



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER WITH THE PURPOSE OF SHARING NEWS REGARDING THE WORK BEING DONE IN NAMIBIA, FOR THE UPLIFTING AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF FELLOW CHRISTIANS AND TO SERVE AS A PLATFORM FOR LIKE MINDED CHRISTIANS TO SHARE TESTIMONIES OF CHRIST'S WORKINGS IN THEIR LIVES. TO BE AN OBJECT OF REFLECTION, REFLECTING THE BEAMS OF LIGHT RECEIVED FROM THE TRUE LIGHT.

God, having raised up his Son
Jesus, sent him to bless you, in
turning away every one of you
from his iniquities.
ACTS 3:26

THE SCRIPTURES, A SAFEGUARD

“To the law and to the testimony. If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”

Isaiah 8:20. The people of God are directed to the Scriptures as their safeguard against the influence of false teachers and the delusive power of spirits of darkness. Satan employs every possible device to prevent men from obtaining a knowledge of the Bible; for its plain utterances reveal his deceptions. At every revival of God's work, the prince of evil is aroused to more intense activity; he is now putting forth his utmost efforts for a final struggle against Christ and his followers. The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true, that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested.

Those who endeavor to obey all the commandments of God will be opposed and derided. They can stand only in God. In order to endure the trial before them, they must understand the will of God as revealed in his Word; they can honor him only as they have a right conception of his character, government, and purposes, and act in accordance with them. None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict. To every soul will come the searching test, Shall I obey God rather than men? The decisive hour is even now at hand. Are our feet planted on the rock of God's immutable Word? Are we prepared to stand firm in defense of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus?

Before his crucifixion, the Saviour explained to his disciples that he was to be put to death, and to rise again from the tomb; and angels were present to impress his words on minds and hearts. But the disciples were looking for temporal deliverance from the Roman yoke, and they could not tolerate the thought that He in whom all their hopes centered should suffer an ignominious death. The words which they needed to remember were banished from their minds; and when the time of trial came, it found them unprepared. The death of Jesus as fully destroyed their hopes as if he had not forewarned them. So in the prophecies the future is opened before us as plainly as it was opened to the disciples by the words of Christ.

The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented. But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready.

When God sends to men warnings so important that they are represented as proclaimed by holy angels flying in the midst of heaven, he requires every person endowed with reasoning powers to heed the message. The fearful judgments denounced against the worship of the beast and his image, **Revelation 14:9-11**, should lead all to a diligent study of the prophecies to learn what the mark of the beast is, and how they are to avoid receiving it. But the masses of the people turn away their ears from hearing the truth, and are turned unto fables. The apostle Paul declared, looking down to the last days, *“The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine.”* 2

Timothy 4:3. That time has fully come. The multitudes do not want Bible truth, because it interferes with the desires of the sinful, world-loving heart; and Satan supplies the deceptions which they love. But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines, and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority,—not one or all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain “Thus saith the Lord” in its support.

Satan is constantly endeavoring to attract attention to man in the place of God. He leads the people to look to bishops, to pastors, to professors of theology, as their guides, instead of searching the Scriptures to learn their duty for themselves. Then, by controlling the minds of these leaders, he can influence the multitudes according to his will. When Christ came to speak the words of life, the common people heard him gladly; and many, even of the priests and rulers, believed on him. But the chief of the priesthood and the leading men of the nation were determined to condemn and repudiate his teachings. Though they were baffled in all their efforts to find accusations against him, though they could not but feel the influence of the divine power and wisdom attending his words, yet they encased themselves in prejudice; they rejected the clearest evidence of his Messiahship, lest they should be forced to become his disciples. These opponents of Jesus were men whom the people had been taught from infancy to reverence, to

whose authority they had been accustomed implicitly to bow. *“How is it,”* they asked, *“that our rulers and learned scribes do not believe on Jesus? Would not these pious men receive him if he were the Christ?”* It was the influence of such teachers that led the Jewish nation to reject their Redeemer. The spirit which actuated those priests and rulers is still manifested by many who make a high profession of piety. They refuse to examine the testimony of the Scriptures concerning the special truths for this time. They point to their own numbers, wealth, and popularity, and look with contempt upon the advocates of truth as few, poor, and unpopular having a faith that separates them from the world. Christ foresaw that the undue assumption of authority indulged by the scribes and Pharisees would not cease with the dispersion of the Jews. He had a prophetic view of the work of exalting human authority to rule the conscience, which has been so terrible a curse to the church in all ages. And his fearful denunciations of the scribes and Pharisees, and his warnings to the people not to follow these blind leaders, were placed on record as an admonition to future generations.

The Romish Church reserves to the clergy the right to interpret the Scriptures. On the ground that ecclesiastics alone are competent to explain God's Word, it is withheld from the common people. Though the Reformation gave the Scriptures to all, yet the self-same principle which was maintained by Rome prevents multitudes in Protestant churches from searching the Bible for themselves. They are taught to accept its teachings as interpreted by the church; and there are thousands who dare receive nothing, however plainly revealed in Scripture, that is contrary to their

creed, or the established teaching of their church. Notwithstanding the Bible is full of warnings against false teachers, many are ready thus to commit the keeping of their souls to the clergy. *[Continues on page 19]*

Laodiceans

In **Revelation 2&3**, 7 churches are brought to view which depict the complete church era from the first apostolic church in the beginning down to the Second Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The last church we find is called "Laodicea", which means, "a People Judged." The history or beginning of this church era started in 1844 and will extend to the Second Coming.

If we read the commentary on this church given by Christ, we will notice that this church is not in a good condition. One of the descriptions of Laodicea is that it is blind, and to make the matter worse is the fact that it does not know it is blind.

Let us now take a closer look at this problem of blindness.

What is the cause of this blindness?

It is written that if we do not "Believe", then the god of this world (Satan) will blind our minds – **2 Corinthians 4:4**

With a blinded mind, the understanding is darkened; leaving the person to walk or live in darkness. According to God, to walk in darkness is to walk in sin, meaning to live a life of sin. To live a life of sin separates one from God or cuts us off from Him, thus leaving us with no real knowledge of God. - **Ephesians 4:18, 1 John 2:11, Isaiah 59:2**

Yes, a person may profess to know God but profession alone does not give evidence that one knows God or that he believes. – **Matthew 7:16, 20, 22, 23,**

With a blinded mind or darkened understanding, there can be no understanding of the scriptures which is so essential, as it is the very light needed to see in the darkness, to lighten the path we walk on. – **2 Corinthians 3:14, Psalms 119:105**

A well-known minister once mentioned that "*Either the Bible will keep you from Sin or Sin will keep you from the Bible*" – *D Moody (Paraphrased)*

Unless there is a decided change, an ESCAPE from this life of darkness, where one is cleansed from their sins and God allowed to recreate that person in making him holy, that person will remain blind, his sin will remain with him. – **2 Peter 1:9, 2 Corinthians 5:17**

There are those who are in darkness but have a burden not to remain blind – **Mark 10:51**

As we have seen, there are those who according to Revelation as we have seen are blind and in darkness, but they think they can see. Thinking they have an understanding when they don't.

Jesus said the first group has no sin but the group that says they can see when they can't, their sin will remain. – **John 9:40, 41**

Yet both groups are blind and without understanding and this is worded as "*Unbelief*" and it prevents one from being converted and healed. – **John 12:37-40**

So what do they need?

If we look at the literal we will find the answer for the Spiritual – **Acts 13:11**

They need a guide. A Guide is someone who teaches, instructs and reveals the true light to those in darkness – **Romans 2:19 / Job 29:15**

Unfortunately, there are those from the group which are blind, but think that they can see, who are guiding the people who are in darkness. But can the blind lead the blind? – **Luke 6:39**

The Bible says that the blind are like prisoners in a prison sitting in darkness. – **Isaiah 42:7**

If it is said that God would be glorified if people could see, what would be the main object or mission of Jesus be? – **Matthew 15:31**

It would be to set the prisoners free, in bringing them out of darkness, out of a life of sin, and giving them sight. – **Isaiah 61:1, Luke 4:18**

Once this mission or object of Christ is revealed to those sitting in darkness, what should they do on their part?

They should come to Jesus and believe that He is able to do as He says – **Matthew 9:27-31**

They should come to Him just as they are, and believe that He can help them not to walk in darkness anymore.

Jesus says, "Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: **for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.** While ye have light, **believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light.**" – **John 12:35-36**

If you are uncertain whether you are blind, then with an honest heart review your life, if you are living a life of sin, then you are walking in darkness, and blinded by the god of this world.

My dear friends, if you have a burden not to remain blind, come to JESUS, give Him your life and believe that He is able to break you free from that prison of darkness. He promises that if we confess our sins before Him, He will be faithful and just in forgiving our sins and to cleanse us from all the sins in our life. – **1 John 1:9**

This is the mission of Light in Darkness Ministry, to reveal to those that are blind and living in darkness the light which is gracious, full of compassion and righteous.

– **Psalms 112:4**

"God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities." – **Acts 3:26**

In loving kindness,
Brother C Fourie



A worker from South Africa reports the following (Early 1900's): I heard a roomful of girls in the Inanda Seminary laughing and rejoicing in such a manner that I wanted to know what had made them so happy. When I opened the door I saw a very happy sight: more than a dozen girls were seated on the floor, with their Bibles and Testaments in their hands, pointing at **1 John 4:19**, repeating in chorus: *"We love him because he first loved us."* This verse they repeated over and over several times, with tears of joy and happy laughter, asking me if it was not *"too wonderful."* *"How could He love us when we were ashamed to say we loved Him, and we did not want to be His followers?"* *"We loved sin."* Then they hugged each other, laughing and saying, *"He loved us before we loved Him. Yes He loved us before we loved Him."* It was a great pleasure to see their great joy in believing these words. They showed that their cup was running over. They sang of His love in forgiving their sins. **They trusted wholly in that Word.**

Health Page

Health is all about LIFESTYLE! (Part 2)

Mrs. M Bunting

*Let everything that hath breath praise
the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.*
Psalm 150:6

In Part One, we saw that we are responsible for the state of our being, through the life choices that we make, and by sharing the framework within the Laws of Health we can better learn and understand the laws of our being. We discussed Godly trust as the first Law of Health and are now moving on to **OPEN AIR**.

G O D 'S P L A N.

G – Godly Trust
O – Open Air
D – Daily Exercise
S – Sunlight
P – Proper Rest
L – Lots of Water
A – Always Temperate
N – Nutrition

In the matchless gift of His Son, God has encircled the whole world with an atmosphere of grace as real as the air which circulates around the globe. All who choose to breathe this life-giving atmosphere will live and grow up to the stature of men and women in Christ Jesus. {Steps to Christ 68.1}

Have you taken some deep breaths today or have you just been breathing?

Are we taking breathing for granted?

Gen 1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven....

Oxygen - The most essential element to sustain life.

* Without *food* you will die in a few weeks.

* Without *water* you will die in a few days.

* Without *air* you will die in a few minutes.

* Blood and cells are dependent upon oxygen.

What does oxygen do for the blood?

- Electrifies the blood, imparts to it a bright lively colour, and strengthens the body.
- Soothes the nerves, stimulates appetite, helps digestion, and induces refreshing sleep.
- Invigorates the vital organs and aids the system in removing accumulated impurities.
- Brings life to the skin.

The harmony, as God placed it in the universe, is so amazing. You see, we breathe in oxygen and we blow out carbon dioxide. And the plants in turn take the carbon dioxide and they convert it in to oxygen for us, so everything is in perfect harmony and perfect balance.

The stomach, liver, lungs and brain are suffering for want of deep, full inspirations of air which would electrify the blood and impart to it a bright, lively color, and which alone can keep it pure, and give tone and vigor to every part of the living

machinery."—Ellen G. White, *Testimonies Vol. 2*, pp. 67-68

In the morning, step outside and breathe deeply; then expel all the air in your lungs. Repeat this about 3 or 4 times. Have fresh air ventilating in your home day and night. Exercise in the open air will promote good circulation. Even in winter have windows open a little and air rooms daily. Avoid smoke, chemicals, room fresheners and aerosol sprays.

"The harmful effects of living in close, ill-ventilated rooms are these: The system becomes weak and unhealthy; the circulation is depressed; the blood moves sluggishly through the system, because it is not purified and vitalized by the pure, invigorating air of heaven; the mind becomes depressed and gloomy, while the whole system is enervated, and fevers and other acute diseases are liable to be generated." Ellen G. White, *Healthful Living*, 72

Every cell in the body utilizes oxygen. It is needed to "burn" foods to produce heat and energy. These cells are dependent on the oxygen supply available in the blood stream and tissue fluids. Some of the reasons red blood cells may not be able to supply enough oxygen to body cells include: Poor posture and breathing habits, poorly ventilated rooms with pollutants in the air, clumping of red blood cells caused by excess free fats in the diet, wastes and toxins in the blood stream.

Interesting Information:

Air consists of:

Oxygen 21%

Nitrogen 78 %

Carbon dioxide, other gasses 1%

The average person breathes about 16 times a minute.

Fresh "air is the free blessing of heaven, calculated to electrify the whole system." Ellen G. White, *Healthful Living*, 71

A PLAIN COMMAND - pig eating

THE following is worthy of careful study:

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." **1 Cor. 10: 31.** Eating and drinking to the glory of God is not popular in this world, the majority of even professed Christians do not heed the admonition given above. The first command given to the human family was in regard to their diet. *"Of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it,"* was the plain command of God. Man was given an abundance of good food ; but was commanded not to eat of certain food. God has lost none of His interest in the human family to-day. He has said, *"I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall he for meat."* **Gen. 1:29.** This text gives us permission to freely partake of fruits, grains, and nuts. This is a bountiful supply. Under the list of *"herbs bearing seed"* would be found, wheat, corn, rye, oats, etc., also rice and all legumes, as beans, peas, lentiles, etc. After sin entered the earth, man was permitted to eat vegetables. *"Thou shalt eat the herb of the field,"* were the words of the divine permission. **Gen. 3:18.** There are certain articles of diet forbidden. Forbidden by the Lord today, and every Christian should be intelligent upon the subject of diet. In speaking of the swine, or hog, the Lord says: *"Of their flesh shall ye not eat."* He gives as a reason, *"They are unclean to you."* **Lev. 11:4-8.** The hog is a scavenger. It was created with a depraved appetite. It will greedily devour the vilest filth. Its mission in life is to clean the earth by eating the filth. It is a scavenger. This characteristic of the hog is so universally accepted that the word "hog" is a synonym for everything vile and filthy. The flesh of scavengers cannot be good food for man. Some may think this is unimportant; but as long as the hog retains his present nature, the words of God are true, *"He is unclean unto you."* God says **that** when He comes to gather His people, He will destroy all those who are found eating the flesh of swine. **Isa. 66:15-17.**

RECIPES



Lunch: Wonderful Meat Alternative

-LENTIL PATTIES-

Ingredients:

500g lentils cooked
6 medium potatoes cooked/steamed and mashed
2 large onions finely diced
½ cup chopped linseed
1 cup flour
Mixed Herbs or herbs of your choice
Parsley fresh or dried
Himalayan Salt to taste

Method:

Mix all together, scoop with 'n table spoon into pan lightly flatten while frying in little oil on medium heat, or

for those who would prefer no oil bake them in the oven but then leave out the flour, because the linseed will be more than enough for binding.

Tip:

This recipe could be made in bulk to freeze for later use.

Also be creative, use left over rice, couscous, oats etc. to add to your lentil patties.

Grated cauliflower, carrots and baby marrows also tastes very nice with this mixture.

I GAVE THEM MYSELF

SAID a mother to me one day: "When my children were young I thought the very best thing I could do for them was to give them myself. So I spared no pains to talk to them, to read to them, to teach them, to pray with them, to be a loving companion and friend to my children. I had to neglect my house often. I had no time to indulge myself in many things, which I should have liked to do. I was so busy adorning their minds and cultivating their hearts' best affection that I could not adorn their bodies in fine clothes, though I kept them neat and comfortable at all times. I have my reward now. My sons are ministers of the gospel; my grown-up daughter is a Christian woman. I have plenty of time now to sit down and rest, plenty of time to keep my house in order, plenty of time to indulge myself, besides going about my Master's business wherever He has need of me. I have a thousand memories of their childhood to comfort me. Now that they have gone out into the world, I have the sweet consciousness of having done all I could to make them ready for whatever work God calls them to do." —*Life and Faith*.

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Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous. – Psalms 112:4

BIBLE READINGS

The Word of God

“The Bible is God’s voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears. If we realized this, with what awe would we open God’s word, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts! The reading and contemplation of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Infinite One.” T., v. 6, p. 393.

“The scribes of God wrote as they were dictated by the Holy Ghost, having no control of the work themselves. They penned for literal truth, and stern, forbidding facts are revealed for reasons that our finite minds cannot fully comprehend.” T., v. 4, p. 9.

Magnifying the Word of God

- **Phil. 2:9, 10.** At the name of Jesus every knee in heaven and earth shall bow.
- **Ps. 138:2.** The Lord magnifies His word above all His name.
- **Ps. 119:89.** God’s word is forever settled in heaven.
- **Ps. 12:6; Prov. 30:5,** “*The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.*” (E. 244.)
- **Matt. 4:4, 7, 10.** The Saviour was fortified against temptation by the written word. He used nothing except what we have within our reach. (D.A. 123-126; T.,v.5, p. 434.)
- **1 Peter 1:22-25.** The new birth comes by the word of God. (P.K. 626.)
- **1 Peter 2:2, 3.** As new-born babes we should desire the sincere

milk of the word that we may grow thereby.

- **Ps. 119:9.** The word will cleanse the life. (C.O.L. 110, 111.)
- **Ps. 119:133.** Our steps should be ordered by the word. (M.H. 458.)
- **Matt. 4:4.** It is as essential as our daily food. (T., v. 4, p. 499.)
- **2 Cor. 3:1-3.** Unbelievers read the Bible in the lives of God’s people.
- **1 Peter 3:1.** They “*may without the word*” be converted by the godly lives of earnest Christians.

Power of the Word

- **Heb. 4:12.** All the power of God is in His word. (E. 254, 255.)
- **Jer. 23:29.** “*Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?*” (T.v.5, pp. 24, 25.)
- **Ps. 33:6-9; Heb. 11:1-3.** “*By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.*” (E. 125, 126.)
- **Ps. 107:20.** There is healing power in the word of God.
- **Matt. 8:8-13.** One word from Christ brought health to the sick. (D.A. 316, 317.)
- **Ps. 103:3.** God heals all diseases.
- **Prov. 4:20-22,** margin. The words of God are medicine to those who receive them. (M.H. 466.)
- **John 1:1.** The words that God speaks are synonymous with Himself. T., v. 4, p. 312.
- **John 1:14.** The Word and Christ are synonymous terms. D.A. 390.
- **John 6:63.** The Spirit of God is the same as the Word. C.O.L. 113.

- **Rom. 10:4-8.** The righteousness of Christ is the same as the Word.
- **1 John 5:7.** The Father, the Word (which is Christ), and the Holy Ghost, are one.
- **1 Tim. 3:16.** This union is a mystery that human minds cannot comprehend.
- **Deut. 10:4,** margin. Each one of the commandments is a word, or a complete thought.
- **Heb. 4:12.** God's word is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
- **Ps. 119:11.** Hid in the heart, it will shield from sin.
- **Matt. 8:9,10.** Great faith is simply to believe, because God speaks. (E. 257)
- **Deut. 8:3.** When deprived of every earthly resource, we learn to live upon the word of God. (P.K. 428)
- **1 John 5:4.** Faith in the Word as the word of God, carries the transforming power of God to the soul. (T.v. 4, pp. 545, 546)

How to Read and Study the Bible

- **Neh. 8:8.** Whether reading alone or before others, pronounce every word distinctly, giving the sense. (T.v. 6, pp. 380-383)
- **Luke 10:26.** Jesus laid as much stress on the reading of the Scriptures as on what they contained. (G.C. 598)
- **2 Tim. 2:7.** "Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things." (E. 189)
- **Dan. 10:11.** "Understand the words that I speak unto thee." G.C. 599,600.
- **Matt. 28:20.** The disciples' commission was to teach what *Christ had commanded*.
- **2 Tim. 4:2.** Paul charged Timothy to preach the Word. (A.A. 506)

- **Rev. 22:18; Prov. 30:5, 6** No one is to add to, or take from, the words of God. God has expressed the thoughts He intended to convey, and we are to study the words and get from them the thoughts He designed to convey when He gave the words. (E.227)
- **Jer. 23:28.** Man's words are but chaff when compared with the words of God. (A.A. 474, 475)

How to Teach the Word of God

- **1 Cor. 2:13.** The Holy Ghost's method of teaching is by comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
- **John 5:39.** Christ commands us to search the Scriptures. (D.A. 390.)
- **Luke 24:25-27, 44, 45.** He appeals to the Scriptures to prove His resurrection.
- **John 10:34-36.** Jesus teaches that the omission of one letter, making the word singular when the prophet had used the plural form, would break the Scriptures.
- **Gal. 3:16.** The apostle Paul holds the same view of the Scriptures.
- **2 Sam. 23:2.** David says that the Lord's "*word* was my tongue."
- **Dan. 10:17, 19.** Inspiration is God's breath, using the vocal organs of the prophet.
- **2 Tim. 3:16, 17.** All Scripture is thus inspired that man may know the way of life.
- **Rom. 4:16-22.** Because Abraham believed the word of God, it was counted unto him for righteousness. (P.P. 152, 153)
- **1 Sam. 15:2, 3, 26-29.** Because Saul did not believe the word of God, he lost his kingdom. (P.P. 634-636.)
- **1 Sam. 15:22, 23.** It is as the sin of witchcraft to think that God's words can be changed. The entire fifteenth chapter 1 Samuel should be studied carefully. P.P. 680-682.

- Bible Handbook, Stephen Haskell

(AA – Acts of Apostles
 COL – Christ Object Lessons
 DA – Desire of Ages
 Ev – Evangelism
 GC – Great Controversy
 MH – Ministry of Healing
 PK – Prophets & Kings,
 PP – Patriarchs & Prophets,
 Tv – Testimonies Volume *)

Cause Them to Understand

WHEN giving a Bible reading, follow the instruction given in **Neh. 8 : 8**.

Read distinctly; give the sense, and cause them to understand the reading.

It is always best to have those whom you are instructing read the texts you refer to from their own Bibles. If they do not read therein distinctly it is well for' the one conducting the reading to repeat the text distinctly, give the sense, and cause them to understand the reading. It does not require many words. A few words well-chosen are better than a long dissertation. Let everything you say be for the one object; viz., *to cause them to understand the reading of the text under consideration.*

The object of the Bible reading is not to display' the wisdom of the Bible reader but to teach the people to love and study the Word of God.

For Those Ready To Work

STUDY every subject very thoroughly before you attempt to give it to others. Be sure to know more about the subject than you can tell in the time allotted for the Bible reading. Never attempt to' tell all you know of any subject in one reading. Remember that you did not acquire all of your

knowledge in one hour, or even two. If you attempt to give too much at once your readers will become confused. Never forget that Paul may plant and Apollos water; but the Lord only can give the increase; that we are wholly dependent on the Lord for help. Always either open or close your Bible reading with prayer. Sometimes it may be best to have a short prayer both at the beginning and close of the reading.

A FAITHFUL MOTHER

ALL the record we have is that her name was Abi, or Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah a godly man- who understood the visions of the Lord, and that she was the mother of Hezekiah. When Hezekiah was nine years of age his father, Ahaz was made king of Israel. Ahaz was very wicked. He introduced Baal worship, and shut up the house of the Lord. The king added sin to sin until the record says he "*made Judah naked and transgressed sore against the Lord.*" In the midst of this wicked court, Abijah reared her son. The godly life of her father Zechariah was not forgotten, and surrounded by wicked associations, she taught her son Hezekiah to reverence and honor the God of her father. Day by day and year by year the godly life and teaching of the mother fortified the son against the wicked course of Ahaz, his father. At the age of twenty-five years Hezekiah ascended the throne, and his first act was to open the Lord's house that his father had closed. The first month of his reign he cleansed the temple and established the worship of the true God. For twenty-nine years he lived a godly life as king of Judah, and died honored and beloved by God and man. Many mothers would have given up hope and said, "I cannot stand out against all this evil," but Abijah's trust was in God, and her godly life and teaching, kept her son in the ways of the Lord. **Mothers, are you surrounded with evil? If so, study the lives of godly mothers who have gained the victory under like circumstances.**

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Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous. – Psalms 112:4

Articles



INTRODUCING DALLAS ROBERTS AND HIS FAMILY (Bible Picture Pathways)

Dallas was born in Madison, TN, the site of the first Blueprint School. His wife was born by a small lantern and flashlight (Light in Darkness) to missionary parents in Rwanda, Africa. They along with their 3 remaining children currently live in the North-western United States. Here is their story of God's Call to serve as principal and family for Morning Star Wellness and Missionary Training Center.

One day, my oldest daughter came up to me and asked, "Mommy, did you know that somebody in the Bible got a curse for not doing anything at all?" Knowing my daughter, I knew that there had to be a catch. Sure, enough, the story was found in Judges 5 where Deborah, the prophetess, and Barak were singing after Jael smote Sisera, the captain of the troops of Jabin king of Caanan. In the middle of their victory song they sing, "*Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the LORD, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.*"—Judges 5:23

I found this very interesting and began to study it out a little. I found these words, "*What had Meroz done? Nothing. And this was their sin. They came not up to the help of the Lord against the mighty.*" {2T 247.1}

And then this quote, "*The Southern work is before you, as it has been presented to you this morning. A good work has been done, and it has been done in the face of the most trying circumstances. The Lord calls upon us to come up to His help in this needy field. You remember the words, "Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty."* {GCB, April 14, 1903 par. 44}

It was at this point that I began studying out the Southern work (sharing with Dallas as I went.) We learned about Edson White building his boat the "Morning Star" and working with the newly freed black slaves in the Southern United States. (It wasn't until later that Light in Darkness Ministry apparently read some of the same material and chose the name Morning Star.) Edson printed materials specifically for the southern blacks, taught them the gospel, how to read, and health. We began wondering how this applied to us modernly. We finally came to the conclusion that it parallels the areas of the world that are still unreached with the everlasting gospel, many of which are in Asia and Africa. A picture our son had made before he died-- a magnifying glass over Africa-- suddenly seemed to have purpose.



Just about the time we were studying all of this, Light in Darkness Ministry, who we had been working with for a few years, asked if we would be willing to come and help start a Mission School. This was on a Friday. We answered that we would keep it in our prayers. It was not until later that we realized this request came 10 days before Pentecost, the same time period that Jesus gave the Great Commission to his disciples. *“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”* Matt 28:18-20

The following Sunday we attended a funeral for a friend of ours. His family was asking for more missionaries to come into the field, and specifically to Africa. We believe the timing was ordered by God. Again and again, in different ways, the call to Africa resounded in our minds. In the following weeks, while looking for video clips for a documentary we were working on, my husband and I both, on separate occasions, found the same clip that seemed to weigh on our minds. It was barley formed in the shape of Africa. Then a wind came and blew the barley away revealing the words *“Help Africa.”* Just for interest sake, I

looked--there were no other countries portrayed this way. In our minds resounded again the words of God as he spoke to his prophets, *“What seest thou?”*



This promise seemed for us, *“Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.”* Jeremiah 1:11,12

Even the garden patch seemed an object lesson. A potato we hadn't planted grew up in the Corn Field. While the rest of our potato crop was mediocre, this potato grew and grew. It passed my waist and grew about four feet tall, taller than any of our potatoes had ever grown. All the other potato plants fell over and looked sickly, yet still it grew healthy and strong. But I knew harvest time would tell the real story. We could hardly wait. What was under the ground? As we began digging, it not only yielded the most potatoes of any of our plants, it also grew the biggest potatoes. That one

plant yielded 22 potatoes, almost as much as a whole row of our other potatoes. Hmm... an (Idaho) potato volunteering in the corn field (Africa)? A-maize-ing! It reminded us of this verse. *"And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."* Luke 8:8

It was enough, though there had been no earthquake, we would obey the still small voice of God. (1 Kings 19:12) Our family agreed to move forward with the project as God opened the doors-- supplying property for the school, funding, wisdom and knowledge. We feel privileged and humbled to have been asked to serve our beloved Master in the field. Our desire is to be used to educate and send out an army of youth (and adults) to the world, to finish the work that God has set before His people. *"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."* Matt. 24:14

"With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come--the end of suffering and sorrow and sin! How soon, in place of a possession here, with its blight of sin and pain, our children might receive their inheritance where "the righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever;" where "the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick," and "the voice of weeping shall be no more heard." Psalm 37:29; Isaiah 33:24; 65:19.-- Education, page 271.

We would challenge all who read this article to consider carefully the

following quotation, and answer for themselves this question. Is God calling you? And are you listening?

"The message of God came to Abraham, "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee."...

*It was no light test that was thus brought upon Abraham, no small sacrifice that was required of him. There were strong ties to bind him to his country, his kindred, and his home. But he did not hesitate to obey the call. **He had no question to ask concerning the land of promise--whether the soil was fertile and the climate healthful; whether the country afforded agreeable surroundings and would afford opportunities for amassing wealth. God has spoken, and His servant must obey; the happiest place on earth for him was the place where God would have him to be.***

Many are still tested as was Abraham. They do not hear the voice of God speaking directly from the heavens, but He calls them by the teachings of His word and the events of His providence. They may be required to abandon a career that promises wealth and honor, to leave congenial and profitable associations and separate from kindred, to enter upon what appears to be only a path of self-denial, hardship, and sacrifice. God has a work for them to do; but a life of ease and the influence of friends and kindred would hinder the development of the very traits essential for its accomplishment. He calls them away from human influences and aid, and leads them to feel the need of His help, and to depend upon Him alone, that He may reveal Himself to them. Who is ready at the call of Providence to renounce cherished plans and familiar associations? Who will accept new

duties and enter untried fields, doing God's work with firm and willing heart, for Christ's sake counting his losses gain? He who will do this has the faith of Abraham, and will share with him that "far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory," with which "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared." 2 Corinthians 4:17; Romans 8:18." {PP 126}



A Namibian Missionary in the Amazon, Brazil
By Nicole Roesener

My name is Nicole. I am originally from Namibia, and I am a full time missionary volunteer for [Amazon Lifesavers Ministry](#) in the Amazon region of Brazil. I have been a full time volunteer since 2010, but have only been in Brazil for the last 7 months and would like to share some of my experiences here.

Life in the Amazon is different, that's for sure. For one, it is not just a wild, dense, and unentered jungle, with huge snakes and crocodiles around every corner as many imagine. I actually live on the outskirts of the city of Manaus, which is the capital of the Amazon region and has a population of about 2 million people. Manaus is situated directly on the Amazon river and is all but jungle. Unless you're thinking concrete jungle!

Even though Manaus is a city with a rich history, it was never meant to

grow so big. As a result, it is a very disorganised city – traffic, buildings, road systems, the works – one big dirty mess. Also, Manaus and the Amazon is pretty cut off from the rest of Brazil - it is not possible to get from other parts of Brazil to Manaus by car. The only way is by plane or by boat. This, of course, makes things more expensive and also hard to find. Stores mostly carry what they receive, not what they order, and this can make it difficult to find certain things. If you do find something you're looking for, usually there's not much choice in quality, brand, size or colour, depending on the product. Of course, this can be frustrating at times, but there are many things that we can get in abundance... like bananas at the fruit fair.



In the beautiful interior of the Amazon, which is what Brazilians call rural areas, is hardly any cellphone reception. A lot of villages have electricity for at least a couple of hours a day, but some have none, depending on how far into the interior they are. One village that we visited in the indigenous area (about 30 hours by boat) had one little 'public' phone. When it rings, all the curious kids of the village quickly gather around to get a piece of the conversation.

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Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous. – Psalms 112:4



This picture was taken in an actual indigenous village we visited on a mission trip. We were only able to enter into that region because we had a special guide with us and our organisation is known and respected by other indigenous villages in the area due to work that has been done there in the past. This specific village had not yet had any contact with ALM it also has no other Adventist presence. In order to gain permission to visit the village and do an afternoon of children's activities and lectures on drug and alcohol abuse, we had to all, and I mean ALL of us first pass by the Tushaua (which is their chief) and present ourselves and shake his hand.

One of the biggest issues our Bible workers face in the river communities is, in fact, drug and alcohol abuse and prostitution and child abuse.



This picture shows some indian children. You'll notice that they have blue paint all over. This is because the night before they just had a spirit ritual to initiate some of their children into adulthood. The exact details of this ritual are not shared with outsiders...

Like I mentioned, I live just on the outskirts of Manaus. Here ALM has it's base, from where the work in the interior is co-ordinated. For the last two years ALM has been operating a 3 months training program that all Bible workers have to complete before they are placed in river communities. This helps to prepare them spiritually, mentally and practically. Most of our Bible workers are young people that dedicate 1 year or more to serve in the interior and they come from all over Brazil. And believe it or not... they all experience a culture shock. The culture here is very different than the rest of Brazil and that is one of the reasons that they need the training/preparation before entering the field.



My daily task is mostly helping the couple that co-ordinate the ministry. They have two young boys and it is my joy and privilege to homeschool the youngest one, as well as helping with daily house duties. Besides that, I've picked up enough Portuguese to teach the massage class for the current course and from time to time I drive our lovely combi to the airport to pick up new and or returning volunteers – a 2 hour roundrip through crazy Manaus traffic! Love it! And then there's other little odds and ends that come up from time to time where I am able to help.



Children
playing

White river
beaches



The base is our oasis. It's situated on lake Puraquevara, which feeds directly off the Amazon river. It is very peaceful here but adventure lies around every corner. Besides a dog and a cat, we have a pet macaw with a bad temper, called Lauro. And then there are the occasional visitations of boa constrictors, alligators and sloths.



And of course we have a variety of fruit and nut trees. Some you'll be familiar with and others not. For example: mangos, starfruit, passion fruit, bananas, coconut, Brazil nut, guava, cashew (which is more popular for it's fruit than it's nut),--> biriba, cupuaçu, tucumã, açai, noni, jambo...

Besides tasting many new and delicious kinds of fruit, I have also adapted to some of the local delicacies, like couscous, which is made from yellow maize flour. Then there's farinha/farofa which is pretty much a coarse flour made from the cassava root and is sprinkled over food. Farinha and fish is pretty much the staple food of the river people – fish may be lacking on the table, but farinha, never!!! Oh and plantain, which is of the banana family. YUM YUM! I must say I have adapted quite well to the diet here.

Oh... and winter, does not exist here... There's only 2 seasons – dry or rainy. The dry season is hot and sticky, where as the rainy season brings a welcome relief. I even sometimes wear a light jacket early in the morning or late in the evening. But in general, I am in casual clothes and flipflops all day every day – except for church of course.



On the boat a
bed =
Hammock



Simple village
hut

In general, I find stepping outside of my own culture and learning about that of others, very refreshing and eye-opening. It has helped me to better understand Jesus' ministry to ALL people – no matter their background, race or belief. It has helped me to realize even more that we are all in need of a better understanding of God's infinite and Love and Truth (first and foremost me), and that it is in the missionfield that God is able to mold our characters more effectively and then, miracle above miracles He chooses to use me, a weak and sinful human being as an instrument for His glory! What a privilege!!

I leave you, with many more experiences and miracles to share, but no space left to squeeze in. I plead for your support in prayer – not for me specifically, but for all missionaries and ministries that are working to spread the Good News to the world. You may not be able to join the band of missionaries in your or other countries, but you can support them with your prayers! Prayer is a powerful tool you know!

With many blessings all the way from the Amazon!



I Must Go to Willie

DURING the American Civil War there was a woman in Maine who received a letter which ran thus: *"Willie is sick; he is dying."* The mother read the letter, and looking up to her husband, said: *"Father, I must go to Willie."* *"No, wife, you can not go,"* he replied. *"You know there is a*

line of bayonets between you and Willie." She did what the Christian, mother always does when her boy is in peril. She spread that letter before the Lord, and prayed all night. Next morning she said; *"Father, I must go to Willie. I must."* *"Well, wife,"* he said, *"I do not know what will come of this, but, of course, if you will go there is the money."* She went down to Washington, and the President—Abraham Lincoln—who had to brush away a tear as he wrote, handed her a paper, and said : *"Madam, that will take you to the enemy's line, but what will become of you after you get there I can not tell."* She took the paper, and came down to the line and the picket; she handed him the pass, and he looked at it and at her, and said: *"We don't take that thing here."* *"I know it,"* she said; *"but Willie, my boy, is dying in Richmond, and I am going to him. Now shoot!"* He did not shoot, but stood awed and hushed in the presence of a love that is more like God's than any other that surges in the human soul in its deathless unselfishness. All that mother thought of was her boy. Smuggled through the lines, she went down to the hospital. The surgeon said to her: *"Madam, you must be very careful; your boy will survive no excitement."* She crept past cot after cot, and knelt at the foot of the one where her boy lay, and putting up her hands prayed in smothered tones, *"O God, spare my boy!"* The sick man raised his white hands from under the sheet; the sound of his mother's voice had gone clear down to the brink of the valley and shadow of death, where the life, of the young man was going out in its ebbing tide. Raising his hand, he said: *"Mother, I knew you would come."* **That boy is now a man**



THE SCRIPTURES, A SAFEGUARD *continued from Page 3*

There are today thousands of professors of religion who can give no other reason for points of faith which they hold than that they were so instructed by their religious leaders. They pass by the Saviour's teachings almost unnoticed, and place implicit confidence in the words of the ministers. But are ministers infallible? How can we trust our souls to their guidance unless we know from God's Word that they are light-bearers? A lack of moral courage to step aside from the beaten track of the world, leads many to follow in the steps of learned men; and by their reluctance to investigate for themselves, they are becoming hopelessly fastened in the chains of error. They see that the truth

for this time is plainly brought to view in the Bible, and they feel the power of the Holy Spirit attending its proclamation; yet they allow the opposition of the clergy to turn them from the light. Though reason and conscience are convinced, these deluded souls dare not think differently from the minister; and their individual judgment, their eternal interests, are sacrificed to the unbelief, the pride and prejudice, of another.

Many are the ways by which Satan works through human influence to bind his captives. He secures multitudes to himself by attaching them by the silken cords of affection to those who are enemies of the cross of Christ. Whatever this attachment may be, parental, filial, conjugal, or social, the effect is the same; the opposers of truth exert their power to control the conscience, and the souls held under their sway have not sufficient courage or independence to obey their own convictions of duty.

The truth and the glory of God are inseparable; it is impossible for us, with the Bible within our reach, to honor God by erroneous opinions. Many claim that it matters not what one believes, if his life is only right. But the life is moulded by the faith. If light and truth are within our reach, and we neglect to improve the privilege of hearing and seeing it, we virtually reject it; we are choosing darkness rather than light. *"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."* [Proverbs 16:25.] Ignorance is no excuse for error or sin, when there is every opportunity to know the will of God.

A man is travelling, and comes to a place where there are several roads, and a guide-board indicating where

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Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous. – Psalms 112:4

each one leads. If he disregards the guide-board, and takes whichever road seems to him to be right, he may be ever so sincere, but will in all probability find himself on the wrong road. God has given us his Word that we may become acquainted with its teachings, and know for ourselves what he requires of us.

When the lawyer came to Jesus with the inquiry, "*What shall I do to inherit eternal life?*" the Saviour referred him to the Scriptures, saying, "*What is written in the law? how readest thou?*" Ignorance will not excuse young or old, or release them from the punishment due for the transgression of God's law, because there is in their hands a faithful presentation of that law and of its principles and its claims. It is not enough to have good intentions; it is not enough to do what a man thinks is right, or what the minister tells him is right. His soul's salvation is at stake, and he should search the Scriptures for himself. However strong may be his convictions, however confident he may be that the minister knows what is truth, this is not his foundation.

He has a chart pointing out every way-mark on the heavenward journey, and he ought not to guess at anything. **It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light, and encourage others to follow his example.** We should day by day study the Bible diligently, weighing every thought, and comparing scripture with scripture. With divine help, we are to form our opinions for ourselves, as we are to answer for ourselves before God.

The truths most plainly revealed in the Bible have been involved in doubt and darkness by learned men, who, with a

pretense of great wisdom, teach that the Scriptures have a mystical, a secret, spiritual meaning not apparent in the language employed. These men are false teachers. It was to such a class that Jesus declared, "*Ye know not the Scriptures, neither the power of God.*"

Mark 12:24. The language of the Bible should be explained according to its obvious meaning, unless a symbol or figure is employed. Christ has given the promise, "*If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine.*"

John 7:17. If men would but take the Bible as it reads, if there were no false teachers to mislead and confuse their minds, a work would be accomplished that would make angels glad, and that would bring into the fold of Christ thousands upon thousands who are now wandering in error.

We should exert all the powers of the mind in the study of the Scriptures, and should task the understanding to comprehend, as far as mortals can, the deep things of God; yet we must not forget that the docility and submission of a child is the true spirit of the learner. Scriptural difficulties can never be mastered by the same methods that are employed in grappling with philosophical problems. We should not engage in the study of the Bible with that self-reliance with which so many enter the domains of science, but with a prayerful dependence upon God, and a sincere desire to learn his will. We must come with a humble and teachable spirit to obtain knowledge from the great I AM. Otherwise, evil angels will so blind our minds and harden our hearts that we shall not be impressed by the truth.

Many a portion of Scripture which learned men pronounce a mystery, or pass over as unimportant, is full of comfort and instruction to him who has been taught in the school of Christ.

One reason why many theologians have no clearer understanding of God's Word is, they close their eyes to truths which they do not wish to practice. An understanding of Bible truth depends not so much on the power of intellect brought to the search as on the singleness of purpose, the earnest longing after righteousness. The Bible should never be studied without prayer. The Holy Spirit alone can cause us to feel the importance of those things easy to be understood, or prevent us from wrestling truths difficult of comprehension. It is the office of heavenly angels to prepare the heart to so comprehend God's Word that we shall be charmed with its beauty, admonished by its warnings, or animated and strengthened by its promises. We should make the psalmist's petition our own: "*Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.*" **Psalm 119:18.**

Temptations often appear irresistible because, through neglect of prayer and the study of the Bible, the tempted one cannot readily remember God's promises and meet Satan with the Scripture weapons. But angels are round about those who are willing to be taught in divine things; and in the time of great necessity, they will bring to their remembrance the very truths which are needed. Thus "*when the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.*" **Isaiah 59:19.** Jesus promised his disciples, "*The Comforter, the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*" **John 14:26.** But the teachings of Christ must previously have been stored in the mind, in order for the Spirit of God to bring them to our

remembrance in the time of peril. "*Thy Word have I hid in mine heart,*" said David, "*that I might not sin against thee.*" **Psalm 119:11.**

All who value their eternal interests should be on their guard against the inroads of skepticism. The very pillars of truth will be assailed. It is impossible to keep beyond the reach of the sarcasms and sophisms, the insidious and pestilent teachings, of modern infidelity. Satan adapts his temptations to all classes. He assails the illiterate with a jest or sneer, while he meets the educated with scientific objections and philosophical reasoning, alike calculated to excite distrust or contempt of the Scriptures. Even youth of little experience presume to insinuate doubts concerning the fundamental principles of Christianity. And this youthful infidelity, shallow as it is, has its influence. Many are thus led to jest at the faith of their fathers, and to do despite to the Spirit of grace. **Hebrews 10:29.**

Many a life that promised to be an honor to God and a blessing to the world, has been blighted by the foul breath of infidelity. All who trust to the boastful decisions of human reason, and imagine that they can explain divine mysteries, and arrive at truth unaided by the wisdom of God, are entangled in the snare of Satan. We are living in the most solemn period of this world's history. The destiny of earth's teeming multitudes is about to be decided. Our own future well-being, and also the salvation of other souls, depends upon the course which we now pursue. We need to be guided by the Spirit of truth. Every follower of Christ should earnestly inquire, "*Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?*" We need to humble ourselves before the Lord, with fasting and prayer, and to

meditate much upon his Word, especially upon the scenes of the Judgment. We should now seek a deep and living experience in the things of God. We have not a moment to lose. Events of vital importance are taking place around us; we are on Satan's enchanted ground. Sleep not, sentinels of God; the foe is lurking near, ready at any moment, should you become lax and drowsy, to spring upon you and make you his prey.

Many are deceived as to their true condition before God. They congratulate themselves upon the wrong acts which they do not commit, and forget to enumerate the good and noble deeds which God requires of them, but which they have neglected to perform. It is not enough that they are trees in the garden of God. They are to answer his expectation by bearing fruit. He holds them accountable for their failure to accomplish all the good which they could have done, through his grace strengthening them. In the books of Heaven they are registered as cumberers of the ground. Yet the case of even this class is not utterly hopeless. With those who have slighted God's mercy and abused his grace, the heart of long-suffering love yet pleads. *"Wherefore he saith, Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, . . . redeeming the time, because the days are evil."* **Ephesians 5:14-16.**

When the testing time shall come, those who have made God's Word their rule of life will be revealed. In summer there is no noticeable difference between evergreens and other trees; but when the blasts of winter come, the evergreens remain unchanged, while other trees are stripped of their foliage. So the false-hearted professor may not

now be distinguished from the real Christian, but the time is just upon us when the difference will be apparent. Let opposition arise, let bigotry and intolerance again bear sway, let persecution be kindled, and the half-hearted and hypocritical will waver and yield the faith; but the true Christian will stand firm as a rock, his faith stronger, his hope brighter, than in days of prosperity. Says the psalmist: *"Thy testimonies are my meditation."* *"Through thy precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way."* **Psalms 119:99, 104.** *"Happy is the man that findeth wisdom."* *"He shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."* **Proverbs 3:13; Jeremiah 17:8.**
- Great Controversy, Chapter 37

A Library Burned

MANY years ago there was a very interesting bonfire kindled in the city of Ephesus. Paul had been laboring in the city for months, and as the result of his teaching, people awoke to the fact that the books they had been reading were filled with error. They did not give them to their neighbors, nor put them on the back shelves of their libraries, but they brought them out and burned them. It was no small bonfire, for \$8,500.00 worth of books were converted into smoke and ashes. **Acts 19:1-20.** There are many homes to-day filled with books of fiction containing poison of the worst sort. There are papers and magazines filled with records of crime and wickedness. Innocent minds are being ruined by reading these things. Parents, why not follow the course of the people of

Ephesus, and make a big bonfire of all such reading matter, even if it does represent many dollars and cents?

The One hundred and Forty-Four Thousand

THE Seer on Patmos saw two companies gathered around the throne of God. One was *"A great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, (which) stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes and palms in their hands ; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."* **Rev.7:9,10.** Another company was 144,000 of all the tribes of the children of Israel. **Rev. 7:4.** These stood upon Mount Zion *"having His Father's name written in their foreheads."* Three prominent things are said of them. First, they sing a song that none can learn but this company. Not even Abraham, Isaac, or Jacob can join in the song. Second, they *"were redeemed from the earth," "from among men."*

Only one such company is spoken of in the Bible, and they are the ones who are taken 'to heaven in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye when Christ appears in the clouds of heaven. **1 Cor. 15:51, 52; 1 Thess. 4: 16, 17.** Third, the most prominent of all is their character. *"They are without fault before the throne of God."* **Rev. 14:1-4.** They were without guile. The prophet of Israel describes them as, *"The remnant of Israel (that) shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid."* **Zeph. 3:13.** They are gathered from the last generation on the earth: the most wicked and the most fallen.

When the curse has done its best to destroy the image of God, they have it most fully restored in them. Grace at the present time is experimenting on hearts. It is restoring the image of God in the soul. This company will shine as lights in the world. Are you among this number?

Choose Good Companions

By Agnes Bell

"WHY may I not play with Horace Thornton?" asked Fred Leslie of his father. *"Because, my boy, as I have told you before, he is not truthful, and his influence in many ways is bad."* *"Oh, is that all,"* said Fred to himself as his father stepped off the veranda and opened the garden gate to go to his office in the city. Fred walked to the gate, and watched his father's receding figure till he turned the corner of the street, and then he went into the house and got his cap saying to himself, *"I'll choose my own companions."* When about half way down the street he was met by Horace, who said, *"I say, Fred, I have got a grand thing on, and there is an hour before school time yet."* *"Why, what's on,"* asked Fred, who was already interested. *"Oh, my uncle who lives a mile down the river has sent me, a note telling me to bring a companion with me and come along this morning and get some fruit out of his orchard. He and my aunt have gone away for a holiday, and he says that we can take what we have a mind to, so I thought we would get a bag full and take it to school, and at recess invite all the other chaps to have some."* *"Oh, capital; isn't this a glorious morning for a row down the river,"* said Fred.

So Horace got his father's boat, and away they went. When they arrived at the landing, and had moored the boat, they made towards the orchard. Fred noticed that Horace looked stealthily

around, and seemed to be a bit uneasy. "Now, Fred," said Horace, *"the fence will have to be climbed, for of course the gate is locked, but I will help you over, and you can throw the fruit over the fence, and I will fill the bag; it will be the quickest way, for we will have to hurry or else we will be late for school."* Fred did not feel that all was quite straight, and now he remembered his father saying that Horace was not truthful. So he said, *"Are you sure that this is your uncle's orchard, Horace?"* "Why, if you doubt my honesty," said Horace in an injured tone, *"there you are, you can read the note for yourself,"* and he produced a written paper. At this Fred sprang on to the fence, and soon disappeared on the other side. In a few moments the apples and pears came flying over the fence, and Horace was not slow in gathering them up. But all of a sudden Fred felt himself caught from behind, and a strong arm was wielding a stick which descended on him again and again, causing him to cry out. When Horace heard the cries of Fred he made for the boat, taking the half filled bag with him. He quickly untied the boat, and, jumping into it, rowed away. *"I'll teach you,"* said the owner of the orchard, *"to steal my fruit. What is your name? And where do you live?"*

Fred was now sobbing his hardest and trying to answer the questions put to him, and to tell the gentleman how he had been deceived by his friend, and that he had not meant to steal, and did not think he was doing so. *"Ah! this comes from keeping bad company,"* said the gentleman. *"Now, my boy, I will say nothing more about this, but let it be a lesson to you to choose a truthful companion. He has led you into a scrape, and has now left you to bear the consequences."* Fred was late for school, and so got into trouble there, and altogether he spent a

miserable day. Horace and he had words over it, and came to blows, Fred getting the worst of it again. He got his arm sprained in the struggle, which caused it to swell greatly, and gave him much pain.

His father in the evening questioned him how it came about, and he saw that Fred tried to evade him by the answers which he gave. So he kept on questioning him till in tears Fred told him the whole facts of the case. His father grew stern and also sad, and he said: *"Fred, I am sorry that I cannot trust you, but as your own acts have brought you punishment enough to-day I will not punish you further. I hope that this will be a lesson to you, and that you will profit by it. **Learn, my boy, to be obedient, and go not in the way of those who would lead you into sin.**"*

Down the Path

By Lenien De Witt

Weary, weary down this path
Carrying a burden I wish I could pass
Should I go left or should I go right
The challenges and destination of both
I do not know
Both seems right but I know one is not
"Lord help me! Which one leads to you?"

Speculating with a stranger on the path
he says: *"take the one you desire both will lead to God."*

With another burden on my shoulders,
reminding me of my desires, I look
again down the two roads
Both seems right but I know one is not
"Lord help me! Which one is right?"

Again the stranger on the path speaks:
"choose the one you know will sustain you, you need water this road has

plenty, you need friends this road has plenty of company"

With another burden on my shoulders,
reminding me of my humanly needs, I
look down the two roads

One starts to appeal to me more than
the other

With a large sigh I say: "*please Lord
let this be the one You want me on*" but
before I take my first step, another
Man appear, different from the other,
with no tempt in His voice, He says:
"*walk with me on the desert road.*"

In me something says that is the road

With all my burdens I run to catch up
with the new Stranger on the lonely
desert road

Kindly He offered to carry my burdens
and took them one by one

Down the lonely desert road I found a
treasure I will never exchange

I found peace with living water and
living bread

Looking back I have no regrets but one
"*Why didn't I choose this road
sooner?*"

DIT HET EK VIR JULLE GESÊ

"Dit het Ek vir julle gesê," het Hy
gesê, "*dat julle in My vrede kan hê. In
die wêreld sal julle verdrukking hê;
maar hou goeie moed, Ek het die
wêreld oorwin.*" Christus het nie
gefaal nie, en was ook nie ontmoedig
nie, en **Sy volgelinge moet dieselfde
volhardende geloof aan die dag lê.
Hulle moet leef soos Hy geleef het en
werk soos Hy gewerk het, omdat
hulle op Hom vertrou as die groot
Meesterwerker.** Hulle moet moed,
lewenslus en volharding hê. Al skyn
onmoontlikhede voor hulle op te doem,
moet hulle in Sy genade voorwaarts
tree. Pleks van moeilikhede te beklaag,
is hulle geroepe om dit te bowe te kom.
Hulle moet vir niks wanhoop nie, maar

vir alles hoop. Met die goue ketting
van Sy weergalose liefde het Christus
hulle aan die troon van God gebind.
Dit is Sy wil dat die hoogste invloed in
die heelal, wat straal uit die bron van
alle krag, aan hulle moet behoort.
Hulle moet mag hê om die bose te
weerstaan—'n mag wat nie deur die
aarde, of die dood of die doderyk
oorweldig kan word nie, **'n mag wat
hulle in staat sal stel om te oorwin
soos Christus oorwin het.** – *Die
Koning van die Eeue*, 206-207

Die skriftelike leerstelling van
oortuiging was byna heeltemal uit die
oog verloor. Christus het aan
Nikodemus gese: "*As iemand nie weer
gebore word nie, kan hy die koninkryk
van God nie sien nie.*" Die hart moet
hernieu word deur goddelike genade,
die mens moet 'n nuwe lewe van bo
verkry, of sy erkenning van geloof
beteken niks vir hom nie. Die apostel
Paulus het, deur sy ondervinding te
vertel, 'n belangrike waarheid
aangaande die werk wat gedoen moet
word in bekering. Hy sê, "*En sonder
die wet het ek vroeër gelewe,*" –hy het
geen veroordeling gevoel nie; "*maar
toe die gebod kom,*" toe die wet van

God sy gewete geprikkel het, "*het
sonde weer opgelewe en ek het
gesterwe.*" Toe het hy homself as 'n
sondaar gesien, veroordeel deur die
goddelike wet. Let daarop, dat dit is
Paulus en nie die wet, wat gesterf het.
Hy sê verder, "*Ek sou die sonde nie
anders as deur die wet geken het nie,
want ek sou die begeerlikheid nie
geken het nie as die wet nie gesê het:
Jy mag nie begeer nie.*" "*En die gebod
wat die lewe moes wees, die het vir my
geblyk die dood te wees.*" Die wet wat
lewe aan die gehoorsame belowe, het
die dood aan die oortreder uitgespreek.
"*Dus,*" sê hy, "*is die wet heilig en die
gebod is heilig en regverdig en goed.*"

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*Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion,
and righteous. – Psalms 112:4*

Hoe wyd is die kontras tussen hierdie woorde van Paulus en hulle wat kom van baie van die preekstoele van vandag. Die mense word geleer dat gehoorsaamheid aan die wet van God is nie noodsaaklik vir verlossing nie; dat hulle net nodig het om in Jesus te glo, dan sal hulle veilig wees. Sonder die wet, het die mens nie die oortuiging van sonde, en voel die mens nie nodigheid van bekering nie. Deur nie verlorenheid as oortreders van God's wet te sien nie, voel hulle nie hul noodsaaklikheid van die versoenende bloed van Christus as hul enigste hoop op verlossing nie.

Die wet van God is 'n afgesant in elke opregte bekering. Daar kan geen ware berou wees sonder oortuiging van sonde. Die Skrifte verklaar: "*die sonde is wetteloosheid*" en "*deur die wet is die kennis van sonde.*" Om sy skuldigheid te besef, moet die sondaar sy karakter toets met God se groot maatstaf van regverdigheid. Om sy tekortkominge te ontdek, moet hy kyk in die spieël van goddelike verordeninge. Maar **terwyl die wet sy sondes openbaar, verskaf dit geen genesing nie. Die evangelie van Christus alleen, kan vergifnis verskaf.** Om vergewe te wees, moet die sondaar berou teenoor God toon, wie se wet oortree is, en geloof in Christus hê, sy versoenende offergawe. Sonder opregte berou, kan daar nie opregte bekering wees nie. Baie word hier mislei, en te dikwels blyk hul hele ondervinding in misleiding te wees. Dit is waarom **so baie wie verbind is met die kerk nooit met Christus is nie.** – *Die Groot Stryd, 116*

Dieselfde wet wat op kliptafels geskryf is, word deur die Heilige Gees op die tafels van die hart geskryf. Pleks dat ons rondgaan om ons eie geregtigheid te bevestig, neem ons die geregtigheid van Christus aan. Sy bloed doen

versoening vir ons sonde. Sy gehoorsaamheid word as ons s'n aanvaar. Dan sal die hart wat deur die Heilige Gees vernieu is "die vrug van die Gees" voortbring. Deur die genade van Christus sal ons gehoorsaam aan die wet van God leef wat op ons harte geskryf staan. Omdat ons die Gees van Christus het, sal ons wandel soos Hy gewandel het. Deur die profeet het Hy van Homself gesê: "Ek het lus, o my God, om u welbehag te doen, en u wet is binne-in my ingewande" (Psalm 40:9). En toe Hy op aarde geleef het, het Hy gesê: "Die Vader het My nie alleen gelaat nie, omdat Ek altyd doen wat Hom welgevallig is" (Johannes 8:29).

Die apostel Paulus toon baie duidelik die verband tussen die geloof en die wet onder die nuwe verbond. Hy se: "Omdat ons dan uit die geloof geregverdig is, het ons vrede by God deur onse Here Jesus Christus." "Maak ons dan die wet tot niet deur die geloof? Nee, stellig nie! Inteendeel, ons bevestig die wet." "Wat vir die wet onmoontlik was, omdat dit kragteloos was deur die vlees" — dit kon die mens nie regverdig nie omdat hy in sy sondige natuur nie in staat was om die wet te hou nie— het God "deur sy eie Seun in die gelykheid van die sondige vlees te stuur, en dit terwille van die sonde, die sonde veroordeel in die vlees, sodat die reg van die wet vervul kon word in ons wat nie na die vlees wandel nie, maar na die Gees." (Romeine 5:1; 3:31; 8:3, 4.) – *Patriarge en Profete, 372-373*



As julle My lief het,
bewaar My geboorte
Johannes 14:15



MISSIONARY REPORT

A TIME OF REST

By Admiral Tutalife

"And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat". – Mark 6:31

When Jesus said to His disciples that the harvest was great and the laborers were few, He did not urge upon them the necessity of ceaseless toil, but bade them, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." Matthew 9:38. To His toil-worn workers today as really as to His first disciples He speaks these words of compassion, "Come ye yourselves apart, . . . and rest a while." – Ministry of Healing, page 58

"And He said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest awhile." Christ is full of tenderness and compassion for all in His service. He would show His disciples that God does not require sacrifice, but mercy. They had been putting their whole souls into labor for the people, and this was exhausting their physical and mental strength. It was their duty to rest. – Desire of Ages, page 360

Taking the counsel from the above verse and quotations, in the month of February I took some time off from my missionary tour and labours and went to Luderitz to go rest awhile.

After taking the time off to rest awhile, in March I came back to Katima

Mulilo where I had received an invitation to come share some lessons with a group of young people. The lessons have been going on for almost a month now and their love for the Scriptures has grown stronger than it was at the beginning. A Book they seldom used to study, they now enjoy studying more than any other book.

Future plans/project or New Fields

The burden of entering into new and unworked fields the Lord has been impressing upon me and it's indeed a challenge one will have to take up as divine Providence opens or leads the way. There are many towns across the country in which no efforts has been made to save souls. Precious souls for whom Christ gave His precious life are also to be found in these towns and out of the way places and efforts need to be made to reach them that God may have witnesses in these places.

FIXING GOD'S WORD IN OUR MEMORY

As the children of Israel, journeying through the wilderness, cheered their way by the music of sacred song, so God bids His children today gladden their pilgrim life. **There are few means more effective for fixing His words in the memory than repeating them in song. And such song has wonderful power.** It has power to subdue rude and uncultivated natures; power to quicken thought and to awaken sympathy, to promote harmony of action, and to banish the gloom and foreboding that destroy courage and weaken effort. –

Education 167-168

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