

# THE PILGRIM

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the  
Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## DAY BY DAY

Day by day and with each passing moment,  
Strength I find to meet my trials here;  
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,  
I've no cause for worry or for fear.  
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure  
Gives unto each day what He deems best  
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,  
Mingling toil with peace and rest.

Every day the Lord Himself is near me,  
With a special mercy for each hour;  
All my cares He wants to bear, to cheer me,  
He whose name is Counselor and Power.  
The protection of His child and treasure  
Is a charge that on Himself He laid:  
"As your days, your strength shall be in measure,"  
This the pledge to me He made.

Help me then in every tribulation  
So to trust Thy promises, O Lord,  
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation  
Offered me within Thy holy Word.  
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,  
E'er to take, as from a father's hand,  
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,  
Till I reach the promised land. --Carolina Sandell Berg

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## NEW YEAR PROSPECTS

Another year lies before us as new snow with no tracks to mar it. It's a little like the man who thanked the Lord that so far this day he had made no mistakes and said no wrong words. *But he was soon to get out of bed and then he would need help.*

I have finished filling a five year diary. It seems just a short time ago that I started it. In that five years I have had some surgeries and accidents. We have been privileged to attend school and church meetings and enjoy trips. We've welcomed seven more grandchildren. But these are small events when we consider the problems of our nation and the world. Wars continue, and a sinister threat of terrorism hangs over our country. Some years before 9-11, Billy Graham, speaking at the presidential breakfast, compared the world situation to the sword of Damocles. Damocles lived in the fourth century before Christ. He once insulted King Dionysius of Syracuse. The king condemned him to attend a royal banquet and sit beneath a naked sword that was suspended by a single hair. At any moment it could drop.

We may not have a lot of involvement in world affairs, but we are told to pray. Only God knows the future. We hear of wars and earthquakes fulfilling Jesus' prophecies. (Matt. 24:6,7)

More dangerous to us and our youth is the increase in technical devices: Facebook, cell phones and needless texting, Internet, and all it's various intriguing parts and divisions. (Regarding the newness of these, *Facebook* came up on my spell check on our old 3.1 computer as an error with "no suggestions.")

We wonder, but we probably know, how our forefathers would have dealt with these marvels of our time. Anything that



takes our time and attention must pass the test: *Does it draw us closer to God? or move us in the other direction? Does it honor God?* James Steiner, writing in *Beside the Still Waters* about heeding spiritual warning gauges, said this: **"If our Bibles are collecting dust on the shelf while our cell phones are becoming well-worn or if we spend more time on e-mail than in Bible reading, we should be warned about our spiritual temperature."**

*Time and attention.* Time is important because it means opportunity, but it is limited. Believers and ungodly both will stand before God when their time is up. God gives no promise of life for the coming year. Our call may come suddenly or with warning like news of a terminal illness. We must realize we are not going to win every battle and will not reach perfection here in the flesh. But as believers we are ready now because our salvation depends on a faithful Redeemer. It is His righteousness we are given when we believe on Him, according to Paul in Romans 4:24.

Our *attention* is important because we can fail simply by ignoring our duty. When we concentrate on the technical toys, we may neglect the needs around us. Milton Cook in the *Bible Monitor* lists some hopes for the coming year that should have our attention: **"We would desire to see many accept Christ as their Savior. We would desire to see the Church both materially and spiritually prosper. We would like to see Brothers and Sisters united into a solid Brotherhood of like-hearted imitators of Christ. The way we represent Christ to this dying world may influence what events happen in this next year."** Besides these noble goals there are the poor in other countries, and even in our own, who could use the funds we often lavish on ourselves. Our time and our attention belong to God. So do all the *things* we call "ours." May 2011 be a year of progress and victory for all our readers. It could be a short year if Jesus comes soon. --L.C.

## SPIRITUAL SINGING: THE NORM FOR WORSHIP

Spiritual singing is the need of the hour! If our congregations are to engage in worship of this quality and dimension, then we must truly be, above any other consideration, a people of God. Our lives must support our singing. Spiritual singing must stem from spiritual lives--from hearts keenly aware of the presence of God. It is evident that such spiritual lives stem from a new birth, being born from above, born of the Spirit, filled with the Spirit of God, walking in the Spirit, walking in love, in true holiness, and in true Christian discipleship, Jn.3:3,5; Eph.5:18,2,8; Gal.5:16,25; Heb.12:14; I Jn.2:6.

To achieve spiritual singing is to achieve spirituality in the hearts of our people. And to obtain a new life in the Spirit there must be a discharging of our tremendous moral responsibility in repentance and faith to a moral Creator and God (Acts 20:21). This demands a return to sanity (*resipiscentia*: a growing wise again), a total change of mind, purpose, opinion, inclination, attitude, and direction, a thorough brokenness and yieldedness before God, and a casting of ourselves unreservedly in obedient faith upon Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, Ezek.14:6; Lu.15:18; Ps.51:17; Rom.10:9,10.

By John Overholt in *The Christian Hymnary*, page vi

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HOME QUALITIES THAT CONTRIBUTE  
TO A HEALTHY SCHOOL

Does the health of our school really depend on the quality of the homes that benefit from them? Absolutely! Our schools cannot compensate for the weaknesses in our homes. If we as parents fail in our responsibilities to our children, it will only

make things more difficult for our schoolteachers and other school personnel.

What are some qualities that our homes must possess if we want to have a healthy school?

*Children should feel wanted and loved.* Do we truly see our children as gifts from God and "an heritage of the Lord"? Or do we act as if they are in the way or a bother sometimes? Children can sense whether their presence is appreciated or not. This feeling of belonging will then carry over into the school family.

*Our homes should also provide a sense of security for our children.* Our children should feel safe at home with their parents. Here is a shelter from the various threats that life imposes upon them. At home is where children should learn to cope with their fears and disappointments that life brings.

*As our children learn to feel secure, they should also begin to develop a sense of stability in relating to life.* As parents, we help to develop stability in our children by exhibiting stability ourselves. We seek for a church that is upholding the truth and then we support it. We do not hop from one job to another. We should be known as persons who know what they want and then stand for it.

*Our homes should be graced by a general respect for authority.* Parents respect and obey God's authority, church authority, and civil authority. They also have a deep respect for the authority of the school. Parents who side with their children against school authority are doing their children a great disfavor. Children, in turn, should be taught to respect their parents' authority.

*At an early age our children need to learn that there are boundaries beyond which we may not go in how we speak and act.* As parents, we establish these boundaries by consistent teaching and discipline. The sooner we can establish this in the



minds of our little ones, the easier it will be for them and for the school as they enter school life.

*Order and schedule in our daily homelife is another essential for healthy schools.* Activities must happen at certain times from day to day if we are to have order in our homes. A regular time for rising, mealtimes, going to bed, family worship, and doing chores will prepare children for school life.

*Another home quality that will contribute to a healthy school is being able to relate well with other people and with their feelings and goals.* Each home must decide for itself what its goals will be and where the lines will be drawn. But then, there is the grace of relating to other families and their goals in a considerate way, even though the lines may be drawn at a slightly different place. Some people seem to be born with the talent of relating graciously to others, whereas others struggle more to relate in a Christlike way. But God calls all of us to be humble and meek in relating to each other, realizing that God has a place for each one in the work of His kingdom. As we learn to appreciate others and the good they can contribute to our lives, this attitude will be caught by our children and will help them relate to their peers at school.

*Our homes should promote a healthy attitude toward learning.* Do you view study and learning as a necessary evil or is it something you love to do, realizing the value it will have in your life? If our children enter school life with a love for learning new things, they are well on the road to developing a lifelong appreciation for the value of learning. Also, the attitude we as parents take when our children come home with a difficult assignment will either help or hinder our child's appreciation for learning. Do we show an interest in the assignment, seeking to help where we can, or do we mutter something under our breath about why they have to study that?

*Developing in our children a healthy attitude toward work is another essential to healthy schools.* Our children should



know something about perseverance and the satisfaction of a job well done when they enter the classroom doors for the first time. The attitude we as parents take toward work has a great bearing on the attitude our children will develop.

*We should also instill in our children some stewardship principles at a young age.* They should be learning to handle books with care and to take care of their toys. They should be learning that we do not let bicycles and other toys lie around outside overnight or in the rain. As they know something about caring for their possessions, it will help them to be good stewards of school property as it becomes their responsibility.

*In all our homelife, we should promote and foster a healthy, spiritual atmosphere.* If we want a proper atmosphere to prevail at school, we need to begin this at home. A general respect for God and the seriousness of life should prevail in all our homes and schools.

God needs spiritually strong, stable homes to help to keep alive the vision for healthy Christian day schools. Will your home be one of them?

By Melvin Detweiler

in *The Christian School Builder*, September, 2002

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### HISTORICAL

*In past issues we have printed accounts of the Brethren in Europe. This selection is about their beginning in Colonial America--the first baptism and first communion in the New World.*

#### The Germantown Congregation

Germantown, mother congregation in America, what a history is thine!

There's a stormy voyage in 1719, a landing at Philadelphia, a procession to Germantown, a dispersion of the twenty families of German Baptist Brethren, and in 1722 a revival spirit; public

preaching collects the scattered souls; in 1723, a strange thrill enraptured the membership at news of the coming of Elder Libe; people from the Schuylkill country travel to the city of Philadelphia to hear this man whose eloquence had made him famous in two continents; a meeting is held at Peter Becker's house; a missionary visit is undertaken; and six souls ask for baptism--this is the beginning of the church in America. (Elder Libe did not come, but they met anyway. L.C.)

Doubly memorable Christmas Day, 1723! Christ's anniversary and the date of the birth of His church in America! There is an activity at Peter Becker's house in Germantown. The spindles are still; and the voice of praise is raised. Six persons, Martin Urner, his wife Catherine, Henry Landis, his wife, Frederick Lang, and John Mayle, all from what is now the Coventry district, were in the midst of seventeen members, and they were preparing to hold the first immersion in the church in America. There was no ordained minister this side of the Atlantic. The members hold a council. Peter Becker is chosen to act as elder. The preliminary examination is held, prayer is offered, and then these twenty-three souls walk out into the winter afternoon, in single file, headed by Peter Becker. They journey to the Wissahickon Creek. The group kneels. Overhead the solemn sentinels of the forest fastness--the pines and hemlock--are stilled. The ice-bound stream utters strangely solemn music. Curious eyes from the Kelpianites rest reverently upon the group. Peter Becker's voice breaks the stillness. The prayer is ended. The six candidates for membership in God's family are led one by one into the water and are baptized by trine immersion. The procession returns to Germantown. They assembled in the house of John Gomorry. It is evening now. The old-time tallow-dips are lighted. They gather around a long table, a hymn is sung, and in the silent evening hour, with no witness but God and curious children, these people begin the observation of the ordinances of God's house on Christmas

evening, 1723. The sisters on one side, the brethren on the other, arise and wash one another's feet. Then they eat the Lord's Supper, pass the kiss of charity with the right hand of fellowship, partake of the Holy Communion, sing a hymn, and go out. It is night! But under God's guidance their acts have been repeated in a thousand twilights, in all parts of this country in all the years that have come and gone; and, please God, we will repeat them again and again until He shall say, "It is enough. Come up higher."

Let us look yet more closely at this company. Who are they? Six are already named. They are babes in Christ. But the other seventeen are warriors of two continents. They had a remarkable career. At the head sat Peter Becker, pioneer preacher in America. He could have told of blessed meetings in Creyfelt and of sermons by Elders Mack, Libe, and Naas. He is not a gifted preacher, but he leads the sacred music that fills the dimly-lighted room with echoes of heaven's choir. His prayers are eloquent and overmastering. He loved God and talked with Him in the full faith of an expectant child of the King.

To his right sat John Jacob Price, who had prayed and preached in the Rhine Valley with Elder Naas. He was not large in body, but fervent in spirit. There was Stephen Koch, John Hildebrand, Henry Traut and Henry Holsapple. They were rich in experiences with God's people in Germany. There was John Gomorry, in whose house they sat; near him were Jeremiah and Balser Traut, Daniel Ritter, John Kempfer, Jacob Koch, and George Balser Gans, all sterling men of God.

To the left of Peter Becker sat Maria Hildebrand, whose daughter was destined to wed a son of founder Mack. By her side sat Magdalene Traut, Anna Gomorry, and Joanna Gans. Seated in their midst were the six new members--twenty-three in all. Who can lift the veil and record this hour's holy service? What thoughts, what emotions, what religious experiences, what covenanted pledges, what rejoicings moved lips and heart



and head! To God only is known the ecstasy of that communion. "Ye know not now; but ye shall know hereafter." Blessed beginning of the church in America; may her latter days be like her first!

*From A History of The German Baptist Brethren in Europe and America* by Martin Grove Brumbaugh

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### LIVING AND A DEAD FAITH

The Lord receives His highest praise  
From humble minds and hearts sincere;  
While all the loud professor says  
Offends the righteous Judge's ear.

To walk as children of the day,  
To mark the precepts' holy light,  
To wage the warfare, watch, and pray,  
Show who are pleasing in His sight.

Not words alone it cost the Lord,  
To purchase pardon for His own;  
Nor will a soul by grace restored  
Return the Saviour words alone.

With golden bells, the priestly vest,  
And rich pomegranates bordered round,  
The need of holiness expressed,  
And called for fruit as well as sound.

Easy indeed it were to reach  
A mansion in the courts above,  
If swelling words and fluent speech  
Might serve instead of faith and love.



But none shall gain the blissful place,  
Or God's unclouded glory see,  
Who talks of free and sovereign grace,  
Unless that grace has made him free!

William Cowper

Selected by Lloyd Wagner

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FOR YOUTH

A Parable of the Tools

The Hammer was presiding at  
A meeting of the tools.  
The meeting started out just right--  
Exactly like the rules.

But when the tools could not agree,  
One voice was clearly heard,  
"It's time that pounding Hammer goes--  
He knocks with every word!"

"And Brother Plane must go," said one.  
"He never does go deep.  
He skims the surface; shavings fall--  
True worth he'll never keep!"

Another spoke, "Sandpaper too  
Must surely go today;  
He's rough and tactless, makes such dust--  
He'll rub the truth away!"

"But Brother Saw," Sandpaper flared,  
"Just cuts the whole way through.  
He makes divisions everywhere  
And scatters sawdust too!"

"And when Screwdriver does a job,  
You're sure he will get dizzy;  
He just stays stiff and turns around,  
And yet he thinks he's busy!"

"The Square keeps others well in line--  
He knows he's straight and right."  
"The Wrench insists on perfect fit."  
"The Pliers pinches tight."

The Carpenter of Nazareth  
Came walking slowly through;  
He softly spoke, "There's work today,  
And I need all of you."

Without delay in unison,  
They chorused, "Here am I;  
Just use me, Lord, as You see best;  
For what You say, I'll try."

Then with cooperation prompt,  
Those various humble tools,  
Submitting to the Master's skill,  
Built churches, homes, and schools.

Compiled by Regina Horst  
From *The Christian School Builder*, May, 1990

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### BIRTH

MILLER - A son, Elijah Gary, born January 4 to Gary and  
Hannah Miller of Marble Falls, Arkansas.

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There is in the world far more hunger for love and  
appreciation than there is for bread. --Selected

## LET US DRAW NEAR

Let us draw near the Mercy Seat,  
The throne of God on high;  
Communication be complete  
Between the earth and sky.

Let us draw near in humble prayer,  
Confess our wandering ways;  
Cast on the Lord our every care  
And bow to Him in praise.

Let us draw near to Him who hears  
The groanings of each heart;  
Oh, take away our cares and fears  
For just and kind Thou art.

Let us draw near, for round His throne  
Others are bending low.  
How sweet to be with those who know  
From where their blessings flow.

Let us draw near that we be one,  
United heart to heart;  
Content to say, "Thy will be done,"  
Thy blessings to impart.

Let us draw near while here below,  
For soon the day will come;  
God grant we then Thy grace may know  
And all be gathered home.

Joseph I. Cover  
December 4, 1963

## CHILDREN'S PAGE

## Honest Tom

Tom blew into his hands and stamped his feet to try to warm them, for he had no mittens, and the soles of his shoes were badly worn. "Latest news! Read all about it!" he shouted, holding up his last newspaper. Nobody seemed to notice or even hear the shabby little newsboy on the corner.

It was getting dark; Tom was hungry and cold. He had to sell his last paper before he could go home.

People were hurrying past him on their way home from work or with arms full of packages. Tom noticed these because he was cold and hungry. He and his grandmother lived in two wee, dark rooms up on the top floor of a shabby house in a poor neighborhood. His grandmother sewed buttons on little cards, hundreds of cards and thousands of buttons, but they brought only a few cents a day for the tiresome work. Those few cents and what Tom earned selling papers was not enough to buy chicken and not even a little roast, for there was rent to pay, coal and wood to buy to keep the fire burning, and medicine to buy for Grandmother.

"I wish I could buy something 'specially good to eat. Wouldn't Grandmother be surprised!" thought Tom. "But I haven't even enough money to buy sausage."

Tom waved his paper in front of a gentleman passing by. "Paper, Mister?" he shouted.

"I'll take a paper, Sonny." said the gentleman, reaching in his pocket and dropping the money into Tom's hand.

"Thanks a lot," Tom said.

Now he could go home and get warm by the little stove and tell Grandmother about the shoppers. He was about to put the money into his pocket when a ray of light from the street light flashed on one of the coins. "It certainly is a bright coin, like somebody had polished it," mused Tom. He went beside a



store window where he could see better and looked at the bright coin. "It is different from the others," said Tom to himself. "It must be a gold coin. Why, if it is, I'm rich! I can buy all kinds of things with it. I can buy sausages for dinner."

But all the joy was wrung out of Tom's heart as quick as it had come because he remembered his grandmother's words, "It pays to be honest." He could not forget a verse from Proverbs she had made him learn once, "In the house of the righteous is much treasure; but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble." "It would not be honest for me to keep this money. The man gave it to me by mistake."

Tom was suddenly missing from the street corner. He dashed down the sidewalk, dodging the last-minute shoppers, in search of the gentleman who had bought his last paper. He eyed every man that he passed, wondered at every corner if he might have turned there. His feet were warmer now from running, but he was cold with fear that he would not find him.

Tom was about to give up his search and go home when he saw a man at the curb getting into his car. "There--there he is! The man who bought my last paper!" cried Tom aloud, too loud, for a policeman put a hand on Tom's shoulder and said, "Son, you seem terribly excited. What did this man do?"

"Oh, nothing," answered Tom. "Just bought a paper." Then he pulled away from the policeman. "I'll miss him if I don't hurry."

The policeman followed close after Tom, a puzzled expression on his face.

Tom nearly did miss the man. He was just starting to drive away from the curb as Tom jumped on the running board. "Wait a minute, Mister!"

The car stopped and the driver rolled down the window as Tom explained, "You bought my last paper and you paid me with this bright coin. I know it must be valuable and you made a mistake when you gave it to me, so I've brought it back."

"My gold coin! That is worth a great deal to me," said the gentleman. "You are a fine boy to bring it back."

"I was afraid I wouldn't find you," said Tom as he dropped the coin into its owner's hand, and with it he saw all his bright hopes for the good hot dinner vanish. He was about to turn sadly from the car when the man spoke again. "I appreciate your honesty, my boy. Here is something to repay you."

The car drove away. Tom stood on the curb staring at the money in his hand, trying to realize that it was true. "It's mine, all mine! I can buy sausages and potatoes for dinner. Won't Grandmother be surprised!"

The policeman was still near by. He had seen and heard what had happened. The puzzled expression was gone now and a smile was on his face instead as he moved across the sidewalk toward Tom. "Here Son, is another reward. Get yourself a new pair of shoes and warm mittens."

By Hilda I. Richardson  
in *Sunbeams*, November 7, 1948

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## LORD, THOU HAST SEARCHED

Lord, Thou hast searched and seen me through:  
Thine eye commands, with piercing view,  
My rising and my resting hours,  
My heart and flesh with all their powers.

My thoughts, before they are my own  
Are to my God distinctly known;  
He knows the words I mean to speak,  
Ere from my opening lips they break.

Within Thy circling power I stand;  
On every side I find Thy hand;  
Awake, asleep, at home, abroad,  
I am surrounded still with God.

O may these thoughts possess my breast,  
Where'er I rove, where'er I rest;  
Nor let my weaker passions dare  
Consent to sin, for God is there. Amen.

Isaac Watts, 1719  
From the *Church Hymnal*

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## BOLD, SHAMEFUL SHAME

"Shame is a bold fellow!" He elbows in when we don't welcome him. But hear Jesus' warning: "For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels."

We are ashamed in public if we neglect to dress properly, or if we are unprepared when called on to testify, or not ready to help someone in need. We make our wives ashamed if our clothes are not pressed or cleaned properly. But these times are of little consequence compared to our duty to represent the One who has saved us. He suffered untold shame for us when He was crucified with two criminals and the soldiers gambled for His clothes. His place of crucifixion apparently was near a thoroughfare as the prophet had asked, "Is it nothing to you, all ye who pass by?"

Joseph Grigg has written a soul-searching poem of five verses, also set to music:

*Jesus, and shall it ever be  
A mortal man ashamed of Thee?  
Ashamed of Thee whom angels praise  
Whose glories shine through endless days?*

Could a mortal (dying) man be ashamed of the Author of life and One so glorious? Angels are pictured in God's Word as powerful, able to travel quickly, clothed in white, shining garments, with a countenance like lightning. Men in the presence of angels "did fear and quake, and became as dead men." If such creatures as these praise the Savior, could we mortals ever be ashamed of Him?



*Ashamed of Jesus! sooner far  
Let evening blush to own a star;  
He sheds the beams of light divine  
O'er this benighted soul of mine.*

John wrote of Jesus (1:9): "That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." Can "our benighted souls" blush in the presence of true Light? Even the created sun dispels physical darkness; we welcome the morning. How much more should we be glad when the Son rises in our souls.

*Ashamed of Jesus! just as soon  
Let midnight be ashamed of noon;  
Tis midnight in my soul till He,  
Bright morning star, bid darkness flee.*

This author says we are in the darkness of midnight until the Morning Star arise in our hearts. Could we be ashamed of that incomparable benefit? Malachi 4:2 describes the Sun of righteousness with healing in his wings. Doctors are honored as healers, but the Christian doctors acknowledge that all healing is from God. Jesus healed all who came to Him in faith.

*Ashamed of Jesus! that dear Friend  
On whom my hopes of heaven depend!  
No, when I blush, be this my shame:  
That I no more revere His name.*

We are not ashamed of dear friends--especially those who have helped us financially or those who taught us in the Word. We are glad to be identified with them. But this dear Friend holds our hopes of heaven. According to the poem, there is a time when we should blush with shame. That is if we do not honor the dear name of Jesus.

*Ashamed of Jesus! yes, I may  
When I've no guilt to wash away;  
No tear to wipe, no good to crave,  
No fears to quell, no soul to save.*

In this last verse the poet lists some of our needs that only Jesus can supply. In His grace He washes away our guilt. When we grieve, He wipes away our tears. He tells us of a time when there will be no more crying or tears. To John He said, "*Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*"

Can He save our souls?

Is He worthy of our eternal praise?

May we never be ashamed of the One who suffered shame that we might live. --L.C.

*I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,  
Or to defend His cause,  
Maintain the honor of His word,  
The glory of His cross.*

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## RESULTS

"You do certain things, you get certain results." I well remember these words of Brother Dan Wolf after he and I had been to visit a member who was challenging the Church Order. Having made some study of Church history, particularly relating to the Brethren (Dunkard People), I believe that, with very few exceptions, decisions made, considering the context of the time and setting, were reasonable. Do we need Church authority and (or) discipline? Some think not. Some believe the leading of the Holy Spirit in the individual experience is all sufficient. The Bible is all we need; no man-made laws or order wanted or necessary.

It is challenging to observe the results and patterns that have evolved in the "Plain Churches." One extreme is those who are allowing people to commune who are living in moral sin and disregarding God's order in attire. This is the result of decisions

and practices based on premises other than Biblical instruction. Are Church decisions made to encourage righteous thoughts and practices or do they reflect compromise with the world and emphasize political and social control? (I Cor. 11:2)

At the root of this dilemma is the conflict of the ages: the result of the fall in Eden and the effects of sin. Satan would have us believe that we can be our own boss and make our own decisions. We are number one--no God or laws necessary. The answer to this path to Hell is found in God's Word. Jesus came as a servant, giving the plan of salvation, doing good and giving instruction for dealing with others. The primary issue is to get ones self out of the way. This can only be done by yielding to the leading of the Spirit of God. Christians can also be subject to the temptations of selfish desires, but we know that through the power of God we can "resist the devil and he will flee from us." (James 4:7)

It is presumptuous to discredit traditions and say we do not need rules. When we have traditions and order which are Biblical, they warrant our respect. "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." (11 Thess. 2:15) Try to imagine what life and society would be like if there were no traditions and rules. Chaos! The same is true in the Spiritual experience.

Respecting God's Word and the sound faith of our ancestry will reap righteous results.

Joseph E. Wagner Modesto, California

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## THE CHURCH WALKING WITH THE WORLD

The Church and the World walked far apart  
On the changing shore of time;  
The World was singing a giddy song,  
And the Church a hymn sublime.

"Come give me your hand," said the merry World,  
"And then walk with me this way."  
But the Church hid her snowy hand  
And solemnly answered, "Nay."

"I will not give my hand at all,  
And I will not walk with you;  
Your way is the way of eternal death,  
And your words are all untrue."  
"Nay, walk with me a little space,"  
Said the World with a kindly air.  
"The road I walk is a pleasant road,  
And the sun shines always there.

"Your way is narrow and thorny and rough,  
While mine is flowery and smooth;  
Your lot is sad with reproach and toil,  
But in rounds of joy I move.  
My way you can see, is a broad, fair one,  
And my gate is high and wide;  
There is room enough for you and me,  
And we'll travel side by side."

Half shyly the Church approached the World,  
And gave him her hand of snow;  
And the false World grasped it, and walked along  
And whispered in accents low,  
"Your dress is too simple to please my taste;  
I have gold and pearls to wear;  
Rich velvets and silks for your graceful form,  
And diamonds to deck your hair."

The Church looked down at the plain white robes,  
And then at the dazzling World,



And blushed as she saw his handsome lip  
With a smile contemptuous curled;  
"I will change my dress for a costlier one."  
Said the Church with a smile of grace.  
Then her pure white garments drifted away,  
And the World gave in their place

Beautiful satins and fashionable silks  
And roses and gems and pearls;  
And over her forehead her bright hair fell  
And waved in a thousand curls.  
*"Your house is too plain,"* said the proud old World.  
*"Let us build you one like mine,  
With kitchen for feasting and parlor for play,  
And furniture ever so fine."*

So be built her a costly and beautiful house,  
Splendid it was to behold;  
Her sons and daughters met frequently there,  
Shining in purple and gold.  
And fair and festival--frolics untold  
Were held in the place of prayer,  
And maidens bewitching as sirens of old,  
With world-winning graces rare

Bedecked with fair jewels and hair all curled  
Untrammelled by Gospel or Laws,  
To beguile and amuse and win from the World,  
Some help for the righteous cause.  
The Angel of mercy rebuked the Church,  
And whispered, "I know thy sin."  
And the Church looked sad and anxiously longed  
To gather the children in.

But some were away at the midnight ball,  
And others were at the play;  
And some were drinking in gay saloons,  
And the angel went away.  
And then said the World in soothing tones,  
*"Your much loved ones mean no harm,  
Merely indulging in innocent sports."*  
So she leaned still on his proffered arm.

And smiled and chatted, and gathered flowers,  
And walked along with the World:  
While countless millions of precious souls  
Were hungering for truth untold.  
*"Your preachers are all too old and plain,"*  
Said the gay World with a sneer.  
*"They frighten my children with dreadful tales  
Which I do not like to hear.*

*"They talk of judgments and fire and pain,  
And the gloom of darkest night.  
They warn of a place that should not be  
Thus spoken to ears polite!  
I will send you some--a better stamp--  
More brilliant and gay and fast,  
Who will show how men may live as they list  
And go to heaven at last.*

*"The Father is merciful, great, and good,  
Loving and tender and kind.  
Do you think He'd take one child to heaven  
And leave another behind?"*  
So she called for pleasing and gay divines,  
Deemed gifted and great and learned;

And the plain old men that had preached the cross  
Were out of her pulpits turned.

The Mammon came in and supported the Church,  
And rented a prominent pew;  
And preaching and singing and floral display  
Soon proclaimed a gospel new.

*"You give too much to the poor," said the World,  
"Far more than you ought to do;  
Though the poor need shelter, food, and clothes,  
Why thus need it trouble you?"*

*"Go take your money and buy rich robes  
And horses and carriages fine;  
And pearls and jewels and dainty food,  
The rarest and costliest wine.  
My children they dote on all such things,  
And if you their love would win,  
You must do as they do and walk in the way,  
The flowery way they're in."*

Then the Church her purse-strings tightly held  
And gracefully lowered her head,  
And simpered, "I've given too much away;  
I will do, sir, as you have said."  
So the poor were turned from the door in scorn;  
She heard not the orphans' cry;  
And she drew her beautiful robes aside  
As the widows went weeping by.

And they of the Church and they of the World  
Journeyed closely, hand and heart,  
And none but the Master, who knoweth all,  
Could discern the two apart.

Then the Church sat down at her ease and said,  
"I'm rich and in goods increased;  
I have need of nothing, and naught to do  
But to laugh and dance and feast."  
The sly World heard her and laughed within,  
And mockingly said aside,  
*"The Church has fallen--the beautiful Church;  
Her shame is her boast and pride."*

Thus her witnessing power, alas, was lost,  
And perilous times came in;  
The times of the end, so often foretold,  
Of form and pleasure and sin.  
Then the Angel drew near the mercy-seat  
And whispered in sighs her name,  
And the saints their anthems of rapture hushed  
And covered their heads with shame.

A voice came down from the hush of heaven,  
From Him who sat on the throne;  
"I know thy works and what thou hast said,  
But alas! thou hast not known  
That thou art poor and naked and blind  
With pride and ruin enthralled;  
The expectant Bride of a heavenly Groom  
Is the harlot of the World!  
Thou hast ceased to watch for that blessed hope,  
Hast fallen from zeal and grace;  
So now, alas! I must cast thee out,  
And blot thy name from its place."

Matilda C. Edwards

Grape Hill, Va., January 3, 1874



**IF**

*If you are not saved--you are lost.*

*If you do not pray--you have no power.*

*If you are not meek--you are haughty.*

*If you are not humble--you are proud.*

*If you have no peace--you have no rest.*

*If you have no rest-- you have worries.*

*If you have no joy--you get despondent.*

*If you have no hope--you are discouraged.*

*If you are not honest--you are deceitful.*

*If you lose your temper--you commit sin.*

*If you are not merciful--you are hard-hearted.*

*If you have no forbearance--you lack patience.*

*If you are discourteous--you are inconsiderate.*

*If you use profanity--Satan uses you tongue.*

*If you have hate in your heart--you are a murderer.*

*If you don't love the brethren--you don't love God.*

*If you are not consecrated--you are not separated.*

*If you are not submissive to God--you are rebellious.*

*If you are not going to heaven--you are going to hell.*

*If you are not pure in heart--you are impure in thought.*

*If you are not spiritually minded--you are worldly minded.*

*If you do not bear the cross--you become a stumbling block.*

*If you love the world--you don't love spiritual things.*

*If you are not born again--you are not in the kingdom of God.*

*If you can't control your mind--you can't control your tongue.*

*If you take the name of the Lord in vain--you are not guiltless.*

*If you are not in touch with God--you are in touch with Satan.*

*If you have an unforgiving spirit--your sins are not forgiven.*

*If you are not filled with the Spirit--you are filled with self.*

*If you are not walking in the light--you are walking in the dark.*

*If you haven't grace in your heart--you have hell in your heart.*

*If you are not witnessing for Jesus--you are witnessing for Satan.*

*If you are not led by the Spirit of God--you are led by the devil.*

*If you are not wise unto salvation--you are unwise unto condemnation.*

*If you haven't God's love in your heart--you are uncharitable towards others.*

*If you are not carrying burdens for others--you are making burdens for others.*

*If you are not sowing the seed of the kingdom--you are sowing tares of the devil. --Selected*

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### SELF

Self is your enemy. Self will gnaw out the best in your soul. "Myself" framed and hanging in your picture gallery will make you miserable, cross, discontented. It will narrow your life. It will rob you of friends. It will hinder achievement and ascent. Self will obscure the glory of God's presence. Self is pusillanimous (cowardly) and does not like company or a crowd. Just concentrate your thoughts lovingly on somebody, or two or three somebodies, and Self will run like mad. Our Christ was born in a manger. --Selected

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### BIRTH

Wells - A daughter, Marie Yvonne, born January 31 to Glenn and Sharon Wells of Bradford, Ohio.

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### FOR YOUTH

#### LESSON FROM LINCOLN

While Abraham Lincoln was cutting wood he often had a book with him, and his odd moments were spent in study.

One day while he was sitting on the ground intently reading a law book, a pompous squire, on passing, called out, "Hello, Abe! What, studying law? Expect to be President some day?"

"Don't know," said Lincoln, "but I am going to get ready for anything God may have for me to do."

Boys, this is your get ready time for what God has for you to do. It may be to farm, to work in wood, stone, brick, or iron; to be a mechanic, merchant, minister, or missionary. Leave that with God to guide. But make good use of your boyhood days.

--Presbyterian Record

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### How Do You Act?

What do you do if you accidentally bump into someone in a doorway? What do you do if someone drops an armload of papers near you? Do you turn away and pretend not to notice? Do you point your finger and giggle? What is the courteous thing to do in cases like these?

Courtesy and good manners are rules for getting along with others, rules to make life more pleasant for them and for you. Courtesy is the working out of the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." It means being considerate, considering how the other person must feel, and trying to make him comfortable and at ease.

There is nothing insincere or worldly about good manners. They are not artificial or unmanly; they are not just for girls. In fact, the truly big people are those who are considerate of the little people! Good manners simply mean that you are mature enough to show interest and concern for those about you. People who are all wrapped up in themselves--with no time for others--are people who will have no time for courtesy and good manners.

Basic to good manners is greeting people when you meet them, or answering their greeting to you. If someone says hello or good morning, be prompt to reply. For that matter, why not

greet them first? Do not wait; say "Good morning, how are you today?" That's just common courtesy!

People speak often of the magic words: please, thank you, excuse me, and I'm sorry. Of course, they are not magic, but it is surprising what wonderful things they can do! Use them; try them on your friends, family, and schoolmates and see what a difference they will make. Saying please, thank you, excuse me, or I'm sorry is just a matter of showing concern for others; it is just a matter of courtesy and good manners.

By Robert Darrow in  
*The Christian School Builder*

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### CHILDREN'S PAGE

Don't! Don't! Don't!

Harry was making a sandwich when Mother came running into the kitchen.

"Don't use the butcher knife," she exclaimed, taking the knife away from him. "You will cut yourself."

She gave him a dull knife that spread butter much easier. Harry put a great big piece of cheese between two small pieces of bread.

"Don't eat so much cheese," Mother advised. "You may get sick."

He sat on a high stool so he could watch Mother make chocolate cookies, and ate the sandwich.

"Don't wiggle; you will fall," she told him.

*Don't, don't, don't*, he thought gloomily. Sometimes it seemed as though that was the only word his mother knew. He decided to go outdoors where she couldn't tell him *don't*.

"Don't slam the door," she called. "You will wake up the baby."



Harry sighed. He would be glad when he was grown up. Then people wouldn't always be saying *don't*.

Princess and her four golden puppies were down by the gate. When Harry opened the gate one of the puppies waddled out onto the road. A car was coming. Harry ran to get the puppy, but Princess was there first. She cuffed her child, then picked him up gently with her teeth and carried him off the road just as the car whizzed by.

"Wheee, that was close," Harry said watching Princess nuzzle her puppy as though telling how much he had frightened her.

He walked down the road to the meadow. There was a gurgling river running along one side of the meadow. Harry liked to wade in the river. But this afternoon some baby ducks were swimming with their mother. Harry lay on his tummy in the bushes and watched. All at once he had to sneeze. As soon as he sneezed the mother duck gathered her brood together and hurried them into the tall grass. One little duckling didn't want to stop swimming. He kept ducking his head under the water and having fun. The duck gave him a peck that sent him scurrying into the tall grass.

"I wish she knew I wouldn't hurt her babies," Harry thought. But the mother duck didn't know, so with soft quacks she gathered her downy ducklings close to her.

Harry decided not to go wading. He knew a doe sometimes fed in the meadow. Daddy said she had a fawn. Harry decided to find the fawn. He crept through the grass as quietly as he could. And sure enough, there in a thicket was the mother deer. She was standing with her head high as though smelling the air.

"Maybe she smells me," Harry thought. He hoped not, because then she might run away. She wouldn't understand that he only wanted to see her child and not hurt them. He sat in the tall grass and watched. He didn't have to watch long. In just a

minute the little fawn came scampering from the bushes. He kicked up his heels and pranced on his thin legs.

Mother deer gave him a nip and sent him back into the bushes. She continued to sniff the air. Harry decided she was worried about his being so close to her baby, so he started home.

"Animals take good care of their babies," he decided. "So do ducks. Guess all mothers take good care of their children. He kicked a rock and watched it bounce down the road ahead of him. "My mother takes good care of me, too," he decided. "She doesn't want me to get hurt. Guess she doesn't say *don't* any more than animal mothers do. Guess all mothers have to say *don't* to keep their children from getting hurt.

And Harry started running. He wanted to tell mother how much he loved her for taking such good care of him and baby brother. He wanted to thank her for making chocolate cookies. He liked chocolate cookies best of all.

By Billie Avis Hoy in *Sunbeams* March 14, 1954

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the  
Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## THROUGH THE FURNACE

Through the furnace, through the heat,  
There, beneath the hammer's beat;  
Through temptations manifold,  
Comes my soul like burnished gold.

Through the fires that purge the dross,  
Through the anguish of the cross;  
Buried with my Saviour slain,  
So with Him I live again.

Lord, through furnace or through flood,  
Still I come to Thee, my God;  
'Mid affliction's burning flame,  
Yet I glory in Thy name.

When my soul is purified,  
Saviour, take me to Thy side;  
There, from every trial free,  
May I sweetly rest with Thee.

Author unknown  
From *Spiritual Songs and Hymns*

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## HEAVY BURDENS

During the night of Thursday, February 17, we were dismayed to hear the crack of breaking limbs and falling trees. In the morning trees were broken off and uprooted every where. Wet, dense snow had stuck to the leafy live oaks and destroyed many. Thousands were without electricity from branches and trees fallen across power lines.

I am reminded of the heavy weight that some people carry and the damage that can be done. Many have a load of sin; others are burdened by physical or emotional heaviness. There is only one remedy. Jesus calls, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Our Heavenly Father in His love provided relief in His only Son and His atoning blood.

John Bunyan in *Pilgrim's Progress* described this burden and the answer to it:

"Now I saw in my dream that the highway, up which Christian was to go, was fenced on either side with a wall, and that was called Salvation. Up this way therefore did burdened Christian run, but not without great difficulty, because of the load on his back.

"He ran thus till he came at a place somewhat ascending and upon that place stood a cross, and a little below in the bottom a sepulchre. So I saw in my dream, that just as Christian came up with the cross, his burden loosed from off his shoulders, and fell from off his back, and began to tumble, and so continued to do till it came to the mouth of the sepulchre, where it fell in, and I saw it no more.

"Then was Christian glad and lightsome, and said with a merry heart, He hath given me rest by his sorrow, and life by his



death. Then he stood still awhile to look and wonder; for it was very surprising to him, that the sight of the cross should thus ease him of his burden. He looked, therefore, and looked again, even till the springs that were in his head sent the waters down his cheeks. Now, as he stood looking and weeping, behold three shining ones came to him and saluted him with "peace be to thee;" so the first said to him, "Thy sins be forgiven;" the second stripped him of his rags, and clothed him with change of raiment; the third also set a mark upon his forehead, and gave him a roll with a seal upon it, which he bid him look on as he ran, and that he should give it in at the celestial gate; so they went their way. Then Christian gave three leaps for joy, and went on singing:

*"Thus far did I come loaden with my sin,  
Nor could aught ease the grief that I was in,  
Till I came hither: what a place is this!  
Must here be the beginning of my bliss?  
Must here the burden fall from off my back?  
Must here the strings that bound it to me crack?  
Blest cross! blest sepulchre! blest rather be  
The Man that there was put to shame for me!"*

I have no idea how many have read this or how many burdens have been lifted this way. *Pilgrim's Progress* used to be one of the few books people owned. Now good books seem to be nearly obscured by the flood the dragon casts out of his mouth as described in Revelation 12:15,16. But as Christians, let us take advantage of the edifying books that are being written even now. Neither *Pilgrim's Progress* nor any other book can replace God's Holy Word, but we can be encouraged by men of God testifying to loads lifted and souls saved by the all-sufficient grace of our Savior. --L.C.

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee.

Psalm 55:22

Two travelers toiled up a steep ascent. One stood erect, strong, seemingly tireless. The other staggered under a load that seemed to grow larger and heavier with each step. Suddenly the weary one stopped and transferred his entire load to his friend's strong shoulders. The friend not only accepted it gladly, but reached out a strong arm for the exhausted one to lean on. Who were those two? My Lord and I.--H. G. Mackay

"I know your burden, child; I shaped it,

And even as I laid it on you, I said,

"I shall be near, and while he leans on Me,

This burden shall be Mine, not his." --P. Pastnor

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#### DO WE HEAR?

In Luke 16, the last verse catches my attention. "If they hear not Moses, and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead." Jesus was referring to the rich man's five brothers. They evidently were a stiff-necked, hard of hearing lot.

What does it take for us to "hear," or "be persuaded"? God has a will for our lives. Would physical miracles help persuade us of it? The accounts of Dorcas and Lazarus being raised from the dead persuaded many, though we're not told how lasting it was. Having our fleshly desires fed is usually not an eternal benefit. God wants men to serve Him by faith. If the physical demonstrations of His power were always overwhelming, wouldn't men's response be automatic?

It is God's will that all be saved. No doubt He knows what methods will best achieve those results. After all, He's the one who made us people of free choice. It seems that being persuaded depends much more on the one receiving the good

news than on the one giving it. Ultimately it's God's message, but He uses various methods and vessels to deliver it. It is perfect news, a perfect plan, and the most effective methods. Another sign is not what we need. We simply need to hear!

Have you ever met a Christian who said, "I will not hear Christ"? I haven't! Jesus told the Jews in John 5:45, "There is one that accuseth you, even Moses in whom ye trust." It was because they wouldn't believe the things he wrote. The same principle, no doubt, applies to Christians today. They claim faith in Christ, yet they will not obey His Word. Jesus says His Word is the very thing we will be judged by in the last day. We have His Word to guide us, and if that gospel doesn't persuade us, probably nothing else will either. True Christianity is voluntary, and since the true message has been given, it's up to men's hearts to respond.

How do we respond to God's clear messages or "Moses and the prophets"? For example, "Children, obey your parents" (Eph. 6:1, Col. 3:20), or "Hear the church" (Matt. 18:17). Are we persuaded? How do we respond?

We could be like the lawyer in Luke 10 and try to justify ourselves saying, "And who is the church?" or "in what areas, or for how long must we honor our parents?" The Bible does have answers for those questions. But remember, it says "Children, obey your parents" and it gives condemnation to those who will not hear the church. Those two requirements seem to raise many people's ire; yet they are given by God and offer great blessing.

Would we be more willing to hear if one of our ancestors rose from the dead? Jesus says not. Let's honestly look at God's Word and practically apply it to our lives. Eternal life depends on it. If we don't reverence Jesus enough to obey, we are not His.

Neil Martin, New Paris, Indiana

## HOW TO WORRY

Here are twelve ways to worry if you like to worry and are entertained by worrying--or even if you don't like to worry, but do it anyway. These twelve ways will help you worry if you like to and also help you to get away from worrying if you so desire, and turn things over to the Lord!

1. Never worry over rumors or what "they" say. First get the facts.
2. Know definitely your worry problem. Write it down. Face it.
3. Worry about only one problem at a time.
4. Set a definite day, afternoon, or night for worrying.
5. Never worry in bed, in the dining room, living room, or at church.
6. Select an air-conditioned room. Lean back in an easy chair.
7. Set a time limit. If you must go beyond it, give yourself credit for time and a half.
8. Never worry with a frowning face. Smile, sing, or whistle.
9. Never worry when you are tired, sick, angry, or depressed.
10. Never worry while working, playing, visiting, or shopping.
11. Two times never to worry: A. When you can help the situation. B. When you cannot.
12. Never worry alone. Take it to the Lord. (Proverbs 25:19, Philippians 4:6,7)

After reading these, is it going to be easier to worry or should you? It is said it's okay to have a righteous concern, but to worry or stew over something shows a lack of trust and/or faith. The Bible says to fret not; sit down and count the cost.



We are a part of a better covenant with many better things to come. Better resurrection, better country, better sacrifices of self, better hope, better testament, better salvation, better promises, etc. Also in heaven there is a better and an enduring substance. This leads me to believe I should look up more and have a positive attitude--not look down with a negative outlook on things or people. It is hard to be positive, growing in the Lord, and helping others while looking back all the time. We may need to look back to learn what not to do, and then keep going.

So how do I finish up? So where does the power come from to see the race to its end? Look within: God made us for a purpose, and we will run for His pleasure. We shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all the people are upon us, so that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work of faith we have undertaken and do cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword through all the world.

There is nothing automatic about God's will. It seems to be very plain that we are given a certain control of our destiny because we have the chance to choose. We are given a set of guidelines in the Bible by which to live. It is up to us to decide if we will abide by them or not. We can become too big for God to use, but you cannot be too small. The Bible can touch our hearts, order our minds and refresh our souls. God has given us a free will. That means a person can choose to trust in God's wisdom, accept it and learn whatever lessons are being presented at the moment by His Holy Spirit. Or you can worry, find fault, hate, be bitter and you can even kick and scream, and shake your fist at the heavens.

A believer's dream is that every man must be free to become whatever God intends them to be. Some people grow up and some just grow older. As we grow older let us be mature also.

As we become men and women, let us put away childish thoughts and become adults as the Bible admonishes.

So why worry? He is risen and is coming again! With your attitude, praise the Lord, be thankful, joyful, pleasant; think on good things and you will shine forth a good light.

For your thoughts and meditations.

Sincerely, Roger Kuntz, Covington, Ohio

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### SALIDA CHURCH UPDATE AND REQUEST

There has been no action of late on building or securing an Old Brethren meeting house in the Valley. We still have the church property. There is enough in the building fund to put up a modest building. But to meet building codes and the costs of preparing the lot, parking lot grading, paving, utility access, and curbing more than doubles the amount in the building fund. Putting sentiment aside, the location is not very suitable for a church site. Selling the property at the present time with depressed land prices is not encouraging. Maybe rather than having another church building, the Lord would be pleased to see more worshippers in the existing meeting houses.

I am putting together some history and facts on the Old Brethren and the Salida Meeting House which burned May 18, 2006. I plan to include the writings from the July-August 2006 memorial issue of the Pilgrim. If anyone has additional material (pictures included) regarding the Salida Meeting House that they would be willing to share I would be pleased. Call 209-522-0405. As of present I have 24 pages (not including pictures) in rough draft. Suggestions are welcomed.

Joseph E. Wagner

3348 Shoemake Ave.

Modesto, California 95258-8573

## WHEN YOU'RE UNFAIRLY CRITICIZED

Like death and taxes, criticism is inevitable. Being judged unfairly, second guessed, put down and ridiculed is a way of life for the child of God. If you're going to make a difference, you're going to get nailed sometimes. We can't afford the luxury of being thin-skinned.

We can't avoid the barbs and nicks of the censor, but we can choose our response to criticism. If you're doing the right thing and the critic dissuades you from continuing, you have given him control of your actions, and that's a privilege he doesn't deserve.

In 1909, Theodore Roosevelt delivered a speech before the Hamilton Club in Chicago. His remarks on that occasion help me to unmask the sinister motives of the critic:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong one stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming. . . Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much because they live in the gray twilight which knows neither victory nor defeat."

By Norman Bales in *The Edifier* --Selected

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When you are close to God, you get farther away from the things that mean so much to this world.

You cannot correct a problem with the same mentality that created it.

## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL VIEWS

## Good Work, or None

As a rule, a workman must follow his employer's orders; but no employer has a right to demand work unworthy of the workman. Judge Smith, an eminent lawyer living near Cincinnati, once sent to a neighboring village for a carpenter. In answer to the message, a sturdy young fellow, ready for work, appeared at the lawyer's house.

"I want this fence mended, to keep out the cattle," said the judge. "Here are some rough boards; use them. It is out of sight from the house, and you need not make it a neat job. I will pay you only a dollar and a half."

The judge then went to dinner. When he came out again, he found the carpenter carefully planing the boards. Supposing that this was done merely to make the work cost more, the judge ordered the man to nail the boards on just as they were.

Coming back a second time, he saw the boards all planed and numbered and ready for use. "I told you that this fence is to be covered with vines," he said angrily to the busy workman. "I do not care how it looks."

"I do," replied the carpenter, carefully measuring his work. The judge, somewhat cooled down by the brief answer, walked away without another word. There was something in the workman's manner that puzzled the dignified lawyer.

When the work was done, there was no part of the fence so thorough in finish as that made by the odd young man from the village. "How much do you charge?" asked the judge, regarding both the work and workman with a critical eye.

"A dollar and a half," said the man, shouldering his tools, ready to depart.



The judge stared. "Why did you spend all that time and labor on the fence, if not for money?" he inquired. The look of wonder in his eyes gave force to the question.

"For the work itself, sir," was the ready reply.

"But, as the fence is to be covered with vines, nobody would have seen the poor work on it."

"But I should have known it was there," said the carpenter. And to the judge's offer of more money, for the sake of the good, honest work, he replied, "No, I will take only a dollar and a half. That was the bargain." And he took his money and went away.

Ten years afterward, the judge had to give out the contract for several large public buildings. There were many master builders among the eager applicants for the work. The face of one of them caught Judge Smith's eye. "That is my man of the fence," said the judge to himself. "I know that we shall have only good, honest work from him."

He said the same to the other judges, and told them the story of the broken fence. That builder got the contract, and it made a rich man of him. The young carpenter, who ten years before had done good work simply for the work's sake, was still the faithful, honest man, thorough in everything that he did. That is the true measure of the workman, whatever his calling may be.

--Reprinted from Butler's Series Fourth Reader, 1883

Selected from *The Christian School Builder*, August 1998

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Teachers appreciate when parents

- \*show an interest in school.
- \*ask about their child's behavior and progress.
- \*bring and pick up children promptly.
- \*show a good example in conduct.
- \*give support in discipline.
- \*support the curriculum.

### MODESTY

Modest apparel is an outward manifestation of "the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit" within. True, there is such a thing as a "sheep in wolves' clothing," just as much so as it is possible to be hypocritical otherwise.

Some people tell us that we should "dress so as not to be noticed"; but their fatal weakness is that they get into the wrong crowd before they apply this rule. We should exemplify the Bible teaching on dress in our appearance, just as we exemplify all other Bible teachings in our daily walk and conduct.

We expect worldlings to adorn their bodies after the fashions of the world. Why should we not also expect the people of God to wear clothing that exemplifies the teaching of God's Word on this subject, patterning after the customs of those "of like precious faith" rather than conforming to the customs of a Satan-dominated world?

Light-shining is important (Matt. 5:16)--in the clothing that we wear as well as in all other things connected with the Christian's daily walk.

*From The Sunday School Herald, 1946*

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### MARRIAGES

**TAYLOR-ADINA** Colin Taylor and Krystal Adina were married December 26, 2010, near Salem, Oregon.

New address: 3401 Mud Puppy Lane  
Salem, Oregon 97317

Cell: Colin 503-990-1118 Krystal 503-990-3738

**PIFER-COVER** Jon Pifer and Heather Cover were married February 19, 2011, near Tuolumne, California.

New address: 17872 D Ave.

Dawson, Iowa 50066

FOR YOUTH  
I Am Habit

It is mighty hard to shake me;  
In my brawny arms I take thee;  
I can either make or break thee;  
I am Habit!

Through each day I slowly mold thee;  
Soon my tightening chains enfold thee;  
Then it is with ease I hold thee;  
Thus is Habit!

I can be both good and vile;  
I can e'er be worth your while,  
Or the cause of your decial;  
I am Habit!

Oft I've proved myself a pleasure;  
Proved myself a priceless treasure,  
Or a menace past all measure;  
Thus is Habit!

Harmless though I sometimes seem, yet  
My strange force is like a magnet;  
Like a great and greedy dragnet;  
I am Habit!

Though you sometimes fear or doubt me,  
No one yet has lived without me;  
I am present all about thee;  
Thus is Habit!

Choose me well when you are starting;  
 Seldom is an easy parting;  
 I'm a devil or a darling!  
 I am Habit!

By Robert E. Sly  
 in *The Youth's Visitor*

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### TWO CRIPPLES

Two cripples entered a church one day;  
 Crippled--but each in a different way:  
 One had a body strong and whole,  
 But it sheltered a warped and twisted soul.  
 The other walked with a halting gait,  
 But his soul was "tall and fair and straight."  
 They shared a pew. They shared a book  
 But on each face was a different look:  
 One was alight with hope and joy  
 And faith that nothing could destroy.

The other joined not in prayer or hymn,  
 No smile relaxed his features grim.  
 His neighbor had wronged him; his heart was sore,  
 He thought of himself and nothing more.  
 The words that were read from the Holy Book  
 Struck deafened ears and a forlorn look.  
 To one came comfort--his soul was fed;  
 The other gained nothing from what was said.  
 Two cripples left the church that day;  
 Crippled--but each in a different way;  
 A twisted foot did one body mar,  
 But the twisted soul was sadder far.

Mildred M. North --Selected



## CHILDREN'S PAGE

## Your Tongue

You have a little prisoner;  
He's nimble, sharp, and clever;  
He's sure to get away from you,  
Unless you watch him ever.

And when he once gets out, he makes  
More trouble in an hour  
Than you can stop in many a day,  
Working with all your power.

He gets your playmates by the ears;  
He says what isn't so,  
And uses many ugly words  
Not good for you to know.

Quick, fasten tight the ivory gates,  
And chain him while he's young!  
For this same dangerous prisoner  
Is just your little tongue!

Author unknown

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## WRONG SIDE OUT

Kate was cross; nothing pleased her. Her mother gave her the choicest morsels for her breakfast, and the nicest toys. But she did nothing but fret and complain. At last her mother said, "Kate, I want you to go right up to your room and put on all your clothes wrong side out."

Kate stared. She thought her mother must be out of her wits.

"I mean it, Kate," she repeated. Kate had to mind. She had to turn her stockings wrong side out and put on her coat and dress and collar wrong side out. When her mother came up to her, there she stood--a forlorn and funny looking girl--all linings and seams and ravelings--before the glass (mirror), wondering what her mother meant. But she was not quite clear in her conscience. Then her mother, turning her around, said:

"This is what you have been doing all day--making the worst of things. You have been turning everything wrong side out. Do you really like your things this way so much, Kate?"

"No, Mamma," answered Kate shamefacedly. "Can't I turn them right?"

"Yes, you may, if you will try to speak what is pleasant and do what is pleasant. You must do with your manners as you prefer to do with your clothes--wear them right side out. Do not be so foolish any more, dear, as to persist in turning things wrong side out." Selected from *Sunbeams*, 1942

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## HOW MUCH I OWE

When Jesus died on Calvary,  
When Jesus died it was for me;  
I oft-times wonder shall I know  
How much I owe; how much I owe?

My Jesus in Gethsemane  
Passed through the direst agony;  
'Twas all for me He suffered so;  
How can I tell how much I owe?

When on the cross those cruel nails  
Gave me a Christ that never fails,  
And from His wounds there came a flow  
That saves from sin--how much I owe!

When I shall reach that golden shore,  
To dwell with Him forevermore,  
Ten million years may come and go,  
I cannot tell how much I owe.

How much I owe for love divine!  
How much I owe that Christ is mine!  
But what He did for me, I know,  
I cannot tell how much I owe.

T. P. Hamilton in *Spiritual Songs and Hymns*

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## BROKEN FOR ME

"Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." (I Cor. 11:24b)

A look in the concordance under *broken* is revealing. Many things can be broken. We walk out on our property and view the damage of recent heavy snow storms. We have never seen countless trees and limbs lie prostrate and scattered, broken by too much wet snow on trees that keep their leaves yearlong. Uprooted and shattered, crisscrossed and tangled describes the scene.

As your concordance shows, brokenness can be good or bad. It is bad when laws or trees are broken. It is good when bread is broken by Jesus to feed the multitude. It is bad when bones are broken, but good when proud hearts are broken.

To say it was good when Jesus' body was broken must be qualified. It was good for us that the way of redemption could be opened. It is sad that Jesus, King of Kings, should be put to shame and broken on the cross like a criminal.

*Satan, look and weep. You must have thought you had victory over your arch enemy when you persuaded the crowd to demand the death of the Son of God. You must have rejoiced for three days when Jesus lay in the tomb and His followers cowered behind closed doors. You were glad with the scribes and pharisees to be rid of One who so successfully put them to silence when they harassed Him with hard questions. The questions weren't hard for Jesus because He is the Author of all wisdom and knowledge. Nothing is too hard for Him. But you didn't seem to know this about the Son whom you hated even before the earth was created. Yes, Satan, you celebrated for the three days, but you could not prevent Jesus' rising from*



*the grave. Now, weep and tremble, for the everlasting word of God says that you have but a short time, and you know it.*

Jesus was broken for me and for all. It was decreed that the serpent would bruise the heel of the seed of the woman, but also this Seed would bruise the serpent's head. The prophecy was fulfilled when Calvary love of Jesus paid the penalty for our sins, and the serpent was given a mortal blow to the head.

The story can be told so simply, but the sacrifice of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for fallen man is indescribable in human terms. Isaiah (through revelation) gives us a glimpse of His sufferings: "Surely he hath born our griefs, and carried our sorrows. . . 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. . . He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied. . ." Only with better understanding, redeemed hearts, and perfected minds can we fully appreciate what we read here.

Jesus' body was mangled, torn, and broken, but it was decreed that "a bone of him shall not be broken." John writes of this (John 19:36) in describing His crucifixion. It evidently refers to the Passover lamb that was to be eaten but its bones were not to be broken. The soldiers broke the legs of the two criminals who were crucified with Jesus so that they would die before the high sabbath day. But Jesus was already dead. One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, fulfilling more prophecy that "They shall look on him whom they pierced."

Jesus, by His life, death, and resurrection, put into effect the divine plan whereby we might be saved. Read Romans 5 and 6 to review how we were reconciled by Jesus' death and saved by His life. How can we poor mortals be "sufficient for these things." How can we understand what we need to know? Only by faith and the revelation of His Spirit can we comprehend these vital truths.

We are like Thomas. Unless we are satisfied with proof of our own deciding, we will not believe. When Jesus gave him that proof, he worshipped saying, "My Lord and my God!" We can't reach forth and feel His wounds, but we come under the blessing of Jesus when He said, "Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

May we with Thomas worship and confess, "My Lord and my God!" --L.C.

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### GOD'S ORDER OF LOVE

When reading the first half of I Corinthians 11, do you find these verses puzzling? Is this passage addressing godly order? Does covering or uncovering the head relate to this order? Is this covering a type or symbol that is important to God? Is this order in the best interest of people today or a relic of ancient culture? Finally, what is a covering; what does it consist of?

Who needs order? Though our culture idealizes the independent individual, everyone is dependent even before birth. God created us interdependent beings (Gen. 2:18), consequently, we need order in government, community, home, school, and church. (I Cor. 14:40). The very bedrock for order in any society is the way men and women relate to each other and their Creator.

*In God's order, God is the head of Christ, Christ is the head of man, and man is the head of woman. (I Cor. 11).* Outside of God's order, this would create a pecking order, an expression that comes from observing chickens. The dominant rooster positions himself into control by pecking all others into submission. Rooster number two cannot dominate the strongest rooster, but he can and will exercise control over all

the others. This cruel order is established, in turn, down to the weakest chicken.

*Pecking is not God's plan for order.* God's order is love, love defined as total commitment to the well-being of others. (Matt. 17:5, John 3:16, Col. 3:19, Eph. 5:24-28). Jesus, though our Lord and Master, was so committed to our well-being that He lowered Himself to live on this earth. He suffered and died that we can reign with Him forever. He did not "lord" it over us but became a servant for us, as loving parents serve and rule in the child's life for good.

We see this servant-love in all of God's order. God the Father loves His Son, God the Son is in submission to the Father though equal to Him. (Phil. 2:6). Christ, as our authority, loves us and gives us all things that pertain to life and godliness. In the same way the man, as the woman's head (authority) should be totally committed to her well-being.

As Son and Father are equally God, so also woman is equally an heir of salvation with man. (I Peter 3:7). She is not inferior to man in the value of her soul; her mind, will, emotions, and intellect are equal to man's. God positioned her as the recipient of all the servant love in His order of authority. God's love for His Son is in turn poured out to man and the godly man's love is poured out to the woman. In God's order, all this love, care, security, protection, and provision channels to and climaxes with the woman.

God, in His wisdom created this sanctuary of love order in such a way that children are born into the ultimate shelter of His love. Only the women can give birth to a child. In God's order, children are born within the loving shelter of a mother that is in obedience to the Father.

In the last part of Ephesians 5 we see this love for the woman, flowing from her head (husband) as a mystery God reveals to those who love Him and His order. The husband's love is a type or symbol of the love that flows from God



through Christ and consummates in His beloved bride, the church. The woman is a type of Christ's beloved bride, the church. God created women from a rib out of Adam's side after He put him into a deep sleep. (Gen. 2;21-24). The bride of Christ was born out of the side of Christ that was pierced after He was asleep (dead) on the cross.

Are types and symbols important to God? The second part of I Corinthians 11 relates to the important symbol of the shed blood and broken body of Christ. Dear to the heart of God was the suffering of His Son. Our Creator, knowing that we soon forget, gave us these emblems saying, "This do in remembrance of me."

Baptism is also a symbol dear to the heart of God. Jesus, the sinless Son of God, fulfilled all righteousness when He was baptized. (Matt. 3:15). Types and symbols reinforce to us the significance of that which is precious to the heart of God.

*Just so, the head covering is a symbol of God's love order,* reminding us that loving service comes with His order. Men were created with stronger vessels (bodies) than women. (I Pet. 3:7). Husbands are to show consideration for the weaker vessel of their wives. God created both man and woman in His own image but uniquely different. Adam portrayed the image of God's power, while Eve was the image of God's beauty. The husband's body is like a clay jar, the wife's body like a lovely china cup. Husbands need to be gentle and tender with the china.

Yet, man's sinful tendency is to exploit those that are vulnerable, just as the chickens in the farmyard peck others into submission. God gave us the symbol of the women's covering lest man forget how precious the china cup is. This is important to God. The above Scripture tells the husband that his prayers will be hindered if he does not honor her vessel.

The woman, with her weaker vessel, nevertheless, is also tempted to seek control of her own life and the lives of others.



The serpent enticed Eve to become god and make her own choices in life. (Gen. 3:5,6). She then wielded her new controlling nature to sway Adam. Satan also tempts us to control our destiny: "I can and will rule the roost."

A mislead, "freethinking" society offers no freedom from the pecking order. It merely gives women equal opportunity to rule the roost with the ruthless system still intact. This precarious pinnacle of power begets constant threats from henpecked, mutinous underlings. Only Christ can make us free indeed! (John 8:32-36). Christ is the way, the truth, and life itself. (John 14:6). Christ presents an altogether new order of loving service, not a cruel and corrupt pecking order. (Mark 10:42-45).

*Patching up a loveless order will only emphasize the problem.* (Matt. 9:16-18). New wine in old bottles creates tension. Our culture is under pressure as men and women move out from under God's order. Women regard keepers at home (Tit. 2:5), chastity and motherhood stifling to a women's self expression. Men use and abuse one china cup after another, thoughtless of accountability or responsibility to wife or offspring. (Mal. 2:13-16).

Tragically, children, no longer under God's sheltering love order, are the real victims of the pecking order. Demanding obedience from children has no basis from parents who themselves refuse to be under the canopy of God's headship love order. In God's love order, the only way to be a parent-authority is to be under authority. (Luke 7:6-9). In Col. 3:18-20 we see not only the admonition "Children, obey your parents," but the whole love order.

The headship covering is also an important symbol to the church, reminding the church that she is the Lord's submissive bride and the ultimate recipient of God's order of love. Satan and his "kingdom of this world" are keenly aware of this symbol

of the Bride and her loving submission to the Bridegroom who is lovingly preparing for an eternal wedding.

For God's people the headship covering is an important symbol of God's order of love, signifying all mankind has equal opportunity to serve. Men, take responsibility seriously, loving and serving your wives and children even as the Lord loved and gave Himself for the church. The submissive woman finds love, security and protection in man, Christ, and the Father.

Since the covering is a symbol, the design should readily identify it as such. A baseball cap, bandanna, or hood may well shield from sun, dust, or arctic air but will not be recognized as a headship covering. Conversely, a man wearing a plain hat for weather protection is not wearing a symbol. [It would be a dishonor to Christ for man to wear a symbolic covering such as a scull cap. (I Cor. 11:4, II Sam. 15:30, Est. 7:8, Jer. 14:3,4)].

The headship covering will be more visible as a symbol of the local church's submission to Christ if members wear a consistent pattern. The Bible does not lay out a pattern or material, but the principle needs to be applied with resources the church has.

*God's love order may or may not be new to us.* Perhaps someone has persuaded us that this beautiful order and symbol applied only to an ancient culture. The apostle Paul says that even nature teaches this principle, and nature does not change with culture. (I Cor. 11:14). Did Paul really mean what he said to the Corinthians? Why is it so important to obey the last eighteen verses of I Cor. 11 and so difficult to apply the first sixteen verses? (II Tim. 3:16)

The headship covering, accepted by the church worldwide for the first 1800 years, has been rejected only in these last days. (The exception is weddings where some remnant of the symbol is still seen.) Traditionally it is unacceptable for men to be covered with any hat in a church service or in the presence of a lady. Is it not strange that this same Scripture (I Cor. 11) has

been applied to the men but not to women? Today this last shred of respect for God's love order is also increasingly disregarded.

Look carefully at I Cor. 11. The woman who uncovers her head is a shameful disgraced woman (verse 6). In Paul's day, these uncovered women participated in ancient pagan religions. Do you see these women in society today? Women who will not experience the order of God's love?

What will we do with this beautiful symbol of God's loving shadow--the protective shelter for all who will submit to His order? Do we trust God? Do we believe our Creator has the best in store for us? (Or are we afflicted with Eve's temptation?) Are we ready to put our confidence in obedience to His word, ready to let Him establish His order in our lives?

Galen Miller

Bourbon, Indiana

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### JESUS, THE NAZARENE

I saw the Jewish temple purged  
While men of business, not of prayer,  
Fled from the place, by terror urged--  
Jesus the Nazarene was there.

I saw the solemn funeral train,  
The widowed mother's silent tear;  
When lo! she clasps her son again--  
The Nazarene had touched his bier.

"Hadst Thou been here he had not died,"  
The weeping, doubting sister said.  
"Lazarus, come forth!" the Saviour cried;  
The Nazarene restored their dead.

I saw the crowds to fury given;  
What could such mortal madness mean?  
Why imprecate the wrath of Heaven?  
Why crucify the Nazarene?

How devils smiled when Jesus bled!  
Vain hope: they thought mankind was lost,  
When bowing low His gentle head,  
The Nazarene gave up the ghost.

But what amazement reigned in Hell  
When Jesus, bursting from the grave,  
Bade to the world this mystery tell:  
The Nazarene has died to save."

I saw the world consumed in flame;  
The just from sin and sorrow free;  
The wicked sunk in endless shame--  
Such was the Nazarene's decree.

I heard the trumpet long and loud;  
Then straight a godlike form was seen;  
He rode enthroned upon a cloud--  
'Twas the despised Nazarene.

I heard the happy heavenly throng  
Praise Him who bought them with His blood;  
I heard the everlasting song:  
"Jesus the Nazarene is God."

Selected by Andrew Albers  
from *The Primitive Baptist "Goble" Hymn Book*



Selection from Great-Grandmother Sophia Baker's writing book

Avoid evil company.  
Be just and fear not.  
Civility costs nothing.  
Delays are dangerous.  
Exhibit your writing.  
Form habits of order.  
God defendeth right.  
Hold fast to truth.  
If you have done a good deed, boast not of it.  
Justice should ever be tempered with mercy.  
Keep good company and be one of the number.  
Labor, well directed, will achieve all things.  
Manners with learning make a gentleman.  
Never speak to deceive nor listen to betray.  
One grain of pluck is worth a pound of "luck."  
Pure religion brings peace and true happiness.  
Quick believers should have broad shoulders.  
Riches cannot purchase mental endowments.  
Set not too high a value on your own abilities.  
To excel in art, you must excel in industry.  
Unwelcome news is always soon enough heard.  
Value a good conscience more than praise.  
Without danger, danger cannot be surmounted.  
Xenophon was a general and a statesman.  
Youth is the proper time to improve in writing.  
Zealously strive to improve in penmanship.

Selected by Rosanna Royer

-----  
We can't all be apostles, but we can all be epistles.

Selected

## OBITUARY

MURRAY A. MARTIN January 9, 1936 - March 9, 2011. A resident of San Pablo, Murray was born in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, Canada, to Archie and Sadie (Crawford) Martin and moved to California when he was ten years old. "Red," as he was known to his friends, and he had many, was a 1953 graduate of Richmond High. He was an Army veteran, attended San Francisco State, and taught the automotive parts class at Contra Costa College. He was in the automotive industry for forty-four years, retiring as the training manager for Gates Rubber Company. He is survived by his wife of fifty-three and one half years, Jackie Charles-Martin; children: Darrell (Mary), Don, Lisa (Brett) Ryland, and Larry; grandchildren: Jessica and Raymond Martin.

Graveside services were held at 1 pm on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at Rolling Hills Memorial Park, San Pablo, California.

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY DEVOTIONS

Family devotions is always an important part of family life. This time is valuable in forming a proper concept of God. If our children see that Father is concerned for their spiritual welfare, then when they are older, they will see God the same way. Is Father knowledgeable, kind, forgiving, consistent, holy, just, truthful, and considerate? If so, it will be much easier for our children to trust God as they grow older.

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (II Tim. 3:15). One interesting way to accomplish this is for Father to start at Genesis and read the

whole Bible aloud to the end of Revelation. At a chapter a day, that will take several years, but it is worth the effort.

When is the last time your family quoted a chapter of the Bible from memory? "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." (Psalm 119:11). Perhaps we could keep alive some of the passages memorized in school by reviewing them in family devotions.

Questions constitute a large part of a child's life. We, as parents, need to answer those questions. In family devotions the Scripture read should be restated in simple terms. This will answer some questions in the child's mind but may raise others. Asking the children questions encourages them to listen and think.

Singing and family devotions go together. The family setting is informal enough to try new songs. Traveling is an especially enjoyable time for family devotions because then there is plenty of time to sing and sing. Family singing especially makes me think of heaven where we will sing around the throne.

Prayer is an aspect of family devotions that makes this time especially important. I remember my parents praying for me as a very meaningful part of my childhood. As we pray for the lost about us, for the ministers and deacons, and for our relatives and friends, we are creating a frame of reference for our children that will be extremely helpful to them later in life.

We have noticed some aspects of family devotions: Bible reading, memorization, questions, singing, and prayer. Usually these should be conducted in an organized way and time and place. Traveling, having company, and suchlike interruptions will bring some variety. But when the experiences of family devotions are taken as a whole, they form a very important part of the life of our children.

By Dennis Good

in *The Christian School Builder*, July, 1990

## BAPTISMS

Violet Taylor Tuolumne, California March 6  
 Samuel Tate Mishawaka, Indiana March 20  
 Alex Royer Nappanee, Indiana March 20  
 Marian Royer Nappanee, Indiana March 20

God bless these dear young members as they serve Christ in His kingdom.

## MARRIAGE

ROYER-MILLER Adrian Royer and Melissa Miller were married March 12 near Wakarusa. Indiana.

New address: 29210 C.R. 28

Elkhart, IN 46517

Adrian's cell: 574-206-5726 Melissa's cell: 574-253-1733

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## FOR YOUTH

## The Task

"I want to do big things," said he,  
 "The chance is all I ask;  
 I wish the world would give to me  
 Some great and glorious task."  
 "And are you working now?"  
 "I am," the youth confessed.  
 A strange look came into his eyes,  
 "At work which I detest."

"Oh," said I, "you wish to do  
 The splendid tasks which fall  
 To older, wiser men, but you  
 Disdain the duties small.  
 Think you your chief to larger deeds  
 Would send you down the way



If, with his smaller, lesser deeds,  
You'd failed him yesterday?

"And do you fancy men who rise  
To leadership and fame  
Have done no work which they despise  
Before their glory came?  
You ask a chance to prove your worth:  
Think you the menial tasks they shirked  
And waited till they'd reached the top  
Before they really worked?"

"My boy, the brilliant man today  
Was brilliant as a lad,  
To every task which came his way  
He gave the best he had.  
Wait not at fate or circumstance,  
They do not run the earth,  
If you've a job you have the chance  
To demonstrate your worth."

Publisher unknown. Selected from  
The Sunday School Herald, March, 1950

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### CHILDREN'S PAGE

#### Freedom?

Mustard the cat lives in town. There are many streets with lots of cars. There are also dogs and people who do not like cats.

Mustard likes to go outside. He does not understand how dangerous it is out there. He wants to go out, and he *will* go out when he gets the chance.

Mustard's friend Ketchup the dog also likes to go outside. In fact, she needs to go outside. She likes to run loose, too, but

usually she is on a leash because of the same dangers. Plus she scares people who do not know her.

For Ketchup and me to get out of the house, I have to open the door wide enough that Mustard can get out, too. He has learned to slip between our legs to freedom.

But is he really free? Outside he is exposed to heat, cold, hunger, thirst, and danger. Soon he wants to come inside again, but often the door is closed, and he must stay out longer than he wants to stay.

Something bad happened to him out there yesterday. Maybe it was a car. Now Mustard is very lame on one leg. He cries because of the pain. Maybe he has learned his lesson.

You can learn a lesson, too. Older people often tell you not to do things you would like to do. They know of dangers you are not aware of. Would you rather be free to do as you please, or free from danger? Surely you do not want to wait until something bad happens to decide it is better to obey.

Martha Wagner, Gettysburg, Ohio

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# THE PILGRIM

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the  
Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## A MOTHER'S REWARD

I do not ask for riches for my children,  
Nor even recognition for their skill;  
I only asked that Thou wilt give them  
A heart completely yielded to Thy will.

I do not ask for wisdom for my children  
Beyond discernment of Thy grace;  
I only ask that Thou wilt use them  
In Thine own appointed place.

I do not ask for favors for my children  
To seat them on Thy left hand or Thy right;  
But may they join the throng in heaven  
That sings before Thy throne so bright.

I do not seek perfection in my children,  
For then my own faults I would hide;  
I only ask that we might walk together  
And serve our Savior side by side.

By Phyllis Didriksen  
Selected by Lloyd Wagner

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## MOTHERS' TRUE LOVE

Do you deserve your good mother? When I remember the devotion of my mother, I must ask myself, "Did I merit such love?" Mother love is notorious for being strong and self-sacrificing.

The loving service of a mother begins before the birth of her child. And then at the birth, the decree of God to Eve takes effect: "I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." But we hear very little complaint from our faithful mothers. They endure the pain and possibly even forget it. John 16:21: "A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world." (Jesus compared this birth to the joy the disciples would receive after Jesus' resurrection.) I can't imagine forgetting such pain, but it simply demonstrates the power of love and God's grace.

My mother was always concerned for the welfare of her children. She gave an example of frugality and contentment even through the Great Depression. She seemed more focused than my father to "make ends meet."

So do we deserve such love? I think we can never really earn the love of mothers, brothers, sisters, or anyone else. Jesus simply commands us to love one another. He has given mother love as one example, as close to Jesus' love as any I can think of.

Paul describes love in Philippians 2:2: ". . . that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." This love which is exemplified so well in our mothers does not consider differences; it is above them. They don't



count as much when we have divine, Calvary love. Differences become objects of prayer and concern but cannot cancel love.

Shakespeare wrote: "Mercy is above this sceptered sway," that of men. Love is like that: much greater than the "force of temporal power." Jesus said that by love men would know they (we) were His disciples. Is the opposite true? If we lack love, will men question that we are disciples of Him who showed love even to the sacrifice of His life?

Mother love also sacrifices life-- not unto death, but to living and demonstrating the love of Jesus to her children and others.

God has given us Jesus' example. He has also given us the pattern of the love of good Mothers. May we follow. --L.C.

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### READY

"Ready?" "Waiting!" This is an example of the conversation between my wife and me before our trips to church, shopping, or doctor appointments. Having recently attended funerals of dear ones near my age has caused me to seriously consider the words of Jesus, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." (Matt. 24:44). My question is, when the Lord asks, "ready?" can we say, "waiting"? Believers in every century since the ascension have been waiting expectantly for Jesus' return.

I am fascinated by studying prophesies of end times. Somebody some where and some time came up with literary term "eschatology" to label such a pursuit. After reading books, listening to lectures, and doing some research on the subject, I am inclined to believe that the Bible may mean just what it says. I also believe that any in-depth study in any version other than the King James version of the Bible may be hazardous to ones eternal health. Please keep in mind that the

study of end times is secondary to our present relationship with Jesus. Some become so incensed with details concerning prophecy that it can result in irrational thinking and behavior. Remember that God is in control. The ultimate result will be the defeat of Satan and the eternal reign of Christ. Death, evil, and sin will be no more.

"And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ." (II Thess. 3:5). Jesus in Luke's Gospel said, "Occupy till I come." This should include our thinking. When traveling we sometimes watch TV at the motels. Other than some repetitive news reels, it's almost impossible to find anything fit to see. I think, "What a waste of time." The World or Satan wants to have control of our minds. How much better it is to think of heavenly things.

One book I have found very interesting is "*Nead's Theological Works*" by Elder Peter Nead. Brother Nead wrote in the 1840's. He presents some challenging thoughts regarding Christ's second coming. When Jesus calls, whether it be by death or trumpet call, may we be ready.

Joseph E. Wagner  
Modesto, California

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### WHAT IS A MOTHER?

It takes a mother's love  
To make a house a home,  
A place to be remembered,  
No matter where we roam.

It takes a mother's patience  
To bring a child up right  
And her courage and her cheerfulness  
To make a dark day bright.

It takes a mother's thoughtfulness  
To mend the heart's deep hurts  
And her skill and her endurance  
To mend little socks and shirts.

It takes a mother's kindness  
To forgive us when we err,  
To sympathize in trouble and  
Bow our heads in prayer.

It takes a mother's wisdom  
To recognize our needs  
And give us reassurance by  
Her loving words and deeds.

And that is why in all this world  
There could not be another  
Who could fulfill God's purpose  
As completely as a mother.

Author unknown

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### WHAT IS A GRANDMOTHER?

A grandmother is a combination of work-worn, aged hands after a lifetime of toil, a loving heart, and endless stories of the days when her family was young.

Grandmothers wear old age with dignity and composure. You don't notice what a grandmother wears; you only see the love and tenderness in her face as she fondles her youngest grandchild.

Grandmothers have spent a whole lifetime cooking meals that statisticians would be unable to record, keeping house, helping neighbors, drying the tears of the past generation as well as the present, and praying that they may be allowed to go on doing it for a few more years.

Grandmothers have run the whole gamut of human emotions: joy, defeat, success, failure, heartache, sorrow, and perhaps tragedy, and have come through with the wisdom and tranquility endowed to those whose tears have been replaced by the calm acceptance and quiet outlook given only to those that have weathered life's battles.

The nicest possible place to hear a story is in grandmother's lap. Giants and Ogres hold no terrors when one is held in the warmth of a grandmother's love, with ones head pillowed on her breast.

Grandmothers can always be counted on to produce sweets, cookies, and candies that seem to taste nicer from her than from anyone else.

Grandmothers just don't believe that their grandchildren have any faults, and can be relied upon to champion the underdog and lost causes; and when a chap is in trouble for not washing behind his ears, a grandmother will console him by telling him that his dad was almost NINE before he overcame that problem!

Grandmothers can soothe unruly weeping small boys or girls just by rocking them on their laps and crooning in soft voices that manage to sound just right in spite of being old.

Grandmothers give the impression of being all the wisdom and love in the world whether it is in giving help and advice to a neighbor or making a hurt finger better with a kiss.

Surely God will have a special place for them in heaven, along with the dear ones whom they one-time helped to be God's "littlest angels."

From *The Quiet Hour Echoes*, May, 1974



## THE EVENTIDE FALLS GENTLY NOW

The eventide falls gently now,  
By Kedron's side, o'er Olive's brow,  
And through the gloom me-thinks I see  
A lonely form in prayer for me.  
The gentle tone, through stately trees,  
Is borne upon the murmuring breeze,  
He bowed His head--God's only Son--  
And meekly said, "Thy will be done."

In fervent prayer for you and me  
He wrestled there in agony;  
With drops of sweat, of crimson hue,  
His brow was wet as with the dew.  
In tears He knelt, with troubled soul,  
While there He felt death's sorrows roll;  
Our sins He bore--the Holy One--  
And said once more, "Thy will be done."

And then before His vision came  
The crown of thorns, the cruel shame,  
The scorn of those He sought to save,  
The reeking cross, the silent grave.  
"This bitter cup. O Lord, I pray,  
Before I sup, take Thou away."  
Yet answered still, as there He knelt,  
"Not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

Gethsemane! O sacred place!  
Once more I see my Saviour's face;  
It shines anew with glory now,  
And angels smooth His pallid brow.

Oh, let me e'er this scene behold!  
 Oh, let me hear the story told  
 Of Him who there the victory won,  
 Who said in prayer, "Thy will be done!"

Clara M. Brooks, b. 1882

From the *Christian Hymnal*

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### GUIDE FOR MARRIAGE

As at the marriage alter now you stand,  
 Dear ones, united in love's holy bond,  
 The Saviour reaches forth His nail pierced hands  
 And bids thee walk with Him the path beyond.

He offers thy unfailing guide to be  
 Along life's devious and uncertain way.  
 To every worthwhile joy He holds the key,  
 Joy's He would have thee know from day to day.

Within thy doors He ever would abide,  
 The blessing of His presence to impart,  
 To be thy counsellor what e'er betide  
 For thou art precious to His loving heart.

Grant at thy table unto Him a place,  
 Yea, yield to Him the headship of thy home  
 Let all thy plans be guided by His grace,  
 And all thy wishes centered in His own.

Let His blest Word be thy unfailing light  
 His promises thy bulwark day by day,  
 His power thy ceaseless source of strength and might,  
 His love thy sunshine all along life's way.

So shall the future hold, dear one, for thee  
Joy which no storm or stress can ever sway  
Peace from above, abundant, full and free,  
And glory that shall never pass away.

Blest is the home on Christ, the Saviour built  
Sweet foretaste of that home beyond the sky,  
Where through the precious blood on Calvary spilt  
And the redeemed shall enter by and by.

From the papers of Hettie Skiles

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### SPIRITUAL MEMORIES

Some of my most powerful SPIRITUAL MEMORIES take me back to when it was held as a virtue to live a simple life. Everything has become so much more complicated as we have closed out the old millennium and have begun a new one, and as the world (and sometimes the church) pursues many of the things this sad world has to offer. Those were the days long before the moon walk, run-away divorce, and the information explosion.

As a child growing up, we had little reading material other than the Bible, *Egermeir's Bible Stories*, for children, and Mama had an old version of *Pilgrim's Progress* which had been given to her by her parents. We wore them all out. Our exposure to art was largely limited to what few pictures we had in these three books. Our exposure to music was our mother singing at the break of day:

*I have found a friend in Jesus,  
He's everything to me,  
He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul;*

*The Lily of the Valley, in Him alone I see,  
All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole.*

Not for a moment did I ever doubt that Jesus was her best friend. Her life was simple and not cluttered with all the things that the world wants to load on us these days.

I have no idea how many copies of the Bible that my father wore out. You see, it was his tradition (Not all traditions are bad.) to read every morning out loud to my mother while the household was waking up and Mama was getting breakfast. This continued until I left home or actually until my father, because of ill health, was no longer able to carry on this tradition.

Do I feel deprived? By no means. Can we go back to the good old days? Of course not. However, I am sure that there are powerful lessons we all can learn from the past. It seems that I remember that some one said that "we can become so worldly minded that we are of little heavenly good." Some one else countered that by saying, "We can become so heavenly minded that we are of no worldly good." I doubt if there is much danger in the latter, but I fear that there is much danger in the former.

In the blessed hope,  
David Skiles

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ADDRESS CHANGES

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Eric Leensvaart	P.O. Box 1001 Twain Harte, CA 95383-1001
Karin Wagner	6994 S.R. 241 Millersburg, OH 44654



BIRTHS

STALTER - A son, Elijah Jesse, born April 9 to Stephen and Lorinda Stalter of Wakarusa, Indiana.

LEENSVAART - A daughter, Shae Eden, born April 21 to Eric and Lorie Leensvaart of MiWuk, California.

MEYERS - A daughter, Shyanne Hope, born April 29 to Justin and Orpha Meyers of Goshen, Indiana.

ROYER - A son, Spencer Lee, born May 5 to Craig and Heather Royer of Goshen, Indiana.

ROYER - A daughter, Larissa Anne, born May 7 to Marcus and Diana Royer of Nappanee, Indiana.

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MARRIAGES

MILLER - TATE Samuel Miller and Susanna Tate were married April 2 at Nappanee, Indiana.

New address: 55514 C.R. 8  
Middlebury, IN 46540

BOWSER - CRAWMER Andrew Bowser and Jena Crawmer were married April 9 in Modesto, California

New address: 6435 Riddle Dr.  
Harrison, AR 72601 ph: 870-741-6869

MARTIN - BATSON Japheth Martin and Jillian Batson were married April 16 near Wakarusa, IN

New address: 68015 C.R. 17  
New Paris, IN 46553

## DO YOU LOVE YOUR CHILDREN?

Do you love your children enough

- \* to take the trouble to discipline them?
- \* to give direction in right and wrong?
- \* to teach them self-discipline?
- \* to protect and nurture them physically, spiritually, and mentally?
- \* to protect the purity of their minds?
- \* to give of your time and interests for their good?
- \* to show them how to spend their own time in constructive and useful purposes?
- \* to take time to teach them a life of faith in God?
- \* to give them a life of love?
- \* to give them a hope of life after death?
- \* to make them happy?
- \* to give them pleasant memories?

"For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment." (Genesis 18:19)

Selected from *The Christian School Builder*, July, 1997

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## A Mother's Prayer

I wash the dirt from little feet,  
 And as I wash I pray,  
 "Lord, keep them ever pure and true  
 To walk the narrow way."

I wash the dirt from little hands.  
 And earnestly I ask,

"Lord, may they ever yielded be  
To do the humblest task."

I wash the dirt from little knees,  
And pray, "Lord, may they be  
The place where victories are won  
And orders sought from Thee."

I scrub the clothes that soil so soon,  
And pray, "Lord, may her dress  
Throughout eternal ages be  
Thy robe of righteousness."

Ere many hours shall pass, I know  
I'll wash these hands again;  
And there'll be dirt upon her dress  
Before the day shall end.

But as she journeys on through life  
And learns of want and pain,  
Lord, keep her precious little heart  
Cleansed from all sin and stain.

For soap and water can not reach  
Where Thou alone canst see.  
Her hands and feet, these I can wash--  
I trust her heart to Thee.

Publisher unknown.

From *Scrapbook of Ideas* by Vera Overholt

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Capitalism without the moral underpinning of the Decalogue  
and the inspiration of the Beatitudes soon degenerates into self-  
destructive greed. --Selected

FOR YOUTH  
Living With Yourself

A few years ago a boy was working in a bank. He ran errands, emptied wastebaskets, and did all the unskilled work. But while he worked, his mind wrestled with a harsh problem. His small wages supported his mother and little sister. The mother had been ill, and was slow in recovering. The little sister, too, was pale and thin. They needed to go to the country for the summer, but where was the money to send them?

And then, as the boy emptied a basketful of trash, there was the answer in his hand--a roll of bills that had fallen there in some way. It was only two or three hundred dollars, but that was a fortune to the boy. Nobody could possibly guess that he had the money. He glanced around, and then furtively thrust it into his pocket.

But the next morning he begged to see the bank president. In surprise the president admitted him, and the boy hastily flung the roll of bills on the desk. "I found that in the wastebasket, sir," he exclaimed, and started to hurry from the room. But the president stopped him.

"Why did you bring it back?" he asked. "Of course, you know that nobody could have suspected you."

"I wanted it badly," answered the boy. "But I've got to live with myself all my life, and I don't want to live with a thief."

It is good to know that the bank sent the entire family to the country for the summer. But the boy had not expected any such recognition of his honesty. He could not live with a thief, even if stealing seemed necessary for the renewed health of his loved ones.

It is very unpleasant to have to live with a person whom you can not respect, or whom you can not like, whether because of bad temper, selfishness, or trickery. And if that person happens



to be yourself, it is so much worse, for you can get away from other people, but never from yourself.

By Anna L. Curtis, in *Friends*  
From *The Youth's Visitor*, November 9, 1952

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### CHILDREN'S PAGE

#### Doing Errands for Mother

"Oh, dear!" said Anne, "I wish I could go along, but I have to do an errand for Mother! It seems as though every time I want to do anything or go anywhere, there is an errand. This time I must get groceries."

"It's just that way at our house," said Ruth. "Mother isn't at home this afternoon or there would be some errand to do. I'll tell you what I'll do, I'll go with you to Emma's. We'll get through faster if there are two to carry the things."

But as they went past Ruth's home her mother was there and called her in to give her a list of things to buy. But since it was fun to go with her chum, Ruth did not grumble. At the store Anne ordered a dozen rolls, six oranges and a pound of sugar.

"Why, that is the very same list I have," laughed Ruth. "You may give me the same, Mr. Brown," she told the grocer.

"They are my things for our picnic," said Anne. "We are to have orangeade."

"Mine are for the picnic, too, Anne. Why, Anne! These things are not for our mothers at all. They are for us. We are really doing the errands for ourselves."

"That's true," said Anne. "And I didn't do my errand very willingly. Wasn't that dreadful to be complaining when mother was getting nice things ready for me? I'm going straight home to tell her I'm sorry."

"I'm going to do that too," said Ruth, "and then I'm going to take those quilt patches right over to Mrs. Doran. Mother asked me to do it day before yesterday for her, and I've been putting it off."

"But that will be your errand too, for you told me that Mrs. Doran is making a blue and white quilt for your bed."

"Well!" said Ruth, in surprise, "I think most of the errands must be for us and we've never thought of it in that way. I'm going to ask Mother if she will let me go for those flower bulbs that Aunt Molly promised her. I know that will be for her because I don't like the smell of hyacinths."

"It's going to be very hard to find errands for our mothers alone, because they think of us all the time." said Anne, "but I'm going to try it."

By Hilda Richmond --*Apples of Gold*  
in *Sunbeams*, May 9, 1948

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the  
Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## SPIRIT SO HOLY

Spirit so holy, Spirit of love,  
Spirit so gentle, sent from above;  
Priceless possession, purchase of blood,  
Good beyond measure, gift of our Lord.

Spirit of wisdom, Spirit of light,  
Spirit of knowledge, showing the right;  
Guide us and teach us, fully to know  
All that in Jesus God would bestow.

Spirit so humble, Spirit so meek,  
Spirit so kindly, helping the weak;  
Work in and through us; make us to be  
Lowly and loving, yielding to Thee.

Spirit of power, Spirit of God,  
Spirit of burning, work through Thy word;  
Search us and sift us, spare not the dross,  
Show us that self life ends at the cross.

Daniel W. Whittle, 1840-1901

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## FILLED AND RUNNING OVER

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. . ."

When something is filled, there is no room for more. Full cups, full gas tank, full grain bins--all mean the same: you can't put in more. I remember in Haiti watching and helping put one last cow on a truck that seemed full already. One backed off but was squeezed on again. When they were through it was packed tight.

Are we filled? Are we full of the Holy Spirit like they were at Pentecost? Probably none of us would claim that degree of the Spirit. And yet this should be our goal, and God is ready to fill us.

At Pentecost the disciples were possessed of the Spirit and completely filled. They ran over in their zeal and enthusiasm. Their hearts were not mixed with worldly desires. What a change took place. No longer were they afraid to meet openly. The message of God's acceptance spilled out in other tongues to "devout men, out of every nation under heaven."

Compare our experience to theirs. We may seem pretty dull and uninspired beside them. But Jesus told Nicodemus that one born of the Spirit is like the wind. You hear the sound. You see the effects. There will be a change in us too when we are filled.

To be filled with the Spirit is like filling a pail with drinkable water. First we must start with a clean pail. If it is dirty, the water will not be fit to drink. Also the pail must be empty. If there is another liquid in it, the result will be unusable. When we fill it, there will be room for nothing else, especially nothing to contaminate the water.

Are we ready and desiring to be filled this way? Truly our lives are made up of various experiences. But what about our



hearts? Will God be pleased with contaminated hearts or hearts with mixed desires?

David prayed after he had sinned and repented, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." God pronounced him a man after His own heart. His heart was full of God's Spirit.

Is this degree of purity attainable? Jesus tells us, "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father in heaven is perfect." We are reluctant to claim this perfection as we know ourselves too well. Only by being filled with the Holy Spirit is any degree of perfection attainable. The perfection is of Him. Our righteousness is that of Jesus Christ.

A hymn says, "He's still working on me." Paul wrote to the Philippians (2:13) "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." It is obvious to me: we can't do this ourselves. Someone has confessed about giving a good, effective testimony: "I sometimes feel like a half filled cup trying to run over." But when we are truly filled by the Spirit we *will* run over, and it will be an effective testimony.

One thing we can do is simply yield to God so He can work in us and fill us. There is no mystery here. We decide to go to church or to take a break from our work or to buy a needed item at the store. God has given us this kind of choice. There is a sense in which we can do nothing for we cannot even breathe without God's allowing it. May we not make excuses but let Him fill us to overflowing that we may be victorious and serve in a needy world. --L.C.

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#### FATHER

The word "father" is used 970 times in the Bible. The Bible often refers to God as The Father. God created man from the dust of the earth, then breathed into him the breath of life and man became a living soul. Thus God is the father of man (Gen.

2:7). Then God formed woman from man (Gen. 2:22). This established God, man, woman as the order for humankind.

Genesis 2:24 gives instructions for a relationship between a man and a woman when establishing a home. When this home is blessed with children, the man becomes a father and the woman becomes a mother. This can be a beautiful thing when the Lord God is honored, worshipped, and obeyed. A home is blessed when directed by a loving husband and father.

This love is more than a fuzzy emotional feeling, but is a dedicated sense of commitment and sacrifice. A Godly father will sacrifice his desires for the benefit of his wife and children. "Husbands, love your wives. . ." (Eph. 5:25). This is a Biblical command. This means placing your wife and family ahead of your own personal interests. Yes, there are times you may have to work late or be away from home, but to become a workaholic or become involved in other activities with the primary purpose of getting away from your fussy children and tired wife is wrong.

Sometimes today's mothers are criticized for being too aggressive. Often it is the husband's fault by not exercising his responsibilities. The relationship of a faithful, believing father to his family is beautifully expressed by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 5:31-33 where he compares a man and wife to Christ and the Church. This closeness extends to the children where Paul in Ephesians 6:4 admonished fathers to exercise Godly wisdom.

It is commendable to honor our fathers. The father is the head of the family. This is God's order. Society's strength is dependant on the family unit. Consequently Satan, in his attempt to destroy has focused on destroying the family unit. He has had and is having success. A few facts are evident. Divorce listings equal marriages in some papers. Some segments of society list 70% of births to single girls and women. There are up to 1500 abortions performed daily in the

United States, and sodomy is being legalized in some states. Regretfully, the fathers are responsible for this. The media, both news and entertainment, tend to portray the man as a wimpy person. The woman is generally the focus.

The Christian fathers are a blessing. As I noted, we are face to face with a sin-oriented society. I encourage all believers, especially the fathers, to not be discouraged but pray continually, love your family, support Christian schools, study the Bible, and worship together.

Joseph E. Wagner, Modesto, California

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### HONOR THY FATHER

Time is filled with swift transition,  
Naught of earth unmoved can stand. . .  
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

The special relationship between a father and daughter evolves and revolves as the clock of life ticks out the times and seasons. The unfolding of the swift transition is as much an adjustment for the father as it is for his daughter.

A baby's first cries, an infant's first attempts to smile, to reach out, are exciting moments which a new father shares with his wife. In the joy of the moment, he scarcely realizes the responsibilities that are entwined in the tiny arms reaching out to him. Time is beating, and soon the infant is an inquisitive toddler.

"Daddy, will you push me on the swing?"

"Daddy, will you take me sledding?"

"Daddy, will you read me a Bible story?"

To these and the countless requests of childhood, Daddy answers cheerfully, "Yes, my child, I will help you."

School days begin. A little girl's world has revolved around Father and Mother, but now it is enlarged to include other friends. There are now other adults to whom she will give the



same respect and devotion that was taught (or neglected) at home. She depends on her father for advice, answers, and assistance.

"Dad, will you drive us on our field trip?"

"Dad, may our class visit our farm?"

"Dad, do you know how to do this math?"

Through adolescent years Dad patiently and kindly helps to smooth the way. In busy times, father and daughter have scarcely been aware of the change in their relationship. Watch carefully, Father. Speak thoughtfully. Allow room for the wings to unfold. As you watch the early steps to maturity, same glad moment you will hear: "Mom and Dad, I'm sorry that I haven't always wanted to listen to you. Can you forgive me? Will you pray with me?"

Humbly Father takes the hand that has trusted in his own and teaches his daughter to trust in the heavenly Father's guiding hand.

"Dad, I'll soon be sixteen. Will you take me to get my permit?"

"Dad, I want to invite some friends over."

"Dad, may I have the car, please?"

In the teenage years Dad fills the gas tank, gives words of caution, and watches with an anxious care as his daughter's circle of interest and work continues to grow.

"Dad, I think this is the one whom the Lord has for me, but it's kind of scary. You and Mom like him, don't you?"

Father's heart is both happy and sad as he realizes the importance of his approval. Graciously he encourages his daughter to give her love and devotion to another.

"Dad and Mom, may we leave the children here for a few hours?"

"Dad, we need your advice. This looks like a big step."

The parent-child relationship which was bonded through love and caring is now between adults. But alas, Time is



relentless. Gradually (or perhaps suddenly) the roles are being reversed.

"Mom, isn't Dad well? Do you need help? We're praying for you."

"Dad, here is your medicine. Take a drink with it. Do you want the children to sing? We love you, you know.

The hands of the clock have nearly completed the circle. As twilight descends, the daughter and her family are giving Father and Grandpa the care, love, patience, understanding, and prayers which he so lovingly gave in the years now gone.

By Mary Ann Martin about her father, Amos Baker  
From *Letters from Home*

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## FAMILY WORSHIP

"For most families across our nation, the "family altar" is considered a relic of the past. While some hold firmly to the individual practice of a daily, personal "quiet time," many openly confess that such a practice is attended to only sporadically, or not at all.

"The family altar, a time when the entire family gathers for Bible study, prayer, and a mutual expression of love, understanding and mission, has been virtually replaced by a myriad of activities. . .

"The Word of God, prayer, and a sense of family togetherness are indispensable elements for effectively facing the challenges of life. It is at the family altar that children come to appreciate the faith of their parents, and parents come to understand and connect with the hearts of their children."

This is part of an article calling for a fresh development in the spiritual life of our families. In the past many fathers worked at home with their wives and children, either on the farm or in a family business. Now so many of the fathers

work away from home. They leave early and sometimes come in late. Time spent with the family is shortened.

In view of this change, family worship becomes more vital as a time of teaching and understanding the needs of our children. With technology reaching the level of 6 or 8 year olds, the world has access to them more than ever before. We fathers and grandfathers must be aware and counteract this.

Let them see us about our Savior's business. Let our children hear us pray for *them*. Let us teach them hymns that honor God. Family worship time is where your children are comfortable asking questions. Be open to enquiries that may seem trite or unnecessary.

Also, make family worship an extension of the church service. Uphold the messages God has laid on the heart of the ministers. Explain teaching that might "go over their heads."

Jesus used a little child as an example of how we must be to enter the Kingdom, and He warned us against offending them--causing one to be lost. May we not neglect them in the very areas close to us--our time with our families. "The family that prays together, stays together." --L.C.

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### BRING THEM UP

From your children's earliest infancy, inculcate the necessity of instant obedience. Unite firmness with gentleness. Let your children always understand that you mean what you say. Never promise them something unless you are quite sure that you can give them what you say. If you tell a little child to do something, show him how to do it, and see that it is done.

Always punish your children for willful disobedience, but never punish them in anger. Never let them perceive that they vex you or make you lose your command. If they give way to petulance or an ill temper, you need to subdue their anger and show them the impropriety of their conduct. Remember, a little

present punishment when the occasion arises is much more effectual than the threatening of a greater punishment should the fault be renewed.

Never give your children anything because they cry for it. Teach them that the only way to appear good is to be good. Accustom them to make their little recitals with perfect truth. Never allow talebearing. Teach them that self-denial rather than self-indulgence will prove in the end to be the most blessed road to travel.

*Herald of Truth*, August, 1866

Tract from Rod and Staff Publishers

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### TO ALL GARDENERS

O Lord, our job's an humble one--  
(Perhaps that's what we need.)  
Just mowing grass and raking leaves  
And sowing seed.  
But as upon the fragrant earth we kneel,  
Often we're made to feel  
We're helping make a happy place  
Where laughing children romp and play,  
And oldsters stroll at close of day.

So much has happened in a garden, Lord.  
The fruit from the forbidden tree  
Was eaten there,  
And in the garden of Gethsemane  
You prayed in agony;  
Then died upon a cross  
But from a garden tomb arose  
To conquer death, the last of foes.  
Then let us in a garden spend our days  
And from a garden lift our hearts to Thee in praise.

--Guy Hootman

## WELL BELOVED SON

In Jordan's tide the Baptist stands,  
Immersing the repenting Jews;  
The Son of God the rite demands,  
Nor dare the holy man refuse;  
Jesus descends beneath the wave,  
The emblem of His future grave.

Wonder, ye heavens! your Maker lies  
In deeps concealed from human view;  
Ye saints, behold Him sink and rise,  
A fit example thus for you:  
The sacred record, while you read,  
Calls you to imitate the deed.

But lo! from yonder opening skies,  
What beams of dazzling glory spread!  
Dove-like, the eternal Spirit flies,  
And lights on the Redeemer's head.  
Amazed they see the power divine,  
Around the Saviour's temples shine.

But hark, my soul, hark and adore!  
What sounds are those which roll along?  
Not like Sinai's awful roar,  
But soft and sweet as Gabriel's song:  
"This is my well-beloved Son;  
I see well pleased what He hath done."

Thus as the eternal Father spoke,  
Who shakes creation with a nod:  
Through parting skies the accents broke,  
And bids us hear the Son of God.



O hear the awful word today;  
Hear all ye nations and obey!

Selected by Andrew Albers  
from *The Primitive Baptist "Goble" Hymn Book*

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### THANK YOU NOTES

To our dear brothers and sisters,

We would like to sincerely thank each of you for all the prayers and support that you have given our family during the surgeries and birth of our daughter. We feel so blessed by each of you. God is faithful and we give Him the glory. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you. (Phillipians 1:3)  
In Christian love, Eric, Lori, Jace, Meg, and Shae Leensvaart

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We want to express our deep appreciation for the many prayers on our behalf over the last several months. Also for the financial help and all the food that has been given to us. May God's blessings be upon you for your efforts.

In Christian love, Duane, Gayle, and family

### I NEED THE PRAYERS

I need the prayers of those I love  
To help me in each trying hour,  
To bear my tempted soul to Him  
That He may keep me by His power.

I want my friends to pray for me,  
To bear my tempted soul above,  
And intercede with God for me;  
I need the prayers of those I love.

--James D. Vaughan

## OBITUARY

Shaniah Dawn Meyers, 18 months, was born November 8, 2009, to Justin and Orpha Meyers. God took her home suddenly on May 12, 2011, in an accident at her grandparents' home.

She is survived by her parents, one sister, Shyann Hope, 2 weeks old; maternal grandparents, Thomas and Rebecca Royer, Goshen, IN; paternal grandparents, Alan and Brenda Meyers, Adel, IA; maternal great-grandparents, Herman and Carol Royer, Nappanee, IN, and Melvin and Marilyn Coning, Goshen, IN; paternal great-grandparents, Martin and Mary Meyers, Adel, IA, and Larry and Jolene Andrews, Raymore, MO; paternal great-great-grandmother, Iva Teakell, Raymore, MO, and many loving uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends. She was preceded in death by one uncle, Ethan Moss.

Funeral services were held May 16, 2011, at the Old German Baptist Brethren meeting house on County Road 40 by the home ministry. Text used was "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21). Hymns used at the church were 370, 499, and "Children of the Heavenly Father." Her body now awaits the resurrection at the Yellowcreek Old Brethren Cemetery.

The family wishes to express heartfelt gratitude to church family, community, and friends for prayers, sympathies, food, cards, phone calls, and many other tokens of support poured out to us over Shaniah's passing. We feel blessed to be a part of such a caring brotherhood and community.

The Family

Shaniah Dawn has left this world;  
How can it be? Such thoughts are hurled  
And tossed about within our head.  
Now she is gone. Her body's dead.

Inside her form she had a soul,  
And God has taken it, we know.  
How good it is to know that He  
Does take all children--just for "free,"

And she must not account bring forth;  
We now praise God for such a worth.  
No sins she has committed here;  
My God just says, "Her conscience clear."

Eternally she'll ever be  
Yonder with Jesus--glad and free.  
Eventually we'll join her there,  
Rejoice with her FOREVERMORE.

So now we'll wait upon the Lord,  
Trust and obey upon His Word.  
Oh 'Niah dear, sweet 'Niah dear,  
We'll miss your girlie ways down here.

But God has planned for you to be  
Up there with all HIS JUBILEE,  
And some sweet day when life is o'er  
We'll want to meet on yonder shore.

Written by Edith Martin, a neighbor and friend,  
for Justin and Orpha

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#### BIRTH

CONING - A son, Caleb Ryan, born May 14 to Thad and  
Suzanne Coning of Goshen, Indiana.

## FOR YOUTH

Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me,  
All His wonderful passion and purity;  
O my Savior divine,  
All my being refine,  
Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.

I'm sure any of us would sing this prayer-song, but my concern is that we give Jesus' beauty room to shine through and not smother it in the vain, gaudy adornments of our bodies. There seems to be increasing concern among us about the fashionable, worldly and immodest trends in dressing our bodies. And the alarm is well-founded.

How can Jesus' beauty shine through when we are so taken up with fashions and hair-dos, etc., that we spend hours perusing magazines and catalogs, window shopping, and even trying on the latest and wildest fashions "just for fun." It seems that when we do these things we are only leading ourselves into temptation, besides being a very poor witness of Jesus' beauty to the world. We are telling those about us that we are discontented with the inward adorning of a meek and quiet spirit and of the simplicity that is in Christ Jesus.

I Peter 3:3,4: "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." How can the beauty of Jesus shine through all the vain display of our clothes and bodies?

Whose attention are we trying to get? Who are we trying to glorify? Our own bodies, to our shame! Our bodies were made in God's likeness to be a temple for His Spirit. And we pollute



them by worshiping the god of fashion and pride. I wonder if Jesus doesn't some times want to come and drive out from our hearts these evil designs just like He drove the money changers and merchandisers from the Temple at Jerusalem.

Another aspect would be to consider all the time and money spent on glorifying our bodies. What will you answer the Great Judge on Judgment Day when He questions you about spending several dollars for those gaudy buttons on a dress when an 80 cent card of plain buttons would have served the purpose of buttons just as well? There are hungry, needy people who could well use those extra dollars.

And what about the hours we spend getting our hair "just right" when there are so many people who could use our help if we'd only use our time more wisely? Helping others with time and money are good ways to give the beauty of Jesus a chance to shine through.

Admittedly, there are those who dress very plainly and modestly, but do not seem to have the meek and quiet spirit. Both are needed to let Jesus' beauty be seen. So, while some of us are tempted to--and yield to--outward adorning of the body, others of us have just as vital a struggle to keep the hidden man of the heart meek and quiet. May God give each of us convictions, followed by real victories in these areas, so the beauty of Jesus will be seen in each of us individually and collectively as a church body.

II Corinthians 11:3: "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

"Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path. . ." (Psalm 27:11).

Prayerfully,

Linda Frick, Gettysburg, Ohio

(Reprinted from *The Pilgrim*, June, 1987)

## CHILDREN'S PAGE

### Two Little Boys

There's a little boy who's so awfully good,  
Who always remembers the things that he should;  
Who never treads on the baby's toys,  
Or stamps up the stairs or makes any noise.  
That little boy, I wish you could see,  
'Cause sometimes, you know, that little boy's me!

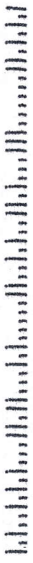
But another boy stays at our house, too,  
And he never remembers what's right to do;  
He pulls the cat's tail and screams at the bird,  
And makes more noise than you've ever heard.  
I wish he lived millions of miles away,  
'Cause I'm that boy, too, I'm ashamed to say.

Author unknown

From *Sunbeams*, October 24, 1948

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# THE PILGRIM

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our heavenly Father, hear  
The prayer we offer now;  
"Thy name be hallowed far and near;  
To Thee all nations bow!

"Thy kingdom come: Thy will  
On earth be done in love,  
As saints and seraphim fulfill  
Thy perfect law above.

"Our daily bread supply,  
While by Thy word we live  
The guilt of our iniquity  
Forgive, as we forgive.

"From dark temptation's power--  
From Satan's wiles defend:  
Deliver in the evil hour,  
And guide us to the end.

"Thine, then, for ever be  
Glory and power divine:  
The sceptre, throne, and majesty  
Of heaven and earth are Thine."

Thus humbly taught to pray,  
By Thy beloved Son,  
Through Him we come to Thee, and say:  
"All for His sake be done!"

Hymn 106

James Montgomery, 1825

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## Leadership Seminar, Haiti 2011

"Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry . . ." sang the Haitians before Leslie took his place beside the interpreter at the 56th Leadership Seminar at Beraca, the Mennonite Gospel Mission to Haiti.

One hundred fifty native pastors and Christian School teachers salaried by hardworking supporters of MGMH listened attentively for five hours through the five day conference even though it was hot and crowded on hard benches. At one side, someone signed for 20-25 persons from their deaf school.

That number doubled in the evenings when the neighbors flocked in for special singing and an evangelistic sermon in the open air. A men's group sang reverently; a mixed group sang "In tenderness He sought me" in their native Creole.

There were no cars; however, six motorcycles carried four passengers each and Teacher Roudly rode his bicycle. The rest walked the steep trails or rode on the back of the mission's trucks, up to eighty five one night!

These attendees are healthy, respectable, responsible. Bible students! We noticed advanced Algebra on three blackboards. It felt like "*an emerging nation!*" They can make a difference in their country, one student at a time.

From Oregon's Western Fellowship Teacher's Institute we'd flown from Portland to Miami, then travelled on with Mission Board member, Loyal and Lena Martin (IN) and fellow speaker, Lester and Cheryl Weiler, (PA). At Port au Prince, the shocking blast of hot air, push and shove co-passengers, and swarms clamoring to assist with our luggage are the sights, sounds and smells; welcome to Haiti! The terminal, damaged in the earthquake, is abandoned. A sea of mud huts and



deteriorating blue tents greet us. Although our fifth trip, we are appalled by the obvious disorder, poverty, trash, chaotic markets, honking horns and loitering men.

The tropical climate lends itself to luxuriant, green vegetation, but alas, not all for food or beauty. Vines and vigorous weeds could be replaced with more edible crops, as yams, cabbages, corn and avocados thrive. *"Where there is no vision the people perish"* we muse. If only they had a reasonable plan for ALL the garbage - litter, wrappers, containers, smelly, visible, everywhere.

Haiti is a paradox - luxuriance and disorder. Children are taught to step carefully through the mud to keep their shoes clean. Walking erect, gracefully, is a result of carrying baskets of avocados, a five gallon bucket of water or heavy bags of charcoal on their heads.

While helping to facilitate at a women's "workshop" I learned that Haitian women may be "beaten up" by a non Christian husband if they don't feed them. Yes, women are expected to make the living, care for the children, feed the men. "Haitian men do not like to work" the translator reported back to me. If the thousands of men standing idle everywhere caught the vision, Haiti could soon be a different country.

The medical clinic was closed during the Seminar; however the traffic for stitches and bandaging kept nurses Sharon Brubaker, (Ontario) and Cheryl Martin, (PA) busy. All the dedicated staff deserve our respect and prayers.

Native Pastor Thomas was the third speaker, on "The work of a Pastor." "Someone that serves should have a servant's heart." "Did you ever see a difference between a servant or a minister?" "I think you have a very good minister in your church. Go to him with your problems." We agree -- they have good leaders in this setting. Actually, the finest in Haiti!

We continue to rejoice in God's goodness to us.

Leslie and Martha Cover

THE CHRISTIAN WOMAN:  
FINDING HER PLACE IN GOD'S ORDER

Dear Christian Sister,

You are a Christian woman. You do not cut your hair. You cover your head. But do you know why you do these things? Is it because your mother did them or because your church requires it of you? Could you give a Scriptural explanation to someone who asked you about them?

Our God is an orderly God. He has placed order in everything that He has created. Nature is orderly, the seasons are orderly, and even the universe is so orderly that we can forecast the positions of the stars centuries in advance. Therefore it should not surprise us that the Lord has designed the church and the family in an orderly way as well.

God's order is listed for us in I Corinthians 11:3. It says here that "the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." God has given the Christian woman a special place in His plan for mankind. She is man's special assistant and serves a very useful place in the church and home (see Ephesians 5:22; Titus 2:3,4; I Timothy 3:11). But God has appointed man to lead in the home and in the church, and has placed the woman under man's authority. Man is to be the head of the woman even as Christ is the head of the man, and God is the head of Christ. Many women resist this truth because they feel that somehow it makes them inferior to men, but no Christian woman will ever find true peace and rest until she submits to God's plan for her life.

God's plan for order does not slight anyone. The Christian woman is not inferior to the man any more than Christ is inferior to God. She does not lose face by submitting to God's plan. Instead, she enhances herself, because there is nothing more beautiful than a sister who is cheerfully living in submission to God. On the other hand, the woman who refuses

to submit or take her proper place must be constantly asserting herself and thus she makes herself obnoxious.

You have seen them, I am sure--the policewoman, the woman customs officer, the woman health inspector, and the woman bank manager. They are often harder to deal with than most men would be in the same position, because a woman constantly struggles with a subconscious need to be sure that her authority is not threatened. But the Christian woman who has submitted to the position God has given her can relax and enjoy life.

When a Christian woman puts a covering over uncut hair, she is showing the world and the church that she is willing to accept her place in God's plan for her life. She is testifying that she wants God to be glorified in her life. Such a sister has found the true source of beauty, and God will bless her for it. Happy indeed is the man who has such a wife.

However, there are women who do not cut their hair and who wear coverings and yet do not accept God's plan. These are the girls who refuse to obey their fathers or who talk back to them when they try to help them. These are also the bold girls that are always talking with the boys and trying to attract attention to themselves by their speech and actions. These are the women who scold their husbands and try to manipulate them to get their own way. They side with their children and protect them when their husband or the church or the school tries to correct them. Such women are not worthy to wear the covering. They are hypocrites if they do so.

There is another reason that the Christian woman wears her hair uncut and covered. In I Corinthians 11:15, we are told that long hair is a glory for the woman--it is part of her beauty. But a godly, modest Christian woman will not vaunt her beauty before the eyes of all men; rather, she reserves it for her husband. Her hair should not be an exception to this.



When a woman allows her covering to become too small, or wears it in a way that is intended to draw attention, she is using her beauty to draw attention to herself and is dishonoring her husband and God. When she puffs up her hair so that it attracts attention, she is telling the world that she wants the glory that should be going to God.

Christian sister, when you dress modestly, comb your hair modestly, wear a modest covering, and portray a meek and quiet spirit, you attract the attention of man to God. You help them to be what God wants them to be. But when you do the opposite, you draw men to yourself, not to God, and you do so by manipulating their lusts-- the desires and passions of their bodies. Thus you are tempting them to sin. God forbid that you, a Christian sister, should be guilty of causing your brother to sin, even in thought, because of your appearance or actions.

"Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." (Proverbs 31:30).

By Lester Bauman in *Light of Life*

Selected by Herman Royer.

## WHEN GOD DOES NOT ANSWER

According to the mottoes on our walls, "Prayer changes things." "Prayer moves the hand of God." The Bible promises again and again that our prayers will be answered:

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7).

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

*Are you asking for specific blessings?*

"Ye have not, because ye ask not" (James 4:2).



Make specific requests to receive specific answers. Many requests are so general it is impossible to determine when and if they are answered.

*Are you asking selfishly?*

"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts" (James 4:3).

God promises nothing to one who wants only to show off possessions and indulge lusts. He knows we sometimes need the answer *no*.

*Are you asking perseveringly?*

"Men ought always to pray, and not to faint" (Luke 18:1).

Sometimes God says, "*Wait*." Perhaps He wants us to pray longer to prepare our hearts for a better answer He has for us.

*Are you asking in faith?*

"[Jesus] did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief" (Matthew 13:58).

God has oceans of grace ready to flood the heart of the trusting believer. He invites us, "Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it" (Psalm 81:10). But unbelief seals off the entrance and stops the flow.

*Are you obeying God's commands?*

"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight" (I John 3:22).

God never promises to hear the prayers of those who stubbornly refuse to obey Him. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psalm 66:18).

*Have you surrendered to the will of God?*

"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us" (I John 5:14).

A spoiled child may demand that his parents supply his every whim. He may ask repeatedly, loudly, insistently, attempting to impose his will upon his parents. A proper child

asks also, but trusts his parents to give what he needs and submits to their superior judgment.

God will be nobody's tool. He never promises to give us just exactly what we ask. That would mean handing the reins over to us and watching us destroy ourselves and others. God has something better for us, which we are too foolish and immature to see. So He says, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things *which thou knowest not.*" He will give, not what we ask, not what we think we need or want, but the better thing that we never even thought of, the resource that really meets the need.

Trust God, obey Him, desire Him, delight in Him--and you will find your prayers answered, your needs supplied, your heart filled.

By Melvin Burkholder

in *Home Horizons*, Eastern Mennonite Publications  
Used by Permission. Selected by Martha Wagner

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#### INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE

Lord, make me an instrument of you peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,  
Where there is injury, pardon,  
Where there is doubt, faith,  
Where there is despair, hope,  
Where there is darkness, light,  
Where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much  
seek to be consoled as to console.  
Not so much to be understood as to understand,  
not so much to be loved, as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
It is in dying, that we awake to eternal life.

A prayer by Francis of Assisi. Selected by Roger Kuntz

TEN COMMANDMENTS  
FOR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PARENTS

1. Thou shalt not seek man's approval, but God's approval in the education of the child.
2. Thou shalt cooperate with the school board, not neglecting attendance at parent-teacher meetings.
3. Thou shalt not send thy child to a Christian school in vain by negating its influence in continually criticizing the school, provoking thy child to wrath at home or living hypocritically.
4. Remember the Lord's command for parents to teach God's laws diligently; thou shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou drivest down the highway, and when thou risest up to work together.
5. Honor thy teacher with commendations, visits to school, acts of thoughtfulness, supportive words, and a reluctance to believe a child's negative report without investigating whether his perception of events is accurate.
6. Thou shalt not kill respect for thy child's teacher, but thou shalt speak positively and favorably of thy child's teacher in the hearing of thy child, and reserve criticism for other times, as necessary.
7. Thou shalt pray audibly for thy child's teacher, and encourage thy child to pray also for his teacher.
8. Thou shalt not steal by refraining from paying thy rightful and expected share of school costs.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy child's teacher, the administrator, school board, or classmates, by passing on gossip about them.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor child's abilities, nor put thy child under pressure by making comparisons with other students, nor desire honor for thy child nor thyself.

--Howard Bean

Reprinted from CLE *Parent Lines*

## OBITUARIES

HERBERT TREADWELL BROWN was born June 16, 1933, in San Fernando, California. He had four sisters, Lillian, Joyce, Janet, and Linda. Upon graduating from high school, he worked for a dry cleaners. He married Ursula at age 19 and at age 20 went to serve in the army as a medic and achieved the rank of sergeant first class. He served for two years in the Korean War.

When he returned, he went to college and earned a Doctor of Pharmacy degree at U.S.C. He built his own house in Sylmar for his family and lived there about 15 years. They then moved to the country near Fillmore. He worked as a pharmacist in Ventura for many years before opening his own pharmacy in Saticoy, which he ran for ten years. He retired in 1998 and moved to Soulsbyville, where he worked at Twain Harte Pharmacy part-time until 2008.

His lifelong hobby was breeding, training, and racing pigeons. In middle age he dedicated his life to Christ and became an avid Bible student. In Soulsbyville he was close to his grandchildren and spent the last thirteen years enjoying them and taking them on trips.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, and granddaughter Jennifer. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Ursula, two children and spouses, Mark and Betsy Brown, and Michael and Lori Walker, his sister Linda Blangsted, eight grandchildren and spouses (Randy and Laura Brown, Darcie and Jacob Walker, Heidi and David Winger, Chelsea, Jeffrey, Charity, Melody, and Kendall Brown) and one great grandson, Justin Walker.

Funeral services were held June 18 by the home brethren in the Mountain View Old Brethren Church. Burial was in Carters Cemetery in Tuolumne.



## LEMUEL JAMES CABLE

Aug. 8, 2011 - Aug. 12, 2011

Lemuel James Cable passed away four days after his birth on Aug. 12, 2011, at Memorial Hospital, South Bend, IN. His parents, Aaron and Arlene (Wenger) Cable, survive along with brothers Jonathon and Wesley; sisters Crystal, Samantha and Tabitha; Grandparents Harold and Elva Wenger, Merideth and Rhonda Cable; Great Grandparents Robert and Betty Meador, Norman and Floretta Cable; and many uncles, aunts and cousins. Lemuel was preceded in death by three infant brothers. This precious little boy will be sorely missed by those who eagerly awaited his arrival.

A graveside service was held on Monday, Aug. 15, 2011, at 11 a.m. at the Old Brethren Church Cemetery.

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## BAPTISMS

Marvin Stalter Nappanee, Indiana August 28

Carmen Flora Tuolumne, California August 28

May God bless these who have decided to follow Jesus.

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## BIRTHS

JOHNSON - A daughter, Jane Ellen, born June 25 to William and Jewel Johnson of Nappanee Indiana.

SAVAGE - A son, Colton Dale, born June 26 to Ian and Charlesta Savage of New Madison, Ohio.

ROYER - A daughter, Rihana Kate, born July 15 to Brenton and Stella Royer of Wakarusa, Indiana.

TATE - A daughter, Janneken Joy, born August 5 to Forrest and Joy Tate of Elkhart, Indiana.

FRICK - A daughter, Nikki Rose, born August 26 to Marlan and Regina Frick of New Lebanon, Ohio.

## ELECTIONS

The Madison, Indiana, congregation of Old Brethren held an election for minister and deacon on August 28, 2011. Brother Sam Royer was chosen for minister. He will be serving with the help of his wife Rosanna. Brother Simon Stalter was chosen for deacon and will be serving with the help of his wife Abigail.

We wish them God's grace as they serve in His Kingdom.

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## MARRIAGE

HARPER - TAYLOR Joshua Harper and Bethanna Taylor were married July 23, 2011, near Twain Harte, California.

New address: 2871 Tyler Rd.

Bremen, IN 46506

c-phones: Joshua: 574-612-8098 Bethanna: 209-352-7339

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## ADDRESS CHANGES

Chris Crawmer: 6201 Blue Gum Ave.  
Modesto, CA 95358

phone: 209-523-0610

Stephen Stalter: 11399 Patterson Rd.  
Wakarusa, IN 46573

Eddie Wagner: 5589 Lariat Lane  
Everton, AR 72633

phones: Home: 870-429-1263

Eddie: 209-499-4768 Deanne: 209-402-7933

Karin Wagner's phone: 209-480-5256

Luke Wagner: 1472 St. Francis  
Modesto, CA 95356

## FOR YOUTH

## All Because of Jealousy

Mother and Jolene gathered cleaning supplies together and began to tackle the job of cleaning the school. "It sure does get dirty in one week's time at this place," observed Jolene.

"Well," explained Mother, "when you think of all the children going in and out these doors five days a week, it is no wonder it gets so dirty. Let's see how quickly we can give the rooms a better appearance."

Jolene hummed to herself as she dusted windowsills and shelves, swept the floor, and checked for hidden cobwebs. "This room looks better already," she commented to herself. Next she moved on to the upper grade room. "Good!" she exclaimed as she entered the room. "Sister Susan changed our seating arrangement last evening. Where is my desk?" Jolene hunted up and down the aisles until she spotted the name tag on her desk.

"H'm-m, second from the back. Who is behind me?" She glanced at the tag in the right-hand corner. "Oh, no, not Helen. I do not want her behind me. She will think she is so-o big, sitting at the back of the row. I wish I could sit in the back once."

As Jolene busied herself with the dusting and sweeping, jealousy grew in her mind. She felt she just could not stand having Helen behind her all the time. "If only I could do something about it," she moaned to herself.

"You could," the tempter suggested. "No one has seen this seating arrangement yet or knows in what order Sister Susan has placed the desks. It would not be hard for you to switch your desk with Helen's. Then you would be in the back!"

Jolene knew that she should never do such a thing, but she liked the idea.. "It sure would be great to be in the very back. Besides, Helen would never know it," she tried to assure

herself. The longer she rolled the idea through her mind, the more appealing it became.

"I wonder where Mother is," thought Jolene. "It would never do to have her catch me in the middle of changing desks around." A quick check in the basement revealed Mother busily scrubbing the bathroom floors, humming as she worked.

Quickly retracing her steps, Jolene decided that now was her chance. Crushing the voice of her conscience, she pulled her desk out of the row, slid Helen's forward, and pushed her own into the back space. "There now, that is settled." And Jolene resumed the cleaning.

But it was not long till Jolene realized it was not settled. Her conscience pricked her as she finished her tasks. No hum flowed from her lips anymore. And when Monday morning arrived, the glamour of sitting in the back of the row was gone. Right before her eyes sat Helen--a constant reminder of her jealous actions. As the days passed, Jolene continued to still her conscience.

Years later, after Jolene was through school, the Spirit spoke again. "You know that you did wrong and that you ought to confess to Sister Susan." Jolene knew she could expect no peace until she did just that. By this time Sister Susan was not even teaching in the area anymore. So taking up a pen and finding her stationery, she wrote to her former teacher. Included in the letter was an explanation of what she had done that Saturday morning a few years back. How foolish it all seemed to her now. "All because of jealousy!" Jolene concluded. Peace flooded her heart as she sealed the envelope and affixed a stamp in the upper right-hand corner.

A few weeks rolled by till one day Jolene found a letter addressed to her, resting in the mailbox. "Who could this be from?" she wondered. Ripping the envelope open, she found a response from Sister Susan.



"I was puzzled that Monday morning when you took your seat in the back of the row. But I thought I must have made a mistake when I arranged the desks. May God bless you for confessing it to me, and you are freely forgiven."

"Oh, the peace of knowing all is well!" rejoiced Jolene as she ambled back to the house. "Lord, help me to keep that ugly weed of jealousy out of my heart."

By Sister Maryann

From The Christian School Builder November, 1991

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### CHILDREN'S PAGE

#### A Little Errand for God

Helen stood on the doorstep with a very tiny basket in her hand when her father drove up and said to her, "I am glad you are ready to go out, dear. I came to take you to Mrs. Lee's park to see the new deer."

"Oh, thank you, Papa, but I cannot go just this time. The deer will keep, and we can go tomorrow. I have a very particular errand to do now," said the little girl.

"What is it, my dear?" asked the father.

"Oh, it is to carry this some where," and she held up the small basket.

Her father smiled and said, "Whom is this errand for, dear?"

"For my own self, Papa; but ah, no, I guess it's an errand for God, Papa."

"Well, I will not hinder you, my little girl," said the good father tenderly. "Can I help you any?"

"No, thank you; I was just going to carry my orange that I saved from my dessert to old Peter."

"Is old Peter sick?"

"No, I hope not; but he never has anything nice; and he is good and thankful. Big folks give him only cold meat and

broken bread, and I thought an orange would look so beautiful and make him so happy. Don't you think that poor well folks ought to be comforted sometimes, as well as sick folks, Papa?"

"Yes, my dear; but I am afraid we too often forget that until sickness and starvation come. You are right: this is a little errand for God. Get in here with me and I will drive over to old Peter's and wait until you have done your errand. Then I will show you the deer. Have you a pin, Helen?"

"Well, here is a five-dollar bill for you to fix on the skin of your orange. This will help pay old Peter's rent, and perhaps this will do a little errand for God, too," said the gentleman.

Little Helen, who had taught a wise man a wise lesson, looked very happy as her fingers fixed the fresh bill on the orange.

Selected from *Sunbeams*, May 30, 1943

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# THE PILGRIM

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the  
Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## ALL THAT THRILLS MY SOUL

Who can cheer the heart like Jesus,  
By His presence all divine?  
True and tender, pure and precious,  
Oh, how blest to call Him mine!

Love of Christ so freely given,  
Grace of God beyond degree,  
Mercy higher than the heaven,  
Deeper than the deepest sea!

Every need His hand supplying,  
Every good in Him I see;  
On His strength divine relying,  
He is All in All to me.

By the crystal, flowing river  
With the ransomed I will sing,  
And forever and forever  
Praise and glorify the King.

All the thrills my soul is Jesus;  
He is more than life to me;  
And the fairest of ten thousand  
In my blessed Lord I see.

Thoro Harris, 1874-1955

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## AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?

Is this a valid question? Cain said it in defence and resentfully. God asked him, "Where is Abel thy brother?" Cain answered, "I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?"

God didn't answer Cain's question immediately. But He pronounced judgment on Cain for slaying Abel. And in the Word and through the ages we are taught that we do have grave responsibility to those around us.

We cannot be careless where God has told us to give a faithful witness. Are we dependable on the job? Would we steal from the government or from a corporation thinking no one would know or care? In the airport are we sober, realizing we are being watched? We remember Aunt Bertie saying, "They take us for Christians, and what is wrong with that?"

Doing business or buying in a store, are we meticulous to pay what is right? An Abraham Lincoln story has him walking miles to give a customer correct change when he had made a mistake.

Eating in a public place, do we bow our heads in thanksgiving for the food? Or maybe we are like the boy visiting his neighbors. When they began a meal without praying, he told them, "You are like my dog; he just eats."

We are called to be an example to those younger. Jesus set a child in the midst of His disciples, and gave him as an example of greatness in the Kingdom. He said we should humble ourselves as a little child. Jesus gave severe warning against offending a child or causing him to be lost. On the other hand, there is blessing in receiving a child. Jesus said it is like receiving Him.



Our example is also vital to a "weak" brother or sister. Study Romans 14 to know Paul's teaching regarding eating meat and observing special days. Verse 15: "But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died." I Corinthians 8:13: "Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend." Can we make this kind of resolve? It may mean real self-denial.

Most important is our witness in our own family. Recently Brother Lloyd charged fathers and all men to accept the leadership in our homes. The world often pictures the man in a foolish, weak image making many mistakes. When this is true, it forces the women to assume leadership they are not given and often are not qualified for either. No wonder John writes, "Love not the world."

The Christian mother in the home has her own place no one else can fill as well. She naturally loves and cares for her children, teaching them manners in addition to godliness.

If not technically "my brother's keeper," we are certainly our brother's helper. We can help with a smile and encouraging words. Praise for a job well done is good if given sincerely.

May we be faithful in our example to our young people, in our homes, in the Church, and, yes, to the world. --L.C.

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## PURPOSE

My primary purpose in writing small essays is to stimulate the reader to engage in serious thinking on Biblical matters. I maintain that the Bible means just what it says. Two expressions which I have recently been exposed to are "Flat Bible," and "Replacement Theology." In light of what I've been taught, both are flawed concepts.

Man has a tendency to complicate things. I buy an automatic camera and find a 93 page instruction booklet in the box. The same is true for a simple cell phone except in this case there were 103 pages. We bought a generic model car with automatic features, and I count nearly 90 controls accessible from the driver's seat. The scholar studies the Bible and needs a library of books to explain it.

The Brethren have rejected creeds and teach that the New Testament is their guide for faith and practice. I base my writings on this belief. I understand that the term "Flat Bible" means that both Old and New Testaments share directives for our lives. The Old Brethren have maintained that only The New Testament directs our faith and practice. We believe Jesus Christ came and fulfilled the Law. Jesus said, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." (Matt.5:17). We are not under the Old Law, including the Ten Commandments. The New Covenant contains and surpasses all that is contained in the commandments which were written on tables of stone. The law, according to the Apostle Paul, was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ.

Under the New Covenant, God's laws are to be written in the hearts of the believers, not on tables of stone. A study shows the old Scriptures and the Prophets look forward to the coming work and sacrifice of our Lord. The Old Testament reflects man's sinful nature and the judgments of God. To bind the Old Law's ordinances and practices on the New Testament Church inhibits the working of the Holy Spirit and negates the teachings of Jesus. We are under the New Covenant, not the Old. "This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." (Hebrews 10: 16,17)

"Replacement Theology." The way I understand this term is that God, before the day of Pentecost, worked through Israel to witness to mankind. After the day of Pentecost, the Church replaced Israel as God's witness to man. In a sense this may have some validity. God would have all men to be saved. In Christ Jesus, God's people are all one, whether Jew or Gentile. God has never had more than one people. I do not see any replacement here but a continuing of God's plan of salvation. The inconsistency of this teaching is the implication of God's Kingdom being involved in secular politics.

God is in control. He has, and still uses secular powers to bring about His purpose. The Church is subject to, but not dependent on civil powers. The prophets foretold much concerning worldly powers. Many prophesies concern National Israel. It seems evident God is working with Israel as a nation, but the unconverted citizen of that nation is no more a child of God than any other non-believer. Only in Jesus Christ is there salvation. Jew or Gentile makes no difference to God. We repeat, God would have all people to be saved and come unto the knowledge of the truth. (I Tim. 2:4). Pardon me for wading in a little deep on this sensitive issue. God is in control. Study the Word. Be not deceived. To be one of God's saints and a member of Jesus Christ's bride at His coming should be our primary purpose.

Joseph E. Wagner  
Modesto, California

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## CHRISTIAN WITNESS IN ATTIRE

The purpose of this article will be to discuss the general Biblical principles regarding Christian attire and the traditional *order* of the Brethren church in its application.



To discuss this subject intelligently, it seems necessary to notice two apparently extreme views concerning it. On the one hand, there are those who assert that it is unimportant what we wear--that *Clothes do not make a Christian, and if the heart is right, all is right.* And, conversely, there are many who seem to think that the clothes we wear and other outward appearance constitute the total witness and proof of Christian discipleship. We believe that both these attitudes are unscriptural.

It is true that *clothes* do not make a Christian. But we feel certain, and hope to demonstrate in this article, that there are but few persons (Christian or nonchristian) who actually think it unimportant what kind of clothes they wear. For people in all walks of life will try to dress in a manner consistent with their occupation or position in society. They will either consciously or unconsciously express their individuality or character in their clothes. **Therefore the clothes we wear become a *sign* of what we are,** or what we think we are, or of what we wish others to think we are.

We are told that *clothes* is one of the most discussed subjects in society, and people will admire others or be shocked by the kind of clothes they wear.

James Quinter, in an article on Christian apparel in the *Gospel Visitor*, 1865, says, "It is thought by many that the subject of clothing is too trifling to occupy the attention of intelligent people, as it belongs to the exterior of the Christian and not the heart, and as the heart is the seat of the Christian graces and emotions, the dress can have little to do with Christian character. It has been said by some writer that 'Flowers are not trifles, as one might know from the care that God has taken of them everywhere.' And further, can anything be justly considered a trifle that has ever occupied the attention of God, or upon which He has given laws and precepts?"

Clothing was the first thing of concern and urgency to Adam and Eve after they had sinned in Eden. And God was



equally concerned about how they were dressed and was totally unsatisfied with their ideas and means of clothing themselves. So important it was, and so great was their need, that it cost the life of another of the living creatures which God had made to properly clothe them. The inference is that this was the beginning of the slaying and sacrificing of animal life on earth. The manner in which God clothed them undoubtedly had both a practical and significant purpose: first, to protect their naked bodies, and also for a *sign* to remind them of the result of their sin.

Perhaps many people are unaware of how often the manner in which individuals are clothed is mentioned in the Bible--and what it signifies. First, our attention is directed to Exodus and Leviticus where a description is given of the beautiful garments of Aaron and his sons which were to be worn "before the Lord" in the tabernacle and altar services. There can be no doubt but that the various orders of the priest's garments were for *signs* of certain truths concerning their service and relationship to God, both present and future.

Other Scriptures describe how certain Bible characters were dressed and what it signified:

Tamar, David's daughter, had a garment of divers colors, "For with such robes were the king's daughters who were virgins clothed." (II Sam. 13:18)

Daniel was clothed with scarlet. (purple) (Dan. 5:29)

John the Baptist was clothed with "raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins." (Matt. 3:4)

The rich man was clothed with "purple and fine linen." (Luke 16:19)

The "two witnesses" are clothed in sackcloth. (Rev. 11:3)

James 2:2,3 tells of the contrast of the raiment of the rich and the poor, and how the manner in which one is dressed might determine his social standing.

Garments of widowhood. (Gen. 38:14)

"Royal apparel." (Esther 8:15)

Shepherd's garments. (Jer. 43:12)

"Rough garments to deceive." (Zech. 13:4)

"Prison garments." (II Kings 25:29)

"Sheep's clothing." (Matt. 7:15)

"Wedding garment." (Matt. 22:11)

"Shining garments." (Luke 24:4)

Jesus had a garment that was without seam, "woven from the top throughout." (John 19:23)

The angel that appeared to John on Patmos was "clothed with a garment down to the foot." (Rev. 1:13)

All of these Scriptures and many others show that from the most ancient times, the manner of clothing worn by individuals was an indication of their occupation, social position, pursuits, or attitudes. This usage and principle does not change. Everyone will try to dress consistent with what they think their position in life and society demand.

No one expects to see a man in the field doing farm work dressed like a banker. Nor a cook in the kitchen dressed like a society matron. Nor a minister in the pulpit dressed like a cowboy. A worshipper in the assembly of the saints would not be expected to be dressed like a clown. Other examples could be mentioned, but these are sufficient to demonstrate that our clothes are a sign of our attitudes or position.

Thus we come to the main emphasis of our subject: What are *we*? ***What do we wish to express, ourselves or Christ? Our own individuality or the fellowship and unity of the body of Christ?*** The adornment and glorification of this corruptible body of sin (with all its appeal to the lusts of the flesh), or the adornment of the *new creature* within--the hidden man of the heart?

It should be remembered that *clothing* is still closely and deeply related to the *sin* question, the same as it was in Eden.

But people are trying to ignore this fact, and in our time many are going almost entirely without clothes. But their sin remains, and their shame is not covered.

We freely recognize and urge that the whole concept of the Christian religion is based on the proposition of changing the hearts of men and women. The law demanded obedience, but men could obey the outward demands of the law and still not have a heart for God. This is why Heb. 9:9 says of the offerings made under the law, that it could not make him that did the service "perfect as pertaining to the conscience." And it is the reason for the statement in the beginning of this article that clothing and other outward appearance should not be the first consideration of an individual coming to Christ.

However, once the mind is transformed and the heart changed and given to Christ, then it is consistent to signify it. **There can be great advantage for the Christian to show to those about him by his manner of dress, that he has changed his allegiance and service from that of an earthly and worldly society to the fellowship of saints in Christ, which is the Church.**

If there were no visible body of Christ, then this argument would be without meaning. But when we truly understand our relationship to Christ and one another and the vast superiority of its heavenly nature over that of the world and its interests, then who would not want to signify their change of fellowship and affections? *Why should Christians want to appear in the form and fashion of the social and political system that crucified their Lord?*

Romans 12:2 says, ". . .and be not conformed to this world." Another translation of this says, "Do not conform to the fashion of this world." The Apostles Paul and Peter (I Tim. 2:9 and I Peter 3:1) enjoin Christian women to dress modestly and not adorn their bodies with expensive and lavish clothing and fashionable hair styles, or by wearing of jewelry; all of



which is inspired by pride and promotes bodily appeal and lust. But they are told to let their adorning be the inward character, which is of highest value to God--and even so to men who know and appreciate true values.

The traditional "order" of the Brethren church is intended to meet these Scriptural requirements for Christian apparel, and, if observed in its true spirit, will do so. This "order" is now more commonly called "the uniform," but it is not fully a uniform as it has, and always has had, considerable variation in the different parts of the brotherhood and with various individuals.

Many persons of middle age and older, can remember when the terms "the order" and "plain clothes" were used almost entirely instead of the now comparatively new term "uniform." *This change of emphasis from "plain clothes" to "uniform" may not be the most Scriptural as it is possible thereby to wear the "uniform" but in various ways, by buying costly materials and fashionable weaves and colors, and fitting them to display and adorn the body, to violate the spirit of the apostolic instructions regarding Christian apparel, and thereby bring disrespect and reproach upon an order which had reasonable and Biblical grounds for its adoption.*

The people of the world are not opposed to the wearing of uniforms, nor is its purpose strange to them. There may be more wearing of uniforms now than at any other time in history. The armed forces of the nation has identifying uniforms for its various branches. There are police and railroad men's uniforms, boy scout, choir, and band uniforms. There are other religious uniforms such as Salvation Army and Roman Catholic orders.

The purpose of all this is clear: It is a *sign* that they belong to a fellowship or partnership with others in what they believe to be a worthy cause, and shows who holds priority over their services.

So it is with our "order" or "uniform." It is intended as a sign that we are not alone in our service, but belong to a



fellowship which we understand to be the Body or Church of Christ--a most worthy cause indeed. At the same time it signifies a *separation* from the sinful and corrupt world system. It is also a sign that we are a part of a *historical church* which embraced these high Christian principles and sacrificed and suffered for them.

But, as stated before, this non-conformity can not have any value for its own sake. In itself, it is wholly negative. And without the positive attributes of *transformation* and *conformity* to Christ, it would be without virtue. There is danger in the thinking of anyone who may look upon outward forms only, as a true witness of Christian discipleship. Non-conformity must be a result of being *conformed* to Christ. Separation from the world must be a result of being joined to the Body of Christ--even as in the marriage state.

In conclusion: We believe the Brethren's order of clothes in its true meaning should never be considered a "sacrifice," but a willing public sign that our relationship with the world and service to its vanities has been severed, and that conformity to Christ and service to His Church is our new goal. The clothes we wear cannot be the proof, but are definitely a *sign* we are Christians.

May we ever be mindful, therefore, of what we signify and always be true disciples of Jesus.

Daniel F. Wolf

(This article is available in tract form by writing to  
*The Pilgrim.*)

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Man cannot be saved by perfect obedience  
because he cannot render it.  
He cannot be saved by imperfect obedience  
because God cannot accept it.  
The only solution is Calvary. --Selected

## OBITUARY

## FOR GOD TOOK HIM

"For God took him," was said of Enoch,  
Who walked with God in days of yore;  
His life a living testimony;  
Death did not ever test him sore.

"For God took him," We say of Enoch,  
An unborn child, still safe within  
His loving mother; his short life finished,  
Never once exposed to sin.

"For God took him." Yes, there's sorrow,  
Empty arms that long to hold  
Your little baby, precious treasure  
Forever safe within Christ's fold.

"For God took him." Words of comfort  
To those who rest in God's strong arms.  
"Give him to me," our Father whispers,  
"I will keep him from all harm."

Oh Heavenly Father, keep our children,  
Those who've gone, and those who stay.  
Help us, guide us, and equip us,  
Faithful to Thee, keep us we pray. -- Lloyd Wagner

Written in memory of Enoch Joel Cover, stillborn son of Peter and Denita Cover (September 13, 2011). Graveside service was held September 14 at Wood Colony Cemetery, Salida, California.

A brief life is not an insignificant life. We know that we are created to glorify God with our lives. This too, was the purpose for Enoch's life, and this he fulfilled, and continues to do so in heaven.

We thank everyone who has been so kind and supportive through this time. The prayers, mail, meals, and words of love have meant a lot to us as you've shown God's love in action. Thank you, and may God bless you.

--Peter, Denita, and Family

-----

#### BAPTISMS

Deborah Beery	Goshen, Indiana	September 18
Isaac Beery	Goshen, Indiana	September 18
Holly Flora	Nappanee, Indiana	September 18
Frances Martin	New Paris, Indiana	September 18
Konrad Martin	Nappanee, Indiana	September 18
Charity Royer	Mishawaka, Indiana	September 18
Judah Royer	Nappanee, Indiana	September 18
Rob Sauder	Tuolumne, California	September 25

Correction:

*Myron Stalter*, Nappanee, Indiana August 28

-----

#### ADDRESS CHANGE

Tim Yoder 59115 C.R. 33  
Middlebury, Indiana 46540

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#### PARABLE OF THE PENCIL

The Pencil Maker took the pencil aside, just before putting it into the box. "There are five things you need to know," he told the pencil, "before I send you out into the world. Always

remember them and never forget, and you will become the best pencil you can be."

"One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in someone's hand."

"Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, but you'll need it to become a better pencil."

"Three: You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make."

"Four: The most important part of you will always be what's inside."

"Five: On every surface you are used on, you must leave your mark. No matter what the condition, you must continue to write."

The pencil understood and promised to remember, and went into the box with purpose in its heart.

Now replacing the place of the pencil with you, always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best person you can be.

One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in God's hand. And, allow other human beings to access you for the many gifts you possess.

Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems, but you'll need it to become a stronger person.

Three: You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside.

Five: On every surface you walk through, you must leave your mark. No matter what the situation, you must continue to do your duties.

By understanding and remembering, let us proceed with our life on this earth having a meaningful purpose in our heart.

--Selected (Author unknown)



## FOR YOUTH

Today is a new opportunity with new horizons, new adventures, new challenges.

Today I will make new mistakes, and through those I will make new discoveries!

Today is a fresh chance to be pursued by the God of the universe; a fresh day to see His beauty around me with new eyes.

I have been given one more day--this day to cherish memories, forgive hurts, trust in my God, and be an example of a child of my King.

Today I can look to my God in moments of joy and turn to Him for solace in moments of sorrow.

This day--today-- is a new opportunity to step out with confidence, and know that if I fail, God has a plan.

This all lies before me. It is my choice. What will I do with this moment?

-- Esther Taylor  
Tuolumne, California

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## CHILDREN'S PAGE

## JESSICA

"Ow-w-w," screamed two year old Jessica as her father gently carried her in and the nurses unwrapped her swollen arm.

Jessica lives in Haiti and her mother cooks on three rocks on the ground outside their small home. Jessica burned herself badly by falling into a kettle of hot cornmeal.

Kind nurses at the mission's clinic carefully soaked her arm in cool water to relieve the heat trapped in the swelling bubble.

"Bring her back twice a day so we can change the bandage," the nurses instructed. But when the parents failed to return, Sheryl and Sharon headed out to try to find their home. They discovered a hurting little girl, her arm all black, pussy and bleeding since Jessica doesn't leave the bandage on very long. Sadly, many children in Haiti are not taught to be obedient to their parents or anyone.

Back at Jessica's home a few days later, the nurses met her grandpa. His eyes were not Christian eyes. He refused to let the parents bring Jessica to the clinic for fresh bandages. Instead, he had smeared a homemade remedy of boiled goat manure mixed with oil and indigo to "dry up the burn" on her arm.

We are blest to live without fears and superstitions. We have clean, available, safe healthcare practises. Dear children, be thankful for parents who love Jesus and who love you.

-- Martha J. Cover

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# THE PILGRIM

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## FOR ALL THE BLESSINGS OF THE YEAR

For all the blessings of the year,  
For all the friends we hold so dear,  
For peace on earth, both far and near.  
We thank Thee, O Lord.

For life and health, those common things,  
Which every day and hour brings,  
For home, where our affection clings,  
We thank Thee, O Lord.

For love of Thine, which never tires,  
Which all our better thought inspires  
And warms our lives with heavenly fires,  
We thank Thee, O Lord.

Albert H. Hutchenson

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## THANKSGIVING

Did you thank God today? Did you thank Him for creating you? Did you thank Jesus for dying in our place? Did you thank God the Spirit for giving you direction and support? These questions are for me and for all because naturally we are not thankful people. We need to be reminded.

I think of a child coming to his mother holding up a toy or piece of candy some loving person gave him. "Did you say thank you?" "No." "Go back and thank him."

We should go back in our memories to thank our loving Heavenly Father for all He has done and is doing.

In 1891 the Swedish author, August L. Storm composed a meaningful poem of thanks. For our benefit it was translated into English by Carl E. Backstrom.

*Thanks to God for my Redeemer.* Our Savior left His Heavenly Home to come to redeem us. Redeem means to buy back, and He did this with His blood. Some leave their homes with reluctance and suffering, but this cannot compare with the way Jesus left the splendor of heaven for the squalor of earth.

*Thanks for all Thou dost provide.* God is an abundant Provider. We have so much from Him and none of it of our own. "What hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" (I Cor. 4:7) From the context it is plain that Paul was not thinking of just physical blessings. He was more concerned for their peace and their relation to God.

*Thanks for times now but a memory.* Shakespeare has Mark Antony saying, "The evil that men do lives after them; the good is oft interred with their bones." Yes, we tend to remember unpleasant things, but let us consciously recall good and forget the evil--especially about people.



*Thanks for Jesus by my side.* Hebrews 13:5: ". . . for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Matthew 28:20: ". . . lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." With these specific promises, we should trust our omnipotent, omnipresent Lord for the future.

*Thanks for pleasant, balmy springtime.* It's easier to be thankful and happy during favorable times.

But, *Thanks for dark and dreary fall.* I Thess. 5:18: "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God concerning you." We pray often for God's will. But here is God's will expressed--that we be thankful in all times, in all conditions.

*Thanks for tears by now forgotten.* Some causes for tears are remembered long. Deep sorrow does not just go away.

Another song says: *Thy way and all thy sorrows*

*Give thou into His hand.*

He is the divine Comforter.

*Thanks for peace within my soul.* Jesus left us His peace. He gave it to us. It is the peace "that passeth understanding," felt rather than understood. The world cannot give it or take it away.

In I Timothy 2:1, Paul exhorts that supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks be made for all men. Can we give thanks for all men--even for those who might irritate us?

What effect should giving thanks in all these areas have on us? Our lives should show obedience and a consciousness of great privilege. A life of gratitude will be devoted to serving others--to kindness--to encouraging and comforting.

It was a Samaritan who returned to thank Jesus for healing him of leprosy. Jesus remarked about the nine others who were also healed. "Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?" I would like to think this Samaritan became like the other one who ministered to the man who fell among thieves. May we also serve and be thankful. --L.C.

## FORGETFULNESS AT THANKSGIVING

Does prayerful thanks season all your food and brighten all the atmosphere about you? It surely will if you are a Christian in deed and in truth, and not in name only. There are some people who are never content no matter what blessings surround them; while others are happy even in adverse circumstances. It is the condition of the heart, and not the outward circumstance, that causes people to be happily thankful or wretchedly ungrateful.

The thankful person is the exception rather than the rule. Let us be that exception! We can be the lone Samaritan who returned to Jesus and gave thanks. Jesus experienced this when He traveled the border between Galilee and Samaria. He encountered a group of men that were bound together by the common misfortune of leprosy. One of the men was a Samaritan, a man whose life had been scarred by racial prejudice and the stigma of being born into a mongrel race. Jesus healed all ten men, but the Samaritan was the only one who took the time to give thanks for another chance. The other nine never came back to give thanks or identify themselves with the One who was responsible for their healing. It appears the nine hurried off, clutching their blessings, never to cast back even a thought to the Giver. Jesus said, ". . . Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?" (Luke 17:17) What a tragic example of ingratitude!

The spirit of unthankfulness, Paul told Timothy, would characterize men ". . . in the last days (when) perilous times shall come" (II Tim. 3:1). How noticeable is this mark today! If no rain appears for a time, or too much seems to come, how distressed and faultfinding some people are. But when rain is given them from heaven and they are blessed with fruitful seasons, how very seldom will they recognize these favors as a

witness of God's goodness. Paul speaks of God as ". . .filling our hearts with food and gladness" (Acts 14:17). But all too often we are daily loaded with God's benefits, yet our hearts are not filled with thankfulness.

In one of John Wesley's sermons, he tells of the king of France who was lost while fox hunting in the dense forest. Intent on following the fox, the king outrode his servants and became separated from the royal hunting party. For many hours he wandered through the forest, weary and hungry, until he came to a little cottage. He asked for something to eat. He was hospitably treated by the poor family, and given the best they had to offer: a simple meal of bread and cheese.

Soon the other members of the hunting party, who had been seeking the king in vain, rode up and found their sovereign at this humble home. When the king saw them at the door, he immediately cried out, "Where have I been all my lifetime? I never before tasted such good food in my life." One of the men in the hunting party replied, "Sire, you never had so good sauce before; for you were never hungry."

John Wesley said after giving this illustration: "Now it is true; hunger is a good sauce. But there is one better still; that is thankfulness. Surely the most agreeable food is seasoned with this. And why should not yours be such at every meal?"

Nothing is so rewarding to a loving heart as to pour itself out in thanks to Jesus. Thankfulness knits us to Jesus in such a way as to make us more like Him. So let us continue "Giving thanks always for all things. . ." (Eph. 5:20)

By Lewis Brevard in *Pulpit Helps*

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## GRATITUDE

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns problems into gifts, failures into successes, the unexpected into perfect timing, and mistakes into important events. It can turn an existence into real life, and

disconnected situations into important and beneficial lessons. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.

By Melody Beattie, in *The Language of Letting Go*  
Selected by Lena Martin

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### BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY

In speaking of a person's faults,  
Pray, don't forget your own.  
Remember, those with homes of glass  
Should never throw a stone.  
If we have nothing else to do  
Than talk of those who sin,  
Yes, better we commence at home  
And from that point begin.

We have no right to judge a man  
Until he's fairly tried;  
Should we not like his company,  
We know the world is wide.  
Some may have faults, and who has not?  
The old as well as young;  
Perhaps we may, for aught we know,  
Have fifty to their one.

I'll tell you of a better plan,  
And find it works full well,  
To try my own defects to cure,  
Ere other's faults to tell.  
And though I sometimes hope to be  
No worse than some I know,  
My own shortcomings bid me let  
The faults of others go.



Then let us all when we begin,  
To slander friend or foe,  
Think of the harm one word may do  
To those we little know.  
Remember, sometimes curses, like  
Our chickens, roost at home;  
Don't speak of other's faults until  
We have none of our own.

Selected

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### WHY TEACH THE LITTLE ONE?

Harold Chugani, a neurologist at the Children's Hospital of Michigan, has done research that reveals the great capacity of growing human brains to absorb information. He discovered that, by age 2, the infant's cortex is operating at adult levels. At age 4, that child's brain is twice as active as the adult brain and continues at that rate until age 10, when it begins to slow down. By age 16, it has slacked off to the pace at which it will continue through adulthood.

God's wisdom is seen in His stressing the importance of instilling in children the truths of His Word at an early age (Pro. 22:6; Deut. 6:4-7). By exposing them to a large quantity of Bible teachings in their early years, we can be instrumental in programming their "mental computers" so that they know the mind of God and think as He does.

As they reach adulthood, they can then choose to have good, honest hearts that will make them faithful followers of the Lord. (Luke 8:15)

Mike Mays (Selected)

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Don't ask God to guide your steps  
unless you are willing to move your feet.

## OBITUARY

**Ruth Irene Garber**, daughter of Paul and Mary (Benedict) Baker, was born October 25, 1969, in Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada, and the Lord called her home on September 24, 2011, at the age of 41 years, 10 months, and 30 days.

She spent her childhood days near Maple, Ontario, Canada. She was baptized into the Old German Baptist Brethren Church in June, 1985, to which she remained faithful until death. She was united in marriage with Clair Garber on October 31, 1987, and they spent the first 18 years of their married life in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, in the Falling Springs District. In March, 1995, Clair was called to the ministry. Ruth faithfully assisted him in these labors. In 2006, the family moved to Somerset County, Pennsylvania. She was a charter member of the Stonycreek District.

Ruth attended the Stonycreek Lovefeast September 24, Saturday morning, anticipating communion in the evening, but the Lord had other plans for her. Saturday afternoon she became sick and was transported to the Johnstown Hospital where she passed away very suddenly with an aneurysm.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Betty Baker; paternal grandparents, Amos and Edna Baker; and maternal grandmother, Rhoda Benedict.

Left to mourn her passing are her loving and devoted husband; two sons, Glen and Edwin; three daughters, Betty and husband Byron Hess, Stella, and Nina. Also her parents, Paul and Mary Baker; father and mother-in-law, Fred and Martha Garber; maternal grandfather, Joe Benedict; brothers: David and wife Amanda, Jonathan and wife Rosalie; sisters: Ruby and husband Ivan Benedict, Susan and husband Aaron Kinsley, Rachel and husband Loren Brubaker, and Rebecca and husband Myron Hess.

Following a family service at the home, funeral services were held by the Brethren at a temporary facility at the Berlin Grove. Interment was in the Hays Church Cemetery close to their farm near Meyersdale, Pennsylvania.

She will be greatly missed by her companion, children, family, and the Stonycreek District, but we trust our loss is her eternal gain.

The Family

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IN A MOMENT  
(I Corinthians 15:52)

QUITE SUDDENLY -- it may be at the  
turning of a lane,  
Where I stand to watch a skylark soar from  
out the swelling grain.  
That the trump of God shall thrill me, with  
its call so loud and clear.  
And I'm called away to meet Him, Whom  
of all I hold most dear.

QUITE SUDDENLY -- it may be in His House  
I bend my knee,  
When the kingly Voice, long hoped for, comes  
at last to summon me.  
And the fellowship of earth-life that has  
seemed so passing sweet.  
Proves nothing but the shadow of our  
meeting round His feet.

QUITE SUDDENLY -- it may be as I tread  
the busy street,  
Strong to endure life's stress and strain, its  
every call to meet,

That through the roar of traffic, a trumpet,  
 silvery clear,  
 Shall stir my startled sense and proclaim  
 His coming near.

QUITE SUDDENLY -- it may be as I lie in  
 dreamless sleep,  
 God's gift to many a sorrowing heart, with  
 no more tears to weep  
 That a call shall break my slumber and a  
 Voice sound in my ear:  
 Rise up, my love, and come away, behold  
 the Bridegroom's here.

Author unknown to us

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Sin will take you farther than you ever wanted to go, keep  
 you longer than you ever wanted to stay, and cost you more  
 than you ever wanted to pay. --Selected

#### HEIRS OF THE PROMISE

This booklet by Daniel F. Wolf is available for \$5.00  
 postpaid. It is a fifty-nine page commentary on God's promises  
 to Abraham and the relation of Israel and the Church to the  
 Kingdom of God. Order from

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## WHAT MOVIES DID FOR ME

By a Teen-Ager

*This article speaks of a problem young people have to deal with. Today the internet takes the place of movies as easy temptation. Some have already been drawn in by it. The internet is private and accessible, and if parents are not careful, children can be easily tempted. This was written over 50 years ago, reprinted by Brother Dan Wolf in The Pilgrim in 1958, but the problem is timeless. --L.C.*

I was quite young when I saw my first movie--only about eight. A picture of the initial scaling of Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, had come to town, and my school teacher had written to my parents urging them to let me attend a special after school showing of this educational picture at the theater. Reluctantly they agreed, and I went.

It proved, however, that the Mount Everest picture was only one item on the program. The main feature was the story of a freckle-faced boy who broke his father's heart by running away from home and then had his own heart nearly broken when his father died. I remember how strongly I was moved by that picture. It made a far greater impression on my mind than the educational picture. I cried over it and decided that, as for me, I never would do anything to hurt my father or mother.

The thought came, "Movies can't be so bad, after all, when they give me feelings of this kind." Many have used the same argument. "There are some really good pictures," they say. "Some films are very religious." And this leads me to mention my first criticism of the movies, which is that they are

**ANTI-CHRISTIAN IN THEIR EFFECT**

What is that? Because the goodness they teach is human goodness. They give the impression that any young person can

be good if he tries hard enough, whereas the Bible teaches that the only righteousness acceptable to God is that which is produced in one's life through the redeeming work of Christ. No one can be good enough to enter heaven; each one must be "born again," the Bible says. But you will not find that Gospel message in the movies.

Besides, there is always a mixture. I have attended the theater hundreds of times and have seen some of the so-called "good" films, and I cannot remember a single program which did not have something on it that would violate a Christian's standards of purity, piety, and modesty.

My second criticism of the movies is that they are

#### WORLDLY IN THEIR INFLUENCE

It was through movies that I learned the ways of the world. I had been brought up in a Christian home and a good Sunday school, but when I reached my teens and started going to the movies regularly, I fell in with very worldly companions and started to smoke, to dance, to keep late hours, and so on. My sister had the same experience. She had been genuinely saved and filled with the Spirit, and never had tasted the pleasures of sin until she began going to the movies; but it wasn't long until she was backslidden and deep in the things of the world--and now she is married to an unbeliever.

We read: "All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." When I read that verse after I was saved, I thought at once of the movies. In them are combined all three of these elements of that forbidden realm called "the world." Don't movies cater to the lust of the flesh--that is, to the desires of our carnal nature? Obviously they do. Do they cater to the lust of the eyes? Yes, they portray before the eye nearly everything an unsaved person desires to see. Do they foster the pride of life (ostentation, vain boasting or glory)? Surely they

do; the gorgeous clothing, the luxurious homes, the deeds of heroism that are shown in the movies create a love of display.

The third thing I would like to mention about movies is that

### THEY BRING YOU UNDER BONDAGE

I was in bondage to the movies for several years, until I was converted. I was in my teens when they got their grip on me. I worked at a grocery store after school and on Saturdays. This gave me my own spending money, and it seemed I could not go to the show often enough. Sometimes I neglected my job in order to go. Often I skipped school. When Mother asked where all my money was going, I lied; then I stole money so that I could go to the show without digging so deeply into my earnings. I hated to lie and steal, but I did it for the sake of the movies. That shows how they fascinated me!

It is easy to slip into a movie, sit down in comfort, and quit thinking. For two hours the movies will do your thinking for you. It is a complete escape from reality. It appeals both to the laziness of the human mind and the unwillingness of human nature to face the grim realities of life here and hereafter.

I loved the movies. When I was saved they were the hardest thing I had to give up, but I knew beyond a shadow of doubt that I could not go on living for Christ and at the same time feeding upon the carrion of the movies. So I quit the movies; for the sake of my example, yes, but primarily for my own soul's sake. As I went on to know the joy, the victory, the thrill of a life surrendered to the Lord, I lost all desire for the movies. The new life crowded out the old.

Though the Lord delivered me from the fascination of the movies, the effect left upon my mind and heart was not undone immediately. For the movies

### CORRUPT THE MIND AND HEART

It is here I make my strongest criticism. The movies did more to corrupt my thinking and provoke temptation than any other influence upon my life. I do not believe any teen-age



young person can sit through hundreds of Hollywood's lust-laden dramas, as I did, and fail to get a perverted outlook along sexual lines.

My life was in the formative stage: and by going to the movies I exposed it to the devil, who laid hold upon those natural instincts which God has put in every young person and did his worst to pervert them. It was only through the mercy of God that I was saved before I got too deeply in sin or married an unsaved girl. I know the effect the movies had on me. I know how I had to battle against wrong thoughts, because of them. I know how hard it was, after I was saved, to think only on "whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely"--things in which there is "any virtue," as the Bible says we must do. I know how worldly wise they made me, how they crowded Christ out, how they brought me under bondage, how they led me to lie, to steal, to harbor wrong thoughts in my heart.

But the past cannot be undone. Only the future can be changed, and I hope that by writing these lines I may help spare other teen-agers from having to learn by bitter experience the harmful effects of the movies.

*Herald of Truth, June, 1958*

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#### FOR YOUTH

To all our members in general and to our new members in particular.

You have made the choice to be God's child. This choice did not put you on a comfortably padded rail car that will zip you to your destination; it did put you on a path that will need to be walked, day after day, for as long as you live. There are many attractive little side paths, designed by your enemy, to lure you into his territory, bit by bit. If you will lift your eyes



above the earthly toys and pleasure, you will be able to follow your Leader, who made it possible for you to attain Heaven. There are others on this path as well, who can provide you with encouragement and fellowship far more satisfying than anything you could find on those attractive little side paths. To avoid stumbling over the petty irritations that will invariably arise as you walk with others, you will need to lift your eyes to your Leader and focus on Him.

"Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies. (Psalm 27:11)

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:5,6)

--David and Elva Royer  
Goshen, Indiana

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## CHILDREN'S PAGE

### Every Day Marvels: Responding to a Look

Everything God has made is marvellous from rocks to trees, from spiders to humans; all things are fearfully and wonderfully made.

I had an interesting thought about eyes recently. You have probably read about how eyes work and maybe you even understand a lot of it, but even scientists do not know all about how and why eyes work so well.

But have you ever thought about how we respond to eyes? How do we even know what we see can see us? Yet, even animals react when you look at them.

One example of what I mean is how a setting hen reacts when you approach her. If you come near without looking at her she may be alarmed, but she will not make a sound. I often

got quite close to my hens without their doing more than expanding their feathers a bit. But as soon as I looked at them they screamed and got much, much larger.

Another example is that many animals recognize a stare as being a sign of aggression. That is why my new kitten hissed when my dog looked at him, and why you should never stare at a dog who doesn't know you well.

It is apparently instinct for them and for us, that we know when an eye's looking at us. An instinct is marvellous--a very good creation of a very wise God!

Martha Wagner  
Gettysburg, Ohio

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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the  
Saviour of the world." (I John 4:14)

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## A King Is Born

A King born in a manger!  
Why such a lowly birth?  
He could have chosen a palace,  
For He owns all the earth.

A King not clothed in splendor;  
A crown of thorns He wore.  
Enthroned upon a cross,  
The whole world's sins He bore.

A King, He rose triumphant,  
Won victory o'er the grave;  
A King, who lives forever,  
Who longs all souls to save.

Oh, King, our hearts Thy manger;  
We crown Thee with our love.  
Rule us until the day  
We reign with Thee above.

Miriam Sauder Brechbill

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## GLORY TO GOD

A thrill of excitement vibrated through the huddle of high school boys clutching pencils and paper. Before them stood four dairy cows, very much alike. The cows made up a "class" to be judged; the boys were the product of a "class" in agriculture, instructing them in livestock judging. The job was to place the four animals as first, second, third, and last. The boys themselves were competing with teams from various schools throughout Northern California. They would be judged not only on the order in which they placed the "class" but also the oral reasons they presented to the judges. How well they understood the stated standards of the breed and how these cows conformed to these standards, would be obvious as they stood before the experts. The team that won received high honors. (Our team did not win!)

Competition of this sort plays a large part in public schools of today and in secular life as well. Business and politics, science and art, and especially war, all have their winners and losers--those in glory and those in disgrace.

How God must look down in pity on His creatures! He might even be amused at our contests. Psalm 2:4 says, "He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision."

In the heavenly contest, God Himself has been challenged. Who will win? Who can judge? It is beyond human ability to sort out why Satan rebelled and why God allowed it. Some suggest that the outcome of this contest will prove for all eternity, to all beings, the matchless love of God and the grim malice of Satan. It will show the skill, power, and infinite knowledge of God!



We rejoice in the birth of the Savior. The Bible presents Jesus as the ultimate answer. We marvel at the mind of God to devise a plan in which a Baby born in lowly circumstances could be the deliverer. The contest became a struggle for life--not the life of God, but of His people. In the garden of Eden, man's yielding to the tempter brought the sentence of death. God's answer gave Jesus to bear that sentence.

The angels proclaimed at Jesus' birth, "Glory to God in the highest." Judgment is determined; God wins; Satan is defeated.

*Rejoice because -- unto you is born a Savior.*

*-- we can pass from death unto life.*

*-- His Holy Spirit is here.*

*-- Jesus suffered for you and me.*

*-- God was satisfied with Jesus' sacrifice.*

*-- our sins are covered.*

*-- Jesus sits in the presence of God for you and me.*

*-- From Rosanna Royer*

We might call it "out-maneuvering" or superior skill, but the incarnation of Jesus is still the means of victory in this world-shaking contest. As a man, Jesus identified with His creatures, was tempted like us but without sin, and so was able to rescue us.

Satan's wrath was expressed as his men put Jesus on the cross. But it was in vain. God used it to His glory, Satan's defeat, and man's salvation. "Glory to God in the highest!"

God made it possible for us to exchange

our fears for faith,

our weaknesses for strength,

our hatred for love,

our aimlessness for purpose,

and our physical deaths for eternal life. (Selected)

Brother Paul Clark said "Wickedness is abounding and the love of many is waxing cold." Yesterday I noticed in a book catalog, a study tracing 3 billion years of earth's history and a

statement that this writing was proof of the evolution of man. If man is an animal, then he has no responsibility for his actions--good or bad. How can men stand before the crafty inventions of the desperate competitor? The answer still lies in believing the record God gave of His Son.

Though Satan tries to obscure the remembrance of Jesus' birth, God's people can still rejoice. He came to earth to visit His people, and He is coming again. Christians, rejoice and give glory to God.

Nothing succeeds like success! God's methods are love, truth, and faithfulness. If you have not experienced the love and grace of God, you can. The glory of God is not just for now, but for eternity.

Judging contest--who will win?  
 God against the man of sin;  
 Who is greatest? Who has skill?  
 Christians know that Jesus will.

Men may doubt and wonder why  
 Satan lives and still will lie.  
 God's own truth will win at last  
 When the contest time is past.

Christian, rest in God's great power;  
 This is now your trying hour.  
 God's dear Son was born for you;  
 Lived and died and rose up too.

Hail the Savior, born a King;  
 Hear the heavenly angels sing:  
 Glory be to God most high.  
 Serve this Son who came to die.

God is victor, Satan's down;  
 Jesus wears the winner's crown.  
 Share the glory; win the race;  
 Come to Jesus; see His face. --L.C.

## IT'S ALL PART OF A PLAN

Was it a matter of chance that a little Baby by the name of Jesus was born in Bethlehem, or was it part of God's plan for the salvation of man?

A medical student had a hard time accepting that the whole world and even Christmas was part of a plan.

One day this lady medical student said, "I was working on an arm and hand, studying the perfect mechanical arrangements of the muscles and tendons--how the sheaths of certain muscles are split to let tendons of certain muscles through, so that the hand may be delicate and small and yet powerful. I was all alone in the laboratory when the overwhelming belief came: A thing like this is not just chance, but a part of a plan, a plan so big that only God could have conceived it.

"Religion had been to me a matter of form, a thing without conviction. Now everything was an evidence of God--the tendons of the hand, the patterns of the little butterfly's wings--all was part of a purpose."

The Psalmist wrote, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works" (Ps. 139:14). But, has there ever been a better plan for the salvation of man than for Jesus coming into the world to save sinners? It was not a matter of chance; it was all planned and executed at the right time.

Selected

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## CHRISTIAN MUSIC

As we approach the Thanksgiving and Christmas season--the singing of hymns of praise (at Thanksgiving) and the singing of carols celebrating Christ's birth (at Christmas) --remind us of the importance of music in a broader sense.

One of the beautiful things which God created is music, but like every other facet of creation, human beings have often distorted what God intended to be good. Music is a moral issue. We express our feelings and reveal our inner character--by our words, our actions, our attire--and also by our choice of music. Sacred music has always been precious to the people of God. Music played a prominent role in the worship associated with the Old Testament tabernacle. The Psalms of 3,000 years ago are still beautiful. Jesus and His disciples sang a hymn on the night of His betrayal (Mark 14:26). Paul and Silas sang praises to God in a prison cell at midnight (Acts 16:25). Missionaries have frequently found that people in heathen lands are captivated by Gospel hymns.

Most Christians lament the sick music promoted by our unsaved society. The ungodly music of the world centers around the values of an unregenerate culture, where physical beauty is primary for the good life, sensual feelings constitute love, and material indulgence supposedly brings happiness. The world's music, with its high volume and heavy beat, makes its greatest appeal to the body and to base emotions.

But then there is music of a more debatable kind--music sometimes composed of beautiful lyrics and even words from the Scriptures--but jazzed up with catchy tunes, and presented in meaningless phrases of repetition. Many of us are saddened by the fact that in an increasing number of "worship services," the great hymns of the church are on the way out. In their place have come some songs that merely repeat a word or phrase over and over again. Such songs may give the churchgoers a "religious" feeling, but Elizabeth Elliot Bren says such songs "are mantras which belong more to a gathering of New Agers than among the worshiping people of God." They lack the freshness and depth of the old hymns. The hymns have actually been tools for "teaching and admonishing" one another (Colossians 3:16). All of us should develop the habit of singing



## ARTICLES

All Because of Jealousy -sel.	Jul-Aug
Am I My Brother's Keeper? -L.C.	Sep-Oct
Bold, Shameful Shame -L.C.	Feb
Bring Them Up -sel.	Jun
Broken For Me -L.C.	Apr
Cast Thy Burden -sel.	Mar
Christian Music -Harold S. Martin	Dec
Christian Witness in Attire -Daniel F. Wolf	Sep-Oct
Do We Hear? -Neil Martin	Mar
Father -Joseph E. Wagner	Jun
Family Worship -L.C.	Jun
Filled and Running Over -L.C.	Jun
For Youth -David and Elva Royer	Nov
Forgetfulness At Thanksgiving -Lewis Brevard	Nov
Glory To God -L.C.	Dec
God's Order of Love -Galen Miller	Apr
Good Work, or None -sel.	Mar
Gratitude -sel. by Lena Martin	Nov
Heavy Burdens -L.C.	Mar
Home Qualities That Contribute -Melvin Detweiler	Jan
Honor Thy Father -Mary Ann Martin	Jun
How Do You Act? -sel.	Feb
How to Worry -Roger Kuntz	Mar
It's All Part of A Plan -sel.	Dec
Knowledge With Concern -R. C. Sproul sel.	Dec
Leadership Seminar, Haiti 2011 -Martha Cover	Jul-Aug
Lesson From Lincoln -sel.	Feb
Let the Beauty of Jesus -Linda Frick	Jun
Living With Yourself -Anna Curtis	May
Modesty -sel.	Mar
Mother's True Love -L.C.	May
New Year Prospects -L.C.	Jan
Parable on the Pencil -sel.	Sep-Oct
Purpose -Joseph E. Wagner	Sep-Oct
Ready -Joseph E. Wagner	May
Results -Joseph E. Wagner	Feb
Salida Church Update -Joseph E. Wagner	Mar
Self -sel	Feb



Spiritual Memories -David Skiles	May	8
Spiritual Singing -John Overholt	Jan	
Ten Commandments for School Parents -Howard Bean	Jul-Aug	
Thanksgiving -L.C.	Nov	
The Christian Woman -sel. by Herman Royer	Jul-Aug	
The Germantown Congregation -Martin Brumbaugh	Jan	
The Importance of Family Devotions -Dennis Good	Apr	
Today Is A New Opportunity -Esther Taylor	Sep-Oct	
What Is A Grandmother? -sel.	May	
What Movies Did For Me -sel.	Nov	
When God Does Not Answer -sel.	Jul-Aug	
When You're Unfairly Criticized -sel.	Mar	
Why Teach The Little Ones? -Mike Mays	Nov	

#### POEMS

ABC'S From Sophia Baker -sel. by Rosanna Royer	Apr
A King Is Born - Miriam Sauder Brechbill	Dec
All That Thrills My Soul -Thoro Harris	Sep-Oct
A Mother's Reward -sel. by Lloyd Wagner	May
A Mother's Prayer -sel.	May
A Parable of the Tools -Regina Horst	Jan
Be Careful -Charles Brown -sel	Dec
Be Careful What You Say -sel.	Nov
Day By Day -sel.	Jan
Do You Love Your Children -sel.	May
For All the Blessings -Albert Hutchenson	Nov
For God Took Him -Lloyd Wagner	Sep-Oct
Guide For Marriage -from Hettie Skiles	May
How Much I Owe -sel.	Apr
I Am Habit -sel.	Mar
I Need the Prayers -James D. Vaughan	Jun
If -sel.	Feb
In A Moment -sel.	Nov
Instruments of Your Peace -sel. by Roger Kuntz	Jul-Aug
Jesus -Joseph I. Cover	Dec
Jesus, the Nazarene -sel. by Andrew Albers	Apr
Let Us Draw Near -J. I. Cover	Jan
Living and A Dead Faith -sel. by Lloyd Wagner	Jan
Lord, Thou Hast Searched -Isaac Watts	Feb
Shaniah Dawn -Edith Martin	Jun
Spirit So Holy -Daniel W. Whittle	Jun
The Church Walking With the World -sel.	Feb

The Eventide Falls Gently Now -sel.	May	
The Lord's Prayer -sel.	Jul-Aug	9
The Task -sel.	Apr	
Through the Furnace -sel.	Mar	
To All Gardeners -Guy Hootman	Jun	
Two Cripples -sel.	Mar	
Well Beloved Son -sel. by Andrew Albers	Jun	
What Is A Mother? -sel.	May	

### CHILDREN'S PAGE

Honest Tom -sel.	Jan
Don't! Don't! Don't! -sel.	Feb
Your Tongue -sel.	Mar
Wrong Side Out -sel.	Mar
Freedom? -Martha Wagner	Apr
Doing Errands For Mother -sel.	May
Two Little Boys -sel.	Jun
A Little Errand For God -sel.	Jul-Aug
Jessica -Martha J. Cover	Sep-Oct
Every Day Marvels -Martha Wagner	Nov
Every Day Marvels: Speech -Martha Wagner	Dec

### ELECTIONS

#### Madison Old Brethren, Indiana

Sam Royer	First Degree of Ministry	Aug 28	Jul-Aug Pilgrim
Simon Stalter	Office of Deacon	Aug 28	Jul-Aug Pilgrim

#### California Old Brethren

Chris Crawmer	Office of Deacon	Oct 8	Dec Pilgrim
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#### Yellow Creek Old Brethren, Indiana

Justin Meyers	Office of Deacon	Oct 9	Dec Pilgrim
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### BAPTISMS

Violet Taylor	Mar 6	Isaac Beery	Sep 18
Samuel Tate	Mar 20	Holly Flora	Sep 18
Alex Royer	Mar 20	Frances Martin	Sep 18
Marian Royer	Mar 20	Konrad Martin	Sep 18
Myron Stalter	Aug 28	Charity Royer	Sep 18
Carmen Flora	Aug 28	Judah Royer	Sep 18
Deborah Beery	Sep 18	Rob Sauder	Sep 25



## BIRTHS

Elijah Gary Miller	Jan 4
Marie Yvonne Wells	Jan 31
Elijah Jesse Stalter	Apr 9
Shae Eden Leensvaart	Apr 21
Shyanne Hope Meyers	Apr 29
Spencer Lee Royer	May 5
Larissa Anne Royer	May 7
Caleb Ryan Coning	May 14
Jane Ellen Johnson	Jun 25
Colton Dale Savage	Jun 26
Rihana Kate Royer	Jul 15
Janneken Joy Tate	Aug 5
Nikki Rose Frick	Aug 26
Gabriel Carl Glen Yoder	Dec 7

## MARRIAGES

Colin Taylor and Krystal Adina Klassen	Dec 26, 2010
Jon Pifer and Heather Cover	Feb 19, 2011
Adrian Royer and Melissa Miller	Mar 12, 2011
Samuel Miller and Susanna Tate	Apr 2, 2011
Andrew Bowser and Jena Crawmer	Apr 9, 2011
Japheth Martin and Jillian Batson	Apr 16, 2011
Joshua Harper and Bethanna Taylor	Jul 23, 2011
David Stalter and Andrea Cover	Nov 19, 2011

## OBITUARIES

Murray A. Martin	Jan 9, 1936 - Mar 9, 2011	Apr Pilgrim
Shaniah Dawn Meyers	Nov 8, 2009 - May 12, 2011	Jun Pilgrim
Herbert Treadwell Brown	Jun 16, 1933 - Jun 14, 2011	Jul-Aug
Lemuel James Cable	Aug 8, 2011 - Aug 12, 2011	Jul-Aug
Enoch Joel Cover	Stillborn on Sep 13, 2011	Sep-Oct
Ruth Irene Garber	Oct 25, 1969 - Sep 24, 2011	Nov Pilgrim



(or humming) the words (and tunes) of hymns. They are a wonderful substitute for quarrels, angry words, or bitter feelings.

Harold S. Martin

*BRF Witness* Vol. 33, No. 6, 1998

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### KNOWLEDGE WITH CONCERN

We all need good teachers. I know that I cannot do without them. But how do we find them? What are the marks of a good teacher of theology?

Finding good teachers is like finding a good doctor. We want a doctor who knows what he is doing and who is a person we can trust with our bodies. If the doctor is warm and kind but does not know medicine, we are in deep trouble. It is small consolation to me if he holds my hand while he injects the wrong medicine into my bloodstream.

On the other hand, there are highly skilled professional physicians who have little personal regard for their patients. They know how to treat diseases but do not know how to treat people.

If possible, I want a doctor who is a master of medical knowledge and who will also value me as a person. Medically, that is the best of all possible worlds.

In theology we need teachers who display a high degree of skill and knowledge coupled with deep love for God. Loving God is not a prejudicial barrier to a correct understanding of the things of God. On the contrary. A heart that is disposed toward God will only enhance the theologian's knowledge of God.

R. C. Sproul (Selected)

## JESUS

Hear the wondrous story  
Of the King of glory  
And His earthly mission long ago.  
Days of love and caring,  
He our sorrows sharing  
To relieve our misery and woe.

See Him in the manger,  
Little lovely Stranger  
Angels sing His coming in the sky.  
Shepherds bending o'er Him,  
Kneeling there before Him,  
Glory be to God who reigns on high.

Wise men travel going  
Hastily or slowing  
See the shining star that beckons on.  
Stops at last in favor,  
Pointing to the Savior,  
He that brings to us the glorious dawn.

Mary for Him caring;  
He so young, and faring  
Out upon this earth of pain and woe.  
Sees disease and sighing;  
Heals the sick and dying;  
Sees the tears for sin and sorrow flow.

On the cross extended,  
Where our life depended,  
There our Lord and King was crucified.

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To the thief confessing,  
Jesus' words caressing,  
Father hears Him calling as He died.

Death could never hold Him  
Or its chains infold Him,  
Rising Lord of Lords and King of Kings.  
While the ground is shaking,  
Saints to life awaking,  
Jesus to His loved ones comfort brings.

Jesus Lord forever  
Now no power can sever  
Love for Christians to their Lord above.  
Praise and adoration  
From the holy nation,  
Going to the land of peace and love.  
Joseph I. Cover, 1961

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#### BIRTH

YODER - A son, Gabriel Carl Glen, born December 7 to Tim and Serena Yoder of Middlebury, Indiana

#### MARRIAGE

STALTER - COVER David Stalter and Andrea Cover were married November 19 near Sonora, California  
New Address: 22625 S.R. 119,  
Goshen, In 46526

#### ADDRESS CHANGE

Jack and Helen Williams      69044 Marietta Dr.  
New Paris, IN 46553  
574-831-3158      cell: 574-202-1410

## ELECTIONS

## California Old Brethren

The California congregation held an election for deacon on October 8, 2011. Brother Chris Crawmer was chosen for this office. He will be serving with the help of his wife Jill.

## Yellow Creek Old Brethren, Indiana

The Yellow Creek congregation held an election for deacon on October 9, 2011. Justin Meyers was chosen for the office. He will be serving with the help of his wife Orpha.

May God give these dear brethren and sisters grace to serve.

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## FOR YOUTH

## Be Careful

Whatever you think in joy and in woe,  
 Think nothing you wouldn't want Jesus to know.  
     Whatever you say in whisper or clear,  
     Say nothing you would not want Jesus to hear.  
 Whatever you sing in the midst of your glee,  
 Sing nothing God's listening ear would displease.  
     Whatever you write with haste or heed,  
     Write nothing you would not want Jesus to read.  
 Whatever you read, though the page may allure,  
 Read nothing unless you are perfectly sure  
     Consternation would not be seen in your look  
     If Christ should say solemnly "Give me that book."  
 Wherever you go, ne'er go where you'd fear  
 God asked you the question, "What doest thou here?"  
     And now we would add as admonishment to thee,  
     "Be careful what you watch on a DVD."

Charles G. Brown, Selected



## CHILDREN'S PAGE

## Everyday Marvels: Speech

Do you remember learning to talk? I think surely you do not! You were but a wee tot then. Yet you could learn English! Grown-ups may know more than little children, but little children learn much faster than adults. Does that mean they are smarter?

Do you know that people are the only creatures (living things God created on Earth) who are able to talk? It is true some animals understand some speech. My dog knows what I want when I say "Ketchup, wash your feet." She jumps in the bath tub! And she gets excited if I say "take a ride" or "take a walk." But she doesn't know what "sit," "stay," or "roll over" means, though some dogs do.

Animals can learn to recognize certain sounds. And if they are rewarded if they do certain things when they hear certain sounds, they soon "understand" that sound. But do they really understand the language? Could you teach an animal about nouns and verbs and the letters of the alphabet? Of course not!

Animals do communicate. You can tell if they are happy or angry, and so can other animals. They make movements and sounds that mean certain things. But they do not think or "speak" in words nor are they able to. They glorify God by being what God created them to be, but they cannot understand about God or the marvels He has created. Only you and other people can do that! Do not forget to thank God for the gift of speech.

Martha J. Wagner

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## PILGRIM POINTERS

Life has many choices.

Eternity has only two

What is your choice? From Paul Baker

Take thou my hand, O Father  
And lead Thou me,  
Until my journey endeth  
Eternally

wrote Julie Hausman in 1862. And we echo her prayer as we close 2011. Thank you for supporting The Pilgrim. Keep writing and sending us your inspirational poems and prose.

Thank you, Bill Miller, for another year of address labels and Sarah Martin for updates and the index. The Yellow Creek Brethren and others have given financially. We still depend on your subscriptions--the expiration date appears on the address label.

It's renewal time for most patrons. If you are receiving The Pilgrim as a gift, please let us know if you wish us to continue.

In Christian love,  
Leslie and Martha

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