



The Bible Banner

October 2014



Faith of our Fathers

An army officer in a communist country forced a minister into his study at pistol point. Three times the officer demanded that the minister deny that Christ was the divine Son of God, on pain of possible death if he refused. Three times the man of God refused to deny his Lord. With tears streaming down his cheeks the Communist burst out, "I too believe, but I didn't know until now that there were men who would die for this faith. Now I can go out and die for it also!"

Garlic "Feta" Dressing

FETA 1 pkg. organic water-packed tofu

Crumble in bowl and sprinkle liberally with salt, garlic powder and lemon juice. Marinate several hours.

DRESSING

2 cups cashews*	2 Tbsp potato flour or flakes
2 ½ tsp salt	2 tsp nutritional yeast flakes
2 Tbsp minced onion	3 garlic cloves (more if you like)
½ cup lemon juice	2 ½ cups water
	½ tsp honey

Blend dressing while adding water gradually until smooth. Stir in tofu "Feta." For everyday use I often make this without adding the "feta." I just add a little more garlic. * The cashews may be replaced with almonds and a Tbsp of olive oil added for an extra calcium boost.



PROFITABLE TRADITIONS- CULTIVATE COURAGE

On October 31st, or thereabouts, we celebrate Reformation Night since October 31 is the day that Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses to the church door. We have a vespers and sing songs of the Reformation like *A Mighty Fortress* and *Faith of our Fathers*. Stories may also be read about the Reformers. During the evening different family members are "captured" and put on the stand to defend various doctrinal beliefs from the Bible and the Bible only. This is generally the children's favorite part. They want to play "court". Some years we have focused on the Waldensians and since they memorized large portions of scripture we have had a Bible Verse "Bee" by seeing how many Bible verses we could repeat from memory. It makes you realize how difficult it might be if we had to witness without the written Word. To watch a demonstration of court you may watch the end of Holidays Exposed at

<http://www.biblepicturepathways.com/holidays-exposed.php>



SEEDS OF THE MARTYRS

"Faith of our Fathers living still in spite of dungeon, fire and sword..." the strains of the hymn wafted in my thoughts. And then the second verse continued "How sweet would be their children's fate, if they, like them could die for thee." With a start, I reread the words thinking "their children dying, is sweet—most people would say this is crazy." What was it that gave the apostles, the Waldensians, the Huguenots, and the various reformers this way of looking at things that is totally contrary to human nature?

History records, *"The rage of the persecutors was equaled by the faith of the martyrs. Not only men but delicate women and young maidens displayed unflinching courage. 'Wives would take their stand by their husband's stake, and while he was enduring the fire they would whisper words of solace, or sing psalms to cheer him.' 'Young maidens would lie down in their living grave as if they were entering into their chamber of nightly sleep; or go forth to the scaffold and the fire dressed in their best apparel, as if they were going to their marriage.'"* {GC88 240}

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In contrast today, there are many with an almost phobic fear of death. Many are unwilling to speak the truths of the gospel for fear of tribulation, disease or death, and yet, this is not Biblical. Jesus said, *"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."* **Matt. 10:28**

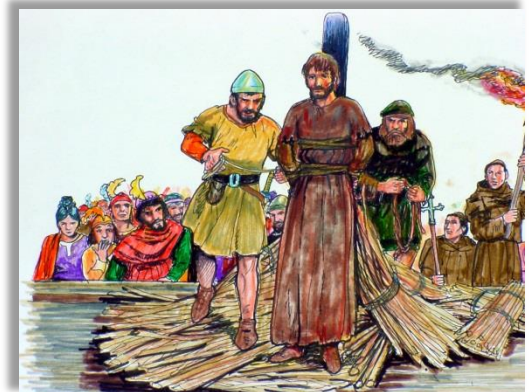
Rev 14:13 states that in the last days some will be allowed to die, and that this is a blessing, *"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."* In other words, like the martyrs, their death will not be in vain, but be the very means of bringing blessing to others.

Jesus explained further, *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."* **John 12:24** Said an ancient Christian speaking with the heathen rulers who were urging forward the persecution: *"You may torment, afflict, and vex us. Your wickedness puts our weakness to the test, but your cruelty is of no avail. It is but a stronger invitation to bring others to our persuasion. The more we are mowed down, the more we spring up again. The blood of the Christians is seed."*

How beautifully this writer states it. *"Christ's true witnesses are never laid aside. In health and sickness, in life and death, God uses them still. When through Satan's malice the servants of Christ have been persecuted, their active labors hindered, when they have been cast into prison, or dragged to the scaffold or to the stake, it was that truth might gain a greater triumph. As these faithful ones sealed their testimony with their blood, souls hitherto in doubt and uncertainty were convinced of the faith of Christ and took their stand courageously for Him. From the ashes of the martyrs has sprung an abundant harvest for God."* {Acts of the Apostles 465}

In the close of time there will again be those who also are willing to suffer all things for *"the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ."* **Revelation 1:9**. They will count not their life dear unto them if sacrificed for the truth of God. They will rather die than sin. Like "Our fathers, chained in prisons dark," what is most important is that they will "still in heart and conscience [be] free." The truth in our day is as important as it was in the days of the martyrs. We should not labor with the expectation of receiving our reward in this life, but with our eyes fixed steadfastly upon the prize at the end of the race. Jesus said, *"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"* **Mark 8:35-37**

Men and women are wanted now who are as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men and women who will work without having their way smoothed and every obstacle removed. Won't you heed the counsel of the true Witness? *"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."* **Rev. 2:10**





ALL IN A BULB OF GARLIC



I recently read a news article stating that the reason behind increasing food allergies has been discovered. It references a study from the University of Chicago showing that replacing a specific gut bacteria depleted by antibiotics removed peanut allergies in mice. The article states, *“... this study suggests ... the possible culprit behind food allergies: Our antibiotics-happy culture.”* This solidifies just one more reason drug antibiotics are not the answer to disease in the long run.

<http://www.kcet.org/living/food/food-rant/reason-behind-increasing-food-allergies-discovered.html>

There is a more simple answer for ailments like strep throat. It's all in a bulb of garlic.

“Garlic was called Russian penicillin during World War II because, after running out of antibiotics, the Russian government turned to this ancient treatment for its soldiers.” <http://www.med.nyu.edu/content?ChunkIID=21729>

“Dr. Tariq Abdullah, a prominent garlic researcher stated in the August 1987 issue of Prevention: “Garlic has the broadest spectrum of any antimicrobial substance that we know of — it is antibacterial, antifungal, antiparasitic, antiprotozoan and antiviral.”” http://www.medherb.com/Materia_Medica/Allium_sativum_-_Antibiotic_and_Immune_Properties.htm

I love the simplicity of natural remedies. A few years ago my husband had strep throat. He had been plagued with a sore throat for almost a week and it had become so painful that he could barely swallow his own saliva. We read up in a natural remedies book on how to treat strep throat. We then blended 4-6 garlic cloves in a blender-full of water and added about 3-4Tbsp activated charcoal powder. After blending, he was supposed to gargle the mixture and he did, but his throat was so sore he couldn't get it down far enough, so since it was harmless he drunk down the whole blender-full. After about 20 minutes his sore throat was gone. (He followed up later with another blender-full just to make sure it stayed gone.) Later, I was able to share this with a friend whose daughter had what they thought to be a bacterial infection affecting both the throat and the stomach. They used the same treatment and also added a cold mitten friction, but the result was the same. By the next morning we received the news that their daughter was well on the way to recovery. Since then others have been able to use this remedy and it has worked for additional stomach ailments, and at least one that was resistant to the medicine prescribed by the doctors.

I've heard that as a general rule 4 cloves of fresh garlic = 1 dose of penicillin minus, of course, the bad side effects. Here's a medical center recommendation. *“If you are looking to consume garlic for antibiotic purposes, the University of Maryland Medical Center recommends 2 to 4 cloves of garlic or 600 to 1,200 mg of aged garlic extract daily.”*

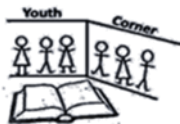
www.livestrong.com/article/489317-how-much-garlic-equals-an-antibiotic/#ixzz2gzdu7SC8

It has been said, “an apple a day keeps the doctor away”, but I would encourage, if that doesn't work—try garlic!



Little Runner's Health Tip

—Gus the Gopher likes to eat garlic. Garlic is good for boys and girls too. It can help them not to get sick.



DO YOU KNOW?

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." John 17:3

No one could have doubted that John Wesley was religious. He preached, wrote, and lived religion.

But one day a friend asked him, "John, do you know God?"

John was so shocked that someone would ask him that he could hardly speak. "Why," he finally sputtered, "you know I believe the Bible is inspired and should be the guide for every Christian's life. For nine years I have been urging anyone who would listen to have a personal walk with the Lord."

"But John," his friend pressed, "do you know God?"

As John Wesley returned home, those words rang in his ears. "John, do you know God?" He could see now that he knew about God, but deep within he didn't really know him. Bowing in sorrow he admitted his mistake and surrendered his life completely to his Lord.

People soon noticed a change in his preaching. His sermons contained a new power. Instead of focusing on his own scholarly ideas, Wesley pointed his hearers to Christ on Calvary. His new love and devotion led many to join him in surrendering fully to God.

Do you know God, or do you just know about him? Why not make sure you have a relationship with him today?



Quotable Quotes

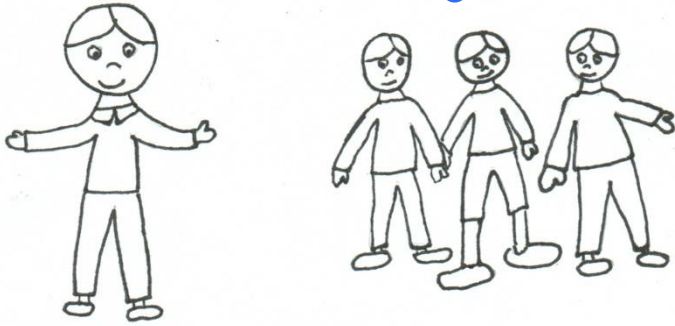
"The greatest want of the world is the want of men--men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall."--

Education, p. 57

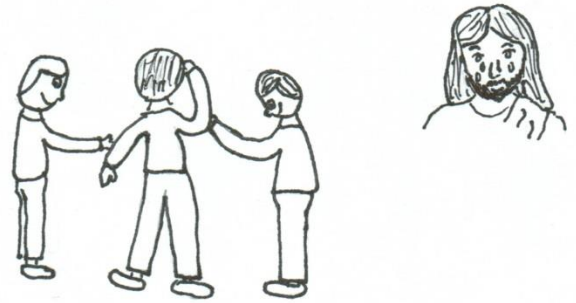


Exodus 23:2

"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil..."



Christian met some boys, who thought they could be naughty when their parents weren't looking, but Christian said; "Jesus can still see me. I don't want to do naughty things."



Carnal also met some naughty boys. He did bad things too. It made Jesus very sad to see the boys being naughty.

God's Amazing Creatures

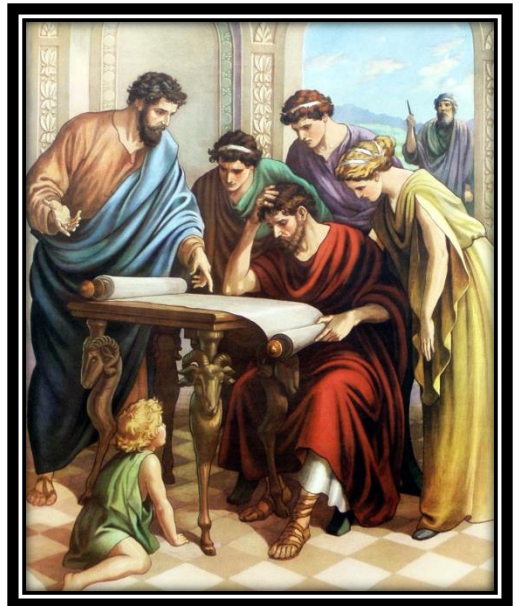
Elk are a little smaller than moose. If you take their picture they may get an attitude like the one in this picture. Only the male elk have antlers. They let their antlers grow until early winter and then knock them off using trees. Sometimes the antlers just fall off. Male elk fight with their antlers to keep other elk off their territories. Just like the elk fight to keep predators away, we have to fight Satan to keep him away. I'm glad we have Jesus to protect us. Aren't you?



Study to Show Thyself Approved

In every age Satan has sought to impair the efforts of God's servants by introducing into the church a spirit of fanaticism. Thus it was in Paul's day, and thus it was in later centuries during the time of the Reformation. Wycliffe, Luther, and many others who blessed the world by their influence and their faith, encountered the wiles by which the enemy seeks to lead into fanaticism overzealous, unbalanced, and unsanctified minds. Let us study out some Biblical principles for detecting and avoiding fanaticism.

1. **Keep it Simple and Christ centered -2 Corinthians 11:3** *"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."*
2. **Avoid extremes/ditches on either side of an issue. Philippians 4:5** *"Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand." Moderation is defined as the state of being moderate, or of keeping a due mean between extremes... (For example, a health fanatic might say it is more healthful to allow the skin to breathe and get sunshine, so nakedness and scanty clothing are necessary. A dress fanatic might say for modesty's sake every square inch of the body must be covered, even the face. The truth is between the two ditches.)*
3. **Stay close to the Bible Deut. 4:2** *"Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you."*
4. **Study everything for yourself Acts 17:11** *"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Matt. 15:9* *"But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."*
5. **Use arguments that are not easily overthrown Titus 2:1** *"But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:..." Titus 2:8* *"Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you."*
6. **Don't forbid what God has blessed (that which is sanctified by the word of God and prayer) 1Timothy 4:1-4** *"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats{foods}, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. "*
7. **Practice what you preach (if you can't do it, don't endorse it for others) Rom. 10:2** *"For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge." 1Thess. 5:21* *"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."*



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