

# The Boys Bugle

Calling all young men to the service of Christ

Vol. 3 Number 4

Winter 2004



# Welcome to The Boys Bugle

This issues theme "The power of God"

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## Subscription Information:

Please let us know, once a year, stating that you want to continue to receive "The Boys Bugle." Back issues available. Donations appreciated. Donations include articles, stories, poems, pictures, ideas, letters, and etc; (not just money). We reserve the right to print anything you send us, unless you specify otherwise. (Our cost per year for printing and postage for both "The Boys Bugle" and "Heart and Home Harmony" is \$5.20.) Please make checks payable to The Boys Bugle.

Send to: The Boys Bugle  
156 Newton Rd.  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

The Planned Theme for the

## Next Issue.

### Our relationship to God and Man

How are we to relate to God? How are we to relate to our parents, siblings, friends, neighbors, authorities, enemies, etc? If you have any special insight, good articles, poems, stories, etc on this subject, I would love to hear from you.

Please send us your contribution before February 15 to get it here in time for the next issue. Thank-you.

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## On the Cover:

**Top:** View of a patch of cedar trees that snapped during the ice storm in 98.

**Bottom:** The Luke Martin family eating supper by candle and solar/battery light during the ice storm.



# Notice

## Change of address

The new address is:  
 156 Newton Rd.  
 Potsdam, N.Y. 13676  
 Also make checks out to The Boys Bugle.



### Editor's Desk



Yesterday morning I was riding my bike to Church. I was carrying my Bible and some song books in my left hand and was steering with my right hand. I was cruising pretty fast, probably 10-15 MPH, when suddenly I was on the shoulder of the road, sliding on the ground. Dazed and hurting I got to my feet.

My sisters were walking just ahead of me and Luray was riding bike just behind me. Luray said it looked like I went front on the handle bars, the back tire came off the ground, and I fell sideways on the side of the road. The bike had a crooked handle bar and the drive chain on the bike was jammed between the frame and high gear. That made it so the petals were locked up. I had a few scrapes and

scratches; nothing major. So, Luray bent the handle bars straight and put the chain on and I kept going. But it did not make any sense to me why I had crashed.

Then during the meeting my leg started to get stiff and swell up at a scrape. I could hardly walk. It was definitely bruised there. Now today I am getting stiff all over. I think the reason I crashed was I was hanging on with one hand and when the petals locked up, I lost my balance.

Why do I bother to write this down? Because I want you to understand that when you are operating machinery, accidents happen fast and in very unusual ways. Always be alert and think safety first. Keep your hands on the han-

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# God's Blessing on Haiti

By Kenneth Whitehead

**“The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein.” Psalm 24**

In February of 1998, my wife Alice, and I were in Haiti. It was nearing the beginning of Lenten season. This is also the time of the year when those who practice Voodoo religion begin their nightly escapades called Rah Rah.

We saw very little of this kind of activity in the town of La Baleine where we were, but we had heard of it from others that certain areas of Haiti have quite large Rah Rah crowds.

One evening, Alice and I went to visit the pastor friend of ours. During this visit, I asked this pastor, “What is this about? We hear in the U. S. that many years ago, Haiti was dedicated to Satan by Voodoo priests and that is the reason there is so much poverty and disorder in Haiti.” He answered and said that he knew little about that. “We are Christians and what we have is the LORD'S and what we do is for the glory of the LORD,” he said, “Too many people give what is the LORD'S over to Satan and give Satan place where he does not belong.”

As we talked that evening we were discussing that if it really did happen that some Voodoo priests had at one time in history dedicated Haiti unto Satan, why cannot we as Christians, made to be Kings and priests unto God and the Father in

heaven, to whom is glory and dominion forever and ever, dedicate Haiti unto this our living and most High God, in the name of our Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ. So we concluded that, if it had never been done before, where two or three are gathered together in the name of Jesus, and who agree concerning any thing that we ask of the Father in Jesus' name, that it would be done.

So the four of us who prayed were the Pastor and his wife and my wife and I. We dedicated their home and belongings to God; the mission grounds there at La Baleine we dedicated to God and all the buildings, the church buildings and the school we dedicated to God. Then we dedicated the whole town of La Baleine to God. Then we dedicated the whole country of Haiti to God and asked the Father in Heaven to look upon that land with His abundant mercy, which is forever, and pour upon that land His great blessings, and that the power of Satan be broken, that the curse that has bound that land be broken forever, in Jesus name. Then we thanked God and went forth rejoicing and thanking God. This was in February of 1998.

Alice and I returned home to the U.S.A. that summer, we sought a way that we might be able to work in Haiti and obtained an invi-

tation from Haiti Relief and Missions to work at La Baleine. In August, I attended a meeting of Men for Missions at York, Pennsylvania. At that meeting, there was a registered nurse who worked at Cap Haitian, a major city in the northern part of Haiti. This nurse had with her a video that documented some happenings of the previous spring, about the time of Lent, in the Cap Haitian area. This video was narrated and showed a certain tree and a spring at which, many years ago, Voodoo priests had gathered and at that place, dedicated Haiti unto Satan.

Every year at about the time of Lent season there is held a Voodoo festival there where many Voodoo priests gather with those who practice that religion. The video went on to say – that particular year, the Christians in that area decided to hold revival meetings in the area, inviting three well-known Haitian evangelists. These many Christians, and there were many, formed a Jericho March all around this areas where these Voodoo ceremonies are usually held, praying that these evil spirits be bound, that this curse over Haiti be broken and that Haiti be dedicated to God the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that God’s blessing be poured upon that land.

When the Voodoo priests arrived there to call upon the spirits to prepare for the Voodoo rituals, they declared that the festival couldn’t be held because they could not get through in the spirit world.

When the government heard

about this, they sent some authorities to arrest the Christian Evangelists on false accusations and put them into jail. The Christians then began to pray that these evangelists be released. Then the authorities gave them release. The evangelists then said, “No, you brought us to jail on certain accusations, so you must try us publicly and prove if these accusations are true. So, a trial was held and it was proven that they were falsely accused and this had to be published publicly. Then the evangelists were released and a great revival meeting was held. News spread all around Haiti that the land of Haiti is dedicated to One that is greater than Satan, who has brought a curse over the land. Haiti is officially dedicated to God by believing Christians. The many believers in the Lord Jesus Christ in Haiti rejoice daily that the earth in the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein. Christian meetings in Haiti are multitudes of rejoicing people, praising God, who is Lord over all the earth; Jesus Christ reigns as King over their land and He provides for His children, and they are thankful for His provision for them.

This was all documented on this video that I watched at the Men for Missions meeting. I told that nurse that showed the video that we were in Haiti at that very same time; and that we were led of the Spirit to join with these Christians in prayer but we knew nothing at all of what was taking place many miles away at Cap Haitian.

All this confirms how we

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# The Old Time Farmer

Taken from, "The Farmers', Gardeners' and Stock-Raisers' Guide." (1850)

so numerous and strong, that the sinner, like the wretched Laocoon,

## Let Sunflowers Grow on Margin Lands.

This plant should be cultivated much more than it is at present. On rich soils it yields a large quantity of seed, which is valuable in fattening poultry, making the flesh exceedingly sweet and delicate. It is also excellent food for cattle, more especially when ground and mixed with other grain. It is said that one hundred pounds of the seed contains from thirty to forty pounds of oil.

## The Importance of Punctuality

Method is the very hinge of business; and there is no method without punctuality. Punctuality is important, because it subserves the peace and good temper of the family; the want of it not only infringes on necessary duty, but sometimes excludes this duty. To the farmer it is as necessary as to the merchant. The care and feeding of stock, the tilling of the ground, the sowing of the seed, the supervision of fruit, the general harvest, and a constant vigilance in guarding against waste, should be regulated with the undeviating precision of the flowing tides of the ocean.

## To Remove Rust from Finely-Polished Steel

Rub the rust with any kind of soft animal fat, and lay the articles by, wrapped in thick paper, for two or three days. Then, after cleaning off the grease with a piece of soft flannel, rub the spots well with powdered rotten stone and sweet-oil, after which the polish may be restored, by rubbing with powdered emery, on a soft leather; and the process may be finished with finely powdered chalk or magnesia.

To forgive injuries is a most noble and magnanimous revenge.

Vice gains its power by insinuation; it winds gently round the soul, without being felt, till it's twines become

writes in vain to extricate himself, and his faculties are crushed, at length, in the folds of the serpent.

# Young People of the Bible

A Series of Bible Character Stories that teach a lesson.

## Solomon and Joash

### *Vocational Guidance*

Solomon is spoken of as being quite young when he began to reign (1 Kings 3:7; 1 Chronicles 29:1) although we are not given his exact age. He realized his inadequacies and when God asked him to make a request Solomon chose wisdom and knowledge so that he would be able to rule God's people well (1 Kings 3; 2 Chronicles 1). God was pleased with Solomon's request and gave him what he asked for as well as what he had not asked for—riches and honor.

Joash (who began his reign at age seven) also had inadequacies. He needed the advice of someone wiser than he in order to do well. As long as his uncle, Jehoiada, was alive, he served the Lord. When his uncle died, the weakness of his character was manifested. He turned to unwise advisers (2 Chronicles 24:17-19) who led him into idolatry. God sent prophets and Jehoiada's son, Zechariah, to tell him the Lord's will, but he ignored the prophets and murdered Zechariah. Because of his wickedness, God sent the Syrians to harass Jerusalem, and Joash was assassinated by his own servants at the age of 47. How much happier he would have been if he had turned to God for wisdom

and guidance when he needed it.

Solomon and Joash both knew what their life's work was to be, but they needed God's guidance to do it well. We need God's guidance to choose the right work and then His guidance to do it well.

Now God knows our weaknesses and inadequacies as well as our talents and abilities. He knows for which occupation each of us is best suited. Not only do different occupations require different abilities, but different occupations present different temptations and possible hindrances to spiritual growth. If we let Him choose for us we will find work for which we are suited, and we will avoid situations which could be disastrous to our spirituality. The place He chooses may not give us much worldly status, but it will be the place in which we can best serve Him.

Most Christians will acknowledge that we should look to God to direct us in what is usually called "the Lord's work." Fewer think it is necessary to look to God for direction as to our "secular work." But the devoted Christian should not have sacred and secular compartments in his or her life. He

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# God and His Power

I want to establish in this article the magnificent power of God. So that those people that are afraid of demons, devils, witches, and all other evil powers, may be relieved of the fear that the evil powers can overcome them. So, they can be active without being afraid that some devil will get them. **"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power and of love, and of a sound mind."** 11 Timothy 1:7

There is only one God. In 1 Timothy 1:17 it says, **"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. A-men."** 1 Timothy 2:5, **"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"** James 2:19, **"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe, and tremble."**

God is all powerful. God can do anything. In Exodus 18:11 it says, **"Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods:..."** Matthew 19:26, **"But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."** 11 Chronicles 2:5, **"And the house which I build is great: for great is our God above all gods."**

All gods other than the God Almighty are nothing. Acts 19:26, **"Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be**

**no gods, which are made with hands."** 1 Corinthians 8:4, **"As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one."**

God is mightier than any other thing. Psalms 97:9, **"For thou, Lord, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods."**

The Bible says to fear God and keep his commandments. Ecclesiastes 12:13, **"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."**

The Bible does not say to fear the devil, but in James 4:7 it says, **"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."** I know that this article is not much more than scripture, but I think the scriptures are clear enough in themselves.

Melvin Martin age 14



dlebars.

In the center of this issue, I am including a sheet of checks that I made. Please pass them on to needy folk. Let them know about the unlimited storehouse of God's bank.

Do you believe what that check says? Do you trust that God will supply all your needs? Most of us will right away say, "Yes." But think about what it means to believe that God will supply all our needs.

If you're hungry, and you have no food, what do you do? Do you trust God that he will provide you with food? Or do you go steal some food?

What do you do when you are reading in your Bible and you see that God is telling you to do something different than what you are now doing? Do you do what God wants you to do, and perhaps lose all your friends? Or do you compromise with the truth and say, "God meant for me to have friends." Do you still trust God?

My conclusion is that most Christians do not fully trust God. There are a lot of Christians that trust God for some of their needs, but they do not trust God for all their needs. When we realize that we do not trust God like we should, we need to cry out to God like the man in Mark 9:24, "**And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.**"

It has been suggested to me by a reputable editor that I should have a theme for each issue. At first, I did not think I could do that. However, I am going to try it. I can see already that it makes my work easier. The theme of this issue is "The power of God." The theme for the next issue is planned to be "Our Relationship to God and Man." Sometime I would like to have an issue with the theme of "Rejoicing in the Lord." If you have any articles that relate to those subjects, now is the time to send them to me. Or if you want to write an article on those subjects, that would be great too. Thank-you for contributing.

We made a CD of the Parishville Youth singing. If you want a copy, please send to:

156 Newton Rd.

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Also, available in tape.

Suggested donation: \$4 each

Sorry this issue is so late.

Here is the account of the ice storm we experienced in 1998

# ICE STORM '98

Rachel Martin

It was Monday, January 5, 1998 and there was a freezing rain falling. "What should we work on a day like this?" said Daniel. "I'll see what the weather radio has to say." "It says we can expect freezing rain tomorrow and the extended forecast is a chance of freezing rain each day."

*Freezing rain five days in a row? Well, that is unlikely. But what would that be like?*

As predicted, Tuesday brought more freezing rain. Wednesday morning it was 25 F. Outdoors everything was beautiful with a coating of ice. The roads were fine so Luke and Daniel decided to do some business about 50 miles away. Then I heard the radio announcer say the rain will get worse as the day goes on and tonight it could get bad. I

prayed that God would keep them safe and was relieved to see them home soon after dark. The roads weren't icy until they got on the back roads near home.

We heard that the Norfolk area had been out of electricity a few hours. The radio said the power company was bringing in line and tree crews from downstate. I ground some grain so I'd have more flour on hand. Before we went to bed, the lights dimmed occasionally. I gathered some containers and filled them with drinking water.

Several times during the night maple branches falling right outside our bedroom window awakened me. In the morning it was still raining and 28 F. The kitchen clock read 1:15. We gazed in awe at the trees bowed with inches thick ice. The radio was silent except for some Canadian stations. There everyone was without electricity and people were being told to stay home or get to a shelter. "This is going to be awhile," said Luke, "We might as well get set up to live without electricity." We got out the handle to the grain mill, set up the mill for hand grinding, ground some meal, and had mush for breakfast.

We filled the water jacket and big kettles on the woodstove with icicles. About ten feet of high tensile wire yielded a five-gallon bucket of ice. When we stood outside, we could almost constantly hear the cracking of breaking branches and



The bent electric pole with our phone wire on it.

falling wood and ice.

In the afternoon, Luke and the boys went to a neighbor to help milk by hand. To get there they had to drive over fallen wires and the road was almost shut with fallen trees. At one place, a tree was completely across the road with room enough to slip through under the trunk. It didn't work very well to milk cows by hand that weren't used to it.

It was still either raining, sleet-ing, or misting. The line from the house to the shop crashed to the ground. Where the ice still clung, the thin wire measured 8 in. around. A little later, a loud crash revealed the pole right across the road was in three pieces. The top of the pole on this side of the road was bent about 45 degrees. I was sure we'd very shortly be without a phone, but a few hours later when the men came home, it was still standing. They got the ladder, removed the phone line, and put it on the ground. Within half an hour that pole fell. We were thankful we still had our phone; the next week it got used very much.

Then the men hurried to get their chores done before dark; it isn't easy to use a pitchfork with a flashlight in

one hand or wash a cow with a flashlight tucked under your collar. Luke thought the lanterns in the barn would be a fire hazard. This time of the year, it gets dark around 5:00. So, we finished supper preparations by candle and lamplight. After supper, instead of spreading out over the house, we congregated in the kitchen or living room to study, read, write letters, or visit in the dim light.

Occasions such as this make the children get out their candle making supplies. The following days they had a lot of fun experimenting with making tallow candles. They came up with some that worked fairly well by putting a layer of wax on the outside and putting wire with the wick.

Emily had called and said that while Jessica was at her in-laws, she was contentedly playing on the couch when Jane decided to check her diaper. Soon afterward, the TV antenna came crashing through the window onto the couch where she had just been!

The next morning it was Friday, 22 F., and another rainy day. I took a walk to look around. The willow tree in the yard, which stood about 15 ft.

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A view of the woods during the ice storm.

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high, now stood about 5 ft., its branches all curled up, making it look like a tangled ball of yarn. The elderberry bushes beside the shop were a work of art beneath a neat row of icicles. Instead of being bent, their branches were fixed in beauty.

The ice on the ground wasn't too difficult to walk on because it was a little rough from rain freezing on impact. Walking in the garden or hay field was harder. Every thin stalk or blade of grass was a thick column. A weed formed arches that Nathaniel stood on top of. Dawn said she walked right over top of the wormwood, a waist high, feathery herb.

I walked behind the barn and stood looking at the woods and the big maples in the pasture. A loud bang and I saw a big limb from one of them crash to the ground followed by tinkling ice. There was almost a constant sound, sometimes farther off, in one direction then another. *This is the second day we have been hearing this and the rain isn't over. What will be left of our woods? How many thousands of dollars worth of*

*damage will there be to our timber and fruit trees? Will we get any maple syrup this spring? Some of the trees are now little more than a trunk; others split down the middle or broke off--not so pretty now.*

I started slowly toward the house. God is the one that gave us these trees. *Lord, you can do with them as you please.* Job 1:21b came to my mind. **"...the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."**

"Let's make ice cream!" one of the children said. "Yes, do." Luke replied. "We can at least have ice cream out of this."

The horses could hardly walk outside to get water. The boys got out the horseshoes with caulks or borium that we had on hand and fitted them to two of the workhorses.

A state of emergency had been declared. They began arresting people that were caught on the road unnecessarily. The National Guard arrived. The Red Cross and others set up 44 shelters in St. Lawrence Co. for people without heat or means to cook. The Niagara Mohawk power company brought in 1300 line crews from as far away as North Carolina to work on their 7000+ sq. mile area hit by the storm in New York. The two companies working in our area were from my old stumping grounds. It was estimated it could take 4 weeks to restore power. Some high voltage towers had toppled or buckled.

That night it got windy, but it warmed up to 33 F. Till morning the rain had stopped and later the sun shone a little! We were thankful that some of the ice, by then between 2 and 3 inches thick, was falling before it got



Some sad looking basswood trees.

colder.

When Jesse, Luke's cousin, heard about the storm, he called from Pa. and said he has an old generator at the "Round Barn" farm. So, Saturday, after checking with the police to be sure it was O.K. to go, they got the generator with the horses and wagon. They worked at it and got it running, but only on one cylinder. During their drive, they had counted 27 electric poles down in about a two-mile stretch.

Dawn did the washing by hand. Melvin got the solar fence charger, put it on the porch, ran a wire into the kitchen, and hooked up a tail light from the old jeep. It made more light than our lamps and candles.

Luke got an old well bucket we had found in the barn when we moved here. It looked like a piece of stovepipe with a handle on one end and a hole with a flapper on the other. He fixed the seal with rubber tubing and it worked real well to draw water out of our shallow well.

That evening Luke and I went to check on Rob and Emily and his parents. I knew they had both lost their phone service and I was concerned because Bob and Jane both have failing health. They were all fine.

Jesse had planned on coming to New York. We told him to find generators for loan and bring some batteries, candles, matches, and wicks because we suspected stores would be sold out of such items. If he'd bring supplies, police would let him through.

Sunday afternoon Luke and I figured it is safe to go into the woods so we walked up to the cabin we are building. As I was walking up the road, I went past the lane. I didn't see it at first because of all the trees and



A view in front of our house. Notice the brush under the trees and the electric wire going to the house.

brush on it. We went up the lane, back and forth, over and under brush. We'll have work for a long time straightening out the mess. Broken trees can be dangerous to cut because they are often under tension. Some of the young trees that are bowed to the ground but not broken might straighten out again.

The ice on the ground developed many safety cracks. Timothy put a stick in a crack and it went down 7 inches.

On Monday, Timothy used the generator to weld caulks on shoes for Meg. We also did the washing and ran the freezers awhile. The men made two crews and started clearing fence. Daniel got dazed when a long piece of ice fell from a tree and landed on end on his head. He got a hard hat and went back to work. They did about a mile and have 2 miles to do sometime before spring. The wires

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also will need to be restapled many places.

In the evening, Jesse and Grandpa came from Pa. with some supplies. He had found 3 small generators. The one went to Bob Hall to run his oxygen machine.

On Tuesday a load of 7 generators came from farmers in Pa. Luke's Uncle Davy was along. I gave them lunch and they left again. Also, 3 generators came from the Finger Lakes area. Daniel helped install them at neighboring dairy farms for use till they got power. The farmers were very appreciative. Some had tears in their eyes. They had been milking once a day and dumping the milk because they couldn't cool it. Production was way down and mastitis way up. They were sharing generators or the National Guard was milking once a day, not staying to cool it before moving on to the next farm. Many generators were running 24 hours a day, and some were that hot that when you threw a snowball at them; the ball went up in steam.

One neighbor used to call us Bible thumpers and seemed suspi-

cious of us. When we hooked up a generator for him, his attitude was quite different. He said come spring we'd get a day of plowing from him. We hadn't done much more than pass on the kindness of farmers from other areas.

Many people became depressed. For many, many empty lives it was a horrible ordeal to be without their conveniences, especially their TV. In comparison, our lives didn't change much. We enjoyed seeing the magnificence of God and the opportunity to witness for him.

We heard that the local hospital, a nursing home and radio stations weren't equipped with back up power. Stores had been sold out of supplies, but now shipments were coming in. We heard Central Tractor sold 350 generators one day. People stood in line and fought, but they didn't reach to the end of the line. The next day they sold 700.

On Wednesday the mailman came, the first time since last Wednesday.

On Thursday, Luke and Daniel were asked to look at a woodlot of tall red pine. About half of them were snapped off. They saw houses with trees on them and others covered with blue tarps. In the afternoon, a few more generators were brought here. Then they repaired a house roof for a neighbor where tree branches made holes in the roof. It isn't easy to fix an ice-covered roof when it is 9 F. and snowing fast. They almost froze doing it.

Luke's uncle John Huber from Pa. was in the area fixing generators. He stopped in and stayed for supper and hooked up one of the extra tractor generators to our house.

Till Friday morning, we had about a foot of snow. The ice under



An overloaded willow tree in our front yard.

the new snow was really slippery and hard to walk on.

Driving restrictions were gradually being lessened. First, they began to allow people to go to a local store for supplies, and then they allowed travel in

your own town (township). Friday evening most towns lifted the restrictions except for a nighttime curfew because of looting.

On Saturday, Luke and the boys took the horses and chainsaws and cleared the woods road enough to get through to our back line. He said the cedar suffered the most damage and the white pine the least. An eight acre block of cedar about 40 ft. tall is flattened enough that looking from a knoll in a field beside it, he could see across it. It's probably less than half as high as it was. Some is shattered and others bent over. What a tangled mess!

On Monday, January 19, a line crew arrived on our road and replaced the two poles here. We disconnected the generator, which we only ran when we wanted to wash, etc. Tuesday morning they fixed the lines. The line goes across our field, so instead of waiting for a track machine, Luke took them and their supplies across the field with the horses and wagon. They climbed the poles to patch it good enough to give us power. The wagon ride was quite a highlight for them.

Wednesday morning Melvin and Luray went to talk to the line crew.



An elm tree that split down the middle. This tree lived 5 years after the ice storm.

They found out the men's wages were \$28 per hour. They were now working 18-hour days on double time, which equals \$1008 a day per man. The boys also found out they had turned our power on at 2:00 the afternoon before. The boys came back and turned our breaker on and sure enough, we had electricity! We had assumed they needed to finish the rest of the line first. We had been without electricity for 13 days. At that time, power was restored to about 85% of the customers that were affected.

On Tuesday, January 20 most of the schools reopened. Because of the 2 week holiday vacation just before the storm, some students had not been to school for 4 weeks.

Six counties in Northern New York were affected by the storm. Eastern Ontario and most of Quebec were hit hard and also without power, as well as northern Vermont, New Hampshire, and much of Maine. Maple producers suffered great losses, up to as much as all their trees and pipelines. Beside the losses to timber and fruit trees, the hay crop will probably be affected.

We took the ice off some of our

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*(Continued from page 15)*

roofs to relieve them of the heavy load. We heard some buildings had collapsed from the ice.

On January 31, the state of emergency was finally officially lifted. By then power had been fully restored as far as they knew.

Some of the trees had their tops froze to the ground until March 26. That is when the last of the ice melted in the yard and we could rake up the twigs that were frozen fast.

What is it like to have freezing rain for 5 days in a row? We won't forget. Probably our children's grandchildren will hear about it.



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## Proverbs

4:14-19

Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away. For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence. But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.





## From our Readers:



Dear friends,

Let us remember that the Scriptures tells us; **"All men shall know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another."** John 13:35

I would like to address this letter as a response to Mr. Lineaweaver whose article you published in last winter's Boy's Bugle concerning the first coming of Christ. The article blasts the modern holiday of Christmas as pagan, examining its roots to 329 AD, as the adoption of heathen practices which have escalated over the years.

I grew up in a family that observed Christmas as the birth of Christ. In my years of seeking the truth and following the Lord's leading, I also researched the roots of the observance of the child Jesus' birth.

Many nations, even prior to Christ's birth observed the winter solstice as a feast to Ra, the sun god. We should not find it strange that early Christians used this opportunity to share the Truth of Christ's arrival at that time, or any time. **"Unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and ye shall go forth,... go... and tread down the wicked, saith the Lord."** Malachi 4:2. Would the one who loves the Lord ignore an opportunity to share the Truth? Imbibing in carousing or drunkenness is clearly against The Word and would nev-

er be considered Christian behavior...then, or now.

I do not find the idea of lifting Christ's birth at the winter festival any more foreign, or compromising than that Paul preached the true God in Jesus Christ at the Aeropagus on Mars Hill (Acts 17), or in Ephesus, the City of Diana (Acts 19). My study of early Christians includes stories of bishops, and nobles and everyday folks who strove to exemplify charity and mercy to the poor in European cities. Francis of Assisi probably made the greatest Christian educational impact of his time, by reaching and teaching the illiterate crowds of Italy through the use of a living manger scene, which demonstrated the story in Matthew 1, 2 and Luke 2.

A centuries old ditty my Irish grandmother would recite each winter goes like this:

"Christmas is coming and the  
geese are getting fat,

Let's all put a penny in the poor  
mans hat;

If you haven't a penny, a ha'pen  
will do;

So, God bless the poor man, and  
God bless you!

Rather than go into a long discourse about the pros and cons of what has long appeared on calendars all over the world as "Christmas Day," I would rather ask you to turn your attention to a parable where Christ himself was honored by Mary of Magdalene

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who broke an alabaster jar of ointment on her beloved Lord's feet. No other sinner in scripture showed such love for the man who offered forgiveness or physical healing. Yet, even the apostles disdained her gift, and we can only imagine the contempt the Pharisees held for such an act.

Far from thinking it distasteful, our Jesus looked upon this prostitute with gratitude and joy for her generosity of worship, and promised that the story of her gift would accompany his Word forevermore. And it has.

Evolutionists, Communists, New Agers and other non-Christian groups would agree with the view of removing Christ from Christmas. They continue to attempt to strip Christ of His deity, credibility, and availability, whenever possible.

The spirit of Peace and Truth however, beacons an anxious and fearful world to trust in Christ as Creator, Savior and Redeemer everyday. The, importance of Christmas is that it designates a specific human life, born in a specific place, for a specific reason. That many desire to educate others, or incorporate charitable or family applications, should not generate hostility among brethren. Ideally it should invigorate us to pursue spiritual understanding and cleansing to accomplish the holy purpose which the angels declared unto the shepherds: **"Fear not, for I bring thee good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people."**

Luke 2:10 **"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill to men."** Luke 2:14

No doubt, individuals overdo in food, drink or material indulgence. This is not a proper attitude and parents are especially responsible to use sober reverence toward the birth of Christ with their children. Santa Claus should be explained as an empty idol who tries to usurp the love of Jesus but never can. To use our time to worship and edify...this should be our main focus in life! Should we cease to do God's will because some may use their time to worship idols in gluttonous frivolity? Christians have no fellowship with the works of darkness, 2 Cor. 6:14. What an opportunity to turn sinners to the Truth!

The calendar can become like the Law of the Old Testament. If we meet only on certain days, observing "approved," (by whom?) feasts, we smother the Life and Spirit Christ died to raise. Many hearts are very sincere to worship Christ. Every expression of love toward the Savior will bear fruit in due season.

Many prodigals find their Father at Christmas. Many lost sheep are brought home to the Shepherd by the public display of His presence among us. **"He that is not against us is on our side."** Mark 9:40 and **"a smoking flax shall he not quench."** Matthew 12:20

May the Word of the Lord dwell in your hearts in Peace:

A Sister in Christ,  
Kate McDonnell

Dear Kate,

Thank you for writing and sharing your thoughts. It gave us something to consider.

Never would we want to disdain anyone's gift of love to anyone at anytime. Nor do we disdain the good works and preaching of Christ that others do.

We know that some pagans laugh at Christians because, while they condemn pagans, Christians share their holidays.

I do not believe that Paul took part in any pagan practices when he preached at Mars Hill and Ephesus.

We do not base our beliefs and practices on what others have done or are doing. We aim to follow the leading of God's Spirit and the advice that God has given in the Bible. The prompting of His Spirit, things that He allowed us to experience, and our study of the Bible and history, have all brought us to our view on this. For ourselves we must preach a pure gospel. We must preach the message of peace and good will every day of the year—not only preach but also practice love, prompted by the Spirit, not the calendar.

The Bible does not instruct us to keep any Mass or to celebrate Christ's

birth. We rejoice that He was born a baby with human flesh. But He grew, died, and rose again and with God the Father, rules the heavens and earth. We are told to commemorate His death.

I think that it is the example of our lives, what we preach, and the drawing of the Holy Spirit in people's hearts that bring the lost home to the loving comfort of the Father, not the public display of a baby.

The Boys Bugle

For more information please read:

“Little Children Keep Yourselves from Idols” and “Baalmás”

Both available from:  
Parishville Christian Church  
156 Newton Rd.  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

# The Children's Challenge

To Charity and Cheerfulness

## The Courageous Men

Daniel 3:1-28

By Jonathan Martin, age 12.

King Nebuchadnezzar had made a golden idol. Everyone was told that as soon as they heard musical instruments, they were supposed to bow down to the idol. Every one that didn't would be thrown into a fire. As soon as the people heard the musical instruments, they bowed down to the idol.

However, there were three men named Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego that had a lot of courage and they refused to bow down to the idol. Some people saw it and told the king so he commanded that they be brought to him. He asked them if it was true that they had not bowed down to the idol. I'm sure that it took a lot of courage but they said they were not afraid to answer. They said they would not bow down to the idol and God would deliver them from the fiery furnace.

The king got real mad and had the fire heated seven times as hot as they usually made it. He had the mightiest men in his army bind them and throw them into the fiery furnace. The fire was so hot that the soldiers died from the heat just from throwing

them into the fire.

Then the king was very surprised when he saw four people loose walking in the fire. He asked his counselors, "Didn't we throw three people bound into the fire?" The counselors said they had. The king said, "Well there are four people loose walking in the fire and one is like the Son of God."

The king called them out of the fire. They didn't have any burns. Then the king blessed God just because Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had courage.

If someone ever tells you to do something that is sin, have courage like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and say no, even if it means persecution.



This is the only entry to the story contest that we received. If you have a story on any subject, please send it.

*(Continued from page 5)*

should be sensitive to the Spirit's leading in our prayers and to be obedient even though we do not know all the information.

Also, we must not give our nations over to Satan, but maintain the right ownership.

Psalm 93, "The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty... thy throne is established of old: Thou art from everlasting."

Psalm 94, "O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, ...shew thyself. Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: ...How long shall the wicked triumph?"

Psalm 96, "Declare His glory [the LORD's] among the heathen, His wonders among all people. For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: He is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens... 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. ... for He cometh to judge the earth: He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with His Truth.

Psalm 97, "The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.

Psalm 98, "He cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall He judge the world, and the people with equity.

And many more faithful promises in scripture. God's kingdom is established in TRUTH as he declares in His word. Let us not give our land or any other land over to

Satan to have His way. But through preaching the truth in love win all nations unto the LORD our GOD.

Let us continue to pray for our Haitian brethren. They certainly do have troubles, but God hears the cries of the poor.

As one who rejoices in the sovereign God,

Kenneth Whitehead

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

**You only have one life  
and it will soon be  
past,  
Only what you did for  
Jesus will last.**

# Love is Like a Breath of Heaven

Love is Like a Breath of Heaven  
Tis from God above  
Blessed truths to us are given  
When the Lord we love.

(Chorus)

Love is to lay our own life down  
As Christ did for you  
In this way, the Lord first loved us  
Therefore, we love, too.

Love has power that's victorious  
Even gives its life.  
Love can never be contentious  
Love despises strife.

Love bears all and love is patient  
Love will suffer through.  
Faithful in each situation  
Love holds all things true.

Love is never hard or bitter  
Love forgives the past.  
And instead it binds together  
To the good holds fast.

Never rude is love's behavior  
Ne'er its own would seek.  
Others best is love's endeavor  
Love is kind and meek.

All that's worldly now is passing  
It will pass for sure.  
God made love is everlasting  
Ever twill endure.

## Parishville Christian Church

Services at 9:30 am Sunday

All are welcome

Enjoy fellowship, encouragement, and stimulation to follow Christ and his teachings.

Tapes available. Just Ask.

We also have singings.

Please contact us to find out the time and location.

315-265-0026; or 265-1246

**“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”** Psalm 133

*(Continued from page 7)*

should be serving God whether he is making tents or preaching the gospel. There should be no such person as a “part-time servant of the Lord.” The attitude of those who derive their living from a “secular” occupation should be as follows:

**“Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; not with eye service, as men pleasers; but as the servants of Christ doing the will of God from the heart.”** (Ephesians 6:5, 6). God can help us solve all of the problems we meet with in our work. If we seek His guidance moment-by-moment throughout the day, our work will go much more smoothly.

We should be serving God in

every activity of our lives. If there is any activity in which we do not serve God, we should abandon this activity. Every aspect of our lives should be a means of glorifying the Lord Jesus.

By M. K. Canner

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Moments With The Book

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Bedford, PA. 15522

The Boys Bugle  
156 Newton Rd  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

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Notice  
Change of Ad-  
dress

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**"For God hath  
not given us the  
spirit of fear; but of  
power and of love,  
and of a sound  
mind." 11 Timothy 1:7**