. How would the servant know which girl to choose?
4. What did the angel cause Rebekah to do?
5. Who guided the servant to the right place?
6. Who came to invite the servant to Rebekah's home?
7. Were Rebekah's father and brother willing to let Rebekah be Isaac's wife?
8. What did the angel cause Rebekah to say?
9. Who rode upon the camels and followed Abraham's servant?

Rebekah's parents and even her crafty brother, Laban, were willing to let her go, but they would ask Rebekah. She was willing to go. For this we must give the angel credit and, of course, the wise old servant who had trusted God to direct him.

On the long journey back to Hebron perhaps Eliezer told Rebekah about Isaac; how he had been willing to die so his father could obey God, and that his descendants were to be a blessing to all nations. He may have also told her that Isaac was the only heir to Abraham's great riches, which would explain the gold and jewels he and given to her and her family. At any rate, when they arrived, Rebekah was ready to be Isaac's wife.

The evening they arrived, Isaac

was meditating in the field. When he saw the camels approaching he came to meet them. Presently Rebekah saw him coming and asked, "Who is the man coming to meet us?"

Eliezer answered, "It is my master, Isaac."

Rebekah dismounted from her camel and covered her face with a veil.

Eliezer told Isaac what he had done and how Rebekah and her family had accepted him.

"...Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent,...and she became his wife; and he loved her:..." Genesis 24:67.

—Adapted by Charlotte Huskey from *Youth Explores the Bible* by David R. Piper.



(Answers: 1. He was to find a wife for Isaac. 2. An angel. 3. He would know, if she offered to draw water for his camels. 4. To draw water for the servant's camels. 5. An angel. 6. Her brother, Laban. 7. Yes. 8. "Yes, I will go." 9. Rebekah and her damsels.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 7, 1999

A Blessed People

Hidden in safety among the rugged hills rimming the Dead Sea, the peering eyes of natives looked down upon an awesome sight. Below them, in the plains of Moab, there seemed to be 100,000 tents. They were positioned as if for battle in two hollow squares, one square within the other. In the center stood a tent much larger and much finer than the rest. Its walls were of beautiful material, and above it stood a strange columnar cloud. The whole place swarmed with people, their swords gleaming brightly in the sun. This was the camp of Israel, more than 600,000 strong.

These people had started out from Mount Sinai thirty-eight long years earlier and had expected to soon occupy Canaan, their promised land. From that sacred mountain to the southern edge of Canaan was a journey of but eleven days. Why had it taken so long? Why were they now only in Moab with the churning Jordan River rushing rampant between them and their goal?

Joshua knew the answer. He was their captain. After his heroic defeat of the savage Amalekites at Rephidim, he had become Moses' assistant. He had shared Moses' hopes and plans; shared, too, his heartache when the

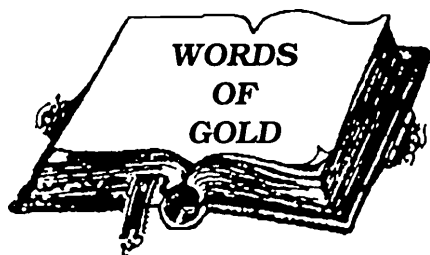
people had complained. "We have nothing to eat but manna! Oh, for the cucumbers, melons, the leeks, onions and garlic of Egypt!"

When they neared the edge of Canaan, Joshua had been one of the twelve scouts who spied out the land. They had exhibited huge clusters of grapes and other luscious fruits, and had reported that Canaan was a land flowing with milk and honey. But ten of the spies said they had seen giants so big that the Israelites were as grasshoppers.

To this cowardly exaggeration Joshua and Caleb had made brave protest. No, they were not as grasshoppers! "Let us go up at once, and possess it," said Caleb, "for we are well able to overcome it." But the ten cowards spread a contagious fear, until a wild mob threatened to stone Moses and to return to Egypt.

As always, in a crisis, Moses prayed. God made it clear to him that of the older generation only Joshua and Caleb had shown themselves fit to inherit the Promised Land. All others would die in the wilderness. A new generation would have the opportunity their fathers had spurned.

The natives were looking at the new generation of Israelites encamped in the plains of Moab. This new generation was accustomed to hardship.



An Angel of Discipline

Numbers 22:21-35

21 ...Balaam rose up...and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab.

22 And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the Lord stood in the way for an adversary against him....

23 And the ass saw the angel...and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned...and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way.

24 But the angel of the Lord stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side.

25 And when the ass saw the angel...she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall: and he smote her again.

26 And the angel...went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn...

27 And when the ass saw the angel...she fell down...and he smote the ass with a staff.

28 And the Lord opened the mouth of the ass, and she said...What have I done...that thou hast smitten me...

29 And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me:...

30 And the ass said...Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden...

31 Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel...and his sword drawn in his hand: and he...fell flat on his face.

32 And the angel...said... Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse...

33 And the ass...turned from me...unless she had turned from me,...I had slain thee, and saved her alive.

34 And Balaam said unto the angel of the Lord, I have sinned;...

35 And the angel...said...Go with the men: but only [speak] the word that I shall speak unto thee,... So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.

The Message: Be thankful that God allows trouble to come when we have done wrong.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Hebrews 12:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

Balaam did what many people do.

Balak, king of Moab, sent messengers to Balaam asking him to come with them and curse Israel. Balaam asked God what he should do, and God said, "Don't go."

This answer did not satisfy King Balak so he sent other messengers to Balaam. Instead of telling the men that God had already said, "No," Balaam went again and asked God if he could go. Again God refused.

Again King Balak sent more honorable men saying, "Balaam, I will give you great honor and you shall have whatever you ask."

Having become wiser, Balaam answered, "If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the Lord my God. He's already said, 'No.'"

Perhaps they talked many hours trying to persuade Balaam. By evening he had weakened. He then said, "Spend the night and I'll ask God again."

This time God said, "Go, but say only what I tell you."

The rest of the story is found in today's Bible lesson. From it we learned God was so angry

with Balaam that he sent an angel in his way to kill him. The donkey saw the angel and saved Balaam.

After your parents have said, "No," do you sometimes try to persuade them to change and say, "Yes"? That is what Balaam did to God.

Many people do the same thing. They beg God to allow them to do what His Word condemns. Sometimes they go to different churches or ministers until they find one to agree with them. Then they go ahead and do things they should not do. Often God allows trouble to come into their lives to help them get straightened out. We should be thankful for such trouble. It shows God cares enough to help us change our ways and get under His blessings again.

—Charlotte Huskey

Questions:

1. With whom was Balaam going?
2. Whose anger was kindled against Balaam?
3. Why did the angel stand in the way?
4. Who saw the angel first?
5. How many times did the angel try to stop Balaam?
6. What saved Balaam's life?
7. What did Balaam say when he recognized he had done wrong?
8. Do you think Balaam was thankful for his donkey?
9. Should we be glad when God tries to stop us from doing wrong?

Balaam, however, desired the rich jewels, gold and honor King Balak offered, so he prayed again and again, hoping God would allow him to do what Balak wanted. Finally God said, "Go." But God was so angry with

—Adapted by Charlotte Huskey
from *Youth Explores the Bible* by David
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THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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A Great Victory

The people of Israel gathered in a huge natural amphitheater. From here, Moses delivered several great orations, reviewing the past and forecasting the future of this people. Directed by God, he appointed Joshua his successor. Then the majestic old shepherd made a lonely ascent up Mount Nebo, and from its summit viewed the Promised Land. He never returned to camp.

Under Joshua's command the Israelites crossed the Jordan. Spring rains had filled it to flood levels, but the water was held back by a mysterious power as when they had crossed the Red Sea. The Israelites camped in a grove of palm trees at Gilgal not far from Jericho. There they celebrated the Passover feast and leisurely observed other ceremonies, while the people in the nearby city must have grown more and more fearful daily.

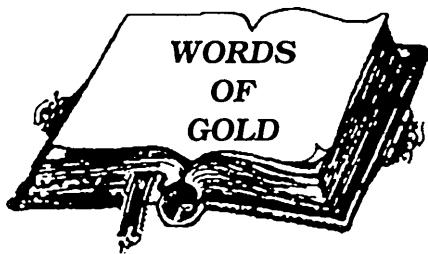
One day, near the camp Joshua had a strange experience. An angel with a drawn sword appeared before him. Joshua hurried to the man and asked whether he was to help Israel or was he against them. The man answered, "As captain of the host of the Lord am I come."

Then he demanded Joshua to remove his sandals, for the place on which he stood was holy ground. Joshua now knew everything would be all right, for he had a heavenly captain to lead him.

Soon began the strangest siege in history. Not a weapon was used! On each of six successive days the people marched once around the walls of Jericho. The army led. Seven priests, blowing ram's horn trumpets, followed. Next came men bearing the sacred ark of the covenant, and after them all the people marched in sternest silence.

The first day perhaps the inhabitants of Jericho joked a little nervously about this strange walk around their city walls. But as the week dragged on, this solemn, daily procession must have become grim and threatening.

On the seventh day the city was circled seven times. The very ground must have trembled beneath this continuous, rhythmic tread of a million marching feet. The seventh time around, a long blast was blown by the trumpets and a mighty shout went up from half a million throats. Down tumbled the walls of Jericho—its inner wall six feet thick



Joshua's Captian

**Joshua 5:13-15, 6:2-5,
14-15, 20, 27**

13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, *Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?*

14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

15 And the captain of the Lord's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

2 And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.

3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow

with the trumpets.

5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat,...

14 And...they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.

15 ...On the seventh day,...they compassed the city seven times.

20 ...When the priests blew with the trumpets: and...the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

27 So the Lord was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.

The Message: Just as Joshua followed the Lord and gained the victory, so we can gain victory by following the Lord.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Proverbs 3:5.

Let's



Talk . . .

Joshua was a wise old man when he began leading Israel. Forty years before he had scouted across Canaan as a spy. At that time he felt capable of conquering the land. Since then, however, he had learned that conquering a country was a very difficult work.

Knowing well his work was impossible alone, Joshua called on God for help. God sent him these comforting words, "Be strong and of good courage, and turn not to the right hand or to the left, and you may prosper wherever you go." After that visit from God, Joshua led the people across the Jordan River during a time it was flooding.

Now they were finally camping inside the border of Canaan. The first city needing to be conquered was Jericho. It had guarded gates and double walls, one six feet thick and the other twelve feet thick. How could Joshua possibly invade such a fortress? And it was only the beginning of cities he needed to conquer!

The job was too big for Joshua. He called on God again. "There is one more thing you must do," God said. He told Joshua to observe the ordinance of circumcision which God had commanded. After this was done an angel, "the captain of the Lord's host," appeared to Joshua letting him know that God was going before him to conquer all the enemies in Canaan.

Joshua had learned from watching Moses and from his own experience that he could not depend on his own understanding. He believed just as the prophet Jeremiah who said, "O Lord, I know...it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jeremiah 10:23. Everyone needs to learn this lesson.

Do you sometimes try to go your own way and do your own thing? Samson did. It got him into a lot of trouble. In the end he lost his life by trying to direct his own way. The wise man Solomon did the same thing but later he learned to, "Trust in the Lord...and lean not unto thine own understanding." Proverbs 3:5.

God has the wisdom each of us need. God told Joshua to not turn to the right nor the left, but to follow the path God had laid out for him. Joshua did and he was able to conquer enemies in the land of Canaan.

Everyone who follows the captain of the Lord will be blessed.

—Charlotte Huskey

Questions:

1. Who did Joshua see when he was by Jericho?
2. Who was the captain of the Lord's army?
3. What was Joshua's first order from the captain of the Lord?
4. What was Joshua's second order from the captain of the Lord?
5. Did Joshua and all Israel obey the Lord's command?
6. Did God give Jericho to their hands as He promised?
7. Is it always best to follow the captain of the Lord's host?
8. How do we follow this Captain?
9. Are you following this Captain?

and its outer wall twelve feet thick! The besiegers poured in and utterly destroyed the city.

It is interesting to know that famous archaeologists who have explored the site have found ruins showing that the walls fell outward down the slope, and not inward as would have been the case if they had been battered by an enemy's assault.

Joshua's purpose was to gain control of the pass that led into the central range of mountains, and thus drive a wedge between northern and southern Canaan. Ai, near Bethel, where Jacob had had his dream, lay near the head of this pass and was the next city assaulted.

The first attack failed because of the sin of a man named Achan. During the next attempt the king of Ai came forth bravely with his army but was caught quickly in an ambush. This was the second victory for Joshua as he followed the captain of the Lord's host.

The Canaanites were of many tribes and were divided into tiny states, each having its fortified capital and its petty king who was nominally a vassal of the Pharaoh of Egypt. The Hivite King of Gibeon, frightened at the fate of nearby Ai, used a clever trick to form an alliance with Joshua. Angered and alarmed by this turn of events, five Amorite kings, headed by Adonizedec, King of Jerusalem, decided to besiege Gibeon before its army should effect a union with Joshua's forces.

The Gibeonites appealed to Joshua for help. Making an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua and his men surprised the besieg-

ers, apparently at dawn, and caused them to retreat. An all-day battle followed. This was the famous "long day" when Joshua bade the sun and the moon to stand still until he could win the battle.

The Israelites chased the fleeing Amorites westward through the mountains to Beth-horon, then down the gorge and through the valley of Ajalon into the foothills that border the coastal plain. Not far from Beth-horon a great hail-storm struck the fugitives with hailstones so large that they killed more men than the Israelites slew. Their army cut to pieces, the five kings took refuge in a cave. Later they were found and killed.

The famous battle of Beth-horon ended while a blood-red sun still hung above the horizon, far out over the blue haze of the Mediterranean Sea. But at Gilgal and all through the Jordan valley the sun had set behind the mountains and darkness had fallen.

So Joshua, the man whom Moses had appointed his successor, led the Israelites in great victories, for he was following the captain of the Lord's army who caused the sun to stand still in the sky.

—Adapted by Charlotte Huskey from *Youth Explores the Bible* by David R. Piper.

(Answers: 1. He saw the captain of the Lord. 2. The Lord. 3. To take off his shoes. 4. To take Jericho by walking around it and shouting. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. By obeying God's Word. 9. The answer is either "yes," or "no.")

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 21, 1999

A Hero Who Refused A Crown

Every harvest for seven years, the cruel Midianites had been swarming into Canaan like hungry locusts. They crossed the Jordan River and poured through the mountain passes and down into the valley. They killed any defenseless farmers in the fields, stole the grain from the threshing floors and plundered the flocks and herds. The Israelites learned to take refuge in caves and dens to escape being slaughtered by these fierce tribesmen adorned in barbaric splendor. Bloodcurdling cries arose when they brandished their lances and swords.

Another harvest season approached, and again the Midianites camped in the Vale of Jezreel at the eastern entrance to the rich Plain of Esdraelon. It was not safe for the Israelites to thresh in the open. One afternoon, at a hidden spot in the hills, a man named Gideon was beating the wheat from a few sheaves of grain with a stick. As he worked, a stranger appeared and saluted him with these words: "The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour."

Too discouraged to take note of the compliment, Gideon voiced the questions that troubled him. "If the Lord is with me and my people, why

do these Midianites oppress us? Why doesn't God deliver us as He did our forefathers in the time of Moses?"

"You must lead Israel to victory."

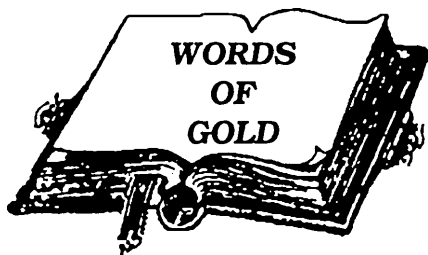
Gideon gloomily declared, "I am the weakest man in the smallest clan of my tribe."

It was not until fire leaped out from a rock and consumed the food which Gideon brought to the stranger that Gideon realized his guest was an angel of God.

That night Gideon heard a voice commanding him to destroy his father's altar to the heathen god, Baal, and build an altar for God. Taking ten servants to help him, Gideon went secretly by night and destroyed the altar to Baal and cut down the sacred poles that stood by it. Then he erected an altar to God and offered a sacrifice on it. Now he had the answer to his questions and doubts. The Lord had not forsaken the Israelites, rather they had forsaken Him.

The following day, when the people saw what Gideon had done, they wanted to kill him. But Gideon's father said, "If Baal is a god, he should be able to pay Gideon back without our assistance." They waited to see. When no harm came, they lost faith in Baal and a new faith in God was born in many hearts.

Gideon was hailed their new leader. He sounded his trumpet and



An Encouraging Angel

Judges 6:11-23

11 And there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which...*pertained* unto Joash...his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

12 And the angel...said unto him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

13 And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt? but now the Lord hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.

14 And the Lord...said, Go...and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

15 And he said...shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor...and I am the least in my father's house.

16 And the Lord said...I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

17 And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me.

18 Depart not...until I...bring forth my present,...And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.

19 ...Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes

of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak...

20 And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so.

21 Then the angel...put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the Lord departed out of his sight.

The Message: An angel calls Gideon to save Israel from the oppressive Midianites.

Questions:

1. Where did the angel sit when he visited Gideon?
2. Why was Gideon threshing wheat by a winepress?
3. Why did Gideon doubt that God was with the Israelites?
4. What did the angel tell Gideon to do?
5. Did Gideon feel capable?
6. How long did the angel wait for Gideon?
7. What did Gideon bring to his guest?
8. What was Gideon told to do with the food?
9. What caused Gideon to realize the man was an angel?

Verse to Memorize

Fear thou not; for I am with thee:...I am thy God: I will strengthen thee:...yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee...

Isaiah 41:10.

Let's



Talk . . .

Have you ever sensed an inward power telling you that you should do something you thought impossible? That is how Gideon must have felt.

The angel of the Lord told him to lead the Israelites to victory against the Midianites. How could he? He had never led an army. He had no military training, nor had he attended any leadership seminars. Neither was Israel prepared for war. They had few swords, spears or other weapons and their soldiers were out of shape from not having been in training for many years. Gideon was sure he could not do it. He was nothing but a farmer, the son of a poor farmer who eeked a living from the soil.

Even after 32,000 men rallied behind Gideon he knew he could not conquer the fierce Midianite warriors who roamed the Syrian desert and were at home wherever they pitched their sprawling brown tents. He would have to depend on God and a completely loyal army, so he sent home all

those who were fearful or careless. With the 300 remaining men he won the victory.

Harriet Tubman was another person who did something that seemed impossible. She was born a slave, could not read or write, and was considered retarded by many, yet she helped hundreds of slaves to escape to freedom. She became the most famous leader of the underground railroad, which helped slaves flee to the free states or to Canada. Black people called her "Moses," after the Biblical figure Moses, who led the Jews from Egypt to freedom.

Although it was a crime to assist runaway slaves, she forged ahead and delivered at least 300 slaves, including her own parents. She outwitted many slave-catchers during rescue missions. Rewards for her capture once totaled about \$40,000. I really believe the angel of the Lord protected and encouraged Harriet in her work.

The next time you feel unable to do what is required, remember Gideon and Harriet. If that doesn't help, maybe you should ask God to send an encouraging angel.

Things thought impossible become possible when we put our trust in Jesus. —Charlotte Huskey



in a short time mustered 32,000 men. They camped on the slope of Mount Gilboa. Two miles north, across the valley, they could see the larger camp of Midianites with more than 100,000 soldiers. Wanting God to get the glory for the victory Gideon announced that anyone who was afraid should go home; 22,000 men left. He took his remaining 10,000 men to drink at a creek that separated them from the Midianites. The enemy might be lying in ambush on the opposite bank. The careless men put their faces down to the water and drank. These he sent back. Only 300 remained watchful while they dipped up the water and drank it out of their hands. These watchful men Gideon kept.

With all the cowards and bunglers dismissed, Gideon planned an attack. He divided them into three companies; 100 in each. These were to spread out in a wide arc on three sides of the Midianite's camp, completely encircling it, except at the mountain pass on the east. As they moved stealthily into position, they were to keep their smoldering torches concealed in their pitchers. Then they were to do what Gideon would do. Success depended on the courage, carefulness and obedience of the 300 men. If a single one carelessly dropped his pitcher or displayed his torch, disaster might follow.

The sentries of the Midianite's camp were rubbing sleepy eyes as they took their positions at the outposts of the camp. Suddenly the air was rent by a hoarse blast from the ram's horn trumpet of Gideon. One after another in rapid succession the 300 trumpets sounded as if a multitude of captains were calling their soldiers to action.

As the startled Midianites began tumbling out of their tents, the clashing noise of breaking pitchers made them think they heard the clash of

arms. Instantly the darkness was cut by the leaping flames of 300 torches on three sides of the camp. At the same instant Gideon shouted, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon." The 300 captains took up the battle cry and shouted to their phantom (ghost) soldiers, as if giving a signal to attack.

By this time the enemy's camp was in the wildest disorder. Panic-stricken, the Midianites were running in all directions, slashing out blindly in the darkness, and killing one another in their fear and confusion. When they found the opening to the east, they fled on foot through the pass and down the mountain slopes toward the Jordan, intent on reaching some ford and crossing the river to safety.

Quickly Gideon sent a runner to the men of Ephraim, asking them to hurry and seize the lower fords. They made it in time. The Midianites who crossed the upper fords were pursued by Gideon's men. The chase continued for miles until the two Midianite chieftains were captured.

On his return home Gideon was recognized as a great judge. Many wanted to make him their king, but Gideon said, "The Lord shall rule over you."

—Adapted by Charlotte Huskey from *Youth Explores the Bible* by David R. Piper.

(Answers: 1. He sat under an oak tree. 2. To hide it from the Midianites. 3. Because they were having a lot of trouble. 4. To deliver Israel from the Midianites. 5. No. 6. Long enough for him to cook meat and make bread. 7. Meat, broth, and bread. 8. To lay the meat and cakes on the rock and pour the broth on the ground. 9. Gideon knew the man was an angel when fire came out of his staff and burnt up the food.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 28, 1999

Isreal's Strongest Man

Some of Isreal's people had been driven out of their rich coastal plain by the Philistines and were living in a great armed camp in the hills. Life was hard and cruel, and the people had to be ready for war at any time. There were, however, short periods of peace between flaring border wars. At these times some who lived near the border visited the Philistine cities for purposes of trading or bartering. But always, during these long years, the Philistines ruled.

That is, until mighty Samson appeared!

See him striding along from his home in the edge of the Danite camp toward the Philistine village of Timnath! He is little more than a youth but his shoulders are broad. He has great bulging muscles, and he stalks along the trail with the alertness of a panther.

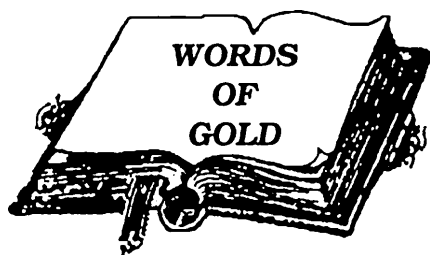
He has long hair, the symbol of the Nazarite vow which his mother made for him before he was born. To keep that vow, Samson had never cut his hair, nor touched wine or strong drink, nor eaten any unclean food. As he reached the vineyards on the terraced slope above the city of Timnath, he met a young lion. Although it gave him a good fight, he killed it with his bare hands.

Samson awakened new courage in the hearts of his countrymen when he challenged the control of the insulting Philistines. Samson also tore off the gate of Gaza when the Philistine men of the city tried to hold him captive. Then, as a prank, he carried it to the top of a mountain. If Samson's character had only matched his physical strength, he might have stood as not only the strongest but also the greatest hero of Israel.

Curiously enough, his career as a judge and deliverer of Israel was launched by his marriage to the Philistine girl whom he was going to see when he killed the lion. Samson later noticed in the carcass of the beast a quantity of honey which wild bees had deposited there. Of this he made a riddle which he propounded to the thirty Philistine men who attended his wedding festivities: "Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness."

If they guessed the answer within seven days, he was to give each of them a complete change of clothing and a robe. If they failed, he was to receive from them thirty changes of clothing and thirty robes. At the end of the week they had the answer.

But Samson knew they had wrested it from his bride, to whom he had confided it. He paid his debt,



A Messenger Angel

**Joshua 13:2-3, 5-6,
8-16, 19-20, 24**

2 And there was a certain man whose name was Manoah; and his wife...bare not.

3 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto the woman, and said...

5 ...Lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

6 Then the woman...told her husband,...A man of God came unto me, and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel...

8 Then Manoah entreated the Lord, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God...come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

9 And...the angel of God came again unto the woman as she sat in the field:...

10 And the woman...ran, and shewed her husband,...Behold, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the other day.

11 And Manoah...came to the man, and said...Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am.

12 And Manoah said,...How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?

13 And the angel...said unto Manoah,...

14 She may not...drink wine or

strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe.

15 And Manoah said unto the angel...let us detain thee, until we shall have made ready a kid for thee.

16 And the angel...said...Though thou detain me, I will not eat...a burnt offering, thou must offer it unto the Lord.

19 So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered them upon a rock...and the angel did wondrously;...

20 ...When the flame went up...the angel of the Lord ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on it, and fell on their faces to the ground.

24 And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the Lord blessed him.

The Message: The messages God sends through His angels will always happen.

Questions:

1. Who appeared to Manoah's wife?
2. What did the angel tell her?
3. In what way would this son be different from other boys?
4. What would this son do for his country?
5. What did Manoah want to ask the angel?
6. What did Manoah want to give the angel?
7. Did the angel eat the food?
8. How did the angel ascend to heaven?
9. Who had a son and named him Samson?

Verse to Memorize

And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the Lord blessed him.

Judges 13:24.

Let's



Talk . . .

We all know the story of Samson, the strongest man in Israel, but how many know about the angel's visit to his mother?

Samson's mother had not been able to give birth to a child. One day an angel appeared and told her that she should not drink wine or eat any unclean thing for she would be carrying a special son; a son that would begin to deliver Israel from the Philistines. This son was to be consecrated to God from birth and never have his hair cut.

She excitedly told her husband, about the angel's visit. "I must see the angel also and ask him how to care for this special child," Monah said. Days later the angel appeared again and she ran and brought her husband.

After the angel told them what to do about the child, Manoah asked the angel to stay until he could prepare meat and bread. The angel stayed, but when Manoah offered him the food, he told Manoah to lay the food on a rock and offer it as a burnt offering to God. Manoah did. While the offering was being consumed, the angel floated into the ascending smoke and disappeared into the sky.

After this incident, Manoah was afraid they would die because they had seen the Lord, but his wife chided him saying, "God won't kill us. He said we would have a son. What God says, will happen, so we cannot die."

Now words are more true than those of Samson's mother. "What God says will happen, will come to pass." If a

prophecy does not come to pass, then we know it was not from God.

Now that the year 2,000 is nearing, many people are prophesying about the future. Some say there will be no money in circulation and this will cause great suffering. Others say the Antichrist will come to rule the world. Others are saying God will snatch away the Christians and the wicked will stay on earth and suffer during a tribulation. Should we believe all these prophecies?

Jesus told us about this. He said, "There shall arise...false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matthew 24:24. Instead of fearing what might come on the earth, we should fear being deceived by some of these false prophets.

Not all prophets are from God. What false prophets say does not always happen. Remember, a false prophet said the world would end in September, 1996. Did it? Was the man a prophet of God or a false prophet?

Prophecies from God will come true as did the message the angel gave to Samson's mother.

—Charlotte Huskey



then in a huff he left his bride because she had told his secret.

Later Samson returned in good humor and found his wife had been married by her father to another Philistine suitor. Then he made this private grievance a national cause by devising a fantastic revenge which affected many Philistines. Catching three hundred foxes, he tied them tail to tail by twos. Then he sent them through the Philistine grain fields with burning firebrands between their tails.

The Philistines rose in masses against Samson. Because the cowardly Israelites betrayed him, a Philistine posse found his hiding place in a cave high up on a rock precipice. He surrendered. His enemies bound him with strong new ropes and began to march him away as their captive. But he snapped the ropes easily and picking up the jawbone of an ass, he sprang on them. A thousand fell before his blows. He shouted his contempt at the others as they fled in confusion.

It was Delilah who caused Samson to break down. He fell madly in love with her while on one of his trips into the enemy's country. Observing this, the Philistine leaders offered Delilah a tempting reward if she would betray Samson to them.

Again and again Deliah tried to persuade Samson to tell her the secret of his strength. At length he admitted his strength came from God. If he broke his Nazerite vow by cutting his hair, he would no longer be strong. One day, in her tent, Delilah put Samson to sleep with his head on her knees. Perhaps she had drugged him with wine (which he was not supposed to drink), for he slept soundly while the man whom she had called in was shaving his head. When he

awoke he found himself bound and his strength gone.

His enemies took him to Gaza, put out his eyes and bound him with shackles. They used him like an animal to grind grain between millstones.

Months later, after his hair had grown long again, they held a festival for Dagon, their god, to celebrate their capture of Samson. The great banquet hall was filled with people, and the blind giant was brought forth to be tormented for their amusement. He silently prayed that God would give him strength once more. Power again surged through his mighty frame.

"May I lean on the pillars on which this house standeth?" he asked his guard. Stepping between them, he braced himself, with one great hand against each pillar. Then, while the people jeered, the muscles stood out on his back as he pushed and strained. Suddenly the pillars crumpled, and the roof came down with a thunderous roar.

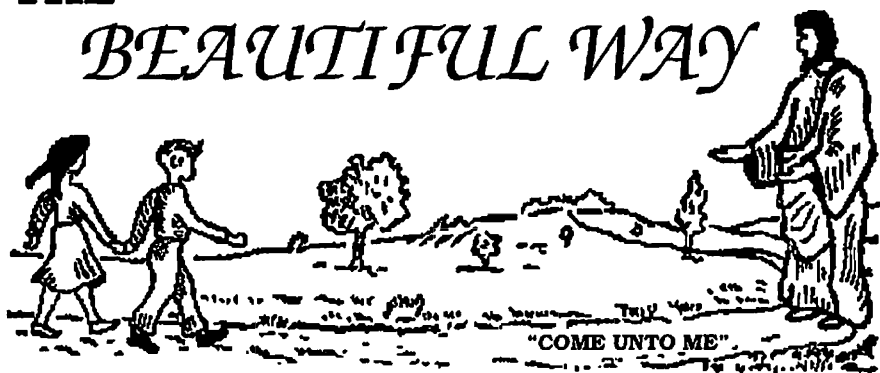
Hundreds of Philistines lay dead in the wreckage. With them died mighty Samson. In spite of his grievous faults, the strongest man of Israel had awakened new hope and faith in the hearts of his oppressed people.

—Adapted by Charlotte Huskey from *Youth Explores the Bible* by David R. Piper.

(Answers: 1. An angel of the Lord. 2. The angel said she would have a son. 3. He was to never have a haircut. 4. He would begin to deliver them from the Philistines. 5. How to train and care for the child. 6. Food. 7. No. 8. In the smoke from the offering. 9. Manoah and his wife.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 4, 1999

An Inquiry At Easter

"Oh, what is eternity, my Mother?
Oh, what can eternity be?"

"Eternity, Son, is an unending place
Past the shore of the farthest sea,
A wide deep everness that was old
When the earliest day was new;

"Eternity, Son, is a Man on a Cross
On a hill called Calvary,
Who rose again that first Easter morn,
And redemption for you and for me.

"Eternity, Son, is a quiet road
Past the gateway of time and space,
Where cloaked with the wonder of
infinite love,
We shall look upon God's face."

—Grace V. Watkins

He Lives!

(Based on a true story.)

"Come to the revival; come to the revival." Pastor Ackley reminded each member of his congregation. "Worship the Lord, and bring a guest."

They came and so did a stranger. He sat toward the back and apparently listened carefully, then slipped away into the darkness.

The following night he was there again. He sat in the back. He listened quietly. After the sermon he was gone.

Five evenings the stranger appeared at the church and for five nights he disappeared without speaking to anyone.

On the sixth evening, the stranger came again, but that night he stayed after the service was dismissed.

Pastor Ackley introduced himself and said, "I appreciate the interest you've shown by attending every night. Can I be of some help?"

"You certainly may," answered the stranger. "I'm troubled about what I should do if all you have said about Jesus is true."

"You know you are a sinner?" asked the Pastor.

"Yes, I know I sin. Doesn't everyone?"

"Well, we won't discuss that right now. You looking for peace with God?"
"Yes."

"Then you must ask God to forgive you for sinning."

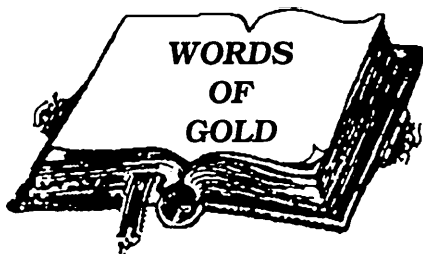
"That I will do."

"And you must accept Jesus as your Savior."

"Now there is where I have some questions," said the stranger.

"I'll certainly be glad to explain any questions you have."

"Then tell me, why should I believe in a dead Jew?"



Jesus Rose From The Dead

Matthew 27:20, 24, 26, 29-30

20 But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.

24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.

26 Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged [whipped] Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

29 And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!

30 And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote [hit] him on the head.

Mark 15:25, 29-30, 33, 37

25 And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

29 And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days,

30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross.

33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

Mark 16:9, 12, 14

9 Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene....

12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat [eating], and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

I Corinthian 15:6

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once:...

The Message: Jesus was crucified, died and came back to life.

Questions:

1. Who did the people ask to be crucified?
2. What did Pilate do?
3. Why did Pilate wash his hands?
4. What did Pilate do to Jesus?
5. What did the people put on Jesus' head?
6. What did the people do to Jesus before they crucified Him?
7. What hour was Jesus crucified?
8. What did the people say to Jesus when He was on the cross?
9. When was darkness on the earth?
10. What day of the week did Jesus rise?
11. Where did Jesus appear the second time?
12. What were the eleven disciples doing when Jesus came to them?
13. How many brethren saw him at the same time?

Verse to Memorize

He is not here: for he is risen,...Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Matthew 28:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

We have many reasons to believe that Jesus is alive. He hears and answers our prayers. He shows himself to us in many ways. We feel His presence when we are sad, sick or afraid. We celebrate His resurrection every day, by trusting in Him. Each Sunday is also a day to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. The disciples began worshipping on Sunday because Jesus had risen on that day. Before His resurrection they worshipped on Saturday. Some books say the emperor Constantine chose Sunday as the day for Christian worship. Constantine only encouraged worshipping on Sunday. In Acts 20:7 and I Cor. 16:2 we read where the disciples "met together on the first day of the week" which is Sunday.

As the early Christians became less fervent in their faith and wanted to be accepted by the world, they connected Christ's resurrection with the festival of spring which the pagan world celebrated. Now Easter is considered a Christian festival. It is considered by the world as the most important holy day of the Christian religion. Every part of the world has its own way of celebrating Easter.

Symbols connected to Easter are: the cross, the lamb, lights and eggs. The ancient Egyptians and Persians (years before Christ) often dyed eggs in spring colors and gave them to their friends as gifts. The Persians believed that the earth had hatched from a giant egg. The eggs represent the new life that returns to nature about Easter time. Apostate Christians in Mesopotamia were the first to

use colored eggs for Easter.

Easter is the first Sunday after the full moon following the spring equinox. This date was adopted 325 years after Christ, so we know it is not a date the disciples set. At that time the worldly Christian church reflected in their worship the drama of Christ's sufferings, His death on the cross and they climaxed it with the victory of the resurrection. Today, however, the pagan celebration of spring such as the symbols of eggs and rabbits have eroded the formerly dominate Christian interpretation of the day.

The Christians began celebrating Easter in place of the Jewish Passover. The death angel had passed over all God's people when they were slaves in Egypt. The Passover celebrated this and their deliverance from slavery. Christians celebrated the resurrection of Jesus because through faith in His resurrection people are delivered from the slavery of sin and have eternal life.

Those early Christians and Christians today rejoice because Jesus has risen. "He Lives" is a good song to praise His resurrection. Maybe you can sing it now. —Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History:

April 3, 1682, Bartolme Esteban Murillo, a famous Spanish painter died in Seville, Spain. Murillo is considered the best interpreter of the gentle, optimistic side of Christianity. He is known for the warmth and humanity of his religious paintings. Murillo was Spain's most important painter in his time.

April 5, 1856, Booker T. Washington, the great educator and founder of Tuskegee University for blacks was born.

"A dead Jew?" Pastor Ackley explained. "Who told you that Jesus was dead?"

"I'm a Jew myself," he answered. "I've been taught all my life that this ma-larky about Jesus arising from the dead is not true."

"But it is true," contended Pastor Ackley. "Jesus is not dead. He lives! I tell you, He is not dead. He lives here and now! Jesus Christ is just as alive today as ever before. I can prove it by the Bible and my own experience, as well as the testimonies of hundreds of other people."

"Then prove it to me," the stranger said.

The two men talked a long time.

The following day, Pastor Ackley reread from the four Gospels the story of Jesus' resurrection. He read Matthew 28, Mark 16:1-14, Luke 24:1-40, John 2:1-23. The words "He is risen" struck him with new meaning. They thrilled him so much he prepared a sermon which he called, "He Lives."

The scriptural evidence, the thrill within his own heart and the lives he had seen change proved that "Jesus Lives." "The Bible tells us an 'innumerable cloud of witnesses' testify Jesus is alive," he said to himself.

To put more force behind his message, Pastor Ackley sat down at his piano and pecked around until he had a tune which he believed was saying, "He Lives." Then he wrote the words to "He Lives."

Pastor Ackley was sure Jesus is living although the stranger and thousands of others may say He isn't. Jesus had helped Pastor Ackley many times, so he wrote, "Just the time I need Him, He's always near." In the second verse Pastor Ackley writes that all the nature around him proves Jesus lives. In the last verse he in-

vites all Christians to rejoice because Jesus our King lives.

We often sing "He Lives" at Easter. Maybe you would like to sing it today.

—Charlotte Huskey

He Lives!

I serve a risen Savior,
He's in the world today;
I know that He is living,
Whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy,
I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him
He's always near.

Chorus

He lives, He lives,
Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and
talks with me
Along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives!
Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.

Rejoice, Rejoice, O Christian,
Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to
Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek Him,
The Help of all who find,
None other is so loving,
So good and kind.

—Words and music by A.H. Ackley

(Answers: 1. Jesus. 2. He washed his hands. 3. To show he was innocent of the blood of Jesus. 4. He whipped Jesus. 5. A crown of thorns. 6. They mocked him, spit upon Him and hit Him. 7. The sixth hour. 8. They said, "Save thyself come down from the cross." 9. From the sixth to the ninth hour. 10 Sunday the first day. 11. In the country to two men. 12. They were eating. 13. 500.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 11, 1999

A Teenager Who Led Her People

"I want not to go!" complained sour faced Anna.

"We wilt go," demanded her mother, Mrs. Nitschmann. "Thy father says we must leave since he and John have escaped from the prison."

"And leave all my acquaintances?"

"Is not thy father and thy brother's safety more important than thy acquaintances?"

Anna did not answer.

"Thy acquaintances and their families might well be coming to Herrnhut themselves. They are safe no more here in Moravia."

"Not everyone is in danger," retorted Anna. "Only the rebels."

"Anna, call not the holy men of God rebels."

"Pardon me, Mother dear, but Anna loves Moravia. I want to stay here." (Moravia is part of Czechoslovakia.)

"Does thou also love thy life and that of thy family?"

"Yes, Madam," Anna answered softly.

"Then tend the baby whilst I pack the cart. Best that thy father nor John be seen. We must leave tonight and travel in the darkness."

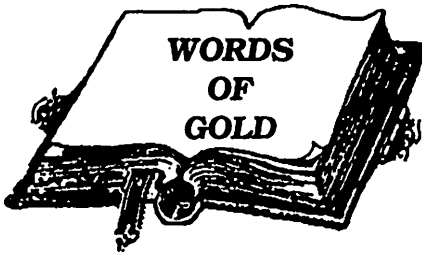
Herrnhut was in Silesia, Germany (now East Germany). It was a town of Christian refugees who had fled persecution in surrounding countries.

Anna soon learned that Herrnhut was not a little heaven on earth. They had traveled up steep treacherous mountain trails and over the high pass by only tiny drops of moonlight which leaked through the heavy forest. They had given up a peaceful, prosperous farm to live in a commune of believers arguing about religion.

Anna hated it. In a short time she had established herself as a *real rebel*. When anyone pressed her to get saved, she would snap, "First get converted yourself, and then talk to me."

Three hundred years before Ann had come to Herrnhut the followers of John Hus, called "Hussites," had refused to accept the pope as leader of God's church. The Catholic Church had come with arms to destroy them. John Hus burned at the stake. Persecution increased until his followers were forced to hide in Kunvald, a remote village. Here they shared all things as the early church had done.

In every country Christians were persecuted by secular and religious powers. Men, women and children were beaten or jailed, others tortured or killed. Homes were also burned in



Is Jesus Beautiful?

(Teachers should read the New Testament references to help students understand this is a prophecy of Jesus.)

Isaiah 52:13-14

13 Behold, my servant [Jesus] shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high:

14 ...His visage [face] was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

Isaiah 53:2-10, 12

2 ...He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. (Luke 9:22.)

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. (Galatians 1:4.)

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Ephesians 1:7 and Acts 5:31.)

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his

mouth. (Mark 15:3 and Matthew 27:12.)

8 ...He was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. (Romans 5:18 and Hebrews 10:12.)

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. (Matthew 27:38, 57.)

10 Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him: he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin....

12 ...He hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors: and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Message: Jesus may not have been handsome but the things He does makes Him beautiful.

Questions:

1. Whose face was marred more than any other man's?
2. Who was despised and rejected of men?
3. Who bore our griefs and carried our sorrows?
4. Who was wounded for our transgressions?
5. By what are we healed?
6. Who has turned to his own ways?
7. Who opened not His mouth when He was afflicted?
8. Who was with both the wicked and rich in His death?
9. Who did no violence neither was deceit in His mouth?

Verse to Memorize

**...Let the beauty of the Lord
our God be upon us:....
Psalm 90:17.**

Let's



Talk . . .

"Pretty is as pretty does" is an old, but wise saying. It means a person is only as pretty as his actions. A child who is beautiful seems ugly when he or she acts ugly. Sometimes when a child has inappropriate behavior parents may say, "Pretty is as pretty does." It is another way of saying selfish or disrespectful actions make any person seem ugly. On the other hand, beautiful actions cause a plain or even ugly person to seem beautiful.

Many songs praise Jesus as being beautiful. The Moravians, in "Fairest Lord Jesus," compared His beauty to that of nature. They said He was fairer, or more beautiful than the woodlands and flower covered meadows in spring. They said He was more beautiful than the moonlight or the starry sky. Aren't all those things beautiful?

Does the Bible describe Jesus as beautiful? Isaiah said His "visage (facial expression) was marred more than any man." This does not mean that His face had scars. It tells us that Jesus' face was sad—Possibly because all around Him people were suffering. It also says "He has no comeliness," or was not attractive. Another verse says "there is no beauty that we should desire him." By these scriptures we know Jesus was not handsome.

Why then do songs, poems, Psalms and pictures describe Jesus as beautiful? Do you think it might be the way Jesus acted? I believe it was. He healed the sick, fed the hungry multitudes, comforted the sad, and raised the dead. Wouldn't such actions make a person seem beautiful although He was not? Yes, Jesus' actions made Him beautiful. Jesus does beautiful things today.

He comforts the sad, heals the sick, relieves the suffering and sorrowful. He causes people to feel good while going through severe problems. These actions of love made Jesus beautiful.

Do you want to be beautiful? Then show love by your actions. Be polite, cheer the sad, help the needy and people will think you are beautiful although you may not be. "Pretty is as pretty does." —Charlotte Huskey

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus!

Ruler of all nature!

O Thou of God and man the Son!

Thee will I cherish,

Thee will I honor,

Thou my soul's glory, joy and crown!

Fair are the meadows,

Fairer still the woodlands,

Robed in the blooming garb of spring:

Jesus is fairer,

Jesus is purer,

Who makes the woeful heart to sing,

Fair is the sunshine,

Fairer still the moonlight,

And all the twinkling starry host:

Jesus shines brighter,

Jesus shines purer—

Than all the angels heav'n can boast,

—Münster of *Gesangbuch*, 1677

Translator Unknown

Bits And Pieces Of History

The following news appeared in the March, 1928, *Farm Live* magazine.

"The lighting rod agent used to be called a fraud. Now science and insurance companies have decided that lightning rods give protection. Even the White House in Washington, which was repaired this summer while the Presidential family was visiting in the Black Hills, has been modernized by lightning rods."

Poland, Transylvania (now part of Hungary) and in Germany. Wherever they went they met persecution from the Lutherans, Calvinists and Catholics.

Young Count Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf owned a large area of land in Germany. In 1722, he invited the persecuted believers to move to his estate. It was called Herrnhut. The people were mostly Moravians. Although these Moravian Christians lived in poverty, they gave the Czechs rich spiritual resources. They translated the Scriptures into Czech, they composed hymns that are sung in Czech churches today. They developed the traditions of singing hymns for comfort and encouragement. Some of their hymns have been translated into other languages. "Fairiest Lord Jesus" is believed to have come from these Moravians.

The first three years these refugees lived in peace, but by 1725, when the Nitschmanns arrived, dissensions had sprung up. As contentions grew, Zinzendorf and other leaders prayed earnestly about these problems. Two years afterwards, on August 13, 1727, a spiritual awakening spread through the community. People dropped their petty ideas. Those with bad attitudes repented and relationships were restored. An around-the-clock prayer meeting began. Teams of both young and old prayed one hour at a time.

Many young people and children were saved. Twelve year old Anna was one of them. Anna, *the rebel* became a worker for the Lord. Immediately she organized the girls into a kind of club. They prayed and sang together and ministered to the needs of others in the community.

At Herrnhut leaders were chosen by drawing lots. One day Mrs. Nitschmann said to Anna, "Daughter

thou art highly respected among the brethren. Thou art being considered to become the 'chief eldress' of the women."

"But Mother dear, I am only fourteen, too young for such a position."

"God hast given thee much wisdom. If the lot falls on thee, it will be because God hath chosen thee. Be strong, my child."

Days later the community gathered for solemn prayer. A shroud of seriousness hung over all. It was the day God would choose the new "Eldress" for the women. Bishop Daniel Ernest Jablonsky and other church elders and deacons were present when the lot was cast. It fell on Anna.

This caused quite a stir among the leaders. A long discussion followed, then Count Zinzendorf, went to Anna, "Thou art too young for the responsibilities. Would be best for thee to refuse the appointment."

Anna was respectful to the Count, but she answered, "Sir, I am accepting the appointment as from the Lord."

Six weeks after this election, Anna led eighteen sisters to the Lord. This group grew and from it came a stream of courageous missionaries. Anna also became a missionary. She traveled to many countries, even to America where she helped in the founding of Nazareth and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She also ministered among various Indian groups.

When you sing, "Fairiest Lord Jesus" think of Anna, and consecrate yourself to the Lord as she did. God can use you as He used her.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Jesus'. 2. Jesus.
3. Jesus. 4. Jesus. 5. His stripes.
6. Every man, woman and child.
7. Jesus. 8. Jesus. 9. Jesus.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 18, 1999

Lord I'm Coming Home

And the young man said, "I will arise and go to my father." (Luke 15:18.)

It was camp meeting time!

All around Rawlinsville, Pennsylvania wagons rumbled over the dusty roads coming toward the camp meeting. Grandfathers remembering blessed camp meetings of the past looked with anxious eyes for another outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Grandmothers wrapped in shawls hummed familiar hymns. Mothers wiped tears hoping this camp meeting would humble the heart of a rebellious son or a haughty daughter. Young mothers dreaming of peaceful siblings, prayed the camp meeting might bring this change in her family. Children peering from under the wagon flaps, saw flower covered hills, rivers and farms they had never seen before. "Give me that old time religion; Give me that old time religion," could be heard in the distance as a wagonload of singers came toward camp. Over the meadows and through the woods the wagons rolled. Fathers slapped the horses rumps hurrying them to the camp meeting.

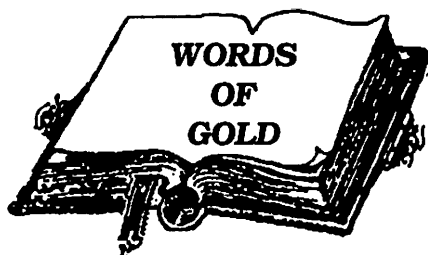
Pine and fir trees swayed in the wind as men hoisted a big tent into the air. The wind caught the tent and snatched it from the men's grip. It fell

in a crumpled mass onto the ground. The men stretched the canvas again, first north, then south, now east and west until it lay even on every side. Gathering more helpers, the men crawled under the tent and hoisted the center pole in place. Now one by one the corner poles were attached and the tent stood upright. Next, all the anchor stubs were driven into the ground and ropes tied securely. Every rope was tightened and the tent was ready for camp meeting.

By the time the tent was erected, many wagons filled with Christians had arrived. Weeks earlier men of the town had cut down trees and hewn off the branches making logs smooth enough to be used for benches. These were placed in a semicircle under the tent. People unloaded crude benches, chairs and kegs from their wagons. When all the seating was arranged, the singing started.

William J. Kirkpatrick was appointed to lead the congregation in singing and Mr. Sam Hunt (name is fiction) sang solos. Sam's voice was clear as a bell, and he sang so persuasively that it moved listeners to tears, but he was not born again. This disturbed Mr. Kirkpatrick very much.

Kirkpatrick thought if Sam did not get saved, he would use his voice for Satan. Some theater manager or



Dad, I'm Coming Home

Luke 15:11-32

11 ...A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great

way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Message: A runaway boy learns that home is a good place to be.

Questions:

1. For what did the younger son ask his father?
2. What did the father give to his son?
3. Where did the son go?
4. What did he do with his inheritance?
5. What happened after he had spent all?
6. What job did the son find?
7. What was the son willing to eat?
8. How were his father's servants treated?
9. What did the boy do?

Verse to Memorize

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee.

Luke 15:18.

Let's



Talk . . .

Let's call the "prodigal son" Tyler. Tyler, the younger of two sons grew up on a rich farm. His father had servants who did much of the work. Tyler knew that someday a portion of his father's wealth would be his.

Tyler heard stories about young men who traveled and had seen and done many interesting things. "Why should I stay tied to this old farm when there is excitement in other places?" he said to himself. The more he thought of these adventures the more he determined to leave home. Sometimes he brooded about it. Often he made plans to run away. But each time he was about to cut loose and run, he would realize it was foolish to run away from his inheritance. The desire to leave grew stronger and stronger until one day he said to his father. "I'm bored around here. I'll never want to be a farmer. Please give me my inheritance so I can go and start my own life."

"But Son, you are too young to be on your own."

"Dad, I'm not a baby."

"Of course not. But there are a lot of traps for young men in the world."

"I'm smart enough to stay out of them," Tyler protested. "Just give me the money that you plan for me to have after you die. If I lose it, then I'll suffer the consequences."

Reluctantly Tyler's dad agreed. He handed over the money.

Tyler took the money and went to another country. There he found plenty of friends to enjoy the money with him. The money, however, did not last forever. When the money was

gone, his friends left. Now he was alone and without food or a place to live.

Tyler had to find a job. After a long hunt he took a job feeding pigs. This was a disgrace to himself and his family, for the Jews consider it a sin to raise swine. (Today we would consider serving beer in a tavern, or working in a casino, or arranging pick-up and delivery of drugs or hiding stolen goods as a disgrace to ourselves and our family.) But, that's the kind of job Tyler had.

The day Tyler left home he never dreamed he would be in this condition. He believed he could live in the world, be friends with the world, enjoy the pleasures of sin with his friends and still keep living right. But he couldn't. Neither can you nor any person. "Sin will take you farther than you want to go." While in sin, you will do a lot of things you will later wish you hadn't done. Tyler did so.

Tyler was hungry, dirty, cold and horribly humiliated. He was even willing to eat the pigs' food. Home began to look pretty good. He said to himself, "I am stupid. Why, my father's servants have plenty of food and a clean place to stay. I'll just go home and be one of Dad's servants."

Tyler went home and his father received him gladly. Whoever comes home to Jesus is also received gladly.

—Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History:

April 14, 1775, First abolitionist society was founded in Pennsylvania; Ben Franklin was its president.

April 18, 1818, A regiment of Indians and blacks were defeated in the battle of Suwannee, Florida, ending the first Seminole War.

April 18, is Independence Day in Zimbabwe.

movie producer might offer him a lot of money. "This voice must be used for Christ," Kirkpatrick often told himself. "Lord, what can I do to win him?" He sometimes talked with Sam about his soul, but Sam was unconcerned. Perhaps he was a good man and thought he didn't need to be saved. Maybe he was proud and wanted a career singing in the world. We do not know why he was not saved. Neither did Mr. Kirkpatrick, but he was determined to win Sam.

One morning after the service Mr. Kirkpatrick went into his tent and knelt in prayer. "I've come again," he said to God. "Please give me a message that will convict Sam so he will surrender to You. I do love You Lord, and I love Your work. I hope You will forgive me for coveting, for I covet Sam's voice for Your work." Kirkpatrick kept praying.

After awhile God began pouring words into his mind. First came:

*"Coming home, coming home,
Never more to roam.
Open wide thine arms of love,
Lord, I'm coming home."*

"Is this my message for Sam?" Kirkpatrick questioned.

"Yes," God seemed to say. Soon more words came. He wrote the words down just as they came to him. Before the day was over the words and music of "Lord I'm Coming Home" were written. Kirkpatrick gave the song to Sam.

That evening boys in bib overalls, and girls with long pigtales filled the benches under the tent. On one end of the log sat a dad on the other end a mother. Each had a hickory stick in hand as a reminder of punishment to be given for noise or any disrespect.

Mr. Kirkpatrick sang from his heart, "My Jesus I love Thee, I know Thou art mine. For Thee all the follies of sin I resign." When the large congregation joined in singing, the beau-

tiful words floated out over the city. Sinners sitting on their porches criticizing the camp meeting bunch felt the convicting of the Holy Spirit. Men sitting on the back logs spitting tobacco juice out the tent flaps felt convicted.

After the sermon, Sam stood to his feet, threw back his head and began singing,

*"I've wandered far away from
God,*

Now I'm coming home.

*The path of sin too long I've trod,
Lord I'm coming home."*

Never had his voice sounded better. Never had he sung with more passion nor conviction. Before he finished the song, tears were running down his cheeks. The message of the song had penetrated his heart. He realized he had been in sin too long. He realized he had wasted many precious years, and that he was tired of sin. He repented with bitter tears and came home to Jesus that evening.

Although this song was written to reach Sam, during the camp meeting it brought many to the "mourners' bench" as the altar was called in those days. Since then thousands of others have been brought into the Kingdom by its convicting power.

Mr. Kirkpatrick wanted God to use Sam's voice. God did. He has also used the message He gave Mr. Kirkpatrick to win Sam.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. For his portion of goods. 2. He divided his living and gave a portion to his son. 3. Into a far country. 4. He wasted it in riotous living. 5. He began to be in want. 6. Feeding swine (pigs). 7. The husks that the swine ate. 8. They had plenty to eat. 9. He went home to his father.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 25, 1999

Stand Up For Jesus

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the cross!
Lift high His royal banner—
It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army shall He lead,
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished
And Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The trumpet call obey;
Forth to the mighty conflict
In this His glorious day:
Ye that are men now serve Him
Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger
And strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Stand in His strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you;
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor
And watching unto prayer.
Where calls the voice of duty,
Be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle—
The next, the victor's song.

To him that overcometh
A crown of life shall be:
He with the King of glory
Shall reign eternally.

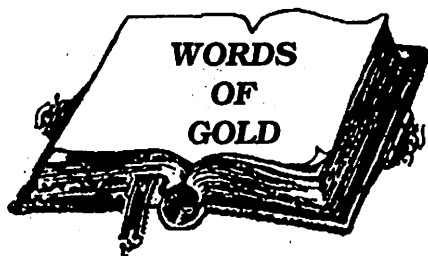
—George Duffield, Jr. (1818-1888)
—G. J. Webb

"Stand Up For Jesus"

During the early 1800's history tells us that people in America were making money "hand over fist." "Hand over fist" is an old saying that means earning "lots of money." One hand brings it in; the other hand clutches it tightly. While the people were getting rich, they forgot about God.

Things changed, however, and by 1857 thousands in New York City were attending noon prayer meetings. It happened when one man, Jeremiah Lanphier, started a weekly prayer meeting in a small room of a church in Manhattan. He advertised it, but only six people attended. The following week, 14 came and then 23. They decided to meet every day. Soon that church was full and the Methodist Church on John Street. A few weeks later every public building in downtown New York was filled with people praying at noon.

Horace Greeley a newspaper editor sent a reporter with horse and



Standing For Jesus

Ephesians 6:10-18

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto

with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

Romans 12:1-2

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which* is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

The Message: Put on the whole armor of God and you will be able to stand for Jesus.

Questions:

1. In whom are we to be strong?
2. How shall we be able to stand against the devil?
3. What do Christians wrestle against?
4. What is our enemy?
5. What must we do with the truth?
6. Faith is used for what?
7. What is our sword?
8. What should we present to God?
9. How do we know the will of God?

Verse to Memorize

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Ephesian 6:11.

Let's



Talk . . .

"The last words of Dudley Tyne were, 'Tell them to stand up for Jesus.'"

"What is standing up for Jesus?" asked Todd. "I can stand up for my little brother by protecting him when someone picks on him but how can I stand up for Jesus?"

"I think it means to do what Jesus would do," Morgan answered.

"Let's talk about ways that we can stand up for Jesus," suggested the teacher, Mrs. Stanley. "Did Eve stand up for God when Satan tempted her to eat the forbidden fruit?"

Everyone answered, "No."

"Did Adam stand up for God when Eve ask him to taste the forbidden fruit?"

Again they answered, "No."

"Pretend you are Eve, and Satan asks you to do what God had said not to do. What would you say?" Mrs. Stanley asked.

"I would say, 'Get out of here you old snake,'" Aaron answered.

Marie said, "I'd scream and run away from him."

"Let's put ourselves in a situation like Adam's. Your mother makes chocolate chip cookies and says, 'These cookies are for the bake sale, do not eat any of them.'

"When she goes out into the laundry room, your brother gets a cookie, brings it to you and says, 'Have a cookie.' Will you do like Adam or what will you say?"

"I would say, 'Go put that cookie back,'" Todd answered.

"I know what Jesus did when He was tempted," Aaron said.

"What did Jesus do?"

"He said, 'Get thee behind me Satan.'"

"A very good answer," said Mrs. Stanley.

"I think then that standing for Jesus is doing right when we are tempted to do wrong," Marie said.

"That surely is one way to stand for Jesus. Now who can think of other ways?"

"I think we also stand up for Jesus when we are not ashamed to be Christians," Todd said.

"We stand for Jesus by not supporting businesses related to pornography, bars, liquor stores, casinos and other evil things," said Aaron.

"All of these are excellent ways to stand up for Jesus. Now there is one more thing I want to share with you about standing for Jesus. To have courage to stand for Jesus we need the whole armour of God. Faith is our shield, salvation our helmet and the Word of God our sword. God gives these weapons to those who ask for them. Let us all ask God for His armour and we will be able to stand up for Jesus.

—Charlotte Huskey

buggy riding around to see how many were praying. He could only visit 12 meetings during the lunch hour, but he counted 6,100 men. (How many women were praying in their homes, no one will know.)

People began to be saved. The revival spread throughout the New England states. Soon church bells were calling people to pray at eight in the morning, twelve noon and six in the evening.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is known as the "City of Brotherly Love." It certainly lived up to its name in 1858 when it united in a city wide evangelistic effort. Services were held every morning and evening in churches, convention halls, movie theaters and any conceivable place a crowd could gather.

Pastor Dudley Tyne fasted, prayed, visited and advertised these meetings. People gathered into Jayne Hall where he was the leader. One evening he preached to 5,000 men. When he gave an invitation for people to consecrate their lives fully to God, at least 1,000 men fell to their knees and began praying.

The devil was frantic when so many people left his kingdom and joined Christ's kingdom. Men who rejected Christ were also angry. Only four days later Mr. Tyne went to visit a nearby farm. The farmer was working with a corn-shelling machine which he wanted to see. While watching, his clothes caught in a moving cog and his arm was torn from his shoulder. Why it happened, only God knows. Did he accidentally get too close? Did an angry man crowd him into the machine?

Mr. Tyne never got well after this accident. As he lay dying, his father and fellow ministers gathered around him. He must have been thinking of the men who had just taken Jesus as

Lord and Master of their lives, for some of his last words were, "Tell them to stand up for Jesus."

George Duffield caught Tyne's message. The following Sunday Mr. Duffield preached from Ephesians 6:10-18. "...Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth,..." was his text. At the end of his stirring sermon he read "Stand Up For Jesus" a poem he had written to accompany his message.

Someone sent it to a Christian newspaper where it was published. Later G. J. Webb put music to the poem.
—Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History

During the Revolutionary War, the British troops were occupying Yorktown. Governor Nelson's home was at Yorktown. The Federal troops, however, were bombarding the town. General Lafayette said to Governor Nelson, "Where shall I direct this cannon?"

"There," promptly replied Nelson, "to that house. It is mine and the best one in town. There I am sure the British have their headquarters."

Nelson was willing to sacrifice his home that our nation could be free from the British Kingdom. How much more important it is that Christians sacrifice so others can be free from Satan's kingdom. —Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. In the Lord. 2. By putting on the whole armour of God. 3. Against principalities, powers, and rulers of darkness of this world. 4. Spiritual wickedness. 5. Wrap it around ourselves. 6. As a shield. 7. The Word of God. 8. Our bodies, a living sacrifice. 9. By renewing our minds and not being conformed to this world.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 2, 1999

Sweet Hour Of Prayer

*Sweet hour of prayer, sweet
hour of prayer,
That calls me from a world of care
And bids me at my Father's throne
Make all my wants and wishes known:
In seasons of distress and grief
My soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter's snare
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.*

*Sweet hour of prayer, sweet
hour of prayer,
Thy wings shall my petition bear
To Him whose truth and faithfulness
Engage the waiting soul to bless;
And since He bids me seek His face,
Believe His word and trust His grace,
I'll cast on Him my ev'ry care,
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.*

*Sweet hour of prayer, sweet
hour of prayer,
May I thy consolation share,
Till from Mount Pisgah's lofty height
I view my home and take my flight:
This robe of flesh I'll drop, and rise
To seize the everlasting prize,
And shout, while passing thru the air,
"Farewell, farewell, sweet
hour of prayer!"*

—William W. Walford (1772-1850)

—William B. Bradbury

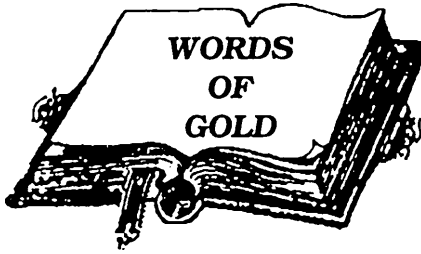
Sweet Hour Of Prayer

William Walford owned a curio shop in Coleshill, England. He made many of the curios which he sold in his shop. They were figurines beautifully carved from ivory and wood. Now William Walford was not the only person who has made figurines and sold them. But there was something very unusual about William's. You see, he was blind. How he could make such delicate cuts to form images was a puzzle to everyone!

William also wrote poetry. He formed a poem in his mind then asked someone to write it down for him. One day his friend, a local minister, stopped at his shop. While they were visiting, William said he needed someone to write down a poem. The friend wrote down, "Sweet Hour Of Prayer." He gave a copy to William and kept a copy for himself.

Three years later this minister was in the United States and gave the poem to a newspaper editor. William Walford's name was on the paper as the author.

When praying people read "Sweet Hour Of Prayer." They loved it. Someone began searching for the author. They found a minister in Homerton, England, named William Walford. He had written a book on prayer that



God Answers Prayer

II Kings 20:1-12

1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.

2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the Lord, saying,

3 I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord.

6 And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

7 And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the Lord will heal me, and that I shall go up

into the house of the Lord the third day?

9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the Lord, that the Lord will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the Lord: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

12 At that time Berodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

The Message: Just as God answered Hezekiah's prayers, He will answer ours.

Questions:

1. What did Isaiah tell Hezekiah?
2. Upon hearing this what did Hezekiah do?
3. What did Hezekiah say to God?
4. Did God give Isaiah another message?
5. What was God's second message for Hezekiah?
6. Besides healing, what else would God do for Hezekiah?
7. Did God give a sign to Hezekiah?
8. What sign did God give?
9. Who sent letters and a present to Hezekiah when he was sick?

Verse to Memorize

The Lord is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

Proverbs 15:29.

Let's



Talk . . .

Have you been sick? Did someone visit you while you were sick? Did they bring something for you—a happy smile, a funny story, candy, flowers or delicious fruit? Was your visitor pleasant?

In our lesson today, Hezekiah was also sick. He did not have a cold or a toothache. He was seriously ill. He also had a visitor. The visitor brought a message from the Lord, but it did not make Hezekiah happy. It made him very sad.

When his visitor, Prophet Isaiah, walked out of his room, King Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and began crying. As he cried, he prayed, "Oh God, remember, I have been honest with You and with my family and the people I rule. I have also kept a good attitude toward those who offend me. I have walked before You with a perfect heart and done right."

Prophet Isaiah was on his way out when God spoke to him again. God said, "Return to Hezekiah, the captain of My people, and tell him I have seen his tears and heard his prayer. I will heal him and he will live fifteen more years." Isaiah went back and told Hezekiah what God had said.

Doubtingly Hezekiah asked, "How can I believe this? You already told me I would die. Perhaps you are confused about what God's messages are."

"God will prove it by the sun dial," Isaiah said. "Does the shadow of the sun dial usually go forward?"

"Yes, it usually goes down," Hezekiah answered. "But let it go backward."

"Today it will return backward ten degrees," Isaiah said.

It did go backwards. Scientists have discovered missing time in the history of the world. God proved himself to Hezekiah by letting the shadow of the sun dial return backwards.

Three days after this, Hezekiah went into the house of the Lord and worshipped. When the visitors brought letters and a present from the king of Babylon, Hezekiah was up walking around. He showed the men through the temple, his castle and his treasury.

God answers prayers for those who do what is right just as He did for Hezekiah. —Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History

In many European countries May became a time for courting. In Italy boys serenaded their sweethearts. In Switzerland, a May pine tree was placed under a girl's window. German boys planted May trees in front of their sweethearts' window. In Czechoslovakia, boys placed May poles before their sweethearts' windows.

France considered the month of May sacred to the Virgin Mary. May queens led processions in her honor.

The Puritans frowned on May Day because of its follies and supposed origin. It is a good idea to again celebrate the coming of warm weather on May first, so Easter could be dedicated only for the resurrection of Christ.

Communist dominated countries have political demonstrations, military parades and parties on May first.

expressed many of the same thoughts as expressed in "Sweet Hour Of Prayer." Are they the same man? No one knows. But many believe this William Walford is the man who wrote it.

The words of "Sweet Hour Of Prayer" fit the experience of every sincere Christian and is therefore accepted by people of all denominations. After William B. Bradbury put music to the beautiful words it has been printed in hymnals of almost every Christian church. It has been translated into many languages and is sung in large cathedrals, simple chapels and humble thatch roof meeting houses all around the world.

Every Christian has experienced a blessing in prayer. When we put aside our duties and problems and go to Jesus in prayer those troubles have a way of melting away.

The second verse tells us our petitions are winged up to God who always hears and answers prayer. And because we know this, we should tell Jesus all our troubles while we are on our knees praying.

The third verse says, "From Mount Pisgah's lofty heights, I view my home and take my flight." Mount Pisgah was a very high mountain in Canaan. From this mountain, Balak blessed Israel when they were camped in the valley below. From this mount, Moses looked over into the Promise Land where he had hoped to lead God's people, but he sinned and was not allowed to go in.

In prayer, the heavy weights of fear and doubt vanish away and we get a spiritual glimpse of heaven. Someday we will drop our fleshly bodies and rise up to heaven and seize our prize which is to live in happiness with Jesus and the holy angels.

"Sweet Hour Of Prayer" has been a blessing to thousands of people.

Sing it now and see if you too, feel blessed. You will find it on page 312 in the *Evening Light Songs*.

—Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History Continued...

Years ago in England, the first day of May was the most delightful holiday of the year. It was the day the people expressed their joy for the return of summer. Wild flowers were in bloom and it was warm enough to enjoy outdoor gatherings. Early in the morning girls paraded in gowns of green leaves and flower garlands. Boys marched through the streets waving tree branches and blowing horns. This was called, "bringing home the May."

In the afternoon on the green, villagers danced around the Maypole holding the ends of ribbons that streamed from its top. They wove the ribbons back and forth around the pole until it was covered with bright colors. Often a girl was chosen as May queen. She was crowned with flowers and a flower mat placed under her feet.

(Answers: 1. He said, "Set your house in order, for you shall die."
2. He turned his face toward the wall and prayed. 3 He asked God to remember that he had walked in truth and with a perfect heart.
4. Yes. 5. That he would be healed on the third day and live fifteen more years. 6. God would deliver their city. 7. Yes. 8. The sundial went backward ten degrees.
9. Berodach-baladan, the king of Babylon.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 9, 1999

A Gift for Mother

Smithe was hurrying down the sidewalk when he met Alvi with a package in his hand. "What do you have there?" he asked.

"Slippers for Mom. Sunday is Mother's Day you know. What did you get for yours?"

"Nothing yet."

"Why are you waiting? There's only six days left."

"I know."

"I got them at Pennys. Want to see?"

"Nope." Smithe hurried on. "Wish I had money to buy slippers."

Smithe had asked every neighbor if they needed something done. The grass hadn't grown. The weather was too cold. Harrison, the big boy across the street had already cleaned Mrs. Kinning's garage and trimmed the Hornneck's shade tree. He had also raked the alley behind old Mr. Jones' place.

Smithe kicked a styrofoam cup as he slouched along toward home with his head down. Spits, his fox terrier came running. Spits understood that boys like to spend money on candy and pop. Mother didn't. He sat down on the sidewalk. While petting Spits, he mumbled, "God, please help."

In a few minutes he shouted, "Come on. Let's go see the bird lady."

"I'll feed and water your birds and

clean their cages for a whole month in exchange for a bird," he told her. He came out whistling. "Thank you Jesus," he said.

Three days later when he went to feed and water the birds, Mrs. Hawk said, "The yellow bird you wanted surprised me. She laid an egg this morning. Now she'll have to stay here until her babies can take care of themselves."

"Any bird will do," Smithe told her.

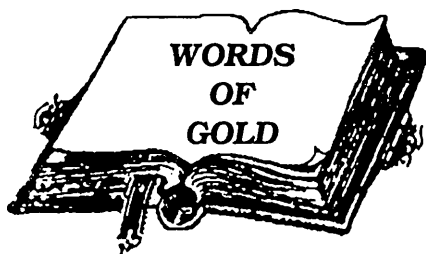
"The other's are already promised," she said. "I'm so sorry. Maybe you could give it for your mother's birthday."

Smithe sighed, "Her birthday's not until July."

"That will be alright."

"Well, okay," Smithe said. "Mother does love birds." But as he worked, he was racking his brain. Julianne was home sewing an apron; Tracy was painting a picture. *Maybe I could make a card and promise to mow the lawn for the next month without complaining. But that might not impress Mother since the grass wasn't growing.* He prayed silently.

The next afternoon he made a card and wrote his promise. He held it up to look it over. "Too juvenile," he mumbled and hurried it to the trash can in the alley before his sisters could see it. Spits, followed sadly



An Obedient Child

I Samuel 1:11, 20, 24, 26-28

11 And she [Hannah] vowed a vow, and said, O Lord of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and...wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life,...

20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come...that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the Lord.

24 And when she had weaned him, she took him...unto the house of the Lord in Shiloh: and the child was young.

26 And she said, Oh my Lord, as thy soul liveth, my Lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the Lord.

27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

28 Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord. And he worshipped the Lord there.

I Samuel 2:11, 18-21

11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house....

18 But Samuel ministered before the Lord, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.

19 Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

20 And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The Lord give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the Lord. And they went unto their own home.

21 And the Lord visited Hannah, so that she...bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the Lord.

The Message:
Samuel lived
and worked at
the temple be-
cause his
mother asked
him to do so.

Questions:

1. For what did Hannah pray?
2. What did Hannah vow to God?
3. Did God answer Hannah's prayer?
4. Why did she name her son Samuel?
5. How long was Samuel to serve the Lord?
6. Where did Samuel stay? (Verse 24.)
7. How often did Samuel see his mother?
8. How many brothers and sisters did Samuel have?
9. Are you willing to obey your mother as Samuel did his?

Verse to Memorize

**Children, obey your parents
in the Lord: for this is right.
Ephesians 6:1.**

Let's



Talk . . .

Peninnah pointed at Hannah, "Ha, ha, ha," she laughed. "God has cursed you. You have no sons. Look, God has blessed me with ten children."

Elkahah, Hannah and Peninnah with her ten children were on their way to Shiloh. Every year they went there to offer a sacrifice to God. They also asked forgiveness for their sins and thanked God for past blessings. Each time they went, Peninnah provoked Hannah because she had no child. This time was just too much. Hannah felt so badly she could not eat the festival meal.

Later in the day she knelt beside a post of the temple and asked God to give her a son. The following year Hannah did not go with them to the temple because now she had a tiny baby boy. She called her son, Samuel. Samuel comes from the Hebrew word "shaul meEL," meaning "asked of God."

When Samuel was older, Hannah took him to the temple and left him there. Samuel was to live at the temple and serve God by helping Eli, the aged priest. Each year Hannah came to see Samuel and brought him a new coat.

Samuel was an obedient boy. He was left with Eli when he was very young, and saw his mother only once a year when she brought him a new little coat.

Can you imagine Samuel crying and refusing to obey Hannah when they wanted to leave him in Shiloh? I cannot. I believe Samuel loved his mother and was willing to please her. Are you willing to please your mother? Does she want you to live for Jesus? Are you living for Him? Does your mother want you to study more diligently? Are you? Would your mother be happy if you sat up front and was very quiet in church?

Does she want you to listen carefully to the service? Does she want you to say your memory verse clearly? How about singing for Jesus? Would that please her? What pleases your mother? Are you doing it?

This is Mother's Day. It is the day to begin pleasing your mother in ways you have neglected.

Let's try. Okay? —Charlotte Huskey

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 eyes.

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 happiest lad of all the group;
He paused beside her, and whispered low,
"I'll help you across, if you wish to go."
Her aged hand 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 she's poor, and old, and gray,
When I am grown and gone 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."

—Unidentified.

behind. Spits seemed to always know how he felt.

Mr. Hornneck was in the alley loading the branches that Harrison had trimmed from their tree. "Hay, Smithe want to go with me to the dump?"

"Sure," Smithe answered and ran to ask his mother.

As they drove to the dump Smithe said, "I've been trying to earn money to get a Mother's Day gift."

"I've got something I know your mother will love. I'll give it to you for helping me."

"Good," Smithe explained.

When they returned Mr. Hornneck gave Smithe a beautiful blue glass candy dish. "Blue's my mother's favorite color," Smithe said. "Thank you, thank you."

Smithe hurried home with the precious dish. Spits came running. "Look what I've got for Mom," he said setting the dish on the palm of his hand. Spits jumped up to look and bumped the dish. It crashed on the sidewalk. Smithe felt hot tears on his cheeks as he threw broken pieces into the trash. "You broke my present and with only one day left, I—I—I've no time to get another," he stormed. Spits ran into his dog house.

That night Smithe prayed again. Saturday morning Dad said to Smithe, "Let's clean the garage as a present for Mother."

"Great," Smithe explained. "Thank you God," he whispered. While they were cleaning, he told his dad about the bird and the candy dish.

"I wish I had some money to give you."

When Smithe and his dad were unloading their trash at the dump, Furrows Flower truck pulled up with a load of flowers. "Why are you dumping them?" Dad asked.

"It was so cold they didn't bloom in time for Mother's Day. We're having to make room for garden plants now."

"Could we take one?"

"I'll give you one from the truck. It's against the law to take things from the dump. Here is one with some buds." He handed Dad a petunia in a white hanging basket.

On the way home they went by WalMart and Dad bought lavender foil paper and a large purple bow. When Julianne finished decorating the flower, Dad said, "If it's okay with you Smithe I'll give you the Cinderella slippers I bought for Mother at Pennys, and I will give her this beautiful flower."

"Sure," exclaimed Smithe.

Monday at school, Smithe asked Alvi, "Did your mom like her gift?"

"She sure did; said she'd been wishing for some Cinderella slippers from Pennys."

—Charlotte Huskey

SURPRISING MOTHER

When Mother leaves us for awhile

To run down to the store,
I like to get the sweeper out
And tidy up the floor,
And if she isn't back by then,
I might do even more!

Some days when mother isn't well,

And she must stay in bed,
I'll fix her up a tray with soup
And dainty looking bread.
I'll fluff her pillow up for her,
And straighten out her bed.

I like to help around the house:

I think of it as play.
I like to dust, and make the beds,
And be so sweet and gay,
And when I am a mother, too,
I'll clean and cook all day!

(Answers: 1. For a son. 2. She vowed to lend her son back to God. 3. Yes. 4. Because she had asked him of the Lord. 5. As long as he lived. 6. In the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 7. Each year. 8. Two brothers and two sisters. 9. I hope your answer is, "Yes.")

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 16, 1999

The Saint's Battle Hymn

(Sing to tune of
Battle Hymn of the Republic)

On the mountaintop of vision
What a glory we behold!
Eighteen hundred years of victory
Are tinting earth with gold:
For the saints are overcoming
With their testimony bold,
The truth is marching on.

Glory! glory, hallelujah!
Glory! glory, hallelujah!
Glory! glory, hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

For the glory of the Father
Jesus taught in Galilee,
He preached the great salvation
That delivers you and me;
And a million voices shout it,
"Redemption's full and free,"
The truth is marching on.

Precious knowledge is increasing,
Evening light begins to glow,
With the trump of full salvation
Many running to and fro;
And the song of glory echoes,
Christ has washed us
white as snow,
All glory to His name!

—Words: Daniel S. Warner

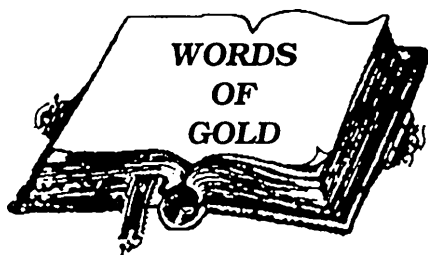
—Music: William Steffe

Christian Battle Hymns

This story is about two songs. They were both written to be sung by the borrowed tune of a third song. The above song was written by Daniel Warner. He had a wonderful gift of writing spiritual hymns. His first songs, however, were only "adaptations of existing hymns either by re-arrangement of words or by composing new words to "fit" an already existing tune. One of his first songs was "The Saint's Battle Hymn." It was an adaptation to a popular song written by Julia Ward Howe.

Warner was happy that God had preserved the truth 1800 years since Jesus had preached it. All these years the truth had been victorious over the devil and all his attacks. Warner said so in his song. He said, "Eighteen hundred years of victory are tinting earth with gold." Tinting means to add a little color. When God's truth was again preached, it added spiritual gold to earth. It was golden nuggets from God's Word. This song has a great message. Read it. Think about the words. If you are in a class, discuss it. This hymn was published in the early 1880's in one of the first copies of the *Gospel Trumpet* magazine.

The other song "Battle Hymn of the Republic" by Julia Ward Howe



Truth Makes Men Free

John 8:31-36, 14:6

31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word [or obey my words], *then* are ye my disciples indeed;

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.

36 If the Son [of God] therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

I John 3:4-10

4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth

hath not seen him, neither known him.

7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God,...

The Message: Those who commit sin are servants of the devil.

Questions:

1. What must a person do to be a disciple of Jesus?
2. What will make men free?
3. Who are the servants of sin?
4. Who can make us free?
5. Who is the truth?
6. What is sin?
7. Who is of the devil?
8. Do the children of God commit sin?
9. How can we tell who is of God and who is of the devil?

Verse to Memorize

If the Son [of God] therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

John 8:36.

Let's



Talk . . .

The following is part of a pamphlet published in 1839:

"Two million seven hundred thousand persons in these [United] States are in...[slavery]. They were made slaves and held by force. Is it right...? Suppose I should seize you, rob you of your liberty, drive you into the field, and make you work without pay as long as you lived...."

"A Baptist clergyman in Laurens District, S.C. whipped his slave to death, whom he suspected of having stolen about \$60.00.... The coroner, William Irby, found the flesh on his body was beat to a jelly from head to foot.... The master's wife discovered the money a day or two after the death of the slave. She had removed it from where it was placed, not knowing what it was...."

At the trial...his daughter testified that her father had untied the slave....and given him cold water to drink, of which he took freely.... His counsel [or attorney] pleaded that the death might have been caused by drinking cold water in a state of excitement. The judge charged the jury, that it would be their duty to find the defendant guilty, if they believed the death was caused by the whipping; but if they were of opinion that drinking cold water caused the death, they would find him not guilty! The jury found him—NOT GUILTY!"

Was he guilty? Is slavery right? Would you like to be a slave?

Jesus said, "Whoever sins is a servant to sin." Slaves are servants. Serving Satan is like serving a slavemaster. He doesn't give you jus-

tice. He binds with hatred, envy, jealousy, pride, family problems, drugs, alcohol, and a million other things. He robs freedom, drains happiness and beats his servants to death with fears. Yet sin is not guilty. The person who sins is guilty. We should shun sin like we would shun being a slave.

—Charlotte Huskey



Battle Hymn Of The Republic



Mine eyes have seen the glory
of the coming of the Lord,
He is trampling out the vintage
where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning
of his terrible swift sword—
His truth is marching on.

Glory! glory, hallelujah!
Glory! glory, hallelujah!
Glory! glory, hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch fires
of a hundred circling camps,
They have builded Him an altar
in the evening dews and damp;
I can read His righteous sentence
by the dim and flaring lamps—
His day is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet
that shall never sound retreat,
He is sifting out the hearts of men
before his judgment seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him!
be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
With the glory in His bosom
that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy,
let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.

—Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910)

—Music: William Steffe

was an adaption also. It was sung to the tune of "John Brown's Body." The tune of "John Brown's Body" was an old camp-meeting song written by William Steffe. Here's just a portion of it, "Say, Brother, will you meet us on Canaan's happy shore?"

Julia Ward Howe visited army camps in Washington D.C. in 1861. "She saw the city teeming with soldiers, orderlies galloping about, ambulances bouncing back and forth and countless campfires burning." She discussed with her pastor what she had seen and the song about John Brown. Her pastor said, "Put some good words to that tune." She did. "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" was first printed in the *Atlantic Monthly*.

The message of her song is that God's truth is eternal. Although circumstances may appear overwhelmingly difficult, God will still accomplish His purposes and His truth will endure. Nations may rise and fall, but God's truth remains forever. "His truth is marching on."

The theme of "The Saint's Battle Hymn" is *God's truth which frees men from sin is marching on*. When Jesus walked the shores of Galilee He gave us this truth and it will continue until He comes again. Join the army of the Lord. Stand up and fight against Satan to help free men from his slavery. Try marching like a soldier while singing "The Saint's Battle Hymn" to the tune of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

—Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History

Who was John Brown? John Brown was an American abolitionist. Born in Torrington, CT, his parents had been strongly opposed to slavery. From childhood John loved and respected blacks. For a time he lived in a black community in New York.

During an Ohio church service following a sermon against slavery, John stood in the chapel and said, "Here, before God and in the presence of these witnesses, I consecrate my life to the destruction of slavery."

Years later in 1855, he and his many sons went to Kansas to help keep the territory free of slavery. He also helped fugitive slaves escape to Canada. On October 16, 1859 he and 19 or 21 followers seized the arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia and the bridges leading to the ferry that crossed the Potomac River. He was captured and hanged on December 2, a month and a half later.

To the northerner, John Brown became a "legendary martyr" to end slavery. In the south he was a feared criminal monomaniac obsessed to insanity with one idea. Julia Ward Howe (in the north) said, "His death will be holy and glorious, and the gallows cannot dishonor him!" Mrs. Jefferson Davis (wife of the Confederate president) said Brown was a "pestilent forceful man" urged on by "insane prejudice." Louisa May Alcott the author of *Little Women* wrote in her diary, "The execution of Saint John the Just."

A song, "John Brown" was written about him. The northern soldiers sang, "John Brown's body lies a-molding in the ground, But his soul goes marching on" as they marched to free America from slavery.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. To be a disciple, a person must continue obeying Jesus' words. 2. The truth. 3. Those who commit sin. 4. The Son of God. 5. Jesus is the truth. 6. Transgression of the law. 7. Those who commit sin. 8. No. 9. The children of God do not commit sin. The children of the devil commit sin.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 23, 1999

Onward, Christian Soldiers

"Onward, Christian Soldiers" is considered to be one of the greatest marching hymns ever composed. It was written by L. Sabine Baring-Gould, a Christian school teacher and pastor in Horbury, England. Whitmonday was a great day for school festival. Children often marched from one village to another, carrying banners and crosses. In 1865, the students from Horbury Bridge School, were invited to Yorkshire to join other pupils for the celebration.

Whitmonday is the day following Whitsunday. Whitsunday or White Sunday replaced the Jewish Pentecost which was a Thanksgiving festival at the end of the harvest. It was called White Sunday because newly baptized converts wore their white baptismal clothes.

The celebration of Whitmonday may have meant a great deal to teacher Sabine. He wanted to make it a special day to help his students remember to be thankful for God's many blessings. He wanted the walk to Yorkshire to be an exciting time and thought singing and marching

was a sure way to do it. But where could he find a song with a marching tune?

He looked and looked but found none, so decided to write one. "Sitting up quite late the night before the march, he penned the words of "Onward, Christian Soldiers." It was written in great haste, and I am afraid that some of the rhymes are faulty," Sabine apologized later. But I am sure none of the children noticed his errors. I am sure they were proud to have their own personal song.

On Whitmonday, students from the Horbury Bridge School in the little mill town of Horbury marched all the way to Yorkshire. As they marched, they were singing:

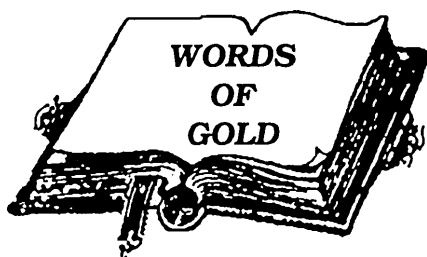
"Onward, Christian soldiers,

Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus

Going on before!
Christ, the royal Master,
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle
See His banner go!

Chorus

"Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before!



Important Celebrations

Exodus 12:27

27 ...It is the sacrifice of the Lord's passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped. [Passover feast]

Leviticus 23:10, 15-16

10 Speak unto the children of Israel,...ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

15 And ye shall count...from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the Lord. [The Pentecost]

Matthew 26:2

2 Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.

I Corinthians 5:7

7 ...For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Acts 1:4, 9

4 And, [Jesus] being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which saith he, ye have heard of me.

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Acts 2:1, 4

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost,...

The Message: Jesus was crucified during the Passover and became the Passover for believers. Then He sent the Holy Spirit fifty days later to replace the Pentecost festival.

Questions:

1. What was the passover?
2. What was brought to the priest?
3. How many days later were they to bring another offering?
4. During what feast was Jesus crucified?
5. Who is the Christian's passover Lamb?
6. For what were the disciples to wait?
7. What happened on Pentecost?
8. Have you accepted the Passover Lamb?
9. Have you been filled with the Holy Spirit?

Verse to Memorize

...For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

I Corinthians 5:7.

Let's



Talk . . .

Years ago the people of God were slaves in Egypt. When they first moved there the Pharaoh of Egypt was friendly to them. After he died the new Pharaoh treated them badly. This treatment grew worse through the 400 years that followed. The people cried and prayed unto God and God troubled the Egyptians until they begged His people to leave Egypt. The night they left, the death angel passed over all their homes, but in every Egyptian home the first-born son died. It was a Passover.

The festival of Pentecost celebrated God giving the Ten Commandments. It was observed fifty days after the Passover. (Pentecost means fifty.)

Each year the Israelites or Jews celebrated Passover and Pentecost. During Passover a lamb was killed and eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Jews from many lands came to Jerusalem for this festival. At Pentecost two loaves of bread were offered as a thanksgiving for harvest.

When Jesus was twelve years old, He went with His parents to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem. He went there many other times. We can read of many things happening to Jesus during these Passover festivals. The last was His crucifixion.

Jesus died on the cross during the Passover. He took the place of the lamb. Today He is the Passover Lamb for every Christian. (I Corinthians 5:7.) Now only the Jews who do not believe in Jesus celebrate the Passover.

Easter and Pentecost are Christian celebrations. Easter is the day Jesus arose from the grave and became our living Savior. He saves from sin's slavery. Easter replaces the Passover.

The Holy Spirit came fifty days after Jesus arose from death so it fell on the

day Pentecost was celebrated. Remember, Pentecost commemorated the giving of the law on Mount Sinai. Until that day God's people did not have written laws to obey. They must have wondered how to please God. A Christian who has not received the Holy Spirit also wonders, but after the Holy Spirit fills the heart, wondering is over. God writes His laws in our hearts so they are ever present and we can know how and have power to please Him. (2 Cor. 3:3 reads: ...Written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.)

Now let's see how White Sunday is connected with Pentecost. The first sheaf of the harvest was offered at the Passover. Fifty days later, two loaves of bread were offered at Pentecost. This marked the beginning and ending of the grain harvest. It was a time of remembering and giving of thanks for many things God had done, especially the harvest of foods. Jesus' followers celebrated Pentecost because the Holy Spirit came for the first time on this day. In some places, Pentecost was called White Sunday because the newly baptized Christians wore their white baptismal robes on that day. It marked the end of the joyous Easter season by fifty days. In some countries the White Monday was added to the celebration of White Sunday. In others places it took the place of White Sunday.

Early Christians celebrated both Easter and Pentecost with solemn prayers and in many cases fasting. As the church lost its fervent faith, it adopted many customs of the world. Slowly the solemn prayers were forgotten and the celebrations became festivals of fun.

Thanksgiving, in November is a day our country celebrates the blessings of good harvest, health and happiness. We should give thanks every day for these blessings. We should also thank God every day for Jesus, our Passover Lamb, which frees us from the slavery of sin and for the Holy Spirit in our heart which was first given on Pentecost.

—Charlotte Huskey

*"Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided,
All one body we—
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity.*

*"Onward, then, ye people,
Join our happy throng;
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song.
Glory, laud and honor
Unto Christ the King
This thru countless ages
Men and angels sing."*

Can you see the happy faces praising God as they marched along the road? I think God smiled as He looked down on them. What do you think? Would you like to sing it now and see if you can march as they did?

L. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924) was thirty one years old when he wrote, "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Six years later Sir Arthur Sullivan wrote the music. The song has been translated into many languages and sung in almost every church around the world. Children especially love to sing it.

"Sabine wrote books on mythology, biography, travel, folklore and theology. He wrote a novel every year for fifty-two years. The British Museum lists more titles by him than by any other writer of his era. But he is chiefly remembered as the author of "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

Sir Arthur Sullivan, was a musical genius who wrote many, many different types of music. In fact he wrote almost any kind of music—vocal and instrumental. The grand

rhythm in this hymn is absolutely irresistible when sung by a large congregation."

—Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History

May 22, 1688, Alexander Pope, the greatest English poet of the early 1700's, was born in London, England. He wrote brilliant satires that ridiculed many kinds of human follies. His biting wit made him one of the most feared writers in England. He became famous at age 23 after *An Essay on Criticism* was published. You may have heard some of its most famous lines,

"A little learning is a dangerous thing."

*"Drink deep, or taste not the
perian spring:*

*There shallow draughts intoxicate
the brain,*

*And drinking largely sobers us
again.'*

*Another is: "To err is human, to
forgive divine."*

At age twelve Alexander suffered a tubercular spinal infection. As a result, he grew to an adult height of only 4 feet and 6 inches and became a hunchback.

Aren't we thankful God gives a talent to every person.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A festival celebrating the Israelites deliverance from Egypt's bondage. 2. A sheaf of the firstfruits. 3 Fifty days. 4. The feast of the Passover. 5. Jesus. 6. The Holy Spirit. 7. The Holy Spirit came. 8. I hope your answer is, "Yes." 9. Answers will vary.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 30, 1999

Beating The Odds

"It's a boy," announced the midwife.

Holding him by his feet she turned the red wrinkled baby upside down and patted him.

"Whoa, whoa," he cried.

"Sounds healthy alright," Grandma said as she peered around old Mrs. Tucker to get a better look at her new grandson.

The midwife wiped him up a bit, pinned on a diaper and wrapped him in the shawl that Grandma had crocheted. "Got a name picked out?" she asked.

"We've talked about calling him Charles Wesley," Mrs. Naylor said. She cast an admiring smile at her baby. "Grandma's suggestion. I guess she's hoping he will be a song writer and evangelist like the great Charles Wesley."

"There's a lot in a name," Grandma said. "Charles means 'man.'"

"Well, I guess he will be a man, if he lives that long, since he ain't a girl." Mr. Naylor said. He laughed at his own joke.

"Not that" Grandma scolded. "It means to be strong and ab-

overcome obstacles that might come in life."

"That's alright, Grandma," Mr. Naylor said. "We'll call him Charles Wesley if you want. You think it will make him a good Methodist like the other Wesley's. That's what ye want isn't it?"

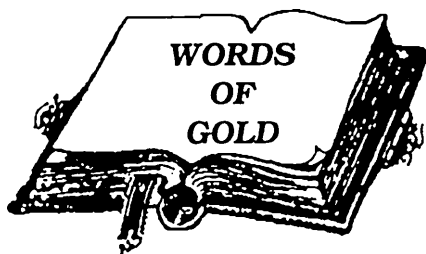
"I'd sure be glad and you'll be glad, too, if he takes up the holiness those Methodists preach. He won't be drinking and causing you all trouble like some young folks are doing these days."

"You're right. And he has a chance to be a songwriter, since his handsome dad writes poetry."

Everybody laughed.

Little is known about Charles' childhood. When he was eight years old, his mother died. Charles was taken to live with his grandmother. At the age of eighteen he was saved in the Methodist church.

That same year Barney E. Warren and S.L. Speck came into Ohio and introduced him to the Church of God. Charles was fascinated by their lively singing and fiery preaching. While attending the Methodist church, he learned to live holy and was doing so just as his grandmother had hoped. In those years his life was dedicated,



Sin Can Never Enter There

Genesis 3:22, 24

22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man [Adam and Eve] 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.

Revelation 2:7

7 ...To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Revelation 22:14

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.

Revelation 21:1, 4-8

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away:...

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, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Job 3:17

17 There the wicked cease from troubling; and there the weary be at rest.

The Message: We know there is no sin in heaven because sin causes trouble or sorrow.

Questions:

1. Why did God remove Adam and Eve from the garden?
2. Why should Adam and Eve not eat of the Tree of Life?
3. Who will eat of the Tree of Life in the paradise of God?
4. What will be new?
5. Will there be tears in heaven?
6. In what ways is heaven different from our present earth?
7. What kind of river will be in this new land?
8. Will sinners enter this place? (Verse eight.)
9. Where will they be?

Verse to Memorize

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

I Peter 1:15-16.

Let's



Talk . . .

God created people to be happy. He placed the first man and woman in a beautiful garden. They did not have to work for their food. The climate was so perfect they did not need coats or houses to protect themselves from the cold nor the heat. They were only to name the different animals and tend the garden. The soft, fertile soil grew no weeds, thorns or thistles. Water came up from the earth to keep the plants moist. Quite a pleasant place to live wasn't it? I would be happy living in such a place. How about you?

Among the many trees of the garden, there were two special ones, the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Whoever ate of the Tree of Life would live forever. The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil was not to be eaten.

Adam and Eve rebelled against God and ate from it. Then God had to separate them from the Tree of Life so they would not eat from it and live forever. God knew they would never be happy with their rebellious attitude. He wanted them to be happy.

Rebellion is sin and sin causes sorrow, tears, pain and many times hunger or thirst. There is no hunger, thirst, pain, death nor tears in heaven. (Rev. 21:4.) Sin causes all these things. Only in a place without sin could there be no tears.

The Tree of Life is in heaven. (Rev. 21:14.) We can eat of it and live

forever happy in the presence of God.
—Charlotte Huskey

Sin Can Never Enter There

Heaven is a holy place
Filled with glory and with grace;
Sin can never enter there;
All within its gates are pure,
From defilement kept secure,
Sin can never enter there.

Chorus

Sin can never enter there,
Sin can never enter there;
So if at the judgment bar,
Sinful spots your soul shall mar,
You can never enter there.

If you hope to dwell at last,
When your life on earth is past,
In that home so bright and fair,
You must here be cleansed from sin,

Have the life of Christ within,
Sin can never enter there.

You may live in sin below,
Heaven's grace refuse to know,
But you cannot enter there;
It will stop you at the door,
Bar you out forevermore,
Sin can never enter there.

If you cling to sin till death,
When you draw your latest breath,
You will sink in dark despair,
To the regions of the lost,
Thus to prove at awful cost,
Sin can never enter there.

—Charles Naylor (1874-1950)
—Music: B.E. Warren (1867-1951)

Bits And Pieces Of History

May 8, 1958, Ernest Green was the first black to graduate from Central High School in Little Rock, AR.

May 9, 1800, John Brown, an American abolitionist, was born in Torrington, CT.

holy people. Charles, however liked the freedom and power that the Church of God brethren showed.

He joined the Church of God evangelist group and traveled with them. Their group held a meeting in the old Toll Gate House on Cemetery Road in Springfield, Ohio. The Holy Spirit stirred the community. Some became angry. Others yielded to God. Some were healed. One evening during a meeting, a gang of drunken boys battered down the door and came rushing in. They whooped and hollered, knocked empty chairs over, threw Bibles in the floor and disrupted the service, but no one was hurt. Another time some wild guys shot bullets through the door. A bullet lodged in the wall just beside Mr. Warren's head. Again no one was hurt.

Many were saved. Among them were the parents of C.E. Byers. Byers later brought many into the Church. He also wrote songs and books which have, for many years, helped people in their Christian walk.

Willie Wood was healed in this meeting. Willie was twelve. He had been blind for eight years. His parents led Willie to the old Toll Gate House and asked prayer for his healing. S.L. Speck anointed Willie. The whole church prayed. There seemed to be no immediate change in his eyes, but the following Sunday he walked to Toll Gate House by himself. When Willie was twenty years old, he passed the United States Navy's strict eye test without difficulty.

Charles was an evangelist like the Charles Wesley of years before. Now he began writing songs. "Sin Can Never Enter There" was one of the first. He and B. E. Warren were

preaching in Sandusky County, Ohio. The meeting had begun in an old house which had had the partitions knocked out and seating arranged for a crowd. It was during the coldest winter Charles had ever seen, but people came. Warren preached earnestly about the holiness of Heaven. He said, "There is no sin in heaven. No sin was ever there, nor can sin enter there." The message was forcibly impressed upon Charles' mind. In the afternoon, he took out his note pad and wrote the song, "Sin Can Never Enter There."

When they were back at the home where they were sleeping, Charles showed Warren the song. Warren sat down at the organ and in a short time had the tune composed. Charles and Warren sang it during evening service.

Even in the freezing weather, the crowd grew until the meeting was moved to a church building. It, too, was filled until the roads became impassable.

"Sin Can Never Enter There" is often sung when an invitation is given for people to get their sins forgiven and prepare for heaven. It first appeared in the songbook, *Salvation Echoes*. It is on page 406 in the *Evening Light Songs*.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. So they could not eat of the Tree of Life. 2. Because they would live forever. 3. Everyone who overcomes sin. 4. A heaven and an earth. 5. No. 6. There is no death, sorrow, crying nor pain. 7. The River of Life. 8. No. 9. They will have their part in the lake of fire.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 6, 1999

I Am The Lord's

Charles Wesley Naylor in many ways was like the famous Charles Wesley of the 1700's. He was an evangelist and he also wrote songs. Charles and John Wesley traveled over England preaching messages from the Bible that others had never heard. Thousands were converted and the religious world was changed forever. Charles Naylor traveled over the eastern United States preaching messages from God's Word which seemed strange to most people. He preached that Christ had only one Church. He taught that Jesus was coming back for only one Church and that all the saved people belong in that one Church. To the people attending dead churches he said, "Come out of her my people."

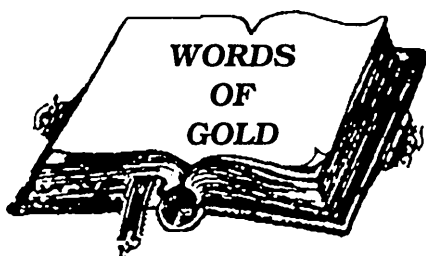
Charles enjoyed being an evangelist. It made him feel useful. He loved to pray with people at the altar. He was happy to help men, women and children get their names written in the *Book of Life* up in heaven. He helped snatch them out of the devil's claws and put them into the loving hands of Jesus.

But now God had given Charles other duties; a dull, lonely job. He

saw only the same people every day. There were no blessed praise services where the happy women clapped and men ran around the tent shouting praises to God. There were no fiery, convicting sermons that brought people to an altar of prayer. Drunken men did upset his daily routine. All was quiet, too quiet. Only the sighs and groans of his suffering grandfather broke the stillness.

Charles was rather discouraged, "I really wish I had something to do for God," he mumbled to himself. "I've been out of the ministry for several months now. It seems I'm doing nothing here. I do wish I could work for the Lord in some way." He looked out the window at the dark sky. Raindrops fell rapidly.

After some time of watching the raindrops, he began thinking of God's goodness. Grandfather hadn't died in the accident. Charles was thankful he hadn't, although nursing him kept Charles from traveling and preaching and seeing new cities and country. "Well, if I can do nothing, I am the Lord's anyway," he said to himself. His heart warmed with gratitude to the Lord.



It's Okay, Lord

Romans 8:28, 31-39

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to

separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Philippians 4:11

11 ...I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

I Timothy 6:6-8

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment [clothing and shelter] let us be therewith content.

The Message: A happy Christian is one who accepts unpleasant things with a thankful attitude.

Questions:

1. If we are a Christian do all things work together for our good?
2. Does sickness and other problems help us grow spiritually?
3. Should distress, persecution, poverty, or peril separate us from God?
4. Where is Christ sitting?
5. Is Christ making intercession for us?
6. Name some things that should not separate us from God.
7. Should we be thankful for sickness, sorrow or any other problem?
8. What is great gain in God's sight?
9. Should we be content to have only food and raiment?

Verse to Memorize

...I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

Philippians 4:11.

Let's



Talk . . .

Do you think a man, crippled from birth, could show you how to run? He might give you advice. You might not believe it because he has had no experience. Do you think an Olympic gold cup winner could give good advice on how to run? Would you prefer to listen to the winner?

The apostle Paul was a winner over many problems. Soon after he was saved, trouble started. The people in Damascus wanted to kill him right away. He escaped over the wall in a basket and went to Jerusalem. The Christians in Jerusalem were afraid and didn't want to see him. Years later they did receive him, but then the non-Christian Jews hated him. Five times they whipped him with thirty-nine stripes. Three times he was beaten with rods. Once he was stoned, dragged out of the city and left to die. He was in three shipwrecks. He was thrown into prison, was sometimes hungry, thirsty and tired. The apostle Paul had plenty of experience with temptation to grumble. But he

knew he belonged to the Lord, therefore he was content in all these problems.

Do you think he is qualified to give advice? I believe he is. I believe we can safely follow his advice. We can also learn to thank God for our problems. We too, belong to God and He will not allow more problems than we can bear. If we ask Him to help us, we can be content in any kind of trouble.

—Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History

May 29, 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, a Sherpa tribesman became the first two men to reach the top of Mount Everest. Coming down from this highest peak of the world, Hillary suddenly lost his footing. Norgay held the line taut and kept them both from falling by digging his axe into the ice. Queen Elizabeth II knighted Hillary for his achievement. Norgay, who had saved his life, refused any special credit. He put it this way: "Mountain climbers always help each other."

Knowing we are the Lord's and He will reward, should we not be as Norgay—willing to help others in need?

—Charlotte Huskey

RIGHT AND WRONG

Little by little the spirit grows strong,
Fighting the battles of right and wrong;
Little by little the wrong gives way;
Little by little the right has sway;
Little by little all longing souls
Struggle up near the shining goals.

He took his pencil and paper and began to express the feelings in his heart. He was not thinking of writing a song. He was worshipping God for the blessedness of being the Lord's right where he was. On and on he wrote until his thoughts were on the paper. The following words are what he wrote:

*"Whether I live or die,
Whether I wake or sleep,
Whether upon the land,
Or on the stormy deep,
When 'tis serene and calm,
Or when the wild winds blow,
I shall not be afraid—
I am the Lord's, I know.*

*"When with abundant store,
Or in deep poverty,
When all the world may smile,
Or it may frown on me;
When it shall help me on,
Or shall obstruct my way,
Still shall my heart rejoice—
I am the Lord's today.*

*"When I am safe at home,
Or in a foreign land,
When on an ice-bound shore,
Or on a sunlit strand;
When on the mountain height,
Or in the valley low,
Still doth he care for me—
I am the Lord's, I know.*

*"Nothing shall separate
From his unbounded love,
Neither in depths below,
Now in the heights above;
And in the years to come,
He will abide with me;
I am the Lord's indeed
For all eternity."*

Naturally the title would be "I Am The Lord's."

Later D. Otis Teasley put music to the poem.

This beautiful song has given many people comfort and help in time of trouble or frustrations. It has brought comfort to me many times when I was lonely away from saints and friends, on the mission field.

One time I was dreadfully frightened while traveling through dangerous mountains. Suddenly without thinking, I began singing, "When I am safe at home, Or in a foreign land, When on an ice-bound shore, Or on a sunlit strand; When on the mountain height, Or in the valley low, Still doth he care for me—I am the Lord's, I know." When I had finished singing, I was calm.

I looked out over the bank. Hundreds of feet below, I saw a beautiful valley. It was so pretty I exclaimed, "I'd love to live in that valley." Years later God sent us to live there in La Mission.

When you are lonely or sad, try singing "I Am The Lord's." It will cheer you. It is on page 143 in *Evening Light Songs*.

—Charlotte Huskey

LITTLE THINGS

Little moments made an hour;
Little thoughts, a book;
Little seeds, a tree or flower;
Water-drops, a brook;
Little deeds of faith and love,
Make a home for you above.

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. Yes. 3. No. 4. At the right hand of God. 5. Yes. 6. Death, life, angels, powers, thing present nor things to come. 7. Yes. 8. Contentment. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 June 13, 1999

Make Me Clean

*I have wandered in sin
and my soul is defiled,
But I know Jesus died on the tree;
And the Father in mercy
will make me his child,
For the blood, it will cleanse even me.*

Chorus

*Make me clean, make me clean,
Tho' defiled and so sinful I am;
Make me clean, make me clean
in the blood of the Lamb.*

*Lord, I give up my sin
and I turn unto thee,
From thy love do not cast me away;
Tho' my guilt is so great,
hear my heart's earnest plea,
Have compassion
and save me today.*

*There's no hope but in thee,
to thy promise I flee,
There to anchor
my storm driven soul;
Let thy favor and love
be extended to me,
Thro' the all-cleansing
blood make me whole.*

*How I loathe all the sins
that have burdened my heart,
And have filled it
with sadness and woe;*

*Now in Calvary's stream
Bid uncleanness depart,
Make me whiter,
yes, whiter than snow.*

—Charles Wesley Naylor (1874-1950)

—Music: B. E. Warren

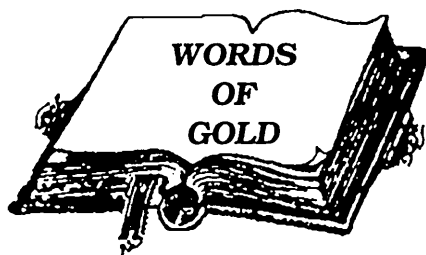
The Winner

Charles Wesley Naylor was a winner alright. He had been rightly named, Charles which means "man" or one who overcomes. What had Charles overcome? Read on.

Charles was pastor of a church in Columbus, Ohio and had been a traveling evangelist for thirteen years when his life was turned upside down. He began an evangelistic tour through the southern United States in August, 1907. The following year, in Sidney, Florida, he dislocated one kidney while helping to remove a large pole from under the tent. Before being completely well from this, he was again injured in a bus accident. Now he was unable to walk.

Week after week he prayed for healing. Ministers also came from time to time and prayed for him. For six months he suffered intense pain and was no better. After all these months of hoping and praying, he became terribly depressed.

Then God sent him a special message. From his window, Charles could



Are You Using Your Talents?

Matthew 25:14-26, 28-31

14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 ...He that had received the five talents went and traded with the same,...

17 ...He that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one...hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord...reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents,...

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord,...

25 ...I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant,...

28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given,...

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him....

The Message: God will give more talents to those who use their talents for Him.

Questions:

1. To what is the kingdom of heaven likened?
2. What did the king give to his servants?
3. What did the man with five talents do?
4. What did the man with two talents do?
5. Who hid his talent?
6. With whom was the king pleased?
7. Why did the king call one servant slothful?
8. Did the king bless those who used their talents?
9. How was the slothful servant punished?

Verse to Memorize

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Philippians 4:13.

Let's



Talk . . .

Talent has two very different meanings. One is a variable unit of weight and money used in ancient Greece, Rome and the Middle East. The other meaning of talent is a natural ability of superior quality—such as painting, drawing, singing, or playing music. Other talents might be the ability to make profitable business deals or understand how machines work. Inventors of new machines have this talent.

I believe all talents are given by God at birth, although science might explain it as being a gene from a parent or grandparent. Who gave the gene?

What is your talent? You have the ability to do something of superior quality. That is your talent. You may not have discovered your talent, but you have one.

Many who are handicapped in one area have a talent in another area. We must do what we can, and not let what we can't do hinder. Joni Erickson Tada is paralyzed, however she draws and paints beautiful pictures and with help from others has written several books.

Often a person must climb over or go around mountains or obstacles to develop their talent. Charles Naylor and Joni both had to. We would not have the good books nor the beautiful songs and paintings if they had not worked around obstacles.

Making excuses for not developing our talent is doing like the wicked, slothful servant. He said, "I was afraid."

How many times have you said, "I'm afraid or I can't."

When I was a girl, my mother and

dad said, "Can't, can't do anything. Now get up and try or...." I found out I could do a lot of things I thought I could not do. You might be surprised to find out you have talent, if you will do things you have never done before.

The devil hinders Christians from developing their talents. In what way is he hindering you? He hindered Charles Naylor for six months. How long has he kept you from doing something that Jesus wants you to do? Can you sing? Is the devil keeping you from singing for the Lord? Can you write? Is the devil keeping you from writing letters of encouragement to your friends?

Don't be like the slothful servant and hide your talent. Be like those who increased theirs. Remember, God gave more talents to those who used theirs.

You can do something of superior quality. Try it. —Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History

Father's Day was started by Mrs. John Bruce Dadd of Spokane, Washington in 1910. The custom spread throughout the United States.

William Morrison of Des Moines, Iowa, built a car powered by electricity in 1890. —Charlotte Huskey

Anticipation

*When the last earth-tie is sundered,
And my soul set free;
When life's cares and toils are num-
bered,*

*I shall haste to be
With my Lord in realms of light,
Where no can sin ever blight,
Where ne'er come the shades of night;
To His arms I'll flee.*

*Often here I'm sad and weary,
As the days go by;
Oft the scenes are dark and dreary,
Tear-drops dim my eye,
But when this short life is o'er,
We shall weep and sigh no more,
But rejoice for evermore
In our home on high.*

—Charles Wesley Naylor

see glistening snow covering the ground and ice-covered branches sparkling in the sunlight like thousands of diamonds. Such beauty should have brightened Charles, but it did not. He thought only of his pain, suffering and sorrow. Gloom and despair flooded him, so he prayed again to die. His life had no ray of sunshine.

As he lay in bed moaning and groaning about his condition, a bright red cardinal flew onto a branch outside his window. The bird's black eyes looked straight at Charles. He turned his head back and forth curiously. Then he chirped and hopped as close as he could get. As the cardinal continued, chirping, words formed in Charles mind. "You, you, you, cheer up! Cheer up! Cheer up!" he seemed to say.

The cardinal flittered about and chirped for over two hours. When he flew away Charles could hear in the distance, "Cheer up! Cheer up! Cheer up!"

Charles did cheer up. He began thanking God for love, mercy and other blessings. The more he praised God the better he felt.

Soon he began thinking of ways to serve God and others. His father wrote poetry, a cousin wrote songs, and another cousin wrote books and a newspaper column. *Maybe I could write while I'm in bed*, he thought. *Maybe I could write a book to encourage people like me who have to stay in bed all the time*. He had worked several years for the Gospel Trumpet Printing Company. They had printed some songs he had written.

Charles began writing. For five years he conducted a "Questions Answered" information department for the *Gospel Trumpet*, which was the name of the Church of God magazine at that time. He wrote many other stories and articles which were

published in this monthly. Some of these were made into a book called, *Heart Talks*. You may order a reprint of this book from Faith Publishing House. Charles also wrote *The Secret of The Singing Heart*, and *When Adversity Comes* and five other books. *The Secret of The Singing Heart* has helped many Christians and has sold hundred of copies. Charles also recorded this book for the blind.

Charles overcame his problems and did a great work for the Lord during the forty-one years he had to lie in bed. He suffered much pain but learned to rejoice in suffering. This helped him to be an encouragement to others. He said, "Adversity is quite certain to come.... We ought to be ready to meet it bravely, confidently and resourcefully, so that we shall not be overwhelmed."

In all he wrote 150 songs. I have included two which are in the *Evening Light Songs*. —Charlotte Huskey

Bits And Pieces Of History

John Wesley, a famous English minister whom God used to preach holiness was born on June 17, 1703. He died in London, March 2, 1791.

(Answers: 1. To a man traveling into a far country. 2. Talents. 3. He earned five more talents. 4. He earned two more talents. 5. The servant who received only one talent. 6. With those who used their talents. 7. Because he did not use his talent. 8. Yes. 9. He was cast into outer darkness.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 50, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 June 20, 1999

Just As I Am

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bid'st me come to
thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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

Just as I am, and tossed about,
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind,—
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse,
relieve;
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love I own
Hath broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be thine, and thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

—Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

—William B. Bradbury

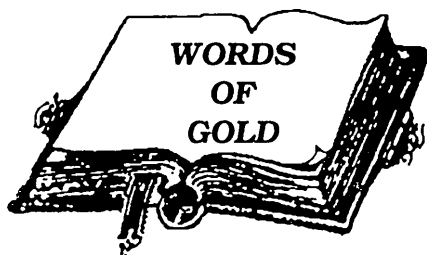
Come To Jesus As You Are

Charlotte Elliot was born near Brighton, England. Her grandfather, Henry Venn, was an evangelical preacher. Her father and brother were also ministers.

Charlotte wrote humorous verse and was also a gifted portrait artist. In her teen and early adult years, everything was going fine. She had a healthy body and was painting and writing without problems.

When she was just past thirty, she suffered a serious illness which lasted the rest of her life. From that time she had difficulty concentrating on anything—except how terrible she felt. Often she cried. Sometimes she sat and stared out the window. Her thoughts were not usually pleasant. Writing verses to make people laugh or painting beautiful landscapes was very hard. When she was able to go out into the fields to try to capture its beauty on her artist canvas, she felt tired and was unable to stand or sit for long hours to paint the scenes before her.

One day Caesar Malan, a minister from Switzerland came to visit her. Malan knew that "everything works together for good to those who love the Lord." (Romans 8:28.) Because



Honoring Your Father

Deuteronomy 5:16

16 Honour thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Matthew 15:3-6

3 But he [Jesus] answered and said unto them [the Pharisees], Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God...?

4 For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.

5 But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;

6 And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

Ephesians 6:1-4

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Jeremiah 35:5-6, 8-10, 19

5 And I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups, and I said unto them, Drink ye wine.

6 But they said, We will drink no wine: for...our father commanded us, saying, Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever:

8 Thus have we obeyed the voice of...our father in all that he hath charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters;

9 Nor to build houses for us to dwell in: neither have we vineyard, nor field, nor seed:

10 But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.

19 Therefore thus saith the...God of Israel; Jonadab...shall not want a man to stand before me for ever.

The Message: Even adult sons and daughters must honor their parents.

Questions:

1. What is the first commandment with promise?
2. What is the promise for the obedient?
3. Did the Pharisees teach that parents should be honored?
4. What did the Pharisees make of none effect?
5. What was set before the Rechabites?
6. Why wouldn't the Rechabites drink wine?
7. What else did their father command them?
8. Did the Rechabites obey their father?
9. Do you honor and obey your father and mother?

Verse to Memorize

**...A son honoureth his father,
...if then I be a father, where
is mine honour?**

Malachi 1:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

Today many people in the United States and Canada are expressing appreciation for their fathers by giving family dinners, gifts and cards. We should honor our fathers every day, but it is also nice to have a special day just to celebrate them. What special thing are you doing for your father today? Did you buy him a gift? Did you make something for him? Did you mow the lawn or do some other chore that he usually does? In what way are you showing love for your father?

Jesus told the Pharisees their heart was far from His because they did not obey His commandments. I believe the love of sons and daughters can be measured in the same way. If Father is obeyed, then the child loves his father. If Father's rules are ignored the child does not love his father. He is only telling a lie when he says, "I love you." In John 14:23 Jesus said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words:..." In another place he said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." It is the same with children and their fathers. Those who love their father obey him.

The sons of Jonadab loved their father. Many years ago Jonadab said to his sons, "Sons, never drink wine, neither you nor your sons nor daughters." Each generation of Jonadab's family had refused to drink wine and they had taught their children not to drink it. Years later after Jonadab and his sons were dead, the families were still obeying the commandment of their father Jonadab. For their obedience, God promised that one of their sons would always stand before

Him, that is to say in each generation one would be a religious leader, a priest, a judge or a prophet.

God has special blessings for every person who will honor his parents. One great blessing is wisdom. Parents have lived many years and have learned a lot of things each year. When you obey them, you are sharing their knowledge. You may not understand why you should do or not do certain things, but just remember because of things they have learned, it is wise to obey them.

Let's each write a note to our father and promise to obey him because we trust his wisdom. God will bless you if you do this.

—Charlotte Huskey

A Gentleman

I knew him for a gentleman

By signs that never fail:
His coat was cheap and rather worn,
His cheeks were thin and pale—

He sat down to eat his dinner;
Off came his little cap.
The door was shut; he waited there
Until I heard his rap.

He took the bags from his mother's
hand;
And when she dropped her pen,
He sprang to pick it up for her,
This gentleman of ten.

He stands aside to let you pass;
He never slams the door;
He runs on errands willingly,
To the neighbors, friends or store.

He thinks of you before himself;
He serves you if he can,
For in whatever company,
The manners make the man;

At ten and forty 'tis the same—
The manners tells the tale,
And I discern the gentleman
By signs that never fail.

Charlotte was restless and unhappy he thought she did not have the peace of God in her heart, so he asked her.

"I do not wish to discuss religion," she snapped.

"Then I will not pursue a subject that displeases you," he answered gently. "I only wish you to be happy."

Later Charlotte went to where Malan was staying and apologized for the way she had talked to him. "I want to be saved; I want to come to Jesus. But how can I for I haven't done any good? I am proud and need to make myself more worthy to come to Him."

"Come just as you are," Malan told her. "God accepts all repentant sinners. He will do the changing."

That was all Charlotte needed, for she had been miserable long enough. She gave her heart to Jesus that day.

Fourteen years later, Charlotte was visiting at the home of her brother, H. V. Elliott. Many were there making things to sell to buy material for a school for poor children. When they all went away to church on Sunday morning, Charlotte was too weak to go. She felt lonely, sad and useless. Then she remembered Caesar Malan's words, "Jesus accepts you just as you are."

"Yes," she thought, "I will come to Jesus just as I am and He will bless me." This day when Charlotte was too weak to attend church service, Jesus ministered to her by His Spirit. Later she told her sister, "My Bible is my church. It is ever present with me and always open. There my high priest is ever ready to receive me. To Him I can confess. To Him I can give thanks. Him I can praise at any time."

Charlotte felt so happy that she could come directly to Jesus just as she was. She found a pen and began writing, "Just As I Am."

Charlotte printed the poem in a paper she edited, however she did not

put her name to it. A wealthy woman read the poem. Believing it had a message people needed, she had it printed in leaflet form and it was distributed freely in England. One day a businessman said to Charlotte, "Here is a leaflet. I think you will appreciate these words." Charlotte was surprised to see her own poem. The friend was also surprised to know Charlotte had written it.

The simple words of this hymn has touched the hearts of millions. It could be called the world's greatest soul-winning hymn. After Charlotte's death more than a thousand letters were found expressing gratitude for the help of this hymn. Charlotte's own brother said, "I have seen some fruit, but I feel more has been done by your hymn than all my work." D. L. Moody said. "This one hymn has drawn as many people to the Lord as all my preaching."

Haven't you felt the Lord talking to you when you have heard it sung? Remember, Jesus is ready to accept you just as you are.

William B. Bradbury, a leading composer of Sunday school songs, put music to the poem. Maybe you can sing it now. You will find it on page 358 in *Evening Light Songs*..

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Honor thy father and thy mother. 2. That they would live a long time. 3. No. 4. God's commandments. 5. Pots of wine and drinking cups. 6. Because their father had said, "Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever." 7. To not build houses nor own fields, nor seed. 8. Yes. 9. Answers will vary.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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A Sandpiper To Bring You Joy

She was six years old when I first met her on the beach near where I live. I drive to this beach, a distance of three or four miles, whenever the world begins to close in on me. She was building a sandcastle or something and looked up, from eyes as blue as the sea. "Hello," she said. I answered with a nod, not really in the mood to be bothered by a small child. "I'm building," she said.

"I see. What is it?" I asked, not caring.

"Oh, I don't know, I just like the feel of sand."

That sounds good, I thought, and slipped off my shoes. A sandpiper glided by.

"That's a joy," the child said.

"It's a what?"

"It's a joy. My mama says sandpipers come to bring us joy." The bird went gliding down the beach.

"Good-bye, joy," I muttered to myself, "Hello, pain." I turned to walk on. I was depressed because my life seemed completely off balance.

"What's your name?" She wouldn't give up.

"Ruth," I answered. "I'm Ruth Peterson."

"Mine's Wendy. I'm six."

"Hi, Wendy."

She giggled. "You're funny," she said.

In spite of my gloom I laughed too and walked on. Her musical giggle followed me.

"Come again, Mrs. P-" she called. "we'll have another happy day."

The days and weeks that followed I spent helping others: a group of unruly Boy Scouts, PTA meetings and my ailing mother. The sun was shining one morning as I took my hands out of the dishwasher. "I need a sandpiper," I said to myself, gathering up my coat. The ever-changing balm of the seashore awaited me.

The breeze was chilly, but I strode along trying to recapture the serenity I needed. I had forgotten Wendy and was startled when she called. "Hello, Mrs. P-. Do you want to play?"

"What did you have in mind?" I questioned, a little snappy.

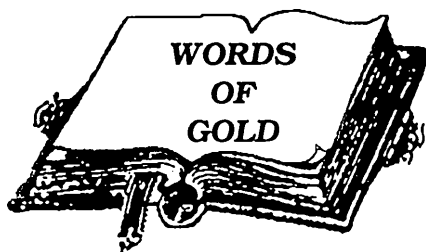
"I don't know; you say."

"How about charades?" I said sarcastically.

The tinkling laughter burst forth again. "I don't know what that is."

"Then let's just walk." Looking at her, I noticed she looked delicate. "Where do you live?" I asked.

"Over there." She pointed toward a row of summer cottages. Strange, I



Come Away And Rest

Mark 6:28-39, 41-42, 44

28 And [they] brought his [John's] head in a charger, and gave it to the damsel: and the damsel gave it to her mother.

29 And when his disciples heard of it, they came and took up his [John's] corpse, and laid it in a tomb.

30 And the apostles gathered themselves together unto Jesus, and told him all things....

31 And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.

32 And they departed into a desert place by ship privately.

33 And the people saw them departing, and many knew him, and ran afoot thither out of all cities,...and came together unto him.

34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

35 And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed:

36 Send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat.

37 He answered...Give ye them to eat. And they say unto him, Shall we

go and buy two hundred pennyworth of bread, and give them to eat?

38 He saith...How many loaves have ye? go and see. And when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes.

39 And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass.

41 And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all.

42 And they did all eat, and were filled.

44 And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men.

The Message: Jesus' resting time changed into feeding 5,000 men with five loaves and two fishes.

Questions:

1. What sad thing had happened?
2. What did the disciples do with John's body?
3. Did the disciples tell Jesus what had happened?
4. What did Jesus ask His disciples to do?
5. Who met Jesus and His disciples in the desert?
6. How did Jesus feel about the people?
7. Why did the disciples want to send the people away?
8. What did Jesus do for the people?
9. How many men ate from the five loaves and two fishes?

Verse to Memorize

He said unto them, Come... apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for...they had no leisure...

Mark 6:31.

Let's



Talk . . .

"You will give me the half of your kingdom?" asked the damsel.

"Yes," King Herod answered.

"Then give me in a charger, the head of John the Baptist," she said.

King Herod gave it to her.

When Jesus' disciples heard this they went and asked for the body of John. They laid his body in a tomb, then went and told Jesus.

Jesus was a close friend and second cousin to John. John had gone through Galilee and announced Jesus' coming to save men. He had baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. Of all men in the country no one understood Jesus as well as John did. His death was a great loss to Jesus.

When Jesus heard of John's death, He said to His disciples, "Come let us go into a desert place and rest." I am sure Jesus wanted to be alone and communicate with God, His Father.

Well, the day didn't turn out as planned. Jesus and His disciples got into a ship and went across the sea, but people saw Him leaving and ran ahead around the sea. A few knew where Jesus sometimes went to pray and they led the others to find Him.

Some men would have railed on those who disturbed their quiet time. Others might have ignored them. Others would have hidden deep in the desert. But Jesus felt sorry for them. They were like sheep without a shepherd. He sat down with them and told story lessons to help them.

Later that day the disciples asked Jesus to send the people away so they could get food. Jesus did not. He had

them sit down on the grass. Then He increased five loaves and two fishes until all 5,000 men had plenty to eat.

Jesus was always ready to serve others. Let us also be ready and willing to serve others whenever the opportunity comes. It may come when we are playing or hiking, or picnicing, or sleeping. Keep your eyes and heart open for chances to serve. Then serve. God will give you a reward.

—Charlotte Huskey

Vacation Time

All the world is set to rhyme
Now that it's vacation-time,
And a swelling flood of joy
Brimms the heart of every boy.
No more homework, no more rule,
No more staying after school.
When the dreamy brain forgets
Tiresome tasks the teacher sets;
Nothing but to play and play
Through a long, long holiday.

Morn or afternoon, may all
Swing the bat and catch the ball;
Nimble feet may race and run
Through the meadows in the sun,
Chasing butterflies in flight;
Happy laughter until night.
Climbing oaks from high down look
Catch'n fish and frogs in the brook,
Swim'n the pond from end to end,
Every arm a splashing fin.

In the thorny thickets bar,
There the sweetest berries are;
Where the shady banks make dim
Pebbly pools where shy trout swim;
Where the boughs are mossiest,
Builds the hummingbird a nest;—
There are haunts the rover seeks,
Touch of tan upon his cheeks,
And within his heart the joy
Known to no one but a boy.
All the world is set to rhyme
Now it is vacation-time.

—Author unknown

thought, in winter. "Where do you go to school?"

"I don't go to school. Mommy says we're on vacation. "She chattered little girl talk as we strolled along the beach, but my mind was on other things.

When I was leaving for home, Wendy said, "It has been a happy day." Feeling surprisingly better, I smiled at her and agreed.

Three weeks later, I rushed to my beach in a state of near panic. I was in no mood to even greet Wendy. I thought I saw her mother on the porch and felt like demanding she keep her child at home.

"Look, if you don't mind," I said crossly, when Wendy caught up with me, "I'd rather be alone today."

She seemed unusually pale and out of breath. "Why?" she asked.

"I turned to her and shouted, "Because my mother died!" Then thought, *Why am I saying this to a little child?*

"Oh," she said quietly, "Then this is a bad day."

"Yes," I said, "and yesterday and the day before and—oh, go away!"

"Did it hurt?" she inquired.

"Did what hurt?" I was exasperated with her...and with myself.

"When she died?"

"Of course it hurt," I snapped.

I strode off.

It was a month or so before I came again to the beach. She wasn't there. Feeling guilty, ashamed and admitting to myself that I missed her, I went up to the cottage after my walk and knocked at the door. A drawn looking young woman came to the door. "Hello," I said. "I'm Ruth Peterson. I missed your little girl today and wonder where she is."

"Oh, yes, Mrs. Peterson, please come in. Wendy talked of you so much. I'm afraid I allowed her to bother you. If she was a nuisance, please accept my apologies."

"Not at all—she's a delightful child," I said, suddenly realizing that I meant it. "Where is she?"

"Wendy died last week. She had leukemia. Maybe she didn't tell you."

Struck dumb, I groped for a chair. My breath caught.

"She loved this beach, so when she asked to come, we couldn't say 'No.' She seemed so much better here and had a lot of what she called happy days. But the last few weeks, she declined rapidly...." The woman's voice faltered. "She left something for you...if only I can find it. Please wait for a moment while I look."

I nodded. My mind was racing for something to say to this lovely young mother. She returned and handed me a smeared envelope, with **MRS P**—printed in bold, childish letters. Inside was a drawing in bright crayon hues—a yellow beach, a blue sea, and a brown bird. Underneath was carefully printed:

A SANDPIPER TO BRING YOU JOY
Tears welled up in my eyes, and a heart that had almost forgotten to love opened wide. I took Wendy's mother in my arms. "I'm so sorry. I'm so sorry. So sorry," I muttered over and over. We wept together.

The precious little picture is framed now and hangs in my study. Six words—one for each year of her life—that speak to me of harmony, courage, understanding and love.

A gift of love, from Wendy.

—Selected

(Answers: 1. John was be-headed. 2. They put it in a tomb. 3. Yes. 4. Jesus asked them to come away and rest. 5. Much people. 6. Jesus felt compassion for them. 7. Because the people were hungry and they had no food. 8. Jesus made food for the people. 9. 5,000.)