

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 4, 2004

## Amazing Grace

"I don't want to go away to school," John wailed. "The teacher's cross and the boys pick on me."

"Very well then, you shall go with me and work on the ship," said John's father, Mr. Newton. John's mother was dead and John had been staying in a boarding school. So at only eleven years of age he quit studying and went to sea. His father, the ship's captain, taught John much about sailing and handling a ship. However, he taught him very little self-discipline.

Later John joined England's Royal Navy but would not submit to its discipline. He was flogged and eventually discharged.

While still in his teens he received permission to sail on the *H.M.S. Harwick* bound for the African coast. He was thrilled to be going far away where he could do whatever he wanted. John's only regret was leaving his girlfriend, Mary. However, this could give him time to prove to her Christian parents that he would be the right husband for their daughter. They would never know what he was doing so far away!

On this trip John learned about the slave trade. Thinking it would be an easy way to get rich, he hired out to a slave dealer. Right away the slave

dealer realized that John would be of no use to him unless he learned to obey orders. He promptly stripped off John's nice clothes and gave him only the scanty clothing the slaves wore. Then he put him to work as one of the slaves. The whip came down hard on John's back whenever he leaned on his hoe or stole a few minutes under the shade of a lemon tree. His attempts to escape brought more lashes from the master's whip.

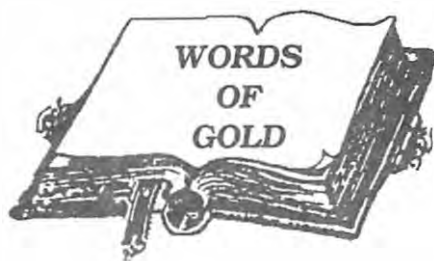
Years of hard labor and strict discipline hardened John until he became cruel and insensitive to the pain of others. In 1747, when he was twenty-one, he escaped from the slave trader by hiding aboard an outbound ship called the *Greyhound*.

The captain of the *Greyhound* was a Christian. At first John avoided the captain like he was poison. He preferred to laugh, curse and drink whiskey with the old rough sailors.

At times when sailing was good and there wasn't much to do, John would go into the captain's quarters to visit. One day the captain was reading *The Imitation of Christ*. "Think that book will help ye?" John asked. "Can a ship captain imitate Christ?"

"Sure," the captain answered. "God can change the meanest man and make him like Christ."

"'Tis foolishness," John retorted. "I don't believe there is a God."



## Freedom!

### John 8:31-45

**31** Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

**32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

**33** They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

**34** Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

**35** And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.

**36** If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

**37** I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

**38** I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.

**39** They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.

**40** But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

**41** Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

**42** Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me:

for I proceeded forth and came from God: neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

**43** Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

**44** Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

**45** And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.

**The Message: Jesus has the power and authority to make us truly free!**

### Questions:

1. Who was speaking to the believing Jews?
2. How could they truly be His disciples?
3. What would make them free?
4. The Jews said they were never in \_\_\_\_\_ to any man.
5. Whoever commits sin is the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.
6. If they were to be truly free, Who must make them free?
7. Jesus said if God was their Father they would do what?
8. Who did Jesus say was their father?
9. How did he know who their father was?

### Verse to Memorize

**If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.**

**John 8:36.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Over two hundred years ago today, in 1776, a group of men met to sign the Declaration of Independence. This stated that the colonies would no longer submit to the oppressive rule of the king of England—they were declaring their freedom!

God created man free from sin and its awful effects. But when Adam and Eve chose to obey satan rather than obey God, they became slaves to sin.

It grieved God deeply when Adam sinned. He knew what evil this unleashed in the world. He had made man in His own image and He loved him. He could not abandon mankind even though they had rejected Him—He made a plan that would set them free again.

This plan involved Jesus, God's own Son. It required Jesus to come to earth as a helpless baby and live as a man on earth. He would have to suffer abuse from evil men and experience the depths of pain and sorrow that sin brought into the world. And then He must endure the torturous death by crucifixion. It would cost nothing less than His own blood to gain man's freedom from sin and satan!

And Jesus did just that! Through His own great love for us He came and lived in the same circumstances of other men. Yet He was very different. He had always obeyed God. Sin and satan had no power over Him.

Jesus came as a newborn baby and lived through all the stages of childhood. One day He was exactly the age you children are right now!

The Bible tells us about His birth and how He stayed in the temple instead of returning home with His parents when he was twelve-years-old. Nothing much is said about the rest of His childhood but He is referred to as the "holy child Jesus."

To be holy means that everything in your life is perfectly beautiful, good and lovable without anything to spoil it. This is just what Jesus was when He was your age. He was good and brave, considerate and unselfish, noble and truthful, obedient and loving, kind and forgiving. In fact He was everything you can think of that you ever admired or loved in anyone else! And the very reason He came to live on earth was to show you how to live holy, no matter what your age. Then He paid the ultimate price—He gave His life to pay the price to free us from satan's bondage.

Our story tells how John Newton obtained his freedom. He bragged that he didn't believe there was a God. He thought he was showing his independence by not submitting to orders when he was in the Navy. He was treated as a common slave because he would not do as he was told. But he was far from free—he was a slave to himself and satan.

During the violent storm John remembered the prayers of his godly mother. His sins flashed before him. He realized he was in awful bondage so he cried to the Lord for mercy. Jesus made him wondrously free. Satan no longer had rule in his life. Instead he devoted his life to serve the Lord and be a blessing to many.

We can point back to Jesus' death and then His resurrection on Easter morning—that is our Declaration of Independence! Sin's power was broken and we can be free from satan's bondage if we choose. Have you declared your independence? Have you let Jesus make you "free indeed?"

—Nelda Sorrell

"God will make you a believer," the captain answered.

John laughed. "Nothing will make me a believer. I'm too tough to be conquered. The Royal Navy couldn't even stand me. They gave me a public flogging and demoted me to common sailor, but I didn't change. That thar slave dealer thought he would break me too, but he didn't."

John strolled away shaking his head and laughing about the book.

Not many nights later, John was awakened by the violent tossing of the *Greyhound*. He flung his feet off the bed and discovered his cabin was filling with water. "What's happening?" he shouted.

"Her side's crushed in," he heard from a voice in the darkness. "Get to the pumps! Quick! She'll go down in minutes if we can't keep her pumped out."

John hurried to the pumps. Sweat poured from his brow. His back ached and his muscles groaned with the constant movement. After an exhausting nine hours, John gasped, "Think we'll make it?"

"Our buoyant cargo is all that's keeping us afloat," a sailor working a pump next to him answered.

"But not for long," another said. Then John heard a sailor in the distance mutter in great distress, "We're all gonners."

Instantly John remembered seeing his devoted Christian mother praying. In the same moment his terrible sins flashed before him. He saw himself as the most vile of the vilest and so he had been. His broken spirit cried, "This won't do. Lord, have mercy on us!"

Morning broke and the *Greyhound* was still on top. Every sailor, the captain and workers were all amazed that she had stayed afloat and, though crippled, sailed into the nearest harbor.

The storm made a believer out of John. He borrowed the captain's book and read it. Later he committed his life to the Lord.

When he landed again in England, he went to see Mary. "I've prayed for you all these years," she told him.

Later they were married and John Newton became a preacher. He never tired of telling about God's amazing grace that saved such a bad boy as he. At the same time he was telling of God's saving power, he was also writing about it. Besides writing *Amazing Grace* he wrote 279 other songs as well. He never did forget his prayer on the sinking ship though. Each year on that day he fasted and prayed to celebrate his salvation from a turbulent sea and a life of misery in sin.

When it was suggested he retire at age eighty-two due to poor health and a failing memory, he responded, "My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things: that I was a great sinner, and that Christ is a great Savior!"

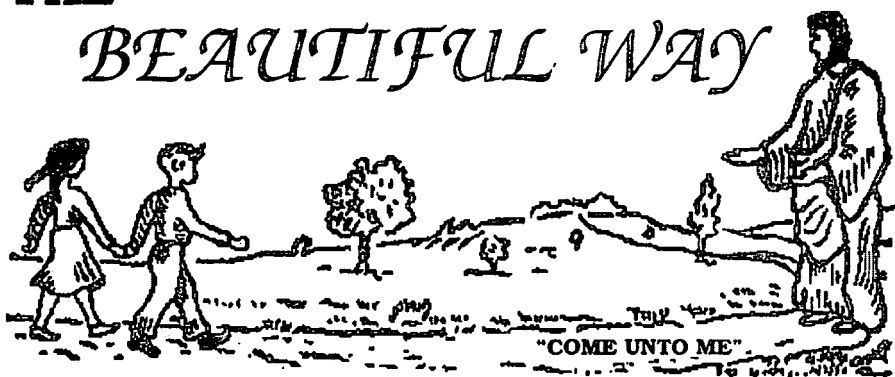
John Newton's tombstone tells his life's story in a nut shell. It says: "John Newton clerk, once an infidel and Libertine, a servant of slavers in Africa, was, by the rich mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, preserved, restored, pardoned and appointed to preach the faith he had so long labored to destroy." —Charlotte Huskey

—Information from: *Paul Harvey's The Rest of the Story*, Bantam Books, New York, 1980; Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, 1995; Vinita Hampton Wright, *Hymn Writers' Hall of Fame; Christian History, Issue 31*.

(Answers: 1. Jesus. 2. By continuing in (obeying) His word. 3. The truth. 4. Bondage. 5. Servant. 6. The Son (Jesus). 7. They would love Him. 8. The devil. 9. Because they were like him (murderers and liars).)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 July 11, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

Today as I sat in church listening to that familiar hymn, "What a Friend," it brought back memories of my childhood. I thought about how I first became acquainted with this Friend and what a true Friend He has been to me, just as the words in the song say.

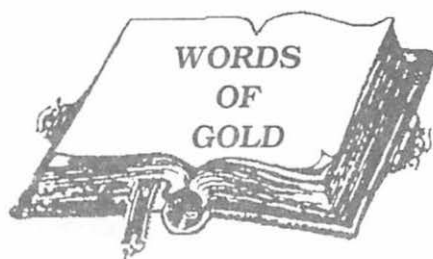
When I was a young child, I lived in a very small community in the country of Venezuela. Our tiny one-room house sat on a sloping hill. When one stepped out the back door he was face to face with a high mountain. The small front yard had no grass. It was my job to sweep it each morning before going to school. Most days when my brother Ernesto and I returned home from a short morning at the village school, mother would have a bowl of hot beans or corn for our lunch. Some days, however, she had nothing for us but a piece of flat hominy bread. On these days Mama always looked sad and I felt sorry for her. Papa, too, seemed very upset the times when we had very little food. He worked hard every day, but the wages he earned were just not enough for a family of four: Papa Ernesto Cruz, Mama Aurora Cruz, my brother, Ernie, and myself, Sonja.

Ernie and I did not mind being poor. We loved the parrots and other

bright colored birds that flew through the trees which covered the mountains. Ernie loved to fish in the river. I loved to hear the whistling wind and watch the clear flowing water. In the pools at the edge of the rivers we bathed and had water fights with our friends. Here is where mother washed the clothing we had taken off after bathing, so it would be clean to put on the next bath day.

Each time that father talked about moving to the "big city" so he could make more money, I shuddered. How could I leave my friends, my fun, the mountain, the birds and the pools? Where would we take a bath in the city? (I had never seen a bathroom.) No matter how much I shuddered, Papa kept talking of needing to make more money and of course moving to the big city. Mother never complained about being poor although she seldom had soap for washing clothes and she knew that Papa had no education to qualify him for a good paying job. Farm work was all he had ever done.

One evening as mother was cooking a pan full of rice for supper, Papa rushed in shouting, "Our troubles are over! OUR TROUBLES ARE OVER!" He shoved the paper he was waving above his head into Mama's hand saying, "Read it!" Then picking



## A Young Conqueror

**I Samuel 17:4, 10-11, 32-34, 37, 40, 45-47, 49, 51**

**4** And there went out a champion, of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. (10' 3 1/2")

**10** And the Philistine said...give me a man, that we may fight together.

**11** When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were...greatly afraid.

**32** And David said to Saul...thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

**33** And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

**34** And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

**37** ...The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

**40** And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag...

**45** Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

**46** This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand:...that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

**47** And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hands.

**49** And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine...and he fell upon his face to the earth.

**51** Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword...and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

**The Message: God has no respect to age. A young person who trusts in God can be victorious!**

### Questions:

1. What was the name of the Philistine's champion?
2. How many men did Goliath say should fight him?
3. How did the men of Israel feel about the giant's challenge?
4. What did David tell Saul?
5. Did Saul think David had a chance to win against Goliath?
6. What two animals had David conquered?
7. What weapons did David choose?
8. Goliath trusted his sword and shield to win. In what did David trust?
9. By what power can each of us be conquerors?

### Verse to Memorize

**I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**

**Philippians 4:13.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Most of you know the story of David and Goliath and how he killed the giant with a stone and a sling. On this day the people danced in the streets and sang about the great deliverance God had given His people. David became a hero that day and would go down in history as one of the greatest kings and conquerors in Israel. Also, he was a man who knew the way of God's heart.

When we read the story, it seems that we can feel the tenseness and excitement of the moment as Goliath threatened the Israelite army and defied their God. We can feel the indignation David felt when he said, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of Israel?" We can also feel the exhilaration and relief of victory as the giant fell heavily to the ground.

This is one of the greatest examples of courage and faith in God found anywhere in history. How did David come to have such faith in God? Which events in his life led him to have it and therefore attain this place in history?

David was the youngest of eight children. His father's name was Jesse. As the smaller son, he was chosen to do some of the lesser jobs, such as taking care of the sheep. He would be out in the pastures many hours watching over the sheep. He had much time to think of the greatness and goodness of God; he praised God for His mercies. He wrote some of his thoughts in poetry and songs. No doubt he thought also about what

he would be when he got older. Perhaps he imagined that someday he would be a soldier like his brothers or other famous men of Israel such as Caleb or Gideon.

One day, while keeping the sheep, a lion snatched one of the lambs and ran. David chased and caught the lion. He rescued the lamb and killed the lion. He had a similar experience with a bear. God blessed him to kill it also.

Then came the day when David was called to leave the sheep and carry some food to his brothers who were fighting with King Saul's army. That is how he came to the battle and heard the TERRIFYING voice of Goliath call out for one soldier to fight against him. That is when he saw the frightened king and his soldiers.

Although David was only a youth (teenager), the Spirit of God let him know that if he would be willing and courageous, God would fight the battle for him. David accepted the challenge and God guided the stone to the right spot to bring the giant tumbling down.

Will you accept the challenge to be courageous for God? Will you be like David? Are there some giants or mountains causing you to feel you will never reach that place?

You can! We "can do all things through Christ," and by His power we can be more than conquerors. Be obedient to God and be a conqueror in the little things of life. Do not try to fight your own battles. Go to God in prayer and let Him fight for you. Read your Bible daily. This will give you strength and courage. Then when the big tests come, you will be ready and conquer in the name of the Lord.

—Altina Cox

***Be Courageous for God!***

me up, he swung me around in a circle.

"Yeah! Papa," I yelled, but I wondered what troubles we had.

Mama read the paper. "Wanted, five hard working couples to do harvesting for a major company in the United States. Couples must be between the ages of 25-35, with a limit of three children. Meals, lodging and transportation to the U.S. will be paid by Nucrop. Apply at the big tent tonight."

"It's a dream come true, Aurora!" he said, as he let me go and hugged mother. "We'll go to the United States and make heaps of money. Never have a trouble again!"

Mama smiled and shed some tears of joy, but then asked Papa more questions than he could answer. "What will we do there? Are you sure we will be chosen? Where will we live? What type of agriculture will it be?" Then, with a serious look in her eyes, added, "How can we leave our families, friends and neighbors?"

"My dear, I cannot answer any of your questions, but after the meeting tonight I shall."

As we ate rice and beans, Papa said to Ernie and me, "Soon, my little dears, you shall have plenty of fruit and vegetables to eat, and meat: chicken, pork and beef. I shall buy you shoes and toys. Someday you will attend high school and college."

That night we crowded into the tent with about twenty other families to apply for the jobs. There were lots of papers for Mama to fill out as Papa could not understand many of the words. We learned that if we were one of the families chosen, we were destined for San Pedro, California. We would know within two weeks if we were chosen.

Papa anxiously awaited word. All week long he talked about California and all the things he would buy. "Thirty dollars a day!" he would say over and over. "Here on my very best days. I can only make \$7.00."

One evening we heard a knock. Papa hurried to the door. It was Mr. Victor Villarreal. "I have come to offer one of our five openings to you and your family," he said as he sat down in one of our two chairs. Papa sat down in the other. We all stood silent so we wouldn't miss a word.

"We will accept the offer," Papa said before Mr. Villarreal could say anymore.

"The workers are needed as soon as possible," he continued. If you cannot leave within three days the position will be given to someone else.

"We'll be ready," Papa assured him without hesitation.

One week after Mr. Villarreal had promised Papa a job, we were in California and living in what I thought to be a huge house. It had four rooms, besides the bathroom!

Mrs. Watson, the owner and manager since her husband had died, lived in a mansion. There were hundreds of acres of land in agriculture, fruit, vegetables and cotton. The new boss told Papa that there would be plenty of work year round. Papa said to me, "You will soon have a beautiful doll, pretty shoes and anything else you want."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Goliath. 2. One. 3. Afraid. 4. "Thy servant will go and fight." 5. No. 6. A lion and a bear. 7. Five smooth stones and a sling. 8. In the name of the Lord of hosts. 9. Through Christ.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 July 18, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

*Sonja Cruz, her parents and brother, Ernie moved from Venezuela to the United States where her father found work at much higher wages than he had ever earned.*

Papa made almost \$700 the first month. Mrs. Watson deducted \$300 per family to cover meals and living expenses. The other \$400 was for our family. We had never had so much money. Papa was elated. He bought new clothes for the family. Mama looked so pretty in her new dresses. We each got a new pair of shoes. Papa also bought me my first doll and Ernesto a truck.

Mrs. Watson provided fruits, vegetables, bread and other staple foods. Papa provided the meat just as he had promised while we still lived in Venezuela.

I was ten years old and when I would think of the river and water fights with my friends I felt lonesome for them. Mama, too, had regretted leaving her family and friends but now that Papa's dream was being fulfilled she seemed no longer homesick.

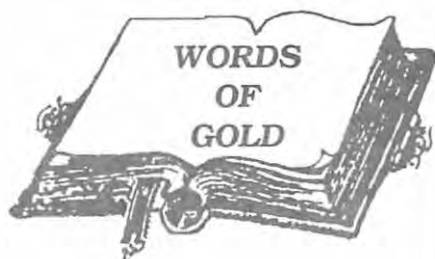
Within the next three months Papa had furnished our little home with nice used furniture. My folks were happier than I had ever seen them.

Every Sunday a church bus would come to the ranch offering invitations to the families to attend church. In Venezuela we were not accustomed to going to church except for an occasional mass. One Sunday our family decided to go. This was the first time I ever heard about a Friend called Jesus.

The people were very friendly to us. The preacher told about the love Jesus had for us and said that He would be a Friend to those in trouble. My folks thought the service was nice but had no troubles, nor did they need other friends. They were so happy already. Money had provided their happiness. Although they felt no need of Jesus, they continued to send my brother and me to church each Sunday.

Mrs. Watson offered to set up a savings plan for each of the families. Mama thought this would be nice, but Papa said, "I will never part with my money!" He began counting it every evening and putting it in bed with him. Papa loved his money just like I loved my new doll I had named Julia.

After several months our happiness began to fade. Papa wasn't coming home at night until very late. 'Where is Papa?' I asked Mama one evening.



## A Forgiving Brother

**Genesis 37:3-8, 11, 18, 26-28**

**3** Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.

**4** And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him....

**5** And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

**6** And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:

**7** For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

**8** And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us?...

**9** And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren....

**11** And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

**18** And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.

**26** And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?

**27** Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites....

**28** Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen: and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for

twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

**Genesis 42:3, 8**

**3** And Joseph's ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt.

**8** And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him.

**Genesis 45:1, 4, 5, 15**

**1** Then Joseph...made himself known unto his brethren.

**4** And Joseph said unto his brethren....

**5** Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

**15** Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

**The Message: Although others may wrong us, we must forgive them just as Christ forgave us.**

### Questions:

1. What son did Israel love most?
2. What did he make for Joseph?
3. How did Joseph's brothers feel?
4. Why did Joseph's dreams anger his brothers?
5. Instead of killing Joseph, what did they do?
6. Did Joseph's brothers recognize him when they came to Egypt?
7. For what reason had God allowed Joseph to go to Egypt?
8. How did Joseph show he had forgiven his brothers?

### Verse to Memorize

**And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.**

**Ephesians 4:32.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Joseph was the favorite son of his father, Jacob. Joseph's mother, Rachel, whom Jacob loved dearly, had died. This, and the fact that Joseph was born when Jacob was old, caused him to have greater love for Joseph than for his other sons. It was not wisdom on Jacob's part to show such favoritism, but neither did this justify the behavior of the older brethren.

History says that Joseph was a teenager at the time he was sold into Egypt. He was about the age that many children now graduate from high school. The Lord had a plan for Joseph, just as He has a plan for each of His children. Joseph had many hard experiences, but God was with him and cared for him.

Joseph was put in prison because of a false accusation. While in prison, the Lord blessed all that he did. When he interpreted a dream for Pharaoh's chief butler, he told the grateful man to tell Pharaoh that he was innocent and should not be in prison. But the butler forgot all about Joseph. Two years passed before he remembered! When Pharaoh had a dream that no one could interpret the butler thought of Joseph who had accurately interpreted his own dream. Pharaoh soon saw that the Spirit of God was with Joseph, and he appointed Joseph ruler over Egypt.

Due to a famine in the land, Joseph's brothers came to buy corn in Egypt. Joseph knew his brothers, but they did not know him. He could have considered this a good time to get revenge for how they had earlier treated him. He could have had them thrown in a pit or sold as slaves. Instead, he

fell on their necks and kissed them. He loved his brothers because he had God's love in his heart.

There are many times we may suffer for the wrong doings of others. If we suffer as a Christian, we will get a reward. We must not retaliate or try to fight, even with someone who does us wrong. We must forgive them. This means we are to pardon them and to no longer feel resentment about what happened. Learn to forgive quickly before they even ask you to forgive them. What if they do the same thing again? Forgive them. Jesus said we should forgive them 490 times a day if we need to.

A good way to forgive is to not keep talking about it, nor to even keep thinking about the thing that happened. Every time you tell another friend what happened, it usually makes you feel worse. Another way to learn to forgive is to do what Joseph did; he said that God allowed it to happen. Always remember that God also allows whatever happens to you. Do not look at the person or the deed that hurt you but look to Jesus. This is what Stephen did when he was being stoned. He did not look at the big rocks, for surely they would have frightened him. Nor did he look at the people, but he looked into the heavens and saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God. Because of this, he was able to ask God to forgive them. A third thing to remember about forgiveness is that if you do not forgive others for the things that they have done to you, God will not forgive you. So let's ask God for some instant forgiveness so we can always be clear before Him.

—Altina Cox

(Answers: 1. Joseph. 2. A coat of many colors. 3. They hated him. 4. In the dreams they bowed to Joseph. 5. They put him in a pit and sold him to the Ishmeelites. 6. No. 7. To preserve the life of his family. 8. He kissed them, wept and talked to them.)

"He's trying to make more money," she answered.

"Why, Mama?" I asked.

"Money makes your Papa very happy," she replied solemnly.

When we did see Papa he didn't look any happier to me. Neither was Papa buying much meat any more and I seldom saw him counting his money. One evening he left after supper as usual. He was gone awhile but returned much earlier. I asked, "Papa did you get more money tonight?"

Papa looked angry and snapped,

"Sonja, you must not ask Papa questions now."

"I'm sorry, Papa," I said.

Papa looked very tired and sad. I wondered why he was not twice as happy with two jobs and two incomes. It seemed his night job caused more sadness. One evening as Papa headed for the door, I ran after him and throwing my arms around him I begged, "Please don't go to work tonight. Stay home with us, please, Papa." He seemed touched by my entreaty and kissed me warmly on the forehead, then turned and went out into the night.

As soon as he left, I noticed he had forgotten his little box that he always took to his night job. I opened it up and found a package of little cards inside. There were a lot of them, with pictures of kings and queens. Some had shapes and numbers, some had diamonds and hearts. "Look Ernie," I said, "this is funny. Papa's night job must be a lot like school." He and I began matching them together. Mama was cleaning the kitchen and had no idea that Ernie and I were having fun with Papa's cards. "I like this clown," Ernie said, showing one to me.

Just then I heard steps coming up the front porch. I knew they were Papa's. We hurried to get the little cards picked up and put away. "Sonja," Papa shouted, grabbing the cards. "You children must never

bother Papa's things. Never! Never!" Mama came from the kitchen in time to see Papa shaking me and shouting, "Now you must promise to never touch them again."

"Yes, Papa," I replied quickly. Papa picked up the cards and stormed out. Mama hid her face in her apron. "I didn't know that Papa's cards were so important," I confessed. "He must love them even more than his money."

The next change I noticed in Papa was his smell and how strangely he acted during these times. "Papa, did you eat some spoiled grapes?" I inquired one evening. Papa laughed so hard and doubled over, falling on the floor. I laughed too, and fell on the floor. Ernie joined us and we rolled over and over on the floor. Mama didn't laugh.

"Children, get up," she demanded.

"Ernesto, you should be ashamed!" she told Papa.

Papa came in one day after working in the fields. He was hiding a brown paper sack in his jacket. I was thrilled because it had been a long time since Papa had brought me a surprise. I acted as if I didn't see the package expecting that Papa would soon give it to me. All evening I thought that any minute Papa would bring out the surprise. Finally he went to bed. I thought maybe he had forgotten and would give it to me the next morning.

The next morning came, but no surprise.

I went to school the next day wondering what the surprise was. After school my curiosity got the best of me. I decided to just peek at my surprise. I went in Papa's room and looked around for the sack. I found it in the drawer where Mama kept his work clothes.

(To be continued next week.)

(Look for answers on page 3.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 25, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

*Sonja Cruz, her parents and brother, Ernie, moved from Venezuela to the United States where her father found a job with good pay. At first it seemed that money could buy everything they needed to make them happy. But her father could only think of making more money. This led to great trouble and sorrow.*

My heart sank when I opened the brown paper sack to see only a black bottle that had a rotten smell just like Papa had sometimes. "What are you doing?" inquired Mama. I hadn't heard her walk in.

"Oh Mama, I didn't mean to be naughty. I just wanted to see. I thought Papa had brought me a surprise like he used to do."

She saw the disappointment in my eyes and took me in her arms. "I hoped Papa would change before you found out," she said, then added, "My dear Sonja, pray for your Papa. He is not the same Papa that brought us here. He turned to gambling thinking he could make more money. But he didn't make more; instead he has lost all the money he had saved. Now he is spending what he makes for drink. But I must not trouble my daughter with these problems. It's just that my family is so far away, and they cannot come to help me. Nor do I have an understanding friend to talk with me."

"Mama, you do have a Friend. Have you forgotten what the church people said? Jesus will be your Friend, Mama. I'm sure He will be a Friend to anyone. Let's ask Him to be our Friend," I suggested.

That night I prayed the best I knew how for Mama. I'm sure it wasn't a great prayer but God must have heard it. The next Sunday Mama caught the Sunday school bus and rode to Sunday school with Ernie and me.

The following Sunday she did the same. After going a few Sundays she asked the pastor and his wife to pray with her. They instructed Mama how to be saved. She yielded and became a new person and found a new Friend that day. She also got a new family; the church people became our new cousins, uncles and aunts.

Papa became worse than ever. However, instead of Mama spending her evenings crying, she began to read her Bible and pray. Soon she was reading Bible stories to Ernie and me. After we learned some songs, we sang together in the evenings, and when I would come home from school I would find Mama singing as she did her work around our little house, which had seemed so big to me when we first moved in. Ernie noticed the change in Mama. "Does your Friend make you happier than the new dresses Papa brought you?" he asked one evening.



## Choosing God's Way

### Exodus 2:1-10

1 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein: and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river: and her maidens walked along by the river's side: and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

### Hebrews 11:23-24

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child: and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter:

**The Message: Every person is responsible for the path they choose. Those who from childhood have been taught the right way are responsible to live in this right way.**

### Questions:

1. What kind of child was Moses?
2. What did his mother do with him for three months?
3. What did his mother put Moses in?
4. Who watched the baby among the flags by the river's brink?
5. What did Pharaoh's daughter do when she saw the ark?
6. When the babe wept, how did Pharaoh's daughter feel?
7. Who nursed and cared for baby Moses?
8. Why did Pharaoh's daughter name him Moses?
9. What did Moses refuse to be called?

### Verse to Memorize

**... Therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.**

**Deuteronomy 30:19.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

God has a way of preserving those whom He desires to use. Pharaoh had ordered all the newborn Hebrew boys to be thrown into the river. Yet, by Divine Providence, his own daughter adopted the Hebrew boy Moses, who was to be the deliverer of God's people. Although the princess of Egypt claimed Moses as her child, he was cared for by his mother in his early years. She was a woman of God and taught Moses in the way of righteousness.

Moses was taken to live in the palace with Pharaoh's daughter when he was a little older. He, no doubt, was educated and trained by some of the greatest tutors in Egypt. However, this did not cause him to forget his training to love God and God's people.

When he became an adult, he had a choice to make. He, being the son of Pharaoh's daughter, could have had many riches, land, servants and all that king's children inherit. He may have had a chance to be a future Pharaoh in Egypt. However, he refused all this to be one of the people of God, although he knew he would have to suffer with them. He left Egypt and all its beautiful treasures which he could see. He left these things because of his love for his people and the eternal treasures of heaven.

Moses made the right choice, and God used him in a mighty way to deliver His people from Egypt.

Many of you are being raised in Christian homes by godly parents, yet there are choices you must make. Those of you who are attending pub-

lic schools can accept the challenge to be like Moses. Egypt is a type of sin, and Moses' formal training came from Egypt, yet he still chose God's way. Most of the textbooks and literature you read were written by ungodly people and may be subtly training you that many ungodly things are right. Many of the students, teachers and activities are contrary to the Word of God. However, just as the Lord was with Moses and kept him, He can keep you if you will hold fast to the sound instruction that is being taught to you by your parents, ministers and Sunday school teachers.

Those of you who are attending Christian schools have a wonderful opportunity to be enriched with godliness throughout your educational experience. You also have many choices to make, for the devil is working hard to deceive you where you are.

And someday you will graduate and be on your own. What choices will you make then?

It is very sad that some of the saint's children, who were so richly blessed to be taught to fear the Lord, have chosen the road of sin. They often get into trouble and cause much sorrow to themselves and their families.

Moses esteemed the reproaches of Christ greater riches than all the treasures in Egypt. In other words, young people, the trials and persecutions of being a Christian are better than all the fun and glamour that sin has to offer. Most of the time it is also less suffering, for sin brings much suffering in later years. Someday the world and all its attractions will perish, but the true riches of Christ will last and last.

Every day you are faced with little choices. As you grow older you will be making many important choices, but the greatest of all choices you will make in life is whether you will serve the Lord.

—Altina Cox

"Yes, Ernie, my Friend means more to me than 10,000 dresses," Mama answered.

The new change in Mama seemed only to anger Papa. He became violent with his temper. He would throw dishes or anything in sight. One evening, as I sat quietly playing with my doll, Julia, Papa came in the front door in a rage, cursing like I had never heard him. He started towards me. "Mama!" I screamed running over to her. Papa picked up Julia and flung her across the room, knocking over Mama's white vase. Then, still cursing, he went to the closet and taking his gun headed out the door. I was so frightened!

"You must not be angry with your Papa," Mama said as she tried to calm me. "We must go to our Friend, children," she said, taking Ernie and me into the bedroom to pray. We knelt and prayed for Papa not to hurt himself nor anyone else with the gun. Soon Jesus brought a peace and quietness over us. I will never forget that night as long as I live.

Mrs. Watson, the owner of the ranch where Papa worked, lived in a big house on the other side of the property. Her housekeeper was retiring and she asked Mama to come and work for her. This was an answer to prayer. During the day, while my brother and I attended school, she would work for Mrs. Watson.

Mrs. Watson did not care much for children. At first we had to stay outside until Mama had finished her work and could walk home with us. After a while, however, she allowed us to sit in the family room and wait. Somehow, Ernie and I won our way into her heart. After that she often had a snack for us when we arrived after school. Sometimes it was something special that she knew Mama could never buy for us. "I don't think I'd mind having a couple of children like you," she told us one day. Our Friend Jesus had given us another good friend.

Mrs. Watson paid Mama in cash only once, but Papa took it for drink. Mama told her about it so after that she bought clothes, food or other things we needed with the money she would have paid Mama.

"I'm very sorry about what has come of Ernesto," she told Mama one day. "He used to be one of the best workers we had, but now.... And to think of the beautiful wife and children he is mistreating. What a shame! What a rascal he is. Have you ever considered leaving him. Aurora?" she asked.

"No, Ma'am, I still love Ernesto. He is the father of my children. It just seems his love for money turned him toward evil. Mrs. Watson, it is hard sometimes not to get bitter, but I have found a Friend who gives me grace to bear it all," Mama explained.

Mrs. Watson was a very wealthy and educated woman. She felt religion was for the poor and unlearned. "Well Aurora, I'm glad that you have found something to keep you going. But should you ever consider divorcing Ernesto, I'll be glad to help you get an attorney. I'm sure you and the children could have a better life if you would."

I loved to hear Mama sing about heaven. She sang "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be," day after day. She began to say very often something like this, "Children, someday you may be separated from Mama, but it won't be for long." Each time she would talk to us about heaven, her face seemed to almost glow and she smiled the most beautiful smile.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A goodly child. 2. She hid him. 3. An ark. 4. His sister. 5. She sent her maid to fetch it. 6. She had compassion on him. 7. His mother. 8. Because she had drawn him out of the water. 9. The son of Pharaoh's daughter.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Aug. 1, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

Sonja Cruz, her parents and brother, Ernie, moved from Venezuela to the United States where Papa found a job with good pay. At first it seemed that money could buy everything they needed to make them happy. But Papa became so intent on making more money that he began spending his evenings gambling. When he lost all his savings he tried to forget his troubles by drinking. Without friends or family to turn to Mama found Jesus as her Friend. She would often tell Sonja and Ernie that someday she would have to leave them.

But I would always say, "Oh, Mama, you will always be with us. We couldn't get along without you."

"No, my sweet ones, Mama must leave someday, but remember my Friend. He will never leave you nor forsake you." Mama spent the greater portion of the summer telling us about faith in God, His promises and what a wonderful Father we had in heaven. I had hoped the day would never come, but alas, one winter day while we were at school Papa insisted that Mama ride into town with him. They borrowed one of the vehicles from the farm. Mama shopped while in town, but Papa drank. On the return trip, Papa hit a bridge. He never returned

home. Mama was in very critical condition, but she was conscious. She asked to be brought home.

It was early in the afternoon, about an hour before school would be dismissed, when Mrs. Watson picked Ernie and me up. I knew something was wrong. She had never come to our school before. "Is it Mama?" I asked her as I climbed into the car.

"Yes, dear, she is very sick."

"Is Papa with her?"

"No, dear," was all she answered. It looked like Mrs. Watson had been weeping.

° When we arrived at the little cottage, some of the church people were there. The pastor's wife met Ernie and me at the car. She led us in to see Mother. "She's been asking about you," the pastor told us.

I tried to be polite and not push others aside to get to Mama, but I guess I did for I just had to see her, and yet I was afraid. She might be battered by Papa or maybe even shot by his big gun. When I finally got through the crowd and to her bedside, I said in a soft quivering voice, "Mama, it's me."

In a very weak voice she asked, "And Ernie?"

"I'm here, Mama," he said, inching to her side.

"How is she?" questioned Mrs. Watson.



## Answering The Call Of God

**I Samuel 3:1-13, 15-20**

1 ...Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli...

2 ...when Eli was laid down in his place....

3 And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD,...and Samuel was laid down to sleep:

4 That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.

5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I: for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not: lie down again. And he went and lay down.

6 And the LORD called yet again. Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I: for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son: lie down again.

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I: for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.

9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD: for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times. Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak: for thy servant heareth.

11 And the LORD said to Samuel...

12 ...I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house:...

13 ...because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

15 And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

16 Then Eli called Samuel, and said....

17 ...What is the thing that the LORD hath said unto thee?...

18 And Samuel...hid nothing from him....

19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him....

20 And all Israel...knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD.

**The Message: God is calling today for the young as well as the old to do service for Him.**

### Questions:

1. What child ministered before the Lord?
2. Who called Samuel in the night?
3. Who did Samuel think had called him?
4. What were the first words Samuel spoke to the Lord?
5. Who had not restrained his sons from being evil?
6. How did Samuel feel about giving Eli God's message?
7. As Samuel grew, who was with him?
8. What did all Israel know about Samuel?

### Verse to Memorize

**Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**

**Revelations 3:20.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

As we study today's lesson, I want you to imagine what it was like for Samuel to serve in the temple. He was very young when he came to live with Eli, the high priest. Eli was blind; he could hardly tell light from darkness. Samuel was to open the temple each morning and see that oil was always in the lamps in the temple, for the lamps were to always be burning. Aside from these daily jobs, perhaps he did only little things like bringing things to Eli or running simple errands. Whatever he was asked to do, Samuel did it so gladly and with so much dedication that the Bible says, "he ministered before the Lord." To minister means to serve or to be a servant.

As Samuel grew, he was in favor with God and man. The Lord was very pleased with the love and respect Samuel had for Him. No doubt Samuel enjoyed learning about God and the mighty deeds He had done for Israel. He probably learned about wicked men like Cain and Esau and decided that he never wanted to be like them. He wanted to be like Moses or Joshua. He also wanted to give all his life to work for the Lord.

When Samuel was about twelve years old, God began speaking to him. This very first prophecy which God gave to him was a sad one. While Samuel was lying down he heard someone call his name. He thought it was Eli and ran to him again and again, until Eli instructed him that it was the Lord speaking and told him how to answer. The Lord told Samuel that Eli would be removed from priest-

hood because he had not restrained his sons from being vile.

The next morning Samuel was afraid to tell Eli the message, but Eli insisted so he told it all. The prophecy came to pass, just as God said.

From that time on God began to tell Samuel many things and Samuel would tell it to God's people. Samuel became one of the greatest prophets who ever lived. Everything he said came to pass (happened). Samuel was respected greatly because of this. Do you think Samuel became great because he was a special child from the beginning? Although he was special, his greatness came from loving God with all his heart and being an eager, ready servant doing God's work wherever he could. Samuel's life of service started with carrying glasses of water, opening and closing doors and windows of the tabernacle, and keeping the lamps burning. As he was faithful in the simple things, God gave him more complex or greater things to do. You can also be great in the sight of God if you humble your heart as the child Samuel did and serve God in the little ways.

Can you think of ways that you can serve God right now? Whatever you do for God, do it with all your might. Who knows, maybe someday God will use you as he did Samuel. Remember: "Little becomes much when you place it in the Master's hand."

If you're not saved and serving the Lord, He is calling for you today. Listen carefully to that voice inside you telling you that it is time to answer God's call. If you are serving the Lord, seek to know His voice better so that when He calls, you can heed the call. Be like Samuel and say, "Here am I."

—Altina Cox

(Answers: 1. Samuel. 2. The Lord. 3. Eli. 4. "Speak for thy servant heareth". 5. Eli. 6. Afraid. 7. The Lord. 8. That he was established to be a prophet of God.)

A lady in white whom I suspected to be a nurse answered, "She's very low, but apparently not in much pain. Her only anxiety is her children. She is constantly asking, 'Who will take care of the children?'"

At that moment I understood why mother had talked so often to Ernie and me about being separated from her. It had been a heavy burden to Mama all summer. She had no family in America, and she didn't want us to be orphans or street children. She must have known that something was going to happen to her. Maybe because she felt heaven so near she was sure she would soon be going there. I looked again at her face. It was white and lifeless but peaceful in this trying hour. I could almost hear her words again. "My sweet one, Mama must leave someday but remember my Friend. He will never leave you or forsake you."

Mrs. Watson walked to the bedside. "Aurora, can you hear me?" she asked, touching Mama's hand. "I'll take care of your children," she told Mama. I saw tears trickling down Mama's cheek as she gave a small sigh of relief. She then turned to me and in low whispers said, "Sonja, be brave and strong—take care—of Ernie—I'll miss you, but Mama must—must—go and see her Friend—I love you—remember Mama's Friend—you too, Ernie."

"Oh, Mama, Mama, I love you." I cried. Mama closed her eyes. I kissed her, and then lay on the bed beside her sobbing. The pastor's wife took me away and held me tight. Ernie clung to me and she held him too. Then we cried until we could cry no more.

Mrs. Watson packed our things and took Ernie and me to her big house. The pastor and his wife spent the evening with us. They read us a verse which says, "When my father

and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

"This is talking about your mother's Friend," the pastor told me.

Mrs. Watson and the church gave my parents a graveside service. They asked me if I had a request about the funeral. "Just sing about Mama's Friend," I said.

And that is when I first remember hearing the song, "What a Friend." I don't remember feelings sad when they sang that day because I looked up into the sky and it seemed I could see Mama talking with her Friend.

The first night at Mrs. Watson's was so hard. I kept waking up and thinking it was time to go home. (I sometimes took a nap while waiting for Mother to finish working.) Then I would remember I would never again go home with Mama.

Mrs. Watson was a good lady and began right away to make great plans for us. She bought us clothes, shoes and toys that I didn't know existed. She took us to a beautiful furniture store and we each picked out a bedroom suite for ourselves. Mine was a white French provincial. It is still in my room at Mrs. Watson's house. She brought us home new books very often. On our birthdays we each received a new bicycle.

Although Mrs. Watson was kind and did all she knew to help us forget our grief and the past, it was hard for Ernie and me to stay away from those little cottages near the back of her property. I liked to walk down the lane and pretend that Mama was walking beside me. I relived the conversations we had about her Friend. She had told me so many things He had done for her. Sometimes I felt so happy and as if I was not alone. At these times I wondered if Mama's Friend was walking with me.

(To be continued next week.)

(Look for answers on page 3.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Aug. 8, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

*When Sonja and her family moved to the United States her Papa was thrilled to find a job making good wages. At first he was happy to buy his family the things they needed but then he began gambling to make more money. When this failed he turned to drinking. Jesus became Mama's Friend in her great troubles. She seemed to know she would soon go to heaven to be with her Friend and told the children so. After her death Mrs. Watson, Papa's employer, took Sonja and Ernie to live with her.*

Ernie liked to climb the tree that shaded the little house where we used to live with Papa and Mama. He had a pet squirrel that had her nest there so he would go back and feed her.

Soon another family moved into the house and the children frightened the squirrel away. Ernie built a trap and one night the squirrel came back and walked into the trap. Ernie carried it to Mrs. Watson's and turned the squirrel loose in her yard. She didn't mind a bit. Anything that made Ernie happy was fine with her—that is, except going down to the cottages. "You must remember that you are not farm laborers anymore," she told us. She also said she didn't think we

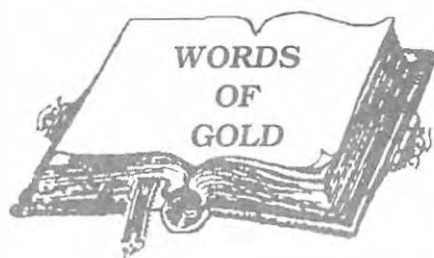
needed to catch the Sunday school bus anymore. But Ernie and I begged her to please let us continue going. She did, although it was against her will and also her pride. "If you must go to church, you could at least go to the big one uptown," she would say.

The following year after Papa and Mama died, Mrs. Watson sent Ernie and me to two of the finest boarding schools in America. Ernie and I thought we could not bear being separated from one another, but Mrs. Watson felt it would be best for Ernie to go to a school for only boys and me to one for only girls. I was sent to Northern California to The Academy of Cultural Arts, and Ernie was sent to a pre-engineering school in central Utah.

I was schooled in foreign languages and cultural arts, besides regular classes. Ernie also learned foreign languages and took many advanced classes in math and science.

Mrs. Watson corresponded with both of us weekly by mail or phone. Ernie and I had our own private room and telephone so we called each other weekly and often even bi-weekly.

When we were at her home, we always went to the little church where we'd gone with Mama. The church people were our very best earthly friends although we did not get to be



## God Provides For The Disabled

**II Samuel 9:1, 3, 5-8, 13**

**1** And David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?

**3** ...And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

**5** When king David sent, and fetched him...

**6** Now when Mephibosheth...was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence...

**7** And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father: and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

**8** And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

**13** So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

**Exodus 4:10-16**

**10** And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent...but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

**11** And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?

**12** Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

**13** And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

**14** And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well...

**15** And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

**16** And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

**The Message: God has not forgotten those who are disabled and He desires that we show special kindness to them.**

### Questions:

1. Who was Mephibosheth?
2. What disability did he have?
3. What did David want to show to someone of Saul's family?
4. What words did Mephibosheth use to describe himself?
5. How did David show kindness to him?
6. What disability did Moses have?
7. Who is the Creator of the deaf, dumb and blind?
8. How did God provide for Moses' disability?
9. Does God want us to love and help the disabled?

### Verse to Memorize

**We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.**

**Romans 15:1.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

God is love, so He has a divine care and concern about every one of His creation. When He finished creating the world and man, He beheld His creation and saw that it was very good. However, after the fall of Adam, much sorrow, disease, affliction and abnormalities resulted.

Some people are born with various disabilities or handicaps. Others acquire them through accidents or disease. However the impairments may have occurred, God has not forgotten them, and He desires that His love be manifested to those with impairments through us.

Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, was born healthy, but at the early age of five he was accidentally dropped and crippled in both of his feet. This was a tragedy for a little boy at the active age of five. No longer could he run, jump and chase bugs or frogs like the other boys. His handicap may also have limited him in his occupation. His disability seemed to cause him to have an inferior feeling for he referred to himself as a "dead dog."

One poet says that God can turn what may seem to harm us into everlasting joy. This is what He did for Mephibosheth. The family of Saul were warriors. Saul, who was Mephibosheth's grandfather, and Jonathan, his father, were killed in battle when he was five years old. He might also have become a soldier and been killed had he been able. Instead of that, he inherited Saul's land and servants to till his ground. He was

also given the privilege to eat at David's table continually.

A Chinese legend tells of a man who had an only son who fell off a horse and became a cripple. The father was distraught, but someone told him to wait and see what would become of the incident. Years later, all the other young men went away to war. None returned. This man's crippled son was saved. He was thankful after all.

Moses had a speech impediment, yet God used him greatly. God told Moses that He had created him and all others who have disabilities. God also provided Aaron to be Moses' spokesman.

We may not know why God allows some to have impairments, whether physical or mental, but we know He is a God of all wisdom, power and might and He is worthy to be trusted. He is the potter and we are the clay. "Shall the thing formed say to Him that formed it, why hast thou made me thus?" It is better to trust God than to question why He allows some things.

We know that God has power to heal all manner of sickness and give ease, if He chooses to. So instead of wondering why some are disabled, let us do all we can to make life a little easier and happier for them. Our nation has provided schools and centers for the handicapped. There are also designated parking spaces and grocery lines to assist them. Respect this, and if you see someone in a wheelchair, with crutches or a cane, open the door for them. Read a story to someone who is blind, or share a table game with a friend who is unable to walk. Always be courteous by not staring at those whose physical bodies or mental skills have not developed as yours. Remember they are also the children of God and He wants you to show extra kindness to them.

—Altina Cox

with them much as Mrs. Watson wanted us in company with a higher society. Many of the church people did, however, write to us and call whenever they could afford the long distance calls. I often wished that one of them had spoken for us before Mrs. Watson, nevertheless, I was grateful. There were times when we felt very lonely. We soon learned that going in prayer to Jesus took the sharp edge off the loneliness. This is when we understood why Mama loved her Friend and called Him her best Friend. Mother had said she would rather have Him as her Friend than 10,000 new dresses.

The second year I was at the boarding school I had a young teacher named Anna. She was also the counselor. One evening I was especially lonely and almost feeling bitter because Papa had abused us so and then by his drunk driving had killed Mama, whom I loved so dearly. I went crying to Anna and told her all about it.

When I had finally calmed down a bit she said, "Every heart has its own sorrow. You have this sorrow; others have both parents but neither parent cares to see them. Other students have severe drug problems as you probably know.

"Sonja, would you like to hear my story?"

I said, "Oh, yes!"

She began, "My mother died when I was only four years old. After that father hired a cruel, heartless maid to care for me. When I would show Father the marks on my body from being beaten, the maid would say I had fallen while riding my bicycle, or from a tree (for I loved to climb). Father would punish me because he thought I was lying, so I learned to not tell him about how the maid was treating me.

"When I was ten years old Father died suddenly. All of his money was to be mine but his sister was to take care of it and me until I was eighteen. My aunt did take care of his money but did not want to be bothered with me. I was sent to boarding schools, the least expensive ones she could find.

"Finally she pretended that I was a poor orphan and had me put in an orphanage. The home was run by faith and at times we had very little to eat; sometimes only a dish of oatmeal twice a day. I wore patched clothes and sometimes had no shoes, but the people loved me and taught me to trust in Jesus. I loved living there more than any place I had lived since Mother died.

"I stayed there until I was old enough to get a job. My first job was in a shirt factory. There I worked for two years. I had learned at the orphanage how to do without so I saved all my money until I had enough to get into a teacher's training center. I studied at that school four years, working at part-time jobs to earn the extra money I needed.

"Sonja, I live in the dormitories like one of the students because I do not earn enough to rent an apartment. I took this counseling job in the evenings. It helps me pay room and board. I'm saving my money to someday have an orphanage of my own. I do so want to help abused children."

"Did you ever get any of your father's money?" I asked.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Jonathan's son. 2. He was lame in both feet. 3. Kindness. 4. "Thy servant, a dead dog." 5. He gave Saul's land to him and the privilege to eat at king David's table every day. 6. A slow tongue. 7. God. 8. God let Aaron speak for Moses. 9. Yes.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Aug. 15, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

*Sonja and her family moved to the United States so her Papa could find work. He became so obsessed with making money he soon turned to gambling. His losses drove him to drinking. He was drunk when he ran into a bridge killing himself and her Mama. Mrs. Watson took Sonja and Ernie as her own children and sent them to the very best schools. Overwhelmed by grief, Sonja told Anna her sorrow. In turn Anna told how she was left an orphan. Her aunt managed to cheat her out of her inheritance.*

"Did you ever get any of your father's money?" I asked.

"I never expect to," Anna answered. "My aunt is shrewd and had the papers changed and everything arranged so that I would need thousands or maybe a million dollars to prove that I am the rightful heir. There are some things in one's life that one must forget.

"Always remember, Sonja, that 'every heart has its own sorrow'. You have yours, I have mine and each student has theirs that we know nothing about."

Miss Anna probably never knew how much her story helped me. I

thought I had been grateful to Mrs. Watson, but I was much more grateful after my visit with Anna.

Ernie and I both graduated from high school with honors. This made Mrs. Watson very happy and proud of us. When Ernie graduated as valedictorian (person with the highest grades in his class), I was finishing my third year of college. I was only majoring in Education, but Mrs. Watson insisted I go to the best university.

During this time there was much discussion concerning Ernie and his choice of a major, as to whether it would be aerospace engineering, medicine or political science.

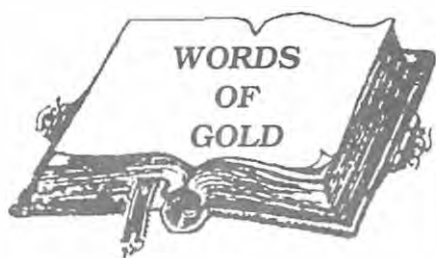
One day Ernie got up enough courage to tell Mrs. Watson that he wanted to be a minister. She was shocked. "A what?" she exclaimed.

"A minister," Ernie repeated, rather low.

"Ernesto, you must come to your senses," she stormed. "Perhaps you need a rest, or maybe some more time to consider your foolish notion. What does your sister think about this ridiculous idea of yours?" she asked.

"Well, Ma'am, I believe she supports me, but maybe she should speak for herself," he suggested.

Mrs. Watson came the very next day to see me. She did not bother to speak her usual formal greetings. "I have come to discuss this wild dream



## **"Little Angels"**

**II Samuel 12:13-16, 18-20, 22-23**

**13** And David said unto Nathan. I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David. The LORD also hath put away thy sin: thou shalt not die.

**14** Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

**15** ...And the LORD struck the child...and it was very sick.

**16** David therefore besought God for the child: and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth.

**18** And...the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead:...

**19** But when David saw that his servants whispered....David said unto his servants. Is the child dead? And they said. He is dead.

**20** Then David arose from the earth...and came into the house of the LORD, and worshipped: then...he did eat.

**22** And he said. While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said. Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

**23** But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

**I Thessalonians 4:13-17**

**13** ...Sorrow not, even as others

which have no hope.

**14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

**15** ...We which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

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

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

**The Message: When a small child dies he goes to heaven. We will be saddened but can someday reunite in heaven.**

### **Questions:**

1. What did Nathan prophesy to David?
2. While the child was sick, what did David do?
3. What did David do before he ate?
4. Since the child could not come back, what did David say he would do?
5. Who will God bring with Him when He comes again?
6. On the last day, who will rise first?
7. What is precious in the Lord's sight?
8. What are the dead equal to?

### **Verse to Memorize**

**...Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.**

**Revelation 14:13.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Death is something that young people your age generally do not have to think about. Occasionally however, God, in His divine providence, does choose to take a child or baby. Such was the case of David's young son.

David had committed a sin. Because of this sin the prophet, Nathan, told David that his baby son would die. When the child became sick, David did as many loving parents do: he begged the Lord to heal the child. David was sorry he had sinned and hoped that God would have mercy and let the child live.

When the child died the servants were afraid to tell David as they were certain the news would be unbearable to him. However, when he heard that the child was dead, he arose and worshipped the Lord. David knew he would not see the child again here on earth, but he anticipated being able to see him again in heaven.

There are many false religions which teach the christening of infants. It's a form of baptism in which clean water is sprinkled upon the child. According to their church doctrine, baptism washes away sin. This ritual therefore rids the child of sin and is a protection should the child die.

This process is erroneous and unnecessary. The blood of Jesus is sufficient to atone for infants and young children who have no knowl-

edge of good nor evil. James 4:17 says, "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Psalm 32 says those are blessed whose sins are covered, and to whom the Lord does not impute sin.

God is a righteous judge and would not permit anyone to be punished in hell for something of which he has no knowledge. I John 2:12 reads "I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake."

The death of any loved one is sad, but often when it is a young person it seems worse. It seems they have missed something by not being able to enjoy childhood and become an adult. Yet if that young person was ready to meet the Lord, they gained instead of losing. Paul said, "To live is Christ, but to die is gain."

What have they gained? Heaven, where all is peace forevermore. They will never be hungry, sick nor troubled. They are in the presence of the Lord, the angels and a great many other wonderful saints. They have no more homework or chores to do. There is no evil there. The testimonies of those who have gone on to heaven is that it was so wonderful there, they did not want to come back to this earth.

Do you enjoy family gatherings or camp meetings? Isn't it great to see friends you haven't seen for a while? Remember the times you wished they could stay longer? Remember how hard it was to say goodbye? Think of the joyful meeting when we all get to heaven. "What a day of rejoicing that will be," and we will never have to say good-bye.

Stay saved and be faithful, because "heaven will surely be worth it all."

—Altina Cox

your brother has. In all my days I have never known anyone as well bred as Ernesto who refuses to continue his education just so he can 'preach the gospel,' as he calls it."

I patiently waited until Mrs. Watson had exhausted all of her words. I then took her hand and with my sweetest tone said, "Mrs. Watson, you have been so kind to Ernie and me. You have given us more than our parents could ever have given us. Had you not taken us in, I do not know what would have become of us. You are a wonderful person whom we love and appreciate very much. But there is one longing that all of our studies, art, travels and material goods has not satisfied. You see, Mrs. Watson, we remember Mama's Friend."

Mrs. Watson snorted like an angry bull. "I knew I should have put an end to you and Ernesto's correspondence with that little church group," she said with regret. "Instead I tried to show you two a little kindness by allowing you to maintain contact with your friends, and just look what I get in return. I should have followed my better judgment."

"Oh, but it was the best decision you could have made," I replied. "It is the association with the people at the Church of God that has caused Ernie and me to be the kind of students you have been so proud of: We would never have gained those grades and honors had it not been for the support and prayers of our church friends."

"How do you expect me to believe that?" she inquired angrily.

I took a deep breath and waited a long time before speaking. At last I said, "Consider what has become of the children of the ladies in your society. How have they fared?" At this remark Mrs. Watson blushed with embarrassment. She knew all too well

the truth of my statement.

There were six ladies, including Mrs. Watson, in her circle of close friends. They were all upper class and wealthy. However, accompanying the lifestyles of the rich and famous are often tales of woe and such was the case of these women. Mrs. Kincaid's only son was in a drug rehabilitation center. Mrs. Carter had two daughters, one of whom was undergoing psychiatric care for chronic depression. Mrs. Famborough's daughter was excelling in education, but her questionable conduct on campus had brought much embarrassment to her parents. Mrs. Hogon's youngest son had joined the Moonies, and Mrs. Roosevelt's two children were draining their parents' wealth by sporting lavish lifestyles at costly exclusive universities.

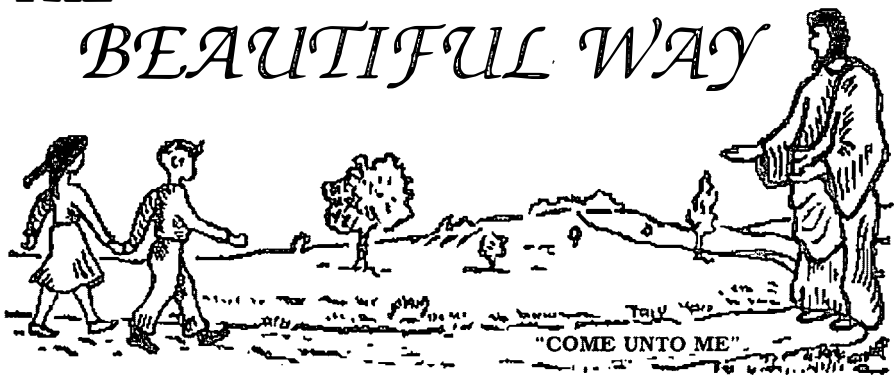
I had no intentions of condemning my peers in bringing them to Mrs. Watson's attention, but I felt it was a good opportunity to testify as to what the Lord had kept Ernie and me from. Mrs. Watson sat still for a long time, as if she was thinking over all the anxieties that her friends had suffered because of their children. Finally she said, hesitantly, "Well, I must admit that you and Ernesto have never caused me a moment's trouble. I have raved over both of you since the time you first came into my home. Perhaps it is just a bit of selfishness on my part in regard to Ernie. I had big plans for him, just so I could prove something to the ladies," she explained.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. That his child would die. 2. He sought the Lord and fasted. 3. He worshipped the Lord. 4. I shall go to him. 5. Those who sleep (are dead) in Jesus. 6. The dead in Christ. 7. The death of his saints. 8. The angels.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Aug. 22, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

*Sorja and her family moved to the United States so her Papa could find work. He became so obsessed with making money he soon turned to gambling. His losses drove him to drinking. He was drunk when he ran into a bridge killing himself and her Mama. Mrs. Watson took Sorja and Ernie as her own children and sent them to the very best schools. She was furious when Ernie told her he wanted to be a minister because she was determined to prove to her friends that he could be a great success.*

I understood what Mrs. Watson wanted to prove. The ladies in the society had strongly opposed her when she assumed legal guardianship over us because of our nationality and family background. I recalled hearing numerous remarks that were made at that time. "Eleanor Watson," Mrs. Kincaid had asked, "are you out of your mind? Nothing will ever become of those poor urchins."

Another of the women had said, "I think it would be fool-hearted for a widow to try to raise that boy. He'll never amount to much with that drunkard father he had." This latter remark had really challenged Mrs.

Watson regarding Ernie and she had gone to great pains helping Ernie become valedictorian of his class and earn many other outstanding awards, civic honors and scholarships.

"Mrs. Watson," I assured her, "I believe that you have proven to them that regardless of a person's race or background, if given a fair chance and support, excellence can be attained. I admire you for your courage to try. There are very few people of your status who would have done what you did. I give you my personal award as ***The Most Outstanding Woman in America.***"

Mrs. Watson blushed again. "I don't suppose I could truly take all the credit, for I must admit that your brother is almost a genius." She paused for a moment and then continued, "And it just seems like such a waste of his brilliance to preach. Especially if he should choose to preach in such a small church. I—I—I—am persuaded that with his qualities he could be the next great evangelist," she said, beaming.

I was surprised to hear Mrs. Watson refer to religion, as that was a subject I had never heard her discuss with any approval. I decided to seize the opportunity to inquire further. "What is your religious background?" I asked.



## The Effects Of Testimonies

### II Kings 5:2-14

2 And the Syrians....brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid: and she waited on Naaman's wife.

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

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

5 And the king of Syria said, Go...and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel....

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

7 ...When the king of Israel had read the letter...he...said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy?...

8 ...Elisha the man of God...sent to the king, saying,...let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

9 So Naaman came...and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

11 But Naaman was wroth...and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely

come out to me...and call on the name of the LORD...and recover the leper.

12 ...So he turned and went away in a rage.

13 And his servants...said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

14 Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan...and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

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**The Message: A testimony declaring the goodness of God has an encouraging, challenging effect on others.**

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### Questions:

1. What was the common disease back in Bible times?
2. Who did the Syrians bring back captive?
3. Who did she tell that there was a prophet in Samaria?
4. What did she say this prophet could do?
5. Who sent a letter with Naaman to the king of Israel?
6. Who told the king to send Naaman to him?
7. What was Naaman to do to be healed?
8. What made Naaman angry?
9. What happened after he did as he was told?

### Verse to Memorize

**And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.**

**Revelation 12:11.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

The word "testimony" means: A public declaration of truth regarding a religious experience; a witnessing evidence or proof.

Our lesson today deals with the effect a testimony can have on others. A testimony is simply telling the truth about something you have experienced. Everyone who is saved from sin has a testimony. A testimony is a very important tool in telling others about the Lord.

Naaman was the captain of the army of Syria. He was a mighty man, very skilled in the art of battle, but he was sick with a disease called leprosy. It was the most dreaded disease in those days. When people got it they were not allowed to live with others. They had to live outside the city, separated from their loved ones. This was so no one else would catch the disease from them.

Naaman, his family, and the king of Syria were sad because Naaman would soon have to leave them if no cure was found for him. Just as it seemed all hope was gone, a young servant girl from the land of Israel spoke up with a testimony that changed Naaman's life forever. All she said was, "I wish we were in Samaria, for in Samaria there is a prophet of God who could heal my master of his disease." She gave her testimony so convincingly that many believed it. At once Naaman was sent to find Elisha, the prophet of God. Naaman was miraculously healed and it all began from the testimony of a young girl.

In the New Testament it tells of a man whom Jesus healed of leprosy

and told him not to tell anyone about it. Can you imagine being healed of such a terrible disease and not telling anyone? Jesus probably said this because He was not seeking any earthly fame for healing the man, but the healed man couldn't keep silent. He testified to everyone about the healing and cleansing power of Jesus. As a result of his testimony, many others came to Jesus and were also healed. Do you see what good a testimony for God can do? It does not have to be something big, but it has to be something you can say from the surety of your heart. When you are convinced of something, you will tell about it in a convincing way and others will believe you.

A sixteen-year-old Christian boy we shall call Jim was working in a department store. Another teenager walked up and said to Jim, "Don't tell on me, okay?" and began stuffing merchandise in his clothes and in a bag. At first Jim didn't know what to do. He reasoned that if he said nothing he would become a partaker of another's sin, but he was also afraid of what the shoplifter might do to him if he told.

Jim decided to testify to the other boy. He told how the Lord had saved him and that if he did not report this to the store manager God would not be pleased with him. The shoplifter dropped the bag, put the other things back on the counter and Jim did not see him again. This testimony stopped the boy from committing a sin and a crime.

If you are a Christian, your testimony is very powerful and valuable to God. He wants you to tell it whenever you get the opportunity. It can be the means of saving another soul from sin or of stopping someone from getting into trouble. Remember that God is wanting you to tell of His goodness. "Tell what He's done for you, others may need Him, too." —Altina Cox

"I was raised a strict Methodist. My family attended church three times a week or more. I missed out on many of the pleasures the other young people enjoyed. I purposed when I left home that church would not be a priority of mine."

"Do you ever miss it?" I questioned.

"Miss it? Most certainly not!" she exclaimed. "How could I miss the dry formalism of that place? Why I could find more enjoyment hearing a lecture on 'The Art of Quilting' than I would hearing those preachers. And you know I care nothing about quilting."

"Frankly, Sonja, I don't have much need for religion. Most of the ladies in my circle have invited me to join their churches, but it seems to serve no purpose other than maybe make them feel religiously better than me. But I do more good than any of them. I donate to charities and volunteer my services to help others. Why should I join a church?"

"What about Mama?" I asked. "Did religion make a difference in her life?"

"Yes," she answered, "If there is such a thing as true religion, Aurora had it. I have never seen anyone like her. But I must confess that sometimes I wondered if she had lost her mind. I don't see how she stayed with your father all that time without murmuring. I marvel when I think of the strength and patience she had. Though very poor and abused, she seemed to be happy, and she had such peace! But you see, Sonja, your mama needed religion; she was a poor lonely soul. I have everything I need," she concluded.

"Have you ever been to that little Church of God chapel?" I asked. "It is only about four miles from your home."

"No, I can't say that I have," she replied.

"Would you please go with Ernie and me just one time when we are home together?" I begged.

She looked a little bewildered at my invitation. I then quickly added, "Perhaps you could at least see where Ernie got his peculiar notion." We both chuckled.

"Now, that I would like to see," she said "for it sure makes me angry. Maybe I could save this genius boy after all. I won't promise, but let me think it over," she said reaching for her purse to leave.

Ernie and I were home for summer break. The following Sunday was a day I never dreamed of. While Ernie and I prepared for morning church service, I overheard Mrs. Watson say to the housekeeper, "Maria, keep the breakfast light, I have plans this morning."

"Why, Mrs. Watson, surely you aren't going to church?" Maria teased.

"Don't sound so surprised, Maria. I guess this is a phenomenon, but actually I am accepting an invitation from Sonja. I have always accepted her invitations to lectures or other events, and I see no reason to refuse this one either," she explained.

I ran excitedly to Ernie's room to share the good news with him. "Mrs. Watson is going to church with us today! I heard her tell Maria."

"Glory to God!" Ernie said softly. "This is a **real** answer to prayer."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Leprosy. 2. A little maid. 3. Her mistress. 4. Heal Naaman. 5. The king of Syria. 6. Elisha. 7. Dip seven times in the Jordan River. 8. Elisha didn't come out and personally heal him. 9. He was healed.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Aug. 29, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

Sonja and her family moved to the United States so her Papa could find work. Tragedy struck the family after Papa began gambling and drinking. He and Mama were killed when he hit a bridge while driving drunk. Mrs. Watson, who took Sonja and Ernie as her own children, was furious when Ernie told her he wanted to be a minister. Sonja invited her to go to church with them and is surprised when she agreed to go.

As we came down the stairs for breakfast, Mrs. Watson met us with a cheerful, "Good morning!" Then, knowing that I would be pleased, she looked directly at me and said, "I have decided to accept your invitation, Sonja. We can go to the church in my car."

"Wonderful!" I said, trying to contain my excitement.

We all sat down for breakfast but I could scarcely eat a bite. When we finished, Ernie got the song books and Bibles and we headed for the limousine. Charles, the chauffeur, started the car and headed down the road to the right. "He's going the wrong way," I said under my breath, thinking that Charles did not know where the chapel was.

"No, Miss Sonja, these are the

orders I got from Mrs. Watson," he said. Mrs. Watson nodded her head, "Yes."

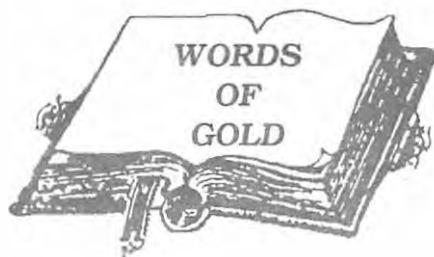
"Excuse me," I said astonished. He drove us to the back of the property where the rows of little cottages were. I could see the one we had lived in and in my memory could see Mama, Ernie and me walking to the bus stop. "Isn't this where the bus picks up the children for Sunday school?" Mrs. Watson asked.

"Yes, Ma'am," we answered.

"Well then, what are we waiting for?" she said as Charles opened the door for her to exit. Ernie and I followed.

I couldn't imagine Mrs. Watson riding the old church bus, but here she was, waiting in line with Ernie, me and some of the farm laborers.

"Honk! Honk!" It was the old church bus. By now many workers were standing in their yards watching as Mrs. Watson actually boarded the bus. The children seemed awed by her presence and stood back to let her on first. She and I sat together. I could hardly keep from laughing as I watched from the corner of my eye. She struggled to keep her composure. As we rode over the bumps she held one hand on her hat and the other hand on the seat. When I could finally contain my laughter and I realized that Mrs. Watson was really



## Comparing Two Young Kings

**II Chronicles 24:1-2, 4, 12, 15,  
17-18, 20**

1 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem....

2 And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

4 ....Joash was minded to repair the house of the LORD.

12 And the king and Jehoiada...hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of the LORD....

15 But Jehoiada waxed old, and was full of days when he died:...

17 Now after the death of Jehoiada came the princes...Then the king hearkened unto them.

18 And they left the house of the LORD...and served...idols:...

20 And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah...(He) said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you.

**II Chronicles 34:1-3, 30, 33**

1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD....and declined neither to the right hand, nor to the left.

3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father:...

30 And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah....and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of the LORD.

33 And Josiah took away all the abominations...and made all that were present in Israel to...serve the LORD their God. And all his days they departed not from following the LORD, the God of their fathers.

**II Kings 23:25**

25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might....

**The Message: It is good to serve the Lord in childhood, but it is better to serve Him all the days of one's life!**

### Questions:

1. How old was Joash when he began to reign?
2. How long did Joash please the Lord?
3. What did Joash repair?
4. After Jehoiada died, whose ill advice did Joash accept?
5. What did the Lord do to Joash and the people?
6. How old was Josiah when he began to reign?
7. Who did he seek after in his youth?
8. What did he do before the Lord and the people?
9. Was there any other king like Josiah?

### Verse to Memorize

**But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.**

**Matthew 24:13.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Kings have served a very important role in the history of God's people. They were the rulers of the land. Whatever decisions they made became law and everyone had to obey it. Furthermore, if a king was a worshipper of God so were the people.

Joash (or Jehoash) and Josiah were two of the youngest kings in history. Joash's grandmother was a very wicked woman. After his father died, she had all the brothers of Joash killed so she could be the ruler of the land. Joash escaped death because he was hidden by his aunt in the temple for six years. His uncle's name was Jehoiada. He was a priest who instructed Joash in the ways of the Lord.

At the end of six years Joash took his place as king, and his grandmother was killed. Joash started out as a righteous king. He removed the idols from the temple. He also repaired the house of the Lord under the direction of his uncle, the priest. He accomplished much good in getting the people to worship God again.

With such a good start it is a shame that Joash did not continue with this great revival in Judah. After his uncle Jehoiada died he listened to the counsel of evil princes. They caused him to allow idol worship again. He rebuilt places of worship for idols which he had destroyed.

Now let's compare Josiah's life to that of Joash. Josiah, who also became king as a child, served God all his life. The remarkable thing about Josiah is that at a young age he was

able to change almost an entire kingdom that his wicked father had corrupted. While Josiah was very young he began to seek after the Lord. He restored the holy worship of God to the land. He destroyed all the idols and evil priests.

Under his leadership the people followed all the commandments of God. Josiah served the Lord with all his heart and soul. He did not turn to one side nor to the other. There was no other king in recorded history that was like Josiah, who served God from childhood until death.

Has anyone ever said that you were too young to serve the Lord? Have they said that perhaps you don't really understand what you are doing or saying? I invite them to look at the lives of these two young kings who served God and their country while very young. God can still use children today. When you are saved you are made a king. You begin to reign in this life over sin and self. In other words, God gives you power to live a holy life. You can rule over bad feelings or thoughts that will come to you, and over temptations to steal, lie or do other sinful things.

Children can also serve God in important places. Jesus says, "Except ye become as a little child, ye shall in no wise enter the kingdom of heaven."

Good counselors are important and we need them. However, if you rely on others to continually tell you what is right, you may end up as Joash. Remember to follow the example of Josiah and begin to know God for yourself. As a child you do need direction. Follow the godly instructions you receive but also begin to read and pray and become acquainted with God. Then no matter what comes your way, you can be like Josiah and not turn to the right nor to the left.

—Altina Cox

going to church with us. I felt strangely delighted!

You should have seen the look on Pastor Allen's face when Mrs. Watson, a little wrinkled and with dust covering her white hat, stepped off that bus! Ernie held on to her left arm as we escorted her into the little chapel.

The fresh country scent hit me as we stepped in. It felt so good to be back in the house of the Lord! We chose a seat the third row from the front. It seemed to me that Mrs. Watson's face was glowing that day as we walked by her side up the aisle.

One of the sisters offered Mrs. Watson a pillow, fan and song book. She took the song book and said, "Thank you, I'll be fine."

When someone called, "Blessed Assurance," she whispered to me, "I haven't heard that song since I was a girl." She then sang along with everyone. I didn't know that she had such a lovely voice. I saw Mrs. Watson dot her eyes with her beautiful white-laced handkerchief a few times during the service.

The subject of Bro. Allen's message was, "What will a man profit if he should gain the whole world and then lose his soul?" He talked about the rich, young ruler who went away unhappy because he would not give his riches to the poor. He also spoke about the rich man who refused to help a poor beggar named Lazarus. When the rich man died he went to hell, but when Lazarus died he was carried to heaven by the angels.

The message would have stirred most anyone to think about the condition of their soul. One might have thought Bro. Allen knew Mrs. Watson would be there, but no one had told him for we didn't know she would be coming with us until a few minutes before leaving for Sunday school.

Bro. Allen also quoted a verse of song which says:

*Many kingdoms you may share,  
You may be a millionaire.  
But without Jesus, you won't make  
heaven.*

*Deeds and titles you may claim,  
Everybody know your name,  
But without Jesus, you won't make  
heaven.*

Mrs. Watson had listened very attentively but at this point she dropped her head. I thought maybe it was then that she realized that having everything was not much profit to her.

An invitation was given for anyone who wanted to pray to come forward. The congregation sang:

*What will become of all your  
fortune and land, Silver and gold,  
riches untold:*

*When you have made it all your  
purpose and aim, To gain all this  
world, then lose your soul?*

*What will be your profit, To gain all  
this world then lose your soul?*

*Stop just a moment now and count  
up the cost, Look and behold, your  
fearful goal: Surrender now to Him  
that hung on the cross, Suffered and  
died to save your soul.*

Two farm workers went forward and knelt at the altar. After they were finished praying, the offering was taken. Then Bro. Allen said, "We thank the Lord for the presence of everyone. We'd like to acknowledge our visitors and if anyone has a word to express, they may do so at this time."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Seven. 2. All the days of Jehoiada the priest. 3. The house of the Lord. 4. The princes'. 5. He forsook them. 6. Eight years old. 7. The God of David his father. 8. He made a covenant to follow God. 9. No.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Sept. 5, 2004

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

Sonja and her family moved to the United States so her Papa could find work. Tragedy struck the family after Papa began gambling and drinking. He and Mama were killed when he hit a bridge while driving drunk. Mrs. Watson, who took Sonja and Ernie as her own children, surprised them when she agreed to go to church with them. Just before dismissing the pastor asked if any of the visitors would like to speak.

Mrs. Watson rose to her feet and said, "It has truly been a privilege to be here with you today. I have heard a lot about this little church. Most of you know I am Eleanor Watson, and because of what is taught at this church, I have a group of some of the finest and most honest employees around.

"Pastor Allen, I would like to personally thank you for the care that you have given Sonja and Ernesto. You gave them something I wasn't able to give. You have finished what their mother, Aurora Cruz, began in teaching them Christian principles. Aurora used to often tell me of her Friend called Jesus. She said she wanted Sonja and Ernie to always remember Him. I thank you on behalf of Aurora and myself for keeping that

memory of her Friend alive. She left me two wonderful children to raise. And my son, Ernesto, I am proud to say will soon be one of your ministers."

Ernie said he almost fell out of his chair at those statements. He had never heard Mrs. Watson call him "son," nor had he publicly told of his calling to be a minister. To hear her support his decision was overwhelming!

Mrs. Watson continued, "I do have one request, if it is not asking too much. Will you please sing a verse of "What a Friend" in memory of my friend Aurora, whose best Friend was Jesus?"

Bro. Allen asked the congregation to stand. They sang:

*What a Friend we have in Jesus, All  
our sins and griefs to bear,*

*What a privilege to carry, Everything  
to God in pray'r!*

*Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh,  
what needless pain we bear,*

*All because we do not carry Every-  
thing to God in prayer.*

Mrs. Watson and I were both weeping by the time they started the second verse. For a moment I forgot where I was as I looked toward heaven and thought about Mama and what a precious Friend I too had found Jesus to be.



## Absalom Disrespects Authority

### II Samuel 14:25

25 But in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty:...

### II Samuel 15:2-6, 12-14

2 And Absalom rose up early...and it was so, that when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him....

3 And Absalom said unto him, Sec, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.

4 Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!

5 And it was so, that when any man came nigh to him to do him obeisance, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him.

6 ...So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

12 ...And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

13 And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.

14 And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee: for we shall not else escape from Absalom...

### II Samuel 18:6, 9, 15

6 So the people went out into the

field against Israel: and the battle was in the wood of Ephraim:

9 ...And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went away

15 And ten young men that bare Joab's armour compassed about and smote Absalom, and slew him.

### I Peter 2:13-14, 17

13 Submit yourselves...for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

14 Or unto governors....

17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

**The Message: There is a temptation in some children to rebel against authority but those who do must pay the penalty.**

### Questions:

1. Who was greatly praised for his beauty?
2. Who stole the hearts of Israel?
3. What did Absalom cause in Israel?
4. What did King David want his servants to do?
5. What was Absalom riding?
6. What happened to Absalom as he hung in the tree?
7. What should we do for the Lord's sake?
8. Who should we honor?
9. Who should we fear?

### Verse to Memorize

**Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.**

**Romans 13:1-2.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Absalom was a very handsome son of King David. He was very proud because everyone praised him for his good looks.

As the son of the king, he had many privileges other young men would never have, yet he was not satisfied with this; he wanted to be the king.

He began to undermine the authority of his father. When people would come to King David for advice, Absalom would intercept them before they reached the king. He would tell them that the king had no one to hear them, but if he were judge he would listen to them and see that they got justice. In this way he caused the people to doubt that David was a good king.

He also used flattery to gain the favor of the people. When people came to honor Absalom he would reach out and kiss their hand, making a show of humility and care. These two techniques, which were used by Absalom are still used by politicians of our day to gain supporters.

Absalom "stole the hearts of the men of Israel." He led a conspiracy and a revolt. King David and those in authority fled.

Then Absalom committed several other terrible deeds against the household of his father. Under the law, Absalom had committed crimes worthy of death, however, David still wanted mercy extended to him.

Absalom's reign did not last long. He was caught by his head and hung under a tree. Some of the men in David's army killed him. "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." Proverbs 16:18.

The story of Absalom is a clear example of what can happen when disrespect is shown to elders. The Bible tells of other times when youths were disrespectful, such as the time the children mocked Elisha and were then torn by bears.

God wants us to respect elders in His spiritual kingdom and in the world in which we live.

Many uprisings against officials are started by youths. Young people have a lot of zeal and energy. They have great influence on others their age.

Rebellion against authority often begins in the home. Many times a child who is disrespectful to adults outside of the home does not properly respect his parents in his home.

The Lord requires that authorities be respected. They are ordained to keep law and order in society or in the Church.

Many of the laws that govern our land are for our protection. Traffic laws are just one good example, and should be obeyed. There are many others.

The Bible also warns us not to speak evil of rulers. Be careful what you say about those in authority.

Occasionally there are laws that violate Christian convictions. In such cases we are bound to obey the laws of God instead of those laws. If such a time arises, God still expects Christians to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner and not with the attitudes and actions of others who are beligerent and rebellious, or like criminals who have intentionally broken the law.

We are also instructed to pray for our rulers. Let's respect them and pray for them that we may lead a peaceable life.

—Altina Cox

(Answers: 1. Absalom. 2. Absalom. 3. A conspiracy. 4. Flee from Absalom. 5. A mule. 6. He was killed. 7. Submit to every law of our country. 8. All men: the king. 9. God.)

I felt movement at my side and I looked to see Mrs. Watson walking down the aisle. She knelt at the altar, took off her white hat and laid it neatly on the altar by her white gloves. Then she prayed.

I smiled as the tears rolled down my cheeks. I knew Mrs. Watson was going to find our Friend called Jesus!

—Written by Altina Cox



We used to memorize hymns at my Sunday school. We didn't have to sing them to the teacher, but we did have to recite them. The words took on a new impetus as we spoke them out loud: "What a friend we have in Jesus all our sins and griefs to bear, what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer."

As I've grown older I still like to recite this old hymn to myself. This would become a prayer to me: "O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer." The words would lift me right there and remind me that my Friend (Jesus) is always with me.

Quite recently I learned the story behind the hymn itself, and it gave it a fresh meaning for me. The writer was an Irishman, Joseph Scriven, born in 1820. No one even knew he had a gift for writing such a song. In fact the words were discovered by a neighbor who was visiting him as he lay ill in bed and shortly before he died. The neighbor asked him how he came to write the hymn, and it may surprise you to learn it came out of great personal tragedy.

At the age of twenty-five and on the night before he was due to be married his bride-to-be accidentally drowned. From this indescribable grief came "What a friend we have in Jesus all our sins and griefs to bear," and in another verse "In his arms he'll take

and shield thee, thou wilt find a solace there."

How easily he could have gone the other direction to bitterness and hardness of heart, but he had the courage to look to God and as a result he experienced the indescribable comfort of this great Friend. Through this hymn many others have received great comfort.

—Selected

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Teacher, scholar, lay preacher, Joseph Medlicott Scriven came to Canada from Dublin, Ireland in 1845. He lived in Western Ontario before moving to Rice Lake as a tutor, residing later in Port Hope, Ontario. Scriven died in 1886, leaving behind the record of a humanitarian who was looked upon as a saint, beautified by his own performance.

But Scriven's legacy was a hymn, which found favor 100 years ago and remains a favorite throughout the world—"What a Friend We Have in Jesus." While the hymn was universally known, there was sparse knowledge about the author. Joseph Scriven died in obscurity.

The hymn was first written as a poem and published in the Port Hope Guide in 1870. Someone in New York City received a package wrapped in that edition of the paper. They found the poem so moving they took it to a New York newspaper and had it published.

Music was added to the words in another interesting turn of events. A traveling music salesman kept a copy of the poem with him because the words had touched him deeply. He lost his copy of the poem while he was visiting the Converse Organ Factory in Pennsylvania. Owner Charles Converse was also taken with the poem. He composed the music for it on the spot. The hymn continues to comfort all who hear it.

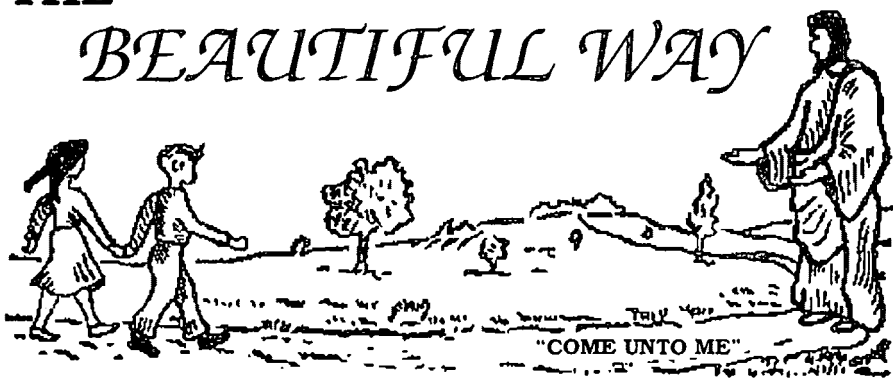
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(Look for answers on page 3.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Sept. 12, 2004

## What A Friend We Have In Jesus

Millions of people have been comforted by the song, *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*. Fleeing trouble in Ireland, its author, Joseph Scriven, moved to Port Hope, Ontario, Canada in 1844. He had the Irish characteristic of working hard and living frugally. He also had a great love for children and was deeply religious. Joseph, however, was not as jolly as other Irishmen whom the people in Port Hope had known.

Some thought he was strange. He was twenty-five years old, the age most men were looking for a wife, but Joseph paid no attention to the young ladies in town. Some thought perhaps he had an Irish lass and would soon be sending for her. When years passed, however, and he was still living alone, they were puzzled.

Another strange thing about Joseph was that he kept very little for himself. While other men of his age were building or buying a comfortable home or improving their farm, Joseph was content to be spending his days helping others.

The poor widows called on him to do repair jobs that they nor their children could handle. They called on him to chop wood or do the chores for

a few days when an older son was away or ill. Street urchins whom he invited into his bungalow became his friends. He parted his food with them and shared his clothes. Sometimes he'd give a shivering child or an old man the coat off his back.

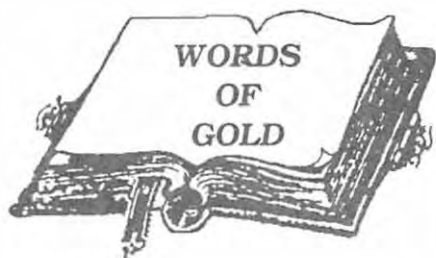
Not only did the poor call on Joseph Scriven but also those who could pay for his labors. He seldom worked for them because from morning until evening he was helping those who could not pay. How he managed to do and give so much was a wonder to all in Port Hope.

Occasionally Joseph Scriven received a letter from his mother in Ireland. Since the name on the letters was a female name, people became suspicious. Some whispered, "He is hearing from a woman friend." They watched for the day she would arrive. They waited for ten years.

One day another letter came from his mother. She was very sick. Joseph wished he could go see her or at least send her money. "Should I have earned money instead of helping the poor?" he asked himself.

"Oh, Lord, what can I do for my poor mother?" he prayed. For days he prayed and thought and hoped that some way he could help her.

At last, he decided he could at least write her a letter of comfort. He wrote. The following day he worked



## The Commandment With Promise

### Exodus 20:12

12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

### Leviticus 19:3; 20:9

3 Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father....

9 For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death:...

### Deuteronomy 21:18-21

18 If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them:

19 Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place:

20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard.

21 And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you: and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

### Proverbs 23:22; 30:17

22 Hearken unto thy father...and despise not thy mother when she is old.

17 The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his

mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

### Mark 7:9-13

9 And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:

11 But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me: he shall be free.

12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother:

13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition,...

• • • • •  
• The Message: God's com- •  
• mandment to honor our par- •  
• ents brings great blessings if •  
• we obey or punishment if we •  
• disobey. •  
• • • • •

### Question:

1. What promise is given to those who honor their parents?
2. Who should every man fear?
3. What was the penalty for cursing one's parents?
4. What would be done to a rebellious son?
5. By what did the Pharisees make God's Word of none effect?
6. Does honoring one's parents include caring for them when they are old?

### Verse to Memorize

**Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise.**

**Ephesians 6:2.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

"Honor thy father and thy mother" is a very important commandment of God. It is the backbone of a home, a city, or a nation. It is vital in the establishment of law and order in a society.

Soon after man disobeyed God in the garden of Eden. God established that a woman was to be subject to her husband. The two of them would then be responsible for the children. Next, on Mt. Sinai, when God gave the Ten Commandments, He established another law and principle to maintain family order. This was the commandment to "honor your father and mother." The penalty for repeatedly disobeying this commandment was death. This was not because God was cruel, but because He wanted the nation of Israel to be a special happy people in the earth. God knew that to establish a society that would be happy and righteous some guidelines must be given.

Parents were to teach and train children in the ways of the Lord, but in order to do this properly children must be obedient. He gave a commandment for children to honor their parents.

This command to reverence your parents does not end with childhood. Even after you are an adult God expects you to continue to honor them. The Jews were so wicked that they tried to get around obeying this commandment. They made a tradition called, "Corban," in which they would give gifts of money to the priests in the temple, thus freeing them of

the responsibility of honoring and caring for their parents in their old age. God was not pleased with this practice and Jesus condemned it, saying that the commandment to honor parents was more important than any custom men might make.

Under the law, children who rebelled against their parents were stoned. The parents were responsible to make their children work and be good citizens. But if the child did not obey or became an evil citizen who spent his days drinking, God commanded the parents to report it to the leaders of the city. The child would then be stoned. In this way the land of Israel was spared many of the problems we have in our country today.

What do you do if you have unsaved parents? God's Word does not say to only honor saved parents. Even if your father is an alcoholic, he still deserves your kindness. As long as your parents are not requiring you to do things that are sinful, you are to obey them while you are under their care.

What are some ways you can show honor to your parents? One way is to regard the way you speak to them. Watch your tone of voice and the words you choose. Be careful about resentful or unkind feelings toward them or hateful scowling looks which you may be tempted to have. Obey the curfews and rules they have established in your home. Offer to lend a hand to help without being told. Give small gifts or write notes of appreciation to them. When you honor your parents you are honoring God.

Remember to do well by honoring your parents, because you may one day be a parent also, and the patterns that you have established will be handed to your children. They will treat you the way you have treated your parents.

—Altina Cox

on his letter again. It must say just the right words to encourage her. When it was finally finished it included this poem: *What A Friend We Have In Jesus*.

Twenty-one years passed and Mr. Scriven continued to help the poor. When winter came it was more severe than usual. Snow drifted against the houses. It blocked the doors. Even though Joseph was not a young man now, he stilled shoveled snow and chopped and carried wood as he had done before. He brought provision in his horse-drawn wagon for those who could not get out.

One day he got so chilled he went home sick. That night his temperature soared. He didn't get out the next day, nor the next.

People began to wonder about him. "Joseph hasn't been in the store for three days," the storekeeper remarked to the men huddled around the pot-bellied stove in the center of the store. "I think someone needs to check on him."

"Huh? Not been out for three days? He's sure to be sick."

The men found Joseph in bed. The fire was almost out and there was no wood in his bungalow. Now it was their turn to help the man who had helped them so much. They took turns, sitting up at night with him.

One night when a neighbor came to sit with Joseph he saw a paper under the corner of his bed. Fishing it out he began to read. "What a friend we have in Jesus. All our..." When he finished reading he exclaimed, "What a beautiful poem!"

"You like it?"

"That I do," the neighbor replied.

"I was reading it to comfort myself," Joseph said.

"It tells the way to find comfort. Where did you find such a masterpiece?" he asked.

Joseph just smiled. "The Lord gave it to me."

"What? You wrote it?"

"The Lord and I did it between us," Joseph said shyly.

"Well, I'll say! Port Hope has a poet and didn't know it," he said to Joseph as he laughed at his own rhyme. "Mr. Joseph Scriven, you are quite a guy! You've spent most of your life among outcasts and you might have been a famous person."

"I had to," Joseph explained. "Being with the underprivileged helped me forget my own sorrows."

"I thought maybe you were trying to be the patron angel of Port Hope's children since you had no children of your own. Say, why didn't you marry and have a family?"

Mr. Scriven cleared his throat. His lips quivered a little, then he spoke. "I loved a girl in Ireland and she loved me. We planned to get married but she accidentally drowned the evening before our wedding. I could never risk loving another girl."

No one knows who put the song, *What A Friend We Have In Jesus*, into print. Charles C. Converse put music to the words. Ira D. Sankey included it in his *Gospel Hymns No. 1* in 1875. Joseph Scriven was fifty-six years old when *What A Friend We Have In Jesus* appeared in Sankey's book. He lived until he was sixty-seven. Forty-two years were spent helping the poor.

—Charlotte Huskey

—Information from: James Draper, *More Than a Song*, Moody Press, 1970. Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *The One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, 1995.

(Answers: 1. Long life. 2. His mother and father. 3. Death. 4. He would be stoned. 5. By their traditions. 6. Yes.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Sept. 19, 2004

## There Is A Fountain

"Where am I?" William questioned, as he glared at his strange surroundings and the peculiar (offbeat, odd, weird) men roaming the halls.

A very oversized freak waddled closer and stared at him. "What ye say?" he asked.

"I said, 'Where am I?'"

"You're in the nut house," he answered. Then he laughed a strange, frightening laugh.

"Why am I in here?"

"Did someth'n crazy like all us nuts," the man answered and laughed again.

That night when all the "nuts" (as the man had called them) were asleep, and St. Albans asylum was quiet, William prayed, "God give me peace." In a few days William's mind had cleared up and he remembered. Suicide. It was his second attempt. He was locked up for his own protection. William Cowper was born in Hertfordshire, near London. His father was chaplain to King George II. William studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1754. Because of his shy, gentle nature he was angered by men abusing others. This was what he often saw in the courts, so he did not practice law many years.

William was deeply religious, but he was not saved. During the eighteen months in the asylum he studied

the Bible and came to know Christ as his personal Savior.

The devil tormented William, making him doubt his salvation. "You must not listen to the devil," his friend Unwin often told him. "The devil is a liar. The Bible says, 'There is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.'"

"Maybe I'm not in Christ," William wailed.

"You are. Ephesians 2:13 says, 'Ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.'"

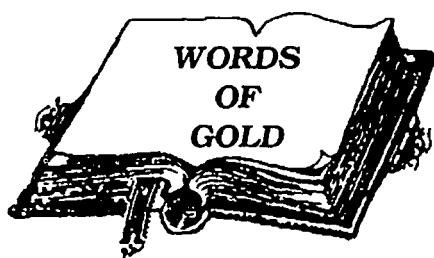
"That's right," William answered. "I just need to believe God's Word." Unwin agreed.

A few months later William was almost insane with fear of damnation.

Unwin came to his rescue again. He prayed. He gave advice. He scolded. Nothing seemed to help until he began reading the Bible. He read, "The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God."

"Yes, yes," William said slowly as if faith was replacing the doubt. "And the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. I am not condemned; Jesus has cleansed me."

Just when William was getting a grip on faith, his friend Unwin died. He'd been living in Unwin's home and



## Jealousy Between Brothers

**Genesis 4:1-15**

**1** And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

**2** And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

**3** And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.

**4** And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering;

**5** But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

**6** And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

**7** If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

**8** And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

**9** And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

**10** And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

**11** And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand:

**12** When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

**13** And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

**14** Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

**15** And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

**The Message: If envy is allowed to stay in the mind, it will cause great harm.**

### **Questions:**

1. Who were the first two children born?
2. What was Cain's occupation?
3. What was Abel's occupation?
4. What offering did each one bring?
5. God had respect to whose offering?
6. How did Cain feel?
7. What did Cain do to Abel?
8. What did God ask Cain?
9. God said Cain would be a \_\_\_\_\_ and a vagabond.

### **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 . . .

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, it plunged the whole world into sin. Psalm 51:5 reads, "*Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*" As a result of Adam's sin, every person is born in sin and of trouble. God's punishment to Adam and Eve was sorrow in bringing forth children and trouble in tilling the ground, so until this day, "Man is born unto trouble."

Cain was the first child born. Surely this brought great joy to Adam and Eve. Their second child was also a boy; they named him Abel. We do not know much about the childhood of the world's first children, but we do know that as they grew, sin caused trouble between them.

Cain's occupation was in agriculture. Abel was a shepherd. The two brothers brought an offering to the Lord as they had been taught to do. Cain had no faith in God, so he simply brought some fruit he had. Abel had faith in God, so he took great care in choosing the best animal of his flock. He offered this living sacrifice by faith, and God accepted it. Cain's offering was without faith, so God rejected it, "for without faith it is impossible to please God."

Cain became angry with Abel and with God. God spoke to Cain, and Cain had an opportunity to change, but he did not. Instead of changing, he allowed envy and anger to overtake him. When he got a chance, he killed his brother.

The spirit of envy and jealousy still exists today. It often affects families just as it did the first family. Have you ever heard of a term called "sibling rivalry?" It refers to competition between brothers and sisters. It often begins when a child is very small. A new baby comes into the family and often another child in the family has feelings of dislike, jealousy and even hatred towards the new baby. He may do all kinds of things to get his parent's attention, and even go back to babyish ways or habits.

As children grow older, their reactions to envy may be a little more subtle or hidden. One child may get a new bike, and envy would cause the other child to say, "It's ugly," or "So what, if you got a new bike." Maybe your brother or sister can sing well or run fast. Perhaps they get better scores on their school work or are good at sports and you aren't. How does it make you feel towards them? If you have little unhappy feelings of resentment or an unkind attitude towards them, it may be caused by envy or jealousy. Ask the Lord to help you conquer these feelings while you are young.

The Bible says that whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer. Envy mixed with anger can lead to hatred. That is why it is so important not to let envy or anger abide in your heart. You may never physically harm a person, but envy will cause you to do or say hurtful things to or about that person. It may also cause you to try to injure their friendship with others.

If the Lord pricks your heart about envy, go to prayer and clear it up. He can bless you so that you will be able to rejoice instead of feel bad when others are blessed. —Altina Cox

receiving constant support. Would he again go down in doubt?

Another friend, John Newton, came to comfort William and Unwin's family. Newton persuaded them to move to Olney where he lived.

John Newton had been a rough sailor and even worked as a slave. He was a strong outdoorsman. William Cowper was an indoor man, weak and afraid of his own shadow. But they both loved people, God and poetry.

"Think my doubting will keep me from going to heaven?" William once asked John.

"The key to heaven is in your hand," John answered. "Jesus says, 'He that cometh to God must believe that he is...a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.' Believing is the key that opens heaven. Do you believe God's Word?"

"Yes."

"Then act like it."

"I try, but satan is always sneering. 'You aren't saved.'"

"And you believe him?"

"I don't know. I try and try to figure out what I really believe."

"It is your problem. You need to get your mind off yourself. Help the orphans, poor widows, sick husbands and starving families."

William took John's advice. Soon he was a happier man.

"Now I've another job for you," John said. "We need some hymns for parish prayer meetings."

"I'm in poor health and fifty years old—too old to learn how to write poetry," William said to excuse himself. "Besides, I'm not qualified to do God's work."

"I can hardly form an idea of a closer walk with God than you maintain," John said.

"Okay, I'll try," William promised. The result was *Olney Hymns* printed in 1779. It contained 348 hymns—68

by William Cowper. And, if it hadn't been for a relapse, William for sure would have written many more.

During William's stay in Olney he grew spiritually. He grasped the promises of Jesus' cleansing blood, and wrote, *There Is A Fountain*. He also learned to live one day at a time. After a week-long battle that ended in victory, he wrote, *Safely Through Another Week*.

All his hymns and poems reflect his love for God, nature and everyday life. His desire for more of God is shown in *Oh For A Closer Walk With God*.

William learned to rebuke satan's accusations and trust in the cleansing fountain of Jesus' blood. On his deathbed he said, "I am not shut out of heaven after all." He had the key of faith to open heaven's door.

—Charlotte Huskey

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## There Is A Fountain

*There is a fountain filled with blood.  
Drawn from Immanuel's veins,  
And sinners plunged  
beneath that flood  
Lose all their guilty stains.*

*E're since by faith I saw the stream,  
Thy flowing wounds supply,  
Redeeming love has been my theme,  
And shall be till I die.*

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—Information from: Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *The One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, 1995. Vinita Hampton Wright, *Hymn Writers' Hall of Fame*, *Christian History*, Issue 31, *World Book Encyclopedia*.

(Answers: 1. Cain and Abel. 2. He was a tiller of the ground. 3. He was a keeper of sheep. 4. Cain brought fruit; Abel brought the best animals of his flock. 5. Abel's. 6. Angry. 7. Killed him. 8. "Where is Abel thy brother?" 9. Fugitive.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Sept. 26, 2004

## It Is Well With My Soul

"My you look happy today," Mrs. Spafford said to her husband, Horatio.

"I am happy. I have everything I want; a devoted wife, a son, four lovely daughters, a successful business and a beautiful home. And I live in Chicago, the lumber capital of the world. Yes, things couldn't look better."

"That's right. And thanks to Moody and the Lord, our children are all saved now. There isn't a cloud in our sky."

"Not one," he agreed. Then he kissed his wife and they laughed together.

Weeks later a dark cloud of sickness came to their home. It settled over their only son. Now instead of laughing together, they were crying and praying together. Often Mr. Spafford would say to his family, "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God...we just have to submit to God's plan." Soon, though, the Lord took the young boy to his heavenly home. Mr. Spafford tried often to comfort his wife and girls, but they couldn't keep from grieving.

"Maybe getting away for a vacation will help," Mr. Spafford suggested. "I hear Mr. Moody will be preaching in England this fall. Let's all go and be in his campaign."

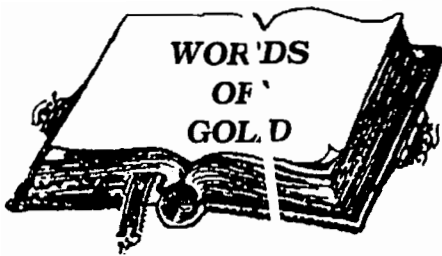
"It may be just what we need," Mrs. Spafford agreed. "He has helped our family greatly."

"Well, the majestic French steamer *Ville de Havre* will be leaving for France in early October. That would get us there in time," Mr. Spafford said. So tickets were bought.

There were many things to do before the trip, one of which was buying and sewing new clothes. Mr. Spafford purchased a couple of new outfits for himself. Mrs. Spafford and the girls checked their wardrobe and began sewing dresses and undergarments.

When the sewing was finished and they were packing the trunk, a fire broke out in Chicago. Historians believe what is now known as the Chicago Fire was started when Mrs. Patrick O'Leary's cow kicked over a lighted lantern. Fanned by strong winds, the flames raced north and east through the city. They leaped across the river and chased panic-stricken families fleeing north toward Lincoln Park. Hundreds of other families fled into the chilled waters of Lake Michigan.

The fire raged through Chicago for twenty-four hours. Since most everything was made of wood it burnt like kindling. The huge grain elevators and factories, hospitals, churches, mansions, huts and even the streets all went up in smoke. When it was finally under control, the largest city in Illinois was a pile of ashes. At least 300 people were dead and 90,000 were homeless.



## An Obedient Son

**Luke 2:40-49, 51-52**

**40** And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

**41** Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

**42** And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

**43** And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

**44** But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

**45** And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

**46** And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

**47** And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

**48** And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

**49** And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

**51** And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was sub-

ject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

**52** And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

**Philippians 2:5-8**

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

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

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

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

**The Message: Christ was a good example of being subject to authority.**

### Questions:

1. With what was Jesus filled?
2. Why did His family go to Jerusalem?
3. How old was Jesus at this time?
4. What did Mary and Joseph discover as they were going home?
5. How many days passed before Jesus was found?
6. Where did Jesus' parents find Him?
7. Did Jesus return home with His parents?
8. Whose mind should be in us?
9. Jesus remained obedient unto \_\_\_\_\_.

### Verse to Memorize

**Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered.**

**Hebrews 5:8.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

The childhood of Jesus is a wonderful story. He began His life on earth as a newborn babe. He was helpless and totally dependent upon His earthly parents for survival. God had entrusted His Son, Jesus, into the care of Mary and Joseph.

He learned to crawl and walk just as you did when you were a baby. He played with his brothers and sister(s). I can imagine Him as a little boy bringing wildflowers to His mother, and Mary smiling as she takes the flowers from Him and washes His dirty hands and face.

Jesus was a holy child, which means He was Divine. Yet He was also human. His childhood was very much like your own. He did not live in a modern world like you, but while He was a child He thought, understood and acted like a child. He had the same feelings of happiness and sadness that you feel at times.

I don't believe, however, that He fell on the floor and had temper tantrums as some children do, because He was not born after the seed of Adam which causes children to be naughty. Yet He did have to learn to obey, although He was the Son of God.

Jesus wanted to experience what children do so that He might understand them better and be an example to them. In this story, Jesus was about 12 years of age. He went to Jerusalem with His parents and relatives for the Feast of the Passover. The family spent one week at the feast and started home. Jesus, however, had lingered behind. His parents were not aware of this. They assumed He

was walking with some of the relatives. After they had traveled all day they realized He was missing. Mary and Joseph were troubled and went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. They did not find Him for three days.

How could this have happened? Suppose you and your family travel to a large camp meeting with several relatives, using five vehicles. When the cars stop for gas, some of the children trade cars and ride with their cousins. Since you are almost a teenager and the campground is a safe place, you are given the freedom to care for yourself, at least some of the time. When it's time to go home, your parents leave the campground, assuming that you are riding with your cousin with whom they last saw you. They do not discover you are missing until they stop for gas. Imagine how they would feel.

There were no telephones or lost children agencies to help Mary and Joseph. I am sure they were praying and asking everywhere they went. "Have you seen Jesus?"

They were amazed to find Him talking to the doctors in the temple. Jesus' reply to His parents was an effort to console them as to His action, but they did not understand what He was meaning. Jesus went home with them and was subject to them and increased in wisdom and favor.

After leaving home, Jesus still obeyed His heavenly Father and remained obedient unto death.

If you desire to grow in wisdom and favor, follow the example of Jesus, and be obedient to your parents.

—Altina Cox

*A lot of young people believe that being submissive to authority is showing weakness. But it takes real strength to humble oneself and be obedient. When it is something we do not want to do, or when to do so isolates us from our friends, obeying God seems hard. Yet in the end obedience always brings longer lasting happiness!*

—Charlotte Huskey

The Spaffords thanked God their family was still alive, although they had lost their wealth. They decided Mrs. Spafford and the girls should go ahead to England and get away from the suffering. Mr. Spafford would come as soon as he could.

Mrs. Spafford and her four daughters were waving from the deck of *Ville de Havre* when it pulled away from the harbor. Mr. Spafford threw kisses to them.

"Will Daddy be okay?"

"Yes, Daddy will be okay. He is a brave man and he believes God allows only what will work for our good."

The sun was bright. Sailing was very good and soon the girls were running over the steamer examining everything between the bow and the stern. The captain even showed them in his cabin.

All was going well until the fog began to crowd in so thick the captain could barely see. Suddenly a great iron sailing vessel smashed into the *Ville de Havre*. Panic raged. The girls clung to their mother. They were screaming and crying. "Girls we must pray," Mrs. Spafford said. And as she hugged the girls the ship began sinking. "Oh, my God, help us this day. Be our lifeboats. Help us submit to Thy will. If this is our day to meet You, please give us grace to die in peace. We have no one to save us but You. We know all things work together for good."

The ocean waves tore them apart. Each one bobbed over the swells for a few minutes and then none was in sight. Mrs. Spafford was rescued by a lifeboat.

The rescue ship took the survivors to Cardiff, Wales. There Mrs. Spafford cabled her husband.

Mr. Spafford smiled when the telegraph boy handed him the telegram. He was anxious to hear from his family. Quickly he ripped it open and spread it on the table.

"Saved alone," he read. "What has happened to my lovely daughters?" he questioned.

He hurried to the dock and went straight to the ticket agent of the French steamer. "Is there news from the *Ville de Havre*?" he asked.

"Yes, there's been a terrible tragedy. In mid-ocean a large iron sailing vessel, which was blown off course, struck it. She went down in less than thirty minutes."

"My girls, my four sweet girls went down with it."

"I'm very sorry," the agent said sadly. "Two hundred and twenty-two others were lost also."

"Get me another passage," Mr. Spafford demanded. "I've got to get to my wife as soon as possible."

Spafford left on the next ship. As they were crossing the Atlantic, the captain pointed out the place where he thought the *Ville de Havre* had gone down. That night, Mr. Spafford wrote, "When sorrows like sea billows roll—Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, 'It is well, it is well with my soul.'"

Mr. and Mrs. Spafford said, "Our troubles have come like the waves of an angry ocean. First our son died, the fire took most everything we had and then we lost our girls. It's all been hard but we say, 'It is well: the will of God be done.'"

Two years later Mr. Spafford added to the thoughts he had written on the ship and finished the song, "It Is Well With My Soul." —Charlotte Huskey

—Information from: James Draper, *More Than a Song*, Moody Press, 1970, and Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *The One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, 1995.

(Answers: 1. With wisdom and the grace of God. 2. For the Feast of the Passover. 3. Twelve years old. 4. That Jesus was not with them. 5. Three days. 6. In the temple. 7. Yes. 8. The mind of Jesus. 9. Death.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Oct. 3, 2004

## Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

Henry Lyte sat by the bedside of his terminally ill friend. "I'm afraid to die," the friend confessed.

"Afraid to die? Why? You're a clergyman."

"Being a clergyman doesn't assure me I am saved from hell. Are you sure you are?"

Henry sat with his head down. "Am I saved? I was ordained a minister in the Anglican Church in 1815. Isn't that a passport to heaven?" After a long silence he admitted, "I'm not sure."

His friend moaned. "How dreadful! I hoped you could help me." Henry was again silent for awhile then he looked at his friend and said, "By the grace of God, I will help you."

From that day they began searching the Scriptures together. Soon both young men made a sincere commitment to God.

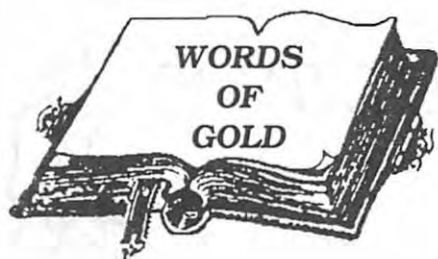
Henry Lyte was a new person. He began working with new enthusiasm, studying his Bible diligently and preaching with heavy conviction. At the same time he committed his desires for the future and consecrated to be poor and despised for Jesus. This is plainly seen in the words of the song he wrote entitled,

"Jesus I My Cross Have Taken." It is believed that he wrote it about the time when he totally committed himself to God. The first verse shows that Henry had taken his cross and was following Jesus, as the rich young ruler was instructed to do in Mark 10:17-22.

Henry won many honors at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, for "writing the best English verse." He may have hoped to someday become a famous poet and earn big money. If so, he surrendered all these dreams. In the song he said, "All to leave and follow Thee; Perish every fond ambition, All I've sought, or hoped or known, Yet, how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own." So we see God brought joy to replace the loss of his dreams.

Henry was twenty-two years old. Naturally he wanted friends but he felt seeing God's face was more important than friends. He wrote, "Foes may hate and friends may shun me, Show Thy face and all is bright."

Life for Henry had been peppered with hard struggles. His family was plagued with poverty and he was the youngest child. In those days, as the children grew, their clothes they outgrew were handed down to the younger child. Imagine what the clothes were like by the time Henry got them!



## Taking Your Cross

### Matthew 10:28-39

**28** And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

**29** Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

**30** But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

**31** Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

**32** Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

**33** But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

**34** Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

**35** For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

**36** And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

**37** He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

**38** And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me.

**39** He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

### Mark 10:17-22

**17** And when he was gone forth into

the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

**18** And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

**19** Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.

**20** And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

**21** Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

**22** And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

**The Message: We must gladly take up our cross and follow Jesus.**

### Questions:

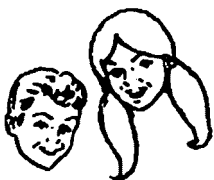
1. Whom should people fear?
2. Whom should people not fear?
3. Does God care for us and the sparrows?
4. Did Jesus come to make peace on earth?
5. Who may be our worst enemy?
6. Who is not worthy of Jesus?
7. What did the man want who knelt before Jesus?
8. What must the man do to have eternal life?
9. What must each Christian do to have eternal life?

### Verse to Memorize

**...He that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.**

**Matthew 10:38.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

The rich young ruler fell at Jesus' feet and cried, "What must I do to have eternal life?"

"Obey the commandments of God," Jesus answered.

"I have obeyed them since I was a child. What else should I do? I want assurance of eternal life."

"You lack only one thing," Jesus answered. "Sell what you own and give the money to the poor."

Suddenly the rich man looked sad. He said not a word but turned

and walked slowly away.

Jesus looked at His disciples and said, "It is very hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God for they usually trust in their riches. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter into the kingdom."

Many people have done like the rich man. They have chosen to cling to what they have instead of committing all they have to Jesus. To obtain eternal life, everything must be surrendered to Jesus. Some do not have riches to give away but whatever they have must be available for God to use. The rich young ruler was not willing to take up his cross and follow Jesus. Henry F. Lyte, author of "Jesus I My Cross," was willing to carry his cross. He received many blessings for doing so.

—Charlotte Huskey

### Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

By Henry F. Lyte

Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee;  
Naked, poor, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shalt be;  
Perish ev'ry fond ambition,  
All I've sought, or hoped or known,  
Yet, how rich is my condition!  
God and heav'n are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,  
They have left my Savior, too;  
Human hearts and looks deceive me;  
Thou art not, like them, untrue;  
And while thou shalt smile upon me,  
God of wisdom, love and might,  
Foes may hate and friends may shun me.  
Show Thy face, and all is bright.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure!  
Come, disaster scorn and pain!  
In thy service pain is pleasure;  
With thy favor loss is gain.  
I have called thee, "Abba, Father."  
I have stayed my heart on thee!  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather,  
All must work for good to me.

Man may trouble and distress me,  
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast;  
Life with trials hard may press me,  
Heav'n will bring me sweeter rest;  
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me;  
While Thy love is left to me;  
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.



Both of his parents died while he was still young so Henry had to work hard to get an education. After completing his education at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, he pastored various congregations. Later he was transferred to Lower Brixham, in Devonshire, Ireland. Here Henry preached to the poor fishermen living there and lived from the meager offerings they could give.

Henry preached in Lower Brixham for twenty-three years. During this time he learned that many blessings are hidden in suffering. He was not a strong man. His health was constantly threatened by asthma and tuberculosis. He was weak and unable to work like the strong fishermen to whom he preached each Sunday. Perhaps he was ridiculed for this weakness or hated by those who felt reproved by his total commitment. He wrote, "Man may trouble and distress me, 'twill but drive me to Thy breast; Life with trials hard may press me, Heaven will bring me sweeter rest."

In spite of his physical frailties Henry was a tireless worker. He had the reputation of being a poet and musician as well as a minister. He coined the phrase, "It is better to wear out than to rust out" and showed by his hard work that he believed it. He was greatly loved and admired by most of those he ministered to.

In *Sacred Poetry*, the first of four books which Henry Lyte published, "Jesus I My Cross Have Taken" appeared as a poem, signed only with a "G." Nine years later, in *Poems Chiefly Religious*, he published it with his name.

In 1831, Henry Leavitt compiled and published an important American hymnal, the *Christian Lyre*. This book contained arrangements of well-known secular melodies that could be used with the hymn texts. An

arrangement, believed to be one of Wolfgang A. Mozart, was included in this hymnal. It is the tune by which we sing, "Jesus I My Cross Have Taken."

Mozart had extraordinary musical talent. He was widely recognized as a composer at the tender age of six. He was born in Salzburg, Austria, on January 27, 1756, and died at age 35. Although he had composed over 600 musical compositions he died brokenhearted and was buried in a pauper's grave.

How different were these two men! Mozart was born with wonderful talent but died unhappy. Henry Lyte committed his few talents to further God's kingdom. He started out in adverse conditions and struggled through a lifetime of sickness. However, he built up a Sunday school of 800 attendants and wrote four books. He died a happy man and was buried in the English cemetery in Nice, France.

We thank Mozart and Henry Lyte for "Jesus I My Cross Have Taken." It has encouraged many weary Christians along life's pathway. It is found on page 248 in *Evening Light Songs* and also on page three of this lesson.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

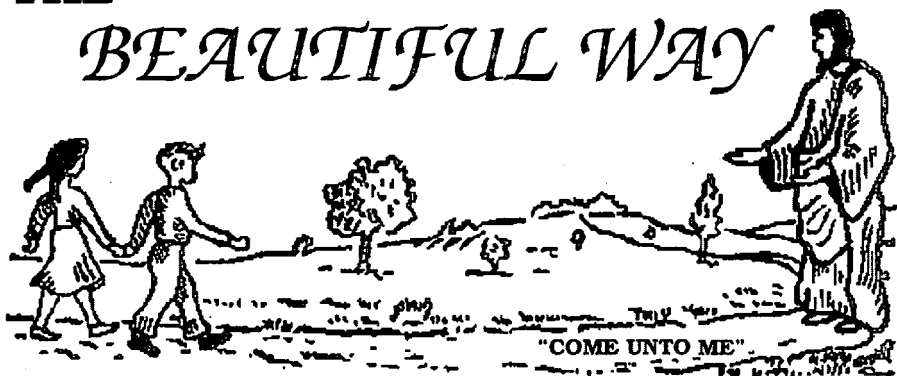
(Information taken from: Kenneth W. Osbeck, *101 More Hymn Stories*, Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, MI, 1985. p 158.)

(Answers: 1. Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. 2. He who can only kill the body. 3. Yes. 4. No. 5. Those of our household (those with whom we live). 6. Anyone who will not take up his cross and follow Him. 7. Eternal life. 8. Sell all he had and give it to the poor. 9. Take up his cross and follow Jesus.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Oct. 10, 2004

## Abide With Me

"Please don't leave us," begged the children as they gathered around their pastor, Henry Lyte.

"I-I have-to-leave," Mr. Lyte said slowly.

"Where are you going?"

"Maybe to Italy," he replied. He stopped for breath before continuing. "I must get away from this cold sea-shore and go to a warmer climate."

"He's gonna die!" the children whispered to one another. Some girls began to cry. Some boys ran away angrily. One small boy, clutching his fishing pole, looked up and asked, "Who'll teach us about Jesus?"

"I'll leave someone in charge of the Sunday school," he promised.

Henry Lyte had been sunning himself in front of the Anglican Church in Lower Brixham when the children came to question him. They heard that he was going to leave and could not imagine what they would do without him.

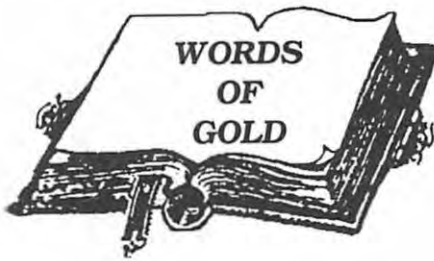
Twenty-three years ago he had come to this fishing community in Devonshire, England. He was young then but a tireless worker. He had already established himself as a poet, musician and capable minister. The new congregation was small and the people, for the most part, were poor

fishermen. They were glad to have such a promising and ambitious young man as their pastor but they couldn't help wondering how they could support him.

But much to their surprise Henry did not ask for as much salary as most ministers. He could easily relate to the poor. His family had been plagued with extreme poverty. Then the worst of the worst happened. Both his father and his mother died while he was still young, leaving him an orphan. In spite of all his difficulties, Henry Lyte was determined to make the best of his life. He studied hard and was able to graduate from Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland.

Henry Lyte was willing to suffer for Jesus. In college he had won many honors for "writing the best English verse." However, instead of seeking to become a famous poet, he gave his time and strength to serving people. He thought much about the future and where souls would spend eternity. With this in mind, he labored almost day and night to awaken in people a desire to serve God.

Lyte was not a strong man. Most of his life he suffered from tuberculosis. Although frail in body, he was strong in faith and had a determination that enabled him to capture the interest of the children in the whole



## Abide With Us

**Luke 24:13, 15-21, 25-31, 33**

**13** ...Two [disciples] went that same day to a village called Emmaus...

**15** And...while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

**16** But...they [did] not know him.

**17** And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?

**18** And the one of them...said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

**19** And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:

**20** And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.

**21** But we trusted...he...should have redeemed Israel:...

**25** Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

**26** Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

**27** And beginning at Moses...he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

**28** And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he

made as though he would have gone further.

**29** But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

**30** And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

**31** And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

**33** And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem...[seven and one-half miles].

**The Message: Jesus has promised to abide with us everywhere we go, even to the ends of the world.**

### Questions:

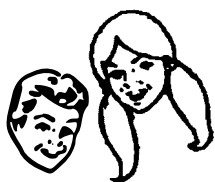
1. Where were the two men going?
2. How far was Emmaus from Jerusalem?
3. Of what were the men talking?
4. Who joined them as they walked?
5. Did Jesus seem to know what had happened in Jerusalem?
6. What did Jesus explain to the disciples?
7. When did the disciples realize that the stranger was Jesus?
8. What happened to Jesus after He was discovered?
9. Where did the disciples go after Jesus disappeared?

### Verse to Memorize

**But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.**

**Luke 24:29.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

The disciples were very sad. In fact, it was the saddest day of their lives. He was gone—their best Friend, their Hero, Helper and Healer, their Counselor, the man they thought would someday be a king to deliver them from bondage. Would they ever see Him again?

For three and one-half years they had been with Him almost every day. He had healed the sick, raised dead men and created food for thousands of people. Twice He had calmed the storms when they were about to be hurled from their ship by angry winds. All these miracles and the wisdom of His word had convinced them that He could do anything. Why did He let Himself be killed? Why didn't He come down from the cross?

They were sure He was the Savior which God promised to bring peace to all the world. Then suddenly He was arrested and, like any helpless man, had been tried, proven guilty and nailed on a cross!

It seemed ridiculous. It was so unbelievable, so surprising and unjust. This powerful God-man had become powerless in the hands of angry men. He was dead!

Now news had come that He was again alive! Was He alive or had someone stolen His body? How confusing!

As the two disciples walked along talking about these things, a stranger joined them. He questioned why they were so sad. "Have you not heard what is happening in Jerusalem?" they questioned.

"What?" He asked.

They told Him everything.

When they finished He began quoting prophecies from the first portions of the Bible. Then He explained how these had been fulfilled in this God-man they had told Him about.

His words burned in their hearts. They knew He was telling them the truth. How happy they felt!

"Please come in and stay with us," they begged when they arrived in Emmaus.

Jesus went in with them. While they were eating, the disciples suddenly realized this stranger was Jesus.

"Jesus!" They cried.

Then He disappeared.

—Charlotte Huskey

One day when Henry F. Lyte read this Bible story, he felt the sad emotions of these men so strongly that he wrote the following song.

### Abide With Me

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide!  
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, Oh, abide with me!*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see:  
Oh, Thou who changest not, abide with me!*

*I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's  
power?*

*Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord abide  
with me!*

*Hold Thou thy word before my closing eyes,  
Shine through the gloom and point me to  
the skies;*

*Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain  
shadows flee*

*In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!*

This song has provided comfort to many in times of deep despair and even death. A group of ex-prisoners of war from England recalled how they sang this hymn each Sunday evening while imprisoned. Survivors of the *Titanic* catastrophe told of hearing the strains of "Abide With Me" sung by the doomed passengers standing on the sinking ship as it slipped beneath the icy water.

—Hymns of Faith and Inspiration by  
Pamela J. Kennedy

community. In that era church services were stiff and formal, geared for the cultured adult. Lyte made them interesting for the uneducated fisherman, his humble wife and the children. The Sunday school grew, and grew, and grew, until more than 800 children attended.

When Lyte was unable to be visiting among the sheep of his fold or the goats outside his corral, he was writing. He coined the phrase, "It is better to wear out than to rust out." He did wear out. He wrote four books: *Sacred Poetry*, *Tales On The Lord's Prayer*, *Poems-Chiefly Religious* and *The Spirit of the Psalms*. *Sacred Poetry* was published in 1824, about the time he went to Lower Brixham. He was thirty-three years old when *Tales On The Lord's Prayer* was published. He also wrote eighty hymn texts, some of which were first published as poems.

At least two of Henry Lyte's songs are in the *Evening Light Songs*. "Jesus I My Cross" is on page 248 and "Abide With Me" on page 342.

"Abide With Me" was written for his last sermon with the fishermen at Lower Brixham. His love for these people caused him to almost crawl to the pulpit to give his farewell message. He said, "I desire to induce you to prepare for the solemn hour which must come to all by a timely appreciation and dependence on the death of Christ." Today we would say it this way, "I desire to persuade you to prepare for your hour of death by appreciating and depending on the death of Christ for your salvation before it is too late." Or like this, "I desire to persuade you to be saved before it is too late."

Henry Lyte died in Nice, France on his way to Rome, Italy. He was buried in an English cemetery on November 20, 1861, in Nice.

"Abide With Me" appeared first in America in Henry Ward Beecher's Plymouth Collection in 1855. Later it was discovered by William Henry Monk, music editor of the well-known Anglican Church hymnal, *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, and was included in that book. It is said that in less than half an hour he composed for Lyte's poem a tune named "Eventide." He was inspired by the beauty of a glorious sunset while yet experiencing a deep personal sorrow. Today we sing "Abide With Me" to the tune "Eventide" although Lyte had written a tune for his song. When I hear "Eventide" I feel like stopping what I am doing and finding a sleepy child, cuddling him or her in my arms and reading a bedtime story. How do you feel when you hear it?

The first time "Abide With Me" was sung, Henry Lyte and the people he loved were saying goodbye. Today it is often sung when people must say goodbye to a loved one whom they will not see for a long time, or maybe never (in the case of death). Jesus promised to always be with us. This song helps us to believe it.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information taken from: Kenneth W. Osbeck, *101 Hymn Stories*, Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, MI, 1982, p. 17.)

(Answers: 1. To a village called Emmaus. 2. It was seven and one-half miles from Jerusalem. 3. They were talking about Jesus being crucified. 4. Jesus. 5. No. 6. Beginning with Moses, Jesus explained the prophecies about Himself. 7. When He blessed the bread. 8. He disappeared. 9. They walked back to Jerusalem.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Oct. 17, 2004

## Blessed Assurance

Dr. Combe examined Fanny's head carefully. He looked into her eyes. "Here is a poetess!" he exclaimed. Turning to the school director he said, "You must encourage her in every way possible. Teach her to appreciate fine poetry by reading the best books to her. Someday she may write fine poems."

It was in the latter part of the 1830's when the Dr. Combe, a phrenologist, visited New York's Institute For The Blind. Fanny J. Crosby, then in her late teens, had written rhymes since early childhood. She loved nothing better than to read or listen to poetry. While living at home, her grandmother helped her memorize entire books of the Bible. She especially enjoyed Psalms and Proverbs. Both are books of poetry.

Only days before Dr. Combe's visit, her teacher had scolded Fanny, saying she must stop reading poetry until her math scores improved. She had taken away a large book of poetry which Fanny usually read each evening until the dormitory mother would make her go to bed. That day angry Fanny had written this rhyme: "I loath, abhor, it makes me sick; To hear the word arithmetic!" Now her heart beat wildly. Would the book be returned to her?

It was and from that day the institute did everything possible to help Fanny develop her poetry writing skills. The teachers read poetry more often. They borrowed and bought poetry books in Braille so that Fanny could read them. Never again did the teacher complain about Fanny's math although it did not improve.

Sometimes when visitors came to the school they asked her to recite one of her poems. Soon Fanny's poems were appearing in the newspapers. Other newspapers reprinted her poems. People all over America began talking about the beautiful spirit-filled poetry. President Tyler came to the school to visit her.

Even among the blessings, Fanny had trials. One time a teacher scolded, "God cannot use you while you are proud. You must give God the glory." That night Fanny checked over much of her poetry to see if she was giving God the glory in her verses. Then she wrote the following poem that was later put to music. Have you sung it?

*"...To God be the glory  
Great things He hath taught us,  
Great things He hath done.  
And great our rejoicing through  
Jesus the Son;*

*"But purer and higher and greater  
will be*



## Having God's Assurance

**Deuteronomy 28:1, 8-9,  
15, 59-66**

**1** ...If thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to ...do all his commandments...that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

**8** The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy store-houses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

**9** The Lord shall establish thee an holy people...if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways.

**15** But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God...to do all his commandments...that all these curses shall come upon thee,...

**59** Then the Lord will make...great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses,...

**60** Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of: and they shall cleave unto thee.

**61** Also every sickness, and every plague,...will the Lord bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

**62** And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the Lord thy God.

**63** And it shall come to pass, that as the Lord rejoiced over you to do

you good, and to multiply you: so the Lord will...destroy you,...and ye shall be plucked from off the land...

**64** And the Lord shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other:...

**65** And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither...have rest: but the Lord shall give thee there a trembling heart,...and sorrow of mind:

**66** And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life:

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**The Message: God gives blessed assurance to those who obey His commandments.**

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### Questions:

1. What is God's promise to those who do His commandments?
2. Name the things God will bless.
3. The Lord will establish the obedient as \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What will come upon those who do not observe God's commandments?
5. Will plagues, sicknesses and the disease of Egypt be some of the curses?
6. What will happen to the multitudes of people?
7. Will the disobedient be fearful?
8. Will the disobedient have assurance?
9. Will the obedient have assurance?

### Verse to Memorize

**...The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.**

**Isaiah 32:17.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

God said in Jeremiah 21:8, "...Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death." God is saying this to every person. Each of us has an opportunity to choose either life or death. Which one have you chosen? I have chosen life.

All who choose life have also chosen to obey God's commandments. Those who do not obey the commandments have chosen death, although they may not realize it. Spiritual death comes to all who do not obey God's commandments.

Those who obey God's commandments have an assurance deep in their heart. They do not fear like others who are not living to please God. When they are afraid of some unusual thing that is taking place in their lives, they feel assured that God is working out this strange thing for their good.

In the Bible lesson for today, God told the people they would be blessed if they obeyed His commandments. He promised to bless their children, their animals, their fields and everything they did.

Those who did not obey God would have troubles. Sometimes people who are not obeying the Word of God become so fearful that they have heart attacks. Luke 21:26 says, "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:..."

Those who obey the commandments of God are not fearful. God takes care of them. They believe God's promises and feel an assurance in their heart that whatever happens

will work out for their good.

Fanny J. Crosby had this assurance in her heart. She wrote the following song. Let's sing the song in praise to God for the assurance He gives each one who obeys His commandments. —Charlotte Huskey

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### **Blessed Assurance**

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight,  
Angels descending, bring from above,  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.*

*Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.*

#### **Chorus:**

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.*

---

### **God's Lights**

Are you afraid at night? One time a girl asked her mother if the moon was God's light.

"Yes," her mother answered.

"Will God ever blow out His light and go to sleep?" she wanted to know next.

Her mother said, "No, God's lights never go out, for God never sleeps. Even when we cannot see His lights, they are shining just the same."

"Well, then while God's awake I'm not afraid," was the girl's answer.

Are you ever tempted to be afraid? It will help you to remember that God is always awake and that He has said, "Certainly I will be with thee." Exodus 3:12. —Selected

Our wonder, our transport,  
When Jesus we see.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear His voice!"

In later years, after she moved away from the school, Presidents Adam, Polk and Cleveland each visited her and listened to her poetry. Senator Henry Clay and other government officials also visited her.

Not all of Fanny's life was fame and happiness. She was born in 1820; her father died the following year. Then her mother was forced to work away from home, leaving Fanny to be cared for by her grandmother.

Fortunately Fanny's grandmother took her task seriously and became eyes to blind Fanny. She described to Fanny what she saw or heard. She placed whatever she could in Fanny's hands so that Fanny could feel it while learning its color, size and shape. Fanny could describe the mocking bird, the red-headed woodpecker, the robin, the yellow warbler and many other birds. She knew the kinds of trees by feeling the bark and the shape of the leaf. She knew many things by their sound.

Fanny hungered for knowledge and absorbed what she heard. Grandmother read the Bible to her often. By age ten she had memorized the first four books of the Bible, the book of Ruth and many Psalms and Proverbs. She begged to attend school and prayed many years until God made it possible. After graduating from the Institute For The Blind she taught there for eleven years.

Although Fanny loved books, she also loved to be outside. After she learned her way around the farm, she roamed the meadow alone, being careful to stay away from the pond. She learned to ride her uncle's horse, to

climb the rail fence and even walk on top of it.

Fanny J. Crosby was forty-four years old before she started writing songs. Historians estimate that she wrote more than 8,000 gospel songs. For several years she worked for a music publisher, writing three hymns each week. During this time she used 200 pen names. Songs are still being discovered that were written by her under a pen name. Probably no other person has contributed as much to American gospel music as Fanny J. Crosby.

She was often requested to write hymns. Sometimes a minister asked to have a song written about a certain subject or for a certain occasion. At other times musicians would first compose the music and then ask Fanny to write words to blend with the music. Mrs. Joseph Knapp, wife of the founder of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, composed a tune and played it for Fanny. "What does this tune say?" she asked.

"Why that says, 'Blessed Assurance Jesus is Mine,'" Fanny told her. Then Fanny wrote the beautiful words that Christians in many parts of the world are now singing. You can sing it, too. Find it on page 194 in the *Evening Light Songs*.

Fanny J. Crosby died at age 95. Inscribed on her tombstone are these words, "She has done what she could."

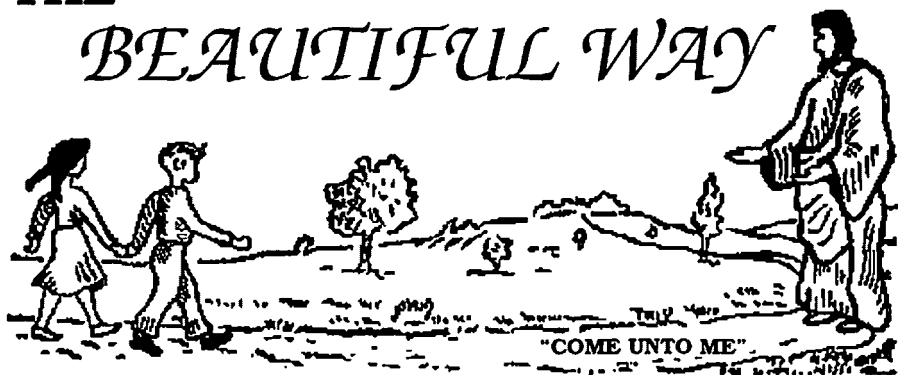
—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Answers: 1. God will set them above all nations. 2. He will bless the storehouses, land and whatever they set their hands to do. 3. Holy people. 4. Curses will come on them. 5. Yes. 6. Many will die, others will be scattered. 7. Yes. 8. No. 9. Yes.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Oct. 24, 2004

## Rescue The Perishing

If anyone ever had cause to be discouraged and depressed it was Fanny Crosby. She was only a baby when she was blinded accidentally. A country doctor applied a mustard poultice to her eyes causing her to lose her eyesight.

Then while she was still a small child her father died. She married a blind musician. After his death she lived alone for thirty-two years. Yet this tiny, energetic woman was never bitter or gloomy. Although blind she was always full of joy and enthusiasm until she died six weeks before her ninety-fifth birthday. When she was only eight-years-old Fanny wrote:

*Oh, what a happy soul am I,*

*Although I cannot see,*

*I am resolved that in this world*

*Contented I will be.*

*How many blessings I enjoy*

*That other people don't*

*To weep and sigh because I'm blind,*

*I cannot, and I won't!*

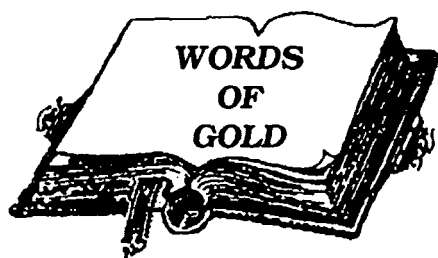
Blind Fanny Crosby did not have a computer on which to quickly type out the hymns she wrote. She had to punch dots on paper to form letters. This took much time but Fanny worked faithfully. Sometimes God's Spirit flooded her mind with words so fast she could not get them punched out in Braille. She would then ask

others to write for her. It is said that on one day three songs came to her mind at almost the same time. She kept repeating them to herself until a helper came. Then one by one she spoke the words as the helper wrote them down.

Words for hymns often came to her mind because she was thinking and praying for sinners to be saved. Fanny once said, "Many of my hymns were written after experiences in New York mission work."

The mission was a place where homeless people (mostly men in those years) could come and have supper and listen to an evangelistic message. Sitting in the mission that night Fanny remembered that Mr. Doane had sent her a theme for a new song, "Rescue the Perishing." The words, "Rescue the perishing, care for the dying," kept running through her mind. At the same time she kept thinking that some young man in her audience must be rescued from Satan that very day or he would be lost forever in hell. When Fanny arose to speak, she pleaded with the men to make peace with God that night. "If there is a boy present who has wandered from his mother's home and teaching, please come to me at the end of the service," she said.

A boy, eighteen-years-old, came forward when the service ended and



## Bring Them In

**Luke 14:15-24**

**15** And when one of them that sat at meat with [Jesus] heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.

**16** Then said [Jesus] unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

**17** And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

**18** And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.

**19** And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.

**20** And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

**21** So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed [crippled], and the halt [those who halt when they walk], and the blind.

**22** And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

**23** And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

**24** For I say unto you, That none of

those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

**The Message: Christ wants Christians to persuade others to live for Him.**

### Questions:

1. What did the man prepare?
2. Were many invited?
3. Did some make excuses and not come?
4. Who was invited after the guests refused to come?
5. Was there space for others after the blind, the lame and the poor had come in?
6. How did the servants get the house filled?
7. What sad thing happened to those who were invited first?
8. Has Christ invited you to be saved?
9. Do people have a second chance to be saved?

### THE WEAKEST SAINT

Little Mary knelt every night at her bedside and prayed. Mother stood nearby. One night little Mary prayed longer than usual. Finally she arose.

"Mary," asked Mother, "why did you pray so long tonight?"

"Today in church we sang a song that said, 'Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees.' I wanted to make him tremble longer!"

—Selected

### Verse to Memorize:

**So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.**

**Matthew 22:10.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Jesus told the following story to show us how important it is to invite others to know Christ as their Savior:

One day a man said to his servant, "I want you to make a fine dinner. Invite plenty of guests so that my house will be filled."

In those days there were no telephones and the postal service was very poor indeed. His servant killed the animals and roasted the meat. They made fine breads and sweets. Then they set out to invite his friends and the neighbors.

The first man they invited said, "Please ask your master to excuse me. I bought some land and today I am going to see it." The second person they invited said, "I pray thee, excuse me, for I have bought five pair of oxen and I am going right now to see how well they will work." The third man they invited said, "Haven't you heard? I just got married. I must stay home with my wife, therefore I cannot come." Everywhere they went the people made excuses and did not come.

The servants told their master. Then he said, "I must have some guests. Go quickly into the streets and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind and all those who are rejected."

The servants went out and brought in many guests but still the house was not filled. "Go again," the master said, "go out on the highway and invite strangers who are passing. Go into the hedges. Persuade everyone you see to come to my supper. I want my house full."

This story shows very clearly Jesus' desire to serve others. He wants

to make them happy. He wants people to enjoy themselves. He knows, however, that people must get into His house, or His kingdom, to be truly happy. Outside of Jesus, there are many troubles. These troubles come from doing sinful things.

The master's last command to his servants was to "go into the highways and hedges and compel them to come." This is the command Jesus is giving to us (His servants) today. We must not only invite our friends and family to know Jesus, we must also invite those we meet when we are traveling. We must go knocking on doors and visiting with the poor, the handicapped, the blind, those in hospitals, institutions and anywhere God impresses us to go.

Jesus told this story to teach us that we must rescue the perishing.

—Charlotte Huskey

---

### Rescue the Perishing

Fanny J. Crosby

*Rescue the perishing,  
Care for the dying,  
Snatch them in pity from sin and the  
grave;  
Weep o'er the erring one,  
Lift up the fallen,  
Tell them of Jesus the mighty to save.*

*Tho' they are slighting him,  
Still he is waiting,  
Waiting the penitent child to receive.  
Plead with them earnestly,  
Plead with them gently;  
He will forgive if they only believe.*

*Rescue the perishing,  
Duty demands it,  
Strength for thy labor the Lord will  
provide;  
Back to the narrow way  
Patiently win them;  
Tell the poor wand'rer a Savior has  
died.*

---

said, "Did you mean me? I promised my mother to meet her in heaven but as I now am living that will be impossible."

There at the mission altar they knelt and prayed together. He repented of the way he was living and promised to not sin again. After praying awhile, a new light shone in his eyes. He arose and said, "Now I can meet my mother in heaven, for I have found God."

That night Fanny Crosby stayed awake until she had finished writing the song, "Rescue the Perishing." She gave the song to Mr. W. H. Doane and he put it to music. It was first published in 1870 in Doane's Songs of Devotion.

Ira Sankey sang it often in the great Moody evangelistic campaigns in the latter part of the nineteenth century. It stirred souls and brought conviction and repentance to many.

It was also used in missions throughout America. The following story shows how this song aroused conviction in a sinner. It comes from Bowery Mission:

On a stormy night a dirty, unshaven drunkard staggered into the mission. He sank into a seat and gazed around as if wondering where he happened to be. "Rescue the Perishing" and several other hymns were sung. From the expression on his face the leaders saw that his heart was opening.

As the speaker was giving the message of Christ's love for sinners and His desire to rescue them from death and hell, he also spoke of his own experience of being saved from death on the battlefields. At one point he gave the name of the company in which he had served. At the close of the meeting, the drunkard staggered up to the speaker and in a slurred voice asked, "What years were you in the company you spoke about?"

"Why all through the war," the speaker answered.

"Do you remember the battle of \_\_\_\_\_?"

"I remember it perfectly."

"Can you recall the name of the captain of your company at that time?"

"Yes, his name was, \_\_\_\_\_."

"You are right," exclaimed the drunkard. "I am that man, your former captain." He paused for a moment as if battling with embarrassment. "Now I'm a wreck. Drink has dragged me down until I've lost everything I had. I don't know what to do or where to turn for help. Can you save me?"

"Well, I can't, but Jesus can," said the speaker. Then he instructed the old captain to confess his sins, forgive everyone, and promise to God that he would never take another drink.

The old captain was saved that night. He often tells the story of how God used his former soldier to rescue his perishing soul.

"Rescue the Perishing" is one of the 8,000 hymns written by Fanny J. Crosby. It has been translated into many languages and sung in many nations around the world.

Maybe you, too, would like to sing it. Find it on page 325 in the *Evening Light Songs*.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information taken from: Kenneth W. Osbeck, *101 Hymn Stories*, Kregel Publishing, Grand Rapids, MI, 1979. pp. 211-212.)

(Answers: 1. A great supper. 2. Yes. 3. Yes. 4. The poor, the maimed, the halt and the blind. 5. Yes. 6. By going into the highways and hedges and compelling others to come. 7. They were not allowed to taste the supper. 8. Answers will vary. 9. Some may but some may not, so we must surrender to Christ when He speaks to us.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Oct. 31, 2004

## Take My Life And Let It Be

The song, *Take My Life And Let It Be*, was the prayer of Frances Ridley Havergal long before she wrote it.

Frances was born in Astley, England on December 14, 1835. Her father was pastor of a church and her mother a godly woman. They had family prayers and taught their children to love and respect God.

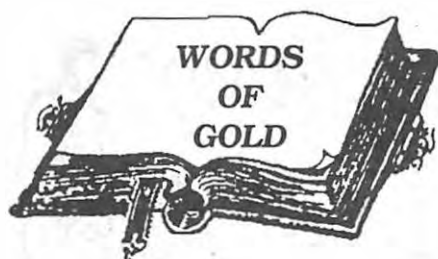
Mr. Havergal was well educated and knew several languages. He was also a fine musician and composed hundreds of hymns. However, all the money earned from the sale of songs was put back into the Lord's work. He showed Frances, by his example, to give all to Jesus, just as she says in the third verse of this song. "Take my silver and my gold—not a might would I withhold."

Frances studied at home. To the surprise of her parents, she learned to read while she was three-years-old. Before her fifth birthday she learned to write and could read the Bible and some other books the family owned. Soon after she learned to write she began writing poems. Frances had completed a book of poems when she was seven. She also had a great interest in music.

Mr. and Mrs. Havergal recognized that their little "Fanny", as they called her, had special gifts from God. Frances' parents were concerned about what might happen to a child with such a brilliant mind. They were also concerned about her unusual behavior. Sometimes she played with other children but many times, when they thought Frances was out playing, she was in a corner reading a book, writing a poem or studying French. It seemed she wanted to spend all her time studying.

They often prayed that Frances would never grow proud and that she would always realize that her God had given her wisdom beyond her years. They prayed she would use her talents to the glory of God.

Mrs. Havergal became seriously ill when Frances was eleven. She realized she might die and leave Frances without a mother's guidance so she gave her some advice that would help her throughout her life. She told Frances to give herself wholeheartedly to the Lord Jesus and let Him use her talents. As she lay on her deathbed hardly able to speak, she said, "Remember, nothing but the precious blood of Jesus can make you clean and lovely in God's sight." Frances thought of the verse, "But if we walk in the light as he is in the light,...the blood of Jesus Christ his



## Matthew's Consecration

**Matthew 9:9; 10:1, 16, 18-20,  
22, 28, 32-33, 37-39**

**9** And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.

**1** And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

**16** Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

**18** And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.

**19** But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

**20** For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

**22** And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

**28** And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

**32** Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I con-

fess also before my Father which is in heaven.

**33** But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

**37** He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

**38** And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me.

**39** He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

**The Message: Matthew  
lost his life in Jesus and  
found eternal life.**

### Questions:

1. Who did Jesus ask to follow him?
2. Did Matthew obey Jesus?
3. Did the disciples let Jesus take their lives and do what He wanted with them?
4. If they were brought before kings, would Jesus give them words to speak?
5. Who were the disciples to fear?
6. Who will Jesus confess before His Father?
7. Are those worthy of Jesus who love their families more than Him?
8. What will happen to those who are not willing for Jesus to take control of their lives?
9. What will happen to those who lose their lives for Christ?

### Verse to Memorize

**I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.**

**Romans 12:1.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Matthew collected taxes for the Roman government. Tax collectors were harshly criticized in the Gospels. They were unpopular because they could buy the right to collect taxes in a district for a fixed sum. It was their business to collect that sum and a little more as their profit. (*The Lion Encyclopedia Of The Bible*.) Most tax collectors were hated because they defrauded the people by collecting far more taxes than were due like Zacchaeus did. Matthew, however, must have been fairly honest, for he was not required to repay anyone.

Jesus saw Matthew sitting in his tax office. He said, "Follow me," and Matthew left his office and followed Jesus.

What a willing heart Matthew had. God did not have to beg. Many times Jesus has to deal hard with people to cause them to be willing to follow Him. Not Matthew. Pronto, he was up and ready to go! And he followed Jesus until his death.

That is the kind of response Jesus wants from every Christian. To be a successful Christian we must be willing to give our all to Him. Except for Judas, each of the apostles gave their all to Jesus.

He had control of their time; their mind, their strength and everything they had—money, houses and land. They lost their lives for Jesus and they found their lives in Jesus. Isn't it strange that a person can lose his life and gain it at the same time?

Let each of us say to Jesus, "Take my life and let it be, consecrated Lord to thee. Take my silver and my gold,

not a mite would I withhold." Whatever you have, let Jesus have it and He will bless you greatly.

Now let us find number 239 in the *Evening Light Songs* and sing, "Take My Life And Let It Be" by Frances Havergal, music by A. H. C. Malan.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

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### Take My Life And Let It Be

*"Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my hands, and let them  
move*

*At the impulse of thy love.*

*Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee;  
Take my voice, and let me sing  
Always, only for my King.*

*Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages from thee;  
Take my silver and my gold;  
Not a mite would I withhold.*

*Take my will and make it thine;  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
It shall be thy royal throne."*

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### THE LORD HATH NEED

"Nobody seems to want me," said a young girl forlornly. "I'm a cripple and in everybody's way."

As she spoke to herself, she chanced to be passing a book shop. Her eyes lit upon the words, "The Lord hath need."

She repeated the words a number of times so she would not forget them. When she reached home she looked them up in her Bible.

"Jesus once needed a donkey," she said. "Perhaps He wants me—a cripple. I'll ask Him."

Forty years later a lame Bible woman died—mourned by hundreds of people. That woman was once the little lame girl.

It does not matter who you are, the Lord needs you. If you will give your life to Him, He will use you for His glory in just the place where you can serve Him best.

—Selected

Son cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1:7.

Three years after Frances' mother died her father put her in a girl's school. While attending this school she realized her need to surrender herself wholeheartedly to Jesus. Then is when she understood what her mother had meant. Finally she was able to let Jesus use her talents.

Frances knew from studying languages that "cleanseth" means "to clean continually." This opened up hope for Frances. She had tried to be good but sometimes felt proud, was impatient or spoke angrily. Now she knew that Jesus would continually clean her if she continually walked in His light.

Frances was so happy with salvation that she wanted to help others, so while still only 14 she began teaching a girl's Sunday school class in the church her father pastored. When her father remarried and they moved to Germany she set about to evangelize the children at the school she attended.

Through this time Frances had continued to display musical talent. This thrilled Mr. Havergal, for he hoped one of his children would become a hymn writer like himself. While he helped Frances learn Greek, her seventh language, (she could also read English, German, French, Hebrew, Latin and Welsh) he also helped her to put music to one of her poems. He showed it to Ferdinand Hiller who was greatly impressed and offered to teach her music.

Now came one of the worst trials of Frances' life. She was offered a job as soloist with the Philharmonic Society. Frances sang and loved it. Singing consumed most of her thoughts. Jesus became second in her life and God began to seem distant. One day she realized that her singing was

becoming an idol. "Oh, Jesus, if singing will hinder me from letting You have Your way in my life, please take my singing gift." Frances became sick and lost her beautiful voice. After two or three months of illness, God healed her and gave her voice back.

Long ago Frances had asked God to take her and do whatever He could with her life. Now she reconsecrated her time, talents, money, hands, voice and her love to God. "I just yielded myself to Him, and utterly trusted Him to keep me. Then I experienced the blessedness of true consecration," she wrote.

Two months later she went away to visit friends at Areley House. There were ten people in the home. Some were unhappy Christians; others had rejected God. Frances prayed "Lord, save everyone in this house." He did. Before she left every unsaved person had surrendered to God and every Christian was happy because they had asked God to take and use them. Frances was so happy she could not sleep. She praised God and thought of her consecration. The different verses of a song came to her mind. She wrote them down and later put music to them.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information from: Ruth Johnson Jay, *Christians You Should Know, Back to the Bible*, 1960. Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *The One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, 1995.)

(Answers: 1. Matthew. 2. Yes. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. 6. Those who confess Him before men. 7. No. 8. They will lose their (eternal) life. 9. They will find life.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Nov. 7, 2004

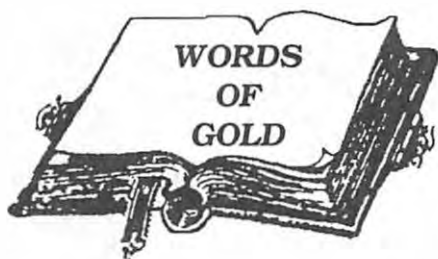
## Singing

Messages from God are often learned through song. Many very young children learn that Jesus loves them from hearing the song, "Jesus Loves Me." People who are not Christians have learned much about Jesus' birth by the songs they hear every year around Christmastime. Sometimes when a sermon will not reach a heart to bring about change, a song with the same message will. God gives many messages in song to His people. Singing has been a way of worshipping God since the early ages. The Israelites sang praises to God after they escaped drowning in the Red Sea (Exodus 15:1). When God instructed Moses to teach the people how to worship, He included singing. The singers sang day and night (I Chronicles 9:33). Deborah and Barak sang of God's great goodness after Jabin, king of Canaan, was delivered into their hands (Judges 5:1-31). King David wrote many, many songs. These have been preserved for us in the *Book of Psalms*. King Solomon wrote the Songs of Solomon which illustrate the love of God for His church and the love a Christian has for God. Jesus also sang with His disciples (Mark 14:26). In prison, Paul and Silas sang praises to God at mid-

night, then an earthquake shook the prison doors open (Acts 16:25).

God's Word instructs believers to sing. In Ephesians 5:18-19 Paul instructs: "...be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Then he wrote to the church at Colosse: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Colossians 3:16. From the very beginning of the Church of God, singing hymns has been an important part of worship service.

In America's pioneer days singing was a great aide in the Church's outreach. Evangelists traveled in horse-drawn wagons, boats, trains, on horseback and by foot to spread the truth. In 1886, Daniel S. Warner organized a group of young singers who traveled with him for five years. They were Nancy Kigar (soprano), Frances Miller (alto), Barney E. Warren (Bass) and Sarah Smith (high tenor). Warner, when not occupied with other duties, also sang tenor. They sang wherever they went—in the trains, train stations, cafes, hotels, boarding homes, in parks and on street corners. They sang in the horse-



## Singers Won The Battle

### II Chronicles 20:12-24

**12** O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us: neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

**13** And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

**14** Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah,...a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the spirit of the Lord in the midst of the congregation;

**15** And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

**16** To-morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz: and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel.

**17** Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord...O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed: to-morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you.

**18** And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the Lord, worshipping the Lord.

**19** And the Levites,...stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

**20** And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

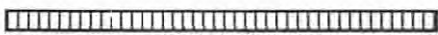
**21** And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord,...that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever.

**22** And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

**23** For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir...to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

**24** And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

**The Message: Singing is as important in winning our spiritual battles as it was in this great victory.**



(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)



#### Verse to Memorize:

**Serve the Lord with gladness:  
come before his presence with  
singing.**

**Psalms 100:2.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

King Jehoshaphat prayed, "Oh, God in heaven, in Thy hand is there not power and might? And did You not say when we cry unto Thee in our trouble that Thou wilt hear and help? Three nations are coming to destroy us. Help! We have no might against such a multitude of warriors."

Jehoshaphat was king of the small nation of Judah. He called his people to come and pray for God's help. They came with their wives and children and were standing in silent prayer pleading for God's help as their king prayed aloud.

God heard their humble cry and sent His spirit on His servant, Jahaziel. Jahaziel stood up and said, "Listen, everyone. Do not be afraid because of this great multitude. The battle is not yours, but God's. Tomorrow you must go down against them but you will not need to fight. Just stand still and see God save us."

When King Jehoshaphat heard this, he bowed his face to the ground. Everyone except the Levites fell to the ground in worship. The Levites stood and praised God in loud voices.

On the way to the attack Jehoshaphat stopped and encouraged his men. Then he appointed singers to praise the beauty of holiness and say, "Praise the Lord for His mercy endureth forever."

When the singers began to sing, the enemy started attacking each other and soon destroyed themselves. Many battles have been won through singing. The singing group that accompanied Bro. Warner was a powerful instrument in God's hands. They had many adventures as they trav-

eled over the countryside singing the beautiful songs God inspired them to write and preaching the good news of salvation. —Charlotte Huskey

The following song, written by Barney Warren, is sung in many churches.

### **It Is Truly Wonderful**

*He pardoned my transgressions,  
He sanctified my soul;  
He honors my confessions,  
Since by His blood I'm whole.*

*He brings me through affliction,  
He leaves me not alone;  
He's with me in temptation,  
He keeps me for His own.*

*He keeps me firm and faithful,  
His love I do enjoy;  
For this I shall be grateful  
And live in His employ.*

*It is truly wonderful what the Lord  
has done,  
It is truly wonderful.  
It is truly wonderful:  
It is truly wonderful what the Lord  
has done.*

*Glory to His name.*

Oh, that we could reason less about our troubles and sing and praise more! There are thousands of things that we wear as shackles which we might use as instruments with music in them, if we only knew how!

### **Questions:**

1. Were the people afraid to go against the great company?
2. Where did they go for help?
3. Who would take charge of the battle?
4. In what two ways did the people worship God?
5. How would the people be established?
6. Who did Jehoshaphat appoint to go with the army?
7. What were the singers to say?
8. What happened when the singers began to sing?
9. Who destroyed their enemies?

drawn wagons as they traveled from place to place.

When this group held their first evangelical meeting at Walkerton, Indiana, a theatrical group was in the town. Most of the town's people were flocking to the meeting; only a few were going to the theater. To attract more people to the theater, the theatrical group came to the meeting place and played instrumental music just outside the building. Warner was having to shout his sermon to be heard above the music. Then he stopped abruptly and said, "Sing a song." Nancy Kigar began singing and the others joined her. The musicians left. The people stayed and the service continued.

At one time this singing group traveled on *The Floating Bethel*. It was a chapel boat built by George T. Clayton and used on the Ohio River. They stopped at most towns and cities on both sides of the river. As soon as the boat was safely anchored the singers gathered on the flat roof of the cabin and sang. Great crowds assembled and this gave a fine opportunity to announce a meeting. Many congregations were raised up in towns along the Ohio River.

Most of the songs that this group sang were new. They had messages other hymns did not have. D.S. Warner and his co-worker, J. C. Fisher, had just printed *Songs of Victory*. It contained 94 hymns written mostly by Warner and Fisher. During the five years of traveling with this singing group, Warner wrote many other songs. Barney Warren arranged the tunes and harmony for many of these. Barney and many others in the church were also writing songs at that time. (W. Dale Oldham, in *Our Church Musicians* says that Barney furnished the Church with 7,000 songs.) These early songwriters put Bible truths into their songs. In this

way the truths of God's Word were sung as well as preached. Fisher said in the preface of *Songs of Victory*, "It is a fact, well known...that the hymns of the past fail to express the glorious light and liberty, grace, truth and power, the free and holy Church has attained in this blessed evening light. Hence the Lord has marvelously given us these new songs that we may more fully sing the joy and victory we have in the Lord Jesus Christ." Most of these songs can be found in the *Evening Light Songs*.

Yes, hymns in the *Evening Light Songs* have a message from God. They were sung with inspiration from the Holy Spirit. They were the topic of daily conversation in every community that heard them. Let us sing them with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength!

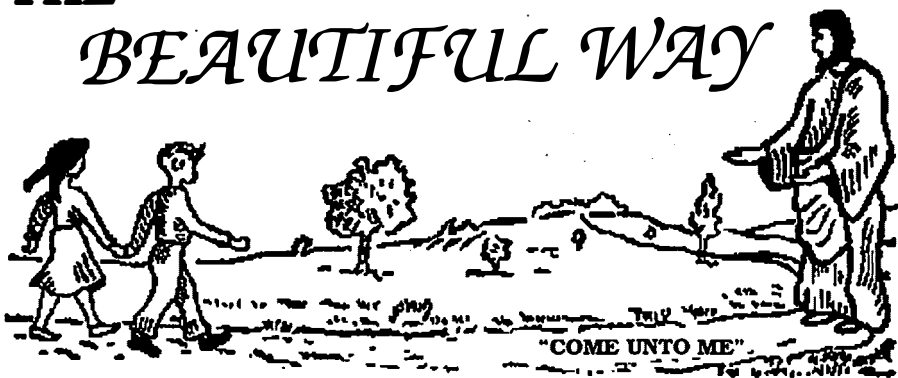
—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information taken from: Byers, *Birth Of A Reformation, Life and Labors of D.S. Warner*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie OK. Reprinted from 1921 edition. Kathleen D. Buehler, *Heavenly Songs*, Warner Press, Inc. Anderson, IN, 1993. John W. V. Smith, *The Quest for Holiness and Unity*, Warner Press, Inc. Anderson, IN, 1980. C.E. Brown, *When the Trumpet Sounded*, The Warner Press, Anderson, IN, 1951. W. Dale Oldham, in "Our Church Musician" found in *The First Century* edited by Barry L. Callen, Warner Press, Inc. 1979, pp. 67 and 263.)

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. To the Lord. 3. The Lord. 4. They bowed on the ground and stood up to praise God. 5. By believing in the Lord. 6. Singers. 7. "Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever." 8. The Lord set ambushments against the enemy. 9. The enemies destroyed themselves.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Nov. 14, 2004

## Everlasting Joy

Daniel Warner stood on a large soap box on a street corner in New Washington. He heard a slurred voice saying, "That's my boy, isn't he a great chap?"

Daniel turned to see his father smiling. It was one of the few times that he had seen his father smile at him. Usually he was drunk and cursing or railing because Daniel wasn't strong enough to work as long or as hard as his older brothers. Mr. Warner was a staunch democrat and today he was happy to hear Daniel discussing the political advantages the Democrats were promising for Ohio.

Daniel often gave speeches. He was usually placed near the end of the school programs. After all the boring pieces had been recited, he would step to the podium and have the audience in a riot of laughter within minutes. Then everyone went away happy after the school program.

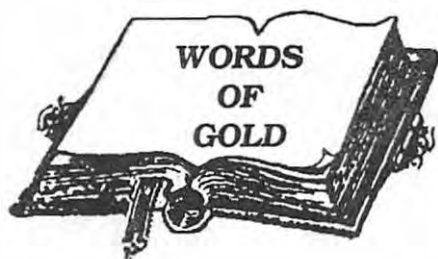
He also loved music and learned to dance. As soon as he was old enough to go to dances, he danced and danced, sometimes almost all night. Drink often accompanied dancing in those days as it does today, but Daniel had seen alcohol ruin his father so he refused any intoxicating drinks.

There were two churches in New Washington—a Catholic and a

Lutheran. The Warner family did not attend either. Mrs. Warner was a Pennsylvania German with a deeply rooted faith in God. She taught her family to fear God and love their neighbors. Daniel felt about his mother as Abraham Lincoln did about his. Lincoln said, "All I am, all I hope to be, I owe to my angel mother...I remember my mother's prayers. They have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

The people who went to church, dipped, chewed and smoked tobacco. They drank and danced. This discouraged Daniel from becoming a Christian. He thought Christians should act like Christ. He did not act as Christ, therefore he told others he was an atheist. He said there was no God. He danced and played and did as the others in his community but he would not go to church.

His love for music, however, drew him to attend Sunday afternoon singings. These were held in homes, but mostly religious songs were sung. Daniel joined in the singing and before long he began feeling differently about God. The words of the songs stayed in his mind. Conviction grew so strong that he quit going to dances. He even attended a cottage prayer meeting where he got a good lesson but not from the preacher. A man sitting nearby, who loved tobacco, tried to hide his face while he bit off a



## Rejoice In The Lord

### Matthew 11:28-30

**28** Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

**29** Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

**30** For my yoke- is easy, and my burden is light.

### Philippians 4:4-10

**4** Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

**5** Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

**6** Be careful for nothing: but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

**7** And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**8** Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

**9** Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

**10** But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

### I John 5:4

**4** For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

### Isaiah 51:11

**11** Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

### Romans 14:17

**17** For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

**The Message: Anyone who will let Jesus be Lord and follow His instruction can have everlasting joy.**

### Questions:

1. What did Jesus promise to those who come to Him?
2. Is the burden of Jesus heavy or light?
3. How often are we to rejoice in the Lord?
4. Is the Lord always near?
5. What should always accompany our requests to God?
6. What will keep our hearts and minds?
7. Must a Christian control what he thinks about?
8. Name some things we should think about.
9. Will we have everlasting joy if we think only on good things?

### Verse to Memorize

**Rejoice in the Lord alway:  
and again I say, Rejoice.  
Philippians 4:4.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Have you ever tried to carry something heavy? It is hard, isn't it? If we do wrong our spirit feels sad and is heavy. It carries a heavy load of guilt. The only way to get rid of this heavy load is to tell God you are sorry for doing the wrong. Jesus said, "Come to me and I will give you rest." Jesus will take away the heavy feeling and make you feel light and free again. Then you will have everlasting joy.

After we have come to Jesus and are saved, there are things we can do to keep that joy. Let us carefully study the scriptures in Philippians 4:4-10 and see how we can help ourselves keep this joy.

Verse four instructs us to rejoice always. It is saying, "Look on the happy side of things. Don't let your mind think about sad things. Think only of the good things."

Verse five tells us to be moderate. Having self-control is being moderate. We must eat good foods and not many of those high in fats and sugars. Many people are unhappy because they are almost as wide as they are tall. Many of these people smile and laugh to cover up how miserable they feel. Years ago a song was popular which said, "Smiling on the outside, but crying on the inside." If we are careful about what we eat and how much we eat we can be smiling on the outside and the inside.

We must sleep enough but not be lazy. Not enough sleep will make a person irritable. Being irritable will cause embarrassment or maybe a stumped toe if we get angry and kick the wrong things. (Have you ever done

that?) Just control yourself and you will be moderate and happy.

Verse 6 says we must thank God for the good and pray about the things that trouble us but not worry about them. If everything seems bad, stop and think for awhile and you will remember some good things hidden under your troubles. Thank God first then ask for help. If we will do this, God has promised in verse seven that His peace will keep our minds and hearts.

The next verse, number eight, gives us a job to do. It tells us what to think about. It is hard work to keep unholy thoughts out of our minds. Our minds are like gardens in which an enemy is daily planting weed seeds. It is like the following story:

*Two men got contracts from the city of Los Angeles to landscape along portions of new freeways in the city. One man wanted both contracts. At night he drove around the freeways throwing weed seeds in among the flowers, grass and small shrubs his competitor had planted. The weeds grew fast. The competitor had to hire extra men to get the weeds out and it cost so much he went bankrupt.*

The devil sows evil thoughts in our mind because he wants to ruin us. He will win if we let our minds stay on the things he plants there. We must be constantly throwing out these thoughts and replacing them with true, honest, pure, lovely thoughts. We can win if we obey this scripture and think on good things.

This scripture also instructs us to give if we are to have everlasting joy. Give our smiles to cheer the sad. Give our strength to help the weak. Give our money, clothes and food to help the poor. Give our all to Jesus. He will lift our heavy loads and give us everlasting joy!

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 Beautiful Way

plug of it. Daniel decided that using tobacco was a sin since the man tried to hide what he was doing.

Months passed, conviction wore away and Daniel started dancing again. Now he seemed less concerned about doing right. One night he danced until 2:00 a.m. His mother was waiting for him when he returned home. "How far will your sins take you, Daniel Sidney Warner?" she asked. "Samantha is at the point of death and you're kicking up your heels. You should be home praying for her." Mother scolded and reasoned with Daniel for a long time. After she left him alone Daniel thought about all she had said. He saw how terrible he had been. Then he slid out of bed and onto his knees. He prayed.

Not long after that he went with friends to a meeting in the school house. On the way home one friend asked, "Daniel, what do you think of this religion?"

"I'm going to find out about it," he answered.

His friends were sure that Daniel was planning a prank. They were surprised the following evening when Daniel went forward and knelt at the altar.

Daniel felt the everlasting joy in his heart. He did not write the song, "Everlasting Joy" at the time but it expresses his feelings that evening.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 Beautiful Way

(Information taken from A.L. Byers, *Birth of a Reformation*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie, OK, p 19, and C. E. Brown, *When the Trumpet Sounded*, Warner Press, Anderson IN, 1951.)

### Everlasting Joy

*Can the spirit of a mortal  
Live beyond the reach of trouble?  
Knowing not a painful struggle,  
Ever joyful in the Lord?*

*He who is our great sa'vation,  
And our high and strong munition,  
Is to us a full fruition  
Of his peace and endless joy.*

*I no trouble and no sorrow  
See today; nor will I borrow  
Gloomy vision for the morrow;  
In my Jesus all is bright.*

*To my soul all grace is given,  
And all gloom afar is driven;  
Walking in the light of heaven,  
All is everlasting peace.*

*Jesus bids be joyful ever,  
He himself the wondrous Giver,  
Flows within, a constant river,  
And my spirit must rejoice.*

I presume everybody has known saints whose lives were just radiant. Joy beamed out of their eyes; joy bubbled over their lips; joy seemed to fairly run from their fingertips. You could not come in contact with them without having a new light come into your own life. They were like electric batteries charged with joy.

If you look into the eyes of such radiantly happy persons you will find that every one is a man or woman who spends a great deal of time alone with God in prayer. God is the source of all joy and if we come into contact with Him, His infinite joy comes into our lives.

Would you like to be a radiant Christian? You may be! Spend time in prayer. You cannot be a radiant Christian in any other way. Prayer makes God real. If you take time for prayer you will have a real, living God and if you have a living God you will have a radiant life.

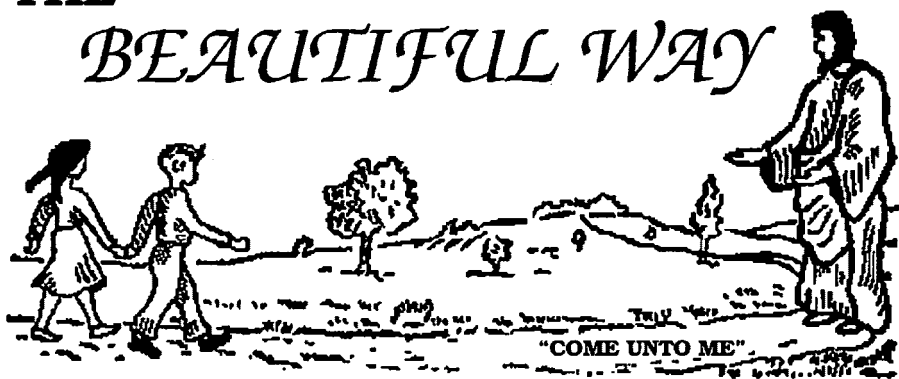
—Dr. R. A. Torrey

(Answers: 1. He promised rest.  
2. Light. 3. Always. 4. Yes.  
5. Thanksgiving. 6. The peace of God. 7. Yes. 8. We should think about things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report and virtuous. 9. Yes.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Nov. 21, 2004

## Perishing Souls At Stake

Horse-drawn wagons rattled over Ohio's dusty roads as people came to the meeting in Jerry City. The harvest rush was over and the women had most of their fruits and vegetables stored away for winter. Now they could relax and enjoy the cool September evenings.

D.S. Warner saw C. Ogan as he stepped down from his wagon. "You look like you might not feel well," Warner said to Ogan after they had greeted. "My soul has been challenged by a vision," Ogan answered. "Last evening God appeared to me. He was holding a large banner on which was written, 'Perishing Souls At Stake.' Bro. Warner, the Church must do more to help perishing souls escape the flames of hell!"

"My soul is also burdened with an awful sense of perishing souls at stake," Warner answered. "In about all the meetings this fall the same great burden has come upon our souls for men and women of God to go forth and hold up the light of His saving truth."

What a solemn feeling settled over the meeting. Warner pleaded for workers to go into the vineyard of the Lord. He said, "Oh ye that have the real fire of God in your souls, can you tarry at home to watch a few earthly effects

when there is such a sore famine in all the land? You who have found the true salvation of Christ Jesus are the only ones that can bring the living bread to others.

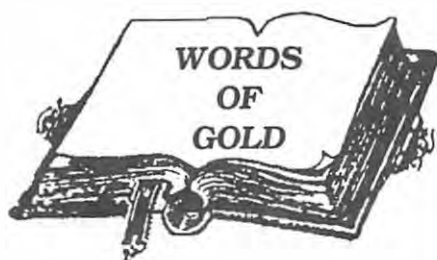
"Messages learned in college will not do. Babylon priests are full of darkness. They cannot do the job a saint full of light can do. Oh, how sad this world with no Gospel but the wretched stuff given by Babylonian priests!

"Souls are dying all around. Oh! If you have any gratitude in your hearts for what Christ has done for you go and tell others. Some will surely receive the joyful tidings. Most everywhere there are at least one or two HONEST souls who long for the light.

"Can YOU stay at home working for the sordid dust of the earth and let them perish? Oh, fly to the rescue, don't delay; bring the needy to Jesus Christ!"

Hearts were melted. When Warner finished preaching, many fled to the altar. They cried. They prayed. They laid everything at Jesus' feet. Their lives, their homes, their jobs, their farms were placed on the altar for God to use as He wanted.

"God has commissioned me to go into His vineyard," Bro. Ogan testified. "I am breaking all earthly ties and will be giving all my time to the Lord's work."



## The Rich Man Perished

**Luke 16:19-28**

**19** There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

**20** And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

**21** And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

**22** And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried:

**23** And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

**24** And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

**25** But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

**26** And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot: neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

**27** Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:

**28** For I have five brethren; that he

may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

**Luke 13:2-5**

**2** And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things?

**3** I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

**4** Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

**5** I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

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**The Message: We must share the gospel with our family, friends, neighbors and strangers so they will not perish.**

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### Questions:

1. Did both the rich man and Lazarus die?
2. Where was the rich man after he died?
3. Where was Lazarus after he died?
4. What did the rich man want Lazarus to do?
5. Could Abraham or Lazarus help the rich man?
6. Were the Galilaeans sinners above others?
7. On how many did the tower of Siloam fall?
8. Did this happen because they were terrible sinners?
9. What will happen to all who do not repent?

### Verse to Memorize

**...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.**

**Mark 16:15-16.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

"Please, Father Abraham, please send Lazarus to bring me one drop of water to cool my tongue," said the rich man. He was in hell and he thought just one drop would feel so good.

Abraham answered sadly, "He cannot come to help you. There is a great gulf between you and us. No one from here can go where you are, neither can anyone from you come here."

"I am so tormented in this flame!" the rich man moaned.

"Remember," Abraham said, "you had a beautiful home, plenty to eat and fine clothing to wear. Lazarus lay in the dirt by your gate. He was so hungry he would have appreciated even your crumbs. You ignored him but the dogs had compassion and cleaned his sores. Now he has comfort and you...."

"I know. I know, but please send him back to my father's house to warn my five brothers so they won't do as I have done."

"Your brothers have God's commandments which Moses wrote. They have all the warning of the prophets. They can be saved if they obey what the prophets and Moses said."

"That's not enough, Father Abraham, but if someone came back from the dead and told them how awful this torment is, they would change their ways."

"It isn't true," Abraham said. "Those who will not obey God's commandments that they know will not listen to someone who has died and is alive again."

The rich man had his chance to do right and be at peace after death. He had God's Word and could have obeyed

it. He did not; so his soul perished.

There are many other souls about to perish just as the rich man. There are also many others who have not had an opportunity to know God and obey His commandments. We must do all we can to help souls be at peace with God. Then they will be at peace after death as Lazarus is.

Some do not have God's Word. There are thousands of languages in which the Bible has not been printed. Maybe the Lord wants you to be a Bible translator. Thousands of others do not have a Bible although there are Bibles printed in their language. What are you doing to help others have a Bible?

There are thousands of people who have a Bible but are not reading or obeying it. What are you doing to encourage your friends and neighbors to read and obey God's Word? There are still others who have been misguided and are sinning and thinking they are fine. What are you doing to help these people see the dangers in how they are living?

Every saved person should be helping someone else know Jesus as their personal Savior. You may begin helping others by praying for someone who is not saved. You may tell your friends about how Jesus is blessing you. (Perhaps you lost something and He helped you to find it. Maybe you asked Jesus to help you make a good grade.)

Being kind and helpful will help them see how Jesus is working in you. If you love Jesus with all your heart, it will show and others will realize you have something they need. Do every day what Jesus would do and you will be helping others to not perish.

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. He was in hell. 3. In Abraham's bosom. 4. To bring a drop of water to cool his tongue. 5. No. 6. No. 7. On eighteen. 8. No. 9. They will perish.)

Several were called that day and went forth seeking perishing souls at stake.

In the evening, Warner wrote in his diary:

September 19, 1885

*"We pray that all whom this day confessed the call of God may go forward lest that 'woe is me' be upon them and perishing souls be lost for whom the blessed Savior died."*

The blessing of this meeting and the vision of C. Ogan of Latty, Ohio, inspired D. S. Warner to write the words of "Perishing Souls." A.L. Byers wrote the music. The tune may be unfamiliar because the song is not sung often, but you can read the words. You will find this song on page 327 of the *Evening Light Songs*.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information taken from: A. L. Byers, *Birth Of A Reformation*, Faith Publishing House. Rreprint from 1921. p 391.)

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## PERISHING SOULS

Perishing souls at stake today!  
Says the banner of Christ unfurled;  
Pleading in love for help to save  
Blood-bought sinners all o'er the  
world.

Perishing souls at stake we see,  
Yet the Savior has died for all;  
Go and invite them earnestly,  
Some will surely obey the call.

Perishing souls at stake, go tell  
What the Savior has done for you;  
How he redeemed thy soul from hell,  
And is able to save them too.

*Chorus:*

Perishing souls at stake, my brother,  
What is all this world beside?  
Perishing souls at stake, my brother,  
For whom the blessed Savior died;  
Perishing souls, Perishing souls,  
Oh, who will help to save the lost?

## The Little Girl's Penny

Over seventy years ago a little girl, who knew and loved the Lord Jesus, longed to spread His Name among those who did not know Him. She gave a Christian missionary a penny to help to spread the Gospel among the Burmese, to whom this man was going with the Word of life. That penny was all that the dear child could give; it was all that she possessed and it was given from her heart.

The missionary remembered the child's penny while in that far-off land and he invested it in the Name of the Lord by purchasing a Gospel tract with it. That tract was given to a young Burmese chief and followed by prayer. He could not read it but his desire to know the meaning of the words of the little tract became so strong that he traveled two hundred and fifty miles to get someone to read it to him.

God spoke to the heart of this young chief through the words as he heard them read. He believed the Gospel and was converted to God. Then he returned to his people and began to tell them what the Lord had done for his soul.

He invited missionaries to come and preach to his people and many heard the Word, received the Saviour, and became true and devoted followers of the Lord Jesus.

All this sprang from the little girl's penny, given for Jesus' sake, with the desire to spread His Gospel among the lost.

How great a fire this little spark kindled! How vast the growth from this tiny seed! A little done by a saved one, even though a child, if done for Christ may have great results. If you are saved, go, and do likewise!

—Selected

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(Look for "Answers" on page 3.)

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Nov. 28, 2004

## Sing It Again

"Will you please sing more?" the people pleaded. Many had gathered and were listening through the open door of the wood framed hotel in St. James, Missouri. Men in bibbed overalls and women in long skirts had already come into town—perhaps to avoid the blistering July sun.

"When breakfast is finished we will sing for you in the parlor," said D. S. Warner, a middle-aged man dressed in the ministerial garb of 1880. After breakfast Warner and his singing group, Barney Warren, Nancy Kigar, Francis Miller and Mother Sarah Smith sang. The crowd kept growing until the hotel lobby and adjoining parlors were filled. Each time the group stopped singing, someone shouted, "Sing again." So they sang, and sang and sang.

After they were exhausted, Warner said, "Now let us worship God." He opened his Bible and read. Then he invited everyone to bow and pray. There was hardly room for everyone to bow, but some did.

Soon after prayer a stranger appeared. "Why all the people around here?" he asked.

"Your people have come," a man answered. "I never heard such singing."

The newcomer worked his way through the crowd and extended his hand to Warner. "I'm J. H. Morrison, I've come to take you to a campground on the Merrimac River where we will have the meeting. It's about ten miles away."

"How about giving us a meeting here?" several shouted at the same time. The hotel owner stepped forward, "I'll keep you as long as you will stay." Another man spoke, "Let's see if we can use the Methodist church building."

The Methodist pastor had come to the hotel "to see about the Pentecost fire that had come to town." They asked to use his building. He answered, "I am starting a meeting tonight."

"Maybe we could get the rink. We'll have a crowd," another suggested. "Let us know so we can tell them now, and they'll get the word around."

"We'll have meeting here tonight," Warner answered. Three or four women attended the Methodist meeting while Warner and his group sang and preached in a large hall crammed with listeners.

The following morning they headed to the Merrimac River to set up camp. C. C. Knight from Fulton, Illinois had come with a tent and equipment.



## Helping Others Know Jesus

### Word Meanings:

1. **Prophecy** is to speak under the anointing of God, in testimony, exhortation or preaching.
2. **To edify**, is to help to understand spiritual matters.
3. **Tongues** are languages.
4. **Signification** means has meaning.

**I Corinthians 14:3-5, 7, 9-10,  
12, 19, 23-26, 28, 33**

**3** But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

**4** He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself:...

**5** ...Greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues...

**7** And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped?

**9** So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken?...

**10** There are...many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification.

**12** Even so ye...seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

**19** ...I had rather speak five words...that...I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

**23** If therefore...all speak with tongues, and there come in those

that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?

**24** But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all,...

**25** And...the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face, he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.

**26** ...Let all things be done unto edifying.

**28** But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

**33** For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

**The Message: Church services must be inspiring to the believer and convincing to the unbeliever.**

### Questions:

1. What is the purpose of prophesying or speaking in a church?
2. Who is being edified if unknown tongues (languages) are spoken?
3. Is it best to prophesy or speak in an unknown tongue?
4. Do all things need a distinction of sound?
5. Does all speech in the world have meaning?
6. What should Christians try to do?
7. How should a believer pray?
8. How should saints sing?
9. What does the unbeliever say about people who speak in tongues?
10. God is not the author of

### Verse to Memorize

**...I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also..**

**I Corinthians 14:15.**

# Let's



# Talk . . .

The apostle Paul found the same problem in the church of Corinth that Bro. Warner found in St. James. Missouri. The apostle Paul wrote about the way he handled the problems among the Corinthians. This gives us an outline of how to handle the same kind of problems. Bro. Warner read Paul's instructions to the Corinthians to the St. James congregation in Missouri.

What did the apostle Paul say about speaking in tongues?

First, he identified tongues as being languages. He said, "There are many kinds of voices (speech) in the world but none of them is without signification or meaning. Paul did not classify a jabber to be a tongue. The person who spoke the tongue was supposed to understand it. "He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself." (I Corinthians 14:4.) If he is edifying himself, he is understanding what he is saying

Secondly, the apostle Paul said it was of little importance in the church service. "I thank my God. I speak with tongues more than ye all. Yet in the church I had rather speak five words...that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue." (I Corinthians 14:18-19.)

Third, he said it did not help unbelievers because they could not understand. If understandable words are spoken in church, the unbeliever could be convinced and fall down on his face and worship God and say, "God is in you." That is what the unbelievers said about the saints near

St. James after they repented and stopped their strange actions.

Fourth, the apostle Paul said that speaking tongues in church service caused confusion and that God was not the author of confusion." There was a great deal of confusion in the Corinthian church. Much of the confusion was eliminated after they quit speaking in tongues.

Be careful and don't be confused about this question. Tongues are languages and should be used to help the persons who understand that particular language. It is never to be used as a sign that a person is filled with the Holy Spirit. Whether or not a person is filled with the Holy Spirit will be shown by the person's actions—the way they talk, the places they go, the kind of books they read, the games they play and their choice of clothing. Being filled with the Holy Ghost will cause congregations to be good examples in their community.

—Charlotte Huskey

*Would it not make Christianity ridiculous to a heathen to hear the ministers pray or preach in a language which neither he nor the assembly understood? But if those who minister plainly preach the great truths and rules of the gospel an unlearned person might be brought to confess his guilt and to own that God was present in the assembly. Even an apostle could not edify unless he spoke so as to be understood by his hearers!*

—Matthew Henry

(Answers: 1. To help people understand spiritual things. 2. Only the person speaking. 3. To prophesy. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. They should help others understand spiritual things better. 7. He should pray with the spirit and with understanding. 8. They should sing with the spirit and sing with understanding. 9. He may say they are mad (crazy). 10. Confusion.)

When they arrived, a great host of saints came out to meet them. "Praise God!" Warner shouted.

"Praise God!" they answered as they danced around like Indians doing a war dance. Some were hopping on one leg, some rolling their eyes, others gibbering or jerking, some fell down and were unable to move. "What is this?" Warner questioned.

"The gift of tongues is upon us," one exclaimed joyfully.

Warner had only seen such actions in persons possessed by the devil. As soon as possible he found a place in the woods and talked to God about it. God showed him the people were not possessed but simply did not have a full understanding of the Bible.

While preaching that night Warner read I Corinthians, chapters 12, 13 and 14 and said, "The love of God does not behave unseemly—jerking, dancing and hopping. This is confusion and God is not the author of confusion. Neither is the gift of tongues necessary to edify the church because everyone here speaks the same language. The only time spasmodic jerking is mentioned in the Bible is as a manifestation of evil spirits."

The people were shocked. Then one after another began confessing that joy and true faith began to leave them from the time they received the jerks. Nearly all who were affected by this spirit were delivered that night.

Satan was furious. He stirred up an armed masked mob. They swept into the camp after the workers were asleep. Warner, knowing they would try to kill him, quickly slipped on a dress and bonnet and escaped to the home of J. M. Pierson. The mob tore up the tents and loaded everybody and everything connected with the meeting onto wagons and sent them off the camp ground.

The following day several met in a home and God manifested Himself by healing. Warner joined his group two days later, and they went back to St. James where they had sung in the hotel. There they preached and sang to crowds of attentive listeners. Warner wrote the hymn, "Sing It Again" on a scrap of paper. Barney fitted it with a lively tune.

After the meeting they traveled to Jefferson City in Morrison's wagon. They practiced the new song until it was mastered. That evening, while waiting for their train, they sang the new song. There had not been another person in the station but, almost before they were aware of it, several people had come in to listen. After singing several othersongs, Bro. Warner stepped forward and said, "I suppose a little of the Word would be in order." He then preached and invited sinners to be saved. Many times people were saved in such meetings. "Sing It Again" has been sung by thousands and thousands of people for the past 100 years and is still a blessing. Can you feel a blessing when you sing it?

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information taken from: Byers, *Birth Of A Reformation, Life and Labors of D.S. Warner*, Faith Publishing House, Guthrie OK. Reprinted from 1921, pp. 353-358 and 364. C.E. Brown, *When the Trumpet Sounded*, The Warner Press, Anderson, IN, 1951, pp. 137-140. John A. Morrison, *Excitement In The Ozarks* found in *The First Century* edited by Barry L. Callen, Warner Press, Inc. 1979, pp. 184-194. Axchie A. Bolitho, *To The Chief Singer*, Gospel Trumpet Company, Anderson, IN, 1942, pp. 17-18, 49-50 and 149-152.)

(Look for "Answers" on page 3.)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Dec. 5, 2004

## **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* is perhaps the most loved of all the songs written by Charles Wesley. He has been called the most gifted and tireless hymn-writer that England has ever known. America's blind Fanny Crosby is probably the only person who wrote more hymns than Charles Wesley. Some say he has written about 8,989 hymns and religious poems. Nearly 6,000 have been put to music by himself and other musicians. Hundreds of Charles Wesley's hymns are sung regularly in churches throughout the world. Some are just now being printed for the first time,

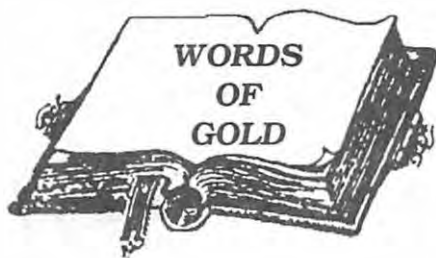
Charles was the eighteenth child of Samuel and Suzanne Wesley. (Only ten children lived to be adults.) His birthplace was in Epworth, near Lincoln, England. He was born prematurely on a cold December night and appeared to be dead. He was wrapped in wool and laid close to his mother's warm body. Here he lay silent for weeks.

Charles' father, Samuel, was a very poor man and even spent some time in jail for not paying his debts but he and Suzanne were determined each son should have an excellent education. Charles' education started at home. His mother was the teacher.

Each child, on their fifth birthday, was expected to learn the alphabet. Suzanne dropped whatever she was doing and drilled and drilled until her student could repeat the alphabet in correct order.

After mastering reading, writing and basic math, Charles was enrolled in Westminster. (This was made possible through friends and relatives.) Westminster was a prestigious school where Latin was the only language allowed in public. Its boys sang in Westminster Abbey as they do today. Charles spent thirteen years there and became captain of the school. He added nine years of study at Oxford where he received an M.A.

Charles learned not only Greek and Latin literature but also gained a thorough knowledge in the structure of language. This training helped him a great deal in writing poetry and songs. At an early age, Charles began showing his God-given talent for rhyme. While others were writing in regular sentences, Charles was writing most everything in rhyme. He wrote a verse about every occasion: birthdays, news of the day, about what he saw around him, rhymes for entertainment, even what he was studying showed up in sentences that rhymed. His poetry was simple, imaginative, filled with wonder and passion. Common, uneducated people



## Angels Sing Of Christ's Birth

**Luke 2:7-16**

7 And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding, in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away ...the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known

unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

**Isaiah 7:14**

14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.

**Matthew 1:22-23**

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

**The Message: Angels rejoiced at the birth of Jesus and angels rejoice when a sinner repents.**

### Questions:

1. Where did Mary lay her son?
2. What were the shepherds doing?
3. Who came to the shepherds?
4. What shone around the shepherds?
5. What did the angel bring to the shepherds?
6. Who was born in the city of David?
7. How would the shepherds know which baby was Jesus?
8. What was the multitude of angels doing?
9. What did the multitude of angels say?

### Verse to Memorize

**And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.**

**Matthew 1:21.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Many years ago David cared for his father's sheep on the hills near Bethlehem. Syrian brown bears, leopards, lions, wolves, foxes and jackal lived in the thickets nearby. Sometimes at night these animals crept into the city, killing animals and threatening the young children.

The men of Bethlehem built a wall around the city to protect those inside. If cattle or sheep had to stay outside the city wall, shepherds guarded them to keep the wild animals away. This is why the shepherds were with their sheep on Bethlehem's hills the night Jesus was born.

Each year, Christian children around the world hear the story of these shepherds and how they saw the angels and heard them announce the birth of Jesus. Perhaps the younger shepherds were asleep and the older ones were talking around a campfire. They may have been talking about God's promise of a king to save them.

They believed Jesus would save them from their Roman rulers. But Jesus was coming to save them from their sins.

He knew "the heart [of each person] is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." (Jeremiah 17:9.) Jesus came to give people new hearts, not a new government. A man with a new heart can live peaceably in any kind of government. The angels' message to the shepherds was "peace on earth, good will to men."

Jesus knew wicked spirits such as hatred, lusts, deceit and fear are as cruel as lions, bears or foxes. They

too, are lurking around everyone, waiting for a chance to destroy whoever is not protected. When Jesus is in a heart, these spirits cannot get in and destroy that person. The Holy Spirit protects a heart like the city walls protected the people in Bethlehem.

If you have not asked Jesus into your heart, do so today. You will be protected and the angels will rejoice just as they did when Christ was born.

Let's finish this lesson by singing,  
*Hark The Herald Angels Sing!*

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted  
from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

### **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die;  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

Let us be glad and rejoice today because "He has come." And let us remember the annunciation of the angel, "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

—*Streams in the Desert* pg. 371

understood and enjoyed his verses.

Once when Charles and his brother John were holding an open-air meeting, some drunks disrupted the service singing a lewd song called *Nancy Dawson*. Charles memorized the meter and words. Then he wrote seven 8-line verses to the same tune. These he taught to the people. The next time the drunks disrupted the service singing *Nancy Dawson* the Christians drowned the drunks' words with Charles' new song.

Charles' father was a minister in the Church of England who taught his sons to live deeply religious lives. This Charles did. He formed the Holy Club while attending Oxford University. To be a member of the Holy Club a young man had to live by strict rules. He must get up early, reverence authority, obey the Ten Commandments and discipline himself to study God's Word and his school subjects. He must also meet with the group each day for prayers and reading the scripture and be active in prison ministry. Students at Oxford had no dealings with poor or vile people. Charles broke school rules by inviting a poor Oxford man to breakfast.

Other students ridiculed members of the Holy Club. Charles was persecuted for this and because he did not have clothing and luxuries that other students had. Charles did not let this keep him from learning. He concentrated on his studies and sought continually to improve his Christian life.

Although Charles was a good religious boy, he was not saved from sin. He was thirty-one years old before he was saved. He and his brother, John, had been with Moravian Christians on a ship bringing them home from a missionary trip to America. Both John and Charles realized they did not possess a relationship with God like the Moravians. John said to Charles, "I

went to Georgia to convert the Indians; oh, who will convert me?"

Charles answered, "I carry my hell about me." He had struggled for years to be holy but realized his heart was wicked.

After returning to England they continued in their religious work, preaching, writing and singing the gospel. They also sought God for a change of heart. While John was in Aldersgate seeking God, Charles was in London, sick in bed. When John returned on May 24, 1738, to tell Charles about the change in his heart, he found that Charles had been saved three days earlier.

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* expresses the experience that Charles found when he got saved. He was now reconciled to God. Jesus had cleansed his heart and was now King of his life. He had been lord of his own life until the day he was saved. Charles was healed at the same time he was saved, so Jesus had also "risen with healing in His wings" as the fourth verse says. In the end of the song, he praises God that "men shall no more die." Charles had the assurance that he, too, would never die.

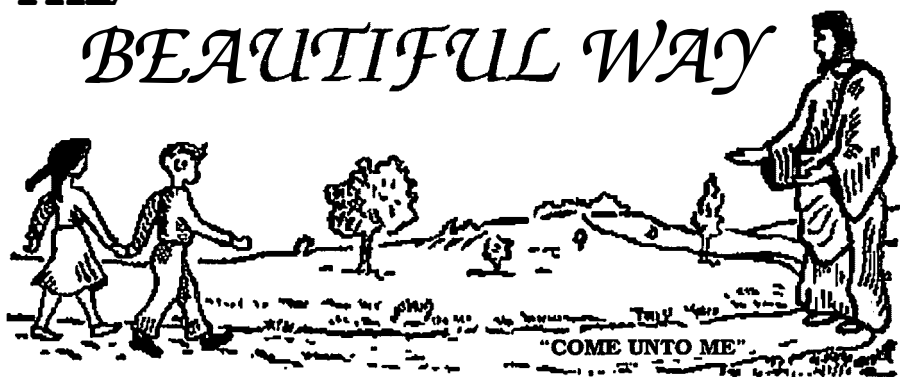
—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information from: Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *The One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, Wheaton, 1995. Jim Townsend, *The Forgotten Wesley and Did You Know?* Timothy Dudley Smith, *Why Wesley Still Dominates Our Hymnbook*, *Christian History*, Issue 31. *World Book Encyclopedia*, Vol. 21.)

(Answers: 1. In a manger. 2. Watching their sheep. 3. An angel. 4. A bright light. 5. "Good tidings of great joy." 6. "A Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." 7. Jesus would be wrapped in swaddling clothes. 8. Praising God. 9. "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men.")

# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Dec. 12, 2004

## Joy To The World

Isaac Watts, author of *Joy To The World* was pastor of London's Mark Lane Independent Chapel for almost fifty years. It was a congregation of Dissenters. People who did not follow the National Church of England were called Dissenters. These people were persecuted by the majority of people, including the rulers.

At Isaac's birth in 1674, his father was in prison for sympathizing with the Dissenters. Isaac, the oldest of nine children, followed his father's strong biblical faith.

The whole family worked together to earn a living in Southampton. His mother cooked, washed and cared for students who stayed in their home. His father taught and directed a school for the boys.

Isaac was a very intelligent child who loved books and learned to read early. It is said he studied Latin when only four. He was studying French, Greek and Hebrew under tutors when he was thirteen.

At an early age he often spoke in rhyming phrases. His father became quite annoyed at this and told him to stop. When the rhyming persisted the father started to whip the boy and little Isaac cried out:

*"O father, do some pity take  
And I will no more verses make."*

When he was seven, Isaac wrote an acrostic poem on his name which reflected his Christian training:

*I am a vile polluted lump of earth,  
So I've continued ever since my birth;  
Although Jehovah grace does give me,  
As sure this monster satan will de-  
ceive me.*

*Come therefore, Lord, from satan's  
claws relieve me.*

By the time Isaac was ready for higher education a wealthy townsman came to Mr. Watts. He said, "I have noticed your son, Isaac, has great powers for learning. I will be happy to pay his expenses at either Oxford or Cambridge University.

Mr. Watts told Isaac about the opportunity. "I'd love to," Isaac answered, "But that would lead me into an Anglican ministry. I could never believe or preach their doctrines."

"Perhaps you could study science or something else," his father suggested.

Several others offered to sponsor Isaac at these universities so he tried to get accepted. Both universities denied him because he would not follow the National Church of England.

Isaac chose to be a Dissenter and at sixteen went to London to study at a leading Nonconformist academy where other Dissenters studied. It proved to be a great school. Mr.



## Joy For Salvation

**Psalms 96:1-10, 13**

1 O sing unto the Lord a new song:  
sing unto the Lord, all the earth,

2 Sing unto the Lord, bless his  
name; shew forth his salvation from  
day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the hea-  
then, his wonders among all people.

4 For the Lord is great, and greatly  
to be praised: he is to be feared above  
all gods.

5 For all the gods of the nations  
are idols: but the Lord made the  
heavens.

6 Honour and majesty are before  
him: strength and beauty are in his  
sanctuary.

7 Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds  
of the people, give unto the Lord  
glory and strength.

8 Give unto the Lord the glory due  
unto his name:...

9 O worship the Lord in the beauty  
of holiness: fear before him, all the  
earth.

10 Say among the heathen that the  
Lord reigneth: the world also shall be  
established that it shall not be moved:  
he shall judge the people righteously.

13 ...For he cometh to judge the  
earth: he shall judge the world with  
righteousness, and the people with  
his truth.

**Luke 15:10**

10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is  
joy in the presence of the angels of  
God over one sinner that repenteth.

**Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**

2 The people that walked in dark-  
ness have seen a great light: they

that dwell in the land of the shadow  
of death, upon them hath the light  
shined.

6 For unto us a child [Jesus] is  
born, unto us a son is given: and the  
government shall be upon his shoul-  
der: and his name shall be called  
Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty  
God, The everlasting Father, The  
Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his govern-  
ment and peace there shall be no  
end, upon the throne of David, and  
upon his kingdom, to order it, and to  
establish it with judgment and with  
justice from henceforth even for  
ever....

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**The Message: Be joyful, for the  
Savior has come to save from sin,  
to keep us from sinning and to  
judge righteously.**

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### Questions:

1. What kind of song should we sing  
to the Lord?
2. Where should we declare His  
glory?
3. How should the Lord be wor-  
shipped?
4. How will God judge His people?
5. What did the people sitting in  
darkness see?
6. What happened to those sitting in  
the shadow of death?
7. The government shall be on the  
shoulder of whom?
8. Who is the Prince of Peace?
9. Is there an end to Jesus' king-  
dom?

### Verse to Memorize

**Likewise, I say unto you, there  
is joy in the presence of the  
angels of God over one sinner  
that repenteth.**

**Luke 15:10.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

The prophet Isaiah said those who walk in darkness would see a great light. This happened when Jesus came. All men were in darkness until that time. Jesus is "the light of the world." When He came, His light shined over everyone. Now everyone can have light in their soul. But only those who repent of their sins receive this light.

Every person has sinned. Sin causes a shadow of death over the person who sins. But God sent Jesus, in the form of a child, clothed in human flesh, to shine a light over those beneath a shadow of death. If this light is accepted the person will be set free from sin and death. And as the memory verse says the angels in heaven will rejoice.

King David in Psalm 96 tells us to sing a new song to the Lord. This new song is a song of praise for salvation. Before Jesus came, people could not sing of salvation from sin. They could only give offerings to be sacrificed for their sins. There was no cleansing of their hearts, so they continued sinning.

Today the blood of Jesus cleanses our hearts of sin. The Holy Spirit takes away the roots of sin and fills us with power to overcome temptation to sin. We can resist satan and do what Jesus would do. He did no sin. (I Peter 2:22.)

Being able to overcome temptations to sin is something to rejoice about. The third verse of "Joy To The World" says:

*"No more let sin and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground (of your heart);*

*He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found."*

The curse is death for sinning. Jesus came to remove this curse. He removes it from everyone who repents of their sins.

When sin is repented of, the heart is full of light and the person is saved. A saved person is in the light. As long as he continues to obey God, he is walking in light and is able to sing the new song. —Charlotte Huskey

### Joy To The World!

Joy to the world! the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,  
and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love.  
And wonders of His love.  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Wanting to write songs based on the Psalms from a New Testament background, Isaac Watts wrote "Joy To The World" from Psalm 98. (Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the earth; make a loud noise and rejoice and sing praise.... Psalm 98:4.) Watts was not immediately appreciated. "How dare he take the psalms and try to improve them," was the outcry.

"Joy To The World" is now universally sung as one of the most joyous songs of Christmas.

Hughes, the poet, and Dr. Horte, afterwards Archbishop of Tuam, studied with him.

Isaac helped the Dissenters greatly by teaching them to write and speak more carefully. Their good ideas and doctrines were hidden by their blunt, coarse speech. He showed them that zeal and purity might be expressed and enforced by polished diction (choice of words).

After graduating he hired out as a tutor. During these years he spent much time diligently studying the scriptures and helping his father. One day he complained to his father about the church's songs. His father challenged him to write something better. The following week Isaac, at age 20, presented his first hymn to the church. It was received with much enthusiasm.

In 1707 he published his first book, *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*. It contained 210 hymns and was one of England's first hymn books. We can thank Benjamin Franklin for printing these hymns in Boston. Franklin also printed Watts' *Psalms of David*. Isaac changed many Psalms into Jesus' teachings. "Joy To The World" is a paraphrased Psalm. He said, "Where the Psalmist describes religion by the fear of God, he joined it with faith and love." Where David talks of sacrificing goats or bullocks, Isaac put the sacrifice of Christ. When David promises wealth, honor and long life, Isaac's psalms promise grace, glory and life eternal. These two books did much for Christian education. They were still selling as many as 60,000 copies per year over 100 years after being first published. His children's hymnal may be the most popular children's classic ever published.

Besides writing religious material Isaac Watts wrote a textbook on logic that was used at four universities-

Oxford, Harvard, Yale and Cambridge. He also wrote books on grammar, how to teach, right behavior, the study of the mind and the study of matter in space and geography. Watts published 52 books besides his religious works, and 600 hymns.

Isaac never married. Though he had a beautiful soul, apparently Isaac Watts was not much to look at. He was frail and often sickly. His head seemed too large for his five foot tall body; his small, piercing eyes and hooked nose did not enhance his appearance. A lady once fell in love with Isaac by reading his poetry. They wrote letters and he fell in love with her. When she saw him, however, she said, "I wish I could admire the casket [jewelry box] as much as I admire the jewel."

Although Watts was often rejected, he rejoiced in the Lord. His joy for salvation is expressed in "Joy To The World." This song does not mention the birth of Christ. But joy in the soul comes by faith in Jesus, the Babe, who was laid in a manger because there was no room for Him in the inn.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

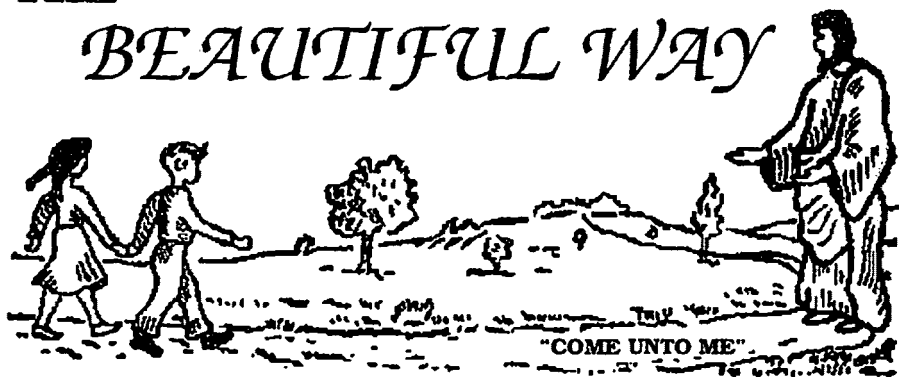
(Information taken from: Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *The One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, 1995. Jim Townsend, *Did You Know?* Vinita Hampton Wright, *Hymn Writer's' Hall of Fame*. *Christian History*, Issue 31. Diana Severance, *The Father of English Hymnody*. *Glimpses*, *Christian History Institute's*, Worcester, 1992.)

(Answers: 1. A new song. 2. Among the heathen. 3. In the beauty of holiness. 4. Righteously. 5. A great light. 6. A light shined upon them. 7. Jesus. 8. Jesus. 9. No!)



# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Dec. 19, 2004

## O Little Town Of Bethlehem

"I finished memorizing another hymn today," Phillips told his mother.

"I'm so happy you are using your mind for something good. So many boys these days are wasting theirs on the foolish pleasures of the world," Mrs. Brooks said.

"Not me," Phillips answered. "I want to do something useful with my time."

"How glad I am that you aren't seeking a career in some sport. With your six-foot-six height you would be good in most any one. You could be king of the basketball court," his mother answered as she looked up admiringly into her son's face.

"I know. I've thought about that, but I think I would rather do something of more value."

"Like what?"

"Maybe help children or become a pastor," Phillips answered.

"You could do both—pastor a church and work the Sunday school yourself." Mrs. Brooks assured him. "You love children and music. Both are qualities that will make you a better minister. You can use music to attract the children. Most all children love music."

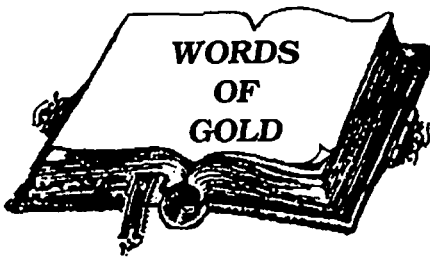
Phillips continued to memorize songs. Before he left home to attend college, he could sing more than 200

hymns from memory. After he finished his training for the ministry and began preaching, he often used quotations from these hymns in his sermons.

In 1859, at the age of twenty-four, Brooks was ordained. His first pastorate was in Philadelphia. After faithfully serving there for six years, Brooks was given a trip to the Holy Land by his parishioners.

For almost a year he retraced the steps of Jesus and the Apostles. On Sunday, December 24, 1865, the young pastor rode on horseback from Jerusalem to Bethlehem and was present at the Christmas Eve service held in Constantine's ancient basilica, built over the traditional site of the nativity. During the services, which lasted from ten o'clock at night until three in the morning, Brooks was moved with emotion as he listened to hymns of praise, Scripture readings and prayers. The impressions of this Christmas Eve in Bethlehem would remain with him throughout his life and, just a few years later, would become the backdrop for his beloved Christmas carol. Returning to Philadelphia, Phillips Brooks again took up his responsibilities as pastor.

He never lost his love for children either. On many occasions, parishioners passing by the open door of his study would spy Brooks sitting on the floor surrounded by toys, playing with



## **Bethlehem**

### **Genesis 35:18-19**

**18** And it came to pass, as her (Rachel, Joseph's mother) soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Ben-o-ni: but his father called him Benjamin.

**19** And Rachel died, and was buried in...Bethlehem.

### **Ruth 1:22; 4:13-14, 17**

**22** So Naomi...and Ruth...her daughter in law,...came to Bethlehem...

**13** So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife:...and she bare a son.

**14** And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the Lord,...his name may be famous in Israel,

**17** And...her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David. [King David.]

### **Micah 5:2**

**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.

### **Matthew 2:4-6**

**4** And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

**5** And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of, Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

**6** And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

### **Matthew 1:1, 5, 16**

**1** The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

**5** And Salmon begat Boaz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;

**16** And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

**The Message: God often chooses the small things and makes them a blessing.**

### **Questions:**

1. Whose family was traveling when Rachel, his mother died?
2. Where was Rachel buried?
3. Where did Naomi and Ruth live?
4. Who was Ruth's great-grandson?
5. Is Ruth listed in the genealogies of Jesus?
6. Where was Jesus to be born?
7. Who prophesied that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem?
8. From where would a Governor for Israel come?
9. Must a city or person be big to be a blessing?

### **Verse to Memorize**

**But thou, Bethlehem... though thou be little...yet out of thee shall he come forth...that is to be ruler in Israel;...**

**Micah 5:2.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Bethlehem was a small city south of Jerusalem. Although it was not the center of activity for the country of Israel, many important people came from there. Israel's most famous king was born there and so was the King of the world, Jesus.

I'm sure you know and enjoy the story of Joseph who was hated by his brothers and sold as a slave. Yet he became the prime minister of Egypt and saved his family from starvation.

When Joseph was a little boy, a terrible thing happened in his family. At this time he had ten brothers and one sister, Dinah.

Dinah had no sisters so she made friends with girls from neighboring countries. But none of Dinah's friends were godly because Joseph's family was the only family in the country who worshiped God. One day when Dinah was out visiting her friends, Shechem carried her away and kept her overnight.

The following day he tried to make an arrangement with Dinah's family to marry her. Joseph's brothers wouldn't allow it. They treated these neighbors so badly that Joseph's family had to move to another country.

Joseph's mother, Rachel, was expecting a baby soon. As they were traveling near Bethlehem, Benjamin was born. His mother died. Rachel was buried in Bethlehem which made it a very special place to the family.

Elimelech and Naomi also lived in Bethlehem. A drought forced them to go into Moab where they lived until their two sons were grown and married. Later Elimelech and both their

two sons died. Then Naomi and Ruth, her daughter-in-law, returned to live in Bethlehem.

There Ruth married Boaz, a cousin of her first husband. Their first son, Obed, is the father of Jesse. Jesse is King David's father.

The first chapter of Matthew gives the genealogy of Jesus. It begins with Abraham, goes on through the family of Joseph, and includes Ruth. After Ruth comes Obed, Jesse, King David and the eternal King, Jesus.

Jesus, like Joseph, was rejected by his people yet became the Savior of his family. Ruth left her family and home and became the savior of Naomi's family. Jesus left his home in heaven and became the Savior of all humanity.

Many years before Jesus was born, the prophet Micah said the Governor of Israel would be born in Bethlehem. Although Bethlehem is a small town it has given the world many great people who have been a blessing.

Just so YOU, although you may be small, can do something for the Lord. If you live for Jesus, He will give you His character and you will be a blessing as Joseph, Ruth and David were blessings. —Charlotte Huskey

### O Little Town Of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth.

the children from his Sunday school classes.

While he was serving a church in Philadelphia, God blessed him with a good helper, Lewis H. Redner. Mr. Redner loved children equally as well as Pastor Brooks. The Sunday school grew from 36 to over 1,000 students.

One year, just before Christmas, Pastor Brooks and Mr. Redner were finishing up the last details for the children's Christmas program when they realized a new song was needed. No song they knew or had found seemed to fit with their plans. "Maybe I could write a song," Pastor Brooks said.

"That would be fine," Mr. Redner answered.

"I'll get at it as soon as I'm finished with a sermon for Sunday," he promised.

Pastor Brooks went to his office and settled down to serious work on the needed sermon. He thought and he prayed; he prayed and he thought, but his thoughts kept going to what he loved most—the children. It was like his mother had said, "Children are attracted by music." How disappointed they would be without a song for Christmas. What could he write?

It seemed God led his mind back to three years before when he had taken the trip to the Holy Land. He remembered the Christmas Eve service at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. He imagined how Bethlehem must have been the night Jesus was born. Multitudes of people were all soundly sleeping but the angels were watching over the city. The earth was silently spinning around, changing the location of the twinkling stars. Yet in the dark streets of that town an everlasting light was shining (Jesus). All generations would someday see this Light.

Then Pastor Brooks thought about the shepherds calmly watching their sheep when suddenly the sky was filled with angels singing and praising

God. At the same time Mary was giving birth to a Savior who would impart blessings to every humble heart that received Him.

He was caught up in the grand feeling of having Jesus in his heart, so he wrote "cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today."

Now the ideas for the song were fully formed in Pastor Brooks' mind. He wrote them. Then he changed them here and there. Perhaps he rewrote the song several times as most poets do before it says just what they want it to say.

The next morning, Brooks gave the verses to Redner requesting that he compose a simple melody that the children could easily memorize to sing in the Christmas program a few days later. Redner was an accomplished organist and loved composing music, but try as he might, he could not come up with a satisfactory melody for Brooks' poem. On the night before the children were to present their program, Redner fell into bed exhausted, still without the requested tune. In the middle of the night, however, he was awakened suddenly with the strains of a lovely melody ringing in his ears. Hastily, he jotted down the notes, set them by his bedside, and went back to sleep. In the morning he completed the harmony for the inspired tune and taught it to the children. That night, in December of 1868, "O little Town of Bethlehem" was sung for the first time by the children.

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

(Information from: James Draper, *More Than a Song*, Moody Press, 1970, and Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton, *The One Year Book of Hymns*, Tyndale House, 1995; *HYMNS OF FAITH AND INSPIRATION* by Pamela J Kennedy.)

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| (Answers: 1. Joseph's family.<br>2. Bethlehem. 3. In Bethlehem.<br>4. King David. 5. Yes. 6. Bethlehem.<br>7. Micah. 8. Bethlehem. 9. No.) |
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# THE

# BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## Silent Night! Holy Night!

Silent night! holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and Child,  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia  
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night! holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night! holy night!  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King  
Christ the Savior is born.

The history of this Christmas carol is a source of disagreement. Most stories, however, give Joseph Mohr and Franz Xaver Gruber the credit for it.

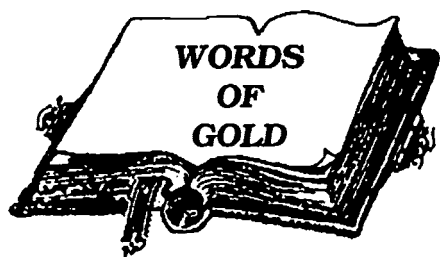
It seems that a little chapel in a village nestling high in the Alps, near Oberndorf, Austria was having trouble with the church organ. Some said it had rusted out. Others said that mice had chewed through vital parts. At any rate, a group of traveling actors came into the village hoping to use

the chapel to present a play based on the birth of Christ. But the organ repairman had left organ parts strewn all over the chapel floor. For fear that some vital parts of the precious organ might get misplaced the actors were denied the privilege of using the chapel.

The actors then found a large home in which to present their drama. Mohr went to watch. He saw the actors portraying Joseph walking beside Mary and the donkey as they traveled to Bethlehem. He saw Joseph searching and searching for a place where the virgin Mary could rest. Finally Joseph had to take Mary into an animals' stable to sleep.

While she was in this dirty place, her firstborn son was born. An angel suddenly appeared and announced that this was no normal child but the Son of God come in human flesh. "He is the King of kings and Lord of lords," the angel said. After that, lowly shepherds fell before the new King and worshipped Him.

Mohr watched as they portrayed wicked King Herod raving at the scribes and doctors of the law, demanding them to find where the new King was staying. And the same King, appearing with a sly, wicked smile, pleading with the wise men to find the new King and let him know His whereabouts so that he, too, could worship Him.



## God Protects His Son

**Matthew 2:1-5, 7-13**

**1** Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem.

**2** Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

**3** When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

**4** And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

**5** And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

**7** Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

**8** And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

**9** When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

**10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

**11** And when they were come into

the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

**12** And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

**13** And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

**The Message: Just as God protected Jesus, He will protect those who obey Him.**

### Questions:

1. Who was king when Jesus was born?
2. What did the wise men ask Herod?
3. What did Herod command of the high priests and scribes?
4. What did Herod ask the wise men to do?
5. Did Herod say he wanted to worship the new king?
6. What did God show the wise men in a dream?
7. Did the wise men obey God?
8. What did God tell Joseph to do?
9. Did Joseph's obedience save Jesus from death?

### Verse to Memorize

**...If ye do return unto the Lord with all your hearts,... and serve him only:...he will deliver you....**

**I Samuel 7:3.**

# Let's



## Talk . . .

Many years before Jesus was born, the Jewish people rejected the laws of God. They worshipped idols. A few times they even sacrificed their children to these idols. Prophets and wise men warned them of the danger to come if they did not stop these evil practices. The people did not change. Enemy armies marched into the land of Israel and took the people captive. They burned the cities, stole their livestock and their crops. The people they captured were herded like livestock over mountains and plains until they reached the conquerors' country. Here they were put to work as slaves.

There were a few of these Jews who remembered the laws of God and obeyed them while living in the foreign country. The three Hebrew children, who did not bow to the golden idol, and Daniel, were among those who honored God and obeyed His laws. In this way the laws of God spread into many nations. I am sure as they visited with their neighbors the captive Jews sometimes mentioned God's promise of a king who would come to deliver them.

It also seems that some of the Jews had taken along some books of prophecy. These books are portions of the Bible. Prophecies about Christ were in these books.

One said, "I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel." Some Bible historians believe the three wise men had heard some prophecies of Jesus. When they saw the bright new star they thought it must mean that the new king of the Jews had been born.

At once they set off to find Him.

When they arrived in Jerusalem they went straight to the palace. Now King Herod cared nothing about prophecies and therefore knew nothing about a new king. The scribes and high priests knew very little more than King Herod did but they had the old books. Searching them they found the prophecy in Micah which said the new Governor would be born in Bethlehem. They informed the king to look for Him in Bethlehem.

So Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem with orders to return and tell him where the child was. At Bethlehem the star stood still over the place where Jesus was. At last they had found the promised Savior. Falling to their knees they worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented Him with rich gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

To protect Jesus, God instructed the Wise Men in a dream that they must not go back to Herod. So they returned to their home by another road.

Herod waited a long time for the Wise Men to return from Bethlehem but they never came. Now Herod was angry! He sent his soldiers to kill every child in Bethlehem and the surrounding country that was two years old or younger!

But God knew his evil intentions. He had already warned Joseph to leave Bethlehem and take Mary and the Child to Egypt where they would be safe.

Remember how God also protected the three Hebrew children from the king's fiery furnace and Daniel from the lions? Obey God and you can trust Him to protect you too!

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Herod. 2. "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" 3. To tell him where Christ was born. 4. To find Jesus and let him know where Jesus was. 5. Yes. 6. To not return to Herod. 7. Yes. 8. To take Jesus and His mother to Egypt. 9. Yes.)

Mohr was greatly impressed by the presentation. He walked out of the home. But instead of going to his bed he walked up on a hill to meditate.

The night was clear and calm. In the quietness all around, a holy feeling of awe came over him. "O holy night," he whispered into the stillness. "O silent night, all is calm, yet all is bright."

Lights shown from the cottages in the village below. He wondered if it looked much like Bethlehem. He pictured a stable somewhere in the village with Mary and her baby in the manger. "Round yon virgin mother and Child, Holy Infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace," he whispered reverently.

Mohr thought of the shepherds and the words of the second verse formed in his mind. As he walked the path back to his cottage, the remaining words of the carol came to him little by little. The following morning he gave the words to Franz Gruber and asked him if he could write music to fit the words.

Christmas Eve Gruber and Mohr sang the song for the first time, as Gruber strummed his guitar. Some believe that Gruber had already written the music before Mohr gave him the words. What is the truth, we do not know. It does seem evident that the words and music of this heavenly song were divinely inspired.

Thanks to the organ repairman, we have the hymn today. A few days after Christmas he got a copy of the song and began sharing it with others. Soon touring groups began to sing it in concerts, spreading its popularity even further. Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber never dreamed that 180 years after that makeshift Christmas program, millions would be singing their simple carol and hearing it

over millions of radios and television.

We must also thank John Freeman Young for this beautiful Christmas carol. The carol that Mohr wrote was in either German or Latin. Freeman translated it into English, Now you know how we came to have *Silent Night! Holy Night!*

—Charlotte Huskey, reprinted from 1998 *Beautiful Way*

In 1914 when soldiers in Europe marched out to the first great European war of the 20th century, they said they would be home by Christmas to celebrate their victory.

The young men were not home by Christmas. The war dragged on and on for years and Europe was never to be the same again.

In December of 1914, however, a strange thing happened on the Western front. It was Christmas Eve, and the weather suddenly got cold. A few German soldiers started singing carols and it was soon picked up all along the line as others joined in harmonizing. Then they began singing "Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!" The British immediately recognized the melody and began singing "Silent Night" along with the Germans.

Then occurred one of the most unusual incidents in military history. One by one, soldiers on both sides laid down their weapons and ventured into no man's land - too many of them to prevent their superior officers from objecting. An undeclared truce had broken out spontaneously, against all orders and the rules of military combat. The men sat around campfires together singing the choruses of Christmas carols, "Silent Night" being the favorite since it was known by both sides. Before midnight they said their farewells and returned to their own lines.

—Selected

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(Look for "Answers" on page 3.)