

The Boys' Bugle

Calling all young men to the service of Christ

Vol. 5, Number 3

Fall 2005



Welcome to The Boys' Bugle

This issues theme "The Church"

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Subscription Information:

Please let us know, at least every 4 years, 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. 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:

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Potsdam, N.Y. 13676
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The Planned Theme for the
Next Issue.

The coming of salvation to Mankind, (Prophecy).

Scriptures to ponder:

Gen. 3:15; 15:5; 17:1-8; Eze. 32:1-16; Matt. 2:17-18; 16:24-28; 23:34-25:46; 27:35; Luke 11:9-13; 17:20-37; John 11:25-26; Acts 2:14-36; Galatians 4:21-31; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Heb. 8; II Peter 3; and many more.

Please send us your contribution before November 20 to get it here in time for the next issue. Thank-you.

Magazines also available at:

Evans and White Ace
Collin's Market (formerly Watson's Market)
The Birchbark Book Store
The Potsdam Food Co-op
Martin's Roadside Market

On the Cover:

Our "new" big toy. It's a 790D John Deere (Hitachi) track-hoe. It weighs 25 tons, 35 ft. reach, 11 ft. wide, 155 HP @ 2100 RPM. It's in fairly good shape. We didn't pay any more for it than we would have for a much smaller machine. We bought it to dig ponds and such stuff.



Editor's Desk



Dear Readers,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior.

We had a very good summer this year. It was dry, hot, and sunny. We had enough rain that most of the crops produced very good.

This summer Nathaniel and I built a test steam engine that should be efficient at any load or speed. We ran it off of air for testing it. We used a Briggs and Stratton engine for the piston, crank, and exhaust valve, and a hydraulic spool control valve for the intake valve. The reason we are using a spool valve is because it is not affected by pressure like a regular engine valve is. I should be able to make all the parts that I can't find on the junk pile that I need for building the steam engine. Hopefully it works and I can get rotary motion out of wood.

The Question in the *Question and Answers* page is a question for someone with a deep mind to answer. I hope to hear your answers.

One thing I see that many Chris-

tians are divided about is on issues of opinion and doctrine. What we believe, our doctrine is important. But is doctrine, in itself important? Does it matter what we believe, if it doesn't affect our lives in any way? Does it matter if the moon is made of green cheese or not? Doctrine is as important as it affects our life. It does matter whether you think that it's all right to steal, cheat, and lie or not. I think if we make sure that everything we believe is in agreement with loving the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and loving our neighbor as our self, it will go a long way in breaking down the walls that are between so many of us, and making us Christians be who we need to be.

In His Service,

Behind The Boys' Bugle:

TBB and HHH is a ministry of the Martin family: Luke and Rachel, Timothy (29), Joy (24), Melvin (23), Luray (21), Nathaniel (18), Larisa (15), and Jonathan (14) plus a few of the married children, and their spouses, Daniel and Mendy Martin and Luke and Dawn Rosenbarker.

We are a home-schooling, home-churching, nearly home-everything Christian family. We live in the country and manage a number of projects such as: organic produce, honey, maple syrup, orchard, sawmill, black-smithing, sheep, dogs, cows, chickens, horse-logging, earth-moving, fryer-oil for

diesel fuel, carpentry, printing, always something to keep us busy!

Melvin is the main editor of The Boys' Bugle, but the rest of the family helps with proofreading, copying, writing, making suggestions and mailing. TBB was started in 2001 to help fill the need for Christian boys magazines.

Any comments, suggestions, or ideas you may have are greatly appreciated.

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



We Don't Need Religion



THE GRAY-HAIRED WIDOW clasped her worn suitcase at her side. She struggled to keep her place in the shoving line waiting to board the Greyhound. Suddenly a young man left his position at the end of the long line and forcefully wedged himself in ahead of her. The frail widow was pushed back, the suitcase nearly struck from her grip.

"The nerve," she hissed through angry teeth. "People try anything these days. Selfish greedy creatures! Everybody for himself. What that young man needs is religion."

What about it? Was the little old lady at the bus depot right? Was religion what the selfish young man needed? Before we decide for sure, let us take a quick look at what some religious men have done in the past.

HEROD THE GREAT, RULER of Palestine at the birth of Jesus, was a very religious man. That may come as a surprise to most of us. He devoted vast sums of money and forty-three years of labor on a religious building—the temple at Jerusalem. Herod was so scrupulously religious that he followed faithfully the Jewish dietary laws—he would not think of eating pork lest he offend the God of heaven. Yet at the same time his hands dripped with human blood—besides the slaughter of the innocents (Matthew 2:16), in a fit of jealousy he had his favorite wife and two sons put to death. This extreme contradiction of values caused the Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus to say, "I would rather be Herod's pig than Herod's son!"

THE DARK AGES JUST before the Reformation of the sixteenth century was a period when religious men flourished in amazing numbers. With religious fervor men punished themselves heartlessly, convinced that by making themselves miserable, God would be pleased. Monks, obsessed with medieval piety, wore shirts made of hair, slept on thorns and sharp stones, lived on bread and water, never bathed or washed their feet, kissed the sores of lepers, went barefoot, and became professional beggars. Yet astonishingly enough, those days were as dark as they were religious. Bibles were kept from the people—they lived and died in ignorance of God's Word. Oppressed peasants toiled out their miserable existence while the Pope and the priests lived in luxury by the sweat of other men's brows.

Religion? There was no lack of religion in the Dark Ages. Men in those days worked overtime to outdo each other in religion. Shrines and cathedrals sprang up from the dust of every village. People crossed themselves reverently and prayed to dead saints. In their enthusiasm for religion, men collected holy relics with superstitious zeal. It was unimportant how the relics were obtained, whether honestly or not, the merits for possessing them were impressive—thousands of years less in purgatory.

And what kind of relics were these that were so powerful for good? The Castle Church at Wittenberg, Germany where Luther nailed his ninety-five theses was famous for its extensive collection of relics, over five thousand pieces in all. The "official catalogue" listed such interesting items as: "Six pieces of the grave of Mary, two pieces of the city where Christ preached the Lord's Prayer, and one piece of the beard of the Lord Jesus."

One man was even more religious than his contemporaries in medieval Europe. Nikolaus Muffel of Nurnberg vowed in public that for an entire year he would add a relic to his collection every day. Sad to say, on the two hundred and eighth day, his pious activity came to a dramatic halt—Nikolaus Muffel, collector of relics, was hanged for thieving!

RELIGION FOUND FERTILE ground in Colonial America, too. Several hundred miles off the shores of New England the huge wooden prow of a heavy ship plowed steadily through the dark waves of the Atlantic. The captain smiled to himself as he scanned the sea. He was satisfied—it had been a good trip, and he was returning with a profitable load. When his cargo was sold, he would share a tenth of the money with his home church and still have a sizable amount left.

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We Don't Need Religion

(Continued from page 5)

Another face looked out upon the same sea the captain saw, but the second face did not smile. The second face was dark, darker than the murky waves rippling below the round porthole from which it peered. The face mirrored in the porthole was dumb with misery, the eyes blank with bewilderment and suffering.

No wonder the faces were different—the men behind them were almost opposites. The first man was a successful captain, a respected Christian in his community. And he was going home.

The second was an African slave. Wrenched mercilessly from his jungle hut, he was an unwilling captive, packed into the bleak hold of the slave ship with hundreds of others in the same sad plight. His swollen back was an uneven pattern of welts and whiplash cuts.

The ship lurched and the black man turned from his place at the porthole and looked at his companions in the damp, crowded hold. It was hard to believe—in a few short months all of them had changed so much. Gone was the last trace of dignity and human spirit. All of them had been reduced to cringing animals, wallowing in hopeless despair.

The greatest irony of all was the name of the ship, a name that should never have been nailed to a hull loaded with evil—a cargo of wrong. The name of the slave ship was JESUS. The religious captain traded in terror, and he did it in the name of God and religion,

LET'S STOP GOING ALL the way to Jerusalem and the Dark Ages to find instances of empty lopsided religion. Perhaps there are examples closer home that indicate these things happen even today.

Dan was a sincere man, a member of the Amish church. He was convinced that Levi, a brother in the church was wrong in his understanding of a certain *Ordnung* Point. Levi, on the other hand, just as sincerely believed that Dan was wrong.

One warm day in early autumn Dan went to talk to Levi about the matter. At first they discussed it in a calm way. But Levi just couldn't see Dan's point. The two men did their best to convince each other, and before long their voices rose. Finally Dan went home, greatly disappointed in Levi.

Levi watched Dan go. He too was disappointed. But should he have given up when he knew he was right and Dan was wrong? That would have been obeying man rather than God. Levi felt some better after assuring himself that standing for the truth was the only right thing for him to do, and he had done it.

The matter might have rested there, with merely a loss of confidence between two brethren. It might have, but it didn't. Dan mentioned the disagreement to another brother, Amos. Amos sided with Dan. Greatly encouraged by the support, Dan said, "I wish you would go talk to Levi. I'm sure in his heart he knows he is wrong, but he's just too stubborn to give up."

Levi was hurt when Amos came to talk to him. And perhaps Amos didn't use the tact he should have. "I do believe you're just too stubborn to admit you're wrong," Amos blurted out.

Levi turned red in the face. "How—how can you say something like—like that? You're judging my motives."

"It wasn't me that said it," Amos retorted. "I just repeated what I heard someone else say. So I'm not the only one who thinks so."

"Who else said it?" Levi demanded.

Amos refused to tell. And so the seed of suspicion and ill will was sown.

Levi felt he had been wronged. When he told his story, some of the other brethren in the church agreed with him. Others sided with Dan and Amos. The battle was carried on. In the tumult, new issues and fresh disagreements were spawned. Several times the original point of contention was lost sight of entirely.

Almost before the quarreling brethren knew it, harvest time had come. The yield of disunity from that tiny seed of disagreement was astounding. The whole church filled their granaries with hate and ill will.

Who was right, Dan or Levi? I do not know, but does it really matter?

What matters is that the original issue was dwarfed by the magnitude of ill feelings and distrust that grew out of it. The *Ordnung* point was so small that anyone from a distance—anyone not emotionally involved in the dispute—could scarcely believe the disaster it had triggered. Today, years later, the hidden scars of church contention still linger. It is like a volcano, sleeping silent for years, yet no one knows when it may erupt again, blighting the church with poisonous lava of discord.

THE ABOVE STORY IS saddening, even more saddening than it is absurd. Yet its name, in one version or another, is legion. What a contradiction of Christianity when for the sake of a cause on which the Bible is hazy, we willfully trample upon a hundred clear and explicit commands regarding love and brotherhood.

The Bible is forceful in its decree: "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer" (1 John 3:15). A statement like that is so clear it cannot be misunderstood and should not be ignored. "Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer." No ifs, ands, or buts about it. God has spoken in unmistakable language.

Let's think twice before we smile at the utter inconsistency of Herod's claiming convictions against eating pork while not hesitating to murder his wife. In the eyes of God, how do we appear? Are we possibly being scrupulous over a point just as tiny while guilty of the murder of our brother?

(Continued on page 17)

The Calling of:

Jonathan Martin

Delight thyself also in the lord and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Psalms 37:4

Greetings in Jesus name. My name is Jonathan Martin. I am age fourteen. I live 2 miles out of Parishville New York, which is just north of the Adirondack Mountains and about 20 miles south of the Canadian border.

I live at home with my family: Dad (Luke) Mom (Rachel) Tim 29, Joy 24, Melvin 23, Luray 21, Nathaniel 18, and Larisa 15. And Daniel 33 and his wife Mendy, Emily 28 and her husband Rob, and Dawn 26 and her husband Luke all live within a few miles of here. Ellen 31 and her husband Mike lived in Bolivia for five years but now live in Ohio. So in all I have 5 brothers and 5 sisters. I also have 6 nephews and 3 nieces.

We live on a 275-acre farm with approximately 50 acres open and the rest wooded. We raise

most of our own food. My Dad has about 60 hives of bees. We also make maple syrup. I help quite a bit with that. I also plant and weed gardens, take care of chickens and many other things that need to get done on a farm.

I am home schooled using Christian Light Education schoolbooks.

This year I am in 9th grade and will be doing 9th, 10th, and 11th grade work, and with a lot of work and discipline, I'm hoping to finish 12th grade next year. I enjoy school if it is a subject that interests me, but if it doesn't I'd much rather be doing something outside.

Around here we have an abundance of wildlife including deer, coyote, fox, bobcat, fisher, raccoon, skunk, beaver, otter, mink, and muskrat. We also have a few bear around. I have seen 3 so far: 2 crossing the roads, and one ran about 6 yards in front of me when I was back in our woods. That was real neat.

(Continued on next page)



There are also a few panthers, moose and wolves around, but I have never seen any. We have a lot of woodland and some hills. It's a good place for me to live because I enjoy almost any outdoor activity like trapping, fishing, hunting, hiking, climbing the Adirondack Mountains, and watching birds. I simply enjoy the outdoors. I also enjoy memorizing scripture, reading, singing, and playing my violin.

God has blessed me and set me free of sin. He will do the same for you if you will repent of your sin and accept his gift of sal-

vation. 1 John 1:9 **If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse use from all unrighteousness.** Because he has done this great thing for me, I want to obey His commandments, follow his lead, and devote my life to serving Him.



Proverbs

4:20-27

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee

a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.



We are looking for volunteers for this page. Ask us for our guidelines if you want some pointers and ideas. You may use whatever style you wish. Send your achievements to:

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



Questions and Answers

Question #1 for the next issue:

How should you respond if the person you're selling a vehicle to wants you to write less on the bill than what they paid in order to save on taxes?

Question #2 for the next issue:

In 2 Peter 3:9 Peter says, "The Lord is not slow concerning His promise, as some count slowness, but is **long-suffering toward us, not purposing that any should perish**, but that all should come to repentance." Then in verse 15 and 16 he says, "And think of the **long-suffering of our Lord as salvation** (as our beloved brother Paul also has written to you according to the wisdom given to him as **also in all his letters, speaking in them of**

these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which the unlearned and unstable pervert, as also they do the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction)." Peter says this in the context of his discussion on the end of the old heaven and the old earth. Somehow Peter makes a connection between God's salvation, his not being willing that anyone perish, and the end of the old heaven and the old earth. Peter also says that Paul talks of these things in all of his epistles. **Where, in each one of Paul's epistles, does Paul speak of these things?**



Please send us your questions and answers:

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

On the surface of behavior, vice may be disguised under a plausible and polished appearance, while at the bottom there lies the poisoned root of evil. Pleasure will captivate the young and unthinking, while riches and advancement are as ready to ensnare the more sober and matured in years.

Those who praise themselves, must expect to lose the praise of others.

The Lone Voice in the Wilderness

The soldiers came out to the desert to ask: "What shall we do?"

The lone voice in the wilderness cried to the soldiers saying, **"Do violence to no man, ...and be content with your wages."** Luke 3:14

In the war of Independence, what would we have lost if the soldiers had obeyed the voice in the wilderness and had refused to fight and kill? NOTHING! We would have gotten independence anyway by waiting on God, and that without

bloodshed, same as Canada did.

In the Civil war, what would we have lost if the soldiers had obeyed the voice in the wilderness and had refused to kill or do violence to their neighbors? NOTHING! We would have gotten freedom from slavery anyway without bloodshed, by waiting on God.

Submitted by:
J.T. Wickey

What is Truth?

What is truth? With Pilate, I say,
"How can I know Life, the Truth, the Way?"
There's so many different opinions. How can it be?
Who all think they know the truth and want you to see.
"Come, this is the way," I hear one call.
"The Way to Life. You will not fall."
"No! That's not true."
Another voice I hear.
"He's blind and does not know the Way, I fear.
Come, come, this is the way to Eternal Life.
An end to all your strife."
Jesus, He is the Way, the Truth, they both agree.
But as to what that means, eye-to-eye
they cannot see.
So, what is the truth? Again I cry.
How can I know I'm not believing a lie?
As these questions run thro' my mind,
I've come to feel the Way, alone, I cannot find.
Without the Holy Spirit lighting my way,
I'm hopelessly lost, in darkness to stay.
The mercy of the Lord is the only hope I know.
He will teach me, guide me, lead me in the way that I should go.
— JZM



From our Readers:



Dear Reader,

The following letter is an appeal for help for the hurricane Katrina victims.

Dear Friends,

Your magazine really blesses our family and we look forward to every issue.

I am writing now asking for help. I live on the Mississippi Gulf Coast where Katrina hit. There are thousands with no homes. They live in churches, tents, schools, and with relatives.

My sister lost her home. She, her husband, and two children live with my sister. My nephew can't understand why he can't go home or why he can't get his riding tractor. When my sister tries to explain why they can't go, but she breaks out in tears.

I know people who had to swim for their lives.

An 80-year-old sister in our church lost everything.

Even though food has come in, there are thousands without jobs. Government Agencies and the Red Cross are doing the best they can, they are overwhelmed. You have to wait hours at relief centers.

I have been going to small churches in our area. They don't have as much as relief centers, but enough to help. I realize a lot is being sent, but there are so many people.

I am asking churches to fix a

homecoming basket. So many people need the basics when they finally do get a home.

If every person could buy at least one item for my homecoming kits: Sheets, towels, blankets, pots, pans, and silverware, just basics for a home. The money you get for relief is needed for day-to-day living. You really don't want to spend it on other things. Because there are so many people, it is taking a long time to help everyone. We had roof and ceiling damage, we still haven't heard from our insurance or Red Cross.

We are blessed, we still have a home, and our family is safe. We will fix our home in time.

It's the people that lost everything that breaks my heart. I feel like giving them a house-warming gift that will give them hope. They will have nice things to put in their home. I am trying to collect these kits and hand them out. I don't want anyone to have to wait in a line. I want them to feel people loved them enough to help them. They need this.

Not everyone is getting as many supplies as others. The rural areas have to travel to town.

If it wasn't for the churches sending help, so many would have to do with out, I know they have blessed me.

Well, I need to go. I have more letters to write.

God Bless

Sharon Cameron

P.S. It's going to take months, maybe years, to rebuild. It looks like bombs have been dropped on the coast.

Dear Readers,

I spoke to Sharon on the telephone to clarify details. She said that the salt water that came up about 4-6 feet in her area ruined all the appliances in the houses that remained standing. Also after the houses are cleaned up and repaired, she would like to be able to help the people get whatever they would need to keep house, especially things like bedding, towels and washcloths and small appliances.

This area was a poverty-stricken area before and many people could not afford insurance. Also thousands of folks do not have jobs anymore, and it will take time to recover the great loss of losing practically everything.

Send your contribution to:

Thomas & Sharon Cameron
2309 Lloyds Lane
Vanceleave, Miss. 39565
-8222

Or:

Some people from here

are planning to go as a work party and can take some things along and/or if we get enough items we could send a semi load. We would appreciate cash donations to help ship the packages if you are able.

Note: All items must be in very good condition. Please package for shipment and mark what is in packages.

Luke Martin

Golden Rules For Living

By Miriam Hamilton Keare

- If you open it, close it.
- If you turn it on, turn it off.
- If you unlock it, lock it up.
- If you break it, admit it.
- If you can't fix it, call in someone who can.
- If you borrow it, return it.
- If you value it, take care of it.
- If you make a mess, clean it up.
- If you move it, put it back,
- If it belongs to someone else, get permission to use it.
- If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
- If it's none of your business, don't ask questions.

The Rabbit Wreck

By Luray Martin

On Friday morning, October 7, 2005, Nathaniel, Joy, and I left for Pennsylvania to go to the Annual Old Order River Brethren youth meetings and to visit relatives. We planned to be back home on Tuesday.

It started raining soon after we left. We got to Grandma's place at Bethel, PA an hour later than planned. After eating dinner we went to my sister Ellen's place. We left there about 3:30 PM to go to the youth meetings at Roxbury. We also planned to stop at Farm Show in Harrisburg to drop off some soil samples at the Restora Life Minerals LLC booth.

At Myerstown, I stopped and got a fuel filter because we were running straight vegetable oil in our diesel Rabbit and I was noticing slight power loss, which means a clogged fuel filter. We continued losing power so I stopped at a fuel station and put the new filter on. I didn't put enough fuel in the filter before putting it on, consequently it wouldn't start and I had just about drained my battery. So I put more fuel in the fuel filter. I was also starting to get a sore throat. I was starting to feel like I should have stayed home. I asked God to make the car start. I cranked it and it started and we were on our way.

After a little trouble finding parking, we found Larry Strite's booth at Farm Show. After giving him the soil samples, we had to leave right away so we wouldn't be late for the meetings. I had hoped to visit with him a little. When we got

back to the car, I told Joy and Nathaniel that I should have just mailed those soil samples. Little did I realize how true that was.

A short distance from Farm Show, at about 5:30, as we were making a left hand turn from Cameron St to Elmerston Ave with a green arrow that turned yellow, I looked over my shoulder to the left to see a red car about 2 ft from our car. The next thing I knew we were flying. We spun about 270 degrees. At first I couldn't breathe. Soon I felt normal though quite shook up. Joy asked if we were all right. Both Nathaniel and I said we think so. Joy felt all right too. I spotted Joy's purse and Nathaniel's coat on the road. I tried to get out but my door was smashed too badly. I tried starting the car but it was dead. We all climbed out the passenger's door. I picked up Joy's purse and Nathaniel's coat.

Road kill – the Rabbit was smashed beyond repair. The side of the car was smashed in about twice as far as the tire is wide. From the jolt, the one headlight was way out of adjustment and the other one was hanging by its wires. And the water reservoir was knocked off its mount.

I then called 911. Joy called home. The other fellow wasn't hurt either. There was vegetable oil all over the road from an extra can we had in the back. Some of it got on our suitcases. The police were there within minutes. They asked us some questions and then we got in their car to get out of the rain. The

wrecker came in a few minutes and towed both cars to a garage a few blocks up the street. The police took us back to Farm Show.

Meantime Mom gave us my cousin Merle's cell phone number. He was going to the youth meetings also and was real close to Harrisburg on interstate 81. We called him and he said he'd pick us up. Soon he called back and said he was in a traffic jam. We decided to find Larry Strite while we waited. Then I remembered that he lives close to where the youth meetings are. He was ready to go home anyway, so he said he'd take us. I called Merle back and told him not to worry about us. We went to the garage and got our luggage out of the car and were on our way again—only an hour and a half after the accident. The suitcase on the back seat was dented on both ends. The dent fit Nathaniel's thigh. It must have gotten squashed between his leg and the car.

We had a great time at the youth meetings. Saturday morning Nathaniel and I woke up with stiff necks from the whiplash. My Uncle Tim Hoover got the car from the garage and took it to his place. Tim and Melvin (my brothers) arrived at the campground about 1:00 am Sunday morning with my suburban and Dad's trailer, (also running on vegetable oil), so we had transportation again. After visiting friends and relatives and picking up the car, which is worth something to us for parts, we went home on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, I went to Myler Chiropractic to get my neck checked. They said on a rating of 1 to 10, I have whiplash 6 and if I don't get it treated, in 5 years from

now, I'd probably still be hurting. So now I have to go three times a week for a while. Nathaniel has whiplash 4, so he'll only have to go a few times. Joy didn't get sore but decided she'd better get checked out. He rated her whiplash at 3 or 4.

So when you drive, think about what you are doing. Running a red light can make a lot of trouble. Do you have good driving habits? What about stopping at stop signs, speeding, turn signals and etc. God commands us to love others, which includes driving safely.

There are many things that could have been worse. No one got seriously hurt. If we had gotten hit 2 feet front farther, I would probably be in the hospital. If Nathaniel had been sitting on the other side of the back seat, he could be hurt badly. If Nathaniel wouldn't have had his seat belt on, he may have joined his coat on the road. There was way to get to the youth meetings. I got a chance to visit with Larry Strite. It didn't mess up our trip. Praise be to God.



The Children's Challenge

To Charity and Cheerfulness

How a Poor Man Became Rich

By Rachel Martin

Some years ago a poor man and his wife and several children lived in a shabby house. Well, at least some would have called them poor. They didn't have much money and a lot of things that many others had.

But some others in this world would have called them rich because they always had lots of good food and clothes. Their shabby house kept them warm and dry. Most of the time they had good health. They had some friends. And they even had a car! It was old but it took them where they needed to go. But what really made them rich was because they had Jesus for a friend and they loved each other and they were happy and content.

But one evening this man was poor. He was worried that he would not have enough money to care for his family through the coming winter. He **wasn't thinking about all the times God had kept them and provided, or that when there was no money for fixing the car, it just kept rattling along.** As he was kindly helping his wife with dishes, he was complaining about their situation.

Most of the dishes were done and his wife noticed

steam rising from the dishwasher. "Look! Why did my water start steaming when it is no longer hot?" He felt the water and saw that it was barely warm. "Is cold air leaking in the window?" They did not feel any.

"What could cause it?" They watched in awe for a little; then it faded away.

"Was it a miracle?"
"It must have been." They were silent for a while.

The man was no longer poor.

Dear children,

When you are tempted to complain, remember this true story. Trust God and be thankful for all the riches He gives you. He will take care of you.

It is all right to ask for things and make your wishes known. Pray to God; He wants to hear your requests. Most others will also be glad to hear what you do or do not desire, if you always speak with respect and courtesy and thankfulness. That way you will not be a poor, whining, nagging complainer. You will be rich in the things that matter.

God bless you. 

Busy Busy

Busy seems to be the word,
It's something that is often heard.
I would help, I would not mind,
But actually today – I don' have time.
I have to be somewhere at nine,
Extra time I just can't find.

We're running here, we're running
there

It seems we run just everywhere.
Gotta go, gotta hurry,
Somewhere else I need to scurry.
I just have one more thing to do,
And then we'll see – I might be

through.

Where is our time to kneel and pray?
I guess I ran out of time today.
Is this how God wants us to be,
Or do you think he wants us to see
It's not how much we get done today,
But did we take the time to pray?



We Don't Need Religion

(Continued from page 7)

RELIGION? WAS THE WIDOW at the bus terminal right? Did the elbowing young man shoving his way ahead of others need religion? Would religion have made him more thoughtful and considerate?

Religion didn't stop King Herod in his reign of blood. Religion didn't give Nikolaus Muffel a conscience against stealing relics. Religion didn't erase the smile from the face of the captain of the slave ship named JESUS—that ship of human agony. Religion didn't keep Dan and Levi from quarreling over a trifle. Would religion have helped the young man who was too selfish to wait in line?

Religion? It was religion that burned our Anabaptist forefathers at the fiery stakes of persecution. It was religion that fought the Thirty Years War, killing more than half the population of Germany and leaving the country in desolate ruins. It was religion that impelled the fanatical Saul of Tarsus to journey relentlessly to imprison Christians. Worst of all, it was religion that rejected the lowly preacher of Nazareth; religion that cried out in Pilate's court, "Crucify him!" And last of all, religion nailed him to the center cross of Calvary just outside

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. James 1:26-27

My Assurance Policy

My Assurance of life.

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. John 10:10

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? John 11:25-26

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

My Assurance of protection from being separated from the love of God.

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

My Assurance of being an heir of God and being a joint-heir with Christ.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Romans 8:16-17

My Assurance of protection from being overly tempted.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation

also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. 1 Corinthians 10:13

My assurance of being a new creature in Christ.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

My Assurance of an answer to prayer.

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:13-14

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7

My Assurance of Mercy.

Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about. Psalms 32:10

My Assurance of divine guidance.

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Psalms 32:8

Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. Isaiah 48:17

My Assurance of healing.

And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay

them upon all them that hate thee.
Deuteronomy 7:15

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses. Matthew 8:17

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

My Assurance of having my needs met.

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself. Proverbs 11:25

He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

Proverbs 28:27

My Assurance of strength.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalms 27:1

The Lord will give strength unto his people. Psalms 29:11

It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect. He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places. Psalms 18:32-33

Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength: Isaiah 26:4

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Isaiah 40:29

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Philippians 4:13

My Assurance of protection from trouble.

Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; Psalms 32:7

The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. Psalms 34:17

My Assurance of protection from afflictions.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all. Psalms 34:19

My Assurance of persecution.

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. 2 Timothy 3:12

My Assurance that whatever happens is for my good.

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28



The Church?

What is the Church of God? To become clear on this, you must understand the following:

#1 Remember IT is made up of ALL, yes ALL believers - born again of the Spirit

#2 IT is a SPIRITUAL body, DIVINELY BUILT, DIVINELY ENTERED, DIVINELY RULED by the Spirit. (Not man controlled.)

#3 IT is the bride of Christ and He is not living in adultery, married to brides or churchES. Colossians 1:24; 1 Cor. 6:15 to end; 1 Cor. 11:29; 1 Cor. 12:12-26; 1 Cor. 10:21.

#4 Is His Church among the churches? Yes, just as His Kingdom is among kingdoms. Where an individual has received Jesus as Saviour and Lord, there is a part of the Church.

#5 Is it truly God's plan for His Church to be among churches? No! Rev. 18:4 "Come out of her my people." (Babylon, mother and offspring harlots, mixture of false religion)

#6 Do churchES lord it or rule over people? Yes, just as the scribes taught that the Disciples should obey the ELDERS, Mark 7:5 to 17. But those who are brethren in Christ are not to have their allegiance in obedience to an organization, but to the Lord and His Spirit. Ye are all brethren, and brothers are not to rule or lord it over brothers. Jesus said so: Matt. 20:20-28; Matt 23:8; Mark 10:42-45; Mark 9:34, 35; Luke 22:25-27; 1 Peter 5:3.

#7 You ask, "Why come out of her?"

- A. Because God says to and He asks nothing we cannot do.
- B. Because churches, many, is not Biblical. He died for IT (the Church), not them. Eph. 5:25-28. Now I ask, "Can you truly function as Christ's body with all your brothers in churchES? Is this possible while the churchES are divided? Can you keep Matt. 18:15-17 with ALL your brothers you know in churchES? Can you take communion with all your brothers in the churchES? Are you working with all your brothers in the churchES? Can you? Will you? Is the Household of THE FAITH Important to you?"

#8 Is Christ divided? No! Is His Church divided? No! Friend, brother, leave Babylon so we can function together here on this earth, as the Lord desires His body to function.

#9 If His Church is ALL believers, can a fellowship of believers functioning Scripturally be the church? Yes, but not exclusively.

#10 How would this be different than all the denominations?

- A. They would not be in competition, fighting and accusing one another.

B. After becoming acquainted with each other, they would, by the Spirit's leading, come to be working together, building one another up in the faith. This visible uniting together may take awhile, but the One, Holy Spirit, will surely lead brothers together. It also may take awhile for a true saint to see the wrong of a denominational system. The time-space is because of human frailties, not because the Holy Spirit leads so poorly. Let's not blame God.

#11 What is the mark of sectism, division, heretics? It is manifested in individuals or groups NOT having a desire to work together. Many times they may try to work as $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{2}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ brothers, for example: They may greet one another with a brotherly kiss, so-called, but refuse to take communion together and practice Matt. 18 in all of its steps for brethren.

#12 What can we do about division? We can DO MUCH to correct it! I will specifically mention five things:

- A. Confess it as sin. CALL IT SIN and nothing but sin.
- B. REPENT from it as all other sin. Abstain from it. Flee from it. Avoid it to save your life! You must truly love your brothers and put your love in action in a redemptive way. Remember that division comes from unbelievers or the carnal.

C. 2 Cor. 6:14-end. BE NOT UNEQUALLY YOKED TOGETHER with it. To do this, you must be crucified to your self-life, (reason, ideas, sectish ways, divisive doctrines and commandments of men, divisive cultures, etc) Col. 2:20-23. If His Church is going to function today in its brightness, we must recognize our brothers as in Him and fellowship as 100% brothers.

D. Romans 16:17 "Mark them which cause (or justify) divisions and offenses contrary to THE DOCTRINE which ye have learned and AVOID them." The Lord and His Spirit does not teach a divided church body. Woe to you who persist in keeping to a divided body. How sinful and carnal divisions are!

E. Titus 3:10-11; II John 9 & 10; and 3 John 9-12. Reject only heretics, not brothers; (Heretics are the choosy and sectish.) Read Jesus' prayer in John 17. Note the word ONE used so often and He prays that the love that He has may be in them which makes us one.

(Continued on page 23)

How to Pray

Matthew 6:5-15

“Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We should pray in this way. Not necessarily in these words, but using this as a pattern. Let's think about what this prayer is actually saying.

“Our Father which art in heaven,” Do we view God as our Father? If so, then we are his children. We need to trust God to take care of us, to keep us safe. If God is our father, he will disciple us.

“Hallowed be thy name.” We need to honour and reverence God.

“Thy kingdom come.” We can be part of the kingdom now. The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace and joy. (Romans 14:17)

“Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.” Let God guide us. Let God teach us. That we may live and do what God wants us to do.

“Give us this day our daily bread.” Our physical food is important. With food and clothe we should be content. (1 Timothy 6:6-10) However, it's more important that we have spiritual food from God; for man does not live by physical food alone, but by every word that comes from God. (Matthew 4:4) Jesus said to Nicodemus, “You must be born again.” That new life must be sustained and nourished, not just born.

“Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.”

There was a man that owed the King a lot of money. One day the

King said that everything the man owned must be sold; even the man, his wife, and his children; and the debt be paid. The man begged for mercy, and the King forgave the man his debt. So the man was free. Then he came to his fellow servant that owed him a little money and said he must pay or be thrown into prison. When the King heard about it, he was angry and threw the man into prison because he did not show the mercy that was shown to him. In the same way we must forgive those that trespass against us, or God will not forgive us. (Matthew 18:23-35)

If someone wrongs you, forgive him. Help the person if he needs help. Do not take it into your own hands to get even with him, but rather let God take care of that. (Romans 12:19-21)

“Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” Sometimes it seems like a long time, but God will deliver us from evil. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

“For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.” Yes, God is the one to be praised for all that we have and are.

We need to pray in faith, expecting God to hear us. (James 1:6)

If we pray to be seen of men, we already have our reward. We should pray in secret, then God can reward us openly.

We do not need to meaningless-

ly repeat our prayers over and over again. God knows what we need before we even ask him. However, Luke 18:1-8 says that if we persist, God will answer us. In Matthew 26:39-44 Jesus asked three times that this cup would pass from him.

“Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God

be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified [rather] than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.” (Luke 18:10-14)

See also Luke 11:1-8.



The Church?

(Continued from page 21)

Following are some of the Scriptures on the church: Eph. 1:22-23; Eph 2:13 to end; Eph. 4 & 5 (whole chapters); I Cor. 12:12-26; II Cor. 6:14 to end. Let's keep a brotherly covenant. See Amos 1:9. Notice I Peter 1:22 called God's love in His people the unfeigned love of the brethren. In divisions there cannot be love unfeigned. Denominational people CHOOSE the ones they accept in fellowship by their own rules or standards. Jesus accepts people on the basis of following His Word, but this isn't enough for the sectarians. They must have their added rules. Thus they exalt themselves in having better judgment than God does regarding who they accept in communion and fel-

lowship. These man-made doctrines God condemns. Colossians 2:22. PLEASE READ Mark 7:5-13; Division between those we accept as brothers is truly worldly and thoroughly condemned in the scriptures.

My prayer is that God would reveal to you the love and beauty of a truly Scriptural brotherhood and fellowship. Oh, how peaceful and beautiful divine love in action is! James 3:14 to end. We believe these truths cannot be denied nor ignored by saints.

Written by: Albert Glick
North Lawrence, Ohio

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For by one Spirit are we all
baptized into one body, whether
we be Jews or Gentiles, whether
we be bond or free; and have
been all made to drink into one
Spirit. For the body is not one
member, but many.

1 Corinthians 12:13-14