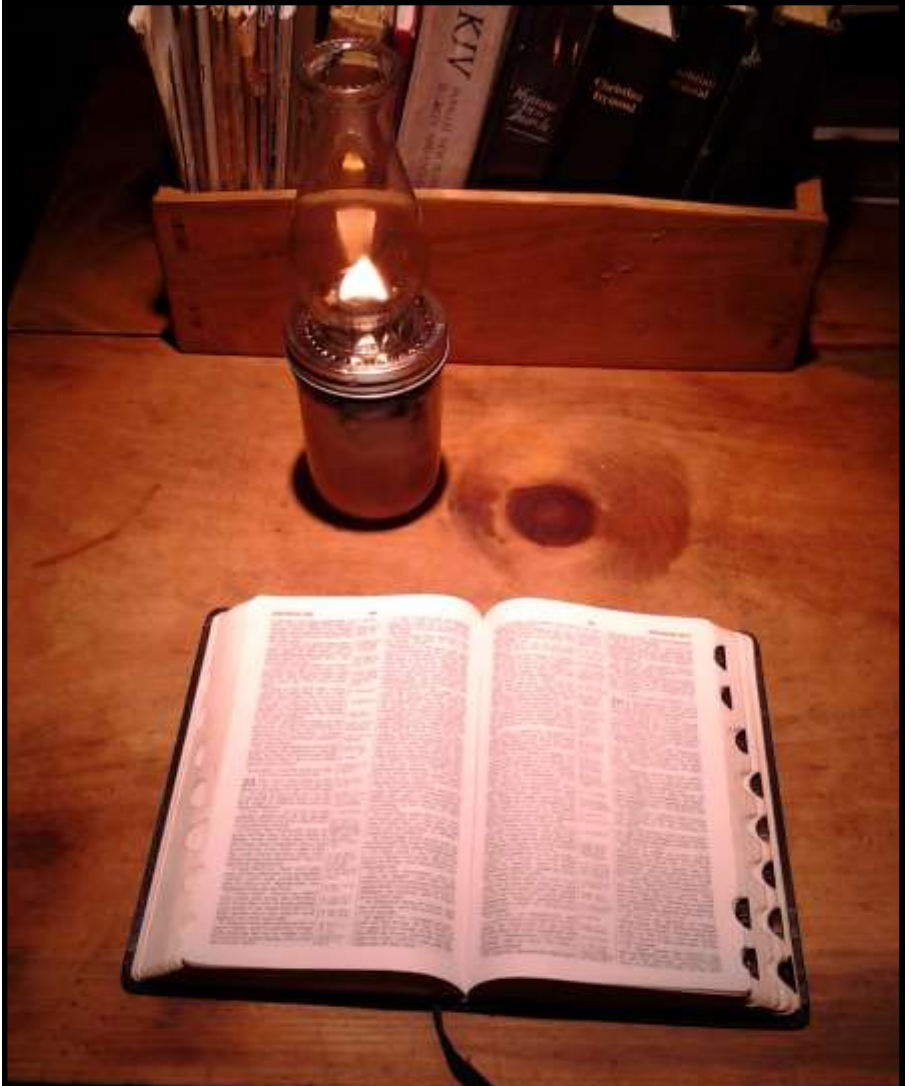


# The Bugle

Calling everyone to the service of Christ

Vol. 21, Number 1

Spring 2021



*And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

*2Timothy 3:15*

# Welcome to The Bugle

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## The Bugle

Is a ministry of the Parishville Christian Church.

The magazine is edited by various members of the Luke & Rachel Martin family. The Boy's Bugle was started in 2001 by Melvin to help fill the need for a Christian boys' magazine. In 2011 we changed the name to The Bugle.

We publish as we have the

time and satisfactory material.

Any comments, suggestions, submissions, or ideas you send us are greatly appreciated.

If you are ever in the area, we would be delighted for you to stop in for a visit or to worship with us.

On the front cover: The Holy Scriptures setting on our pine kitchen table with one of the lamps Nathaniel made this winter.



# Editor's Desk



**Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them. And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee.**

*Psalm 39:6-7*

What wait I for? Financial prosperity? Political and social stability? In these unsettled times, people think about living a more self-sufficient lifestyle. While that may be expedient, is security found there? The things of this earth—whether it be money, governments, social systems or even good clean “living off the land” —are finite and subject to failure. Even if things go good for us in this life, what is our

security when it comes time to lay our bodies down? The psalmist is wise. He has put his hope in the only secure place, the Lord Jehovah, who is our hope of peace and love here—and life eternal.

*Nathaniel J. Martin*

**Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.....**

*Habakkuk 3:17-19*

**I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found. Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace. But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.**

*Psalm 37:35-38*

# Whatever Became of Sin?

*Dr. Ab Abercrombie*  
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*April 25, 2013*

In 1973, the world-renowned psychiatrist Karl Menninger wrote a book entitled: **Whatever Became of Sin?** In his book the doctor projected the day would come when sin would no longer be an element of the human vernacular. He speculated that the explanation of sin and wrongdoing would be replaced by rationalizations excusing individual accountability. Menninger predicted the term sin would be replaced with words like illness, disorder, dysfunction, syndrome, etc. The human condition would be excused as a product of biochemistry, environment, experience, and trauma. He projected that even crime would go unpunished as criminal activity would be justified and minimized as the result of some medical abnormality for which one could not be held responsible.

According to Menninger's prognostication, the day was approaching when practically everyone would be considered sick and their conduct pardonable. No longer would there be any liability for human error, choice, and willful conduct. Everyone

would be innocent, vindicated through biology, psychiatry, and humanistic reasoning. Aren't we just about there? The good doctor was a pretty good prophet!

Humanism has become the dominant theology of our day, embraced increasingly throughout society and regrettably, in the Church. Humanism teaches that everything is relative and there are no absolutes. As a result there can be no sin because there are no fixed guidelines of morality. Under this doctrine, man is considered good and deserving of everything he wants.

Furthermore, humanism assumes there is no God. Man is his own sovereign ruler; wise, competent, and capable of making decisions that are best for him. Salvation then is the pleasure and gratification of the human experience. Humanism is individually focused without regard to others and it seeks immediate gain without consideration of its long-term or eternal impact.

Since man is good, wise, competent, and deserving he literally can do no wrong. Therefore, if wrong is committed, it could

not be man's fault. In order for man to act badly, there must be a reason. And more than ever before we hear the Church employ the reasoning of the world and abandoning the language and clarity of Scripture:

*She isn't a drunkard (1 Cor. 6:9-10)...she has the disease of Alcoholism.*

*He isn't sexually immoral (1 Thess. 4:3)...he is a Sexual Addict.*

*The child is not disobedient to parents (Rom. 1:28-32)...she has Oppositional, Defiant Disorder with ADHD.*

*He isn't an angry man (Prov. 29:22)...he is reliving the patterns of his childhood abuse.*

*She isn't bitter and unforgiving (Eph. 4:31-32)...she has Dysthymia (depression).*

*He isn't a murderer (Ex. 20:13)...he has Bi-polar Disorder and was incompetent at the time of the crime.*

In our efforts to explain human behavior in ways we consider relevant and applicable, we have become vulnerable to the leaven (Matt. 16:6) of humanistic psychology that speaks in terms of circumstance, experience, genetics, and biochemistry. These and other explanations have become the "reasons" individuals and families act as they do.

Since the language and definitions have changed, so have the accepted remedies. Once we moved away from a biblical

definition of the problem, we began to see the answer as being beyond the scope of Scripture. As we defined the problems of man in physical and relational terms, we fell under the notion that psychotherapy, medication, and similar approaches were the solutions needed.

Within this process has been the slow erosion of the Christian worldview. The Bible is no longer considered the template for life and the Body has been led astray by the humanistic reasoning, which is overwhelming the Church. Jesus warned of the deceptive influence of false teaching:

**And Jesus said to them, "Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees" (Matt. 16:6).**

Paul used leaven as a metaphor also to illustrate how insidious a false idea can be, noting how quickly incorrect teaching can spread and influence the believer and the Church. Paul wrote:

*(Continued on next page)*

**You were running well; who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion did not come from Him who calls you. A little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough. I have confidence in you in the Lord that you will adopt no other view... (Gal. 5:7-10a).**

Paul is asking the Church at Galatia where their false ideas were coming from. Why were they returning to a “yoke of slavery” (Gal. 5:1) when they had been set free? He indicates the church was “running well” until they were “hindered” (distracted) from “obeying the truth.” And Paul notes that this influence did not come from “Him who calls you.”

This was Paul’s challenge to the Galatians to look around and reorient themselves. They had released their gaze from the truth and had attached themselves to a lie. The apostle reminds them that this leaven will spread rapidly and infect the “whole lump;” the whole man, the whole marriage, the whole family, and the whole church. Finally Paul encourages them to “adopt no other view” than the full and compelling truth of the Gospel. This letter could well be written to the current Church in America. Our race toward the prize (1 Cor. 9:24) has been undermined with a little leaven...a smidgen of a lie. Humanism is the leaven that has “persuaded” the Church away from the truth, even though its ideals and objectives are antithetical to Scripture. So great is the humanistic influence that today, Scripture is regarded as insufficient and inferior to the theories and

methods of the world. Listen to the language within the Church and one will hear that there has been a change in culture. Christians are ceasing to measure and monitor their lives by the truth of God’s Word and instead are relying upon the world’s wisdom (1 Cor. 3:19).

By changing our language, focus, definitions, and solutions, the Church is quickly returning to bondage. Slavery is advanced by the avoidance of the truth that makes one free. Jesus said:

**If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free (Jn. 8:31b-32).**

To continue in God’s Word refers to an uninterrupted progression. We are not to be influenced, distracted, or inhibited from “obeying the truth” (Gal 5:7). In this progression we will be made free. To continue within a humanistic worldview is to be tied to the remedies of earth...for the rest of one’s life!

Alcoholics Anonymous teaches that people who abuse alcohol are “alcoholics” forever. They can only control their “disease.” There is no cure. Psychiatrists suggest that individuals with depression, severe anxiety, social fear, instability, etc. are permanently, “biochemically impaired.” Most

will require management of their “illness” for the rest of their lives.

Psychotherapists often teach that abuse survivors are “victims” with permanent injuries. As with an amputated limb, the injury cannot be repaired. The best one can do is to learn methods for coping with the understandable “dysfunction” in behavior, mood, and relationships. Family therapists often recommend divorce because of the “pathological” communication and conduct within marriages and the “fixed” personality traits of individuals.

When did the Church decide it was better to be sick than sinful? Illness often has no cure and requires the constant application of relief. But sin has a solution that heals and restores, even as our bodies are failing. Paul wrote:

**Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal (2 Cor. 4:16-18).**

As Biblicists, we must minister

to the pain and suffering that comes through the physicality of life, but we must never forget about the “inner man.” Our response to fellow believers must go beyond the temporal, always seeking the “things which are not seen.” Our activities always bear eternal consequences. Consequently we must not become entangled in the superficiality of humanism but rather advance the totality of Scripture, including the doctrine of sin and its remedy, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins (Matt. 1:21).**



# Grease Lamps

In the north country, the winter days are short and the evenings are long. Also November and December tend to be cloudy. So there is not a lot of light, which can affect peoples health. Some people use a full spectrum light to improve their health in the winter.

I wondered what kind of light a candle puts off. So I did a little research. Sunlight at noon is considered full spectrum. At sunset there is less blue light and more red light, which helps tell your being that night is coming when people should go to bed and sleep. People with electric lights go snap the lights on. Some electric lights have too much blue light, which can mess up your natural sleep/wake cycle. But candlelight contains less blue light than sunset light, so it can further help you on to bed.

It is my understanding that the common folk of bygone years did not use candles—they used oil or grease lamps.

A lamp can be as simple as the first lamp I made this winter—a little stainless steel bowl with a flat oil lamp wick laid on the bottom and up the side to the edge of the bowl. I used a fence staple I had at hand as a weight on the wick to hold it in place. It worked

well. I needed to keep adding fat to the bowl to keep the oil level up close to the side of the bowl so the fire would not burn down the side of the wick and the flame flare up and smoke.

With the wick at the edge of the bowl, more grease is sometimes wicked up than the flame burns and it runs down the outside and drips off. That problem can be avoided, if the wick is fixed away from the edge. I bent a flat piece of metal that had holes in it, into a channel to hold the wick upright. With the metal around the wick, the flame cannot burn down the wick and flare up. By grabbing the wick with a tweezers, the wick can be slid up or down to adjust the height of the flame. The metal channel must fit the wick tight enough that the wick does not fall down, but loose enough that the wick can be adjusted up or down. The heat from the flame is conducted down the metal into the grease which liquefies it. The metal should be thin; if it is too thick, it conducts the heat away too fast. Then the grease near the flame is not melted soon enough when the lamp is first lit and the lamp will starve for fuel (especially in a cool room). I used metal from an old



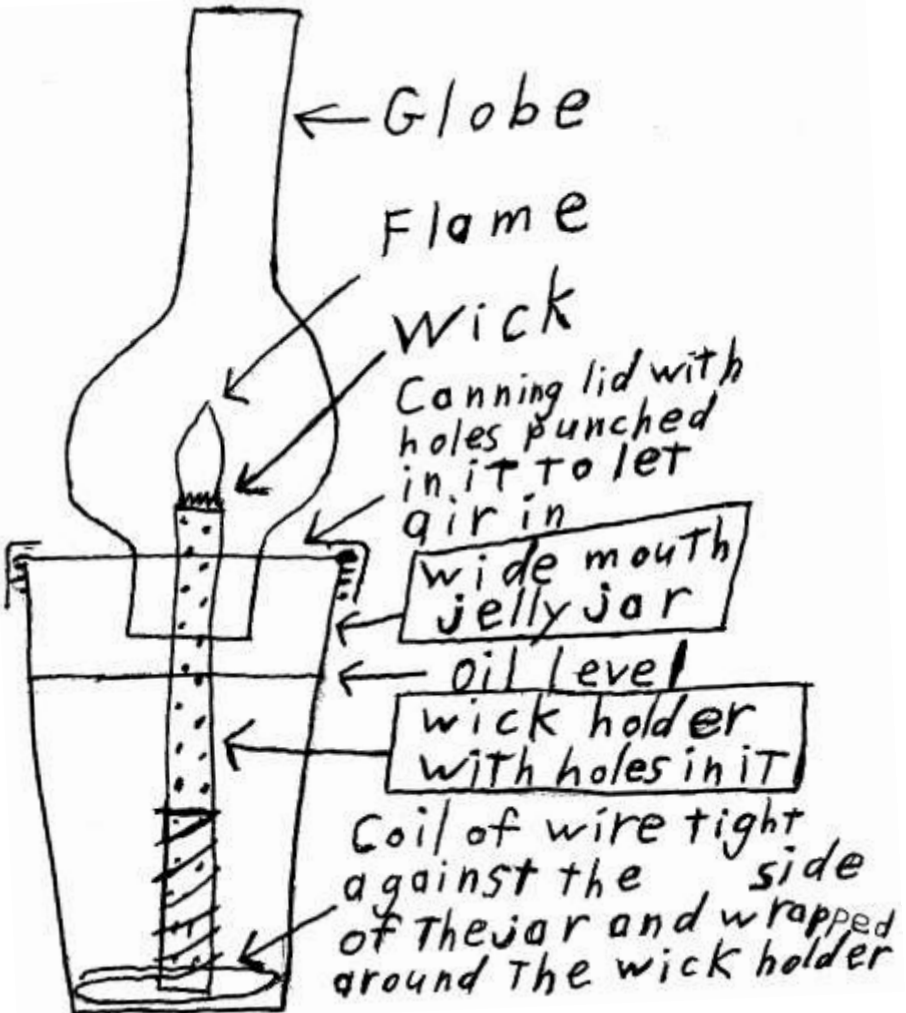
metal olive oil can for the last lamps I made; it is a good thinness.

The lamps I have made with globes work better with vegetable oil than with tallow because the flame is farther from the grease. With thick grease (like tallow) the flame needs to be close to the grease so there is enough heat to

melt the grease. With light grease (like vegetable oil) the flame can be farther away. This is true especially in a cool room.

Some wick materials that I have tried with success are cotton cloth, cotton twine, cotton lamp wick and hemp rope. Wick can be soaked in borax and/or salt water, then

*(Continued on next page)*



dried. This treatment causes the wick not to burn up as quickly and it also can improve the color and brightness of the flame.

The lamps can be hard to light. A little pine pitch on the wick helps it light; pine pitch lights easier than grease. If you get a little strand of the wick to stick out from the wick that also will light easy.

*By Nathaniel Martin*

Savannah writes:

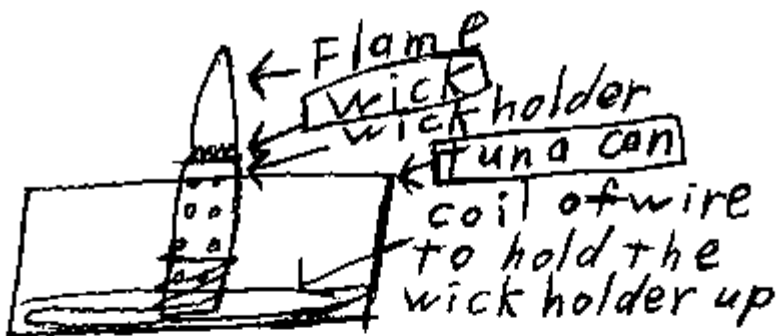
I benefit from Nathaniel's experiments! I like the simplicity of the globeless lamp, but prefer a globed one when walking around because the flame is not nearly as affected by air currents.

If I am where it is brightly lit in the evening, my eyes get bleary and I long for the soft, relaxing glow of a lamp. It is interesting to me how well I can see with a dimmer light.

These grease lamps make a very convenient night light. They also give new meaning to Proverbs 31:18b "her candle (or lamp) goeth not out by night".

The virtuous woman keeps her lamp well supplied with oil and trims the wick when needed. Keeping a lamp burning would be a priority if matches and batteries were not so readily available.

The 5 wise virgins (*Matt. 25:1-13*) were prepared to keep their lamps burning. We each need to be filled with the Spirit of God. We can only be lit by coming to Jesus Christ. His words are Spirit and they are Life. (*John 6:63*) Let us walk in His light.



# Milk Paint

To make milk paint, we cool the milk and let the cream rise. We skim the cream off and use it for food. We take the skimmed milk and culture it and let it set at a warm temperature until it is set up. Then we put it in butter muslin and hang it up for the whey to drain off. When most of the whey is drained off, I stir in 1 cup of borax to 1 gallon of the cheese. Gently heating it helps the borax to dissolve. Next I put it through a sieve to strain out any lumps. The result is a general purpose glue. It works well for gluing paper. I have added glycerin to make the glue more flexible to use for fixing book binding.

To make paint, mix in pigment. I think it is probably best to mix water with the pigment before adding it to the glue/binder. Depending on how much whey was drained from the cheese, water may need to be added to thin the paint out. If too much pigment is added, the paint will chalk off. If not enough pigment is added, the paint may crack. Diatomaceous earth, chalk, powdered egg shell or lime can be used to make a white paint, but if it gets wet with water or oil, it loses its whiteness and goes to more of a clear paint. Zinc oxide works well for white pigment; it also has the benefit of inhibiting mold growth. Charcoal powder makes a nice black. Natural mineral and earth pigments can be bought. Food coloring can be used. Dyes from plants and vegetables could be used to color the paint. Diatomaceous earth can be used as a base for dyes. Diatomaceous earth, clay and chalk can be used as filler/extender.

Instead of borax, lime can be

used which makes the paint more resistant to water. But if lime is used, the paint should be used shortly after it is mixed up. If borax is used, the paint should keep in a can 6 months or longer. Baking soda could be used in place of the borax. Also lye can be used. I boiled wood ashes and whey together then strained the particles out. I mixed that "lye water" with the cheese to make paint. It smells good and seems to keep well if kept in a tight container. At first it did build some pressure in the can.

Sometimes I put 1 cup of linseed oil in a gallon of paint. It is said that it helps the paint stick better.

If milk paint is used outdoors, it is best if it has some time to cure before it is rained on.

Milk paint can be sealed with an oil after it is dry.

Milk paint might not stick to surfaces that have other kinds of paint on. It is best used on unfinished surfaces.

I am not a professional paint maker but it is one of my hobbies. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to call or write to me.

*By Nathaniel Martin*



# The Church in Action

He washed their feet; His own were washed with tears.  
And now with towels and water, kneeling saints  
Exemplify their willingness to serve;  
Then, as they turn again to common life,  
Their humble hearts go with them, shining joy—  
They live by the example of their Lord.

They greet—but not as Judas kissed the Lord,  
In mockery upon that night of tears.  
Theirs is an earnest token of the joy  
They feel at meeting with like-pilgrim saints  
Who are not merely fellows in this life  
But travellers to the common God they serve.

They preach the Word, exhorting men to serve  
Each other, and to glorify the Lord—  
To glow as lights when truth has gripped their life.  
Then those who spoke with fervency of tears  
Seek for themselves the growth they urged the saints  
To find in Him who prunes and ripens joy.

Their spirits rise on holy hymns of joy;  
All passions hail the Christ. As voices serve  
In that glad melody of hearty saints,  
There dwells the ringing presence of the Lord.  
And though they meet with crushing toil or tears,  
The echoed songs remain to cheer each life.

They pray together: navigating life,  
Repenting of their sins, expressing joy.  
They intercede for sinners through love's tears  
And pray for all in need and all who serve.  
Not like the Pharisees; they seek the Lord  
With fervour in the closet or with saints.

They break the bread and share among the saints  
The cup: that symbol of Christ's spilled-out life  
That bought mankind's communion with the Lord.

Then, following His steps, they learn to joy  
In broken self that frees the soul to serve;  
They fix their eyes on Christ through sun or tears.

A Home beyond all tears awaits the saints;  
Till then they serve, show forth the words of Life,  
And find a strength of joy within their Lord.

*Rebecca Weber*

## Heaven's Joy

*Leah Shetler*

Heaven's Joy becomes man's life  
If by faith Jesus in your heart dwells.  
The joy of Jesus no man can take.  
If our joy depends on life's circumstances  
We would experience a very grim joy indeed.  
To enter into the realm of Heaven's Joy,  
You must first receive by faith  
What Jesus on the cross has finished  
To deliver you from your old sinful self.  
If you by faith knock on Heaven's door,  
You will never be turned away.  
For the Son of God will open to you  
That great door of forgiveness, love, and joy.  
And Heaven will come closer  
If the door of your heart you will open.  
But if you choose from this great love  
Your heart and mind to turn away,  
'Tis then, my dear friend,  
That joy becomes unknown.

# Insecurity

A girl, about 12 or 13 years old, was at her aunt's place helping with housework. When she came home, she chattered awhile about how Auntie does her work. Her mother began to feel belittled for the way she did things. Soon she snapped, "I don't care how Auntie does it."

Then one day, the girl came home earlier than expected. She didn't say much but her mother suspected she was scolded for chatting about how "Mom does it..."

Later, after growing up a little more, the mother became convicted about getting upset and being short with her daughter that day. "After all," she thought, "there is nothing wrong with a child voicing her observations. Why did I feel put down by her report? She never said I should do like Auntie does."

The mother had to admit that she was the immature one, the insecure one—the one who did wrong. "I should just have listened with interest to consider whether I might learn something." She apologized to


her daughter.

There are many stories that are similar, yet are very different. It may not be a sign of insecurity if the "mother" or "aunt" feels irritated. Sometimes such "chatter" is a directive that may be disrespectful. It might show in the attitude.

The world we live in produces many insecure people. They are often offensive. They often misunderstand and they get offended way too easily.

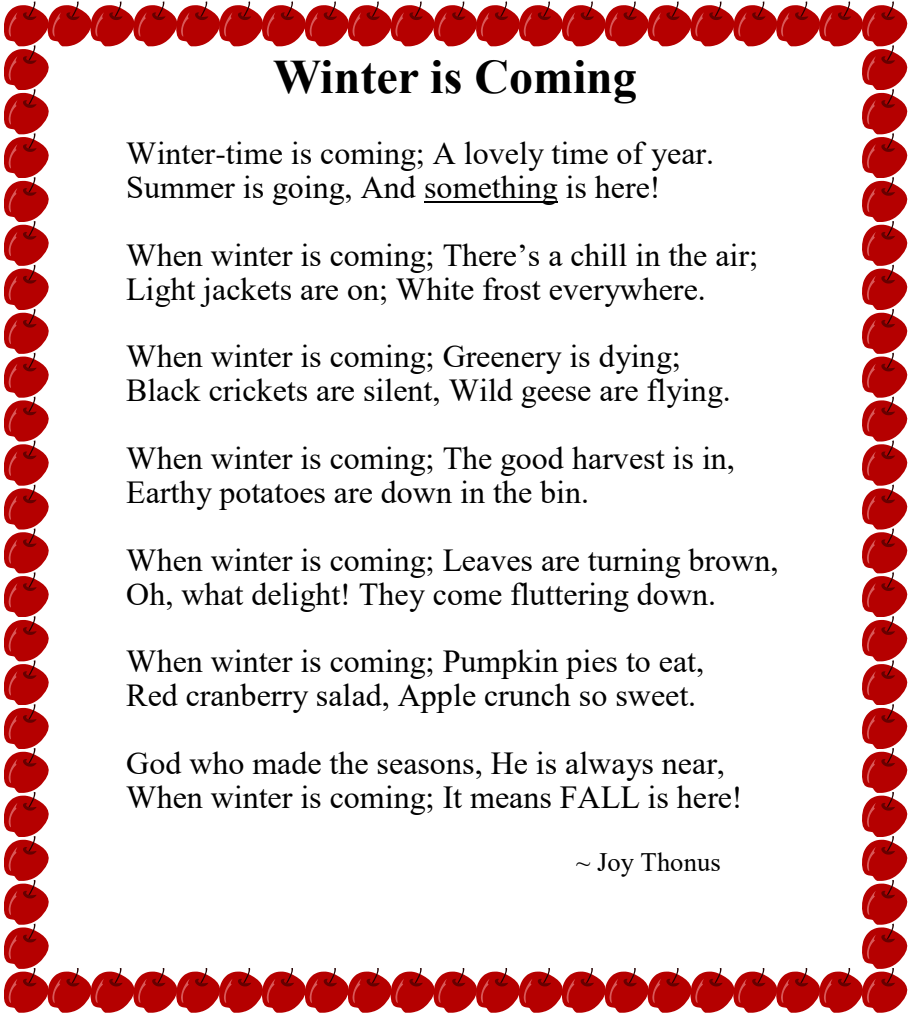
How wonderful it would be if we could relax with each other and feel free to share our opinions, without fear of being misunderstood and falsely blamed. **Lord, help us!** Help us lay down our lives in consideration of others; they may be in fear.

*By Rachel Martin*



**Pride goeth before destruction,  
and an haughty spirit before a fall. Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.**

*Proverbs 16:18-19*



# Winter is Coming

Winter-time is coming; A lovely time of year.  
Summer is going, And something is here!

When winter is coming; There's a chill in the air;  
Light jackets are on; White frost everywhere.

When winter is coming; Greenery is dying;  
Black crickets are silent, Wild geese are flying.

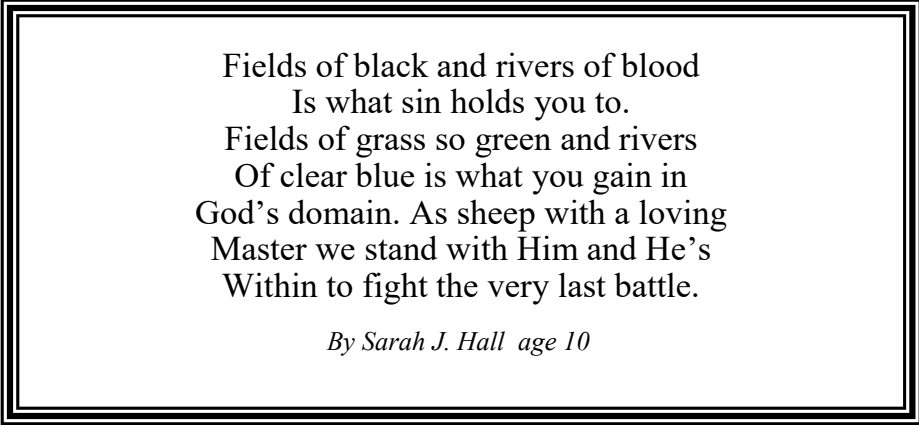
When winter is coming; The good harvest is in,  
Earthy potatoes are down in the bin.

When winter is coming; Leaves are turning brown,  
Oh, what delight! They come fluttering down.

When winter is coming; Pumpkin pies to eat,  
Red cranberry salad, Apple crunch so sweet.

God who made the seasons, He is always near,  
When winter is coming; It means FALL is here!

~ Joy Thonus



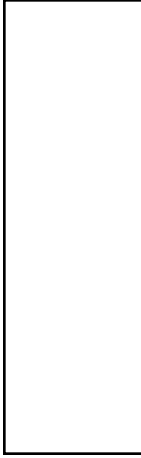
Fields of black and rivers of blood  
Is what sin holds you to.  
Fields of grass so green and rivers  
Of clear blue is what you gain in  
God's domain. As sheep with a loving  
Master we stand with Him and He's  
Within to fight the very last battle.

*By Sarah J. Hall age 10*

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***Then spake Jesus again  
unto them, saying, **I am  
the light of the world:  
he that followeth me  
shall not walk in dark-  
ness, but shall have the  
light of life.*****

*John 8:12*