

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 2, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Methodius did not try to stop the crying of the aged man. He leaned his young head against the old gray one, his eyes moist with tears. David's hands covered his face no more, so Methodius wiped the tears from his eyes and cheeks.

"Let me alone," uttered the aged one between broken sobs. "Why do you bother with an old Jew? Everybody shuns me, so why don't you leave me alone?"

"Because I love you, my dear neighbor."

"Why should you love me?" cried the Jew. "It has been a long time since anyone loved me—once it was my mother, then I thought that she—but it was deceit!"

"What was deceit?"

"Let me go," the man struggled to get away. "Do not ask me." Strong Method let him go.

"Believe me, neighbor, it would be much better for you if you would tell someone what has been crushing you these years. I am a stranger here and have nobody to whom I could betray you. If you can trust in me, tell me. I love you."

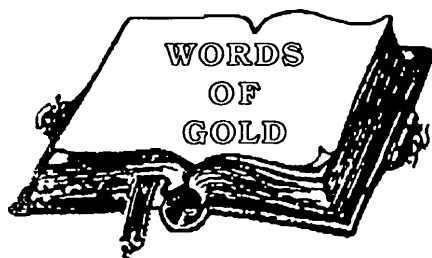
"Well, I don't care." The Jew straightened up. New light sparkled

in his eyes. "You have done me very much good, because you did not shun this old man. You are good and the world is evil. Perhaps if I tell you my misfortune, you may be more careful than I and save yourself from harm.

"If you look at my bent over form, the wrinkled, old face and the half-blind eyes, it is hard to believe that I had been young, good-looking and stout like a tree in the grove, just as you are today," began the aged one. He rested his feeble form against the tree but held Method's big, strong hand in his feeble one.

"I inherited a good business from my parents, though I was not rich. I had faith that if the God of my fathers would bless me I would prosper. Nevertheless, I had other riches; I had a wife like a flower on Mount Lebanon, and a child, oh, a child! Even Moses could not have been more lovely to the daughter of Pharaoh when she found him. When I think of that happiness, the bliss of long ago, I know that even Adam in Paradise could not have been happier; but it all passed away.

"How am I to tell you everything? I used to be away from home very often. That unfortunate business kept taking me away and I did not know that somebody else had eyes also.



## Israel Has Fallen

**Amos 3:1-15**

1 Hear this word that the Lord hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,

2 You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

4 Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing?

5 Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin (trap) is for him? shall one take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?

6 Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?

7 Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

9 Publish in the palaces at Ashdod, and in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say, Assemble yourselves upon the mountains of Samaria, and behold the great tumults in the midst thereof, and the oppressed in the midst thereof.

10 For they know not to do right, saith the Lord, who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.

11 Therefore thus saith the Lord God; An adversary there shall be even round about the land; and he shall bring down thy strength from thee, and thy

palaces shall be spoiled.

12 Thus saith the Lord; As the shepherd taketh out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear; so shall the children of Israel be taken out that dwell in Samaria in the corner of a bed, and in Damascus in a couch.

13 Hear ye, and testify in the house of Jacob, saith the Lord God, the God of hosts,

14 That in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him I will also visit the altars of Bethel: and the horns of the altar shall be cut off, and fall to the ground.

15 And I will smite the winter house with the summer house; and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall have an end, saith the Lord.

**The Message: Those who know the truth, but will not live right, are made spectacles so others can see and fear God.**

### **Questions:**

1. To whom is the prophet, Amos, speaking?
2. What family had God brought out of Egypt?
3. For what was God to punish the people of Israel?
4. To whom does God reveal His secrets before doing them?
5. Where does God want this prophecy published?
6. Why should it be published in Egypt?
7. What did the wicked store in their palaces?
8. What shall happen to the palaces and the houses of ivory?
9. What portion of the sheep (Israel) will be saved?

### **Verse to Memorize**

**But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.**

**Isaiah 59:2.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

We will continue to study the prophecies of the minor prophets. Let us remember that a prophecy contains a message for the time of the prophet, a message of the future and a message of eternal truth.

We have already studied about Hosea, Joel, Jonah and are now studying the prophecies of Amos. Amos said that God would punish His people because of their sins, and that He would also punish other nations for their sins. Some of these nations were so completely destroyed that the nations, nor their descendants are in the world today. The Jewish nations (Judah and Israel) were also completely destroyed. God, however, kept His promise to Abram and King David and left some Jews alive. In 1948 a new nation of Israel was founded as a homeland for those Jews who were scattered in all parts of the world.

Verse 12 describes this condition of the Jews using a picture of a shepherd whose sheep had been slaughtered by a lion. The shepherd was able to save only "two legs, or a piece of an ear." He saved only enough to show that there had once been a sheep. Similarly, God saved enough Jews to show that there had once been such a people. This picture also shows just how useless they will be as a nation, for two legs and a piece of

ear are useless. Many false preachers are saying that Christ will come again and set up His Kingdom in Israel. But the Bible says, in Amos 5:2, "The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise: she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up."

God loves the Jews, just as He loves every person. Their own sins and disobedience brought the destruction of their nation, and God says it was to be destroyed forever. Sin brings destruction on anyone who sins, regardless of their race.

The continued story, *Only A Servant*, displays God's love for the Jews. God loved just one Jew so much that He sent Methodius all the way from Canada to seek Old David. It also shows clearly the darkened condition into which some Jews have fallen. Because of this darkness it is hard for them to see God's light and love.

Amos told the Jews that God had chosen them as His special people, and had done marvelous things for their nation, and that they should have been grateful and respected God. They, however, had not appreciated God.

They had become proud and were disobeying God in their way of worshipping and in their way of living. For these actions, the whole nation was to perish, "the houses of ivory...and the great houses shall have an end." The rich will not be able to protect themselves from this disaster.

"God is no respecter of persons. The rich, as well as the poor, will suffer for their sins." That is an eternal truth of God, which Amos spoke to the people of Israel.

—Charlotte Huskey

"Once I was coming home full of joy and hope. I came; the house was empty."

The old man drew his hand through his hair. "Another man came and took the treasure of my eyes and the joy of my heart. If it had been a heathen—but it was one of our own—our own!"

"I despaired; I ran like a crazy man; went to the courts; did everything, but in vain. I had to give her a bill of divorce, and the law gave her the child also."

"He was in a higher position than I—a government official. Everywhere they pushed me, the poor Jew, away. Nowhere could I find justice, not even with God. They did just as they pleased until they disappeared from the country. I never heard from them anymore, nor where my child is and what has become of it."

"Oh, Method, oh Method, when I think of it, I would ask, like Job, 'Where is God, that I may go till I stand before Him and there present my charge?' He only knows what has become of my daughter, Esther. What has become of her and my wife? She left me and betrayed me, but I just cannot believe that she was guilty. She was very, very young when we married. He was a good-looking fellow, a great lord; he misled her. If she would have come back, I would have forgiven all, would have received her—oh, how gladly! But they did not let me see her, and perhaps they told her that I would be cruel and hard. She was afraid and believed them, and so all was lost, all lost."

"I fled from that town and buried myself and my sorrow in this country. Then I waited, hoping that in winter, death might deliver me from my suffering; and I would take my sorrow with me to the grave. Many winters have passed me by and not

taken me. Then you came and compelled me to tell you, and all has been brought back to me—the loss, the yearning, the sorrow—everything. Now what has been gained by it?"

"Very much, dear one! Now I know better what to pray about; and sometime the moment will come when you will not be sorry that you trusted me with your broken heart."

The young man and the Jew arose and entered the hut.

When the elder one had made a light, Methodius noticed the empty water pots. He took them and brought fresh water. Then he arranged the man's poor couch, just as he used to do during his sickness. He then sat beside him, opened the big, old Book and began to read.

The Jew covered his grey head with a cap, and Method put his hat on, so as not to insult David. Jews respect the Word of God by covering their heads when it is read.

Today Method read the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah, and during the reading he explained about whom it was talking. The aged Jew did not disagree, and they parted in grave silence.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To the people of Israel. 2. The family of Joseph, who was the son of Israel. 3. Their iniquities (sins). 4. To His prophets. 5. In Ashod and Egypt. 6. So those people can see the tumults and oppression of the people who did not obey God. 7. Violence and robbery. 8. They shall be spoiled and perish. 9. Two legs and a piece of ear.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 July 9, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Sometimes week after week, and month after month passes, and one hardly realizes where those days have gone. Thus it seemed to the Ondrasik family. It is true they had much work to do, yet in no other year had they finished everything as easily as this year.

"Perhaps this may be," thought Mrs. Gazdina Ondrasik, "because we begin the day reading the Word of God and praying, and we end the day the same way."

Her health had improved and she was doing the cooking; so her daughter, Dorka, could now work in the fields. It seemed to Mrs. Ondrasik that she had never had it so easy. If she needed wood or water, either the servant, Method, the cowboy, Andrew, or Dorka supplied her; and when they worked nearby, one or the other ran in to see if she might need something else.

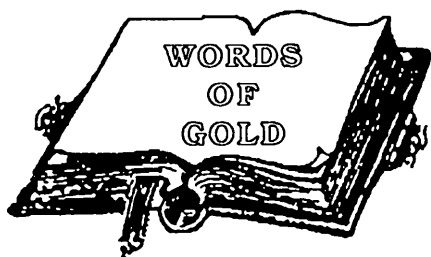
Her husband had often been of an ugly, hard disposition; but she also had a hard head. Sometimes he drank. When he did, he made a fuss around the house, and she scolded. After that they sometimes did not talk to each other for a whole week.

Their married daughters and their husbands did not want to co-operate, so the farm had not prospered. Today the farmer's wife felt that God's blessing had not been on them, because year after year they had prayed only when they went to the communion, or sometimes in the morning each would mutter a few words, without even thinking what he was saying. "Were we not all evil, completely fallen away from God? How could we expect God to help us?" she asked herself.

The woman realized that the first thing to do was to turn to God, and she turned with her whole heart. She felt that if anyone in the world needed a Saviour, it was she. She opened her heart to the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and He accepted her.

Later in the evening, when she sat alone with her husband, she asked his forgiveness because she had not been as good a wife as she ought to have been. She said that since God had granted her a new start on life, she wanted to live from now on according to the will God, and be better towards those of her family.

Ondra felt ashamed; tears filled his eyes.



## Prepare to Meet God

### Amos 4:1-13

1 Hear this word, ye kine of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Samaria, which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink.

2 The Lord God hath sworn by his holiness, that, lo, the days shall come upon you, that he will take you away with hooks, and your posterity with fishhooks.

3 And ye shall go out at the breaches, every cow at that which is before her; and ye shall cast them into the palace, saith the Lord.

4 Come to Bethel, and transgress; at Gilgal multiply transgression; and bring your sacrifices every morning, and your tithes after three years:

5 And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for this liketh you, O ye children of Israel, saith the Lord God.

6 And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

7 And also I have witholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered.

8 So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have ye

not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

9 I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

10 I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses; and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

11 I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a fire-brand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

12 Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.

13 For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The Lord, The God of hosts, is his name.

**The Message: Prepare to meet God for destruction is ahead for every ungodly person.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

...Because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.

Amos 4:12.

# Let's



# Talk . . .

God's message to Israel was "Prepare to meet thy God." It is also a message for us today.

The Israelites were a selfish people, just as most people are. The two Jewish kingdoms had conquered the nations around them until they controlled all the territory that had once belonged to great King Solomon's empire. The princes and nobles had become rich and built cities displaying great luxury. Huge mansions of stone were filled with costly imported fixtures. Interior walls were lined with cedar and decorated with fine carvings. Expensive furniture filled the rooms. Rich women spent their time visiting, drinking and beautifying themselves with costly cosmetics.

On the other hand, the poor were little more than serfs, living in mud huts. Their small farms had been bought or seized to make large country estates for the nobles and rich merchants.

Although there was a sharp contrast between the palaces and huts, the multitudes had one thing in common. They had both rejected God's ways. God began trying to get their attention by letting hard times come. After each tribulation, God waited to see if they would return to Him. Famine made bread very scarce. In some cities, rain did not fall for three months during the summer. In other places the rain did fall and crops grew. These were destroyed by mildew or eaten by caterpillars. The young men went to war, but instead of conquering, they were killed in

such magnitude that the soldiers could not bury all the dead. The decaying bodies made their camps stink.

God finds no pleasure in seeing people suffer. He only allows suffering if it is for the people's good. After working for many years with His beloved people, the family of Jacob, God said, "Ye have not returned to me [so] your enemies will take you away with hooks."

Within a few years the Assyrians came into their country and killed many of the Israelites. After Israel was conquered, many were led away to Assyria by hooks driven through their lips.

Amos knew that this judgment would come on Israel, for God had told him. That is why he said, "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel."

God has said that Christ will come and judge the world. Now He is saying to us, "Prepare to meet thy God." Even if Christ doesn't come soon, life is very short, and some die very young. After death, no one can repent and get forgiveness. Each one will give account of the way he was living when he died, so let us each one prepare to meet God while we have opportunity. —Charlotte Huskey

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## Questions:

1. How were the poor and needy being treated?
2. How were the people to be taken away?
3. What is meant by their teeth being clean?
4. For how many months did it not rain?
5. Did the rain not fall on any city?
6. What happened to the few gardens which did produce?
7. What happened to the young men?
8. What must the people do to be saved?
9. What must we do to be saved from God's wrath against sin?

"Well, let us forgive each other," he said. "You have been a better wife to me than I was a husband to you. Method is correct, we cannot go on like this to death, because what will be the result? We must begin to live differently."

"Really, we have lived contrary to God."

"I have not told anybody yet, but I will tell you. I am ashamed every time I see that young fellow and know how he lives, and then think of how I lived as a young fellow and how I live even to this day. We had the Word of God but did not read it the whole year long. We might as well admit that we lived worse than animals. They eat, sleep, and work; eat, sleep and work; but at least they sin not. We also have been eating, sleeping, and working, but at the same time abusing each other and cursing God and man, and our children seeing it all. I don't wonder now that they ran away into the world. They had such bad examples at home," Ondra told his wife.

On the same day—a Catholic holiday—Sammy Petrash and Dorka talked with each other in the orchard. He sat on the bench which Method had made. Dorka stood leaning on the old pear tree and listened to him telling the nice story about how the swallows came home. In telling her this, he said that he was already on that way Home. He was beginning and ending each day with prayer and he was careful not to break the commandments of God. He also told her that he was learning from old David to write better, to figure, and operate a business, so that his father would open a store for him. What they were building just now was to be his home.

Dorka was truly happy with him. From her childhood she pitied him, and later, often wondered what would become of him. Until now, he had not been able to walk; but now he could walk some, though very slowly. In spite of it, Sammy had grown to be a handsome, young man. Now he would no longer just sit uselessly in front of the house or in the orchard. Dorka knew long ago, having heard from his sisters, what they were building; but she pretended not to know, in order not to spoil his joy.

Andrew joined them just as Sammy was relating about the swallows; he had heard it from him once before. They started to discuss with each other what a beautiful and proper thing it would be if they would join together, just like the swallows, and hold prayer meetings together.

"You know," said Dorka, "every day in our lives is just another bit of the way Home, and thus every day should be started with prayer. Those swallows always prayed and sang together before they flew farther."

(To be continued next week.)

Answers: 1. The poor were oppressed, the needy crushed. 2. By hooks. 3. That there would be no food. 4. Three months. 5. It fell on some cities. 6. The palmerworm ate the produce. 7. They were killed by the swords. 8. "Prepare to meet God." 9. "Prepare to meet God."



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 July 16, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

The whole Ondrasik family came to supper, and after supper the mother told Method to read the Bible. Dorka looked at Andrew, and he at her, and then she looked at the parents. They were both thinking, "She has heard Method's story; 'How the Swallows Returned Home'."

In the meantime, while the world continued to sleep in their sins, the Ondrasik family and some of their neighbors began to wake up. The Holy Spirit began to open their eyes and their understanding of the Word. They began to realize that they were in their sins and began to seek God. These came to know Christ and started together with the swallows on their way Home—only unfortunately not all of them.

That fall there was a great harvest of prune plums. So many plums hung on the beautiful tree that the branches were breaking under their weight.

"What do you think?" Petrash said one afternoon to his crippled son, "I will ask the mayor for permission to distill liquor. From those fresh prunes and more that I buy from others, we will make liquor. I will get a license and you can sell

liquor; just offer the people a sample to taste, and they will come to your store."

Those words cut Sammy. He said nothing to his father, but when his father went to the barn, he started out to look for Method. He found him digging on his property. Not far away Martin and his mother were also digging.

"Welcome, Sammy! Why are you coming here?"

"Oh, just because I have to tell you something."

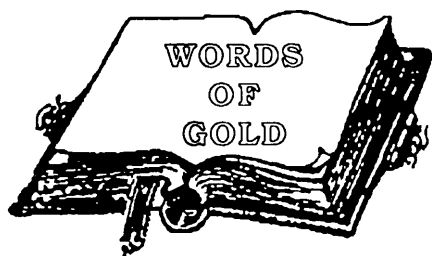
The friends shook hands and Sammy began to tell what his father had said.

Method grew sad. His eyes flashed like sparks of fire. Sammy had never seen him like that.

"Look here, that is purely the devil's thought. Sammy, what would you say if your father commanded you to take this pick and kill Martin?"

"But Method, what are you talking about? My father would never tell me to do such a thing," exclaimed Sammy. "And I would never do it either."

"Oh, you will just open a tavern, either a public or a secret one. You remember what a terrible drunkard Martin used to be, how it ruined his body so that he was like an animal.



## Turn From Evil And Seek God

**Amos 5:1-9, 11-12, 14-19,  
22-23, 27**

**1** Hear ye this word which I take up against you,...O house of Israel.

**2** The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise: she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up.

**3** For thus saith the Lord God; The city that went out by a thousand shall leave an hundred, and that which went forth by an hundred, shall leave ten, to the house of Israel.

**4** For thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live:

**5** But seek not Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beer-sheba: for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall come to nought.

**6** Seek the Lord, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel.

**7** Ye who turn judgment to worm-wood, and leave off righteousness in the earth,

**8** Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion,...and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth:...

**9** That strengtheneth the spoiled (the looser) against the strong, so that the spoiled shall come against the fortress.

**11** ...Your treading is upon the poor, and ye take from him...wheat: ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted

pleasant vineyards, but ye shall not drink wine of them.

**12** For I know your...mighty sins; they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor...from their right.

**14** Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord,...shall be with you,...

**15** Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment...it may be that the Lord...will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

**16** ...Wailing shall be in all streets; and they shall say in all the highways, Alas! alas!...

**17** And in all vineyards shall be wailing; for I will pass through thee, saith the Lord.

**18** Woe unto you that desire the day of the Lord! to what end is it for you? the day of the Lord is darkness, and not light.

**19** As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

**22** Though ye offer me burnt offerings,...I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

**23** Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear....

**27** Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the Lord, whose name is The God of hosts.

**The Message: Those who refuse to turn from evil and seek God will find darkness in the day of the Lord.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, ...shall be with you,...**

**Amos 5:14.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

The land of Israel was divided into many small farms. It was God's plan that each family make a comfortable living from the rich soil of the land that He had given to them. When men mismanaged their farms and had to sell, the new owner could keep this land only until the Year of Jubilee. This was every fifty years. In that year, each family could return to their farm. This gave every generation an equal chance. No child was to live his lifetime under a financial burden placed upon him by his parents.

The law of the Jubilee had been ignored for many generations. When Amos lived these small farms had almost disappeared. Rich landlords owned vast estates which peasants farmed in return for a meager existence. The sharp contrasts between the flaunted wealth and grinding poverty were noticed by Amos when he took his wool to market in the cities. God stirred his soul to cry out against it.

Amos left his job and went forth to preach against these sins. Some of his messages were written down. These we are reading today. These messages, which Amos spoke to the people of Israel and Judah, also have a message for us.

The main message in this chapter is "turn from evil, and seek God that thou might live." God is speaking this same message to the people in our country.

The holiness of God cannot tolerate sin. He turns His back on those

who love it. When the Israelites were traveling across the wilderness toward Canaan, God broke out as fire in the camp and destroyed the sinners. This is not God's usual way of action. He is a God of compassion and mercy. Remember how He saved wicked Nineveh when its people repented? However, His compassion has an end.

The Israelites were wearing down God's compassion, but He was giving them one more chance. He said, "Do not seek Me and continue the evil worshipping of the Golden Calf, Baal, and other idols. I will not hear your songs, nor accept any offerings until you turn from this wicked worship and the abuse of the poor. If you do not change, sure destruction will catch you. It is as a man who is running from a lion and meets a bear. He narrowly escapes the bear and finally reaches the protection of his home. There he leans against the wall, and "Ahow!" a serpent bites him."

With this parable, Amos shows that Israel was doomed unless they would turn from their evil ways and seek God with their whole heart.

Just as Israel ignored God's laws, our nation is ignoring them; and doom is ahead unless people repent and turn to God. —Charlotte Huskey

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## Questions:

1. Who has fallen?
2. Why will Israel rise no more?
3. How many will go out of the cities which once sent a 1000?
4. Who had trodden on the poor?
5. Would these people live in the stone houses they built or eat from the vineyards they planted?
6. What must Israel do to live?
7. Where will the wailing be heard?
8. What will the days of the Lord be to evil people?
9. To where would Israel be carried captive?

Now the grace of God has changed him so that he is among those swallows that are on the way Home. You may have noticed that he does not dare go anywhere except to visit with you and me so that he will not be drawn to the dram-shop (saloon) again. He is still very weak to temptation. You know very well that as soon as you begin making liquor, the temptation will always be before his eyes, right in this very neighborhood. When the stench fills his nose, do you suppose he will be able to resist? Let's say that he will come to buy flour or salt. He will be tempted to sin. He will come to your store just as the sheep comes to the slaughterhouse. Old friends will get him to just taste it, but it will awake his old habit and desire. At first he may drink only one glass, but on the morrow two. But then as if you had poured fire into him, he must drink again; and he will become a drunkard again, worse than before. He will become a beast. The light of God's grace will die in him, the body will get sick, will be weakened, and he will perish somewhere like an animal. He will be like a swallow on the way home that did not get there—he will perish, and whose fault will it be? Yours, Sammy, **yours!**

"Stop, Method!" cried Sammy clutching his head. "I don't want to be the cause, not to him nor to anybody else. I'd rather be killed."

Sammy went away. Method, very much saddened, continued his digging.

That day in the Petrash home there was a terrible scene. The farmer had it nicely figured out how they would sell liquor, and his useless son would be earning money. If others could get rich that way, why couldn't he? But now the son did not

want to do it. You could sooner move a mountain than Sammy. He was so pale—like a whitened wall. His father's raging made him tremble all over, but he would not yield.

His father called him all the terrible names he could think of. Then he said, "You are nothing but a beggar. Look at all the money and time we've put into you and you're still nothing but a beggar. If you aren't willing to obey and make some money, be gone quickly."

The words of the enraged father wounded the soul of the son as only human words can hurt.

The mother was also drawn into the argument and tried to beg first the one, then the other. She might have moved her husband, but her son she could neither convince nor persuade. He just sat there like a rock. Then she also got very angry at him.

Two of his sisters and the soon-to-be-groom of the older sister, with his friends who had come with him from the neighboring village, entered the room. They began to agree with the father's idea and scorn Sammy.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Israel. 2. She is forsaken by God and has none to help her. 3. 100. 4. The rich men of Israel. 5. No. 6. They must seek God and turn from evil. 7. In the streets, the highways, and the vineyards. 8. Darkness. (Or sadness). 9. To Damascus.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 23, 1995

## Only A Servant

(To be continued next week.)

"Since your son, Sammy, does not want to make and sell liquor," said the future son-in-law, "You just get everything ready, Father Petrash, and I will gladly leave my job. Just open a dram-shop and sell liquor. It cannot be bought anywhere around here. Let my wife and me do it. I will gladly invest a few hundred dollars in it, and you can cover the balance of the expense from the wedding gift you promised to give Eva. In this way, we shall all stay together, and Sammy can go again into the orchard and lie around as before."

In the beginning his talk was started as a joke. The groom just wanted to compel Sammy to sell liquor. But as it happens sometimes, he took a fancy to the idea. Eva also liked it so that she would not have to leave her mother and go to live near her mother-in-law. And what mother would not be glad when her daughter marries if she could still have her in the house? Thus the idea blinded even the mother who loved Sammy more than anyone in the world.

It also came to Farmer Petrash's mind that in this manner his property could remain in one piece. He

would not have to give anything away to his daughter.

By evening the matter was all arranged.

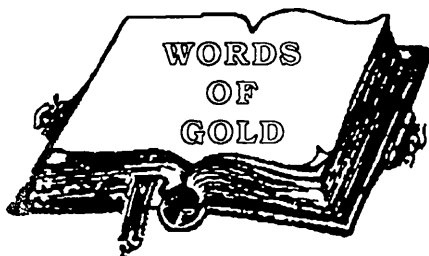
Before leaving, the brother-in-law asked Sammy, "Will you now do what your father wants you to, or do I have to come?" He hoped Sam would say, "No. You need not come."

"You said that I am a beggar," said Sammy, his voice shaking with heartfelt pain. "That is true; I am lame in both feet; but I would sooner choose to be lame in both arms also and go about begging than to make my living in such a devilish business. But you are not here yet, and God is almighty. He will surely prevent it, so that you will not be able to carry out your will."

"We shall see, my dear prophet," said the young man, and he and his friends left.

The following day, Petrash started out to see that servant, Method. He would be digging again, leveling his land. Martin and his mother were helping. David's goats were grazing on the remaining grass and bushes, while old David sat watching them.

The anger of Petrash had passed, and he was sorry he had done evil to his son. He now wanted to take vengeance on Method, whom he sup-



## Woe To The Relaxed

### Amos 6:1-14

1 Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

2 Pass ye unto Calneh, and see; and from thence go ye to Hamath the great: then go down to Gath of the Philistines: be they better than these kingdoms? or their border greater than your border?

3 Ye that put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near;

4 That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;

5 That chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David;

6 That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

7 Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.

8 The Lord God hath sworn by himself, saith the Lord the God of hosts, I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.

9 And it shall come to pass, if there remain ten men in one house, that they shall die.

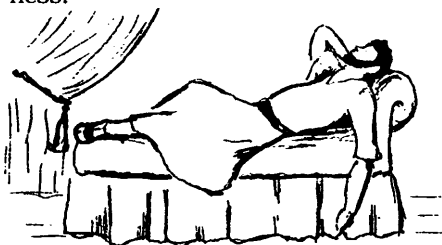
10 And a man's uncle shall take him up, and he that burneth him, to bring out the bones out of the house, and shall say unto him that is by the sides of the house, Is there yet any with thee? and he shall say, No. Then shall he say, Hold thy tongue: for we may not make mention of the name of the Lord.

11 For, behold, the Lord commandeth, and he will smite the great house with breaches, and the little house with clefts.

12 Shall horses run upon the rock? will one plow there with oxen? for ye have turned judgment into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into hemlock:

13 Ye which rejoice in a thing of nought, which say, Have we not taken to us horns by our own strength?

14 But, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel, saith the Lord the God of hosts; and they shall afflict you from the entering in of Hemath unto the river of the wilderness.



**The Message: We must do all we can to help others to know God personally.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**Woe to them that are at ease in Zion,...**

**Amos 6:1.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

God said that great trouble was coming on those who were not concerned about the terrible wickedness in the land but were trusting in the location of Samaria for their protection. Samaria was the capital of the Northern Kingdom. It was built on a hill 300 feet high in a beautiful valley surrounded on three sides by unconquerable mountains. It had been built on the blood of the poor with a cruelty that would shock even the heathen Egyptians or the cruel Philistines.

The prophets of *Baal* and *Asthoreth* were legalized murderers of little children. In 1908-1910, and 1931-1933, archaeologists uncovered the ruins of a temple of *Asthoreth*, goddess wife of *Baal*. Just a few steps from this temple was a cemetery. In it were found many jars containing the remains of infants who had been sacrificed in this temple.

A few years before Amos preached this warning, God had destroyed 450 of the wicked prophets of *Baal*. This, however, had not ended the cruel worship.

Amos said that the ivory houses would perish, and that "great trouble" was coming to those who lay upon beds of ivory. "They would be the first to go into captivity," he said. A few years later when the Assyrians conquered Israel and destroyed the ivory houses, they deported the princes and leader to Assyria. Then they brought in other people to marry the remaining Israelites. This formed another race of people called the Samaritans.

In this same excavation where the remains of sacrificed babies were excavated, the palace of King Omri and his son King Ahab were also uncovered. Thousands of beautiful pieces of ivory were found, and also others had been ruined by fire. The excavators believe the ivory was fastened onto the throne, into beds, couches, tables, cabinets and perhaps also used as paneling on the walls and ceiling of the palace. I Kings 22:39 lists the ivory houses as one of the great achievements of King Ahab.

"Woe to them that are at ease in Zion," was spoken more than 2500 years ago, but is a warning for us today. Christians cannot be unconcerned about the sinful conditions of men, women and children. These dear people are treading a path to eternal destruction. We must do all we can to help them off that path and on to the way of holiness.

—Charlotte Huskey

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(Note of interest. Archaeologists also found a stone bearing an inscription of Shalmaneser, King of Assyria: "I fought with Ben-hadad, I accomplished his defeat. Hazael, son of a nobody, seized his throne." Remember how Hazael seized this throne? The story is in II Kings 8:7-15.)  
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## Questions:

1. Upon whom did God pronounce a woe?
2. In what were the people trusting?
3. What had the people put far away?
4. What had they brought near?
5. Describe how the people were living?
6. Who was to go into captivity first?
7. What was God to do with Jacob's palaces?
8. What was God to raise up against Israel?
9. What is the message in this lesson for us?

posed to be the cause of Sammy's stubbornness. He knew Method's view about drinking, for Method had tried to get him to stop. He had persuaded not only Martin, but also Ondra, his cowboy, Andrew, and Sammy to stop drinking intoxicating liquors. Methodius insisted that not only is it a loss of money and health, but it is also a shame and a sin.

That whole night Petrash could not sleep. He did not want to take back his word that he would drive Sammy out of the house if he did not obey—but to drive him away—his farmer's pride rebelled against that. What would the people say? And what of his own heart? Yesterday in his anger he did not feel his fatherly heart; today, however, it showed itself. "I could have been spared all of that," he was thinking bitterly, "if it had not been for Methodius. So I will tell him a thing or two."

The farmer grew more and more angry as he went on his way. "I'll get the one who was the cause of that disturbance in my home," he muttered. When he came to the parcel of ground and saw Method happily digging away at the small hill, his anger was fully aroused.

"What did you put into the head of my son?" he began after they had barely exchanged greetings. "You come here, and who knows what kind of a tramp you are or where you came from, and stir up a quarrel and disturbance in the house. Is it any of your business if I want to have a dram-shop in my house? Why do you urge my son to be disobedient?"

The Jew heard the yelling, looked around, rose, drew nearer, and watched the young Christian. He was anxious to see how Methodius would react when somebody

wronged him. Now was the old man's chance.

The aged Jew knew best of all what kindness Methodius had shown to Petrash. He had taught Petrash's son to read and write and all else that he knew. He even persuaded old David to help with the teaching. As a neighbor, Methodius did him all the good he could, now he was getting "hot" pay for all that good. One hard word after another poured out of the mouth of Farmer Petrash.

With amazement the Jew watched the face of the abused one. He stood calmly, leisurely resting on his spade, looking at the ground as if these words did not bother him at all.

The anger of the old Jew was being aroused. He would like to have jumped on that farmer and given him a good calling down. He would have shown him "where to get off" but it was not his place to speak.

Finally, Petrash started at Method as if to hit him. Their eyes met and the farmer stopped.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Those who were at ease in Zion. 2. In the mountains of Samaria. 3. The day of evil (The time when God would recompense them for their evil actions.). 4. The seat of violence (their violent actions). 5. They beautified their bodies with expensive oils, laid on beds of ivory, or stretched themselves on couches, eating lamb chops and veal steaks. 6. Those who were at ease. 7. He would deliver up the city with its palaces. 8. A nation that would afflict them. 9. We must not be at ease, but must do all we can to help others get saved.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 July 30, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Farmer Petrash finished cursing Methodius for all that he had done to influence Sammy against selling liquor.

"Well then, have you told me all that the devil commanded you to?" kindly, almost joyfully, Methodius asked. "He was owing me this. I already wondered why the devil had left me in peace so long. I almost feared that I was not serving my Jesus very well. But now, I see all is well. Now that you have told me all that the devil told you to, neighbor Petrash, speak for yourself. What kind of injustice has been done to you? What evil have I done to your son?"

Happily the Jew rubbed his hands and in his soul he blessed the young man. Martin also had dropped his pick and stood nearby. He stood stunned and surprised, not knowing what to think of this man, Petrash.

"Well then, what do you really have against me?"

The farmer was taken back by the frank, yet kind question; nevertheless he did not want to give up. But the cruel words stuck in his

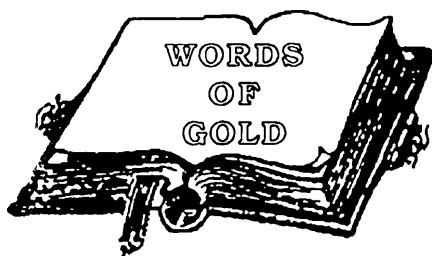
throat and the explanation as to why he had to be angry was given more mildly.

Finally, turning to David, the farmer ended saying, "Sammy does not want to sell liquor because Martin might buy from us and might go back again to his old ways; as if a fellow would have to fill himself right away and could not drink with moderation. But Martin will not buy from us I will not let him!"

The last words showed the farmer's strong hatred. This aroused Martin, who had been standing there as in a daze.

"You do not have to fear, Petrash," he said, stepping nearer. "I shall not enter your house when you make a devil's trap out of it, in which you will catch the people, to strip them naked and kill them. You do not need to forbid me to come there. I shall not cross your threshold, even if you beg me. But ever, ever remember, that I shall not forget that your son had so much mercy towards me that he wanted to save me from eternal damnation. I will bless him every step wherever he stumbles along."

The words choked in Martin's throat as he sat down on the ground,



## The Plumblin

### Amos 7:1-17

1 Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me; and, behold, he formed grasshoppers in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, lo, it was the latter growth after the king's mowings.

2 And it came to pass, that when they had made an end of eating the grass of the land, then I said, O Lord God, forgive, I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small.

3 The Lord repented for this: It shall not be, saith the Lord.

4 Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me: and, behold, the Lord God called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part.

5 Then said I, O Lord God, cease, I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small.

6 The Lord repented for this: This also shall not be, saith the Lord God.

7 Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand.

8 And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more:

9 And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

10 Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, say-

ing, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

11 For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

12 Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

13 But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court.

14 Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit:

15 And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.

16 Now therefore hear thou the word of the Lord: Thou sayest, Prophesy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac.

17 Therefore thus saith the Lord: Thy wife shall be an harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land: and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land.

**The Message: God's Word is a plumb line by which each one must build a life to glorify God.**

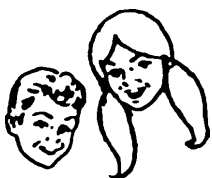
(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse To Memorize

**Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.**

**James 2:24, 26.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

One day as Amos was caring for his sheep, God said, "Go tell My people in Israel that trouble is sure to come because they have not stopped their sinning." Amos had given God's message to the people where he lived in Judea. Now he must go to Israel.

He arrived in Bethel, Israel on a feast day. The court before the great open-air altar in front of the temple was filled with people.

The princes and nobles, with freshly curled beards, wore broad, gold arm bands and ornate fringes on their fine linen robes. Rich women laden down with jewels were clothed in glistening Egyptian gowns. Surrounding this rich, center society were the poor, tattered multitudes of sad faced men, women and children. How could anyone not notice the contrast?

Amaziah, the high priest, clad in the rich vestments of his office, was standing near the altar. Amos, dressed in his homemade sheep's wool tunic, fastened at the waist by a leather belt, stepped near to Amaziah and began speaking in a doleful rhythm. The people were startled into silent attention.

Amos told them that God's true people (His church) are perfect and strong because they are built by a plumb line. The plumb line is God's laws. "These you have preserved in an ark of gold, but have not obeyed," he said. "God says because you have not obeyed His commandments, nor measured your lives by this plumb line, He will not again pass by you." Then Amos began a long list of the ways they were disobeying God. (These we studied in previous chapters. Can you name some?)

A plumb line is an important tool used by stonemasons and bricklayers.

It is used as a vertical guide in building walls. It is also used by surveyors and engineers to set sighting instruments called transits over a specific point. The walls would not be built straight without the plumb line. A plot of land would not be surveyed right without the use of a plumb line.

While Amos continued revealing how Israel was not measured to the plumb line of God's Word, Amaziah hurried a message to King Jeroboam accusing Amos of publicly conspiring against the king.

When Amaziah could stand no more he rudely interrupted Amos. "Go home and never return to Bethel," he ordered.

Before leaving, Amos told Amaziah that his family would be destroyed by the sword, and that he would die in a polluted land, and that Israel would be taken captive and the land divided by line.

Israel fell during Jeroboam's reign and was completely destroyed not many years later.

How many of you have already guessed the eternal truth of this prophecy? I can hear you saying, "The Word of God is the plumb line by which we must build our lives." Yes, every person must measure themselves by God's Word. Only a life built by God's plumb line will be strong enough to stand the storms of life and death. —Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. Upon what did the Lord stand?
2. What did He have in his hand?
3. Where was God putting a plumb-line?
4. What was to happen to the sanctuaries of Israel?
5. What would God raise up against King Jeroboam?
6. Was Amos speaking his own thoughts or God's message to the people?
7. From where did Amos come to deliver God's message?
8. What was the curse upon Amaziah and his family?
9. What was to happen to Israel?

crying bitterly. It was a heartbreaking cry, realizing how despised he had been. Everyone would close their doors to keep him out or give him a kick. Petrash stood there looking at the crying man. He felt as if boiling water had been poured over him.

"Well then, neighbor, is it a great injustice that you have a good child?" said Martin's mother, "or is it an injustice to you that Method instructed him to look with pity on a perishing human being? I had only one son; he was a good son to me until he began to go to the dram-shops. You know what trouble I had with him after that. Many times you yourself have hidden me and defended me, also his wife. Today, after God had mercy and sent us a good man here to save him, you are cursing that man and giving him 'a calling down'? Look here at my son, hear him lament. If you have a heart of stone, just go and open your dram-shop; and chase your good child away because he doesn't want to kill the people. But remember the words of a mother, whose son the dram-sellers ruined. Remember that the Word of God says: 'Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!' (Habakkuk 2:15). The curse of God will surely come upon you."

"Don't cry, my son," she said, going to him. "God will help you. You are still young, and all is not lost yet, as you are no longer under the displeasure of God. Don't cry; let us go back to our work!"

The son obeyed and rose; they took up their picks and continued digging. Method also pushed his spade deep into the ground.

What else could Petrash do, but leave? He knew well that what he had done now was not good and these people had put him to shame, but he would not admit it.

He went to the mayor's office for the permission to make liquor, but did not get it. "That won't stop me," he said to himself, "I will arrange it with somebody else, and we will make it together."

He soon found a partner, and they started making liquor. Thousands of the beautiful plums, created for good, were put into the boilers to make poison that would be the curse of the people.

If one needs a bit of poison to kill the mice that ruin everything in the house, he has to secure the prescription, a certificate from a notary public, or a permission of the police. But anyone mean enough to poison the people, needs but to pay for the license, and everything is permitted—some physician will be glad to get more patients. That is how it goes in this world.

(To be continued next week.)

[Answers: 1. A wall made by a plumb line (a straight wall). 2. A plumb line. 3. Among His people. 4. They were to be destroyed. 5. A sword. 6. God's message. 7. From following the sheep. 8. His wife would become a harlot, his children fall by the sword, and he would die in a polluted land. 9. The land would be divided, and the people would go into captivity.]

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Aug. 6, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Winter came, and also the carnival. In the Petrash's home they were preparing richly for a grand wedding. The mother had her hands full of work; the father, his head full of troubles; Eva, her heart full of joy and hope. Since harvesting the plums, nobody spoke to Sammy, just as if he were not there. They barely responded to his greeting. Only the youngest sister spoke to him once in awhile.

She had her own individual sorrow. The one she loved had asked for her, but her parents were not pleased with him. He had gone away and taken another wife. The sister felt forsaken, so it drew her to her brother who had been kicked aside. She went secretly to him in his little room where he spent most of his time now.

From Ondra, Sammy had learned to make wooden implements and he kept busy whittling. What he earned, he gave to his mother to pay some little expense.

He still continued to go to old David. "Just you keep on learning," the old Jew said to him. "You will have a store yet, and then what you have learned will be of some use to you." Every evening he was at Ondrasik's. There he was able to forget that he

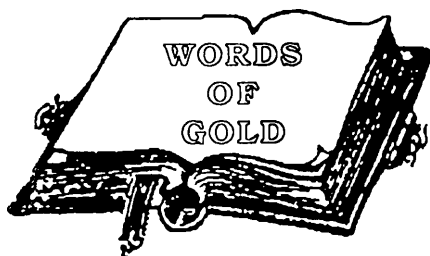
was all alone in the world. It seemed to him like paradise to be in that house.

There they understood the Word of God better and better. Now they understood how Mary's heart burned when she said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour." (Luke 1:46-47.) In their hearts Christ was also born. This was the first time they had celebrated Christmas as the birth of the Saviour.

That winter the wife of Martin Podhajskey came back to him. He had asked her in a letter. She came, yes, she came! He was so glad he hardly knew what to do. He tried to please her in everything. She just cried for joy and could hardly grasp that there could be such happiness for any wife on this earth.

She found her husband so respectful, more than he had ever been before, because he was already a drunkard when she married him. The mother-in-law was very kind, the children darling and healthy. The house was clean, the pantry filled with food for the winter. Martin and his mother had earned all this.

The wife brought a nice sum of money from her earnings. She gladly paid the few small debts they still owed and bought some clothing for



## A Famine Of God's Word

**Amos 8:1-14**

1 Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me: and behold a basket of summer fruit.

2 And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the Lord unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more.

3 And the songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord God: there shall be many dead bodies in every place; they shall cast them forth with silence.

4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail.

5 Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

7 The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

8 Shall not the land tremble for this, and every one mourn that dwelleth therein? and it shall rise up wholly as a flood; and it shall be cast out and drowned, as by the flood of Egypt.

9 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:

10 And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth

upon all loins, and baldness upon every head; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day.

11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:

12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.

13 In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst.

14 They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, Thy god, O Dan, liveth; and, The manner of Beer-sheba liveth; even they shall fall, and never rise up again.

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**The Message: Yield to God, lest a famine of His Word come into your life, and your soul die.**

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### Questions:

1. What did God show in this vision?
2. What was the message of the vision?
3. Name some sins of Israel.
4. Would God remember the sins of Israel?
5. What kind of song will be sung by those who reject God?
6. At what time can the sun go down?
7. What kind of famine is God sending?
8. What will the people do in search for God's Word?
9. How will the virgins and young men feel during the famine?

### Verse to Memorize

**...I will send a famine...not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.**

**Amos 8:11.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

This is the fourth vision which God had given to Amos. The first three are in chapter seven. The first was of grasshoppers eating the crops. This caused the people to cry for God's forgiveness. God heard their cry, but the people did not change from their sinful ways. The second vision was God destroying Israel by fire. Again the people cried, and God did not destroy them. But they kept on sinning. In the third vision, Israel was being measured by the plumb line of God's Word. This vision showed that they were far from living according to godly principles. In this vision no one cried for mercy.

The fourth vision is of a basket of summer fruit. God says, "The end is come upon my people...I will not pass by them any more." Just as the summer ends and the plants die, so God's mercy had ended. He had gathered into a basket all the fruit from His years of merciful dealings with them.

Number 386 in *Evening Light Songs* relates very well to this prophecy of Amos.

The main complaint God had against them was their treatment of the poor. It seems they were very selfish and were taking advantage of the poor. They were cheating by incorrect measures and weights and selling poor quality grains. God said He would not forget these injustices.

Neither will God forget the evil we do. Every person will give account to God for all their unconfessed sins. Over and over the Bible makes it plain that there is no possible way to escape the consequences of persistent

sin. But very often the sinner goes happily on enjoying sin because he is blind to this certain doom.

The sinners in Israel also ignored God's warning, "Turn, turn, O sinner. Why will ye die?" A famine was coming. Not a famine for bread, or water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. The time did come when Israel wanted to hear from God, but God would not send His word to them. He had sent it many times through the prophets. The prophets had been persecuted and killed while the false prophets were not killed.

A famine of the Word of God can come into any individual life. After a person has rejected God's offer of mercy many times, their conscience becomes hardened and God's Word has no meaning to them. They cannot believe it nor have faith for their salvation. Verse 9 says, "I will cause the sun to go down at noon." The "sun" is the light in a person's spiritual understanding. If we reject Christ, this understanding may be darkened when we are only halfway through our life.

The desperation a person feels when their "sun has gone down" is described in verse 12. It says they will "wander from sea to sea, and...shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it." Today there are people traveling all over the world, seeking something to satisfy this hunger in their soul. Some are going from church to church. Some come among us. Year after year, they attend camp meeting, but the same empty, unsatisfied look is in their eyes. How sad, how sad.

Verse 13 says that the "virgins and young men shall faint for thirst." This fainting for lack of peace is happening not only to old people but also to young people. Be careful! Yield to Jesus. Let Him be Ruler of your life.

—Charlotte Huskey

her mother-in-law, her husband and the children. She had plenty. For the kitchen she bought some utensils. How cozy their home was now!

The main thing was that she came with a hungry heart, for she loved to hear the Word of God. She caught up with some and even passed others in her zeal to know the Word. Oh, how easy it was for her to believe God and His Son, Jesus Christ, who brought about such a change in her husband and in her life. And once she had tasted the grace of God in her heart she could not keep silent about it. She was concerned about her family, former friends and cousins. Each Sunday their small room was full and Method read the Bible to them. Others began calling the young man into other homes also.

"Method, it seems to me that the swallows are beginning to gather!" said Sammy once. "Yonder in the grove you said that the whole village should come together for a prayer meeting, and that you and I should begin. I have hopes it will come to that yet."

"Hardly, Sammy, for 'Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.' (Matthew 7:14.) At least we will show people the way; and if they will not follow the Lord Jesus, we will follow Him, for He said, 'Follow thou me.'"

"Yes, Method, follow Him, Him alone!"

Method wanted to start on his house in the spring. So during the winter, he and the Ondrasik's hauled lumber for it. All that was possible was prepared now, so as to be able to finish it in a short time. The hillock was all leveled off. A sufficient supply of bricks was ready, also rocks for the foundation. In spare time they brought in slate for the roof and stacked them

at Ondrasik's. From the forest they brought some wood and when he had time, Method made posts out of it; because he wanted to fence the whole property.

Suddenly sad news came to the Ondrasik's. Their daughter Anna wrote that her husband was having serious trouble with his eyes. The doctor told them he had better return home for he might go blind. Therefore they would start on the journey as soon as he returned from the hospital. That was sad news. Formerly it would have crushed them; today, they knew how to pray and only said, "The will of the Lord be done; we have to bear what He has laid upon us."

The same week that Anna and her family returned, the Petrash's were getting ready for the wedding. Only for the sake of appearance, they had invited the Ondrasik's. When the sick son-in-law returned and the daughter was also ill from the journey, the Ondrasik's sent word that they could not attend. Even Dorka was unable to be Eva's bridesmaid since she had so much work at home. If it had not been for Method and his help and advice, they could not have managed to get along.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A basket of summer fruit. 2. The harvest is passed. God will not come again to them for their is no fruit in their lives. 3. They made the poor fail, used deceitful balances, sold and bought the poor for almost nothing, and sold spoiled wheat. 4. Yes. 5. A song of mourning. 6. At noon. 7. A famine for the Word of God. 8. They will wander from sea, to sea, from the north to the east, and run to and fro seeking God. 9. They will thirst for the Word of God.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Aug. 13, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Anna wondered about this young servant who was so faithfully helping her parents. Dorka and her mother, even her father, Ondra, did not get tired of telling what a servant God had sent into their house. She was very much stunned by it. Her husband, Joseph, was puzzled, saying, "Seems to me as if I had heard the servant's voice somewhere."

"Who knows whether you have met somewhere," said the mother. "None of us here knows from what place he comes. He never tells anything concerning himself, but from all that he talks about, he must have seen a good bit of the world."

Again it was Sunday. Old David sat by his warm tile oven, lost in thought. In spite of the closed doors and windows, the music and shouting at neighbor Petrash's could be heard. They were celebrating the wedding. They had it on Sunday because the Gypsy musicians were hired by so many that they were already hired out on Tuesday. They succeeded in getting his music band for this day and the next.

Suddenly, silently, the door was opened and Method entered, sitting down beside the Jew.

"Welcome to you," said the old man joyfully. "Well, how is it at your house?"

"Praise God, it is getting better. The doctor said Joseph may recover by spring and his wife has been up since this morning, but she is yet weak."

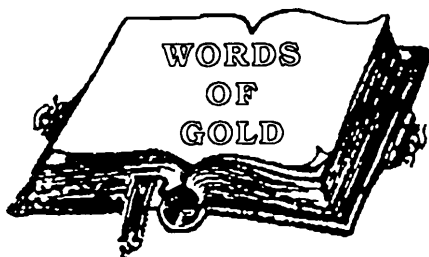
"Listen, Method, while I have been sitting here without anything to do, I could not but think about what will become of you. Since Ondra has his children at home, he will not need both a servant and a cowboy after they get well."

"That's true, the three of them will be able to do the work," responded the youth thoughtfully. "I shall be there only until the spring. Really they could spare me now; I could leave at once if it were not for the house that I started—and one more thing."

It was as if a knife had been plunged into the old man's heart.

"Go away, where to?" he asked sadly. "What shall we do here without you? Well, the others could make do, but old David! What could he do without you?"

"Do you love me?" Method asked drawing the old man into his arms, as he had done the day when David had told him about his misfortune.



## A New Hope for Israel

Amos 9:1-6, 8-14

1 I saw the Lord standing upon the altar; and he said,...cut them in the head, all of them; and I will slay the last of them with the sword: he that fleeth of them shall not flee away, and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered.

2 Though they dig into hell, thence shall mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down:

3 And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them:

4 And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good.

5 And the Lord God of hosts is he that toucheth the land,...and all that dwell therein shall mourn:...

6 It is he that...calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is his name.

8 Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saying that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the Lord.

9 For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve,...

10 All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.

11 In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

12 That they may possess the remnant...which are called by my name, saith the Lord that doeth this.

13 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.

14 And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

**The Message: The kingdom of Israel was destroyed, but God has set up another Kingdom to which every saved person belongs.**

### Questions:

1. Where did Amos see God standing?
2. Who was God ready to destroy?
3. Will God seek all those who try to escape?
4. What will happen to those who hid in the sea?
5. Who will God save?
6. In what way did God scatter Israel?
7. How will all the sinners in Israel die?
8. When Israel was destroyed what was raised up?
9. In what way was Israel restored?

### Verse to Memorize

**...My kingdom is not of this world: If my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews:...**

**John 18:36.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

God continues to forecast the destruction of backslidden Israel. "The eyes of the Lord are upon the sinful kingdom. They will not escape." He says, "Though they dig into hell, climb the highest mountain, go to the bottom of the sea, or into captivity by their enemies, I will find them. I will destroy [Israel] from off the face of the earth; saving I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob." Those of Jacob's house, "I will sift among all nations.... All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword," said the Lord.

Not many years after Amos spoke this prophecy, the cruel Assyrians came against Israel. They skinned their prisoners alive, cut off their hands, feet, noses, ears or put out their eyes. Sometimes they pulled out their tongues. They made mounds of human skulls, all to inspire terror. What an awful price Israel paid for their sins.

The country of Israel was destroyed at this time, but the country of Judah was not because God had said a king who would reign forever would come out of Judah. About 150 years later, this country was destroyed, but God saved some of Jacob's family. Jesus was born from this family.

Verses eleven through fifteen are a beautiful prophecy of the Kingdom of Christ. Some people believe these scriptures are a prophecy that the kingdom of Israel was to be restored on earth. However, according to Acts 15:16-17, the Apostles believed it happened when they lived. They believed it was a prophecy of salvation through Christ, the beginning of the Church of God, Christ's Kingdom.

It "speaks of that day in which God will do great things for His Church by

setting up of His Kingdom," says Matthew Henry, a Bible teacher. Adam Clark said, "It must refer to their [Israel's] restoration under the gospel, when they shall receive the Lord Jesus as their Messiah, and be by Him restored...."

After the Jews crucified Christ, a wicked enemy completely destroyed Jerusalem. At that time, Jesus raised up the tabernacle of David and the prophecy of verse eleven was completed. "The waste cities are rebuilt" (verse 14) when Christ saves a person. He makes each of us a city, for He said, "Ye are a city set on a hill, that cannot be hid." (Matt. 5:14.) Every saved person is planted in their land, which is Christ's Kingdom. "And no man can pluck him out of God's hand." (Jn. 10:28.)

It is very important that we understand God's Word correctly. We have learned that His Word is a plumb line by which we must measure our faith and actions. If we understand it improperly, then we will not be able to live according to God's desires.

God worked with Israel for many years, but they were a stiff-necked, rebellious people who would not obey God. Therefore God allowed them to go ahead and suffer the consequence of their sins. God explains to us in the book of Romans that He is now working with spiritual Israel, those who have a dedicated heart to serve God. He calls them Israel. You and I and people of all nations are God's Israel. Let us live carefully before God lest we become deceived by a false belief and be left behind when Jesus comes to take His people [Israel] home to Glory.

Christ is not coming again to restore the Jews into their land of Israel and set up His kingdom there. Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world:..." John 18:36. Those who believe He is going to reign again on this earth do not understand the spiritual truth of God's Word. They are deceived just as the Jews were and are still waiting for Christ to come and reign over an earthly kingdom. God said to Amos, "Behold the eyes of the Lord are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth."

—Charlotte Huskey

"Don't ask me. If you were of my own blood, my heart could not love you more!"

Silence reigned in the room.

"Do you remember what I promised you once in the fall?"

"That you would tell me something? Oh yes, I remember!" nodded the aged man. "I have been waiting for it a long time."

"Well, I want to tell you why I love you."

"Me?" exclaimed the Jew surprised. "I thought that you loved me as you love all the people, since Christ commands you to do so."

"Yes, because Jesus—He that said 'SALVATION IS OF THE JEWS'—tells me to love you. Therefore I love you not only as a man, but also as a Jew. Especially as a Jew, because I owe my happiness and all I am to a Jew."

"What, you don't say!" said the amazed old man. "Well, then, say on!"

"For long years I lived without God, without Christ in my heart. I did not know that I had an everlasting soul, nor where my soul would go after death. I lived just as the people in this village used to live. It was a Jew who was the first to point the Truth out to me. He showed me Christ. He taught me to love the Son of God; that One who lived on the earth yet, always walking with God. Today He is not seen anymore with the people, because God took Him.

"Once you wondered how I came to know the Yiddish language. Now I will tell you. That Jew taught me."

"You say," said the aged man raising his bowed head, "that it was a Jew who taught you to know and love Christ?"

"Yes, he was a Jew, a Jewish missionary. His greatest desire was to tell his people that the Messiah had come and was redeeming His people from their sins. That He lived, died

and rose again, and that He will come again."

"Then he was not a Jew," frowned the old man; "he was a Christian."

"He was a very happy man; he had only one sorrow, something he wanted to do but hadn't been able. It was hard for him to die because this was very important. He told me about it. I was happy to take his message, so just before he died, I promised him that what he wanted to do, I would try to do even though it might cost me my life. He believed me, and praise the Lord, I have kept my promise."

"And what kind of a message was it?" the aged man asked with great interest, looking surprised at his young friend. Why, he was talking today as he never did before, as if he were not just the servant of Ondra; that he had not been raised among ignorant farmers and was not one of them.

"What kind of a message was it, you asked me? My Jew friend wanted to bring the message of salvation to someone he loved very much. But he had not because he could not find him."

"And you have found him?"

"Yes, I found him and...."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Upon the altar. 2. All the people of Israel. 3. Yes. 4. A serpent will bite them. 5. Some of the house of Jacob. 6. As corn is sifted in a sieve. 7. By the sword. 8. The tabernacle of David. 9. Israel was restored through faith in Christ. Then the Jews rejected Christ and God created a new Israel from all people who are saved in Christ.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Aug. 20, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Suddenly a strange light flashed through the room, and the terrifying sound of a wild cry. Both Method and the old Jew jumped up.

"Something happened over there," said the old Jew, pointing toward Sammy's house.

"Looks like it's burning inside; good-bye, I have to hurry."

"Where to? —in that fire?"

"Yes. Perhaps someone drunk knocked over a lamp, and Sammy isn't able to run."

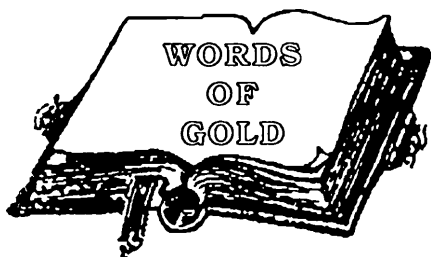
"Don't go!" groaned the Jew, but in vain. The young fellow tore his hand from the old man's grasp and disappeared into the darkness.

Something terrible had happened in the house of Petrash. One of the groomsmen had been doing all kinds of foolishness and had cooked the liquor with sugar. As he was placing a large bowlful of flaming liquor on the table in front of the newlyweds, his feet slipped. He stumbled and poured out the burning contents over the table, and also over the groom. In a moment the unfortunate groom was burning like a torch. The tablecloth and the floor, wherever the alcohol

flowed—it burned. The guests were jumping about and screaming. Some ran to the door; others jumped out of the window. The bridegroom, wild with pain, jumped desperately onto the table and down again, rolled over on the floor, hoping to put out the fire enveloping him. The young bride, wanting to throw herself upon him to put out the fire, could barely be held back by the bridesmaids. Someone began to pour water on the flames, and one of the drunken guests, supposing it was water, poured out half a bottle of liquor. Then the fire broke out worse than ever.

Method broke through the door, carrying a large, wet cloth which he threw upon the poor, burning fellow. He wrapped him up completely and thus put out the terrible fire. By that time flames had spread everywhere. The remaining people ran outside, away from the stifling smoke and stench. Barely did they succeed in getting away.

The bride fainted and was carried out. Method carried out the groom, and turned him over to the half-drunk men outside. He went once more into the midst of that destruction. He jumped to the win-



## Micah A Prophet of God

**I Kings 22:6-8, 13-14, 17,  
20-24, 26-28, 35-36**

**6** ...The king [Ahab] of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead to battle,...? And they said, Go up; for the Lord shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

**7** And Jehoshaphat [king of Judah] said, Is there not here a prophet of the Lord besides, that we might enquire of him?

**8** And [Ahab] said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah [Micah]...but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so.

**13** And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying,...let thy word,...be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good.

**14** And Micaiah said,...what the Lord saith unto me, that will I speak.

**17** And he said, [to the kings] I saw all Israel scattered upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd: and the Lord said, These have no master: let them return every man to his house in peace.

**20** And the Lord said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead? And one

said on this manner, and another said on that manner.

**21-22** And there came forth a spirit,... And he said,...I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And [the Lord] said, Thou shalt persuade him,...go forth, and do so.

**23** ...The Lord hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets,...

**24** But Zedekiah...smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the Lord from me to speak unto thee?

**26-27** And the king of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and...Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I come in peace.

**28** And Micaiah said, If thou return at all in peace, the LORD hath not spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, O people, every one of you.

**35** And...the king...died at even: and the blood ran out of the wound into the midst of the chariot.

**36** And there went a proclamation throughout the host about the going down of the sun, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country.

**The Message: Micah is a prophet of God because what he forecasted happened just as he said.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

...When the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the Lord hath truly sent him.

Jeremiah 28:9.

# Let's



## Talk . . .

A man is a prophet of God if what he forecasts happens as he said it would. This Bible story shows that Micaiah was a prophet of God. He said that King Ahab would be killed and his men would be scattered and return to their own homes. Ahab was killed and his men went home. The other 400 prophets said that God would cause Ahab to win the battle. They did not tell the truth because they had a lying spirit. They were false prophets.

Four hundred men did not speak the truth, and only one man spoke the truth. Sometimes it seems foolish to believe what one person says is right, when 400 others disagree. Remember though, that only Noah preached the truth those years that he was building the ark. Jesus said that when He comes again it will be as it was in the days of Noah. And so it is. There are perhaps 400 false preachers in the world today for every one of God's true preachers.

The prophecies of John, in Revelation, also warn us about these conditions. It says that near the end of the world, the evil dragon will again be loose. This dragon is not an animal that spits fire and devours people. It is an evil spirit that works against Christ's spirit. It devours the souls of men, women and children who reject the truth and believe his lies. This spirit may profess to be Christian, but it does not believe that Christ came to save people from sin. This spirit believes in many things, but it is always against the One True God. Its gods are evil spirits or material things, such as Mother earth, the stars, the moon, powers of the earth and all kinds of idols (men, countries, gold, money, etc.).

There are many false prophets and false gods around us, and it may be

hard to know the true from the false. We know, however, that Jesus spoke only the truth. If a scripture is interpreted in a way that differs from what Jesus said, then we know the explanation is false. Any teaching which differs from that of the Apostles is also false, for the Apostles' teachings always agree with that of Jesus. These doctrines of Jesus and the Apostles are found in the New Testament part of the Bible.

When we read the New Testament we constantly find the phrase "that it might be fulfilled." That phrase means that which was spoken in the Old Testament was being fulfilled when the New Testament was being written. The Old Testament has many, many prophecies of Christ and of the Kingdom that He set up when He died on the cross. This Kingdom is also His Church (which He said He would keep in God's name).

Hundreds of preachers today are like the 400 false prophets in Micaiah's time. They are believing a lying spirit and understanding prophecies differently than how Jesus and the Apostles understood them.

Let us ask God to help us understand the Bible just as the Apostles understood it.

See you next Sunday as we begin studying the book of Micah!

—Charlotte Huskey

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### Questions:

1. What did the king of Israel want to know?
2. What did Micaiah tell King Ahab?
3. What had 400 other prophets told him?
4. Why had the prophets told Ahab to go to battle?
5. What happened to Micaiah because he spoke the truth?
6. What did Micaiah say before he was led away to prison?
7. Did King Ahab die?
8. Where did the soldiers go after the king's death?
9. Which prophet spoke the truth?
10. Was Micaiah the prophet of God?

dows and closed them, pulled the flaming curtains down and stomping on them, quenched the fire that was shooting up all around him and set his clothes on fire, too. In spite of all, he managed to grab two large demijohns full of liquor and a third one half-full and get them outside before they exploded into flames.

"Where will you throw that water?" he shouted to Petrash and some older men, who carried water in buckets and tubs. "Water will not put out that fire. You will have to let the liquor burn out and then you can extinguish the rest. You laughed and said that you would bathe in liquor. Now you can warm yourself by it also. Thank God, He permitted me to carry these out. If the fire had exploded these demijohns, it is horrible to imagine what would have happened!"

Oh, that was a terrible wedding and a horrible time. Hardly a single one of the guests got home free from injury. Almost everyone had his clothing torn and ruined. And the groom! The poor groom! He was burned so that it was terrible to look at him.

Though all that was in the room was either burned or ruined, the house at least was saved. It would not have been saved, all agreed to that, even the groom would have burned to death had it not been for Methodius. A long time they had been preparing for that wedding, but it will be remembered still longer.

Just the week before, Mrs. Petrash said to the neighbors, "The Ondrasik's are so holy, yet they have the house full of sickness. Why is God permitting all this to

come upon them?" Now she had the house full of sickness and could not say that God had sent it on them. God had not caused the drunkenness. They had...called the devil. They had cooked his kind of soup...and it was hot!

The groom went through torment. On account of the great pain he cried day and night. They did most everything for him that the doctor ordered and also many things that he did not order. Thus the good that the doctor tried to do was ruined by the advice of the old women in the neighborhood.

Three days after the fire, Method said to his boss, "I was at the Petrash home; the young fellow will surely die if they do not treat him differently, or he will go crazy. I beg of you, let me go for a few days to take care of him."

"Go, yes go, you will surely give him good care. It is a pity to let such a young life perish."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. If he should go to battle. 2. I saw all Israel scattered as sheep that have no shepherd. 3. That the Lord would help him win. 4. Because a lying spirit was in the prophets' mouths. 5. He was slapped and put into prison. 6. "If the king returns then the Lord has not spoken by me." 7. Yes. 8. They scattered. 9. Micaiah spoke the truth. 10. Yes.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Aug. 27, 1995

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## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Methodius went to help the Petrash family nurse their burned son-in-law. They were glad to have him help. The doctor, who happened to be there when he came, rejoiced above all. He realized that here was a sensible and practical young man. He forbade the family to do anything except what Methodius Ruzansky would let them do. From that hour on, all went better.

Even the sick one realized that some other hands were touching him now, and not only tried to relieve him, but did reduce the pain.

The few days that Method intended to stay at the Petrash home became weeks. Mrs. Petrash herself went to Ondrasik's to beg, for God's sake, that they might let their servant stay a longer time with her. She said that they would gladly pay for someone to take his place for that time.

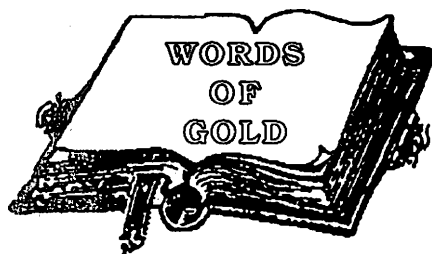
Well, Ondrasik's let them have him, without anyone to take his place on the farm. They knew that Method, out of pure love, was caring day and night for the sick groom. They wanted to have a share in this

work of love. Besides, the son-in-law of Ondra did not have to be in bed any longer. His eyes were getting better and the headaches ceased. He was glad to do something.

For a long time Sammy had wished for the opportunity of having Method at their house in order that they also might begin the day like the swallows, with a united prayer. He had gotten his wish. They now began each day like the swallows. But at what a price!

The winter had passed, the spring came, but it was like some beautiful bird; he flies and sings, makes the heart happy, yet before you realize it, he's gone. The pleasant spring had to make place for a hot summer, just like the one two years ago when Methodius Ruzansky came the first time to the house of the Ondrasik's. One summer afternoon, Ondrasik's son-in-law stood looking out the front of their house.

He gazed in the direction where the ugly little hill and swamp had been before his going to America. That was gone, and instead, in the midst of a young, beautiful orchard stood a house, not very big, but attractive. There was none like it in the whole village. It had large, fine



## Micah Sees A Vision

**Micah 1:1-10, 12-13, 16**

1 The word of the Lord that came to Micah...in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

2 Hear, all ye people; hearken, O earth, and all that therein is: and let the Lord God be witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple.

3 For, behold, the Lord cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth.

4 And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place.

5 For the transgression of Jacob is all this, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? is it not Samaria [home of the Golden Calf]? and what are the high places of Judah? are they not Jerusalem?

6 Therefore I will make Samaria as an heap of the field, and as plantings of a vineyard: and I will pour down the stones thereof into the valley....

7 And all the graven images thereof shall be beaten to pieces, and all the hires thereof shall be burned with the fire, and all the idols thereof will I lay desolate....

8 Therefore I will wail and howl,...I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls.

9 For her wound is incurable; for it is come unto Judah; he is come unto the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem.

10 ...In the house of Aphrah roll thy-

self in the dust.

12 For the inhabitant of Maroth waited carefully for good: but evil came down from the Lord unto the gate of Jerusalem.

13 O thou inhabitant of Lachish, bind the chariot to the swift beast: she is the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion: for the transgressions of Israel were found in thee.

16 Make thee bald, and poll thee for thy delicate children; enlarge thy baldness as the eagle; for they are gone into captivity from thee.

**Matthew 28:18-20**

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

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

**The Message: We must be like Micah and pray and cry to God for sinners who will be punished.**

### Questions:

1. What is the prophet's name?
2. Name the three kings who ruled when Micah lived?
3. What was the Lord going to do?
4. Why was God going to come down?
5. What was to happen to Samaria?
6. What would happen to the graven images?
7. Who was wailing and mourning?
8. Where would the children go?
9. What did Jesus command His followers to do?

### Verse to Memorize

*When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Ezekiel 3:18.*

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Jesus said to His followers, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,... Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:18-20. Before sending His disciples, Jesus first assured them that He had all power and would protect them, supply their needs and give them words to say. Then He told them what they should do, and promised to always be with them.

With these promises, the disciples went out to preach. Their first public meeting was met with ridicule. "These men are full of new wine," the spectators said. Every person who does the will of God will also suffer. Jesus said, "They have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you."

Prophet Micah also suffered. In this lesson he is very sad. Why is Micah weeping? It was not that he felt sorry for himself, but that he had seen a vision, a terrible vision. In the vision he saw his family, his best friends and many other people suffering great tribulations. Oh, how he hated to see them suffer.

These were people for whom God had performed many miracles. He had forgiven their many sins and showed mercy to them. In the vision, Micah saw God coming, but not in mercy as before. He came treading upon their high places. The first Golden Calf that had become the official god of Israel was smashed. Samaria, the capital of Israel, become as a field. Ahab's palace, overlaid with ivory and gold, was thrown down. The streets were plowed up. All

the graven images were beaten to pieces, and all the money collected through this worship was burned up. Babies were left motherless and tottering, crippled old people were left without care, while the young and the strong were led away to become slaves of cruel, enemy masters.

Micah knew that national sins lead to a national downfall. ("Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34.) Around 721 B.C. the Assyrians marched up the 300 foot hill on which Samaria was built and destroyed the city. Twenty years later they besieged Jerusalem, but the city escaped by a miracle of God. Micah most probably lived through both these battles, for he lived during the reign of three kings. (Verse 9 says, "He [the enemy] is come unto the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem.) Micah's prophecies were very accurate.

Remember every prophecy has a lesson for us today. One lesson for us is that God's mercy does not last forever. People can trample over it until God's mercy is no more extended to them. We must be careful. Another thought is that righteousness exalts a nation. A nation will be blessed only as its people live righteous lives. Each of us then must do our best to uphold righteous principles. The third lesson is that we should hurt for the punishment of sinners. We usually feel sorry for other Christians who suffer, and that is good. But we should also cry for the condition of sinners. "The way of transgressors is hard," the Bible tells us in Proverbs 13:15. Do we believe that verse? Or do we look on the sinner as a person having lots of fun? Remember sin may be fun for a while, but the end is bitterness. If you are not sorry for the punishment of sinners, ask God to teach you how to carry a burden for them. Until a person has a real concern for the sinner, he will never be used for God as Micah was. Nor will he be able to obey Jesus' command to "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations."

—Charlotte Huskey

windows, to the rear a fenced yard and gate, and toward the village a great door, like the door of a store.

"Who would have thought of something like that?" said young Ondra, for thus he was called by the family name of his wife, though his name was Rasho. "There that hill-ock was lying in front of us, but we did not buy it. It stood there so useless, and he obtained a fine place so cheaply. Nobody in the whole village has a house more thoroughly built and inexpensive. I just wish I could remember of whom he reminds me, not so much his face, but his voice. I must have heard that fellow speak; somewhere, but where?"

Young Rasho was not the only one who admired the house; everybody in the village did. They all knew that Method had hired the bricklayers from the village, but he directed the building himself like an experienced builder. Every bit of the space was well used. The timbers for the roof he had cut altogether differently from that to which they were accustomed. In this way he made rooms in the attic, and there was plenty of room below. Though the building was erected from sun-dried bricks, it was as firm as if it had been of burnt bricks. Daily the people stopped to look, and many a one nodding his head said, "Verily, I will have mine also done that way."

All that time Method was working on his house, he stayed with the Ondrasik's but paid for his board. The other workmen he hired Mrs. Podhajsky cooked for because he did not want to add this work to the Ondrasik women since they had a big household anyway.

Mr. Petrash did not open a dram-shop, nor would he open one, nor a store. For one reason, that terrible wedding cost them too much. The very long illness of the son-in-law required much. They had to put new doors, windows and flooring in the front room. They were glad to have that money which they intended to use in the dram-shop. Petrash made arrangements with Method to make a store and dwelling in his house for Sammy. For two weeks the neighbors had been watching Old David and the young folks arranging the store that was to open the next week.

It was as if old David had been restored, like one might put an old rusty windmill into order again. He arranged and advised about everything in the store. Even for his own son he could not have done better. The people wondered why the Jew was completely changed. Before this time, except for a "yes," a "no," or a greeting, no one could get a word out of him, and he frowned continually. Now he was even willing to chat and had such a friendly face, just as if he had grown young, though his head was completely white.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Micah. 2. Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah. 3. To come and tread upon the high places. 4. Because of the transgression and sins of the people in Israel. 5. Samaria will become as a heap in a field. 6. They will be beaten into pieces. 7. Prophet Micah. 8. Into captivity away from their parents. 9. "Go ye and teach all nations.")

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Sept. 3, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

The women in the village watched Old David change from a frowning, silent man into a smiling, helpful one. They thought he had changed because now he had a clean shirt and clothing, when for years he had gone about ragged and dirty. They could not understand why Martin's mother would trouble herself to wash for the old Jew, nor why she did other things for him. A few weeks ago she white-washed his room and re-covered his featherbed. He bought new covers, and now his room was quite nice.

The women wondered and gossiped! "Everyone who has aught to do with the servant of Ondra is being changed, only he remains his old self. Let us watch and see how he will turn out when he lives in his new house."

"Perhaps the Ondrasik's will even give him their daughter since they think so much of him."

"Oh, yes, even Petrash would be glad to give one of his, but the servant does not seem to care for either of them."

But young Mrs. Rasho let the cat out of the bag, saying, "Method has spoken to Ondra saying that Sammy Petrash would make Dorka a good

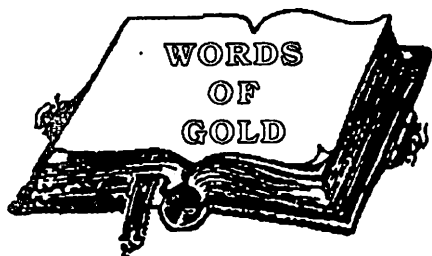
husband. Though he is lame, he is otherwise without fault; and when he starts in business, with the help of God, he will be able to take care of a family," said he, "and they both love God and will walk together on the pathway that leads to eternal glory." That is all Method said, Sammy said the rest himself, and with Dorka's help the father agreed. Dorka had not dreamed as she was helping to dig on that hillock, that someday she would be living there."

"Strange things happen in this world," Dorka said. And truly they do!

Again there was a very beautiful, early summer evening. The light of the moon covered the village as with liquid silver. Everything was blooming in the orchards, meadows and groves. Some of the shining rays fell also on the hut of old David. They lit up the rustic bench and the aged man sitting upon it. He was in holiday attire, and it seemed as if a holiday spirit rested upon his face.

It pleased him much that these good young people, who loved each other, could be happy together and that he had helped make this possible.

Old David wondered why he should have such joy. Was it because Sammy could finally open his store



## Hope For The Remnant

### Micah 2:1-13

1 Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand.

2 And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress [de-fraud] a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

3 Therefore thus saith the Lord; Behold, against this family do I devise an evil, from which ye shall not remove your necks; neither shall ye go haughtily: for this time is evil.

4 In that day shall one take up a parable against you, and lament with a doleful lamentation, and say, We be utterly spoiled: he hath changed the portion of my people: how hath he removed it from me! turning away he hath divided our fields.

5 Therefore thou shalt have none that shall cast a cord by lot in the congregation of the Lord.

6 Prophesy ye not, say they to them that prophesy: they shall not prophesy to them, that they shall not take shame.

7 O thou that art named the house of Jacob, is the spirit of the Lord straitened? are these his doings? do not my words do good to him that walketh uprightly?

8 Even of late my people is risen up as an enemy: ye pull off the robe with the garment from them that pass by securely as men averse from war.

9 The women of my people have ye cast out from their pleasant houses; from their children have ye taken away my glory for ever.

10 Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction.

11 If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people.

12 I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men.

13 The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the Lord on the head of them.

**The Message: There is hope in Christ for the remnant of Israel.**

### Questions:

1. Name some sins the people planned to do.
2. Why did they ask Micah to not prophesy?
3. Why were the people told to depart?
4. What kind of prophet did the people want?
5. What will God do for the remnant of Jacob?
6. Why will the remnant make great noise?
7. Who will come up before the remnant?
8. What will happen to them before they are led?
9. Who will be leading the remnant of Israel?

### Verse To Memorize

**I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron.**

**Isaiah 45:2.**

# Let's

# Talk . . .



Men of power and influence were taking away fields, homes and even clothes. Children were being snatched away from their mothers, and some being sold as servants. Other families were left together, but without homes. The poorest of all were even stripped of their only covering.

When Micah spoke out against these evils, he was told to stop prophesying. Persecuting God's prophets is a sin that quickly provokes God, for in love, He sends the prophets to warn the people against troubles they can avoid. God also has a special love for the poor. They are so special to Him, that He sent His Son to earth to preach the gospel (the good news) to them. (Matthew 11:5.)

Micah told the people that these sins had polluted the land. Then he said the polluted land was not their place of rest. He encouraged them to look forward to the time when God would again be their Leader and would give them a better rest. This rest is explained in the fourth chapter of Hebrews. Verse 3 reads, "We which have believed do enter into rest...."

God's chosen people, the Jews, had a few years of rest from their enemies after God set them free from the Babylonians. They returned to their homeland, rebuilt the walls around Jerusalem and rebuilt their temple. But after a few years they were again under bondage. They were under bondage until Christ was born. Those who accepted Christ as the Messiah were set free from sin and found the rest of which Micah spoke.

The last verse in our lesson speaks of a breaker leading the way and opening up the gate. This must be a prophecy of Christ. On the cross, Christ broke

down the strongholds of satan and made the way for our salvation. Verse 13 says, "The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate,...and their king...the Lord" as their head. This is a picture of a sinner being broken up in repentance and entering into salvation. Then the Lord becomes their Leader. He also becomes their Head. Christ, the Lord, is the Head of His Church and all saved people are in this Church.

The wonderful plan of salvation was revealed to Prophet Micah, who lived many years before Christ. Through faith, he saw a time when God would be the Head of His people. God had led Abraham and a few others, and for many years had tried to lead the people of Israel, but they were rebellious and stiff-necked. They loved their sins more than they loved God so He let them go their own way. Their choices led them to self-destruction.

When Pilot said he would not be responsible for Jesus' death, the people of Jerusalem cried, "Let His blood be on us and our children." What a price they paid for crucifying the Son of God. A few years later, a wicked enemy surrounded Jerusalem. And they (following the example of their haughty ancestors) were too proud to surrender. Words cannot describe their awful suffering within the city. They ate all the leaves and bark off the trees, every blade of grass, and every dry straw. Hundreds of men, women and children starved to death, and family members were too weak to bury many of the dead. (Can you image the filth and stink?) Others killed each other for a scrap of food, even taking it out of the weaker ones' mouths. Some even cooked and ate their own children. Jesus told about this in Matthew 24:21, "Then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."

God help us to learn from these examples to humble ourselves in obedience to Christ, so that we will not suffer like those did who rejected Jesus or those who rejected Prophet Micah's message.

—Charlotte Huskey

and that he was instrumental in helping him? The old man could not understand himself, how love for other people had come into his heart, when before he did not love other people nor feel with them. If others had sorrow, it did not hurt him, if they had joy, it was nothing to him. But today, he almost cried for joy when Dorka, bubbling over with happiness, came to him in the store and said, "The Lord Jesus repay you for all that you have done for Sammy."

Sammy and Method had also thanked him and that pleased his old heart so much.

"Until lately I have been living fruitless in this world," thought the old man. "I lived only for myself, but now, I have started to do good to others. Now I realize that it is the duty of man in this world and that God commands us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Doing so is happiness. People lived all around me with many a care, and I could have advised and helped them—but I did not do it.... What was I doing then that could have made me rejoice?"

"I saw only that they despised me, that they didn't love me. Well, why should they have loved old David? Even though I did not harm nor help anybody, my heart was very much stuck on that fact, that I was better than those all around me. Now I see that I was not. Why should anybody have loved me?"

The old Jew remembered that Method had read from the New Testament, that Christ said, "The Son of man came, not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

"O, Adonai, do not cast me away, if I say, My Christ!," the old man said, lifting his eyes toward heaven. "I cannot help myself, I am a sinful man. In Jerusalem we Jews have no temple, no Ark of the Covenant, no sacrifice,

and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. I must have a sacrifice lamb. Oh, God, I believe that Jesus Christ is Your LAMB. But if it is a sin and treachery before thee, O God of Jacob, slay me at once, but if not, O let that blood of Jesus Christ cleanse me from my sins and guilt. I am placing my life on that Lamb, slain for me.

"I have resisted to do this, but I can no longer; I believe that He lives, that He rose from the grave, that He lives with Thee; yes, He even lives in the heart of old David."

The old man pressed his hands on his heart, and such a light covered his face that he looked like one of the elders before the throne of God.

The voice of the old man ceased, only his lips moved. What more he said remains between him and his God. Out of eyes, turned toward heaven, flowed abundant tears of real sorrow for the lost opportunities. They were tears of a child who has found his Father, a Father who is not angry, does not threaten or punish—but forgives, because He loves eternally.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. They covet fields and houses and plan how to take them either by fraud or by violence. 2. Because his prophecies made them ashamed. 3. Because their country was not a safe place to rest. It was polluted and would destroy them. 4. A prophet who would lie, and prophecy of wine and strong drink. 5. He will gather them. 6. Because it will be a multitude of people. 7. A person called a breaker who could clear the way for them. (This is a prophecy of Christ, for He opened the way for us to be saved.) 8. They will be broken. 9. Their king, the Lord.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Sept. 10, 1995

## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

Sitting alone on his bench in front of his hut, old David "started with the swallows on the way home." Just before the end of his sad, forsaken life, God resurrected his soul and gave him the light of eternal life. Jesus, the Saviour of sinners, saved him and came into his heart.

The old man was so lost in his thoughts of God that he had not heard the steps. Nor did he see the youth for which he was now silently praying and longing to see.

Methodius, however, saw David, and for a long time could not take his eyes from the shining face of the aged man.

Sudden shrieks pierced the quietness of the evening. Somewhere in the village a drunkard was staggering along and was angry that the street was not wide enough. Old David looked quickly around. That is when he noticed that he was no longer alone.

They sat together on the bench. The aged Jew told Method that now he would say with Ruth, the grandmother of King David: "Thy God, my God."

"I resisted, I did not want to understand; but now I can no longer resist. Yes, I believe that Jesus of Nazareth is Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God, and that God gave Him to me also."

"Praise the Lord!" cried the young man. Then he quoted from memory Isaiah 53:6-7. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."

"Yes, Jesus took upon Himself death for me. He is my Messiah, my Immanuel! I used to pray like King David: 'Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.' (Psalm 119:18.) Now I know that the God of my fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, hast heard me and hast given me light that I can understand His Word."

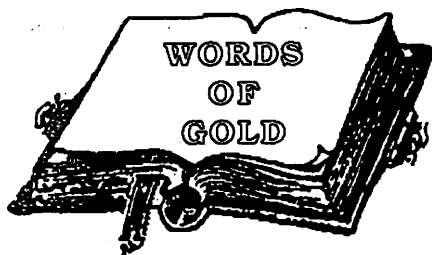
Old David and Method talked together for a long, long time, giving glory to the living God for the grace He had manifested in the old Jew.

"Praise God!" Methodius said again. "His promises are eternally true; I trusted in Him and He did not disappoint me."

"You?" questioned old David.

"Yes, me! Dear aged friend, since Christ is yours, I can finally tell you, that this village would never have seen me, if it had not been for you."

"For me?"



## Reproof of Religious Leaders

### Micah 3:1-12

1 And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know judgment?

2 Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones;

3 Who also eat the flesh of my people, and slay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.

4 Then shall they cry unto the Lord, but he will not hear them: he will even hide his face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings.

5 Thus saith the Lord concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him.

6 Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.

7 Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God.

8 But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob

his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

9 Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity.

10 They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

11 The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the Lord, and say, Is not the Lord among us? none evil can come upon us.

12 Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

**The Message: God commanded that all who minister for Him should not charge for their services but should only receive offerings of the people.**

### Questions:

1. Were the leaders being cruel to the people?
2. What will the Lord do to these leaders?
3. Of what was Prophet Micah filled?
4. What was Prophet Micah's duty?
5. With what had Zion and Jerusalem been built?
6. Why were these judges doing their duty?
7. Why were the priests teaching?
8. Why were the prophets doing their job?
9. Why will Zion be plowed and Jerusalem become heaps?

### Verse to Memorize

Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God:...goodness, if thou continue in His goodness: otherwise thou also shall be cut off.  
Romans 11:22.

# Let's



## Talk . . .

The earth rotates on its axis once every day and revolves around the sun every year. Likewise the other planets move in an orbiting pattern. Each one stays in its place and all goes well. Day and night comes and goes and so do the seasons. Water follows its cycle and keeps the plants and animals of the earth supplied with the moisture they need. These things are ordained of God so that nature works together that life on earth may continue. When floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, pests, diseases, etc. occur much suffering follows.

God also ordained civil and moral authorities so that people could live in peace. (Romans 13:1.) In Israel, God ordained judges and priests. Later, to please the people, He ordained kings. To these ordained authorities, Micah was sent. He was to tell the judges that they had transgressed the rules of judgment, though they knew the rules. Instead of judging fairly, they were partial and took bribes. They were cruel and merciless, imposing heavy taxes and outrageous fines. Sometimes they condemned innocent people to death. From others they had taken homes, food and clothes. Instead of being shepherds to the flocks (as God often called His people), they were as beasts of prey. Instead of feed-

ing the flock, they were eating from the flock.

The false prophets were deceiving the people. They made the people do wrong by telling them all was well when they were sinning and within a step of ruin. On the other hand, they waged war against those who did not give to them, ("put not into their mouth," verse 5). The doom for these false prophets would be as a dark, stormy night. All comfort and hope would depart. Their mind would be full of confusion and their heads clouded. They kept others in the dark, and God would bring darkness on them until they would be ashamed.

Another great sin of the judges, the priests and the prophets was that of charging for their services. God had ordained that these men do their jobs as a service unto Him. The people were to give their first fruits and a tenth of all their increase. From these gifts the judges, priests and prophets were to live. But the judges were doing their jobs only for a reward. The priests were teaching for hire. And the prophets gave messages only when they received money.

God said, "Don't deceive yourselves. When you call upon Me, I will not answer. For as those whom you have abused called for mercy, but you gave none, neither will you find mercy."

Micah fearlessly delivered God's message because he was full of power by the Spirit of the Lord. He knew that he was in the ordained plan of God. Just as the earth, the planets and all nature are doing what God ordained them to do, so was Prophet Micah.

—Charlotte Huskey

"Yes. It was for you that I came, just because of you. You told me that I led you to the Messiah as Philip did Nathaniel. Philip had to look for Nathaniel. I searched for you also; but it cost me much before I found where you lived."

"You say you have searched for me, for me, even before we met each other? That cannot be, and why?"

"Why did Philip look for Nathaniel? Just to lead him to Jesus."

"But he knew Nathaniel, but how about you?" The old man gripped Method's hand firmly.

"I have known someone, of whose life you have never known, but who loved you to his last hour."

"I told you that a Jew brought me to the truth. This great friend who brought me to Christ was named Ruben Sokolov. His father, Sokolov, was a rich Russian Jew. His mother was your daughter Esther, that child as beautiful as Moses, for whom you sorrow up to this day."

"Methodius Ruzanskyl!" cried the aged man; he rose and sank back again. Who can describe the storm of feelings manifested in his face? "Method, you have known her, my daughter, my daughter, my child? Have you seen her? Are you sure it was her?"

"Surely, it was her; though I have seen her only in photographs, both as a bride and shortly before her death."

"Her death, then she died, lives no more?"

"She died, but she lives and will live forever. She died praying for you, and had her son promise her that he would go himself and search for you as soon as he had finished his schooling."

"Then she knew about me?" He shook his head in sad amazement.

"Her mother had told her all, and she loved you dearly. She filled her son with this love also."

"And my wife?" groaned the aged one.

"Your wife regretted leaving you and wanted to return; but they would not let her. She never was happy again, and died young, before the wedding of that beautiful daughter. Esther went to Canada immediately after her wedding."

"It was there that Esther and Sokolov found the Saviour. They trained their son, Ruben, to love Jesus. When he was old enough to understand, they had the pleasure of leading him to Christ. They spent much for his education so that he could bring the message of salvation to his people, the Jews."

"Your grandson became my friend. He brought me to know Jesus as my personal Saviour. I owe him everything. And he loved me as he only could love!"

"One day he told me that he was a Sokolov and that he was bound by a promise to his dead mother, to find her father who was perhaps somewhere in Hungary. Whenever we prayed together, he always prayed that he could find and bring salvation to you."

"I saw his great desire and offered to help him. Once he paid the way for me to go to Pennsylvania. We knew that there were many Slovaks there and hoped that I might be able to find out something about you from your countrymen."

(To be continued next week.)

[Answers: 1. Yes. 2. God will not hear when they call on Him and they will be ashamed. 3. Of power by the spirit of God. 4. His duty was to declare unto both Judah (Jacob) and Israel their sins. 5. Zion was built with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity. 6. For the reward they were getting. 7. Because they earned wages. 8. Because they were getting money. 9. So Israel's leaders will know that the Lord among them does not approve of their sin.]

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Sept. 17, 1995

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## Only A Servant

(Continued from last week.)

"By God's direction, and after much hunting, the Lord brought me to America where I met young Rasho," Method told the old Jew.

"You met my neighbor, Rasho, in America?" questioned Old David.

"From him I heard about you. After that I searched by mail and found where you were. Ruben, your wonderful grandson, was very glad. As he went about ministering to others, he was praying constantly that he would be able to win you to Christ.

"Then came the sickness—just a cold. No one thought him seriously ill, but the angel of death came and took his pure soul home.

"I knew he wanted desperately to bring the gospel to his grandfather. What would hinder me from doing it for him? I already knew his language. So in his dying hour I promised him that I would try my best to bring his grandfather to the Lord so that they could meet in eternity. I believed God would answer the many prayers of your daughter and grandson. They buried him and cried over him, and I came to Hradova as his substitute.

"I knew that it would not be easy to win you. So in order to be as close as possible to you, I offered myself to Ondrasik as a servant. Being a simple

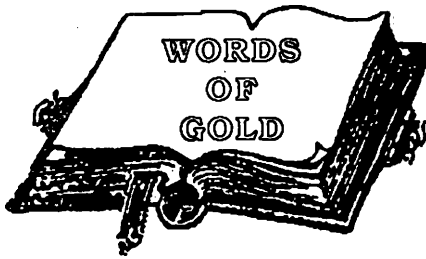
servant, I hoped would not arouse your suspicion. I knew I had to be very careful, and I asked God daily to help me win your heart. God granted that prayer!" Method said, as he patted the old man's back.

"When I came, I had my mind made up to stay in Hradova until I should hear from your lips that you had received Christ Jesus as your Saviour. The evening of the Petrash wedding I wanted to tell you the whole truth, but the Lord did not let it be told.

"Now I have told you everything and I praise my Lord that He enabled me to keep my promise and that He softened your heart to Christ. Now I can leave with satisfaction because my mission is completed."

The young man rose and the aged one, stunned by the news he heard, followed him into the hut as a dog follows his master. Method closed the door, locked it, and lit the lamp. Out of inner pockets he drew treasures precious to the aged Jew. They were the photographs of his daughter for whom he had cried so bitterly, her husband Sokolov, and a nice picture of his grandson, Ruben.

"Well then, dear neighbor, here is something else to add to your treasures," he said, laying Ruben's New Testament on the table. "Enjoy every-



## A Prophecy of Christ's Kingdom

**Micah 4:1-13**

1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

4 But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it.

5 For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

6 In that day, saith the Lord, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far

off a strong nation: and the Lord shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

8 And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

9 Now why dost thou cry out aloud? is there no king in thee? is thy counselor perished? for pangs have taken thee as a woman in travail.

10 Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go even to Babylon; there shalt thou be delivered; there the Lord shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies.

11 Now also many nations are gathered against thee, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion.

12 But they know not the thoughts of the Lord, neither understand they his counsel: for he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor.

13 Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion:...and I will consecrate their gain unto the Lord, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

**The Message: A beautiful prophecy of the Church of God.**

.....  
 • Look for "Questions" on page 3. •  
 .....

### Verse To Memorize

**But in the last days it shall come to pass, that...the house of the Lord shall be established...and people shall flow unto it.**

**Micah 4:1.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

This prophecy will take place in the last days. The "last days" is a phrase used to represent the time that began with Christ and continues on until the end of the world. Some people refer to this time as the gospel day. It is a time when salvation is offered to all people. During these last days, the house of the Lord (the Church of God), shall be established.

The men who wrote the Old Testament referred to places of religious worship as high places. The mountains and hills in this lesson represent all kinds of religions. The Church that Christ established is far above all religions. It is established on the very top of the mountain of God's holiness.

This Church of God was established on the day of Pentecost. According to the second chapter of Acts, people from every nation under heaven were there. That very day, 3,000 of those accepted Christ as their Savior and were baptized. In a few days, the number of men believers had grown to 5,000. So you see many must have been saying, "Come let us go unto the mountain of the Lord."

Persecution immediately followed, scattering the newly formed congregations into "nations afar off." The pure, holy way these new Christians lived caused the people of those nations to feel like they were being judged. (Read verse 3 of the lesson.) The people of Israel had fought against other nations year after year. But these Christians did not participate in any form of fighting. Their swords and spears were changed into useful tools. In the midst of people who were fighting for individual and national rights, they enlisted themselves as soldiers of Christ in a Kingdom that would last forever.

God gave them power to heal the sick and crippled, so the outcasts were blessed and from those families many souls were brought into the Church. (Verse 7.)

Verse 8 tells us that Christ's Kingdom will come first to the people of Jerusalem. Christ did come to the Jews first. (Acts 3:26, Romans 1:16.)

Micah says that before this "house of the Lord" is established, the daughters of Zion must be delivered from Babylon. The nation of Israel was completely destroyed by the Assyrians because of their horrible rebellion against God. The people of Judah, however, were captives in Babylon for seventy years. Then they returned to their land and through much tribulation erected their city again. But soon they were captured by the Romans.

When Micah was prophesying, many nations were hoping for Israel's ruin. Of course these nations did not know the wonderful thoughts and plans that God had for His people in the future. In the last days what Micah spoke about came to pass. God, through Christ, gathered all the honest Jews unto Himself as a farmer gathers his sheaves. (Verse 12.) Then he sent the Holy Spirit which gave them power to thresh the good from other nations and gain souls for the Lord. (Verse 13.)

How happy I am to be living in the last days and be a part of Christ's Kingdom.  
—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. When is this prophecy to happen?
2. Where will the house of the Lord be established?
3. What will the people of many nations say?
4. How did the nations promise they would walk?
5. How will the nations change after they come to Zion?
6. Will there be special blessing for the disabled and the outcast?
7. To whom will this Kingdom first come?
8. To where must the Jews be delivered before Christ set up His kingdom?
9. What were the daughters of Zion told to do?

thing and tomorrow, if the Lord grants that we should live, I will come again to answer all your questions that may come to you in the meantime."

The young man went, and the aged one remained with his treasures and with his God whose great love he just now began to fully appreciate.

Very early the next morning Andrew and Method were sent to the woods for timber and did not return until evening.

Being very tired, they ate heartily of their supper and went to sleep. Neither of them noticed that the home-folks looked somewhat curiously at Method.

In the morning before they were called to breakfast, Ondra and the servant met in the orchard.

"If you please, Method, come this way!" called Ondra.

"What do you wish?"

"Old David came to our house last night and told such strange things that we can hardly believe them."

The young man smiled sincerely and looked lovingly at the man.

"Is it true that you came to Hradova just because of the old Jew?"

"Yes, I came just for him."

"Is it really so?" Rasho exclaimed from behind him.

Methodius looked around and exclaimed, "And you have not recognized me?"

"Why should I?"

"Well, don't you remember that young fellow whom you told about your native village and old David?"

"Oh yes, now I remember, that is the reason I thought I had seen or heard you. But then you had a beard and dressed like a Canadian—and today?"

"I hope you like me this way also," Method said smiling.

Ondrasik interrupted, "If what David says is true, then you have

never been a servant before, nor were you born to be a farmhand."

"I could be a farmer, since I inherited from my parents a very large farm!"

"Oh, how could you live as a servant among us?" they both exclaimed. "How could you lower yourself so because of that Jew?"

"I know a King's Son; you know Him too, who left His royal throne and crown and served thirty-three years for me. Could not I serve two years for the sake of a man whom the King loved? Besides, I had a good time here with you. I hope you enjoyed me being here and that I was not among you in vain. Who knows what else is awaiting me in this life? It is not very likely that I shall be a farmer's servant again; but I can say that those were the two happiest years of my life, where I could at least resemble my Lord in some way, while I was privileged to be Ondrasik's servant."

The pleasant face of Methodius grew serious. They could not continue their conversation, as they were called into the house.

It is certain that much more was spoken about it not only at breakfast, but especially that afternoon when they all gathered in Sammy's new house.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. In the last days. 2. In the top of the mountains. 3. "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways." 4. In the paths of God. 5. They will not fight any more, but will beat their swords and shears into useful tools, and everyone will take personal responsibility and follow the personal leadership of God's spirit. 6. Yes. 7. To the daughters of Zion and Jerusalem. 8. Babylon. 9. To arise and thresh and consecrate their gain and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 46, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Sept. 24, 1995

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## Only a Servant

(Continued from last week.)

It was another beautiful Sunday afternoon, the haze of the fall spread over the woods and valleys, and the trees were bare of their leaves. Sammy Petrash was sitting alone in the oak grove, on the very spot where Methodius had told the children how the "swallows came home." Method was no longer there. He was no longer in Hradova; in vain one would have looked around for that friendly, youthful man. No longer could you hear the children crying along the streets, "Uncle Method!, Uncle Method!" They did, however, keep showing the gifts and keepsakes which he had given them before leaving.

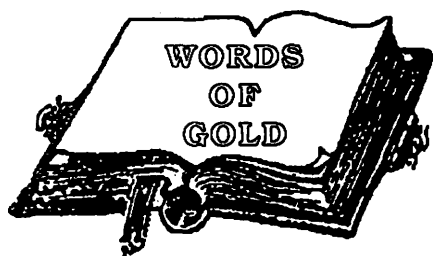
Method finished his term of service with Ondrasik. He also finished the house, which he had never intended for himself. He built it only to show to the people in Hradova how to appreciate their homeland. As suddenly as he came, just as suddenly he left. Nobody could keep him there, he was just not one of them.

Out there alone, where no one could see him, Sammy rested his head in his hands and he cried. Oh, how many good times he had with that wonderful friend. He knew that he would never have another friend like him.

Who would have thought so many things would change in those two years. How happy and orderly everything was now at the Petrash home with the parents, sister, brother-in-law, and he with Dorka in that beautiful house Method had built. Then he thought of the happy family of Martin Podhajsky and the Ondrasik family. Both families now lived for God. Sammy could not give enough thanks to God for sending Methodius to seek old David and at the same time grace to find even them. Oh, how good God was to them all.

The young man looked around. He seemed to again see Methodius and hear him tell the story about how the "swallows came home." Well, Method also flew to another country and would not be living in the nest that he had built. The neighbors found out that he had built the house 'on the swamp' for old David, from the money that David's grandson entrusted to him for David, and that David could live there like a rich man because he had inherited much from his grandson.

Sammy thought that Method had planned very nicely, that they both together, Dorka and he, would take care of the aged man who really loved them. In this way he would no longer be alone. But the aged one would not stay. A mighty desire possessed him



## A Prophecy Of Christ and His Church

**Micah 5:1-9, 12-13**

1 Now gather thyself in troops,... he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite (hit) the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

4 And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

5 And this man shall be the peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men.

6 And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian, when he cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our borders.

7 And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrieth not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men.

8 And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.

9 Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off.

12 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers:

13 Thy graven images also will I cut off,...and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

**The Message: God shows Micah where Christ is born, how He is treated and the victory the remnant of Israel can have if they trust in His graces.**

### Questions:

(Some answers are found in *Let's Talk*.)

1. Where and with what is the judge of Israel to be hit?
2. According to Matthew 27:30, who is this Judge?
3. Who is to come from Bethlehem?
4. Has this ruler been from everlasting?
5. When will the remnant return unto Israel?
6. According to Acts 2 and Revelation 12, when did the remnant begin returning?
7. The remnant is likened unto \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ upon the grass.
8. To what is the powerful remnant of Christ likened?
9. Will the remnant in Christ worship the work of their hands?

### Verse to Memorize

...Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it...that it should be holy and without blemish.

**Ephesians 5:25-27.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men from the east came to worship Him. Believing that Jesus was a king like other kings, they went hunting for Him at the palace. Wicked King Herod quickly gathered his wise, religious leaders and demanded to know where Jesus was born.

"In Bethlehem, Ephratah," they told him, "for thus it is written by the prophet." (Matthew 2.)

These men had read the prophecies of Micah, which had been preserved for 700 years. Now almost 2000 years later, you and I also have the privilege of reading them. Isn't it amazing that a man would know the city in which another person would be born, and that the information could be preserved so long?

Jesus came to be king of the Jews, but they refused to be a part of His Kingdom. (John 1:11.) They crucified the One who was to be their King. "They spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head." (Matthew 27:30.) By this fulfillment of the prophecy, we know that the Judge in verse one is Jesus.

In the first three chapters Micah reproves the sinful people of Israel and Judah. He said, "You have trampled God's mercy until it is too late to repent. You will suffer many sorrows because of your rebellion." In the fourth and fifth chapters, he speaks of the coming Kingdom of Christ, in which the Jews will find hope and peace. Most of this fifth chapter is describing the blessings that Jesus will give to the believers in His Kingdom.

Jesus will be a majestic Leader who will take good care of His followers unto the ends of the earth. The Assyrians were Israel's most dreaded enemy, so Prophet Micah uses them to picture the protection that Christ will give His followers. In Christ believers find peace even in the presence of their worst enemies. Instead of the enemy triumphing over them, the Christian triumphs over the enemy. "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." (Isaiah 59:19.)

Prophet Micah calls the Church of God the remnant of Jacob. He says it shall be a blessing in the midst of many people, just as the dew and showers are a blessing to the thirsty earth. As grass springs up without man's cultivation after a shower, so the testimony of believers will cause new, spontaneous growth in the Church.

Among ungodly people, whom Micah calls the Gentiles, the Christians will be bold as a lion. They will tread down temptation and every evil thought that presents its ugly self. The Holy Spirit working through saved people, makes the Church a triumphant One. It rules over all sin and uncleanness. There are no born-again sinners in God's Church. How could there be? The Church is Christ's body. Is there sin in His holy body? Romans 11:16 reads, "If the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root be holy, so are the branches." We Christians are those branches.

Prophet Micah understood the purity of the Kingdom which Jesus came to set up. He said that God would cut off all occultism, fortunetelling, graven images, and all groves (places of idol worship), for the Christians would not worship the work of their hands. All these things are made with hands.

Christ was born a King, and He is reigning today in the hearts and lives of those who make up His Church.

—Charlotte Huskey

to go and see the graves of his daughter, son-in-law and grandson, and be buried there beside them, that he might be united with them at least in death.

This is what was commonly known in the village, but Sammy knew that old David would have died, surely died, if he should have had to be separated from Method. Sammy was not surprised because he understood David. He too would have fled with Method, but now he had good parents and a loving wife.

Ondrasik, together with Petrash, bought the house for their children. Old David sold it to them for half the cost. His own hut he gave to old Mother Podhajsky to live in. This made more room for Martin's large family. Even after he was gone the villagers continued to bless David, the old Jew, whom they had once despised.

For years he had lived in that small village; the people became used to him. Toward the end of that time he was changed into a very good man. They would remember him.

Would they forget him who had been among them such a short time, living there only two years? Could they forget Method?

They would forget him because people have very brief remembrance of kindness shown to them, but for a long time yet the neighbors would speak among themselves about the time when Ondrasik's servant lived in Hradova.

He disappeared from sight; but the light and love which he had sown those years had taken root and were increasing constantly.

(The end.)

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*Only A Servant* was written by Kristiana Roy of Stara Tura, Slovakia. Kristiana Roy lived a consecrated life just as Methodius did. She was de-

voted to helping the poor. She operated an orphanage and "The Home for Hoary Heads," an old peoples' home, as well as other charitable organizations. She died a few years ago in her native village.

This book was translated by Charles Lukesh, who was a missionary in Austria, Chile and Czechoslovakia. Mr. Lukesh is also the translator of the booklet called *Pasha*. It is the story of a band of Russian bandits who were converted through a New Testament stolen from a murdered Christian.

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### All Because We Do Not Love Them

All because we do not love them,  
Millions fill the heathen grave;  
Brother can you see them perish,  
When a little love would save.

Many souls today are dying,  
Sin and sorrow is their lot;  
Darkness shrouds them with its mantle,  
All because we love them not.

Brother can we guiltless linger,  
When to us the truth is giv'n?  
Tearless see the heathen dying,  
Without God or hope of heaven?

Love bro't Jesus down from glory,  
On the cruel cross to die;  
Can we say we love the heathen,  
If we turn away their cry?  
(*Evening Light Songs*, page 347.)

(Answers: 1. On the cheek with a rod. 2. Jesus. 3. He that is to be ruler in Israel. 4. Yes. 5. When she which travaileth hath brought forth. 6. On the day of Pentecost. 7. Dew, showers. 8. A lion who has power over everything. 9. No.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Oct. 1, 1995

## Falsely Accused

(A true Story)

"Where is Jim?" Brother Torres asked. "I've run all the way here to tell him the police are looking for him. They've already locked up Pedro. His wife sent me to warn Jim."

"Jim and Pedro have done nothing wrong. They won't be kept in jail unless they have broken a law," I protested.

"Sister, you don't understand. Here in Mexico, the accused person must stay in jail until he can prove himself innocent. Sometimes that takes months or even years." Horror shone from his eyes, and he kept looking around. I stood in the doorway smiling. "Please, believe me," he begged. "Jim is going to jail if he doesn't hide. I must warn him. Where is he?"

"He is probably visiting Romona because Romona missed prayer meeting last night," I said.

A few minutes after Bro. Torres left, Jim came home. I told him what Bro. Torres had said, but he only laughed. He took off his coat and went into the bedroom, sat down at the homemade desk and began writing.

Moments later a policeman knocked on the door. "Is Jim here?" he asked in a gruff voice.

"Sure," I said. "Would you like to come in and talk with him?"

"No!" he answered. "I've come to take him in."

Jim heard everything and came in. "I have orders to take you in," the policeman said.

Jim's only words were, "Okay." Putting his hand on my shoulder, he said, "Don't worry, I'll be back in a little while."

He was roughly handcuffed and ordered in the rear seat of the police car. Trembling a little inside, yet smiling, I said, "Good-bye. Hope you have a nice ride. I'll have supper ready when you get home."

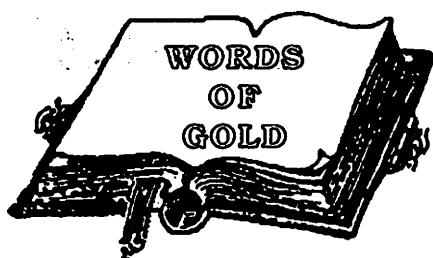
One of the policemen understood my English and said, "He'll have a nice ride, but he won't be home for supper."

The car had just disappeared out of sight when Bro. and Sis. Torres came running into the yard. "They took him?" he questioned. Sis. Torres was crying and tried to comfort me.

Soon Sis. Esquires and her older girls came in. "There is no telling what they will do to our dear brother," Sis. Esquires said.

They were all crying, and all I could do was smile. It all seemed so ridiculous, so unreal. "It's just a false accusation," I said.

"But people have stayed in jail for years even though they were false-



## What Does God Require

### Micah 6:1-16

1 Hear ye now what the Lord saith; Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.

2 Hear ye, O mountains, the Lord's controversy [His complaint], and ye strong foundations of the earth: for the Lord hath a controversy with his people, and he will plead with Israel.

3 O my people, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? testify against me.

4 For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants; and I sent before thee Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

5 O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the righteousness of the Lord.

6 Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?

7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

9 The Lord's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see

thy name: hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it.

10 Are there yet the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure that is abominable?

11 Shall I count them pure with the wicked balances, and with the bag of deceitful weights?

12 For the rich men thereof are full of violence, and the inhabitants thereof have spoken lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

13 Therefore also will I make thee sick in smiting thee, in making thee desolate because of thy sins.

14 Thou shalt eat, but not be satisfied; and thy casting down shall be in the midst of thee; and thou shalt take hold, but shalt not deliver; and that which thou deliverest will I give up to the sword.

15 Thou shalt sow, but thou shalt not reap; thou shalt tread the olives, but thou shalt not anoint thee with oil; and sweet wine, but shalt not drink wine.

16 For the statutes of Omri are kept, and all the works of the house of Ahab, and ye walk in their counsels; that I should make thee a desolation, and the inhabitants thereof an hissing: therefore ye shall bear the reproach of my people.

**The Message: For a person to be saved, God requires that they treat others justly and love to be merciful to others.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

...What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Micah 6:8.

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Are you the eldest child in your family? If you had lived a long time ago, you might have been sacrificed to a god.

Once the kings of Judah, Israel and Edon went to fight against the king of Moab, but they were in unfamiliar country and found no water for many days. Moab was sure to win, but these kings sought help from God. God told them to dig ditches in the valley and He would do the rest. God put water in the ditches and to the Moab army it looked like ditches filled with blood. So thinking the kings, like other times, were fighting among themselves, they rushed into the valley becoming an easy prey. As the King of Moab watched his army being mowed down, he cried out to his god. Then he took his first-born son, the one who was to become king, and sacrificed him upon a wall.

People once thought there were many gods. They believed that heaven was filled with gods. Each god controlled a different portion of a person's life, like a god of love, which controlled man's love. Besides the gods that controlled people, there was a god of harvest; a god of war, which brought victory; a god for the rain; the sun was a god; a god controlled how many children a woman would have. People thought at times these gods would be angry with them. Sometimes they sacrificed their oldest child to appease an angry god or in hopes of receiving some favor from a god.

The true God was not like these gods. But the people of Israel had seen other nations serving their gods in

many strange ways, and they, too, had taken up some of these habits. Some had even sacrificed their first-born.

In our lesson today, God is speaking through Micah to tell the people of Israel His complaints against them. God had showed much love to the people of Israel for **He is love**. In this lesson God asked why they would not serve Him after all the wonderful things He had done for them.

The people saw their error and asked, "How shall I come before God? Shall I bring offerings of calves, 1,000 rams or 10,000 rivers of oil? Would God be satisfied with me if I sacrificed my first-born?"

God answered, "I am not like the gods of other nations. I am a God of love who requires nothing impossible. Just walk humbly before Me, do justly to your neighbor, and be merciful to all."

Do not fear if you are a first-born. God's eternal truth is that parents love and care for their children, that they walk humbly before Him, do justly to their neighbors and be merciful to all.

(If there is time sing, "Humble Thyself To Walk" page 298 in *Evening Light Songs*.) —Charlotte Huskey



### Questions:

1. With whom did God have a controversy?
2. What is a controversy?
3. Had God done any evil to the people of Israel?
4. Did God ask Israel to bring sacrifices of calves?
5. Will the Lord be pleased with 1,000 rams or 10,000 rivers of oil?
6. Should a man give his firstborn child for his sin?
7. If God is not pleased with any of the great sacrifices mentioned above, how can God be pleased?
8. Explain "doing justly."
9. Give some examples of loving mercy.

accused," Sis. Esquires warned. "We'd better pray. This is really serious."

Suddenly I became very nervous. My teeth were chattering. I closed my mouth and prayed silently. "Lord," I said, "is all this really happening? Will he stay in jail? Show me what Your will is and what I should do." A great calmness came over me and I couldn't believe there was reason to worry. "If some of you will watch the children, I will drive down and get him," I said in the face of their opposition.

"We'll be glad to watch your children," Sis. Esquires said, "but I don't believe you will bring him back."

God filled me with a quietness and confidence that I have rarely experienced in all my life. On the way to the jail, I decided that I would not speak Spanish.

I had heard that Mexican policemen can be paid off easily. Into the police station I went with confidence that Jim would be released. Walking up to the reception desk, I asked, "May I speak to the Chief of Police?" Promptly an interpreter came in. A short, fat, beady-eyed man, the Chief, followed him. "I'm the wife of the American you have locked up here," I said. "Why is he here?"

Every policeman in the station gathered around. The ones who knew about the case explained it to the others. Then, carefully, the Chief told the interpreter what to tell me. No one knew that I understood all they had said in Spanish. When the interpreter had finished, I said, "Please ask how I can get him out."

"Madam," the Chief said, "You must prove him innocent."

"That may take a long time. Can't I post bond?" I pleaded.

"No," he stormed.

"You could keep the bond money if he didn't return," I replied. "Just tell

me how much you want."

This time he roared, "I said, NO! No amount of money will get him out of here!" Then he whirled around and walked away.

Thoughtfully I descended the steps and got into the car. I hadn't even seen Jim, and I had said I would bring him home. I could have felt defeated, but I didn't. That confidence from God was still there.

When I arrived home, Pedro's nephew was waiting outside the house for me. "Aunt Beatrice sent me to ask if you would take some blankets for Bro. Jim and Uncle Pedro," he said. "She is taking some supper to them, but she has no extra blankets."

My first thought was, "No, I am not taking blankets for they are coming home tonight." "Just a minute," I said, going into the house to check on the children.

After reporting everything to the children, I knelt beside the bed and prayed. My prayer was much like King David's prayer in Psalms 56:1-3, "Be merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up;...O thou most High. What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

A new determination filled my heart while praying. How foolish it was to be afraid. I decided to go and take the blankets to Jim and Pedro in jail; and maybe I could talk again to the Chief.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. With His people. 2. Complaint, argument, discussion. 3. No. 4. No. 5. No. 6. No. 7. God is pleased when a person becomes humble before Him and does justly and loves mercy. 8. Doing justly is being honest and equally fair in all our actions. 9. We love mercy if we feel sorry when our enemy is punished.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Oct. 8, 1995

## Falsely Accused

(Continued from last week.)

Walking up to the reception desk of the police station, I said, "I've brought these blankets for my husband."

The policeman on duty, smiling answered, "That's fine."

As I turned to go through the doorway into the jail section, he grabbed me with one hand and pulled the blankets from me with the other. "Wait!" he shouted, blocking the doorway. Taking a step backward, he searched me from head to foot with his eyes. Then he violently shook the blankets, one at a time, as if searching for hidden weapons in some secret pocket.

I wanted to say, "Why can't you be a little more polite?" But I didn't. I just stood there smiling.

The policeman then threw the blankets over my shoulder and motioned where I was to go.

I found Jim and Pedro sitting cross-legged on the cement floor, reading the Bible together. The cell was a square room, eight by eight feet. Cement block walls were on three sides. The other wall and the door were made of iron bars. There was nothing in the room, no bunk, no chair, not even drinking water.

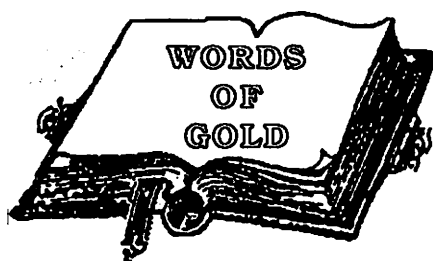
Jim and Pedro looked so happy that I couldn't resist asking if they were enjoying their stay.

"Things could be a lot worse," Jim answered.

I crammed the blankets through the bars. "I'm glad you brought these," Pedro said. "It's cold." He wrapped one around him. Jim sat on the other.

We visited for awhile and then Jim said, "See if Sis. Esquires will let Romona stay with you to help with the children. Here is all the money I have. Buy the children some milk. I don't know what God has in mind for us, but maybe He wants me to preach to the prisoners. It would be an opportunity. Tell the children to pray that I'll do whatever God wants me to do in here. Good-bye now, and don't cry."

Through blinding tears, I made my way back up the hall. "He is so resigned, so happy, so satisfied with whatever comes his way," I thought. "But to me this is a bad testimony. People who don't know him will never believe it's a false accusation. The rumor will be, 'The Church of God missionary is in jail for stealing.' That will never do! Besides, God has already given me the assurance that he would not have to stay."



## Trust Always In The Lord

**Micah 7:1-10, 13, 15-20**

1 Woe is me! for I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grape gleanings [the few grapes left after the good fruit is picked]...: there is no cluster to eat: my soul desired the firstripe fruit.

2 The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net.

3 That they may do evil with both hands earnestly....

4 The best of them is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge....

5 Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom.

6 For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house.

7 Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me.

8 Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me.

9 I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me: he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness.

10 Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, Where is the Lord thy God? mine eyes shall behold her: now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets.

13 Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings.

15 According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvellous things.

16 The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf.

17 They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like worms of the earth: they shall be afraid of the Lord our God, and shall fear because of thee.

18 Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

20 Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

**The Message: Those who trust in God will in the end come out on top!**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**...Shame shall cover her which said unto me, Where is the Lord thy God?**

**Micah 7:10.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Blandina stood against the wall of the prison. In front of her a raging mob yelled out, "Away with the Christians! Away with the Christians!" Blandina was one of the Christians being persecuted at Lyons in 177 A.D. Moments later Blandina was tied to a cross which was erected in the amphitheater. "We will see where the God of the Christians is," the mob shouted again. All the Christian prisoners were led out of their cells to watch the savage beasts gruesomely rip Blandina into a dozen pieces. When everyone except Blandina was in a safe place, the cage doors of the wild, hungry beasts were opened and the fierce, enraged beasts leaped into the arena. Blandina had not the slightest chance to survive. She had no weapon with which to defend herself. She was tied to the cross, so could not kick or run. As the savage beasts leaped from their cages, Blandina looked toward heaven and prayed. The Christian prisoners were amazed as they looked on her shining face. She appeared to them as Jesus hanging on the cross. This inspired others to suffer likewise for Jesus, who had suffered on the cross for them.

The mob continued shouting insults as they waited for the beasts to do their deadly work. Blandina kept praying. Some Christians shouted, "Be brave Blandina! Be true to God! You will soon be in the

presence of Jesus!" Others prayed. The mob became more and more enraged as they waited for the attack. Not one wild beast attacked Blandina. God shut their mouths, just as he had done for Daniel when he was thrown into the den of lions. After waiting a long time and no beast touched Blandina, she was taken off the cross and sent back to prison. The tormenters hung their heads in shame. The Christian prisoners returned to their cells more encouraged. Blandina rejoiced with them to have been worthy to suffer for Christ.

Micah said, "Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise;... Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, "Where is the Lord thy God?..."

If we do fall Jesus, He is ready to lift us up again and put our feet on the firm foundation. Always remember he who trusts in the Lord will always come out on top, just as Blandina did. —Charlotte Huskey



### Questions:

1. Was there a good cluster of grapes left?
2. What did Micah want?
3. What had happened to the good men?
4. Could friends or families be trusted?
5. Describe the conditions in families.
6. Where must we turn for help when we cannot trust our family or friends?
7. What shall happen to the scorner who says, "Where is your God?"
8. What will God do for His heritage?
9. Where will God cast sins?

In a surge of new courage, I bolted forward to the reception desk again. "Just want to know if you have come up with any idea about the American? I-I-I mean, have you thought of any way that I can get him out of here?" I had forgotten that I was speaking Spanish!

The gruff-faced Chief relaxed and then smiled. "So you speak Spanish?" he asked. "Yes, there is something you can do. Bring the owner of the stolen goods into this office. If he will testify that your husband did not steal, then we will release him."

"Thank you," I said, and walked out into the twilight. The owner was at the Indain reservation a hundred miles away. There were treacherous mountain roads and desert trails to travel getting there. All the car trails through the loose sand looked the same to me. I would get lost, and we had already been lost on the same desert. But with God's help, I could find the reservation. I checked the gas gauge. It was almost on empty. I counted the money in my hand. I had just enough to get milk for the children. I decided I'd borrow some money to get gas and ask Pedro's brother, Lalo, and his sister to go with me.

The first thing I did was go to Sis. Esquires and get her two older girls to stay overnight. Then I had worship with the children. I read Bible portions that would help them to not be afraid. I gave them their daddy's message, and they prayed for him.

After tucking each one in bed, I sat down to wait until they were asleep. I knew borrowing money wouldn't be easy, as very seldom did any of the brethren have extra. I would have to borrow a little from several.

When the children were asleep, I told my plans to the girls. While I was giving last minute advice on caring

for the children, a pickup stopped in front of the house. Jim met me at the door! Behind him were Pedro and his two brothers, Lalo and Gorje.

"How did you get out?" I exclaimed.

"Well it happened like this," Jim said. "God put a quietness over the station after you left. The only noise that could be heard was Pedro and me studying the Bible and singing hymns. Those policemen heard some of the Word of God, even if they don't ever come to church services. I don't know which they couldn't stand, the Word of God or our singing. At any rate, the Chief sent one to unlock the door. He said, 'We've decided this is no place for you two. You have been here long enough. We are dismissing all charges.' We took our blankets and walked out. About two blocks away from the station, Lalo picked us up. He had borrowed a pickup and was coming by to see if you would go with him to the reservation, as he didn't know the way."

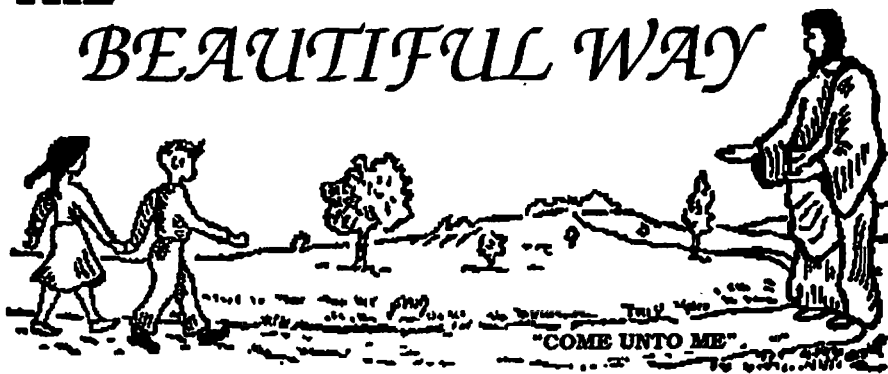
A few weeks later, the accuser became very ill. She called Jim for prayer. For many weeks she suffered intensely, but during this time she repented and professed salvation. Two and one-half months later, we were at the Pacoima camp meeting and her son called Jim to come and preach her funeral.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. No. 2. The first-fruits. 3. They had perished. 4. No. 5. They are all enemies, the son is against the father, the daughter and daughter-in-law against the mother. 6. To the Lord. 7. He shall be covered with shame. 8. He will be merciful and compassionate, pardon iniquity and subdue our iniquities. 9. In the depths of the sea.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Oct. 15, 1995

## The Strange Apple Tree

On Uncle Bill's farm, apricot, cherry, peach, plum and apple trees grew alongside a stream of clear water.

"Why are the apples from this tree always so little and knotty?" asked Aunt Martha, as they were picking apples one day.

"Maybe a worm or insect is causing it," answered Uncle Bill. He took out his pocketknife and cut through several apples. "Yep, they're full of worms," he explained. "I'll get them next year before they have a chance to eat one bite of my apples."

The following year he took special care to keep the worms from his apple tree. That fall he told Ma, "The apple tree is as clean as a whistle." However, when they went to pick the apples, Ma looked at the tree and said, "Pa, those worms didn't eat much apple but something else did. These apples aren't a might size bigger than they were last year."

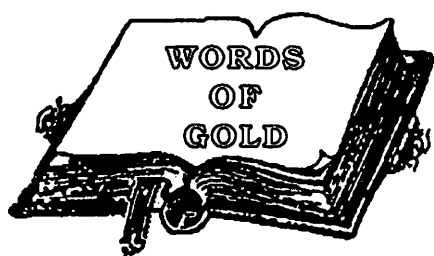
"This tree must need fertilizer," he answered thoughtfully.

That fall and the next spring, Uncle Bill fertilized the soil. He sprayed it several times and watched for large juicy apples like the tree standing beside it. But when they picked the apples, he could only say, "These apples are as scraggly and lousy as they have been the years before."

That winter while Uncle Bill and Aunt Martha sat in front of their fireplace, a terrible storm raged outside. It tore at the shutters of their cottage. It made the chicken house groan. Then it hurled itself against the barn, making it shake violently, but it stood against the wind. The wind seemed angered, so it raced through the orchard, tearing and twisting every branch. The poor apple tree fell, crashing to the ground.

When they saw the tree, Uncle Bill said, "That stone under the tree's root kept it from getting the nourishment it needed to bear good fruit. Now I understand the preacher's sermon, too. He said, 'Stones in our hearts will keep us from bearing good fruit.'"

—Charlotte Huskey



## Two Trees

**Psalms 1:1-6**

**1** Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

**2** But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

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

**4** The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

**5** Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

**6** For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

**Jeremiah 17:7-10**

**7** Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

**8** For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

**9** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

**10** I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

**Matthew 7:17-23, 3:10**

**17** Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

**18** A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

**19** Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

**20** Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

**21** Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

**22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

**23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

**10** And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

**The Message: Each person's life is either good or corrupt. Jesus will change a corrupt life into a good life.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

**II Corinthian 5:17.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Two trees and their fruits will be the subject of the next 25 lessons. In this packet of lessons you have received 14 lessons because there are 14 Sundays in this three-month period. Look at your calendar and count the Sundays in October, November and December. Did you count 14? Usually there are only 13 lessons because there are usually only 13 Sundays in a three-month period.

The two trees we will study about are very opposite. One is called a *good tree*, the other a *corrupt tree*. The *corrupt tree* represents a person without Jesus in his heart. The *good tree* represents a person who is letting Jesus live through him. When Jesus is not in a person's heart, he or she is a *corrupt tree*. His fruit, which is his actions, will be different than the person's who has invited Jesus to be the Director of his or her life.

You must decide which type of person you want to be. If you make no decision, you will become like the corrupt tree, for the Bible tells us that man's heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. This type of heart will bear evil fruit. Doesn't an apple tree bear apples? Doesn't a peach tree bear peaches? It is impossible for a corrupt tree to bear good fruit. It will bear evil fruit.

If you decide to let Jesus clean out your naturally deceitful, wicked heart, your tree can bear good fruit. Jesus will live in your heart and help you do good.

On the back side of your paper is a picture of a tree. This dark, ugly tree is a corrupt tree. Each week we shall

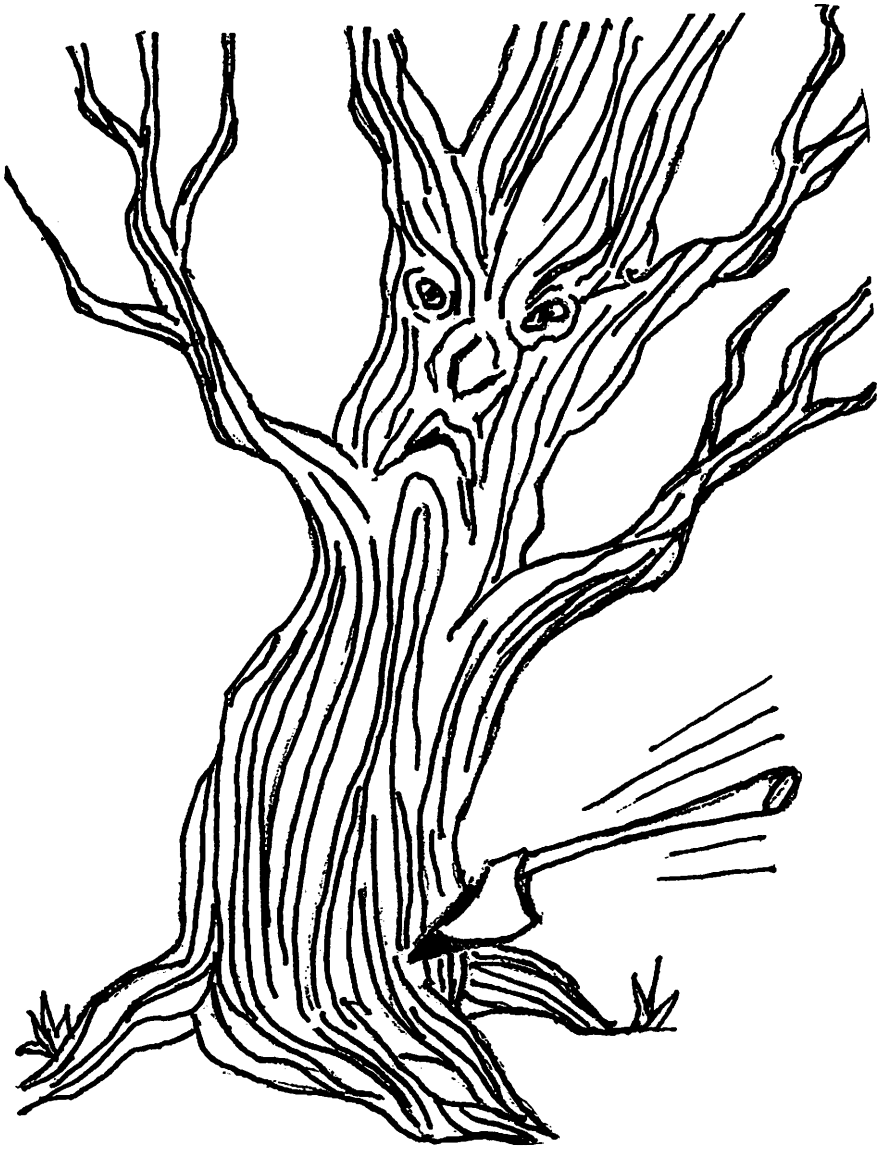
talk about a fruit which this kind of tree might bear. Cut out the little fruit and paste it onto the tree. Write your name on your paper and ask your teacher to hang your tree in the classroom. When we are through with these lessons, your tree should have 11 evil fruits hanging on it. Then take a good look at the corrupt tree and see if you want to be that kind of a person. You will be a corrupt person unless you let Jesus be Ruler of your life.

You will notice at the bottom of the tree is an ax. The Bible tells us that every evil tree will be cut down and cast into the lake of fire. (Matthew 3:10, Revelation 21:8). It also tells us that Jesus came to change a corrupt tree into a good one. Jesus wants to make you a *good tree*, but He will not change a person unless He is asked to do so.

Decide today to be a *good tree*! Remember that even the good trees sometimes bear fruit that a worm gets into. When you do something that you should not have done, correct it; ask God's forgiveness. In this way you will continue to be a *good tree*.  
—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. What are the two kinds of trees in this lesson?
2. To what does the Bible liken each life?
3. Who is compared to a tree planted by a river?
4. What is the fruit of a person's life?
5. What kind of fruit does a corrupt tree bear?
6. What kind of fruit does a good tree bear?
7. The heart of every unsaved person is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Who searches and changes the heart?
9. What will happen to the corrupt tree?
10. How can a person be a good tree?



(Answers: 1. A corrupt tree and a good tree. 2. To a tree. 3. A person who delights in the law of the Lord. 4. A person's actions. 5. Corrupt fruit. 6. Good fruit. 7. Deceitful and desperately wicked. 8. God and Jesus. 9. It will be cut down and cast into the fire. 10. By asking Jesus to rule their lives.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Oct. 22, 1995

## Costly Jokes

"But it was only a joke," protested Tammy, as her mother scolded.

"A lie is a lie even when told as a joke. I have told you many times to not tell your little brother lies. He always believes you! This time, he believed you and could have easily been killed!"

Tammy had told her little brother, Jeff, to hurry over to Danny's house for a surprise. Jeff had dashed across the street in front of a car. The driver, Mrs. Hildon, had to go up on the curb to avoid hitting Jeff. Besides almost frightening Mrs. Hildon to death, it messed up her car when she hit the fire hydrant. She was really upset over it all.

"But I didn't know Jeff would run right in front of a car!" protested Tammy, trying to defend her actions. "I'm not all to blame. You've told him many times to not cross the street without some help."

"Tammy, you must break yourself of this habit," Mother cautioned. "Did you know your cousin Allen missed getting a really good job because he told a lie as a joke?"

"The job he went to see about in the city?"

"Yes, that one for Mr. Layton. Aunt Lisa needed the car that day, so Allen asked his friend Tom to go along, and

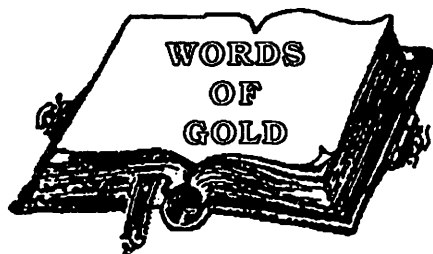
they went to the city on the bus. An old man got on the bus too, and took a seat in front of Allen and Tom. The old man said to the man sitting in the seat next to him, 'Say, I'm hard of hearing, will you please tell me when we get to Salem? I need to get off there.'

"I'll be glad to tell you," the other man assured him. In a short time, Allen noticed the old man was asleep. A few more miles down the road, the other man leaned his seat back and soon began snoring.

"When the bus made its next stop, Allen shook the old man and speaking directly into the old man's ear, he said, 'This is Salem. Aren't you to get off here?'

"Oh, yes, yes," muttered the old man. Up he jumped, slapping on his hat and picking up his bag. He turned to Allen and extended his hand. 'Thank you, good boy,' he said as they shook hands. He tottered down the aisle and off the bus, while Allen and Tom laughed. The other man was too drowsy to notice what had happened.

"When Allen arrived at the office, Mr. Layton was not in, so the boys stayed overnight with Tom's Uncle Ed. Early the next morning, he went again to the office. Another boy was already there. While the boys waited the same old man came tottering in



## No Liars In Heaven

**Proverbs 6:16-19**

**16** These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

**17** A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

**18** An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

**19** A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

**Acts 5:1-10**

**1** But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,

**2** And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

**3** But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

**4** Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

**5** And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.

**6** And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him.

**7** And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not

knowing what was done, came in.

**8** And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.

**9** Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.

**10** Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.

**Revelation 21:8, 27; 22:15**

**8** But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

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

**15** For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

**The Message:** Let us be clean from all lies, for no person who loves or makes lies will be admitted into heaven.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight.**

**Proverbs 12:22.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Ananias and Sapphira were punished instantly for making and telling a lie. This will not happen often, and because it doesn't, people tell lies every day. I'm sure if every time a person told a lie, they fell dead, there wouldn't be many lies told.

The conduct of the boys in the following story is not recommended. It only illustrates how easy making and telling lies can be.

Cor, Jim and Red were brothers. Red was the youngest, Cor was the oldest and Jim was in the middle. Jim was very, very careful about what he ate. Red and Cor soon realized this. Cor, being a little older, discovered that when he put his finger on the food while passing it to Jim, that Jim would not eat the food. So when he wanted Jim's portion, he would touch it with his fingers and pretend it was an accident. Then he and Red would divide the food that Jim would not eat.

Cor was **making a lie**. Although his parents did not know it, God did. These "accidents" happened more and more often, especially to desserts. Jim thought until he found a solution for these frequent accidents. One day when Dad was away, mother sat a pie dish on the table with three pieces of banana cream pie in it.

Cor and Red ate their pie and when Jim finished eating he asked for his



Telling and making lies are both sin. Cut this evil fruit out and paste it on the corrupt tree

piece. Cor put a finger into the pie as he picked up the dish.

"Oops!" he said, then added, "Do you want this pie?"

"Yes, please," Jim answered.

"Really? Really do you want it?"

"Yes," Jim answered again as he left his chair and came around the table toward Cor. Jim took the pie dish with one hand. Quickly, with the other hand, he pushed Cor's face into the dish and smeared it with the pie. Then, saying nothing more, he left the room.

Remember this conduct is not good, it only illustrates how both boys were **making a lie**.

There are, however, times when fear will cause a Christian child to tell a lie, perhaps when he or she fears being punished. If this happens to you, quickly speak up and tell the truth. Then you will not be guilty of telling a lie.

It seems to be very easy for some people to tell lies. If you often find yourself telling untruths, ask God to help you overcome this awful habit. Perhaps you have been making lies, or find it easy to tell lies as jokes. These habits will surely get you into trouble. The longer you wait, the harder they will be to break. If you seek God, He will help you to overcome. Unless we overcome habits of making or telling lies, we will not be taken into heaven, but will be cast into the lake of fire.

—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. What is one of the six things that God hates?
2. What is the meaning of "making a lie?"
3. Did Ananias tell a lie or make a lie?
4. Did Sapphira tell a lie?
5. Were they both punished?
6. What will happen to all liars?
7. Will a person who loves and makes lies be admitted into heaven?
8. What should we do if we tell a lie?
9. What kind of fruit is lying?

Allen said he was really surprised and felt terribly embarrassed. He turned his face away, hoping the old man wouldn't notice him.

"I'm Mr. Fordson," the old man said to the office girl. "May I see Mr. Layton this morning?"

"Instantly Mr. Layton stepped into the doorway of his private office and said, 'Come in Mr. Fordson. Come and sit down. You look weary. Have you been sick or having trouble?'"

"My wife has been sick, but I am doing very well for an old man. However, a young man on the bus played a trick on me yesterday causing me to get off in Langston. There were no more buses out yesterday, so I had to find a hotel and come today. I hated to leave Wife so long, her being so ill.' Then he continued telling all about his wife's illness.

"Would you like to close the door as we talk?" Allen heard Mr. Layton ask. "The boys in the waiting room seem to be disturbing you."

"It's just that the boy in the brown suit looks so much like the one that tricked me yesterday," Allen heard him answer."

"Mother, did he really recognize Allen?" Tammy questioned.

"He did. Later, when Mr. Layton interviewed Allen, he asked a lot of questions. He thought Allen did it, for he said that he would not hire anyone who could abuse another person just to have fun.

"Allen was really disappointed. His teacher, Mrs. Jones, had told him that she was sure Mr. Layton would hire him, as she had recommended him above all her students. Allen missed a great opportunity as Mr. Layton pays well and helps the boys get even better jobs or go into business for themselves. Getting a job with him is starting on the way to success. That is why he chooses only the boys of the best character."

"But Allen does have good character. Everyone at school knows that. He always goes to church, has no bad habits, and chooses good friends," Tammy said.

"He doesn't have any really bad habits, but he has a habit of telling 'little white lies.' You know he tells lies as jokes. When he was smaller, he'd get out of punishments by saying, 'I may have done it' or 'I guess I wasn't thinking.' The habit has been growing for a long time. Now it's easy for him to trick others with his words or slant the truth to protect himself."

"He sure does, even if others have to take the blame," agreed Tammy. "And he plays tricks on his brother and sister and makes them cry."

"If Allen had not been doing these things, he probably would not have tricked the old man. I believe Mr. Layton is right—a person who will cause suffering for their personal enjoyment does not have a good character."

"Oh, Mother, I believe I have Allen's habit, too."

"Then you must ask God to forgive you and try with all your might to overcome this thing before it becomes stronger."

They knelt in prayer and Tammy began from that day to be more truthful.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A lying tongue. 2. Making something appear to be the truth when it is not the truth. 3. He made a lie. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. "All liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." 7. No. 8. We should ask God to forgive us, and sometimes it should be corrected with the person to whom or against whom the lie was told. 9. Lying is a corrupt fruit.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Oct. 29, 1995

## What About Witchcraft

Most of us have a lot of questions we would like to ask about witches and witchcraft. Is witchcraft just a fun craft? Are witches real or make-believe? Do witches have supernatural powers? Is witchcraft a sin? Are fortunetellers witches? Is it all right to have a fortune told?

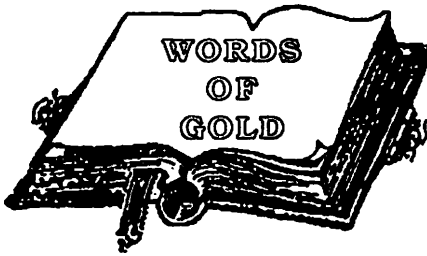
In the following paragraphs, we will try to answer these questions. Witchcraft is not just a fun craft. It is what a witch can do, through magic power or influence, with spirits. You have probably been told that witches are only make-believe and therefore feel they have no magic power or influence. This is not true. If witches were only make-believe, God would not have commanded them to be destroyed from the land of Israel. In Exodus 22:18, God commanded, *"Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live."* Witches are not ugly women who fly through the air on brooms. They are living people possessed by evil spirits.

Non-Christian people sometimes consider witchcraft an ancient art and study it out of curiosity. But the Bible tells us in Deuteronomy 18:9-12, *"...Thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations [around you]. There shall not be found among you any one that...useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter,*

*or a witch, a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard [a male witch], or a necromancer [fortunetelling by communicating with the dead]. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord:..."* An abomination is anything that arouses God's strong disgust or dislike. If we begin to study these things, God will be very displeased. Even though we are curious about the future and supernatural powers, we must do what God has commanded.

Sometimes, children play with an eight ball or Ouija board just for fun, but it is not good to do so. These things are used by witches and are an abomination to God. Any kind of play is destructive which would make something seem harmless which God calls an abomination. Some junior high and high school students are "observers of times" because they believe the stars and planets influence people and events. They read and believe their own horoscope and that of their friends. It may be for curiosity at first, but then they notice things happening just as the horoscope said it would. Little by little they begin believing in it. God said that is an abomination.

God also spoke against "divinations." This includes practices, such as clairvoyance or ESP, the power of knowing events in other localities or in the future. Augury is the belief of



## Saul's Experience With a Witch

**I Samuel 28:5-20**

**5** And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

**6** And when Saul enquired of the Lord, the Lord answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.

**7** Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her....

**8** And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, ...to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.

**9** And the woman said...thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?  
**10** And Saul sware to her by the Lord, saying, As the Lord liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.

**11** Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.

**12** And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul.

**13** And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And

the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.

**14** And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.

**15** And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed:...and God is departed from me,...

**16** Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the Lord is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?

**17** ...The Lord hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it...to David:

**18** Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the Lord,...

**19** ...And to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me....

**20** Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel:...

**Galatians 5:19-21**

**19-20** Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these:...witchcraft, hatred...wrath, strife...

**21** ...They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

**The Message: It is very dangerous to have any dealings with witches, fortunetellers, Ouija boards, spirit guides, etc.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

There shall not be found among you any one...that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch.

**Deuteronomy 18:10.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

There was a time in the history of the United States of America that any form of witchcraft was against the law. Those who practiced these black arts were punished by law. However, sad to say, that is not the case today. Today witchcraft is practiced in such numerous ways that it would be impossible to mention them all. Some forms are practiced in the public school classrooms. Children, you must be very careful and not participate in things which you believe to be witchcraft. You have the right by law to refuse.

Witchcraft can include many things. *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary* says that a **witch** is "1. One that is credited with using malignant supernatural powers, especially a woman practicing black witchcraft often with the aid of a devil or familiar spirit." It gives this definition of **witchcraft**. "1. a: The use of sorcery or magic. b: Communication with the devil or with a familiar spirit 2. An irresistible influence or fascination."

Witchcraft is a very dangerous fruit. It is more dangerous than lying, stealing, anger, coveting, jealousy and many of the corrupt fruits which we will be putting on the evil tree. It is very dangerous because it is dealing with spirits. When witchcraft is practiced, the

Everyone must be very careful to not allow the corrupt fruit of witchcraft to have any place in their life. Cut it out and paste it on the evil tree that God will cast into the lake of fire.



spirits of devils are present. One of these spirits can easily enter those who are in the room. Meditation is one avenue that is used for evil spirits to enter. Letting your mind go blank leaves it open for an evil spirit to enter, especially if evil spirits are present. For some people witchcraft seems to have an irresistible fascination. An evil spirit could easily attract such a person.

If this should happen, a person can become enslaved by this spirit. If allowed to stay, the spirit will control that person causing them to do strange things. There is, however, power through the blood of Jesus to be delivered from any evil spirit.

Some forms of witchcraft called "white magic" use the Bible in their rituals. They quote from Psalms and say prayers to God. These forms of witchcraft are probably more dangerous than other forms. Some so called Protestant churches allow "white magic" rituals in their worship services.

Games are another area where we must watch out for witchcraft. Some games invoke spirits and some ask for spirit guides. Both of these are a form of witchcraft. The Ouija board may seem like an innocent toy, but it can be dangerous. It's better to leave these kinds of games on the store shelves and refuse to play them when invited by friends.

—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. Why did King Saul wish to see a witch?
2. What did Saul do so the witch would service him?
3. Why must he disguise himself?
4. When did the witch perceive who Saul was?
5. Was Saul happy after he found out what would happen?
6. Is witchcraft the work of God or the work of the flesh?
7. Will those who deal in witchcraft inherit the kingdom of God?
8. Explain why it is so dangerous to deal with witchcraft?
9. How can those be helped who are dealing with witchcraft?

knowing the future through signs of nature. Palmistry or chiromancy is fortunetelling or divination by inspection of a person's hand.

Many supernatural things are done through "people who talk with familiar spirits." Secrets may be revealed, objects of furniture moved, dead people sometimes give advice on how to run a business to make more money. In the Bible lesson today, a dead man told how the battle would turn out, and who would be killed. You may think that doesn't happen today, but it does. Dead people appear and speak.

Children often ask if fortunetellers know the future. If the fortuneteller is possessed with an evil spirit, he or she has a power which helps him to know some things in the future. The girl spoken of in Acts 16 knew who Paul and Silas were and no one had told her. In Luke 8, we read about a man possessed with many devils. These devils talked to Jesus, asking Him to send them into the pigs. When the devil has possessed a person, he can talk through that person. Therefore if a fortuneteller is possessed with an evil spirit, this spirit can talk through him or her. The devil's spirits know things we do not know.

Not all fortunetellers are possessed with an evil spirit. Some take persons by appointment only. These have ways of getting information about that person and can tell some things that will happen in the future. Others tell fortunes using their great knowledge of human nature. They know how a lot of people act under certain circumstances so they predict that this person will do as any normal person would do. Usually this happens. Also, some know about what the person expects to hear so they tell them that. All people are interested in money and all people lose and gain in business dealings, so a loss or a gain in business can always be predicted. It is always safe to say,

"You will take a journey," or "You will meet a tall man." Most everyone takes a journey once in awhile, and few people go a week without meeting a tall man. There are many tricks to this kind of fortunetelling. For this reason some people believe it is not a sin to visit fortunetellers just for entertainment.

The World Book Encyclopedia, says: "Fortunetelling is often harmful to the one whose fortune is told. Scientists believe it will cause a person to lose faith in himself and his abilities. They will become unambitious or lazy, because they feel they cannot change what will happen to them in the future no matter how hard they try. Some have lost money in business by depending on the advice of an astrologer or palmist. Marriages have been wrecked because a man or woman believed in what a fortuneteller said. Many states and cities now have laws against fortunetelling because of these very real dangers to those who take the predictions of fortunetellers seriously."

People who are not Christians realize it is dangerous to the mind and body. How careful we should be to never visit one, for we know it is even more dangerous to the soul because it is something that God dislikes.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. He wanted to know what would happen in the battle, but God would not answer him. 2. He disguised himself. 3. Because practicing witchcraft in Israel carried a death penalty. 4. When she saw the gods and Samuel. 5. No. 6. A work of the flesh. 7. No. 8. Because there is a spirit which could easily overtake a person. 9. Jesus will help those who renounce all witchcraft activities and plead forgiveness from God.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Nov. 5, 1995

## Who Am I?

Let me tell you about a man which had a lot of trouble for a long, long time because he did something foolish while he was angry. We will call this man Son. That should be easy to remember. See if you can guess who he is before the end of the story.

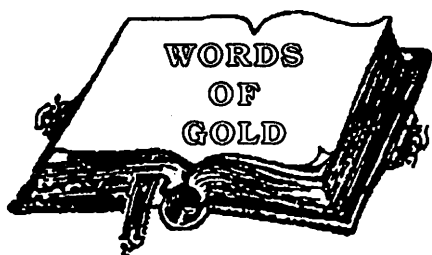
Son was adopted by a very rich lady. He lived in a beautiful brick home that was near the largest river in the country. The home had beautiful furniture, handmade carpets, brightly colored draperies and copper and gold vessels for decoration. Outside where Son played, it looked very much like a well cared for park. Son was treated as if he were the lady's own boy. His real brothers, cousins and uncles had to work hard, but he did not. He only studied and played. He went to the best schools and studied the same things that children of other rich parents studied. Some things his teachers taught him in his own home, in a room built just for that. When he finished his studying for the day, he could roam the gardens that surrounded his home.

Many times as he strolled through the gardens, he thought about his real mother and father. He had brothers and sisters. His own mother had been his babysitter when he was a very small boy. She had told him about his family. He remembered how she had looked, but wondered how much she

had changed and if he would know her. One thing he did know is that he wanted to see her. "When I get old enough I shall go and see her," he told himself.

The more he thought about his family, the more he longed to see them. The thing he loved most about his mother was her faith in God. "Someday I will leave this home and go to live with my own people and serve their God," he said. This was a big decision for Son to make. If he stayed in the beautiful home with his adopted mother, he would have almost everything that money could buy and all the pleasure that sinful things bring. If he went to his people, he would have a lot of suffering. He thought about this year after year. Finally he decided, "If I stay here and enjoy riches and sin, I will have no hope after death. If I go to my people and live for their God, I will have some trouble in life, but I will get to live with God after death. I shall go and live with my people.... But first I must go and visit them."

When Son arrived in his hometown he learned that his people were being cruelly treated by the very people who were giving him everything money could buy. He became very angry when he saw one of his cousins being beaten. He called out, "Stop, stop!" The man ignored Son, so Son started trying to make him stop. Soon they were fighting. Son was very strong, and before he



## Anger Spells Trouble

### Ephesians 4:26

26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

### Numbers 22:23-34

23 And the ass saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass,...

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

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

26 And the angel of the Lord went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left.

27 And when the ass saw the angel of the Lord, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff.

28 And the Lord opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?

29 And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee.

30 And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay.

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

32 And the angel of the Lord said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me:

33 And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive.

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

### Proverbs 27:3-4

3 A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath [anger] is heavier than them both.

4 Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?

**The Message: Do not be angry when people do not please you or when undesirable things happen to you. It may be a blessing in disguise.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding; but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.

Proverbs 14:29.

# Let's



## Talk . . .

"Look what I found!" Marvin shouted, holding up a hat.

"It's just Nick's old felt hat," Mother said. "I didn't know it was lost."

"It hasn't been lost. But take a look inside!"

He handed the hat to his mother. "Wow! It's been filled with straight pins, all of them pointing straight down. What could this mean?"

"It means that Jim is planning on getting even with Nick for breaking his new bow. Remember, he said that he would? Here stands the broom right beside where this hat was hanging."

"You really suppose he planned to put this hat on Nick's head and then hit him over the head with the broom?"

"Well, you know how crazy he gets when he is mad, and he sure is mad today. I wouldn't put anything past him."

"Oh, thank you Jesus, for helping us find this deadly weapon," Mother said with eyes lifted toward heaven. "Thank you, Jesus, for saving my son's life and keeping my other son from being a murderer."

Anger is a sin that causes some people to lose all reason. When angry, they seem to not know what they are doing. Some small children will scream, kick, bite and throw all kinds of fits. Have you not seen a small child get really angry? Well, sad to say, some older children and adults also act the same way when they are angry. Many a person has killed another because they were angry.

Anger is a very bad fruit. Cut out the fruit and paste it on the evil tree that Jesus will cut down and cast into the lake of fire.



A friend told about their neighbor across the street. One day they were playing in the front yard when they heard a loud bang and the sound of glass breaking. Quickly looking across the street, they saw a lamp sailing from the front window. Next came a chair, a small table, a radio and a television. Before the police arrived, the poor man had almost destroyed his living room furniture and the room.

One of our neighbors was drunk and angry at the same time. With his fist, he hit the window of his home, cutting himself so badly he almost bled to death before getting to a doctor. His hand was damaged for the rest of his life.

Young people, you do not have to be a slave to anger. Jesus has victory over all anger. I can testify that God took away my hot hot temper and has made me a very calm person.

If you have a problem with getting angry, ask Jesus to give you power over it. When you feel yourself getting angry, call on God right then. Say, "Jesus help me not to get angry." You may be very surprised what will happen to you.

If you have gotten angry during the day, ask Jesus to forgive you. If at all possible ask the person you were angry with to also forgive you. The Bible says, "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath." Keeping every day cleaned up will help you to overcome.

—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. Should every day's problems be resolved before the sun goes down?
2. Why was Balaam angry with his ass?
3. Why was he angry the second time?
4. The third time Balaam was angry when his ass \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Do you think Balaam had a right to be angry?
6. Were these things that angered Balaam a blessing in disguise?
7. What is heavier than both sand and stone?
8. What is outrageous?
9. Have you ever gotten angry and done something you were ashamed of later?

realized what had happened, he had killed the man. "What shall I do?" he thought. Then looking around to be sure no one was watching, he grabbed a shovel and dug a big hole in the sand. Then he rolled the man into the hole, covered him with sand, smoothed out the ground and hurried back to the beautiful home.

The next day he went again to visit his people. This day he saw two of his family fighting. When he tried to stop them from fighting, one said to him, "Are you going to kill me just as you did that man yesterday?" How frightened Son was. He thought everyone must know about it.

Before long, the people in the beautiful home found out what Son had done. Some of them became very angry. They said, "We have done everything for this boy, and he kills one of our workers. That is a poor way to say 'Thank you!'"

"I shall kill him," stormed the lady's father. Son believed that the man would kill him, so he ran away to hide.

He walked every step of the way across a desert and a low range of mountains. Finally he came to the land of Midian. Late one day he came to a well and sat down to rest. His muscles ached and his feet were sore from the long walk. As he was resting his head in his hands, some girls came to water their father's sheep. They drew water from the deep well and filled the watering trough. Just as their sheep were beginning to drink, some boys came with their sheep. They drove the girls' sheep away and let their own sheep start drinking the water. Son stood up and drove the boys and their sheep away. He then drew more water for the girls.

When the sheep had finished drinking, the girls took them home. How surprised their father was to see them home so early. Then they told him that a stranger was at the well and had helped them to finish sooner. "Go ask

the man to come home and eat with us," their father told them.

Son gladly accepted their invitation. The girls' father liked Son and offered him a job. Son worked hard taking care of the sheep. In dry seasons, when there was no pasture in the valley, Son walked miles and miles into the mountains until he found green grass and water for the sheep. Many times it was too far away to return home, so Son slept on the ground and cooked a little food over a campfire. During the day it was often very hot. Sometimes, at night, he felt afraid. He remembered the delicious food and fine bed in the beautiful home, but he was afraid to return. He wondered if he would ever again see the kind woman or any of his family again.

Son lived in this strange land for forty years. He worked hard, suffered heat in the summer and cold in the winter.

One day while caring for the sheep, he saw a bush on fire. He watched for a long, long time, but the bush kept on burning. It never did burn up. "What a strange fire," he thought. He went close to take a better look, and God's voice spoke to him from the bush.

Have you guessed who Son is?

Would you like to suffer for 40 years for becoming angry? If not, then be very careful to not get angry. Today, start training yourself to be content, whatever happens.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. The donkey went out of the road into the field. 3. The ass crushed Balaam's foot. 4. Laid down in the road and would not get up. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. Wrath or anger. 8. Anger. 9. Most everyone has gotten angry and done some things they were ashamed of later.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Nov. 12, 1995

## Pepou's Long Move

(A true story of the Parawatomi Indians who were moved from Indiana to Shawnee, Oklahoma)

"Where are we going?" asked Pepou, a little Parawatomi Indian boy to his mother. "Are we going away to stay forever?"

"Forever, my son," answered his mother very sadly. "Forever."

"Why must we go away? I don't want to move. I love the lakes, the trees and the animals. If we go away, I will never see my pet squirrel again. Every morning when I fish at the lake, he comes out of the woods and plays in a tree nearby. I don't want to go away. Didn't you tell me this hunting ground had been your grandfather's?"

"Yes, Pepou, this land belonged to my great-grandfather; and he has given it to us. But the white man has tricked several of the chiefs into signing a treaty to trade our hunting ground for other hunting grounds. Chief Memoninee did not sign the treaty. He is a wise chief. He knows it would be very difficult for our whole tribe to move. He also thinks the white man might be trading a poor hunting ground for our rich one."

"I think I heard Father Petit read from the Good Book, 'Thou shalt not covet,' Pepou said. "He said some white men are covetous. What does covet mean?"

"To covet is to wish to have something that belongs to someone else. You

were angry yesterday because you wanted Kanta's arrowhead that grandfather carved for him," answered Kewnna, his mother. "You were coveting it. The white man wants our good hunting ground." Kewnna continued stacking the clay pots one inside the other getting them ready for the long trip.

"Will Grandmother go, too?" questioned Pepou.

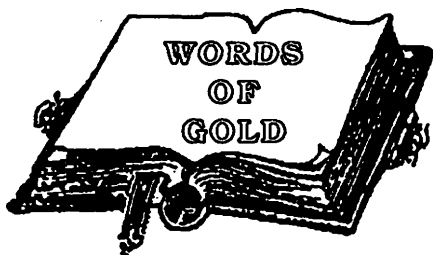
"Everyone will go," Kewnna answered.

"But Grandmother cannot walk far. Is it not far away that we go?"

"It is far, far away. We will walk for many, many days until two moons have passed. She straightened up and looked through the door into the surrounding trees. "The white men have come! The white men are here!" she shouted and began to cry.

"Don't cry, Mamma," Pepou said to comfort her. "The Great Spirit will help us."

"I know He will, but Grandmother is so old. She will die before half a moon is past, and not only her. Our braves will not have time to hunt, nor you boys have time to fish. Many will starve to death." She covered her face with her hands. "We'll have to bury them beside the trail. And —and the wolves may dig them up and eat them. Oh, Great Spirit," she cried looking up toward heaven. "Will you please change the white man's heart so they won't do this to any other tribe? And please Great Spirit, the snow



## Coveting Is Sin

### Deuteronomy 5:21

21 Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maid-servant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.

### I Kings 21:1-4, 7, 9-11, 14-19

1 ...Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard,...by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

2 And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs,... and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or,...I will give thee the worth of it in money.

3 And Naboth said to Ahab, The Lord forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee.

4 And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased...And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread.

7 And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people:  
10 And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme

God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die.

11 And the men of his city,...did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them.

14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead.

15 And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead.

16 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

17 And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

18 Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel....

19 And thou shalt speak unto him, ...Thus saith the Lord, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood....

**The Message: To covet is a sin but not an action. It, many times, leads to stealing and even to murder.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house,...nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.  
Exodus 20:17.

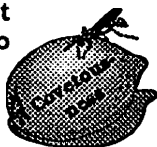
# Let's



## Talk . . .

Our lesson is about coveting. You can cut out this evil fruit and paste it on the corrupt tree because it surely belongs there. It is a deadly sin. It is also the root of many other sins. This sin destroys the souls of boys and girls. It has even been the cause of their death. To covet means more than to desire something that belongs to others. It means to seek after what you desire or want. If your friend has a new knife, purse, or roller skates and you want those things that belong to him or her, you are in trouble. There is a difference in wanting something like what they have and wanting theirs. Coveting is a desire or wanting for theirs. If you let that linger in your mind and heart, you will begin to try to get it. You will think about where they put their skates, and then you will try to think up a way to get them. After you get them, you will try to change them in some way so no one will know they belong to the person you stole them from. Oh, how terrible! On and on you go—adding sin to sin. We must remember what Jesus said, "Beware of covetousness." Never let this evil fruit be seen in your life. When someone gets something new, rejoice with them. When you do that you will not be tempted to covet that new thing the boy or girl has. This is a battle that goes on inside of you. The devil brings

Cut out the fruit of covetousness and paste it on the tree that will be cut down and cast into the lake of fire.



the thoughts of wanting other people's things.

"Gimme! Gimme!" squeals little Georgia, "Gimme! Mine! Mine!" What do you think of Georgia? Do you think she is greedy, selfish and spoiled? Maybe you do not say this now, since you are older, but do you in your heart feel this way about something that belongs to someone else? So, instead of saying it, you secretly find ways to get for your own what the other boy or girl has. Can you not see what coveting means? Flee from this terrible sin.

(This portion of "Let's Talk" was written by Sis. Marie Miles, in 1975. Hope you enjoyed it.)

In our lesson today, Ahab coveted Naboth's vineyard. This sin of coveting led to many other sins and affected many people until, in the end Naboth was stoned to death.

Covetousness is a deceitful sin. Because it is not an action, many children and adults let it grow in their hearts. It seems to not be so bad. "It's just a little desire that I can control," they think. But God wisely knew that a covetous heart would commit other sins. Therefore God said "Thou shalt not covet." It is one of the Ten Commandments.

Covetousness is like a little seed that will grow into a big tree, and will bear fruits of lying, stealing and even murder. Let's not allow a covetous seed to sprout in our hearts.

—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. What did Naboth have that Ahab wanted?
2. Was Naboth willing to sell to Ahab?
3. How did Jezebel comfort Ahab?
4. Who was murdered so that Ahab could have what he coveted?
5. Was Ahab happy when he got the coveted vineyard?
6. What was to happen to Ahab because of his wickedness?
7. Ahab's trouble all started because he \_\_\_\_\_.
8. What is God's command about coveting?
9. What does coveting often lead to?

is coming, and we have not enough furs ready for clothing or beds. How can we tan hides or make moccasins and be herded like cattle through the forest?"

Before the sun could be seen in the morning, 859 Indians were marching through the woods toward their new hunting ground. Soldiers, riding horses, drove the unarmed Indians like cowboys driving cattle to a new pasture.

Pepou was far away from home when it was light enough to see but he turned to take one last look at his village. He could only see billows of smoke coming from the thick trees. He knew the soldiers had set the village on fire, as his mother had told him. His favorite bear skin rug was still on the floor. His bow, arrows and the spear which had taken him the whole summer to make were there. He could not bring them because they were weapons. He wondered if his pet squirrel would stay ahead of the flames. He wanted to race back through the woods and see about his things, but he knew that he would be shot if he left the group.

He noticed his mother wiping tears. He looked around and saw that all the women were crying. The old men's eyes were wild and fearful. Children were clinging to each other, the small ones to their mothers, hoping to find comfort in nearness. Only the young braves were still holding their heads high and marching fearlessly. "They must have been visited by the Great Spirit," Pepou thought. He straightened his shoulders, put his arms around his Mother and again said, "Don't cry, Mother, the Great Spirit will help us."

On they walked, day after day. Pepou's feet were sore and swollen. His little brother's toe was infected because the medicine man had already used his supply of medicine. Grandmother and his three year old sister had already died. They had buried them beside the trail in a shallow grave, for the white man had hurried them on saying, "You must get settled before winter sets in."

Several mothers gave birth to new babies. Six of the newborns had already died. Two mothers died, leaving their little children to walk alone. The fathers had to walk on the outer edges of the group watching always for some animal to be killed for food.

Sometimes they walked for days without water. Pepou longed for the stream that ran beside their village. Most of the trip, however, was near a river or small stream which made the September and October air even cooler. When they camped for a few days so the braves could hunt for food, Pepou hoped they had arrived at their new hunting ground. But, no, they must move again. On and on they went. When the sun shone they walked; if the rain fell, they walked; when lightning flashed, they still walked; when the cold October wind blew, they walked. They were walking, walking, walking to an unknown hunting ground.

Finally on November 4, they arrived at the new hunting ground. Ninety of their tribe were missing. They started with 859 Indians and arrived with 749. Most of these had died. Most every family lost one or two members. Some lost three and four. A few men had escaped the watchful eyes of the soldiers and disappeared into the forest.

"Thank you, Great Spirit, for helping us on the long move," Pepou said, looking up into the star-filled sky. "And help us to forgive the white man for coveting our good hunting ground."

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A vineyard 2. No 3. By promising to get him the vineyard 4. Naboth 5. No 6. The dogs would lick his blood in the same place where they had licked the blood of Naboth 7. Began coveting Naboth's vineyard 8. "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house... nor any thing that is thy neighbour's" Exodus 20:17 9. To stealing.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Nov. 19, 1995

## The Broken Window

Dan loved to play baseball with the neighborhood boys. On warm days they played on the vacant lot behind the apartment house that faced May Avenue. The boys had no equipment so Mr. Jones, the Sunday school teacher at the corner church, loaned the boys balls, bats and gloves. He hoped this would encourage them to attend Sunday school.

Dan attended Sunday school at the Church of God. He always thanked Mr. Jones when he returned what he had borrowed. Some of the boys took balls and told Mr. Jones the balls were lost. Sometimes they hit rocks with the bats and laughed when a mit was damaged. Mr. Jones liked Dan because he was grateful and always brought back what he had borrowed and said, "Thank you."

One evening after school Joe and John borrowed the bats, ball and gloves. "Let's play a game," they called to Dan who was repairing a broken place in Mrs. Todd's fence.

"I'll be right over as soon as I finish," Dan told them.

When he arrived the boys had chosen teams and were playing the second inning. "You're on our team," said Dick. "Take third base."

Joe was batting. He was the biggest boy in the neighborhood and could hit the ball the farthest.

"Crack!" The ball went flying out past center field, heading for the apart-

ment house. It smashed right through a window on the second floor. "We're in trouble now," yelled John. "Everyone hide!" All the boys ran, taking whatever they had in their hands.

Dan ran down the alley and hid behind the first garage. From where he was hiding, he could hear Mr. Smith, the apartment owner, yelling, "Come back here, you—boys." Dan knew he should go back and talk to Mr. Smith, but he was afraid. He crept through the alley while keeping out of Mr. Smith's sight.

At the other end of the block, the boys talked about it. "Serves him right!" said Joe.

"Yea," John added. "He never wants us to have a good time—always so fussy when we play."

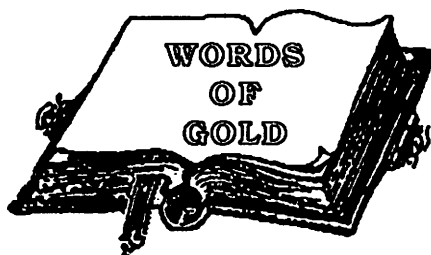
"But we should at least offer to pay for the broken window," stammered Dan. "It will be enough work for him to take it to the glass shop and put the window back in place."

"Let him pay for it," shouted Joe. "He has more money than all our parents put together."

"That's right," agreed John. "This is his chance to do something for his neighbors. He never helps anyone."

All the other boys agreed that Mr. Smith could fix his own window. Dan didn't have the courage to say more.

The group separated. Joe and John took the bat and gloves back to Mr. Jones.



## Nine Unthankful Men

**Luke 17:11-19**

**11** And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

**12** And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

**13** And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

**14** And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

**15** And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

**16** And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

**17** And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

**18** There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

**19** And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

**Romans 1:20-22, 24-26**

**20** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

**21** Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful;...and their foolish heart was darkened.

**22** Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

**24** Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

**25** Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator,...

**26** For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections:...

**II Timothy 3:2**

**2** For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.

**Colossian 3:15**

**15** And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

**The Message: Those who are unthankful will never have the blessing that a thankful person will receive.**

**Questions:**

- 1.** How many lepers did Jesus heal?
- 2.** How many of the men returned to thank Jesus?
- 3.** Is God's power clearly understood by the creation?
- 4.** Are people without excuse?
- 5.** Why are men's hearts darkened?
- 6.** Why were men given up to vile affections?
- 7.** Will people who are disobedient also be unthankful?
- 8.** Does God command us to be thankful?
- 9.** Are you thankful?

### Verse to Memorize

**Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.**

**Psalms 100:4.**

# Let's



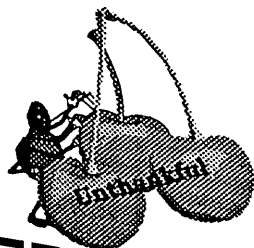
## Talk . . .

How sad it is that although Jesus healed ten men of a terrible disease called leprosy, yet only one of them came back to thank Him. There are many other stories in the Bible showing us how unthankful people can be.

God's own chosen people were very unthankful. Soon after they left their bondage in Egypt, they began complaining. Instead of being thankful that they were free, they complained about not having leeks and garlic to eat as they had in the land of Egypt. When they complained of not having water, God sent water. They complained of not having bread, and God sent manna; no meat and God sent quails. The attitude of their heart was unthankful.

There were many things for which they could have been thankful. Freedom was number one. Their families

Cut out the unthankful fruit and paste it on the corrupt tree. People who allow this corrupt fruit to grow in their lives will be cut down and cast into the lake of fire.



were together. How sad if some had been left back in slavery. Many a family has been split apart when escaping bondage. How thankful they should have been. They had a good leader. Their clothes and shoes did not wear out. God did many things for which they should have been thankful.

Each of us can either be thankful or unthankful. It is an attitude of the heart. What a person has or does not have is not what makes a person thankful or unthankful. Some very, very poor people are very thankful. Some very rich people are unthankful.

Being thankful is a good fruit that each of us should cultivate in our life. Being unthankful is a corrupt fruit that should never be allowed to grow. If the fruit of unthankfulness grows in a heart, that heart will become darkened. Soon that person will be desiring unholy, ungodly things. God will move out of his or her heart and the devil will come in. God gives them up unto vile affections. Down, down, they go deeper and deeper into sin until they do not enjoy the natural things of life, but are so steeped in sin that only very vile things satisfy them. Let us weed out every unthankful attitude and plant a thankful one in its place.

—Charlotte Huskey

### THANKS

Thank God for dirty dishes,  
They have a tale to tell;  
While others may go hungry  
We're eating very well.  
With home, health and happiness  
I shouldn't want to fuss;  
By the stack of evidence,  
God's been very good to us.

—Author Unknown

At home, Dan kept thinking about the broken window and Mr. Jones' ball.

The next day at school he thought about it. As he walked home that evening with Dick, he said, "I think we should talk to Mr. Smith about the broken window. He may not make us pay for it, and he might give us back the ball."

"Forget it," Dick answered. "Mr. Smith is mean to everyone. He will probably make us pay double the price. Joe broke the window anyway, not us. He should talk to Mr. Smith, if anyone does."

Dan knew then that if he talked to Mr. Smith he would have to go by himself. He hated going alone. He was afraid of Mr. Smith. But he knew he must.

After doing his homework, he forced himself to go. Not wanting the other boys to see him, he went around the block and through the alley. Through the apartment house's big, double doors he went and up the stairs to Mr. Smith's office. Mr. Smith was so stingy he lived in his office so he could rent out his home. How could he face such a stingy man without any money. All he had was a plan.

Dan knocked very softly at the door. He could hear the T.V. He then rang the doorbell and Mr. Smith came to the door. "What do you want?" he asked looking down at Dan. "Were you playing with the boys yesterday when their ball broke my window?"

"Yes," Dan answered. "I've come to say I'm sorry. And—and I haven't the money to pay for it. I can pay \$1.00 today and a little each week until it is all paid." He took the dollar out of his pocket and handed it to Mr. Smith.

"Thank you," said Mr. Smith as he took the dollar. "Now you should get the other boys to pay the rest. This is your share. Are you the boy who hit the ball that came through the window?"

"No, I didn't hit the ball. I was only playing. The other boys don't want to pay for the window. I've already asked them. I'll pay for it myself."

"Then I will give you the ball. If it isn't yours, just keep it."

Dan said nothing, but he knew he would take the ball back to Mr. Jones. "Thank you for the ball," he said. On the street below Dan looked to see if any of the boys were in sight. There were none, so he hurried over to Mr. Jones'. "Where did you get that ball?" he heard John ask as he was going up the steps of Mr. Jones' porch.

"Mr. Smith gave it to me," Dan answered without thinking.

"Then you paid for the broken window?"

"Well, no, I just promised to pay for it."

"You're crazy," shouted John and ran to tell the other boys.

At school the next day, the boys laughed and joked about "Honest Dan" all day long. As Dan was walking home, Joe caught up with him; "Why did you pay for the window? You didn't hit the ball."

"I wanted to return Mr. Jones' ball, and that was the only way to get it," Dan answered.

"Mr. Jones has a lot more balls. He would never miss one," Joe said.

Even Dick, who was usually very honest, couldn't understand why Dan thought it a sin to forget about the broken window and the unreturned ball.

During the weeks that followed Dan couldn't play through a game without some boy teasing him about it.

Dan's reward for being thankful came just before Christmas. Mr. Jones had heard that Dan paid for Mr. Smith's window so he could return the borrowed ball. He bought Dan a new leather baseball glove. "It is to show that I appreciate you being so grateful," Mr. Jones said. —Charlotte Huskey

[Answers: 1. Ten. 2. Only one. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. Because they are unthankful. 6. They were not thankful to God but worshipped the creature more than the Creator. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. If you cannot answer, "Yes," then begin making changes in your life.]

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Nov. 26, 1995

## He Paid With His Life

(II Samuel 13:1-14.)

"Greetings Cousin Amnon! Where hast thou been keeping thyself?" shouted Jonadab.

"I've been right here, you just haven't been around," answered Amnon sadly.

"It has been a while since I've seen you, and thou art a bit lean. But what is thy problem? Why art thou so sad? Art thou sick?"

"Lovesick."

Jonadab laid back his bushy head and laughed. "Well, well, lovesick, there art a remedy for that."

"Not for me."

"What? No remedy, and thou art the son of mighty King David? I thought King's sons have whatever they want."

"Being a king's son isn't as easy as thou thinkest. There are so many rules — stand erect, sit up straight, act like a gentleman, don't be selfish, think about others."

"Ah, don't be foolish, my boy. Uncle David will give you whatever thou wantest."

"You really believe that?"

"Sure I do."

"You think he would give me Tamar, Absalom's beautiful sister?"

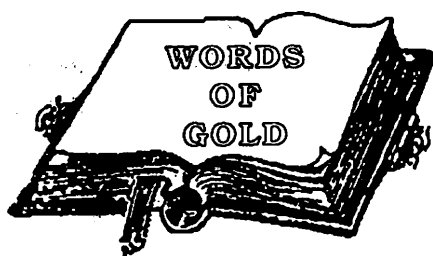
"Well now, thou mightest have to deal with Absalom too, and thou knowest Absalom. Besides being mighty, strong and handsome, he's the beloved. King David might prefer his desires before yours."

"That's what I thought. Anyway I don't want to wait for all those purification days and wedding feast arrangements. I want Tamar now!"

"I say, Amnon, just lay down on thy bed and make thyself sick. When thy father comes to see you, say to him, 'Father dear, let Tamar come to my house and cook for me. Let her come and make bread and dress meat so that I may watch her and eat the food from her hands.' Just see if thy father won't do that," Jonadab said with a slur in his voice. "The rest will be up to you."

So Amnon pretended to be sick and King David came to visit him. Then he asked if Tamar could come to be his cook, so he would recover from his sickness.

Beautiful Tamar, innocent of what was happening, obediently agreed to go and cook for Amnon. Meekly entering Amnon's house, she asked respectfully, "May I serve you?"



## Purity is the Best Way

### II Samuel 13:1-15

1 And it came to pass after this, that Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her.

2 And Amnon was so vexed, that he fell sick for his sister Tamar; for she was a virgin; and Amnon thought it hard for him to do any thing to her.

3 But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother: and Jonadab was a very subtil man.

4 And he said unto him, Why art thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? And Amnon said unto him, I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.

5 And Jonadab said unto him, Lay thee down on thy bed, and make thyself sick: and when thy father cometh to see thee, say unto him, I pray thee, let my sister Tamar come, and give me meat, and dress the meat in my sight, that I may see it, and eat it at her hand.

6 So Amnon lay down, and made himself sick: and when the king was come to see him, Amnon said unto the king, I pray thee, let Tamar my sister come, and make me a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat at her hand.

7 Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, Go now to thy brother Amnon's house, and dress him meat.

8 So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house; and he was laid down. And she took flour, and kneaded it,

and made cakes in his sight, and did bake the cakes.

9 And she took a pan, and poured them out before him; but he refused to eat. And Amnon said, Have out all men from me. And they went out every man from him.

10 And Amnon said unto Tamar, Bring the meat into the chamber, that I may eat of thine hand. And Tamar took the cakes which she had made, and brought them into the chamber to Amnon her brother.

11 And when she had brought them unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her, Come lie with me, my sister.

12 And she answered him, Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not thou this folly.

13 And I, whither shall I cause my shame to go? and as for thee, thou shalt be as one of the fools in Israel. Now therefore, I pray thee, speak unto the king; for he will not withhold me from thee.

14 Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her.

15 Then Amnon hated her exceedingly; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her, Arise, be gone.

**The Message: Do not lust, for it usually leads to other sins, which could cost your life.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.**

**James 1:14.**

# Let's

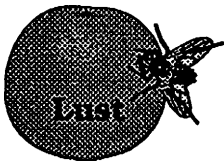


## Talk . . .

The fruit we will study about today is a very dirty fruit. This fruit, if allowed to grow in your life, will bring you very, very much sorrow. The devil makes boys and girls and grown-ups too, think it will bring much happiness. But it is quite the opposite.

Tamar and Amnon were both unhappy that this fruit developed in their relationship. Tamar grieved for many years. She was cheated out of the happiness of friendships, courtship and being the beautiful bride she could have been. Amnon, too, was miserable. His father, King David, was angry with him. His step-brother, Absalom, an important leader in Israel, would not even speak to him. For two long years he lived under rejection and fear. Then after two years of unhappiness, he was at last killed because of the foolish thing that he had done. All this happened because the fruit of lust grew until it produced the fruit of fornication.

God wants both boys and girls to keep pure. Every bride should be just as white and pure as the white dress she wears. Every groom should have



Paste the dirty fruit of lust on the corrupt tree. This is the tree that God will chop down and cast into the lake of fire.

kept himself just as pure as the bride. When boys and girls determine to stay pure, they can do it. You must decide right now that you will be a pure bride or groom on your wedding day.

Don't think you can let curiosity about the opposite sex linger on your mind and it not cause you trouble. Some children think they can play around now and straighten up when they get older. Playing around now will only make you weaker toward temptation. When one small temptation overcomes you, it leaves you with less power to resist the next temptation. Never, never give in to the first temptation.

Lust is another fruit that does not involve your actions right at first. It is a sin of the soul. If it develops into uncleanness or fornication, then it is a sin of action. But if you can overcome the temptations of lust in your mind, then there will be no sin. Looking at pictures in books and magazines can cause you to sin by lusting. If you have any dirty books, or videos, throw them in the trash, TODAY! When God comes again, He will take only the pure people back to heaven with Him. After each person dies, that person will be judged by Jesus' standard of purity. Jesus did no sin in thought or deed, and that is how He expects His children to live. —Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. Who was Absalom's beautiful sister?
2. Who loved Tamar?
3. Who advised Amnon?
4. Was it godly advice?
5. Did Amnon follow the advice?
6. Did doing what he wanted to do make Amnon happy?
7. Was Tamar willing to marry Amnon?
8. Why did Amnon not want to marry Tamar?
9. Name some evil fruit in Amnon's heart.

"Yes, yes," Amnon answered very weakly. "If you will make some cakes of bread for me, I shall recover."

Happy to help her sick half-brother, she quickly added water to fine flour and kneaded it into a stiff dough. Amnon watched from his bed as she gracefully moved about the room. Her hair was long and shining, her eyes black as a crow, every part of her body was perfect. He was truly lovesick—lovesick for Tamar. Now she patted the dough into cakes, which she placed on the fire to bake. Determined to do a good job, she knelt beside the hot fire and watched the cakes carefully, turning them when needed to avoid burning. When the bread was finally cooked, she turned the cakes out for him.

To her surprise, he would not touch the delicious looking bread. "Will thou not eat?" she asked.

"I must have quiet," he said. "Have everyone to go out."

Tamar stood by the door as, one by one, each servant left the house. Now she was alone with him.

"Come, come," he said, "Bring the cakes into my bed chamber. If I can eat them from your lovely hands, I will get well."

Tamar obediently carried the cakes to Amnon's bedside. As she sat the cakes down, Amnon grabbed hold of her. "Tamar, Tamar, I'm in love with you," he said. "Come, be my wife today."

"Oh, I cannot do that," she answered in surprise.

"You must be my wife today," he answered, "or I die."

Tamar looked him straight in the eye, "Look, Amnon, we, here in Israel, do not do as the heathens.

Ask my father for me. I am sure he will let us get married."

"I want you today!" he stormed.

"Stop and think, Amnon," she pleaded. "Remember all the trouble that Shechem caused when he humbled our Father Jacob's daughter? It is said that he was a very foolish man. If you do the same, you too, will be called a fool. Don't do it Amnon! Don't do it!"

"No, no," he answered. "I am the King's son, and I can have what I want. Jonadab told me I could."

"Yes, yes, you may have what you wish. Thou mayest have me as thy wife, but ask for me and have a wedding. Do things right, Amnon, do this right. Thou wilt bring a shame on me, on our family, and our whole country. I beg you not to do this thing."

The more Tamar begged, the more impatient and angry Amnon became, until finally he had it his way.

Then he was angry with himself. "Why didn't I listen to her? How could I be so cruel?" he asked himself over and over. The beautiful girl, who could have been his happy bride, was now crying. The very sight of her made him feel like a barbaric, animal-like savage!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Tamar 2. Amnon 3. Jonadab 4. No 5. Yes 6. No 7. Yes 8. Because he did not want to wait 9. An evil eye or lust, evil affections, selfishness, following the counsel of the ungodly, deceit, fornication and hatred.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Dec. 3, 1995

## He Paid With His Life

(Continued from last week.

II Samuel 13:15-38.)

The more he watched Tamar crying, the worse Amnon felt. He hated her more deeply than he had ever loved her. "Get out of my sight," he demanded.

Tamar turned her beautiful, tear-stained face toward Amnon and said, "Why should I leave? There isn't a good reason that I should go."

"Leave, I said," Amnon stormed again. "Just get out of here and leave me alone."

"But—but—forcing me to leave is worse than what you have already done," she said trembling. "I don't want to leave."

"I don't care what you want, you must leave at once."

"I can't. I really can't," she said, pleading to stay.

Amnon called his very best servant. "Take this woman away. Get her out of my house and bolt the door behind her."

The servant obeyed.

Tamar was overcome with grief when she found herself barred from the home of the man who had loved her so greatly. She took her coat of many colors and ripped it into two pieces. "Oh, my coat, my precious coat," she cried. "The one made espe-

cially for me. The one that marked me as a pure princess, the daughter of great King David. But alas! Those days are passed. Never again can I be called a pure, lovely princess."

It was the custom in Israel to put ashes on your head when in great sorrow. Tamar found ashes where a servant had built a fire in the courtyard. She put ashes on her head. Then holding her hands on her head, she went on crying.

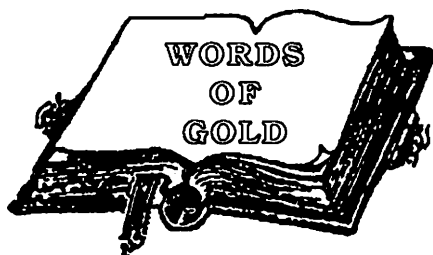
Blinded by tears, she stumbled through the courtyard until she came to Absalom's house. Absalom guessed what had happened. "Don't cry, my sister, don't cry. I will take care of you," he said.

In between spells of crying, Tamar told him all about it. When she had finished, Absalom said, "Try not to think much about it, Tamar. After all, he is part of our family. Just stay here in my home. I will take care of you. I shall also take care of Amnon."

So the beautiful princess, Tamar, became a forlorn, lonely girl after Amnon rejected her.

When the news of all this came to King David, he was very humiliated and angry that one of his sons could be so vile. Absalom was so angry he would not speak to Amnon.

Two years later, while his servants were shearing his sheep, Absalom



## Amnon Is Murdered

### II Samuel 13:15-29

**15** Then Amnon hated her (Tamar) exceedingly; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her, Arise, be gone.

**16** And she said unto him, There is no cause: this evil in sending me away is greater than the other that thou didst unto me. But he would not hearken unto her.

**17** Then he called his servant that ministered unto him, and said, Put now this woman out from me, and bolt the door after her.

**18** And she had a garment of divers colours upon her: for with such robes were the king's daughters that were virgins apparelled. Then his servant brought her out, and bolted the door after her.

**19** And Tamar put ashes on her head, and rent her garment of divers colours that was on her, and laid her hand on her head, and went on crying.

**20** And Absalom her brother said unto her, Hath Amnon thy brother been with thee? but hold now thy peace, my sister: he is thy brother; regard not this thing. So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house.

**21** But when king David heard of all these things, he was very wroth.

**22** And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

**23** And it came to pass after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal-hazor,...and Absalom invited all the king's sons. [It was customary, when the sheep were sheared, for the owner to have a feast.]

**24** And Absalom came to the king, and said, Behold now, thy servant hath sheepshearers; let the king, I beseech thee, and his servants go with thy servant.

**25** And the king said to Absalom, Nay, my son, let us not all now go, lest we be chargeable unto thee. And he pressed him: howbeit he would not go, but blessed him.

**26** Then said Absalom, If not, I pray thee, let my brother Amnon go with us. And the king said unto him, Why should he go with thee?

**27** But Absalom pressed him, that he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him.

**28** Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be vallant.

**29** And the servants of Absalom did unto Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and every man gat him up upon his mule, and fled.

**The Message: We must keep hatred out of our hearts, lest it grow until we become a murderer.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.**

**I John 3:15.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

This story lesson is continued from last week. Amnon loved Tamar but because of his own undisciplined, lustful nature, he had destroyed this love. Now he hated beautiful Tamar. Absalom, Tamar's brother, hated Amnon because he abused Tamar. He would not speak to Amnon although Amnon was the oldest son of King David and should rightfully be the next king. Therefore, it would be proper to respect Amnon. But Amnon had destroyed Absalom's ability to respect him.

Hatred grew in Absalom's heart toward Amnon for two years until it changed into a desire to murder him. The day came when Absalom made a plan and had Amnon murdered.

This murder would never have happened if Absalom had forgiven Amnon. King David, too, was very angry with Amnon, but he forgave, or

at least did not let bitterness grow in his heart. Because Absalom did not forgive, his hatred grew into bitterness and this into a desire to murder. Many murders happen in just this way. If people would only forgive, many a murderer would not be in prison today.

Has someone abused you verbally or physically? Ask God to help you forgive them. If you will forgive, your attitude will change and you will even be a happier person. If you find it hard to forgive, try praying for that person; try doing something nice for him or her. These actions will help you forgive.

Let us not be like Amnon and Absalom. If we will discipline ourselves, we will not cause others to want to murder us, neither will we want to murder another person. Jesus Christ came to help us love everyone. But if we hate our brother, we are a murderer and no murderer will have a place in heaven. —Charlotte Huskey

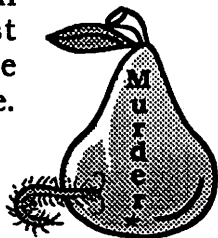
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### Questions:

1. Did Amnon hate Tamar just as he had loved her?
  2. What did Amnon tell his servants to do with Tamar?
  3. Who was the first one to realize that Amnon had abused Tamar?
  4. Was King David angry about what Amnon had done?
  5. How many years passed before Absalom would speak to Amnon?
  6. Where did Absalom invite Amnon to go?
  7. What was Absalom's plan?
  8. Did Amnon get drunk at the sheepshearer's feast?
  9. Did Absalom's hatred end up in a murder?
- 
- 

Murder is a corrupt fruit. Cut it out and paste it on the corrupt tree. A life with this evil fruit will be cut down and cast into the lake of fire.



decided to invite all his brothers to his annual sheepshearing feast. He went to King David and said, "Behold, thy servant hath a sheepshearer's feast in Baal-hazor. Please come, my dear father, and bring all your sons."

"Oh, we must not do that," King David answered. "There are so many of us that it will cost you too much." "But I want all my brothers there. Please come," Absalom begged.

"Blessed be thou, my son, for thy great kindness," said his father, "but I shall not come."

"But you will allow all your sons and Amnon, to come with thy servant will you not?" questioned Absalom.

"Why should Amnon come?" David asked.

"I want him and all my brothers, please," begged Absalom.

"Then he shall go," David said. "I will tell him."

"Thank you, my Lord," Absalom answered. "I will be going. Be sure that Amnon is invited."

Perhaps David's heart felt happy that Absalom was inviting Amnon to whom he had not spoken for two years. But to his servants Absalom gave particular instructions concerning Amnon.

When the day of the feast arrived, Amnon came to the feast with the other sons of King David. They ate and drank until Amnon's heart was merry with wine. Then Absalom's servants did as they were instructed. They killed Amnon!

Back at the palace King David was informed that Absalom had killed all his sons. "Not one of them is left," they told him. David arose from the throne in great grief. He tore his garments and lay down on the earth weeping in great agony. All his servants stood around him in dead silence wondering how they could comfort their beloved king during such a tragedy.

Now when Jonadab heard the news, he went straight to his Uncle David. "My Lord, thy servant has come to say. Do not suppose that they have slain all the young princes, thy sons, for surely only Amnon is dead. Me thinks this thing has been determined by Absalom ever since Amnon abused his beautiful sister, Tamar. Take not this news to heart," he pleaded.

Before Jonadab had left the palace, the watchman cried out, "A great cloud of dust is arising behind yonder hill as if a troop cometh." As the mules and their riders came up over the hill, they could see clearly that it was the king's sons.

Jonadab hurried back into the throne room and bowed on his face before King David. "As thy soul liveth it is as I said, The king's sons are alive. They are coming into the city even now."

As soon as Jonadab was through talking to his uncle, the people gave a great shout. The princes came rushing in to see their father. "A great tragedy! A great tragedy!" they cried. "Absalom has killed Amnon." Then King David, his sons and his servants all lifted up their voices and wept. Not only did they weep for Amnon but for Absalom whom they knew would be in exile for many years.

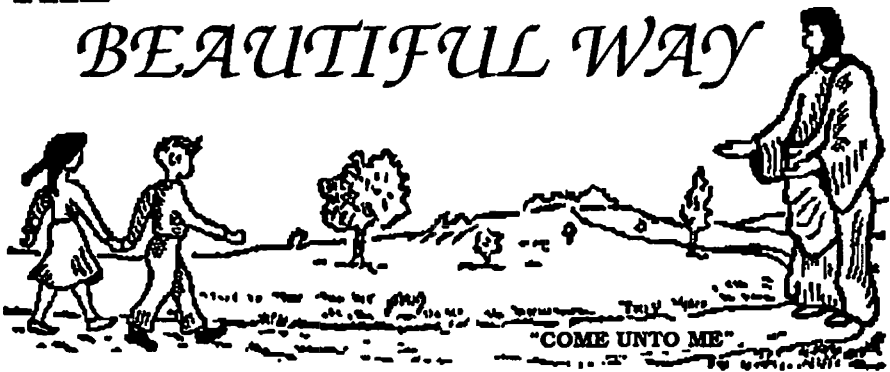
Absalom left the feast by the back roads into Geshur. There he found refuge with his friend, Talmi, the son of King Ammihud.

Amnon, who followed the advice of Jonadab, had paid for his actions with his life. —Selected

(Answers: 1. He hated her more than he had loved her. 2. Put her out and bolt the door. 3. Absalom. 4. Yes. 5. Two years. 6. To a sheepshearer's feast. 7. To have Amnon killed while he was drunk. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Dec. 10, 1995

## Nancy Wins

Jane and Nancy were both in the seventh grade. They had gone to school together for five years. Jane loved Nancy like her own sister, and Nancy thought she could not live without Jane's friendship.

"Call me when you get home," yelled Jane to Nancy, as she got on the school bus.

As soon as Nancy got home, she telephoned Jane, who had walked home, "Hello, is that you, Jane?"

"Yes. Oh, Nancy, I just had to tell you about the new boy in our class. He must be six feet tall, has blond hair and lovely blue eyes. All the girls are crazy about him. Nancy, I know you will want to meet him."

"Sure I do. Maybe tomorrow we can eat our lunch at his table."

"That's a good idea. I'll wait for you outside Mr. Smith's room."

The next day in the cafeteria Jane and Nancy looked for the new boy. "There he is at a table in the very back," said Jane. The girls worked their way past long tables lined with noisy teenagers busily eating and talking.

"Hi, Stan," Jane said, setting her tray on the table.

"Hi, Jane," he said looking up from his food. The girls sat across the table from Stan. "I'd like you to meet my best friend, Nancy."

"Hi, Nancy, glad to meet you."

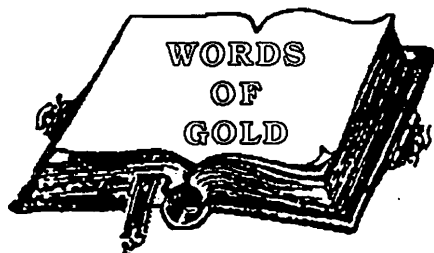
"Hi Stan," Nancy said.

After they finished eating the three walked outside and chatted about any and every thing. Stan was a bold Christian, so he took the opportunity to invite both girls to Youth Meeting at his church. That evening he walked part of the way home with Jane. She was thrilled and called Nancy to tell her about it.

Every Friday evening Stan's mother drove him by to pick up the girls and take them to Youth Meeting. Nancy loved to go, but her parents went to another church and did not allow her to go much with Stan and Jane. Jane went each time because she loved to be with Stan. Through the following months Jane spent more and more time with Stan. She sat by him at the Christmas concert and the eighth grade play.

"Hi, Nancy," said Stan one day as she sat at the lunch table alone. "May I sit at this table with you?"

"Sure," Nancy answered, happy to have someone sit with her.



## Saul Is Jealous

**I Samuel 18:5-12, 20-21, 28-29**

5 And David went out whithersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely:...and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

6 And ..when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine,...the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with... instruments of musick.

7 And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

8 And Saul was very wroth,...and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me...thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom?

9 And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.

10 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand.

11 And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

12 And Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him, and was departed from Saul.

20 And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

21 And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him,...Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this day be my son in law....

28 And Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David, and that Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

29 And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.

**I Samuel 19:1-2, 8-10**

1 And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David.

2 But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee:...

8 And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter;...

9 And the evil spirit from the Lord was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand.

10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

*The Message: The ugly fruit of jealousy will cause people to do terrible things.*

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**...Love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame.**

**Song of Solomon 8:6.**

# Let's

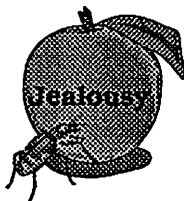


## Talk . . .

Very often jealousy and envy work together. When they do, they will separate the best of friends. David had come from his home to visit his brothers who were serving in Saul's army. Saul took David "that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house." (I Samuel 18:2.) There was a great relationship between Saul and David, but after another important battle where David was again a hero, the women praised David above Saul. Jealousy entered into the heart of Saul and the two had trouble until Saul finally committed suicide.

Jealousy could separate you from your best friend. It is cruel as the grave. That is to say, it will cause a person to do things as wicked as death itself. I knew two girls who were very good friends until one became jealous of the other. The one who was jealous, began telling lies on the other. Other friends believed the lies and so friends were divided. One by one the girls' relationship was destroyed by

Cut out the fruit of jealousy  
and paste it on the corrupt



tree. The tree will be cut down  
and cast into the lake of fire.

those lies. Each time she found a new friend, the jealous girl would run to the new friend with gossip. This went on for a long time, until the other girls began to see that the tales were lies. Then the friends started turning on the jealous girl, and she was soon without friends.

Jealousy never pays. It is a corrupt fruit that should be destroyed from every heart. King Saul allowed this spirit of jealousy to rule him for years. He caused himself and many, many others very much suffering. Poor David had to hide out in caves, forests and strange countries to protect himself from King Saul's huge army that had been sent out to kill him. One time, Saul had God's priest and all his relatives killed because he had helped David.

If you find a little seed of jealousy in your heart, ask Jesus to help you get victory over it NOW! If it grows, it will make you and other people very, very miserable. Who wants to be unhappy? I want to be happy and I'm sure you do, too. A jealous person is not a happy person.

—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. How did David act toward King Saul?
2. What made Saul angry toward David?
3. What did Saul do to David the following day?
4. Why did Saul want David to marry his daughter?
5. What did Saul tell his servants and Jonathan to do?
6. As David played music, what did Saul throw at him?
7. Did Saul have an evil spirit troubling him?
8. Do you think Saul was jealous of David?
9. Jealousy is as cruel as the \_\_\_\_\_.

"Where has Jane been keeping herself?" he asked. "I seldom see you two together. What's happened?"

"I wish I knew," answered Nancy staring at the table. "Jane will hardly speak to me. I've tried everything to keep our friendship, but she just snobs me. We've been friends for five years. It's about to kill me."

"Hmm, I think I may know what it is," Stan said.

"Really, can you tell me some way to make peace?"

"I may have to make the peace," he said thoughtfully.

"What do you have to do with this problem between Jane and me?"

"It—well, it's just that Jane may think I admire you, more than I do her."

Nancy could hardly believe it. So that was why Jane was unfriendly. She glanced around to see if Jane was in the cafeteria. Then she remembered that Jane was absent. Stan had said that he thought she was a real Christian.

"Why so silent?" he questioned. "Aren't you happy that I like you?"

Blushing shyly Nancy answered, "Sure, I'm happy, but I want Jane to like me, also. You were her friend first. Let's just leave it that way and Jane will not be angry with me."

After school, Nancy called Jane to see if she was sick. Jane would hardly talk to her. After hanging up the telephone, Nancy knelt in prayer. Tears trickled down her face as she asked God to give her strength to endure Jane's coldness and to help her to not feel so badly.

As weeks passed, the problem grew worse. Jane began telling lies about Nancy. Then other girls shunned or said unkind words to Nancy. She felt so alone. Stan saw it

all and felt sorry for Nancy. Sometimes he passed her comforting notes or flashed her a smile when he saw her in the school hallway.

Nancy's mother noticed there was trouble and asked about it. "She acts like she would like to kill me!" Nancy sobbed.

"She is jealous, and the Bible tells us that jealousy is as cruel as the grave. A person who is jealous will do many very cruel things, as Jane is doing to you. It has caused many murders. Jane has been taught to obey the Ten Commandments so she will not kill, but she hates you. In I John 3:15 it says, 'Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.'"

"I don't think Jane will ever change as long as Stan likes me," cried Nancy. "I've asked him to just be Jane's friend, but the way Jane is acting is making him like her less and less."

"You can't make Stan care for Jane, neither can you make Jane change. But you must never do as she is doing," Mother said. "Remember, he who hateth his brother or sister is a murderer. A person can kill with actions and words as well as with a gun or knife."

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. He acted wisely and obediently. 2. Because the women sang saying, "Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands." 3. Two different times he threw a javelin at David hoping to kill him. 4. Saul thought his daughter would be a snare to David. 5. To kill David. 6. A javelin. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. Grave.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Dec. 17, 1995

## Romona Visits The President

(A true story from Mexico, 1965)

It was May, and Romona was to graduate from elementary school. She had studied hard and was happy when the principal announced that her grades were the highest in her graduating class. "President and Señora Lopez are offering something very special to the students of Mexico," he said. "The student with the highest scores from each school will be given the chance to compete with students of other schools in their zone. These students will be given several tests. Whoever gets the most correct answers will represent our zone. There are thirteen zones in Baja California de Northe, so 13 students will get a free trip to visit the president and tour our capital, Mexico City! Romona, you will go tomorrow into Tijuana and take an examination along with the best student from each elementary school in our zone. There will be many, many students, so do your best and make our school the WINNER!"

"Yes, yes," shouted the children. "We will win!"

"I'll be so nervous I won't be able to think, much less make the top score," Romona said.

"I know you will do your best,"

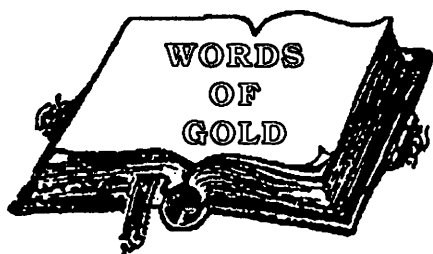
encouraged her teacher. "Now go home, relax and study."

Romona attended a small Christian school outside of Rosarito Beach. She attended the Church of God and practiced the truths of the Bible. She studied all evening and late into the night.

Early the next morning her father, who was not a Christian, said, "Before you leave, let us go to Bro. Jaime's house and have him pray for you." At seven o'clock in the morning they knocked at Bro. Jaime's door. Jaime, still in pajamas, peeked out the door. Stammering, Señor Esquires said, "Ro—Ro—Romona needs prayer this morning." Then he explained the whole thing and added, "Do you understand? She is from an uneducated family. I cannot read or write. Only God can help her score on this test."

They prayed for God to give her special wisdom. God did. She made the highest score of all the students from her zone.

Preparations were made for the long trip to Mexico City. Parents were asked to go as chaperones, so Señora Esquires went with Romona. They left early in the morning in chartered buses, and traveled all day, all night and the following day, arriving about 8:00 in the evening. Each state was assigned two dorm rooms, one for boys and their chaperones and one for girls and the women who accompanied them.



## Pride In Two Kings

**II Chronicles 10:3-7, 12-14,  
16-17, 19**

**3** ...So Jeroboam and all Israel came and spake to Rehoboam, saying,

**4** Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous servitude of thy father,...and we will serve thee.

**5** And he said unto them, Come again unto me after three days. And the people departed.

**6** And king Rehoboam took counsel with the old men that had stood before Solomon his father...saying, What counsel give ye me to return answer to this people?

**7** And they spake unto him, saying, If thou be kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be thy servants for ever.

**12** So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king bade,...

**13** And the king answered them roughly; and king Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men,

**14** And answered them after the advice of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

**16** And when all Israel saw that the king would not hearken unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? ...So all Israel went to their tents.

**17** But as for the children of Israel that dwelt in the cities of Judah,

Rehoboam reigned over them.

**19** And Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

**Daniel 4:30-34, 36-37**

**30** The king...said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built...by the might of my power...?

**31** While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar,...The kingdom is departed from thee.

**32** ...until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

**33** The same hour was the thing fulfilled:...he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

**34** And...I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

**36** ...and I was established in my kingdom....

**37** ...those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

**The Message: If any kind of pride is allowed to grow, it will get a person into serious trouble.**

*(Look for "Questions"  
on page 3.)*

### Verse to Memorize

**A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.**

**Proverbs 29:23.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Our memory verse says, "A man's pride will bring him low." Both King Rehoboam and King Nebuchadnezzar were brought low because of their pride. The wise King Solomon, who wrote the *Proverbs*, tells us that "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." Those who have pride also have a haughty spirit. If you know of anyone who has a haughty spirit, just keep watching them for awhile, and you will see them fall.

King Rehoboam had a haughty spirit. His father, King Solomon, had asked too much from the people. Each year King Solomon received 666 talents of gold—besides the gold brought by traders. (When my Bible was printed in 1976, 666 talents of gold was worth \$127,872,000. It would be much more today. Can you find the value of 666 talents of gold?) Solomon had a throne of ivory overlaid with gold, a footstool of gold, dishes of gold—none were silver. He had 4,000 stalls for horses and chariots and 12,000 horsemen. He was the richest king on earth.

The men of Israel had spent many days of each year working for the king. They were forced to give of their gold, their harvests, their milk, their wool,



Cut out the horrible fruit of pride and paste it on the corrupt tree. If you see this fruit in your life ask God to cut it out and cast it into the lake of fire.

their cattle and their horses. When they asked proud Rehoboam to make things easier for them, he said he would make life harder. The majority of his people rebelled and chose Jeroboam as their king and would not serve under Rehoboam.

King Nebuchadnezzar gave himself praise for the great success of the Babylonian kingdom. God took his reasoning and he became like a wild animal. Men drove him out of the palace and into the open fields, where he lived for seven years. At the end of seven years, his reasoning returned and he realized that his hair was long, tangled into mats until it looked like eagles' feathers, and his fingernails and toenails had grown long like birds' claws. He was then thankful and praised God. He said, "I praise and honour him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation." King Nebuchadnezzar's attitude was humble. The haughty spirit was gone.

Check your own spirit. Is it haughty? Sometimes we cannot detect our own spirit, for "every man's ways are right in his own eyes." Ask someone you can trust to tell you what kind of spirit they think you have. If they feel you are haughty, ask God to change your spirit, for a fall surely comes to every haughty spirit.

—Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. What did the people ask of King Rehoboam?
2. Whose advice did the king follow?
3. Did Rehoboam's answer show pride or humility?
4. What happened to Rehoboam's kingdom?
5. How did King Nebuchadnezzar say great Babylon had been built?
6. Why was Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom taken from him?
7. What lesson must Nebuchadnezzar learn?
8. In the end whom did Nebuchadnezzar praise?
9. What caused both Rehoboam and Nebuchadnezzar problems?

The following morning they toured the city, seeing many historical and famous things. In the evening they enjoyed dinner and dancing at the hotel. Romona ate dinner, excused herself and went to the room. While the others were dancing, she read her Bible and prayed together with her mother. Then they talked about all they had seen that day and the University, the Aztec Indians' Ruins and the Chapultepec Park and Zoo which they would visit the next day. On the third day they were to tour all the governmental buildings and have dinner with President Lopez Mateos and Señora Lopez. Romona was looking forward to seeing the president more than anything else.

Finally the big evening arrived. The girls were full of excitement. Some were ironing beautiful dresses, others were having the chaperones comb their hair. Some had gone out to the beauty shops to have their hair done.

"Romona, aren't you going to have something done to your hair?" asked one of the girls.

Romona had already decided that it would please Jesus for her to look like an humble Christian. "I guess not," she answered.

"Are you really going to see the president like that?" questioned another. "You can borrow my make-up, if you have none of your own."

"No, thank you. I never paint my face."

"But you should this time. After all the president is due special respect."

"I'd be ashamed to go looking like you," added another girl. "Your dress is much too long."

Students representing several states were at the dinner that night. Each group sat at the table decorated for the state from which they came. After the meal was eaten, the president announced that he would ask two students from each state to come forward

to receive trophies and honors for their state. "I will name the state, then call a boy and a girl from that state to come up on the platform," he said. First one state and then another was called. Everyone was tense at Romona's table. Some whispered among themselves about who he would call. Finally he announced, "Baja California—will Jose Gonzales Perries and Romona Esquires Villa please come forward?"

"Why Romona?" questioned the girls. "She looks so plain."

Jose followed Romona up on the platform. Each received honors for the great work each student from their state had accomplished. Then President Lopez Mateo said, "I want my picture taken with you, for you are a perfect example for others to follow." He put his arm over Romona's shoulder and motioned for the photographer to snap the picture.

She returned home rejoicing that God had given her strength to obey Him even in unusual circumstances.

About eighteen months later a package came in the mail. It was a gift for Romona's fifteenth birthday. She opened it. Inside was a large photograph of her with the president! An enclosed letter read: "Happy birthday to a wonderful girl. We will always remember you." President and Señora Lopez.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. To make life easier for them than his father had. 2. The young men who had grown up with him. 3. Pride. 4. It was divided and he only ruled those who lived in the cities of Judah. 5. By his own might and power. 6. Because of his pride. 7. That the most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomsoever He will. 8. He blessed, praised and honored the most High that liveth forever. 9. Pride.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Dec. 24, 1995

## A Surprise For Christmas

"Don't throw that Bible on the floor," shouted Jeff to his brother, Mark.

"Then keep it out of the way. That's where I keep my radio."

"You act like nothing is as important as that *radio*."

"It's not the radio I love, it's the music. Nothing is as important to me as good music."

"Not even the Bible?"

"Nope."

"Then music is your idol."

"An idol? An idol is something to which people pray. I never pray to my music."

"An idol is anything you love more than you love God. That's what an idol is," Jeff said, his voice growing louder with every word.

Mandy heard the commotion and came from her room. "Can't people have idols and not pray to them?" Jeff questioned of Mandy.

"Yes, they can," she said.

"Impossible," Mark sneered. "You two have the most ridiculous ideas!"

"No, Mark," Mandy said calmly. "People have idols in their hearts. That's what we learned in Juniors Meeting last Friday night."

"Stop that preaching," stormed Mark. "That's all I hear anymore. Anyway, I believe the Bible, but only the

Bible. It says, 'Thou shalt not bow down to any graven images.' So there! I know a lot more than you two."

"You don't know much about idols," Mandy remarked, going back to her painting.

"Seeing is believing!" Mark called after her.

Mandy took up the challenge. She got out her Bible and ran downstairs to borrow Daddy's Bible Concordance. Looking up the word "idol" she ran her finger down the line of verses, reading them as fast as she could. It took a long time, but she found it in Ezekiel 14:3. Calling Jeff into the room, they read the verse together.

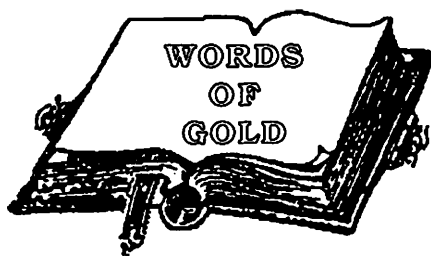
Jeff, determined to win the argument carried Mandy's Bible outside to where Mark was now stacking wood into the storage bin beside the fireplace. "I've found that verse," he said, shivering in the cold.

"I don't believe it," Mark answered.

Jeff shoved the Bible into Mark's hands and ran back into the warm house. Mark followed him in, took off his coat and read verses three through eight. "Well, well," he said, "so you *little ones* do know a few things."

"We're not little," Jeff retorted as he was walking away.

"Who will know if I have an idol in my heart?" questioned Mark as Jeff was running up the stairs.



## Deceitful Delilah

**Judges 16:4-19**

4 He...[Samson] loved a woman...whose name was Delilah.

5 And the lords of the Philistines...said unto her,...see wherein his great strength lieth,...and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.

6 And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me,...wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound....

7 And Samson said....If they bind me with seven green withs that were never dried, then shall I be...as another man.

8 Then...the Philistines brought up to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

9 Now there were men...abiding with her in the chamber. And she said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire....

10 And Delilah said,...thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me,...wherewith thou mightest be bound.

11 And he said...If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be...as another man.

12 Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him...and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson....And he brake them from off his arms like a thread.

13 And Delilah said...thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me

wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said...If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web.

14 And she fastened it with the pin, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.

15 And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when...thou hast mocked me these three times,...

16 And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death;

17 That he...said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head;...if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall...be like any other man.

18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent...for the...Philistines, saying, Come...for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came...and brought money in their hand.

19 And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man,...to shave...his head;...and his strength went from him.

**The Message: Live and speak the truth, and do not deceive with your speech.**

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

### Verse to Memorize

**Be not a witness against thy neighbour without cause; and deceive not with thy lips.**

**Proverbs 24:28.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Delilah deceived Samson. She pretended to love him when she did not. She set a trap for him and he fell into the trap. Delilah's life was producing the fruit of deceit. The fruit of deceit is a very corrupt fruit. It belongs on the evil tree.

There are many forms of deceit. *Cheating* is one. If a person copies an answer while taking a test, he is being deceitful. Sometimes people change numbers when keeping records of money so they can steal money without it being noticed. This is called *defrauding*. It is a fruit of deceit. Have you ever heard someone call another person a *swindler*? A *swindler* is a person who carefully cheats another out of money or property. Hunters use a *decoy* to deceive the live animal they wish to shoot. It is not a sin for a hunter to use a decoy, but it is a sin for one person to use some kind of *decoy* to trick or cheat another person. It is a form of deceit.

Deceit is sometimes called, "blinding another's eyes." We blind another

*Cut out the fruit of deceit and paste it on the corrupt tree. Remember the life which bears this evil fruit will be cut down and cast into the lake of fire.*



person by pretending something is true when it is not true. Often people who are envious will say untrue things about the person they envy. In this way they are blinding others' minds about that person. That is deceitful.

When we speak lies about someone, that lie does not stop with the person to whom it was told. He or she tells someone else and that person tells someone else. God wants us to use our tongue to speak good, true things about others.

While angry, a boy told some lies on his friend. Later he was sorry and wanted to make it right. His grandmother took him upstairs and emptied a small feather pillow out the window. "Go gather up these feathers," she said. "Then we will straighten up the lies you have told on your friend."

Astonished, the boy looked at his grandmother and said, "But, Granny, I can't gather up all those feathers! The wind has carried them everywhere!"

"Neither can you gather up those ugly lies. They have been scattered on the winds of gossip. You may apologize to your friend and those you told, but they have told others. The damage you have done to your friend and your friendship may never be totally repaired."

Lies told on another person are like seeds of deceit. They scatter and many people are affected. People who practice deceit will be punished by God unless they repent. —Charlotte Huskey

### Questions:

1. Whom did Samson love?
2. In what country did Delilah live?
3. What did Delilah want Samson to tell her?
4. Why did Delilah want to know Samson's secret?
5. Did Delilah really love Samson?
6. Was Delilah deceitful to Samson?
7. Was Samson deceitful to Delilah?
8. Why did Samson tell his secret?
9. Is it a sin for people to be deceitful to get what they want?

**"You can't deceive God."**

**"Maybe not God," Mark thought, "but I've deceived a lot of people."** He chuckled to himself about the times he had cheated at school and the many times he had gotten out of trouble by deceiving his parents.

As he was going back outside to finish his work, he noticed a box sitting on top of the electric hot water heater in the garage. Looking all around to be sure no one was watching, he took the box down and peeked inside. It was a new CD player! Just what he wanted for Christmas! Quickly he set the box back in place and hurried outside.

Mark couldn't sleep for thinking about the CD player. He got out of bed and counted the days until Christmas. Nine days left. How could he wait? He couldn't remember his homework assignment. While the teacher was talking, he was thinking of the CD player. At church he thought about the wonderful music he would soon be hearing. He joined a music club and got three CDs for \$5.00.

The Saturday before Christmas, Mother took Mandy and Jeff shopping and Mark was home alone. He took the box from the hot water heater and carried it to his room. He put in his CD and stretched out to listen to the music.

Before Mark realized it two hours had passed, and Jeff came bursting in the door, followed by Mandy and Mother.

**"What's that music?"** Mother asked.

**"Just Mark's dumb radio,"** Jeff answered. **"He keeps it on all the time."**

Quickly Mark unplugged the CD player and crammed it back into its box. His heart raced! How could he get it back before Mom missed it? Mom took the laundry soap into the garage. He hoped she didn't notice. All evening

he waited for Mother to leave the kitchen, but she didn't. Finally about eight o'clock, he heard the shower water running and knew she was taking a shower. Hurriedly he replaced the CD player.

The following day he noticed a wrapped box with his name on it just the size of the CD player. On Christmas morning he chose to open that box first. In place of the CD player a stick of wood was in the box. His heart raged, he clinched his fists and fought back tears. Then he rushed into the bathroom so no one could see him crying. A hundred thoughts raced through his mind. Why? Why? Why? Bitterness surfaced. Revenge showed its ugly face. Suddenly he remembered the verse about the idol. **"Yes, music is my idol,"** Mark admitted.

Daddy was calling at the door. **"Come, Mark, you'll get your CD player. We just wanted to teach you a lesson."**

Mark came out and Daddy hugged him. **"We're sorry to disappoint you for a few days, but we've been catching you deceiving us too many times. You need to learn to be up front and honest. Enjoy your other presents now. Okay?"**

**"But I want the CD player,"** Mark answered, his head hanging down.

**"You'll get it next week, after you've had time to think about some changes needed in your life."**

Mark promised himself that he would never deceive his parents again, and that God would come first in his life from that day on.

**—Charlotte Huskey**

(Answers: 1. Delilah. 2. In the land of the Philistines. 3. With what he could be bound. 4. Because money had been offered to her if she would find out the secret, and she wanted the money. 5. No. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. Because Delilah kept urging him until he was vexed to death. 9. Yes.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 46, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 14 Dec. 31, 1995

## Refuse The First Drink

(A True Story)

John stood in the St. Louis, Missouri, cemetery. All around him were graves. Some were small, some large and others in-between. Inscriptions on the tombstones told that people of all ages had died. Some tombstones were large and beautiful, while others were just a stone or metal plate marking the place where someone was buried. A very simple one at the north edge of the cemetery marked where his mother had been buried a year ago.

"Oh, Mother, how I miss you," John said, as tears ran down his cheeks. "Dad stays drunk most of the time and often there is nothing to eat at home. If you were here at least there would be beans or oatmeal to eat, and we could talk together. I get so lonesome, so all alone. Dad didn't even remember that I turned seven last week. But I know you can't come back. I wouldn't want you to, anyway. I know you must be happy in heaven. Don't worry about me. I'll find some way to be happy and live with a drunken daddy."

John did find that he could forget about his sorrows if he ran around the neighborhood playing with the other children. His clothes were ragged and usually dirty, so he fit better with the rougher gang of boys. They were glad

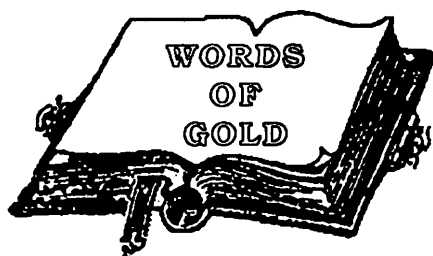
to have another friend, as not all children accepted them either. Soon John was doing whatever these boys did. Sometimes they stole food from the supermarket and shared it. Sometimes they stole from the neighbors' gardens and from their fruit trees.

One day Jay brought a can of beer. "My dad drinks this and he gets happy," he said. "Let's all try some."

John didn't want to, but through some persuading from the boys he submitted. The following week when Jay brought some more beer, it was easy for John to drink. Through the next ten years John drank more and more. He began enjoying drinking just like his father.

At a high school dance he got so drunk and rowdy that the police had to be called. He was booked for "disorderly conduct." This was his first bad record, but many more followed. Two years later, when he was only 19 years old, he was put into prison. Because he acted very well when not drinking, he was soon released. Before long, however, he got to drinking and was picked up again and put back in. Soon he was out. Then he was back in again. After this happened several times, he was put in prison for a very long time.

John thought staying in prison wouldn't have been so bad if he could have had some beer or whiskey to



## The Price of Drunkenness

**Proverbs 20:1**

1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

**1 Samuel 25:5-8, 11, 14-16, 18, 23-24, 28, 32-33, 35-38**

5 ...David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:

6 And thus shall ye say to him that liveth in prosperity, Peace be both to thee, and...all that thou hast.

7 And...now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel.

8 Ask thy young men, and they will shew thee. Wherefore...give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy servants, and to thy son David [for we are very hungry].

11 Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men, whom I know not...?

14 But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them.

15 But the men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing,...

16 They were a wall unto us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.

18 Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses.

23-24 And when Abigail saw David,...she...bowed herself to the ground,...and said,...

28 I pray thee, forgive the trespass...

32 And David said to Abigail, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me:

33 And blessed be thy advice, and blessed be thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand.

35 So David received of her hand that which she had brought him, and said unto her, Go up in peace to thine house;...

36 And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold,...he was very drunken: wherefore she told him nothing,...

37 But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone.

38 And it came to pass about ten days after, that the Lord smote Nabal, that he died.

**The Message: Drinking alcoholic beverages and doing drugs will get a person into a lot of trouble.**

**Questions:**

1. What will wine do to a person?
2. Is a person who drinks wine wise?
3. Who did David send his men to see?
4. How did Nabal receive David's men?
5. Did David have proof that he was a good man?
6. Who brought peace between David and Nabal?
7. Why didn't Abigail tell Nabal what she had done?
8. What happened to Nabal when Abigail did tell him?
9. How long did Nabal live after his big, drunken party?

### Verse to Memorize

**For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.**

**Proverbs 23:21.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

Drunkenness is a terrible sin because it often causes the drunk person to do others wrong. The Bible says in Matthew 12:35-36, "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things; and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Words are often not considered as bad as hitting, stealing, etc. But Jesus said that every person is responsible for all their actions, even these small things such as idle words.

If you know someone who drinks, notice how differently he or she acts while drunk. Some will talk and talk and talk. Some will talk about funny things, others will talk about great things they have done, others will talk very ugly and abusive. Very often, the next day they will not remember what they have said, but God will have it all on record. Unless those proud lies, those funny jokes, that ungodly, abusive language is repented of, the person who spoke it will pay for it after death. The tongue is just one thing the devil uses to cause drunk people to sin.

Paste the fruit of drunkenness on the evil tree, for it is surely a very wicked fruit.



Many crimes are done while a person is drunk or under the influence of a drug. Proverbs 23:29-35 describes drunkenness like this, "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions?...who hath wounds without cause?...They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red,...when it moveth itself aright [is foamy]. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again." Alcohol and drugs enslave a person. Although the user is "stricken" and "bitten," yet he will "seek it again" because it is habit-forming. This is very sad.

Alcohol or drugs in the blood will cause a person to think differently. They will do things that they would not do while not under that influence. Alcohol and drugs have caused many men to kill their wives, and wives to kill their husbands. Children have killed their mothers or fathers, or sometimes both. Children, young people and adults have, for the first time, robbed cars and articles from homes, stores and factories. Some of these end up in prison for months or even years. Isn't that a high price to pay for a night of so-called "fun?" I know of a "good" man who just drank once in awhile for what he called a little fun. Well, one night of "fun" ended when he killed another man. The long years in prison weren't much fun. Just a little alcohol will cause a person to be careless. Many have taken their first step to an impure life because of this carelessness.

The apostle Paul warned, "Be not drunk with wine,...but be filled with the spirit." Being filled with God's spirit will bring the happiness that people claim they find in drinking and doing drugs, and there will be no bad after effects. I have seen people very, very sick after drinking. Some have what they call a "hangover"—that's a day or two of misery after a night of drinking.

—Charlotte Huskey

drink. The lack of it made him sick. Sometimes he thought he would die if he couldn't get it. He couldn't forget his troubles without it.

Besides his childhood troubles to think about, now he was heartbroken because he suddenly realized that he was treating his wife and little son just the way his father had treated his mother and him. Despair flooded him. "What can I do? Where can I find help?" he asked himself. Then he remembered his mother telling him if ever he needed help, just call on God. But how could a wicked sinner as he call on God? Would God hear him? Was there anyone in this prison who knew how to get in touch with God? Yes, there was a chaplain.

The first opportunity he had to speak to the chaplain, he said, "My life is a mess. I am very miserable because I have such a craving for alcohol. Often I feel terribly sick. Sometimes I wish I could die, sometimes I think I'm going crazy. I never knew, when I started drinking, that alcohol would make me so miserable. I know I can't have alcohol in here, so what can I do to get rid of this horrid craving?"

"There is only one way to get rid of it," answered the chaplain.

"How?" asked John excitedly. "I'm ready to try anything!"

"You must ask God to forgive you for all your sins. God is always ready to forgive repenting sinners. He will take away your desire for liquor if you give your heart and life to Him."

John couldn't believe that getting rid of his craving was that simple. "What he said can't be true," he told himself. Night after night he lay on his hard cot fighting a burning desire for alcohol. Finally it got so bad that he was willing to do anything to get relief. "I will give my life to Jesus," he said, "for I must have help." Just then he heard hymn-singing over a radio down

the hall. As he lay listening to the singing, his mind wandered back through the years. He remembered his dear mother. A wave of remorse swept over him as he thought about his lovely wife and little son. His heart broke. He cried, "God forgive me for the terrible way I've lived. Forgive me for re-crucifying You who died for my redemption."

Almost instantly his tortured heart and mind felt peaceful. He felt as if a great weight had been lifted. For the first time since he was a little boy a calm happiness filled his heart. God took all his sins away and threw them into the sea of forgetfulness. How great he felt! It seemed almost like he could fly right up through the ceiling and into space and have a visit with God. Never again did he crave alcohol.

Several weeks later he remembered his promises to do anything for God. "What can I do for God in prison?" he questioned. First he tried talking to other prisoners, but most of them weren't interested. After that he began praying for God to get him out of prison, for he had many more years of time to serve. Then God showed him to write in his cell. He wrote his testimony, he wrote articles and poems. These were published in well-known magazines throughout the country.

He hopes his writing will help other boys to never begin drinking. He knows that if they do, many will become alcoholics just as he did. "The only safe way is to never take the first drink," John tells the boys.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Mock him. 2. No. 3. Nabal. 4. He railed on them. 5. Yes. 6. Nabal's wife Abigail. 7. Because he was drunk. 8. He became as stone. 9. Ten days.)