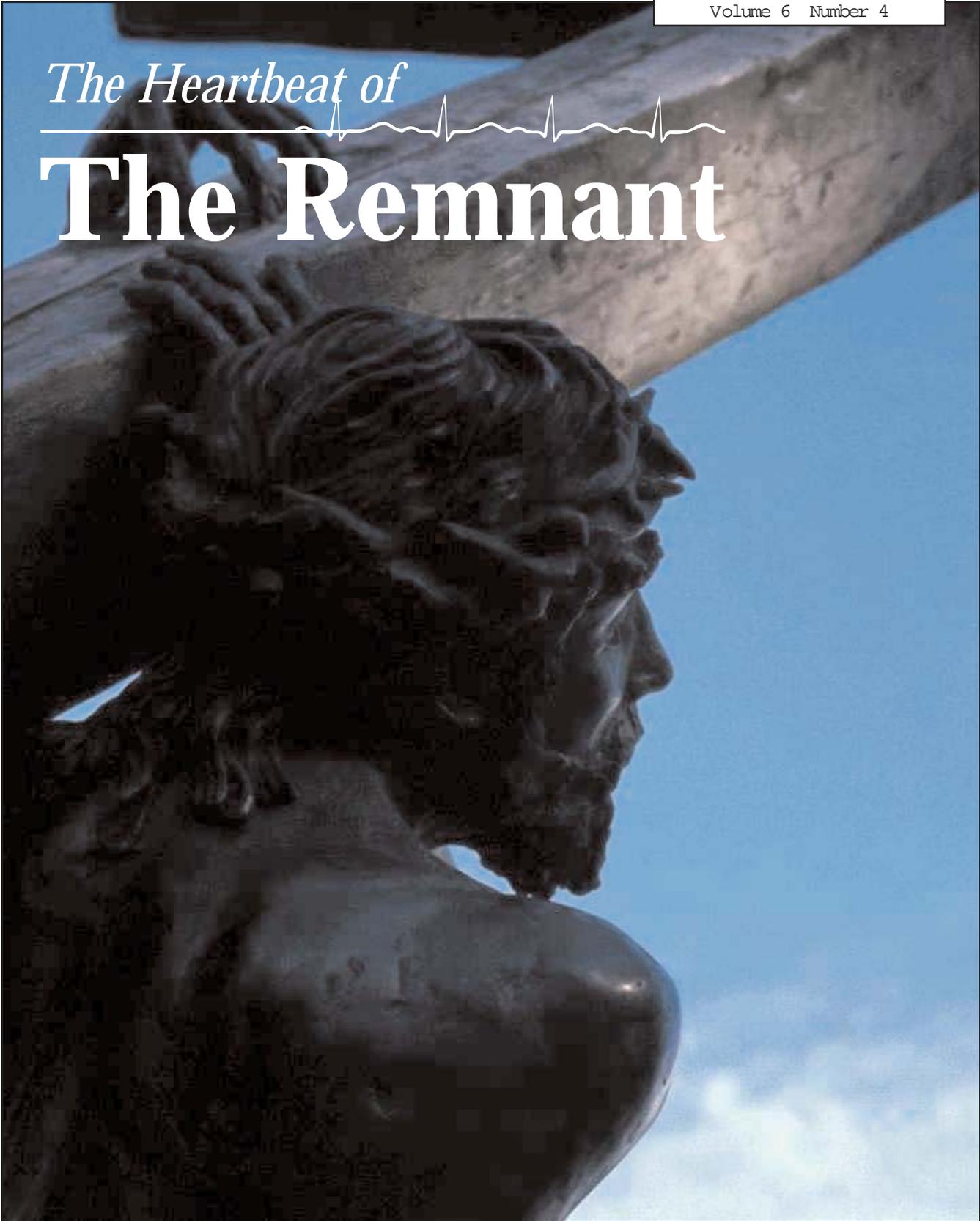


September / October 2000
Volume 6 Number 4

The Heartbeat of



The Remnant

. . . is the Way of the Cross

The Heartbeat of
The Remnant

Publisher

Charity Christian Fellowship
 59 S. Groffdale Rd.
 Leola, PA 17540

Board of Directors

Mose Stoltzfus
 Myron Weaver

General Editor

Denny Kenaston

Editorial Staff

Andrew Weaver
 Duane Binkley
 Eric Wenger (Layout)

Reprint Policy

All material in this magazine may be copied or reprinted in its entirety unless we used it by permission or a copyright is indicated. Please include our name and address.

Subscription Policy

The Heartbeat of The Remnant is published bimonthly by Charity Christian Fellowship. Copyright ©2000 by Charity Christian Fellowship.

Subscription is available at no cost upon request. However, there is considerable cost incurred by printing it. It is financially supported by the gifts of God's people as they respond to the promptings of His Spirit. We request your prayerful consideration of this need. Send subscriptions or contributions to: The Heartbeat of The Remnant, 59 S. Groffdale Rd., Leola, PA 17540-9533. You can call 1-800-227-7902 or (717) 656-4155.

C O N T E N T S



3

WHERE DOES FAITH COME FROM?

- by Keith Daniel -



6

HUDSON TAYLOR'S HOME LIFE

- by Denny Kenaston -

11

SHARPENED WORDS FOR LITTLE ONES

14

ANDREW MURRAY'S BOOK ON "HUMILITY"

- by Andrew Weaver -



16

THE POWER OF A SUBMISSIVE SPIRIT

- by Tom & Debbie Gregoire -

22

THE LORD HEALED ME

- by Rose Ann Lapp -



24

DANIEL KAUFFMAN GOES TO HEAVEN

26

IN THE BEGINNING, GOD CREATED THE HOME

- by Denny Kenaston -

28

A SEASON ALONE WITH GOD

- by Denny Kenaston -



31

A THEATER FOR THE WORLD!

- by Daniel Kenaston -

BLESSED BE THE LORD

- by Ross Ulrich -

There is a verse in the Bible, that I believe has staggered many a man, many a woman, and even many a child, and transformed their lives forever. Before we look at this verse, I would like to begin by asking you a question, and I would like you to give an answer, everyone of you in your hearts right now before we go on. With all the light that you have been given from this book called the Bible, “WHERE DOES FAITH COME FROM?” — “WHERE DOES FAITH COME FROM?” What would you say? D.L. Moody asked that question. If you want to name on your one hand the five greatest soulwinners the world has ever known in its history, Moody was one of those men. He moved more people to God than any other of God’s servants in the history of the church. Moody had no eloquence, he had never attended any theological seminary, and he had no theological training as the great Torrey did who took up Moody’s ministry after he died. Moody didn’t have a standard six (6th grade education). So without any theological training from any university or seminary, here was a man, that God was about to take up and move the world to Himself, as seldom the world had ever seen or will ever see again. Why, why would God do that? With a man who boasted no eloquence, and no dynamic personality, as the charismatic figures of our world today. What was it about this man, Moody? He became desperate, he became desperate with God and with himself. Do you know why Moody became a desperate

Where Does FAITH Come From?

by Keith Daniel



man as a young Christian? He became conscious that God was not answering his prayers. Are you desperate about that, sir? God does not answer my prayers. Are you desperate about that if it’s true in your life? Moody became desperate. He prayed, he longed for God to do something so mighty through him. His vision was great, but he became conscious his faith was small. So he began to pray a prayer. “God, my faith is so weak, I have so little faith. God, give me faith, give me more faith.” And he cried this out in despair as he realized no matter how much he longed and believed, nothing was happening in answer to his prayers. What he was longing for God to do through him in this world. He began to despair. He said, “I thought God would answer prayer like lightning from heaven, as an answer to my groan, my cry, for faith that I knew I lacked. I thought I would stand up full of all the faith that I knew I lacked, suddenly I thought that I would have hold of faith.” He believed that’s how God would give him faith in answer to his cry for faith. But that is not what God did. That isn’t how God worked in the great Moody’s life. It was a very different way that God would come. You see, one day Moody got on his knees and he did something he had never done before. He came to groan before God the same prayer he had groaned many times before. He was about ready to groan in despair again as he finished another day not seeing any of his prayers answered. He was on his knees about to say the

same prayer, about to call upon God, which he had done again and again, in despair. But, he did something he had never done before. He opened the Bible, as he got on his knees, he opened the Holy Book, he opened it, he did what Andrew Murray said, the godliest man South Africa ever knew in its history. Andrew Murray said, “Never, never go on your knees to commune with God unless you open the Book.” Never allow your communion with God to be a one-sided affair, one way conversation, which is you calling on God. Open the Book! Whenever you open your mouth to cry to God, expect God to speak to you through the Book. “This Book is a miracle”, said Andrew Murray. Whether you are a preacher or layman, never open the Book for theology or to gain doctrinal knowledge. Never open the Book without expecting God to speak to you immediately. Though these words were written thousands of years ago, you will find suddenly that God is speaking to you; those verses are to you. You know that in every crisis you face, or guidance that you may need, every time in any moment of life’s trials, if you open the Book expecting God to speak to you, you will find the miracle of this Book. You will find the words come alive for you. You will know this is God speaking to me, this is not coincidence, this is God, and you will mark the verses in your Bible. Moody did what Andrew Murray said, for the first time. He said, “I didn’t open the Book expecting anything, I just opened it as I got on my knees. I began to cry out to God as I had before with the tears streaming down my face. I cried, ‘Oh God, when wilt Thou give me faith? Give me faith, God, my prayers are not being answered, I want to move the world to Christ. Oh God, give me faith.’ Then I opened my eyes, and suddenly my eyes fell on this verse, ‘Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God’ (Romans 10:17). I thought to myself, ‘Faith comes by the word of God—faith comes by the word of God.’” Moody said, “I never asked God for faith again, for now God had told me where I was to receive it.” He said, “I shut my doors on the business of life, all my programs, and all my efforts, and I started to do what I had never done. I started to soak myself in the Bible. I used to read five or

six verses a day, pondering them, but from that moment that I read that verse, I stopped life. I began to read chapters—and chapters—and chapters—and chapters. I began to make it the greatest priority of my life, sometimes spending the whole day in the Book, where God had said the source of faith was.” Moody said, “From that time, God has answered my every prayer.” “God has answered my every prayer.” Oh, what God was about to do through Moody, as suddenly he was doing the one thing God could give faith through. The one thing God longs for more than anything. It’s not seven years in a university of books about the Book, and theologies. Here was a man without a standard six, and I don’t despise learning; I would be a fool to do that. Here was a man who took up the source of faith. He laid down all his other activities and submitted himself to the discipline of soaking his heart in the Word of God. From that time, God began to move in a most amazing way. Suddenly everyone began to take notice; there is a man in America that God is using in a most unusual way. He was led by God to Scotland. He stood in a pulpit unannounced to the people and looked out at the people and began to cry; he began to cry and he prayed. He didn’t close his eyes when he prayed. He lifted up his eyes and prayed, “Oh God, win this nation back to Thyself through me.” Does a man dare pray such a prayer, “Here I am, win this whole land back to Thyself through me”? Do you know, God took such note of that man standing there humble, no eloquence, no learning. Here He saw a man looking up to God, broken, humble, and God rent the heavens at that moment. God couldn’t say no, I say it so reverently about this perfect God. He couldn’t deny this man, his cry. While Moody preached, the people came under intense conviction, and brokenness, and weeping. God swept through that building, and the people were wailing before God. It wasn’t limited to the church building, either. They left the meeting and went out into the streets and found the whole town was under conviction. Do you have any idea what God could do in revival when a man prays in such a way that God can trust him? When God knows there is nothing of self in him, and he won’t even look at

the glory, let alone touch it, not even a sideward glance. God knew as He looked at this man, and the faith that was in this man's heart that He couldn't deny him. There were people running out of their homes who hadn't been in the church for years, who were converted. Do you know that in three weeks there was not one soul in that whole town who was not born again? There was not one person in the whole town that was not saved, when one man prayed with faith. This happened over and over in Scotland. Businesses shut down, not for days, but for weeks. Life stood still, as town after town sought God. The whole world was suddenly looking; a nation is seeking God. Oh, that the world would look on like that now.

It takes 15 minutes a day to read through the Bible once in a year. You have to read slowly to do that. In 30 minutes a day you can read it twice a year. I wonder—how many of you read through your Bible once or twice a year. We have time for many other things in this land of America. But, seriously, how many people actually give God 30 minutes each day and read the most powerful, life changing book there is. My father was saved when he was 50 years old. My father lived only 9 years after he was saved. He did more in those nine years for God and my country than most do in a lifetime. Do you know why my father was so loved in South Africa, in nine years of a Christian life? Because he read through this book, the Bible, 68 times in those nine years. When my father prayed, we knew that God was going to answer his prayer. With the exception of one prayer that man heard him pray, every prayer that my father prayed, God answered immediately. Can that be said of you? Do you know, I heard my father praying for me once as he was in his room? I opened my eyes and I stood as he prayed for me, pouring his soul out for me and my life, and I began to weep, I began to shake and tremble as my father prayed for me. Do you know why? Because I knew that this prayer, that he was praying, God was going to answer. Because God answered every prayer I heard my father pray, I wept and trembled as I heard what he was praying for my life. Will your children ever weep as you

pray for them? Never, unless you do what Moody did, unless you do what Daddy did, and take this up as the greatest priority of life. You pray for revival sir; revival will never come unless you become a man of this book, and soak yourself in the book every day. Thousands may pray, but give God a handful of men, yea one who makes this the greatest priority of his life, and God can do something. Don't doubt it. I knew a man who read this book over four hundred times. William McFarlen, the holiest man of God I ever knew. When I stood with him the first time I met him, I began to shake, as I realized how holy he was. His face shone with God's holy character. Do you know what this Book can do to you? I want to ask every one of you right now, answer me in your heart. How many times have you read this book through? Think about it, in your lifetime, how many times? Have you even read it through once? You would be surprised, how many Christians haven't even read through the Bible once in their whole life, shame on you. You couldn't give God 15 minutes of your precious time to read three chapters a day, and get through the Bible once in a year. Shame on you. Can a man get away with saying such things in the pulpit in 1999? Shame on you. You name the name of Christ, your nation is going to hell, you go to the prayer meetings, and pray. No wonder your prayers are not answered. Nothing should take more of our free time than the Book. Oh God, turn us back to the Book, turn us back to the Book.

WHAT YOU DO WITH THE BIBLE, WILL DETERMINE WHAT GOD DOES WITH YOU.

This article was transcribed from a message by Keith Daniel. For a cassette tape of the message, contact:

Charity Gospel Tape Ministry
59 S. Groffdale Rd.
Leola, PA 17540-9533

1-800-227-7902 • (717) 656-4479

HUDSON TAYLOR S

H o m e L i f e

by Denny Kenaston



Hudson Taylor was the founder of the China Inland Mission. Only eternity will reveal the influence that this one man had upon China's millions of unreached peoples. In Hudson Taylor's day when missions was still a very new idea, it took a deep commitment to Christ, and a

pioneering spirit to embark on this holy enterprise. Only a man with a solid Christian foundation under him could accomplish such a venture of faith. How beautiful to see that the all wise God, who is a missionary God, was laying just a foundation through the fervent love and dedication of the generations before him. Oh the joy of looking back and seeing our loving heavenly Father working all things after the counsel of His own will and purposes long before Hudson was born. Three generations of fiery Methodist families preceded him. Truly, Great-grandfather James Taylor laid a many generation foundation in his home. On the day of young James Taylor's wedding he found himself on his knees in the barn under deep conviction as God was pressing his heart with the verse "as for me and my house", "as for me and my house". What an awesome verse to come to the Lord Jesus with on your wedding day. So there he was late for his own wedding service but right on time with his appointment with the God of glory. Much can be said of this man's home but we wish to focus in on the godly influence of Hudson's father and mother. I have not found many examples of a godly home like this one in all my reading of Christian biographies.

James and Amelia Taylor came to the marriage altar with hearts and lives totally given up to God and His purposes from their youth. Their parents on both sides had raised them up in the hot atmosphere of the spreading of early Methodism. James was ordained to the ministry at the age of nineteen and given preaching responsibilities in the local circuit. It was five years before James was able to establish himself in business and take Amelia to be his lovely bride. It seems they had a proper courtship in the old fashioned way. And married with the overwhelming blessing of parents, family and church. Praise God! As the days of their new life together unfolded before them Amelia was found with child. They were so excited at the prospects of an addition to their happy home. With these joyful thoughts on their minds James was led to consider the Old Testament principle of dedicating the firstborn to the Lord. "Sanctify unto me all the firstborn."

After sharing his thoughts with Amelia, they solemnly dropped to their knees and consecrated their firstborn to the Lord who gave him. I'm sure they had no idea what this dedication would mean in the future for them as well as for the child that was yet in the womb.

It was into this holy consecrated atmosphere that James Hudson Taylor was born on May 21, 1832. What an inspiring example this is to all of us who are longing to raise up godly children for the glory of God. The mercy drops of heaven were falling upon him from the start as his parents thirsted for God and His will. His earliest memories of childhood centered around the assembling of the saints week by week in the Chapel on Pinfold Hill.

As I peruse the historical account of Hudson Taylor's home life there is a wealth of insights and examples that we can learn from. I can by no means cover all of them in this article. How thrilled I am to discover all this information recorded and passed on to us from previous generations of godly people. God is no respecter of persons and the promises and principles of Gods

Word work for all. We shall try to cover some of them under four categories.

— His Godly Father —

- ◆ His workshop was joined to the house and a large glass window gave him continual access to the main work and family room at all times. From this position he took a very active role in the training and oversight of the children.

- ◆ He was a decided disciplinarian (that is, he believed strongly in spanking the children when it was needed). Young Hudson was a bit frail and sickly in his early years, which presented father and mother with the temptation of holding back the rod out of natural love for their weaker son. However, obedience and self-control must be part of the boy's life. He believed that an undisciplined life was of little use.

- ◆ His goals for his children were high. To just make it, to have them be OK, to have children that turn out all right would not do.

- ◆ He was a man with a strong sense of duty. What must be done was the thing that took the priority above his personal ease, pleasure, or enjoyment. This was true whether it was his work, the ministry, or his home responsibilities.

- ◆ He filled the lives of his children with manifold character building exercises. Lifelong habits must be secured for each child, for with these comes the power of self-control. "He that ruleth over his own spirit is better than he that taketh a city".

- ◆ He conducted Family worship twice daily, after breakfast and after tea. All members of the family were present. Scripture was read and explained in a way that could be understood by the young ones with applications. The Old and New Testaments were used, and the date was recorded in the family Bible at the end of each session. More time was given to these activities on

Sunday. Sunday school was good for those who needed it, but no one else would have the privilege of teaching his children the things of God.

◆ From an early age he taught the children to pray and would search for opportunities to draw near to God in the middle of the day. He would often take the children upstairs for a season of prayer for them. They would kneel down together; he stretching out his arms around them would pour out his soul in prayer for them in tones that they never forgot. It was his daily burdened prayers for China, that inspired Hudson at age five to say with much determination, “I’ll go to China.”

— His Godly Mother —

◆ Amelia was from her youth known for her industrious nature. At age 15 she was called upon to leave her formal education behind and help in the support of the family. This proved to be God’s providential oversight as she was employed as a home-school teacher of three students for several years. What beautiful training for her own home school in the years to come.

◆ Thoughtfulness for others characterized her life from her youth, as well as sincerity (a life without pretence). These two made her beloved in the sight of many.

◆ Though she was attractive, talented, and intelligent, her selflessness caused her to shrink from the place of prominence; she rather desired others to be admired. These qualities shined greatest in the home she kept for her busy husband and growing family. Reverence and submission graced her marriage and blessed her children all through those developing years.

◆ Mother’s gentle discipline brought stability and happiness to the children. She was reasonable and consistent in all her dealings with the direction and correction of the children, and what she said she meant.

◆ Because the finances were tight at times, the Taylor’s were not able to afford servants. One maiden helped with household duties, which put much of the care of the family upon father and mother. It doesn’t seem to me that this was done on purpose, but yet it was a great blessing to Hudson. His parents were his close companions and he was ever under their watchful loving management. Mother worked with him, taught him, cared for him, and was the sun and center of his life.

◆ She had a unique ability to incorporate several sub-commands into one command so that when she said it’s time for dinner, this meant, wash your hands, put on a clean shirt, tidy your hair, and be in your place at the table before Papa sits down. All this happened at only a mere suggestion without any repeated pleas.

◆ She was known for and kept a very orderly household. A place for everything and everything in its place. Young Hudson grew up in an atmosphere of holy order. The toys must be put away before the next activity is begun. The room must be neat and tidy as you leave it in the morning. Mother’s example in these principles gave weight to her continual guidance in these things. Only by her diligent spirit was she able to keep the house in such good order. Her days and evenings were filled with labors of the domestic sort. She was truly a Proverbs 31 wife and mother, and the young missionary soldier in training benefited greatly by all of her character.

◆ One historical note of interest that I discovered in my studies of her life and in early Methodism was that she wore a covering at all times from the time of her marriage. How quickly we lose biblical principles in two generations. May the Lord keep us alert in this our generation.

— Godly Memories —

◆ The smile that lighted his Grandfather’s face on Sunday morning after church. Hudson was

greatly influenced by his grandfather John Taylor. If he was a good boy during the service, being handed back after the service to grandpa who sat in the pew behind him was his reward. There he received a blessing and many words of affirmation from an old man whom he loved dearly.

- ◆ Learning the Hebrew alphabet while he sat on his father's knee. This is quite a different activity than those of modern days.

- ◆ He recalled his first attempt at creative writing at the age of four. It was a story of an old man who had lived out his days in selfishness and was not ready to die. He only wrote one chapter, but we can see the seriousness of his little mind.

- ◆ The darkened condition of the heathen in distant lands was impressed upon his memory at the age of four or five. "When I become a man, I mean to become a missionary and go to China". Oh, such sacred words to flow from the mouth of a babe. And God was watching and listening.

- ◆ The death of his brother was imprinted upon his memory and was used to keep a sober edge in his life.

- ◆ He loved nature and grew up with many memories of exploring all the many fascinating aspects of God's creation. His father provided a magazine of Natural History, which came month by month to the house. This stimulated his desire for further learning.

- ◆ The calendar on the wall with red letters on it. Here mother marked the days of special interest to the family. An outing, a visit to friends, a walk in the park, etc. Many were the marks on the calendar during the early years of his life.

- ◆ Long Saturday afternoon walks with his dear father. These walks and talks greatly increased the companionship between father and son. Dad Taylor would tell them many things of interest about the butterflies, the flowers, and the birds.

- ◆ Sunday was a special day far above all the rest. In addition to the lively earnest experiences of church life, it was also the day that mother gave herself with no distractions to her precious family. As the scripture teaches, the work was set aside, and relationships, both vertical and horizontal, were pursued. Amelia knew how to make the day different and delightful. The nicest toys, the picture books, her best dress, and a cozy fire in the drawing room where the piano was were all saved for Sunday. Hymn-singing around the piano with mother, deep talks from the Bible and Pilgrims Progress, and a basket of fruit all worked together to sanctify the Lord's Day, and make it a day to look forward to each week. Oh the wisdom that is hidden in the account of this precious childhood memory of a choice servant of God.

- ◆ Hudson had many sober memories of sitting in the evening time and listening to his father and other godly men discuss theology, the issues of the day, and missions. Also, many were the times when Hudson would accompany his father on a preaching mission somewhere in his circuit. At the end of the meeting an altar call was given and many would come to cry out in earnest for help from above. Hudson would find himself there on his face with the others praying for a breakthrough, imagine the impressions on his developing life when victory came, and the saints began to sing.

— Godly Character —

- ◆ On many a Sunday evening the Taylor children were allowed to conduct "a meeting", in the little sitting room behind the shop. Father's chair was the pulpit and the boys took their turns at preaching with sobriety God's holy Word. Just simple play? Hardly, for play is in essence practice for future living.

- ◆ James Taylor was a man known by all in his community to be faithful and honest with unrighteous mammon. This was passed on to the children in many ways. A penny must be earned

by honest labor and when eleven pennies were earned, father would give the twelfth to make a shilling. Saving, giving, and careful spending were instilled in them at an early age. Oh, the marvel of watching God train his servant who will some day handle large amounts of money as well as large deposits of the true riches of the kingdom.

◆ When the children were yet very young, mother came up with “the game of still”. In this exercise the child must sit perfectly quiet for ten minutes or longer and the reward would be a penny. I’m sure we all know that their mother had other motives and rewards in mind for her creative design of the game of still.

◆ Father instilled the importance of punctuality by teaching and example. No one was allowed to be late for meals or any other engagement. Mother called the children at seven every morning and without bells of warning they were expected to be at the table at eight. Father would often say, “If you keep five people waiting one minute, do you not see that five minutes are lost”.

◆ As I studied over Hudson’s home-life I could see clearly that eating habits were monitored and guided in each child’s life. Simple foods were the norm, and special foods were enjoyed occasionally. Sugar and jellies were allowed in moderation. The overall goal was to secure for each child the power of self-control.

◆ “See if you can do without it”, were words often heard at the table when some desert was on the table. No one was forced to obey, but each was rewarded for saying, “No, thank-you, I don’t care for any.”

◆ James Taylor, being a spiritual man, never ceased to encourage the children to maintain the life of the soul by prayer and Bible study. He arranged for everyone in the house to have at least half an hour daily, alone with God. Even the little ones were involved in this activity. Before breakfast in the morning and again in the evening each child would go up to its room for reading and prayer.

— — —

This concludes the article for Home Histories for the September/October issue of *The Remnant*; however, I feel some reflective thoughts and applications are in order. I have been deeply inspired and challenged in the preparations of this essay. These gleanings were drawn from the first four chapters of the book *Hudson Taylor, The Growth of a Soul*. The publisher is Overseas Missionary Fellowship, 1989. These fifty pages have a wealth of instruction and inspiration, which our space does not allow us to print. I have spent many hours of meditation in these four chapters. Truly, truly, Hudson Taylor grew up in a godly home with parents who raised him on purpose for God and His glory. When we look at this history from the perspective of man’s responsibility, his parents followed the teachings of scripture on child training, and they received the fruit of their obedient labors; a godly seed that was mighty on the earth. I have never read anything that so affirms the principles of the Godly Home as this does. I don’t know how this example sets with you, but as for me, I am convinced again, that God is no respecter of persons. Any father or mother who will set their heart, by God’s empowering grace, to train their children after this manner will also be rewarded with like precious fruit. God help us to change our priorities, as we rear children for the service of our great King and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

□

The 2 volume set on the life of Hudson Taylor, *The Growth of a Soul* and *The Growth of a Work of God*, are available from:

OMF
10 W. Dry Creek Cir.
Littleton, CO 80120

or in Canada:

OMF
5759 Coopers Ave.
Mississauga, ON L4Z 1R9

Sharpened Words for Little Ones



Welcome to a new section in *The Remnant* magazine. These articles are meant to be on the helpful side, yet also challenging. We all know that it is our responsibility as fathers and mothers to teach our children the Word of God. The title is derived from Deut. 6 where God said to Israel, “and these words shall be in thine heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently to thy children”. The picture and meaning in the Hebrew is to take Gods Word and sharpen it so it will go into the child’s heart easily and be understood. We want to help each other do just that. Each issue of *The Remnant* will have a few helpful ideas, that we have gleaned from you, from our own family devotions, and anywhere else we can find them. We welcome any ideas that you have gained in your preparations for the family. Write to us, we would love to hear from you. We have laid out this page and dotted a line so you fathers can cut this page out and use it.

The editors

Happy teaching!

Pleasant Words

Pro. 16:24 says “Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones”. You need two elements to illustrate this scripture. Bring honey and salt to your family time and let each one taste both of them. I suggest you start with the honey, then go to the salt.

Give them enough salt to make an impression. Then turn to the verse in Proverbs to read and explain what God is saying. Give examples of pleasant words like a kind good morning, or words of gratitude after a meal. There are so many ways you can go with this, such as good communication manners, the right words for a visitor at church or at home. The important thing here is to have a few practical pleasant words for them so they will understand what you mean.

If you have lots of thoughts on this you can skip the salt altogether. However, many do not, therefore it is good to go to the salt and illustrate the lesson from the negative side. Then when you are all done, finish up with a little more honey and let them taste the honey again before you go to prayer. Have them pray about the meditation in a personal way before you go on to other family prayers.

Diligence

A lesson on diligence. I have discovered through my study of my own children, as well as in the operation of a manufacturing business, that the difference between a person who is diligent and one who is not is double. If we stop and think about it, I'm sure all would agree. As you establish this fact in your mind, consider the lifelong affects upon a child who learns to be diligent and the one who doesn't. The one, who is encouraged to develop this virtue while young, will get twice as much done in their life. This is no small oversight if we miss it with our children. You can teach this to your family very easily. Find one of the many verses in Proverbs on diligence and read it. Following a brief explanation of the verse, show them how much more can be done with a diligent spirit than without. You and your wife, or one of the older children can do this in a number of ways. Try putting ten dishes in each side of the sink. Let your wife be the diligent one since she will naturally do the job faster than you will, because you don't have much practice at this job, right. The children will cheer for mom and have a lot of fun. Then sit back down and teach the lesson emphasizing how much more they will be able to accomplish in every area of life.

Hurtful Words

The hurtful nature of a sharp tongue. After you have sung a few songs and the family is looking your way for some holy thoughts for the day, get up and go into the kitchen. Dig around in the drawer for a while so they can wonder what you are doing, and then come back with a large butcher knife in your hand. You will definitely have everyone's attention. Turn to the book of Proverbs and read chapter 12 verse 18, "There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword." Explain the power of the tongue and how hurtful some words are, like stabbing someone with a knife.

I wouldn't lay a child out on the floor to act it out on this one, but would simply stab into the air over and over as I illustrated how this can happen. Make it very practical, and remind them of what they say to their brothers and sisters when no one is listening.

Wisdom

To motivate the children to seek wisdom. Start your time of meditation with a question to the children. Questions are very effective tools to stimulate interest. Jesus used them often. The minds of the children have to focus in and think to answer your question. Ask them what they would do if they were given the freedom to choose anything they want. What would you choose? Tell the story of King Solomon. Explain to them the awesome opportunity that God gave to him, and how he responded. Then describe how God gave him his request and made him the wisest man on earth in his day. Again, ask them what they would have chosen. At this point, turn to Proverbs 4:1-7 and read the account that Solomon gave of his father David teaching him and motivating him as a small boy to desire wisdom. Solomon opened his heart to pursue wisdom when he was young. Therefore, when he was given a chance to have anything, he chose the right things.

Honor

To motivate the children to seek wisdom. Select one of your children to use as an example to honor. Start out at breakfast time and give a special seat, and maybe something special to eat. As you move into your devotional time give them another exalted place to sit.

Follow this with some kind of crown and a wreath around their neck and finish the display of honor with a robe and words of special recognition. You will probably need to let the child know that you plan to do this but don't tell him why. By the time you are finished you will have a ready listening audience. Use the scriptures in Proverbs 4:7-10 and show them that God will do this with them if they will seek after wisdom in their youth.

From the Editor's Desk

Welcome to *The Remnant* with a new heart. It has been a very busy two months that looked like a long time when we started. As I said in my little introduction, I don't know what I am doing, and I had no idea how long it takes to put one of these magazines together. It has been a challenging and enjoyable two months, and I have been thoroughly inspired by the new task. We have added two brothers to the editorial staff, who have consented to join me as we learn what producing a magazine is all about. These two men are Andrew Weaver from Bedford, PA, and Duane Binkley from the congregation here at Charity Christian Fellowship. Eric Wenger, also from the congregation here, has agreed to spend the many hours involved in the layout of the magazine, so we are beginning to see some semblance of order.

Let me say a bit about the content of the magazine. I know as I write these words that we still have a long way to go. Our guiding principle throughout this publication has been, let every article, every thought, and every picture be effective. Everything must say something that inspires, challenges, and changes lives. We have endeavored to do this, but we are still learning. Our desire is that as you look through *The Remnant* and read in it, you will be caused to stop for a few moments and ponder what you have read, and then move on to other parts of the whole. May I encourage you to slow down and read reflectively. We have designed it to be read in this way. Even the pictures have been selected with much care, as a picture is worth a thousand words. We would love to hear from you. If you know of someone who would appreciate this kind of material, please send us their name and address or just pass this on when you are finished reading it. Just a reminder to all, *The Remnant* magazine is a faith endeavor. We are thankful for all who help in this ministry of the printed page.

--The Editor

Keith Daniel's Itinerary

Keith Daniel, from South Africa, will be sharing at the following churches, Lord willing. Mark your calendars and call the contact person if you would like more information.

October 13-15

Immanuel Missionary Church
Colorado Springs, CO

Contact: Derald Hunt (719) 266-5862

October 16-22

Hope Christian Fellowship Youth Bible School
Loveland, CO

Contact: Phil Lapp (970) 613-1527

October 24-26

Calvary Christian Fellowship
Dalton, OH

Contact: Phil Neuenschwander (330) 857-6786

October 27-29

Gospel Light Christian Fellowship
Richland Center, WI

Contact: Darwin Hostetler (608) 647-4299

November 2-5

Be Fruitful and Multiply Ministry
Palestine, TX

Contact: Administrative Office (903) 723-2448

November 7-9

Maranatha Baptist Church
La Russell, MO

Contact: Don Courville (417) 246-5408

November 10-12

Old Paths Bible Church
Rochester, NY

Contact: Joe Cammilleri (716) 964-9351

Andrew Murray's Book on

Humility

by Andrew Weaver

Occasionally God chooses to supernaturally bless the writings of a godly author, and his/her books challenge Christians and change their lives for many years after the writer's death. *Humility*, by Andrew Murray, is one of those rare books where every chapter and line inspire a witness of truth in the reader's heart. This godly man's insights into the beautiful subject of humility truly have the potential to change your life.

If you have accepted the mistaken idea that there is something unpleasant about humility, or that it is just a difficult Christian duty, this book is for you. If you have been led to believe that humility is nothing more than shame for your sin, this book will open your eyes to its true beauty. And if you have had a glimpse of that beautiful humility as God sees it, and are longing to see it manifested in your life, I believe this book will fulfill your longing by pointing you to the Source of all humility. Following are some excerpts (in italics) that I hope will inspire you to read it for yourself and allow it to change your life.

Humility, the place of entire dependence on God...is the first duty and the highest virtue of

man. It is the root of every virtue. And so pride, or the loss of this humility, is the root of every sin and evil. It is our pride that made redemption needful. It is from our pride that we need, above everything, to be redeemed. Let us, from the beginning, admit that there is nothing so natural to man, nothing so insidious and hidden from our sight, nothing so difficult and dangerous, as pride.

As Mr. Murray clearly shows in the opening chapters, our insight into the need for humility and our desire for it are directly related to how clearly we see the hellish nature of the pride that has controlled our being. We may despair when we see the terrible spiritual power behind this hideous poison of pride. Rather than despairing, though, we must look beyond our own inadequate strength to the meek Lamb of God, Who offers to make us partakers of His divine nature of perfect humility.

It is not sin nor its shame that truly humbles us, but a vision of God's perfect majesty and holiness. We tend to equate humility with repentance and contrition, but true humility needs nothing of sin in order to be perfected. Jesus perfectly exemplified humility without even a hint of sin. Humility is our common

ground with Him, and allows us to become like Him. It is our truest nobility. *Being servants of all is the highest fulfillment of our destiny as men created in the image of God. [Jesus'] humility is our salvation. His salvation is our humility. It is not something which we bring to God or He bestows. It is simply the sense of entire nothingness, which comes when we see how truly God is all, and in which we make way for God to be all.*

Only being totally occupied with Christ can free us from self and make us humble. *Being occupied with self, even amid the deepest self-aborrence, can never free us from self.* Humility is not an action we learn to perform. Neither is it condemning or degrading ourselves to an unnaturally low position. Rather, it is simply acknowledging the truth about our state of absolute nothingness, as well as the truth of God's place as the All in all. *Until we seek humility in Christ above our chief joy, and welcome it at any price, there is very little hope of a religion that will conquer the world.*

The greatest secret is to study the humility of Jesus. We must begin to understand Who He was and His place of absolute authority and majesty, before we can begin to appreciate the depths of His perfect humility. The saddest part of this subject is not that there are so few Christians who display Christ's humility, but that there are so few who even desire it and continually pray for it. Just as water always flows to the lowest place, God's blessing and glory is pouring into the low places of the truly humble heart.

Do not allow yourself to believe that just because you are actively serving God, you must have found true humility. Jesus' disciples were busy, active supporters of the Messiah, yet they constantly wearied Him with their arguments of who was the greatest. *The only humility that is really ours is not that which we try to show before God in prayer.... It is in our most unguarded moments that we really show and see what we are. Humility before God is nothing if not proved in humility before men.*

Unless we make the increase of humility our study, we may find that we have been delighting in beautiful thoughts and feelings...while the only sure mark of the presence of God- the disappearance of self- was all the time wanting.

I hope that these few thoughts will inspire you to desire and pursue humility with a new appreciation for its beauty. I believe that reading Andrew Murray's insights into the humility of Jesus, how it applies to our daily lives, how it helps us overcome sin, how it leads to death to self, how it strengthens faith, how it brings true joy, and how it finally opens the way for God to exalt us, will truly change your life. May God use this beautiful little book to lead you into the higher life that is only found through the lower life of humility. *[Humility] is the displacement of self by the enthronement of God.*

□

The Power of a Submissive Spirit

by Tom & Debbie Gregoire

"...ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives..."



Dear readers,

We have received many letters over the years from sincere sisters who have husbands who are not born again, or who do not share the same convictions concerning child training and other areas of the Christian life. "What do I do?" is their constant question. The following testimony and teaching is an answer to their heartfelt plea. What a beautiful salvation God has wrought in these two lives, and in their marriage. One of the meanings of the word salvation is salvage. This describes exactly what has happened in their lives. Oh, the power and blessings that come when we follow His ways. Secondly, these principles found in I Peter 3:1&2 are not only given to women who have a husband who is lost. It is clear from the context that this is how all holy women should be with their husbands, even if they are godly like Abraham.

--The Editors

Warm Christian greetings to all! We are Tom & Debbie Gregoire from Martinsburg, Ohio. It is our desire, through this article, to "proclaim the praises of Him who called [us] out of darkness into His marvelous light" (I Peter 2:9) with the hope that the "God of hope [would] fill you with all joy

and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13). It is our hope that our testimony might stir the hearts of struggling couples to exercise genuine confidence, trust, and faith in the "God of hope" for their lives and marriage. For it is only by truly trust-

ing God and taking His instructions to heart, that we and our marriages will ever know the depths of joy and peace that God fully intends for us. This is the message behind our testimony. And this is the simple truth that radically and wonderfully changes hearts and homes.

We have been married for nearly 17 years and I can say truthfully before God that we have a wonderful marriage, and have had a wonderful marriage for many years. However, our marriage hadn't always been a happy one. Years ago our marriage knew very little happiness. We regularly fussed and fought, cursed and complained, and manipulated one another for our own selfish gain. Discord, grief, and strife were common in our home. It was so common that we could no longer bear it or each other any more. So filing for a divorce, we happily planned to go our own separate ways. "But God." But the "God of love and

peace” intervened in our lives in a very real and powerful way, bringing love and peace to our hearts and home. Our great God and Savior took our two dead souls and one dead marriage and “made us alive together with Christ” (Ephesians 2:5).

When people ask us what happened to us many years ago, my answer to them is simply “God sought us” and we responded. The Bible teaches that prior to conversion, “There is no one who seeks after God” (Romans 3:11). And that was true of us. We did not seek after God. At that time, my heart was very hard towards God and anything religious, and Debbie was very indifferent or apathetic towards God, having had no desire or notion to seek after God. Though our upbringing was different in many ways, it was very similar in one way: that is, we both had no desire or realization of God whatsoever.

Tom – Well, God used our short yet failing marriage to bring us to Himself. As would be expected with two selfish souls seeking their own selfish ways, our marriage soon fell apart. With each of us contending for our own ways, our home became a battleground of wills. I would want one thing, Debbie would want the other. She thought we should do this, I thought we should do that. I thought it was okay to have friends over at all hours of the day, she didn’t. I tolerated and enjoyed certain vices, she abhorred them. In short, we each wanted our own way and battled each other to get it. Our different opinions, ideas, and dreams coupled with our strong wills led to a

home of discord, grief, and strife. Now don’t get me wrong, we weren’t always at odds with each other. There were brief times of mutual enjoyment and agreement, but those times became more rare as time passed. Our conflict of wills eventually caused us to grow emotionally cold towards each other, and over time, our affections for each other ceased entirely. On different occasions we separated, without divorcing, thinking that time away would restore our relationship and affections. Well, separating wasn’t the answer. After separating several times, we both realized that our marriage was dead and hopeless. So, we peaceably agreed to divorce and go our own ways. Sitting at her mother’s kitchen table, on our one-year anniversary, we signed our divorce papers and planned our lives apart.

Debbie – I was the one to initiate the divorce, compile the needed paperwork, and file for dissolution of the marriage. As the only girl in an upper middle-class home, I was accustomed to having my own way and getting what I wanted. Married life was not turning out at all like I had expected. And because I was certain that there was a better husband for me than Tom—someone who would satisfy my wants and make my dreams come true—I was eager to end our marriage and move on with my life.

Tom – Just prior to our signing the divorce papers, Debbie moved back to her parents’ home. At this time, we were both happy and content with our new

lives (in a fleshly sense). Absent from conflict, and free to indulge ourselves as we pleased, we were enjoying our new lives. Debbie began dating a friend of ours from high school, and I was running around with my friends free from her hassles and complaints.

Debbie’s parents, on the other hand, were very unhappy. They grieved over our pending divorce, for I had become a son to them and we had a very good relationship. In an effort to reconcile our marriage, they arranged various outings and meetings where we would be together, but these attempts were failures because we knew our marriage was dead and hopeless. We were cordial and friendly with each other, but we knew that neither one of us wanted to get back together, so it was a hopeless effort on their part.

Then, in what I believe was a desperate, last-ditch, attempt to re-unite us, my wife’s mother called a Christian customer of theirs (her parents owned a pest control business). This Christian woman/customer, at some time in the past, had testified to my mother-in-law how God had restored her troubled marriage. Somehow, my mother-in-law remembered her testimony and decided to call her. After a short time on the phone with this woman, my mother-in-law handed Debbie the phone and told her, “Sue’s on the phone. Talk to her.”

Debbie – I stood there dumbfounded and highly irritated at my mother’s meddling and finally said that I didn’t want to talk to anyone religious. My mother,

equally irritated at my stubbornness, insisted that I talk to her. So I took the phone and proceeded with a forced "hello". Now what took place during the phone conversation was purely divine.

I began the conversation intending to just let this lady say what she had to say so that I could be quickly released from this unpleasant imprisonment on the phone. However, as the minutes passed, amazingly I found my heart softening, and my will yielding to be still and listen as she shared how God worked in their lives and actually transformed their marriage by first changing their hearts. As I listened, God's grace was being poured out upon me, for He was stirring my heart to honestly consider her words and the truths she was sharing. Over an hour later, as we ended our phone conversation, I was awestruck and wondering whether there really is a God. I also marveled at the thought that God would actually involve Himself in someone's life, and that He could drastically change a person. My heart was awakened for the first time to the reality of God and His desire to change the hearts of men and women for the good. I was eager to learn more, so I consented to attending church with Sue the following Wednesday.

Well, Wednesday came, and though I felt quite nervous and out of place, I sat through the service as the preacher explained many wonderful truths about God that I never remembered hearing before. I drank in all that he had to say and my heart exclaimed within me, "Truth!" The gospel was clearly presented

to me that evening and I happily embraced Jesus as my Savior and Lord. In the following days after work, I spent my evenings locked in my bedroom (at my parent's house) reading my newly bought Bible, crying, and praying. My sins, though earlier confessed, were still very vivid and loathsome to me. So I continually poured out my heart to God each night begging His forgiveness. Then, one evening, His mercy and love encompassed me in a powerful way, filling my soul with joy and removing my guilty conscience. I knew then that my path in life was fixed and that I would love and serve this God who had so wondrously shown His love and mercy to me.

During that time, I had learned what God thinks of divorce (Malachi 2:16). This greatly troubled me, for I thought, "How could I possibly proceed with something (our divorce) that God declares that He hates?" Realizing God's will in this matter, it seemed inconceivable to me to continue the divorce process. This sobering reality, coupled with my trust in Him, led me to call Tom.

Tom – Debbie, out of the blue one Sunday afternoon, called me and told me she wanted to come back and make our marriage work. I laughed and told her that we tried that and it doesn't work. In a very earnest and serious way, she stressed again that she wanted to make our marriage work and asked if she could move back in. Not wanting her to return, but also not wanting to look bad before our families, I consented. However, I stressed to her in very

clear terms that I wasn't going to change, and that if she wanted to return she was going to have to put up with me the way I was. And to my surprise...she agreed. Soon thereafter, she was standing at the door with suitcase in hand.

I did not welcome her return. I was enjoying the single life and had no desire to be a husband again. At the very outset of her return, I purposed in my heart to chase her away. I would not look bad before our families if she left again, so that was my plan. Immediately I was cold to her, but surprisingly she responded unreservedly and kindly. I then chose to spend my days as though she didn't even exist, while purposely doing things that I knew she despised (things that were foul and ungodly). And when I did acknowledge her existence, I often insulted, criticized, and/or cursed her. Surprisingly she didn't seem too bothered by my railings. She would often just go to the bedroom and leave me to myself. This was unusual behavior for her, for she used to be quite feisty and quick-tongued, not being afraid to speak her mind and lash me with her words. Her reactions to my insults and mean treatment indicated to me that something was different about her. Then one day...I came to the realization that something was drastically different about her!

That day stands out vividly in my memory. It began with a phone call from my friends. In the past, I had always put my friends before Debbie and she passionately hated that. Whenever my friends called, I would drop what I was doing with her and run off with them. In the past, she would

have whined and nagged at me all the way out the door about spending time with my friends. But this time, something different occurred. Instead of whining and nagging at me, she softly told me on my way out that she would have supper ready for me when I got home. I remember chuckling to myself as I was leaving, thinking, “You have no idea when I am going to get home.” Well, as it turned out, I got home late in the evening (I think it was around 10:00 or 11:00 p.m.). And, as I came in, Debbie came lumbering out of the bedroom with her eyes half open. As I went to turn on the television, she went to the refrigerator and pulled out a nice meal and began heating up what needed to be heated up. When it was ready I sat at the table fully expecting to hear a string of complaints of how rotten, irresponsible, and immature I was for running off with my friends. But, to my surprise, the complaints never came! She just peacefully joined me at the table and made pleasant conversation. Then, after the meal, to my further surprise, she began displaying much affection to me. It was then that I realized that she had drastically, drastically changed! This was definitely not the same woman that I knew just a few weeks ago!

Debbie – This was a difficult time for me to endure. Tom’s actions and words toward me were so crushing. Honestly, in my flesh, my instinct was to give Tom an earful, telling him what an immature, insensitive, lousy husband he was. There is no question that in my unconverted state I would’ve been packing up

to leave that miserable situation. But the difference in my actions and responses was simply Christ living in me. The Lord was my strength, and I regularly turned to Him in sincere prayer, and He extended His grace towards me, helping and empowering me to maintain a godly example before my husband not only with my words, but also in my actions, expressions, and attitudes. For what drawing power is there in an obedient, yet joyless wife? A husband will see right through the words to the heart. My heart’s focus at that time was not, “How long do I have to put up with this until my husband changes?” But rather it was, “God, I will stay true to You even if my husband never changes.” For my responsibility to God, as I saw it, was to be the wife and woman God wanted me to be regardless of how Tom acted, even if he never changed. This was not easy. During those days, I prayed much with tears and spent much time in His Word and my Lord was faithful to uphold and strengthen me, and keep me from spoiling my witness to my husband.

Tom – As would be expected when someone is self-sacrificing, things start to get better. Our marriage couldn’t help but get better. Debbie was being so sweet and self-sacrificing and I was thoroughly enjoying it. In the flesh, I was reveling in my new servant girl and I eagerly took advantage of her. Sometimes I pressed her to see how much she would endure, and was stunned by her willingness. A new person she was indeed!

Over time, her sweet countenance and self-sacrificing acts caused me to appreciate her more and more. This in turn rekindled my affections for her. Then I found myself wanting to do things with her and spend more time with her and to my surprise . . . please her! A drastic change was occurring in our relationship. Though my acts of love were very shallow compared to hers, they were nonetheless a drastic improvement in our relationship. It was this new desire to please her that led me to say that I would go to church with her.

“No man can come to Me, except the Father which sent me, draw him” (John 6:44). One day, when we were enjoying each other’s company, Debbie had asked me if I would go to church with her on Sunday. At that moment, I wanted to make her temporarily happy, so I told her I would go. However, as soon as the words left my mouth, I knew that there was no way that I was going to go to church. Though I was manipulating her for my own selfish gain, God was actually manipulating me! He took my deceitful commitment to my wife and used it like a rope to drag me to church so that I might hear the truth and be saved.

When Sunday rolled around, Debbie reminded me of my agreement, to which I replied something like, “There is no way that I am going to go to church.” My reply caused her to remind me again in greater detail of what I said earlier in the week. This only brought another, “There is no way” Again, she pleaded with me based on my commitment earlier in the week. And

again, I told her, "There is no way." Then, as she started to plead with me again, I hastily interrupted her with an angry barrage of, "There is no way, there is no way," over and over again. Finally, I told her angrily to get it out of her mind, because there is absolutely no way that I was going to go to church. Debbie, realizing that her hopes were totally dashed, wilted to the ground and started crying. Seeing her on the dining room floor crying, I was now confounded with two things that I didn't want. On one hand, I didn't want to go to church, but on the other, I didn't want Debbie to continue crying like she was. I had absolutely zero desire to go to church, but I also couldn't endure seeing her cry. So, in an effort to turn off the tears, I finally told her grudgingly, "Okay, okay, I'll go, just stop crying."

Reluctantly, I got myself ready and we headed off to church. After arriving late to church, to my great disbelief, Debbie took my hand and led me to the second center row at the front of the church. I felt as though I was an arm's length away from the minister. How I wished to be anywhere else at that time.

Prior to our visit, I had absolutely no faith in God whatsoever. But while I was sitting there, listening to the minister preach, an unsolicited and marvelous thing occurred. I became so overwhelmed in my spirit and soul with the reality of God's existence! To this day, I cannot remember what the minister said, but God in a very real way made Himself known to me. By His

Spirit, He bore witness of Himself to me. It was as if a bright light turned on in my heart and head, for it was a major, major revelation to me. I remember sitting there as the preacher was concluding his message, repetitiously thinking to myself in astonishment, "There is a God! There is a God!" Soon thereafter the service was over and we were heading out, but my mind and heart could not stop pondering this amazing fact: there is a God! As we exited, the minister handed me some tracts. I took them and we left.

When I was alone, I decided to read the tracts that the minister gave me. Reading the tracts brought great conviction to my heart. They caused me to examine myself in a way that I had never done before. It was then that I realized for the first time in my life what a selfish, sinful person I was; and what a horrible person I had been to my wife! The Spirit of God used the conduct of my wife to clearly show me my selfish conduct. My selfish ways contrasted in the light of her self-sacrificing ways magnified the corruption and guilt in my heart. In one hour of honest introspection, I had come to a deep sense of my sinfulness and guilt. God had earlier revealed Himself to me, now He was revealing myself to me. This revelation of myself brought bitter regret to my heart for how cruelly I had treated Debbie. For I had been so mean to her and took advantage of her over and over again, yet she just continued to love me. My remorse over my sin and how I had treated her made my admiration and love for her grow a hundred-fold that after-

noon. In one afternoon, God had radically changed my heart towards her. From then on, I greatly esteemed her.

1 Peter 3:1-2 says, "Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear." I came across this passage for the first time about a year after my conversion. When I read it, my heart leaped with excitement over the truthfulness of God's Word. Wives, this passage is so true! For I was won by the faithful, loving conduct of my wife!

The following Wednesday evening, the church was having a special Thanksgiving service, which we attended. The minister provided two wicker baskets on a table in front of the room: one filled with corn kernels and the other empty. He asked that we would come to the front and take a kernel and publicly express our gratitude to God for at least one thing and then place the kernel in the empty basket. After one of the elders went first, to everyone's surprise I stood up next and went to the front. With tears streaming down my face I publicly thanked God for my dear wife who had so lovingly endured an ungrateful and cruel husband. As I spoke the tears flowed freely from others and it was a wonderful night of thanksgiving.

The following Sunday, the minister preached a very clear salvation message. My heart being already broken and ready, I went without delay to the altar and cried and prayed. I entrusted

my soul to the Lord Jesus Christ and earnestly expressed my willingness and desire to follow and please Him. Then, before I knew it, nearly the whole congregation was crying and praying with me. After I got up, I was soon told that the whole church had been praying specifically for me for weeks. Hearing this, my heart overflowed with praise and thanksgiving to God for answering their prayers and giving me life. It was truly a new and glorious day for me.

From then on, I knew that God had done a major work within me; addictive desires disappeared, my heart was liberated from its guilt and shame, and my view of life and others drastically changed. I felt like I had

been in a cave all my life and didn't really know it, and now, for the first time, I was allowed to see and enjoy the beauty of the outside world. It was as though I had been looking at the world in black and white, not knowing anything different, but now was seeing everything in bright, vibrant colors.

From then on our marriage and love for each other continued to grow and blossom as long as we kept ourselves to one common purpose, to please our Lord Jesus Christ and do His will. As long as we both maintained this solitary purpose of heart, conflicts and difficulties between us remained rare. However, whenever our self-wills rise up, conflicts and sorrows immediately

follow. For it is an absolute truth that when there are two or more wills competing in the home there will be conflict and strife, and their byproducts—grief and sorrows. But it is likewise true, that if we will fully trust God and submit ourselves to one will (His will), peace and joy prevail. That has been our experience and that is how it will be in heaven, and that is how it can be in our homes. IF we will completely, unquestioningly trust our loving Creator and exercise that trust, by happily submitting ourselves to do His will, we will “taste and see that the Lord is good” and that His ways lead to life and peace. □



Tom & Debbie Gregoire family

The Blessing Corner

Welcome to The Blessing Corner. In this section of *The Remnant*, we plan to print testimonies of obedience and the blessings

that follow when we choose to walk in God's ways. If you have a short testimony of blessing that would fit in this corner, we would love to hear from you. Articles like these encourage others to walk in obedience to the word of God. So let us edify one another.

What a joy to read Rose Ann's story. How many of us first rush to human methods of healing when God says, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church". There is a holy exercise found in turning to God and His ways. First comes a time of seeking God's will; does He want me to ask for an anointing? Then comes a time of examination; why has this come upon me, and is there anything in my life that shouldn't be there? After this there is a stretching of our faith, because we must believe. And lastly, we find ourselves in a place of resignation, "Lord, Thy will be done." The principles of God's word are to be followed, and those who choose to obey find an exciting life with never a dull moment. Praise the Lord for your healing, Rose Ann. Thank-you for turning to the Lord for an answer. We are all inspired to do the same when we are brought to the test.

--The Editors

The Lord Healed Me

by Rose Ann Lapp

"In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness. Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me. For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me." Psalms 31:1-3



About three years ago, all of a sudden, I didn't feel well any-

more. I constantly had a severe, pounding headache, I was itchy all the time, all over—I would itch until my skin bled—and I had a terrible ache in my bones and so of course I was always tired. At first we just dismissed it and

thought it would go away soon. When these problems persisted I started taking all kinds of cleansers. At one point I was taking eleven vitamins three times a day. Ugh! Till that was over, the sight of pills almost gagged me!

When, finally after a year, it didn't get any better; we went to a pediatrician. By this time, I felt so bad that at times I could have sat down and bawled! The pediatrician did many blood tests, but absolutely couldn't find anything wrong. He dismissed us saying that it was probably just growing pains. By this time, we knew something was definitely wrong. So we went to a specialist in Lancaster, PA. He also was convinced that something was wrong, but he was very puzzled because otherwise I seemed healthy. I wasn't losing weight or any such thing. After doing extensive tests, he finally found my trouble. I had a genetic disease referred to as 'The Bile Salt Deficiency'. It's a disease that they're just learning about and don't have any cure for yet. You're born with it, but sometimes the symptoms don't appear until you're older. It has something to do with the liver. Anyway, eventually I would probably need a liver transplant and I would need to be on terribly expensive antibiotics the rest of my life. This time was also a trial emotionally. I was thrown between fear and doubt.

For some time before this, I had been thinking about being anointed with oil as James talks

about (James 5:14). Finally I talked to Dad about it and he encouraged me to follow the scriptural command. After a couple of weeks of prayer and seeking the Lord's will, I was anointed at one of our Wednesday evening prayer meetings. It took faith to believe that God could actually heal me. I would pray, "Lord, help my unbelief!" I claimed God's promises as my own. As I was being anointed, I didn't know what the Lord would have for me, but I had a peace and a confidence that God's will would be accomplished. Within a week after I was anointed, my symptoms were completely gone! I was healed! I felt like a different girl. It took time until I had all my energy back and the antibiotics were all washed out of my system. But eventually I had all my energy back and the side affects from strong antibiotics were gone, too.

We told the specialist, but, since he is not a Christian, he was very skeptical. He wanted to do an ultrasound, because, he said, there would at least be some scar tissue on my liver from damage done before. At first we didn't know what to do. Wouldn't this be questioning God, saying, "Am I really healed?" But then we thought,

"No! This would only be proof that I was healed." We truly believed I was healed and we also believed that there would be no scar tissue on my liver. Before we went for the ultrasound, the doctor told us, without a shadow of a doubt, I did have this disease and humanly speaking there is no way that I could have been healed. I can still see the look on his face when he came to us after the ultrasound. He just shook his head and said that my liver was totally clear! He still didn't admit that I was healed and warned that if any symptoms ever appear again we're to let him know immediately. I know without a shadow of a doubt that the Lord healed me and I give Him all the praise.

It wasn't fun to go through this, but now I praise the Lord for it. It's such a faith booster when I get a little down.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God and are called according to His purpose." □

*Rose Ann Lapp
RR 1 Box 971
Petersburg, PA 16669
(814) 667-2399*

Daniel Kauffman Goes to Heaven

Born December 11, 1982

•
Died August 4, 2000

Beloved, we do not sorrow, as others do who have no hope, for we believe that Jesus died and rose again and the sting of death has been removed. Yet we do sorrow, and embrace the pain and sorrow of Melvin and Anna Kauffman and their family. Friday, August the 4th was a regular day for the Kauffman family. The three older boys were planning to drive from upstate New York, down to the weekend meetings at Charity Christian Fellowship. They all said their usual good-byes as the boys left for Pennsylvania. No one could know that the sand of time in Daniel's hourglass was almost gone. It was God's time to take him home. Some time in the early evening while driving on I-81, the car went out of control, and down a steep bank, crashing into a large tree. Matthew and Marvin were injured but Daniel's life was taken. He was sitting in the back seat and was thrown partially through the back window. His death was immediate. No warning; no time to prepare. One minute he was sitting, reading a book on world missions,



the next minute he was in eternity, in the presence of God. Only one life twill soon be past, only what's done through Christ shall last. How our hearts grieve over the loss of a young life in its prime. It is sobering to us all as we are reminded that we could be next. Only God knows when our time is up, but let me explain why we choose to announce Daniel's homegoing in this month's issue of *The Remnant*.

Brother Daniel was ready to go to heaven. Our hearts were thrilled as his parents shared the testimony of his last few months on this side of eternity. Daniel was earnestly seeking God for a deeper walk and a purer heart. His mother said that for some months, he had found a quiet place in a small room away from the activities of the house. In that room she found a Bible, a book on humility, a roll of tissue, and a wastebasket. Day

after day she could hear him in there crying and groaning before God. As a mother, I'm sure there were times when she wondered if he was OK. Every few days she would empty a wastebasket full of tissue. About two months before the accident, she noticed that the groaning had changed to sounds of joyful singing and praise, and the wastebasket had very little tissue in it. Praise God! These are the kind of things that make parents sing for joy. My son is seeking God with his whole heart and he is breaking through to a sweet reality. His father Melvin shared that just a few days before Daniel went to heaven, he (Daniel) was leading family devotions. His text was from 1 Peter, "Be ye holy, for I am holy." Melvin shared that in the middle of his teaching time, Daniel overflowed with joy as he exclaimed to the family the beautiful reality of the Spirit filled life he had found in his closet. This was the last memory the family has of their dear son and brother, what a joy that must be.

The funeral was heavenly. Over five hundred people gathered to sorrow and rejoice with the family. There was an unusual anointing on the whole service that all who were present acknowledged. We all knew by Daniel's life and testimony, that he was absent from the body and present with the Lord. This made such a difference in the atmosphere of the meeting. We were all challenged by his example to be ready when God calls our name and time will be over. How is it with our souls today? Would we be ready if it were our car that went off the road? Have we availed ourselves of the grace given in Christ to purify the heart? What about some of the youth? It's hard to think about death when you are young. We just

don't think it will happen to us, but it does. God calls youth at an early age at times. Are we ready for that call? Maybe you say, I have some things I want to do first, and then I'll find me a closet and do as Daniel did. You may not get a chance later, or "later" may not enter your heart after you are finished pursuing your goals.

The sand of time is falling, falling through the hourglass of our lives. No one knows how much sand is in his glass, or how much remains. Only God knows the amount of our lives that are yet to be lived. Some moment of time in the future, the last grain of sand will drop to the bottom of the glass. Then it will all be over for us. What's done is done. Eternity begins at that moment. Oh God, stamp eternity on our hearts! Amen. □





In the Beginning,

God Created the Home

by Denny Kenaston

In the beginning,

In the beginning, God.

In the beginning, God created the heavens, and the earth.

In the beginning, God said, Let us make man in our image after our likeness: and let them have dominion....

In the beginning, God said, It is not good that the man should be alone. Out of God's deep well of infinite wisdom came these words. The man has a need, though made in the image of God, though made in a perfect state. God saw deep into the heart of the man that He had made, and said, "I will make him an help meet for him." A helper suitable for him. It seems that Adam must have had a sense of his need also, for he had just finished naming all the animals. Two by two they passed before him—male, female, male, and female. "But for Adam there was not found an help meet for him."

In the beginning, the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam. And while the man slept, God drew a rib out of his side. God took up that rib in his creative hands, and like a wise masterbuilder He made a woman. He must have breathed into her His very life just like He did with Adam, and the woman became a living soul. The Bible says that God brought her to the man. Adam must have known that something was different or that something was missing when he awoke from his deep sleep. Let us put ourselves into the persons of Adam and Eve for a moment and see what we can learn from the first home. Imagine how Adam felt. His heavenly Father presents him with a beautiful wife. She is like him but not quite. She was taken out of him and now stands beside him. A suitable companion, and now he is not alone. "Oh, thank-you, Father, for this precious gift. I will care for her and provide for her. I will tell her all about you and

we will keep the garden together for you." Imagine how Eve felt. She was not. God made her for the man. She understood from the start that she was to be a suitable helper for the man. The purpose of God for her was clear. "Oh, thank-you, my Father, for a husband who is like me, who will care for me. I will help him and stand beside him and support him. He is the reason for my existence."

Truly it was a marriage made in heaven, as we say today. We are not given a lot of information about this first marriage in the Genesis account; however, our Lord Jesus opens it up to us more clearly in the New Testament. He uses words like "they are no more twain but one flesh", and "what God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." The mysterious union of husband and wife has many deep implications. It takes a lifetime to explore its deep meanings. Let us consider a few of them in this article.

1. God set the pattern at creation. One man, one woman,

for life. If He had wanted it any other way, in the beginning would have been the time to give a different example.

2. God created the man and the woman differently, and gave them different functions. They are alike and yet not alike. And all the husbands and wives said, "Amen." This can be humorous at times and that is OK, however, there is a great wealth of wisdom in these differences and we do well to consider them soberly and lovingly in our marriages.

3. Because of this union that was made by God, there is a oneness of spirit that is sensed very clearly in the marriage. Each partner knows when it is there, and when it is missing because of a hurt or disagreement. We all do well to be sensitive to this awareness. Communication is very vital when that oneness is missing.

4. Because of the order of the creation of man and woman, we can see clearly what the Bible later defines as the headship of the man and the subordinate place of the woman. We live in a day and an age when these two roles are being challenged, reversed, and even mocked. But from the beginning it was not so.

5. Lastly, how refreshing to see how they must have received each other there in the garden in the presence of their Creator and God. I'm sure this brings back memories for most of us. Remember your wedding day.

She was a gift from God. How precious and perfect she was for you. You were very willing to love her and care for her. He was your man. How fortunate you were to have him for your husband. You were very willing to be his helper suitable for him. The vows flowed freely from each of your hearts. This was the Lord's doing and he wants us to return there if we have lost the spirit of our wedding day commitment.

Well, we have one last beautiful thing to look at in this Genesis account of the first home.

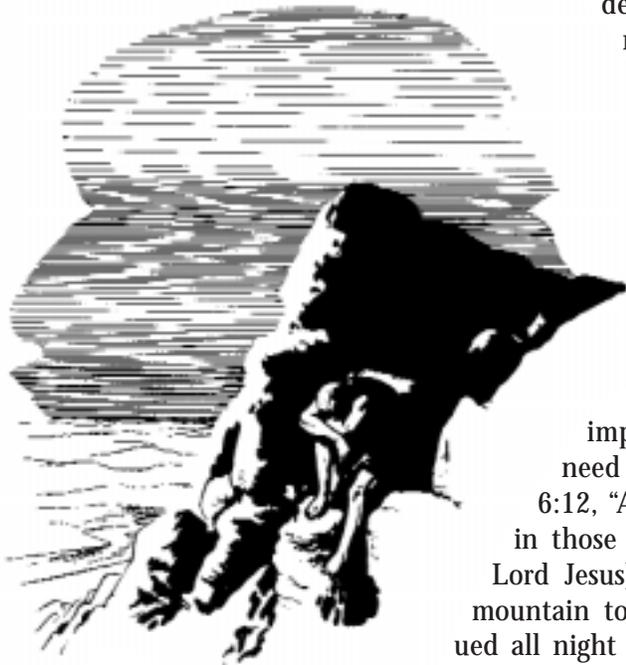
In the beginning, God said, *Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over it.* Let us consider the aspect of our precious children. What would the home be like without them? What would the purposes of life be without them? In the Bible we get a beautiful picture of this couple standing before their God. We read that God blessed them. Can you picture it, it's like their wedding day, and they are together, and they are happy, and God blesses them: Hallelujah! As they are before Him being affirmed by their Father, He also gives them a powerful command with many other commands in it. God's words are like that. One small simple statement, yet a lifetime, yeah, many generations of lifetimes, included in it. He tells them to have children. In fact, the very word replenish

means to fill. Fill the earth with your kind. And as you are filling the earth with your kind, subdue the earth with the children that are given to you. These words are pregnant with purpose, and that purpose pregnant with activity. This is a bit of an overwhelming commission when you look at it through the eyes of one man and one woman. Let me amplify what God was saying to them that beautiful day when they stood before him. God was saying to Adam, you are the leader, this is what I want you to do. God was saying to Eve, I have made you a helper suitable to help him reach this goal. To both of them He was saying, bear children, and train them to know me, and train them to join you in subduing the earth. Beloved fathers and mothers, the Bible is full of the histories and instructions of obeying this command, yet the basics remain the same. Let us get back to the basics, and launch out with purpose into the reason why we have been brought together as husband and wife. We may also feel overwhelmed at times as they did, but let us remember that the God, who spoke those words in the beginning, has hidden within them all the power and wisdom needed to carry them out.

Bro. Denny
□

A Season Alone With God

by Denny Kenaston



It is very interesting to study the life of our Lord Jesus and to see His responses to the victories that came into His life. In Matt. 14:13-23, He has this multitude of people, there is no food, they need to eat, the disciples of course, looking at it from a natural perspective, beseech the Lord to send them all away. Our Lord, looking at it from a heavenly perspective, sees that here is a perfect opportunity to show forth the mighty works of God. We know the story; He takes 5 loaves and 2 fishes and feeds a multitude. After such a wonderful miracle as that He sends His disciples into the boat, tells them to go to the other side of the sea of Galilee, sends all the multitude away, and then He goes up into the mountain and there He is, alone. He is alone. That's not quite the way that we would probably do things. We would rather be around a lot of people after there's been some great victory. But as we see our Lord's example, at times of great outpourings, at times of great blessings, our Lord departed into the mountains and He was alone. A Season Alone With God. Turn to Luke 6:12 and we see another one of these examples. Now in this example, it is just before some important decisions need to be made. Luke 6:12, "And it came to pass in those days, that he (our Lord Jesus) went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God."

Here we see another example: "And when it was day, he called unto Him his disciples, and of them he chose twelve whom also he named apostles." And then it gives the names of the twelve apostles. Our Lord knew He needed to make some choices the next day and He went alone to be alone with His God and His Father before those choices were made. So we can see from the ministry of our Lord Jesus, that His life was scattered with little seasons where He drew Himself aside, and was alone with His Heavenly Father. I like to envision our Lord doing this from time to time through His whole ministry and I believe that He did. He would give Himself out, and then He would fill Himself back up again, and then He would give Himself out, and then He would fill Himself back up again. He did this over and over, all throughout His ministry. He knew it was a key to the blessings of God, He knew it was a key to the strength that He needed in order to face the temptations that were upon Him, He knew it was the key for direction in His life, He knew it was the key to the power of God in His life, the miracle-working power which He worked out day by day in His earthly ministry. And I don't believe for a minute, that our Lord Jesus did the things that He did because He was God, but He did the things He did by the power of His Holy Spirit, because He was anointed, and because the Father spoke to Him and gave Him faith and gave Him a vision and He believed the Father and did what the Father said, and the miracles took place. So thus He had to get alone and draw strength from His Father day

by day. And if our Lord Jesus needed to get alone and have seasons with His God, how much more do we need seasons when we get alone with our God and just fill ourselves back up after we've been giving out, and giving out, and giving out.

I believe that many people do not practice this matter of being alone with God simply because they don't have a vision to do it or they have no idea what they would do for a whole day. And maybe that's where you are. You wonder, "What would I ever do?" And maybe you even tried to spend a day alone with God, but it didn't work out for you. Well, I want to give you a little bit of an outline and describe how to spend a day alone with God, and explain some ways that may help you.

It was some years ago now, that two young men from the congregation here sought some counsel from me. They had a Bible School they wanted to go to, and asked what I thought about them going. Their desires were to learn more about God, to learn more about His word, to have God's best for their lives. They asked, "Can we go away to Bible School?" And they suggested a Bible School to me. I investigated the Bible School and it didn't seem to me to be a very good place for them. It was a school with a lot of liberal tendencies, and a lot of lightheartedness among the young people that were there. I told these two young men, "I don't think you need to go there to Bible School, but I'll give you another Bible School that you can go to." And I told these two young men to just find themselves a cabin somewhere and go out to that cabin and spend a week out

there alone with God. And I gave them a little bit of direction, but not a lot. At that point I hadn't really meditated on this subject as much as I have now. But I gave them a little bit of direction as to what they could do, and then sent them on their way and I thought nothing else of it. Well, when Saturday of the following week came around, I was at the church studying and these two young men came in to see me, and they were so excited. They wanted to share with me all the things that had happened to them while they were away for that week. Their whole lives were changed! They came back saying, "We got filled with the Spirit." And I thought to myself, "What a beautiful thing for young men to come back saying." God filled us with His spirit. Now I'm not sure if they got the unction that we read about in the Scripture, but I know this, they had a meeting with God like they had never had before, and they've never been the same because of it. After I sat and listened to these two young men share their experience, I began to meditate further, and I thought to myself, "You know, that needs to be shared with other people." And that's what I want to do now. Let me list a few things that you'll need to know as you are planning to spend some time alone with God.

1 You need to be well rested when you start. It is no little thing to spend two days alone with God, and if you are tired and you are worn out, you will not be very alert and you may not have very much success.

2 You need to have a place to go where you will not be

disturbed. A place where no telephone is ringing, a place where nobody is going to come and distract you, a place where nobody else is, where you can be alone, completely alone. When you are alone, you'll express your heart to God best. When you are alone, you will think upon your own life more. When you are alone, you will examine your own heart more, than you will if you are around other people.

3 You need to plan and schedule a specific time to do it. If you don't, it will probably never happen, because we all have so many voices that are always crying to us, telling us what needs to be done.

4 What you need:
A Bible

A hymnbook

A notebook (so you can record your thoughts while you are there alone)

A concordance (for study)

A couple stirring devotional books

A couple stirring sermon tapes

An alarm clock

An empty stomach (it will make you more alert and open to God's spirit)

- One Day's Schedule -

5:30 am

Rise and wash and refresh yourself. This is your day to be alone with God, and you want to be wide-awake for it. You are meeting with someone important today, so take a shower and get cleaned up.

6:00 am

You begin your day. Sing a few hymns and worship your God.

You can do this several different ways, but I recommend that you spend the first hour with a song-book in your hand. Sing a song or two, spend some time worshipping God, just tell God how much you love Him, tell Him how wonderful He is to you, praise Him, glorify Him, and then sing a couple more songs, and continue on like this for that first hour.

7:00 am

Now you take your Bible and you start to read. For this exercise, I would just recommend you read the Bible to be blessed, just feed off of it. A good place to read would be Psalms.

8:00 am

For this hour, I'd like to recommend that you have a season of earnest prayer. Earnest prayer, an hour of praying out loud, praying for yourself and others. And if you can't stay awake on your knees, then you walk around in that little place that you have chosen to be alone in.

9:00 am

Get out your devotional book and you are going to spend an hour reading that. And this book is going to stir you; it's going to lift your sights higher, etc.

10:00 am

Go for a walk with the Lord. Leave the place where you have chosen to be alone and go for a walk with your God. Talk with Him, enjoy His creation, mediate on Him, etc. This is also a bit of a diversion for you.

11:00 am

Spend this hour in memorization and meditation of the Word of God. Take a section of the Bible and memorize it, and while you

memorize, mediate on the section of Scripture you have chosen.

12:00 pm

For this hour, listen to that stirring sermon tape that you brought along with you. Something that will shake you and bring you to reality with where you are with the Lord.

1:00 pm

Rest for an hour. Set your alarm clock for 1 hour later and lie down and rest. If you sleep, praise God, but if you don't, you are just going to relax.

2:00 pm

You are going to start over again with the singing of hymns and worshipping your God. Take some different songs and do that same thing that you did earlier that morning.

3:00 pm

Turn to your Bible again. This time you are going to read your Bible looking for specific food. Maybe a need, maybe do some study with your concordance, what ever you want, but this is to be study time.

4:00 pm

Now, you are going to have again a season of earnest prayer for an hour. I don't go for a lot of lists for prayer, but because of the amount of time you have to spend in prayer, you may want to jot yourself a little list of things you can pray about. Another idea would be to take the Lord's prayer and break it down into 6 sections. 10 minutes hallowing His name. 10 minutes praying for the will of God. 10 minutes praying about spiritual food and physical needs in your life. 10 minutes praying about forgiveness and people who oppose you. 10 minutes praying about your needs and tempta-

tions. And 10 more minutes of hallowing and praising His name.

5:00 pm

Take your devotional book again and read for another hour in it.

6:00 pm

Go for another walk, with the Lord. Not just a regular walk, but a walk with the Lord.

7:00 pm

Turn back to your scripture memorization and mediation. You'll spend an hour doing this.

8:00 pm

Listen to another sermon tape, that stirs your very being.

9:00 pm

Spend this hour in relaxation and mediation over the day and maybe take a sheet of paper and record your day, your thoughts and impressions that you had throughout the day.

10:00 pm

Go to bed for a sweet night of sleep.

In closing, these are guidelines, not laws of bondage. But I fear that many people, because they have no direction, do nothing. □

This article was transcribed from a message by Denny Kenaston. For a cassette tape of the message, contact:

Charity Gospel Tape Ministry

59 S. Groffdale Rd.
Leola, PA 17540-9533

1-800-227-7902
(717) 656-4479



A Theater for the World!

In Bunbonayili, In Bilisinga, or In Baltimore

by Daniel Kenaston

"...For we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men." 1 Corinthians 4:9b

"Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that...they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation." 1 Peter 2:12

I have been unable to shake the awesome truth of the above verses and the responsibility that it puts upon us as believers over the last 10 days or so since we studied them. Christy and I have been working our way through the writings of Paul to the Corinthians with a specific focus on his attitude toward and instructions relating to ministry. We felt that it would be especially beneficial to us at this beginning stage of ministry in our new area of Bunbonayili. It has been rich in every way so far and has both encouraged and convicted our

hearts as we have studied the way that Paul ministered and his deep grasp of the calling and responsibility of ministry. When we read the verse about being a spectacle, we looked up the word 'spectacle' in the Greek and found it to be *theatron*, the word from which we derive our modern word theatre! Then we found that the Greek word for 'behold' in the second verse carries with it the connotation of inspecting something. Somehow adding these new English words to our understanding of these verses made them come alive in a new way as the word pictures of a theatre and an inspector impressed themselves on our hearts over the next few days. Dear brothers and sisters, as the redeemed of the Lord we are a theatre for the world! We are left in this world to be a place where those who hunger for truth can come and inspect the truth in living form by observing our lives. It is true that not all that watch our lives will have an open heart, and many will turn away from us in derision, so in that way we are a spectacle, an object for scorn and laughter. Yet we continue on, living the life of Jesus on this earth, with the sincere prayer and desire that through viewing our grace-enabled, godly lives those who look on would one day glorify God! I write, dear ones, not out of unbroken success, but out of at least a little glimpse of our responsibility to God and a dying world. I am, through repeated meditation on these verses becoming more aware of my own failure to consistently portray the lovely character of Jesus. My prayer is that together we could somehow grasp the incredible importance that is attached to our everyday lives because of the audience that is constantly watching and studying our conduct, and that we would stand on the theatre of life humbly but boldly, not ashamed of the testimony of Jesus. May we recognize that the world is looking to see whether there is any difference between us and the average man, and if there is a difference, to discover what has changed us. Oh, that God would enable us to live lives that proclaim through both the mundane and the crisis that we have been revolutionized by the love and power of God. Our dear Savior certainly deserves this living tribute to His love and sacrifice on our behalf!

In Bunbonayili

As was mentioned in the recent article about our house, we have now settled into our new

home at Bunbonayili. We are enjoying being 'permanent' and knowing that we are among the people that we are called to minister to. For us the move was more than just taking up residence in our new house, as we have looked forward to putting down roots in our relationships with neighbors, etc. in a place where we knew that we could have a long term influence. We were somewhat limited in this during our months at Saboba as we knew that we would be moving on. There is an edge of anticipation in our hearts as we meet our fellow-villagers and wonder if maybe this one will come to the saving knowledge of Jesus. Now that most of our furniture building and other small projects are done we are moving back in to language learning. We are focusing first on review because of our long interval of very little active study while we finished up the house and moved in, then after we get back to our earlier level of proficiency, we will continue to push forward in further study. We look forward to using our practice times to build relationships in the village which will help us to become an accepted part of the community. The people have been very quick to welcome us to their village, begging us that we would settle here with all of our future generations, assuring me that they would gladly give land for all of my sons as they are born! Though many do not seem to grasp the deeper reasons for which we are here among them, we rejoice in their welcome and desire to be a part of them in every way possible. They absolutely delight in hearing us say that we are Konkombas!

As we have looked at our lives during the past week from the perspective of the above verses, we have noted that we have some added opportunities and challenges because of being on a foreign field. Our culture and color are unique here and because of this we are often observed nearly full-time and the importance of consistent Christ-like responses is magnified by this fact. We have many interested onlookers in everything that we do, and while we recognize that many are largely interested in seeing the way that we do things, that in no way takes away from the fact that we are 'on stage' for their observation not only of our strange mannerisms but also of the spirit we carry and of our responses to difficulties. We are striving to see the continual 'eyes' around us as an opportunity to maximize and not a nuisance to

run from. We desire in a deep way to live, work, and minister in a way that as they inspect every aspect of our lives, nothing that they see would turn them away from the gospel that we preach but rather that our lives would be one of the greatest magnets toward Christ that they have ever encountered. We desire your support in prayer in this strategically important part of our work here.

In Bilisinga

Another ministry and avenue of blessing that has opened up for us because of our move to Bunbonayili has been the church at Bilisinga and the work in surrounding villages. This work was begun by Brother Mel and continued by Brother Daryl until recently when it was handed over to me because of us being closer now—and to help relieve the heavy workload that Daryl is carrying while Mel and his wife are on furlough. A fuller account of the history and a more detailed description of the work in Bilisinga will have to wait until the next article which should come out in about a month, but I wanted to share a bit of the blessing that we experienced assisting in and performing a baptism there recently. The work in the Bilisinga area has largely been carried out by the national brothers because of the distance from Gushiegu and time constraints on the missionaries stationed there. This has turned out to be a real blessing to the church as they have been forced to mature quickly into both witnesses to their people and leaders in the church. This has resulted in several of them being the ones who led their wives to the Lord, and one of the greatest blessings of the baptism was to stand in the water with one of my dear Konkomba brothers as we baptized his own wife and mother, his children in the faith!! Praise God!

One of the most encouraging aspects of the work in Bilisinga is the growing testimony that the church has among the local villagers. As the applicants were visited in their homes to hear their testimonies prior to baptism, their neighbors also crowded around to see what was going on. The testimony of their changed lives was confirmed by the onlookers who affirmed a noted change in the person's life! Any fault or sin that the person was still struggling with was also mentioned, and it was very clear that the lives of the

members of this young church are being subjected to much scrutiny. The local people know that there is a difference in their lives and in a setting like this where so little of the gospel has ever penetrated, we rejoice in the clear lines that are being drawn.

In yet another application to the thought of being a theater to the world, I think back to the baptism in the small dam where the village collects its water. The dam was only half-full so the sides of it formed a natural 'theatre' for the church and onlookers who came to observe this unusual sight, the first baptism that they had ever seen. This natural theatre signified the spiritual one that was in use as the neighbors observed this

holy and beautiful scene and noted the joy and yet solemn attitude in which these fellow tribesmen sealed their faith in baptism. May God preserve a holy testimony among these villages through the blameless lives of these believers.



In Baltimore

In closing, my thoughts turn to all of you there, and I can not help but think of how the theater concept applies to your lives. I know that for many of you, your decision to follow Christ no matter what has removed you from the cultural norms of American society, and because of this you may oftentimes feel like you are 'on stage' wherever you go. I had to think of the youth group from my home church (Charity) as they occasionally go down to Baltimore to witness on the streets. The thought of our pure, modest,

young ladies and strong, godly, young men walking down the streets of that ungodly city, being and representing the exact opposite of all that the city is, brings to mind the thought of a parade. Indeed, many would think that is what they are. But, in reality they are a theatre before a godless world, and as they walk and witness, those hungry for light are drawn to the beauty of Christ in them!

A Theater for the World!

As I've thought of all of this in relation to the verses at the beginning of this article, I realized again that whether through normal missionary

living at Bunbonyaili, a national church baptism at Bilisinga, or godly young people on the streets of Baltimore, God's people are a spectacle, a theater of observation for the world lost in darkness and sin. Oh that we would, in our various areas of influence, be a fitting

testimony to God's grace in our lives! My prayer is that these thoughts would challenge and encourage you in the way that they have me and that maybe because of our meditations, our "conversation among the Gentiles" would be more pure and holy, more fitting of the name that we bear here in Africa and that you carry there in America, Christians!!

*On stage for God in Ghana,
Daniel & Christy*

□



Blessed be the Lord

by Ross Ulrich

“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.”

Psalm 68:19.

Yes, this is the cry of our hearts, our testimony, as we serve the Lord Jesus here in Iture.

Special Visitors

Monday, August 14th, found most of my family and myself bouncing up the pot hole-pitted road to Accra. But none of us seemed to mind the rough ride too much, because this time we were going to pick up “Grandpa and Grandma” at the airport. Glenn and Doris Martin, Cynthia’s parents from Hagerstown, MD, came to spend 3 weeks with us, and what a precious time we’ve spent together—catching up on all the family news, sharing hearts and praying

together, playing games and laughing together, and doing God’s work together. It is an unfathomable blessing to have parents who encourage and bless us in serving Christ. These 3 weeks are ending much too quickly. My prayer is that all of us will follow Christ faithfully to the end, then we can spend eternity together with Jesus and all God’s family where we never need to part! Hallelujah!

Opportunities to Exercise Patience

Our communication woes are still unsolved. Our phone service here has been quite unreliable, and none at all again for the

past week and a half. We can go to Cape Coast nearby and call out, but others cannot contact us. The phone company has been working on the problems, but the saying still is “Ebia Okyena” (Maybe tomorrow). Our computer is limping along at maybe 60 - 70% working order, and our e-mail supplier has an equipment malfunction, which makes e-mailing very difficult. Bro. Steves are bringing along another computer when they return from furlough next week, and we pray for a speedy solution to the other problems, and for patience in the meanwhile. Praise God, there is never any malfunction of His communication service!

Opportunities to Love

Rastafarianism is a religion that originated among the blacks in Jamaica. They claim to believe in Jesus, but claim He was a black man and a rasta man (rastafarian). The serious ones take a vow and let their hair grow into long, matted locks which they often cover with a huge knitted cap. They hail Haile Selassie, former emperor of Ethiopia, as their messiah. They believe they are spiritual Jews, that Africa is their Promised Land, and that the blacks scattered by slavery are the diaspora which should return or at least unite for the sake of the “Promised Land”. This religion has a powerful appeal for black unification and carries an anti-white attitude, which seems to be growing stronger here in Ghana. This religion is gaining ground here, especially among the youth, through the influence

of music. Rasta songs are constantly played on the radio. Our neighborhood here at Iture has at least 4 households of black American immigrants, and most of them seem to carry anti-white feelings. This gives us opportunities to love our enemies. Several weeks ago one of them, a big husky man, confronted our son Michael as he was walking down the road with a friend. The man asked him, "What are you doing here? I don't like you! In fact, I hate you!" In another incident, just yesterday some of the children went with Grandma to play at the beach, until several of the children noticed some stones landing in the water and on the sand around them. They looked around and saw several men throwing the stones from the black American's place. I was not home at the time, so Michael went to enquire the meaning of it all, and was told, "You were spoiling our view." (i.e. "We don't like to see you on our beach.") We are praying for their salvation, and desire opportunities to heap coals of fire on their heads.

Bound by Satan

Last month a woman who seemed to be a bit crazy came around the mission house. She didn't seem to be as far off as many who meander through the streets. We gave her some food and showed her some kindness. She hung around for a week or two, and we had several conversations with her, though at times her talk seemed confused. Finally, we decided we need to either help her or send her on

her way, so Cynthia and I sat down and started asking more questions. She was obviously being used by demonic spirits, of which she named 3 or 4. We tried for several hours to deliver her through the power of our risen Lord Jesus, but with no visible effect. Was our faith weak, or was she unwilling? It seemed we could get her so far, but no farther. There were things she would not confess for fear of retribution from the demonic spirits controlling her. Lord, increase our faith and help us to put on all the armor You provide, "for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

Indigenous Outreach

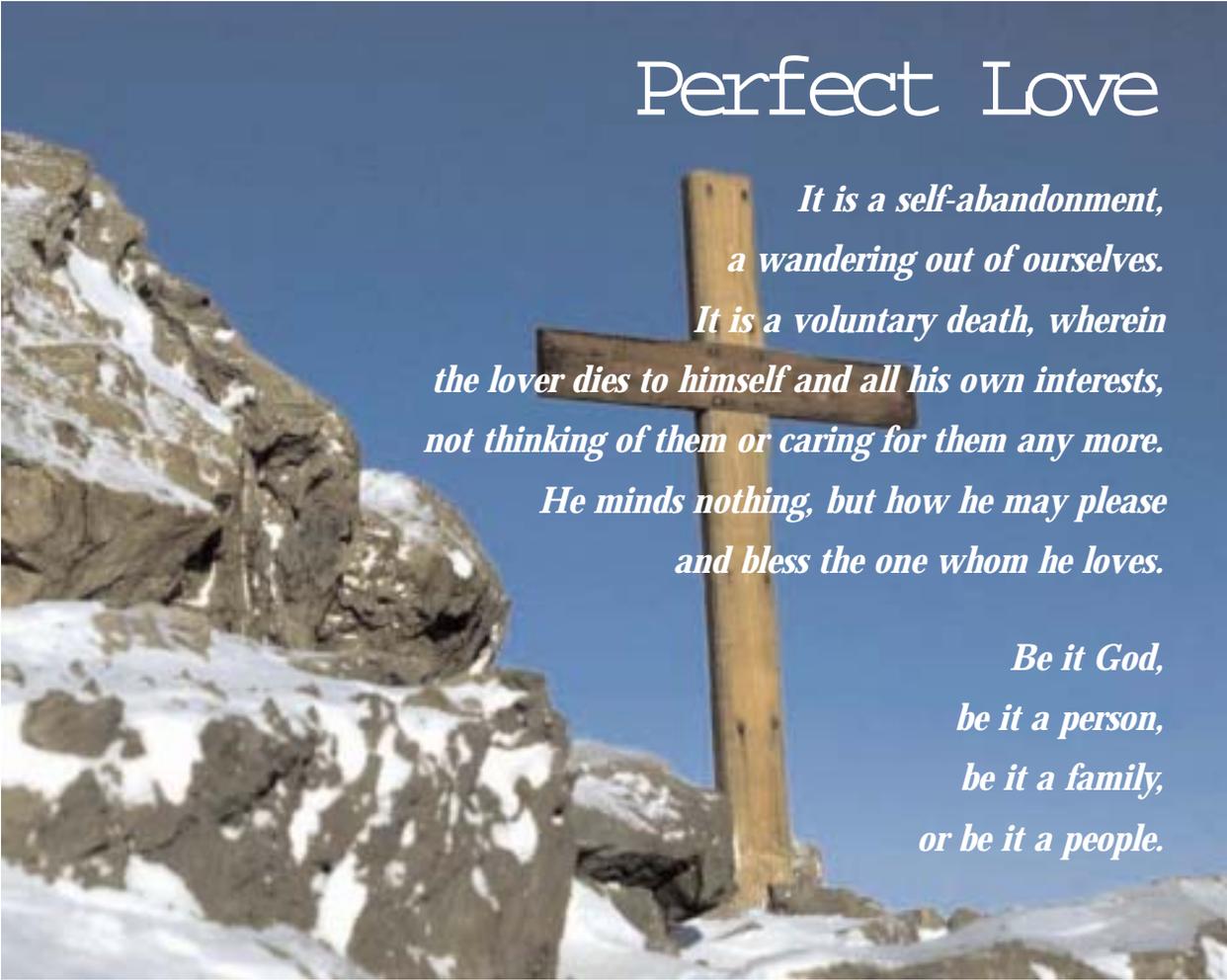
It is a great thrill to the missionary's heart to see young Christians whom he has led to the Lord and nurtured, reaching out with the gospel to those around them. The church at Wawase, on their own initiative, began pre-dawn prayer meetings 3 mornings a week for revival. Now they are holding a 3-day evangelistic crusade in Jukwa, planned and executed almost entirely on their own. The church here at Iture also is planning an evangelistic crusade in the adjoining village of Abakam. Our hearts rejoice to see their excitement to share Christ individually and collectively, yet we feel the burden of nurturing them and counselling them.

Prayer Needs

I feel acutely my weakness and failure as I try to be a pastor, business manager, and mission administrator all at the same time. I know I have failed, especially in the areas of visitation and in waiting on God for Heaven-breathed sermons. Pray that I wouldn't allow secondary matters to cloud our real purpose for being here. Pray that we will maintain a hot devotional life with the Lord. Also, Steve Clarks plan to return to Ghana on Monday. Lord willing, they will spend about a week here at Iture, then go to live at Tamale in the Northern Region for 5-6 weeks. Sis. Debbie Clark is a midwife and plans to deliver Paul and Susanna's expected baby before they return to Iture approximately mid-October. Pray that God will guide us to know where our family should live after that. The Mission Board is recommending that I don't take an active role in planting a new church, but be more free to move among the churches as administrator. Also pray for the approval of more immigrant quotas and work permits which we've recently applied for, and also that God will provide and select two good used vehicles for us, to replace two that need to be retired. God bless all of you who support this work in prayer and finances, and in other ways.

*Needing Jesus more than ever,
Ross, for the Ulrichs*





Perfect Love

*It is a self-abandonment,
a wandering out of ourselves.*

*It is a voluntary death, wherein
the lover dies to himself and all his own interests,
not thinking of them or caring for them any more.*

*He minds nothing, but how he may please
and bless the one whom he loves.*

*Be it God,
be it a person,
be it a family,
or be it a people.*

The Heartbeat of
The Remnant

Charity Christian Fellowship
59 S. Groffdale Rd.
Leola, PA 17540-9533

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit U.S. Postage PAID North East, PA Permit #157
