

The Bible Banner

January 2019



SPECIAL EDITION

TRUST in TRIBULATION

Question: What do you do when the whole family has been “neutralized” for a week with a mysterious and painful malady and it is past time for the next edition of the Bible Banner? **Answer:** Trust in Tribulation. “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.” Isaiah 41:10

PROFITABLE TRADITIONS – Cultivate Faith.

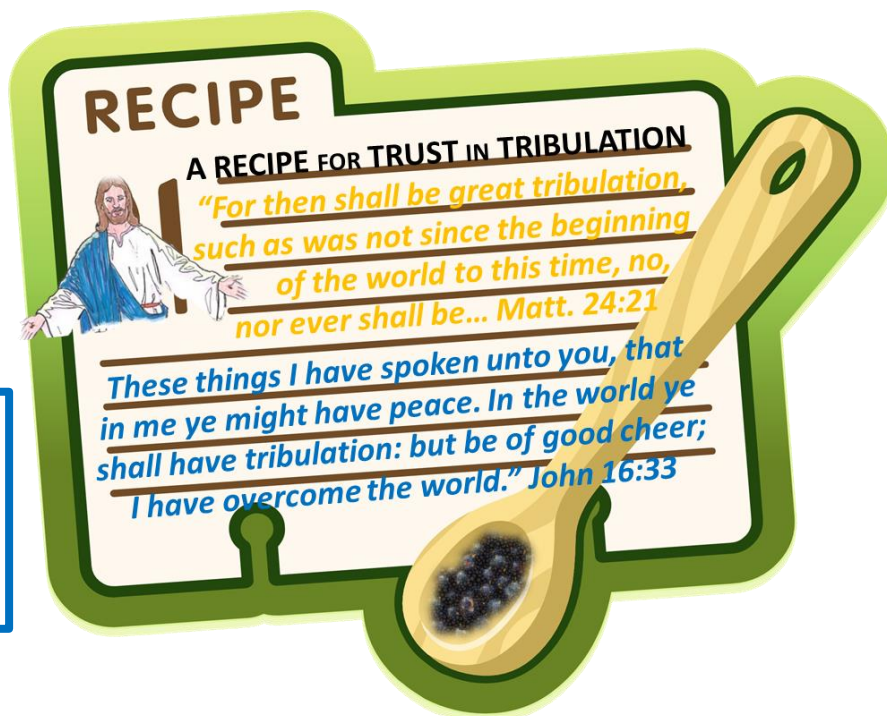
All through the year we write down in a special book the miracles, providences and evidences of God’s leading and goodness. On New Year’s day, which we call Remembrance Day, we take the time to read the stories from the past year to remind us how God has helped us. It always surprises us how many we have forgotten.

“It is for our own benefit to keep every gift of God fresh in our memory. Thus faith is strengthened to claim and to receive more and more. There is greater encouragement for us in the least blessing we ourselves receive from God than in all the accounts we can read of the faith and experience of others.” (DA 348)

IN THIS SPECIAL EDITION OF THE BIBLE BANNER WE HAVE DECIDED TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF OUR FAVORITE STORIES OF GOD’S GOODNESS TO US IN THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF.



Can’t figure out what to do with those leftover bananas? Slice them and dry them for later. Those who have never tasted them may be a little skeptical, but they make a sweet treat for on-the-go breakfasts.



A Little Blue Car and our Great Big God

“Can I help you?” the salesman asked. Not wanting to get his hopes up that he was going to make a car sale that day, I immediately explained that we had figured out what kind of car had the amount of seats we needed for our family, mission friend and our 2 unofficial foster children, the 4 wheel-drive necessary for our 4 miles from the county road, good gas mileage, etc. and we were just wanting to test it with our meter and make sure it didn’t put off high amounts of LF (low frequency electromagnetic radiation) which make me very sick. He was very obliging, and as we talked we found out he used to live up where we do and was familiar with the road challenges. Feeling a little humiliated as I finally decided to ask him the question on my mind, I said, “We don’t have a “regular” job, but I think we have good credit-- what is the chance that we could buy a used car with 3rd row seating for no more than this price?”

(Continued from pg. 1)

Surprisingly, he didn't laugh. He just said "Let's run your credit and see..." It turned out that our credit score was good, but not as high as I thought because we hadn't had any credit history for a long time. In addition, he didn't have a car on his lot that day that fit our specifications and budget. I figured that was probably the end of it. After all, he had been polite and helpful, but he obviously wasn't going to make a lot of money from us. His coworker was a little more blunt and told us—"If you want to buy a car getting a job first would be a good idea."



We needed a car, but it seemed impossible. A car dealer in another location told our friend, "They will never get that car for the price they are willing to pay." But remember, Genesis 18:14 challenges "*Is any thing too hard for the LORD?*"

A couple months later we received a call on Friday. The dealership had a car that was like what we were looking for, would we like to come look at it? But we pushed for a price. Too high. If it was of God, we decided it would meet our price range too. Then miraculously, even after saying they wouldn't, they lowered the price about \$1,000. It was an excellent deal, people said we should jump at it quick before it sold to someone else. But not on Friday, we determined. We were getting ready for Sabbath, the dealership was almost 2

hours away, plus paperwork, the drive home, etc.—No, if it was God's car He could save it for us until Sunday.

And He did.--And added more miracles. After our test drive, the salesman said we could get a loan only if we had \$1,500 worth of a trade-in. But we had no trade-in with us. At this point unbeknownst to us, the salesman had already applied to every bank they used for loans and gotten a rejection for our car loan (only later did we receive all the rejection notices)—This was the only option left. I could offer only part of the required \$1,500 down payment (which of itself was a miracle)—but God made up the difference. A car dealership that is known worldwide for never lowering their prices because they make the best cars—again lowered their price, putting the final price into the "impossible" category. "*With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.*" Mark 10:27 But that was only the beginning of the blessings that flowed out for the upkeep and maintenance of "God's Car" (which He allows us to drive). They have included:

- How God bought His car studded snow tires after protecting Dallas, who slid around the 90 degree turn on our steep driveway with no traction. In this scary moment of no traction at all when braking, God only allowed him to hit a small tree that bent over and went under the car instead of hitting a much larger tree.
- How \$1,400 worth of necessary repairs (just because it is a used car), God had all covered under a plan connected to the purchase of the car. All that is, except an \$11 part, which we ordered and were going to install ourselves. But God even had the mechanic voluntarily install that part free of charge.

But there is one more story that simply must be told about the little blue car and our great, big God.

August 28, 2018, dawned early just as any other Sabbath when Dallas is supposed to speak in the next state. It wasn't until after we loaded the car and were already driving through the first town that Dallas noticed the empty light for the gas tank was on. Even though we'd had about a half tank of gas after our last trip, now the tank was mysteriously empty. Knowing that this trip was much too far to travel on empty, especially since we didn't know if the light had just come on, or was already on when we left the house, we still decided we were not buying gas on God's Sabbath even if we didn't make it to our destination. The plan was to stop and hand out literature if we didn't make it.



However, we were confident that God could make the car run on no gas if He chose to. We reminded ourselves that if He worked a miracle to make manna breed no worms on the Sabbath (Exodus 16), He was equally capable of making the car run with no gas. Prayerfully, we presented our predicament before His throne, "reminding" Him that it was in honor of His command to "*Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.*" defined by the direction, "*Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:*" (Ex. 20:8-10) that we were entreating Him to work a miracle to help us to get to our destination if it was His will. As we went along, waiting to see what would happen, we sang, "*Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.*" Zech.4:6

And God was faithful, 41-51 miles later, we pulled normally into our destination-- still driving God's car with God's supply of gas. After sundown, someone kindly gave us a gallon of gas and we drove immediately to the gas station and filled up. And so continues the story of a little blue car and our great big God —"*for with God all things are possible.*"



Miracles of Prevention and Cure

Did you know part of God's plan for "none of these diseases" included prevention of injury? A statute in Deuteronomy 22:8 says, *"When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence."* Sometimes God's blessings for health come in a "prevention of injury" form too, albeit not always from prevention of the accident.

One Sabbath morning in December as I was getting ready for church, I heard what sounded almost like snow sliding off the roof, but not quite. I looked and the kids were at the car, but Dallas (my husband) wasn't answering when I called. I "ran" (calmly, so as not to make myself have another adrenal crash) down the stairs and out the front door only to find Dallas "crime scene printed" on his back in the snow at the bottom of the steps. His labored words to me were *"Don't come down those steps"* making it apparent that he was a victim of icy steps. (Later we counted and in total, he fell down seven steps.) I waited to see if he would move. Finally, he moved his neck, so I could breathe a little that that wasn't broken, but he still wasn't getting up.



Then it hit me that if more snow/ice slid off the roof it would bury him in chunks of ice (we had had 2 feet of snow and then rain, and have a very steep metal roof, so the snow sliding off could be deadly). So I asked if he could move and tried to figure out how we could move him out of the way of the additional snow threat. Finally, he did move and was able to get up. He kind of shuffled around and stiffly moved, but we were able to go on to church, even though we were late. I think the angels must have cushioned Dallas' fall though, because when I checked his back that night he didn't even have a bruise, although he hurt quite a bit. We thank God for His mercy. *"For he shall*

give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone." Psalm 91:11,12

On other occasions God's blessings for health come in the form of a simple curative agent.

One day on the way home from going in to town, my son's eye started to hurt and he thought he had an eyelash in it or something. But by the time we reached home and after trying to wash his eye out with water, he came up to me and said, *"Mommy, does my eye look swollen?"* It was definitely apparent by this time that there was more wrong with it than just an eyelash. His eye was swollen so much that the white part of his eye was actually lapping over the colored part. Even Dallas, who is usually the calmer in medical emergencies than I am, was a little shaken by the sight. Immediately, Daniel was given the "standard" dose of clay to drink, while I boiled water for tea. I remembered how nettle, which has an antihistamine effect, had helped my oldest daughter's allergic conjunctivitis. So nettle tea he got. By bedtime an hour or so later, he just had a bloodshot patch left in part of his eye and by halfway through the next day you couldn't tell that there was ever anything wrong with his eye. Thankfully, God's clinic had been open when man's clinics would have been closed and through a simple natural remedy God had healed my son's eye.

God had so many more patient cases with us this year that I can't tell them all. But one day in October, Dallas came in from outside with his arm hurting so bad he wouldn't even let me touch it. Yet, when I asked him what he did to it, all he would answer was *"Nothing"*. This seemed especially suspicious when his arm began to swell, and since I had experienced a similar pain in my leg after an injury, I suspected a blood clot. While I boiled water for some herb tea, one of the kids gave him an immediate dose of clay just for good measure in case there was some unknown external force that had "stung" him. For the tea, I used some yarrow leaves that I had dried during the summer after realizing how well they worked (having had to take the same remedy for a post-traumatic injury blood clot in my leg). Anxious for relief from the pain, Dallas bravely drank down first one cup and then a second cup of very bitter yarrow tea without much complaint. In about 15 minutes, he would actually let me touch the part of his arm that had been the sorest and I could see a reduction in the swelling. In a few more minutes he was able to proceed back outside to work (which I don't necessarily recommend doing immediately). God had used a simple herbal remedy to fix the problem promptly and well.



Mother Earth News states, *"Yarrow or milfoil is a leading backyard medicine plant. A ready first-aid treatment for wounds and nosebleeds, it has larger uses as a circulatory system remedy that both stops bleeding and moves stagnant blood, preventing and clearing blood clots."*¹ Another online source states, *"Yarrow can be used in the treatment of blood clots. It is advisable to drink 2 to 3 cups of yarrow tea on a daily basis to get the desired results. A cup of tea can be prepared by boiling dried yarrow leaves (2 or 3) in water... Another option is to take yarrow juice (1 tablespoon) 3 times in a day."*² One of our friends used the juice form of yarrow and also experienced relief. As for Dallas, I probably gave him a little more than 3 leaves since yarrow is generally considered safe unless you are allergic to the aster family (daisy, ragweed, chamomile, etc.) or you are pregnant.

The good news is, according to ediblewildfood.com, yarrow grows pretty much worldwide. They say, *"You'll see yarrow along roadsides, in fields, waste areas, canyon bottoms, subalpine zones and even on lawns. It grows in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa and South America."*³ So start looking, because you might just find one of God's little "miracles" near you.

1--<https://www.motherearthnews.com/natural-health/herbal-remedies/yarrow-uses-natural-healing-ze0z1401zbla> 2-- <http://www.searchherbalremedy.com/natural-treatments-for-blood-clots/> 3-- <https://www.ediblewildfood.com/common-yarrow.aspx>



Angels in the Tire Tracks

Typically, I prefer to let someone else drive, but as I got into the Rodeo for a trip to the mailbox five miles away, I had no idea that today would be the exception. Somewhat unfamiliar with how to give a driving lesson, I commenced by rechecking knowledge in order of importance. *"Now, the most important thing is to know where the brake pedal is so you don't go too fast and scare your mother"*, I said to the youth in my car. We then reviewed the clutch pedal, how to change gears and also where the gas pedal was. After the student driver passed the "examination" to my satisfaction, she bowed her head and asked God to keep us safe on our journey.

Slowly and carefully she took off. The trip to the mailbox went fairly smoothly. There was a little difficulty turning around but thankfully nothing too scary. And I began to relax a little with my student driver on the way home. We had just come to a place on the road that is a fairly steep hill. On the left a bank of sand extends upwards while on the right is a steep embankment. The road is only really wide enough for one car. As we drove down the hill, my daughter kindly kept away from what I perceived as the dangerous edge, but as she swerved around a pothole in the road something went wrong and we began climbing the bank on the other side. In a split second, I realized I was looking *down* at the road out my passenger window. I admit I panicked. Afraid that if I grabbed the wheel to correct just as she also turned to correct that we might overcorrect and end up rolling into the ravine on the other side, I did nothing but hold my breath and pray silently. I think I might have said something about the brake.

But almost as soon as it began, it was over. My daughter gladly handed over the car when I said, *"I think I'll drive now."* Apparently, she had been trying to brake, but the vehicle just sped up instead. Neither my daughter nor I know how we got back down from driving sideways on the bank, for even for the best of drivers it would have been a feat to do so while braking at the right place, the right time and the right speed to keep from rolling the vehicle. We think an angel must have taken the wheel and brought the Rodeo back to a safe landing on the road. At first, my husband thought I was probably exaggerating and over-reacting, but later, when he and two other guys observed the tire tracks (which he is pointing to in the picture), they said it was a miracle that we didn't roll the vehicle. It turned out the most important thing that the student driver needed to know was to ask God to keep her and her passenger safe. For surely *"The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."*

Psalm 34:7



Kids' Corner

"He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite."
Psalm 147:4,5

"Did you know God is so big and so smart that He knows how many stars there are?" Patience asked Passion.



"If you tried to count the stars, it would take you more than a trillion (1,000,000,000) years, but God even knows all the star's names".



Study to Show Thyself Approved – “Every Promise in the Book is Mine”

“Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.” Isaiah 40:28

April 29, 2018-- God, our night watchman, was awake while we were sleeping. Unbeknownst to us, since our phone was turned off, at about 1:00 am we received a desperate warning call from a friend to inform us that two very angry people were on their way to our house with guns and would use them if necessary. For some reason, after driving quite a distance, the potential enemies turned homeward and never showed up at our house that night.

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matt. 6:33

After a Campmeeting in July we bought some groceries and came home—that was Sunday. Due to newsletter preparation, care of 2 unofficial foster girls, and other “seeking first of the kingdom of God”, only the perishable groceries got put away immediately. It wasn’t until Friday that we found a tub of tofu that we had somehow missed hidden in a grocery bag on the floor. But to our surprise, God had preserved it from going bad even during the 90+°F (33°C) temperatures of that week. We were all sure it was a miracle just to say, *“I’m still here, and I control the elements, SHMILY!”* (an acronym for **See How Much I Love You**)



“The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.” Ps.33:10

In May of 2018, just as we were receiving wedding gifts in the mail for our newly-wed daughter and son-in-law, our mailbox got robbed. After finding the mailbox empty, Dallas noticed an envelope ripped in half and then a wedding card lying in the mud, ripped open, with 2 checks missing. But God was in control and He knew we were expecting a money order in the mail that day, which was needed to pay our property taxes. Miraculously, He supplied the money for our property taxes another way.

Then, He worked it out so the person sending the two checks was able to put a stop payment on the two checks at no extra charge to them. But the person behind the money order had unfortunately lost their receipt. However, God had already planned for this in a very unique way. Several weeks later, we finally received the money order in a strangely triple-postmarked envelope. Somehow it never got postmarked from its originally sending location; instead it had apparently been “vacationing” in Albany, New York, for several weeks as each of the postmarks read a different date. Even the worker at the post office said he had never seen anything like it, especially since Albany, New York, was hundreds of miles out of the way from both the sending location of the envelope and its destination.

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

Due to circumstances, in order to get our regular supply of rice milk, as well as some other groceries, we headed into the big city two hours away. Throughout the store I carefully added up each necessary item to keep a running total. We were already at the register when I realized that although we had enough to pay for these groceries; I needed some of that money at the next store for another necessary item. I prayed for God to do something because I really didn’t know what to put back, I hadn’t really purchased any “frivolous” items, just staple foods. As I prayed, I walked off to attend to other business, leaving Dallas at the register, unaware of the problem. I never could figure out how God did it, but when I got back and asked Dallas the total of the purchases, it was a full \$100 less than I had figured, yet all the items appeared to be on the receipt! God somehow lowered the price and we were able to buy the other items we needed. Amazing!

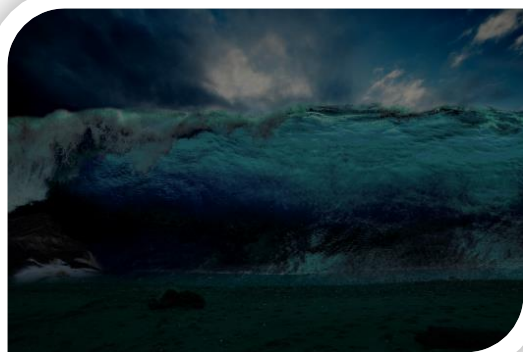
“Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Psalm 91:3,4

One day in October we were excited to be able finally to go get one of our last loads of wood. The night before, we had backed the car with the trailer around over next to a ravine and parked it in our usual parking area. The next morning we got in the car, had our usual prayer for safety and proceeded to pull the empty trailer down our steep driveway and several other moderately steep hills. About 3 miles down the road, Dallas noticed in his rearview mirror that the trailer was just going back and forth like it wasn’t connected. We stopped, and sure enough it wasn’t even on the ball, it was only connected by the safety chains. Thankfully, it hadn’t come crashing into the back of our vehicle, but actually gone underneath. The strange thing was the handle was still down and the pin was still in it. Since we live on a bumpy road, we thought maybe it is too big and just bounced off, but we tested it again and again to see if it could bounce off, but it wouldn’t come off pinned like that. We are thankful that for 3 miles of bumpy road, God saw fit to protect both us and our vehicle from damage.

Challenge: Consider which promises you can see fulfilled in God’s everyday miracles in your life.

Prophetic News Notes - *WITHOUT WARNING*

"Without warning, a rock concert was interrupted by a tsunami wave crashing into it," news sources report. Apparently, on December 22, 2018, at around 9pm, the eruption of the Anak Krakatoa volcano caused its crater to partially collapse into the sea at high tide. This violent underwater landslide displaced a huge volume of water sending tsunami waves up to 5 metres (16 feet) high rushing quietly through the night.



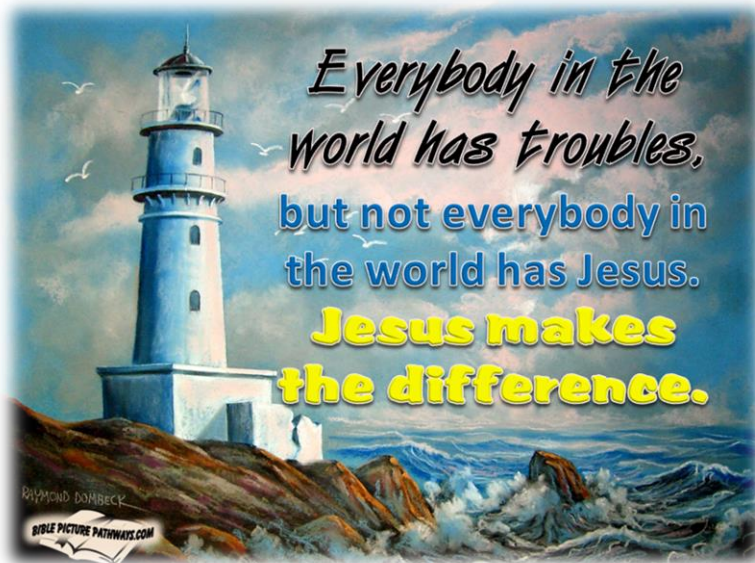
Less than 30 minutes later, at around 9:27 pm, the densely populated coastal communities along the shores of Java and Sumatra islands in Indonesia were taken completely by surprise as the large tsunamis waves loomed out of the night. Everyone was caught off guard, because no tsunami warnings had been sounded. Nobody knew it was coming. People were busy with their business & pleasure and they were totally unaware that for many of them, it was to be their last few moments on earth. The tsunami destroyed almost 3,000 homes and displaced almost 40,000 people as well as destroying over 500 ships. The death toll went well over 400 people and the number of injured rose to well over 14,000, with many still missing.

We are told that another storm is coming, unexpected by the world. But God has warned us of the underground/underwater (secret) movements and where they tend. *"For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."*
1 Thess. 5:3

We are warned of the time *"When the enemy shall come in like a flood.... Isaiah 59:19*
Like those in Noah's day, we have no excuse for being surprised. *"For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."*
Matthew 24:38,39 *"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief."* 1 Thess. 5:4

Are you living each moment as if it could be your last?

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." Luke 21:36





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Quotable Quotes

"By faith we may look to the hereafter and grasp the pledge of God... We may rejoice that all which has perplexed us in the providences of God will then be made plain, things hard to be understood will then find an explanation; and where our finite minds discovered only confusion and broken purposes, we shall see the most perfect and beautiful harmony. 'Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.' 1 Corinthians 13:12." (Steps to Christ, pg.112,113)