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McInteer Sermon Outlines - Genesis

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IMPORTANCE OF A CHRISTIAN FAMILY

Gen. 1:28-31

I. Ours are challenging days.

A. Parents cannot turn over to schools or anyone else the moral training of their children.

1. Quote on schools from "All to the Good", Pages 169-70. *Lewis Mumford #1*

2. Karl Marx spoke of the "bourgeois claptrap about the family."

B. Remember God gave us families.

Gen. 1:28 "And God said unto them, Be

II. Let us seriously consider our formulation of marriages.

A. Quote from "All to the Good" card - Page 75.

1. 1/3 Elevators; cars; air plane tail - you'd go

B. Marriage needs at least 4 things. *ground*

1. The achievement of an adequate philosophy of life, else you are too young to marry.

(a) What values will you live by? *Jesus is lord*

2. Economic independence. *Here we are '64*

(a) If you can't make your own budget w/~~out~~ parents, you are not ready to marry. *#516*

(b) Quote from Page 78.

3. Maturity in sexual sensibilities.

I Cor. 7:5 Debauch... consent... time... give... pray

~~C. Further ask yourself: Come. tempt. incontinency~~

A. Am I emotionally mature?

B. Am I unselfish?

3. Do I have an intellectual maturity? ^{Emphatic!}

Quotes from 79, 17, 24, #5 #6 #6 1/2

(b) Your partner is not always right but

she is always your partner

(a) Accept partners as they are - marriage is not a reform school! Do you LOVE the person

1 Cor. 7:14

4. Does divorce slumber in my mind as an alternate

Card Pg. 85 & 86. #7 #8 Chinese peace

III. Marriage is a major matter.

A. It is a daring step.

→ Strong winds will blow

1. Quotes on Pg. 87 & 88.

#9 - my father got to marry my mother
#10 - escape clause

B. Children present problems.

1. Card 89.

2) 35% Daddy's 2 jobs - when daddy?
3) 46.5% families have working mothers

2. Card 90. Femenized # (11)

b) Permissiveness

#12, #13

C. Our culture is altered.

1. ~~Quote 89.~~

We are on wheels #14

2. ~~Quote 90.~~

We've new ideas #15 (over back)

3. ~~Quote XIV.~~ Hedonism

Song

4. ~~Quote 6.~~

Thesh End 12-19-71

Lewis Mumford's charge that "a third of our student population may, for all practical purposes, be considered moral imbeciles . . . potential if not active delinquents" may seem overly harsh. Yet there is no blinking aside the facts that in the United States, while the population from 1960-1965 gained only 6 per cent, the crime rate increased 46 per cent. And this is the generation which heard the warning of Walter Lippmann: "Modern education is based on a denial that it is necessary or useful or desirable for the schools and colleges to transmit from generation to generation the religious and classical culture of the Western world."

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Pages 169-170

#1

By way of analogy, if a third of the automobiles that came off the assembly lines fell apart within weeks or a few months of sale; if 30 per cent of all elevators installed in public buildings plunged to the bottom of the shafts shortly after installation; if one out of every three airplanes crashed at the end of the runway or shortly after takeoff, there would be a national investigation during which all cars, elevators, or airplanes would be "grounded." The seriousness of our failure to prepare young people adequately for marriage cannot be stressed enough, and the problems for Christian ethics inherent in the whole realm of courtship are so numerous as to require a far more penetrating examination than can be attempted here.

#2

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 75

Despite the popular impression that "most divorces begin in the boudoir", the present writers have discovered that during more than a half century of combined experience in counseling, even where the first interview started off with sexual grievances, the root problem was not the bed but the budget. It is impossible for a young wife (or husband) to be romantically responsive with a spouse who is either a stingy pinch-penny or a thoughtless spend-thrift.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 78

#3

Intellectual maturity is another requisite for a creative and enduring relationship. Counselors have long known that where one or both partners lack interests in cultural and civic affairs, good books, music, political and scientific events in the world around them, they tend to become spiritual vegetables, parasitic and bored.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 79

#4

Still another realm of maturity that must be a prelude to marriage is that of emotional maturity. Most young people, of course, consider themselves quite "grown up" the first time they are given the family car to drive. Yet the young person's ability to think independently of the family without fits of violent revolt; to select sensible clothing without simply imitating the latest wild fashions of his peer group and campus friends; to accommodate himself to the needs and interests of people outside his own cultural or racial group, without either trying to dominate or to be overly submissive; to be tolerant and open with people who disagree with his political and religious views, willing both to learn and to teach--all these reflect upon his maturity.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 79

#5

Paradoxical as it sounds, a basic ingredient in marriage is the ability to have one's own freedom curtailed by the needs of those among whom he lives. Elton Trueblood describes as an essential feature in Christian marriage "the free acceptance of a bond, something which limits the undisciplined self-expression which is natural to man. The binding element is inherent in the family because without it, all the finer fruits of family love are impossible to produce. Marriage ties are permanently binding, not because a priest has said some words, but because an unbinding marriage is no marriage at all."

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 79

#6

Wedlock becomes a deadlock only when there is stubborn refusal to work out differences in constructive fashion. The clash of wills may be an opportunity for achieving greater insight and appreciation for each other's orientation to life, and for developing new qualities of character.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

The coy young miss had been hinting about marriage to her current gentleman friend.

"Do you think," she asked sweetly, "that it's unlucky to be married on Friday?"

"Yes, indeed," he replied. "Why should Friday be an exception?"

X It takes two to make a marriage. A bride and an anxious mother.

#6/2

Man is so constituted that he cannot give 100 per cent of himself to more than one person. And to give less is to "adulterate" (the concomitant meaning of "adultery") the love relationship pledged in marriage. Every couple knows that in professing their love for each other the intrusion of a third person is painfully disturbing.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

#7

It is significant to note how this is even reflected in language, in Chinese, for example, the word-picture for peace shows a woman under one roof, while the word-picture for chaos employs the figures of many women under the same roof.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 86

#8

Marriage may be "made in heaven" as some sentimentalists insist, but the details of living together still have to be worked out in the bread-and-butter dimensions of daily living. The comedian who quipped, "My father got to marry my mother, but I've got to go out and marry a perfect stranger," revealed more clearly perhaps than he knew the secret anxiety of many a young person embarking on matrimony.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 87

#9

Two people, virtual strangers despite even a long courtship, take a tremendous step into the unknown when they present themselves for marriage, which is a lifetime commitment with no escape clause.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 87

#10

(Although the report that 35 per cent of the men of America hold two jobs is sufficient to raise questions about how seriously he takes his role as father rather than simply provider of a spiraling standard of living) than by the phenomenon of the working mother. "In 46.5 per cent of families where there are children of school age or below, the mother is employed outside the home."

In a child's waking day, he may spend only one or two hours with his mother, six with a woman teacher, and four or five more with a female baby sitter (either a grandmother or a total stranger). The child therefore grows up in a largely feminine dominated world, with a minimum of actual parental guidance. He also grows up in a society where an estimated 80 per cent of the wealth is in the hands of women and where the consumer market is largely female-oriented. Now, if the whole economy becomes

#11

feminized, so that even men begin using cosmetics, and adolescent boys become preoccupied with clothing and hair styles (and a glance at recent magazines, or even out the office window, will provide evidence that this is happening), we may indeed have cause for alarm.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Pages 89-90

Add to the problems of the feminized society and the weakened "father image" in the home (with its attendant loss of respect for authority) the effects of "permissive psychology" in the training of children, and a pattern of drift toward delinquency begins to appear. The police chief of a large city recently commented, "When the law took the hickory stick away from the school teacher, it put a club in the fist of delinquent kids. Parents abdicated their disciplinary role a long time ago."

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 90

#12

Yet where children have not early learned the meaning of the word "No!" and can successfully argue their parents out of a firm position on some issue which the children themselves lack maturity to understand; wherethey have not been given responsibility for the upkeep of the house or apartment (and even a six-year-old can learn to make his own bed, pick up his clothes, and set the table), little can be expected in the development of self-discipline on the part of the child.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 90

#13

Our civilization is largely one on wheels. Where families no longer have ties to their community which are deep and of long-standing loyalty, the sense of rootlessness can become another factor in the weakening of those bonds that make a home a reality.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 91

#14

Theologians have long recognized that Christian ethics is not a body of "principles" which can be applied in every situation. Each generation, indeed each year and day, witnesses the emergence of new social problems which require a rethinking of what is "right" and what is "wrong." The Church has no computer into which it can feed such problems as race relations, sexual morality, and economic boycott, hoping to receive neatly coded answers. Problems arise because of new relationships in a society which is increasingly automated and equipped with devices that make impersonal living frighteningly possible.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page XIV (Preface)

#15

No Religion too" — "Imagine
no possessions."

Well, why shouldn't Lennon
move on to tearing down the
religious beliefs of your young
people? The records on
revolution and the May 23
"Young World" printed his
"Power to the People" which
ought not even raise an
eyebrow from most com-
placent parents. This song is
pure Communist rhetoric all
the way through.

"A million workers working
for nothing You better give
them what they really want
— we gotta put you down
when we come into town
singing power to the people."

Add the hypnotic beat to
these words and don't wonder
why you can no longer
communicate with your
teenage boy and girl.

MRS. CLAIRE COOK

Route 2
Lewisburg, Tenn. 37081

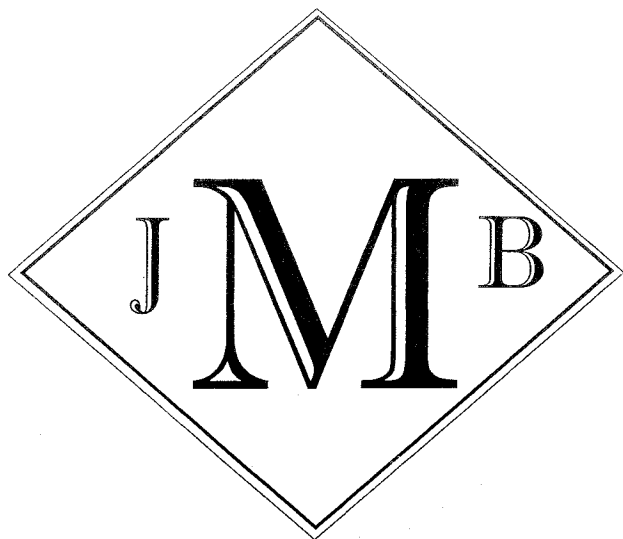
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WIN 100 MILES	244

Hedonism, which proposed that "good" is a term to be applied to whatever produces pleasure, and "evil" to that which results in pain, proved inadequate because of its lack of precision and its tendency to disintegrate into mere libertine behavior.

"All to the Good" - By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 6

#16



WHO AM I?

Gen. 1:26-31 2:4-9

I. Two questions come to me:

A. How did I get here?

1. Mindless evolution?

a.) Huxley card.

2. By accident?

3. By special creative act.

a.) "At the very beginning of time, when nothing else was, God was. And today, in the midst of time, God is." Leroy Lawson

b.) Poem.

c.) Also Johnson Poem.

d.) In the beginning God created.

B. Who am I?

1. Self image is most important.

2. In whose image are you made?

a.) Machine.

1. Joey, Mechanical Boy, "Ignored as a baby by parents who didn't want him, Joey was fed, changed, toilet trained, and in every way treated according to a rigid mechanical schedule. Since neither his mother nor father really wanted anything to do with him, Joey became convinced that machines were better than people. So he thought of himself as being in the image of a machine and he began to function like one. When he was hospitalized as a sickly looking 9 year old, he carried his imaginary wire with him from room to room.

He had to be plugged in in order to run. When he sat at the table, he insulated his body with paper napkins before plugging himself in; only then could he eat. When he slept, he devised contraptions from masking tape, cardboard, and whatever else he could scrape up; these kept his body machine working through the night. In the bath tub he rocked back and forth with engine like regularity, splashing water all over the floor. When he wanted to, he could become deathly still, like a switched off machine. The hospital had a long, three year struggle to bring Joey back to reality, to convince him that he had been a person and not a mechanism."

Scientific Journal - March, 1959

Condensed in Readers Digest

2. Mao Tse tung taught the doctrinaire Communism values men primarily as pieces of a vast social machine. They have no inherit worth as individuals; their importance is the contribution they make to the goals of the party They are tools manipulated by their leaders.

b.) Animals.

1. Orangutans or gorillas.
2. Nietzsche, "I am not much more than an animal which by means of blows and tidbits hath been taught to dance."
3. Slave to bodily functions.
4. No right to ask for a moral code.

c.) Computer.

1. Genes wrote out our program.
2. Heredity predetermines it.
3. Not responsible for immorality & crime.
4. B. F. Skinner taught if we can totally control a child's environment from birth we can control his behavior as an adult.
5. Henry Morgan, "A kleptomaniac is a person who helps himself because he can't help himself."

d.) Summary.

- a.) Machine - owned & manipulated for use and advantage of someone else.
- b.) Animal - driven by instinct & lust.
- c.) Computer - incapable of charting own action.

C. We are in image of God!

1. More than earth - breath of life in me.
2. Manage part of earth.

Gen. 2:15 "And the Lord God took the man, and put

3. Responsible. *Man made to associate*
4. Intelligent. *c God & angels*
5. Resourceful.
6. Image - like God but distinct from Him.

Ruckert

In every man there lives an image
Of what he ought to be.
As long as he is not that image
He ne-er at rest will be.

D. How achieve it?

1. Be like Jesus.

2. 178 AD quote of Celsus, "The root of Christianity is its excessive evaluation of the human soul, and the absurd idea that God takes an interest in man."

3. Spurgeon, "God has no time to waste making nobodies." I don't have to leave earthy

E. Which for you?: sphere to be like God - Jesus was Temporary eruption on a small planet in an insignificant galaxy hardly worth God's attention, if indeed there be a God vs. "in His image." ^{on the earth!}

1. Adam - means:

a) Color - Red

b) Appearance - to shine - The brilliant one

c) Compactness - individual or vice - "to bring or hold together"

d) Nature - likeness

e) Origin - the ground

2. Made a figure that resembles God

3. Intelligent & free agent

Holiness

Dominion over creatures

4. 3X in Gen 1:27 uses "created"

5. "let us make" → "let be" vs "let us"

a) Resolution - God bestows himself - made

b) Kin to us - affinity - no beast has it

c) Resemblance - one day holy perfectly

Nothing else but man like God

others who refer (cattle)

"A man has no reason to be ashamed of having an ape for his grandfather." This was Thomas Huxley's famous reply to Bishop Wilberforce in their creation-evolution debate before the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Oxford June, 1860. One clergyman returning home from the meeting told his wife of Huxley's horrifying assertion that man was descended from apes. His wife exclaimed, "My dear! Descended from apes! Let us hope it's not true, but if it is let us pray that it will not become generally known!"

Out of the void, form
Out of the blackness, day and night
Out of the spaces, heaven and earth, stars and sun
and moon.

Upon the planet, creatures of the sky
Seas and land,
Reproducing after their kind, in genetic order.
Then man.

NEVER FEAR --- TRUST GOD

By John Gipson, Little Rock, Arkansas
Reprinted with permission

I know you have heard the story of the Chinese who had one horse and one son. One day the horse broke out of the corral and fled into the hills. All of the neighbors came around that night and said, "Your horse got out! What bad luck!" "Why," the old Chinese said, "How do you know it's bad luck?" Sure

enough, the next night the horse came back to his familiar corral for his usual feeding and watering, leading twelve wild stallions with him! The farmer's son saw the thirteen horses in the corral, slipped out and locked the gate. The neighbors heard the good news and came excitedly to the farmer, "Oh, you have thir-

Broke leg
was sold

teen horses! What good luck!" And the old Chinese answered, "How do you know that's good luck?"

A few days later the young son was trying to break one of the wild stallions only to be thrown off and break a leg. The neighbors came back saying, "Your son broke his leg. What bad luck!" And the wise father said, "How do you know it's bad luck?" Sure enough, a few days later a Chinese war lord came through town and conscripted every able-bodied young man,

taking them off to war, never to return again. But the young man was saved because of his broken leg.

There is one thing we all desperately need to learn: Only God knows what's good for us and what's bad for us. And with that in mind we must learn to trust God.

Do you remember the last night Jesus spent with his disciples? The twelve were wrestling with desperate despondency and doubt. They were few in number, had no allies, no wealth, no credentials and no references. They had come to the city of Jerusalem with foreboding. The night streets were tense. Angry men lurked in the shadows. Religious leaders were seeking the death of their Master. There were so many things of which to be afraid. And what did Jesus say to his followers? "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God . . ." (John 14:1). That's it. Trust in God!

And remember that Jesus never preached anything that he didn't practice. I am glad that Peter saw fit to remind us that Jesus took his own medicine. "He trusted to him who judges justly." Why shouldn't we do the same? ■

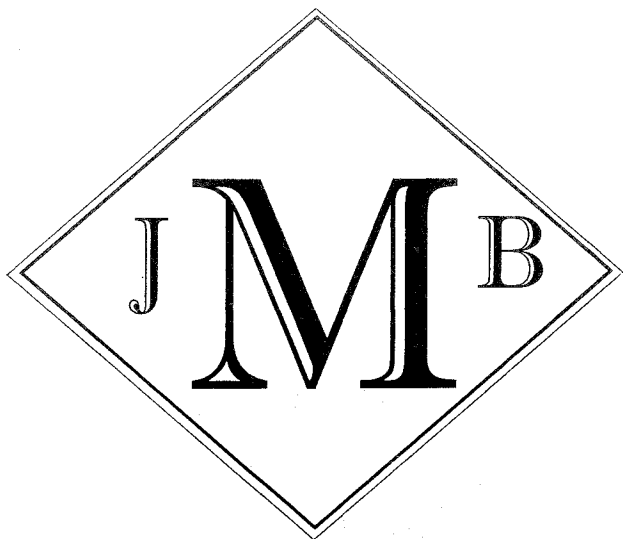
WE'RE GRATEFUL . . .

for the generous response of our readers to the financial needs of the magazine. In July we sent out our annual report. Since that time our mail box has contained daily donations large and small from dozens of you.

THE APPEAL is published by a non-profit corporation as most of you know. Not one cent of profit goes into anybody's pocket. Your donations are used 100 percent for the spreading of the message of our Lord.

We would be pleased to send the annual financial report to anyone who requests it.

Our thanks to all who have sent contributions to put the magazine on strong footing for the new fiscal year.



MY GOD AND MY MARRIAGE

Gen: 2:18-25

I. Time has not dulled the interest in marriage Man.

A. Today - My God & My Marriage.

1. Everybody's married in a sense Macartney said:

(1) In fact, (2) in recollection, (3) in imagination

B. Jesus - 2000 yrs. ago.

Matt. 19:5 "For this cause shall a man leave ~~his~~ ^{They two} father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they two shall be one flesh."

C. God - In the beginning

Gen. 2:24 "Therefore shall a man leave

1. Jesus said God said it. Matt. 19:4 "Have ye not

read that he which ^{made them at the beg. made them} made them at the beginning?"

2. Adam didn't - didn't have a father or family."

3. Redactor in the Documentary Hypothesis didn't - God did!

D. What better place to learn of marriage & gage ourselves by its initial guidelines than to go to the beginning.

II. The Origin of Marriage.

A. Man Innocent in the Garden

1. Made of dust

2. In Paradise

3. Tending garden ("dress & keep") V. 15

4. Commands - eat & don't eat (v-16 & 17) freely eat

5. Fowls & animals brot before Adam - he named them. KANGAROO chip

6. Great climax.

V. 20 "But for Adam there was not found

B. Man needed someone

V. 18 "And the Lord God said, "It is not good

1. Not wise

- 2. Not advantageous
- 3. Not comfortable
- 4. Not beneficial

hard your property in danger

5. God concerned about our comfort

Jn. 21:2 Children have ye any meat

Matt. 6:11 Daily bread *6:12 "Have need of all"*

Lu. 8:35 Clothed & in right mind

1 Tim. 6:6 "But godliness c contentment *For we*

6. God knows our wants & supplies

Phil. 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your *riches*

7. Man's dignity beyond animals

(a) Only flesh cannot satisfy man "Tender body close to mine"

(b) Vanity of world does not suit *Ecc 12:8 vanity of v.*

8. "Still slowly passed the melancholy day

And still the stranger wist not where to stray

The world was sad, the garden was a wild

And man, the hermit, sighed till woman smiled."

V. 18 "I will make him a helpmeet for him

1. Some MMS have "we will"

2. Helper

(a) Lit. a helper according to what is in front.

(b) An equal, adequate, friend

(c) Help as his front - reflected image - (reason I married a pretty girl!)

(d) Man to be complete - created in image of God, perfect in body, dominion over creatures, had a job - now to get a wife.

3. In our best state (Paradise) we need a helper.

C. God caused a deep sleep (Gen. 2:21) *Why?*

1. Was it to avoid pain - before sin, was there any pain?
In France, Spangford enthused
2. To hide divine activity?
Said "Any day, conceit - yours to poison eyes so don't feel"
3. Job speaks of the "deep sleep that falleth on men"
Job 4:13

D. God & the Rib (Gen. 2:21)

1. Took one of his ribs
 - (a) Really side - flank - costa, coast.
 - (b) Woman's not a rib the divine sculptor fashioned, but lit. "a side of man" - w/o her side he is missing something vital.

2. Girls notice

- (a) You are the only thing made in paradise, the garden
- (b) You are made out of man - Adam out of dirt, thus woman is twice refined. *So live Beautifully*
- (c) God lit. "built" a woman - the last creative act
- (d) Adam 1st formed, then Eve (1 Tim. 2:13)

(e) Your formation required time & skill as God built

3. Men note → *Don't disgrace it - Girl at bank had a hand down*

- (a) Happened while you slept. Turn things over to God - He'll do it. *MK 4:27 "He knoweth not how"*
- (b) She is product of God's genius
- (c) Jehovah Jireh - God will provide *Gen 22:14*
- (d) Under arm - protection
Near heart - loved
Not foot - to trample
Not head - to rule
- (e) Man has no compensation for that which was abstracted from him except in a woman - God

closed up the flesh - you can't fill it otherwise

(f) Woman not made from dirt but from man - she is something that once he had & lost.

(g) She brings back more than he lost!

(h) Woman never pictured as inferior

E. God brot her to man

Gen. 2:22 "And the rib which the Lord God

1. A wife is a gift of God.

2. Marriage instituted in innocency.

3. Marriage made in paradise.

4. God gives good gifts. *Somesi 19 "Every good gift*

5. God knew a wife was good for man. - Test these

(a) Socially

(b) Physically

(c) Intellectually

(d) Spiritually

F. Adam Excited

Gen. 2:23 "And Adam said, This is now bone of my bo

1. Cry of ecstasy

2. This is it!

3. This is now - this stroke, beat of the foot in keeping time - at last! *Id be excited too!*

4. Bone of my bone

5. Bone sometimes for "self"

Jn. 14:21 "He that hath my commandments, and k

Jn. 10:18 "No man taketh it from me, but I lay i

6. Called her woman - one of 3 names

(a) Woman - "man - ess" Gen. 2:23 *Ish Ishah*

(b) Adam - Gen. 5:2 - indissoluble unity, one flesh one name. *"Called their name Adam" - McInteen Bats # 35*

(c) Eve Gen. 3:16 - life giving - Mother of all living, could have called her death but prophetic & optimistic. *(Sin entered by her)*

7. We see man's favorable impression in exclaimed name.

III. Undenial facts

A. God said, did, wrote all this - not words of man.

B. Woman sprang from side of man

1. Intended for the sexes to be close

2. She is organically bound

3. God made them 2, then made them one!

4. God made no provisions for sex outside of marriage

C. It's union to be indestructible

1. Leave & cleave *only Mary & X Rich, Actor, Director undertaker*

2. Bonds of marriage stronger than bonds of nature.

clip 3. Let it be permanent - not trial, free, companionship

Eph. 5:28 "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies"

Mal. 2:15 "And did not he make one? Yet had he the *one* intended as sharing experience. *did treacherously & wife of thy youth*

D. Marriage made in Paradise - intended for your happiness.

E. Adam took Eve as God's gift - your marriage need to have God prepare, prosper, and preserve.

IV. As Man is blessed by one Open side -

We offer you another Jesus!

In 1934 "But one of the soldiers (2 spots)
Columbus Miss. Youth Forum 3-29-75
Bodge City, Kans. 11-17-75

West End 10-12-75, 10-19-75 - Edna McHarvity

AUSTRALIA—Kangaroo

Australia baffled the first white explorers. When Capt Cook pointed to the strange animal, the aborigine kept shouting back, "Kangaroo, kangaroo!" So that's how it got its name. "Kangaroo" is aborigine for "What did you say?" — JENKIN LLOYD JONES.

ORIGIN—Tuxedo—45

The name for formal male attire (tuxedo) actually means "wolf" to the American Indians. It began after the Indians named a lake, 40 miles from New York City, "tuksit" or wolf. Years afterward the white man first wore the type of full dress suit that is now formally accepted at this fashionable lake resort. The name tuxedo was transferred to the clothing and became a word in the English language. However, a tuxedo is still a "wolf suit" to the Indians. — *Why We Say* —, synd col, 4-18-68.

Good Insurance

Jake, the mailman, was always in a happy frame of mind, despite the fact that it was known that life had been very hard for him. One day I asked him his philosophy for having such a sunny outlook on life. "It's this way," he explained. "When I see trouble comin', I just look up and say 'Lord, your property's in danger — you better protect it' and by golly, something usually comes up and gives a boot over the rough spot."

Mrs. E. L. R.

San Bernardino, Calif.

Lives the Chant

A lady married four times. The first man was rich, the second man was an actor, the third man was a doctor and the fourth man was an undertaker. It reminds me of the children's chant: "One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready and four to go!"

Dubuque, Iowa Margaret

TRIAL MARRIAGES

Women's Libbers often demand the right to enter trial marriages, yet they are the very ones who get gypped the most when such illicit unions break up. Girls, if a man hasn't enough ambition to support you as a legal wife, and doesn't truly love you enough for a wedding, don't try to bribe him with free sex until he finds a younger dupe.—GEO W CRANE, PHD, MD.

Quote

The New Testament teaches that marriage is an institution established by God in the very beginning, and is a union between one man and one woman (Matt. 19:4-6) to continue until death (1 Cor. 7:39; Rom. 7:2); that marriage is to be held in honor and the bed to be undefiled (Heb. 13:4); that a wife is to be in subjection to her husband (Eph. 5:22); that the husband is to love his own wife as his own flesh (Eph. 5:28) since they are actually "one flesh" (Matt. 19:5; Eph. 5:29-31); and that the relationship of husband and wife is no less holy and honorable than Christ's own relationship with his bride the church (Eph. 5:32-33).

Marriage

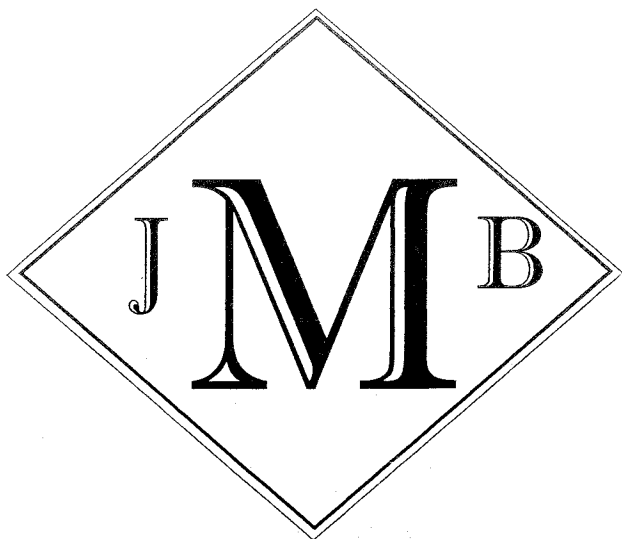
THE TALE OF A LAD AND LASS

A handsome lad and a lovely lass
Strolled down the lane together,
Each day and ever – still the same –
In every kind of weather.
Tis strange, but still it's much the same
In every generation,
The kind of things they talked about
Was hardly conversation!

A nervous groom and a blushing bride
Rushed down the aisle together,
Scarce conscious of the vows they said,
Nor mindful of the weather.
They braved the showers of falling rice,
Nor sought a place of cover,
Because – that age-old word “because” –
Because they had each other!

A balding husband, greying wife
Speed down the years together,
Gone is their youth, the charm of life,
And often rough the weather.
But come what may of time or tide,
Their bonds no foe can sever,
For love found strolling down the lane
Will light their path forever!

JS 20/11/19



SO--WHAT HAPPENED?

Genesis 2:23-25

I. This is the way it began.

A. Not good for man to be alone.

1. Man is intended to be a social being.
2. Also religious.
3. Loneliness, isolation, irreligion is not God's way.

B. God Cares For Man.

1. He saw the need of the one created --created with need.
2. I will make a helpmeet, a counterpart.
3. As is he, she too will bear the Image of God.

Gen. 1:26-27

4. Essential for me to know my origin.
5. Helpmeet will later explore.

C. Brought All Animals & Birds to Adam.

1. Shows he knows material and spiritual.
2. God wants man to be a classifier and organizer.

Gen. 2:19-20

3. Risked his call of animals.
4. Named.
 - a) Lower animals his subjects.
 - b) By his authority he named them.
 - c) Man is born to rule.
 - d) Naming shows dominion, perception, ability, intellect, reasoning.
 - e) In the ancient world to give a person a name was a sign of authority over him.

- f) First recorded act of man's dominion over animal.
 - g) Fish not included.
 - h) Don't know language used.
 - i) Show acquaintance with nature.
5. But also shows nothing made so far fit for his companionship.
- D. I will make a Helpmeet.
- 1. Woman is the creation of God.
 - 2. Man had no equal in the animal world--so God "built" literally a counterpart for him.
 - 3. Man's above the animal world.
 - 4. He feels, reasons, judges, wants, needs, gives, loves in way animals cannot.
 - 5. Helper before him--as your face is before in a mirror.
 - 6. She is man's complement, fills up what is lacking.
 - 7. Counterpart.
 - 8. She answers in every part the needs of man.
 - 9. In all animal species Adam saw no companion--he was alone.
 - 10. Among animals he saw 2 sex with marked differences--but he was alone.
 - 11. Partnership based on need & desire.
 - 12. Helpmeet in Heb. implies fitting into a unity in which each helps the other equally.
 - 13. In our best state we need one another's help.

E. So God "Built" a Woman.

1. Deep sleep on Adam--Adam slept while God built her!
2. Rib from side--shows they belong together.
3. Built: not a servant, an inferior, but a companion.
4. Candish called it "another self whom he must love and cherish as his own body."
5. Ish -- Issah -- man, woman.

F. Brought Her to Man

1. God had ordained labor, right of property, dominion.
2. Now matrimony.
3. 3 cords--man, woman, God.

Ecc. 4:12

4. Marriage instituted in innocency--before sin--in the Garden.

G. Adam's Reaction.

1. "Bone of my bone."
 - a) Welcomed as part and parcel of himself.
 - b) Eve from Adam--essential unity, oneness, not an independent, competing creature.
 - c) As he awakes he sees in Eve what he'd never seen in another--his counterpart.
2. "This is it, this time."
3. RSV This at last is bone.
4. Saw one for whom he was looking and longing.

5. One man, one woman, til death--
not Adam and Robert!

II. Demands Something.

A. Leave and Cleave.

1. Superior relationship.
2. Monogamy.
3. Glued.

B. One flesh.

1. Mankind is one.
2. What had been 1 became 2.
In marriage what had been 2
became 1.
3. Marriage is the total response of
2 human beings to one another.

C. Unashamed in nakedness.

1. Pure, blessed, without shame.
2. God with them.
3. Blameless and without fear.
4. God made them for each other.
5. Happy with each other and all
outside circumstances.
6. God creates and God cares.

III. What's Happened?

Gen. 4:3 "And in the process of time"

- A. Where is this sweet innocence?
- B. We run from God and scowl in
defiance.
- C. Woe to those who change God's order!
- D. First effects of sin seen in the family
in the process of time.
- E. From Authors:
 1. Jacques Ellul #1
 2. Black & Durant #2

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 3. Allan Bloom | #3 |
| 4. Frank Martin | #4 |
| 5. Nelson | #5 |
| 6. Nelson | #6 |
| 7. Nelson | #7 |
| 8. Chr. Studies | #8 |
| 9. Harrell | #9 |
| 10. Nash | #10 |
| 11. Wm. Penn | #11 |

Crieve Hall - 8/2/95

Lindauer Rd., Forrest City, AR - 9/10/95

"No one seems to remember," writes Jacques Ellul, "that there has never been a society without a moral code, and the chief thing lacking in our Western world is precisely an ethical code and a system of accepted values."

---Jim Nelson Black
When Nations Die, pg. 195

Never in the history of man has any society been able to establish standards of decency, cooperation, and social order without a code of moral values. The historian Will Durant said, "There is no significant example in history, before our time, of a society successfully maintaining moral life without the aid of religion." Yet the modern code of the humanists who dominate the culture today tells us that the Christian principles upon which this nation was founded are dangerous, destructive, and divisive.

--Jim Nelson Black
When Nations Die, pg.9

Openness and relativism became the great insights of modern education. As Allan Bloom attests, students were taught to believe that the most dangerous person in America is the man or woman who believes in an absolute standard of truth. Bloom says, "The study of history and of culture teaches that all the world was mad in the past; men always thought they were right, and that led to wars, persecutions, slavery, xenophobia, racism, and chauvinism. The point is not to correct the mistakes and really be right; rather, it is not to think you are right at all."⁹ Teachers say that everything is relative; there are no absolutes.

--Jim Nelson Black

When Nations Die, pg. 88

And those are just the problems we all see on the surface. Many of their struggles are more subtle and confusing—the mixed messages they get from sex and violence on television; the humanistic approach to education that counters everything they've been taught at home the lack of moral guidance in the community, school and government; the eggshells they walk on daily due to the "politically correct" environment they are forced to live in; the pressure girls face from the backlash of the "women's movement;" the influx of cultic ideals and theories brought on by the New Age

- over -

movement; and on and on.

--Frank Martin

The Kid-Friendly Dad, pg.16

In his well-documented analysis of the cultural changes of the last thirty years, David Barton reports that between 1963 and 1990, SAT scores of college-bound students plunged more than 80 points. At the same time, illegitimate births have soared from 15 per 1,000 to 35 per 1,000 for girls aged fifteen to nineteen. Total pregnancies for unwed girls between fifteen and nineteen have soared from 100,000 in 1963 to 650,000 in 1987. Sexually transmitted diseases among teenagers have soared from 350 cases per 100,000 to 1,200 cases; and premarital sex among teenage girls has jumped from 23 percent to 70 percent.⁸ At the same time, the divorce rate in this country has shot up from 2.2 per 1,000 in 1962 to 4.7 in 1990. Single-parent households have risen from 4.6 million to 10.9 million. And the incidence of violent crime leapt from 250,000 in 1962 to 1.7 million in 1990. In short the court-mandated removal of prayer, devotionals, and any exposure to religious values from our schools has been the major contributing cause of the moral breakdown in our society.

"Illegitimacy is the single most important social problem of our time," and family instability and single-parent families are direct contributors to the sociological problems of our day. #6

New research shows that children without fathers are more likely to get involved in crime and other antisocial behaviors. According to a recent report from the Washington-based Family Research Council, it is "children without fathers who commit the crimes." Citing Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the report shows that more than 70 percent of juveniles in reform institutions grew up in single-parent or no-parent families. "Attacking the crime problem," they say, "is disproportionately a problem of young unsupervised males."⁵

Half of all first and second marriages in America end in divorce. The idea of three, four, and five marriages—once a sure sign of debauchery reserved for movie stars and celebrities—is becoming common in suburbia. Living together has become the lifestyle of choice for the majority of young couples today, despite all the evidence that shows that couples who cohabit are less likely to stay together than those who choose marriage. #7

Perhaps the saddest statistic of divorce, and one that is often overlooked, is that nearly 60 percent of all first and second divorces involve children under the age of eighteen. Each year more than a million children become the innocent victims of divorce. Lawyers and counselors once suggested that the effects of divorce on children were about as serious as the common cold.

To adapt or accommodate Christian faith and practices, especially worship, to the tastes and moods of a given era or culture is always dangerous. There is a sober wisdom in the old adage that "he who marries the spirit of the age soon becomes a widower."

--Christian Studies No.13, pg.53

Now it may be that everyone needs to read a few sex books in order to satisfy his adolescent curiosity safely, to understand the nature of his own body. But successful sex in marriage isn't acquired by a study of technique or anatomy. It's acquired by growth in loving, in giving to, in wanting to please the person for whom you've forsaken all others.

--Irene Burk Harrell
"Good Marriages Grow", pg. 90

I think often about the Ogden Nash verse that contains so much truth and wisdom:

To keep your marriage brimming
With love in the loving cup,
Whenever you're wrong, admit it
Whenever you're right, shut up.

-Irene Burk Harrell
"Good Marriages Grow", pg. 27

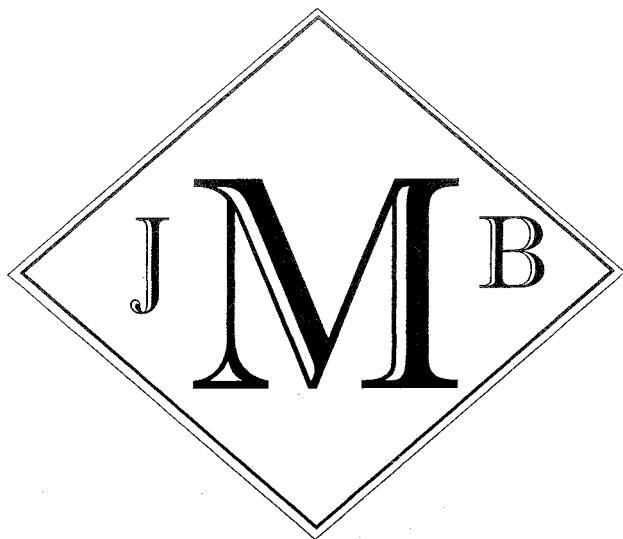
I expect to pass through life but once.
If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show,
or any good thing I can do to any fellow being,
Let me do it now, for I shall not pass this way again.
--William Penn

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when
he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6)

He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed
often, and loved much.

--Bessie Anderson Stanley

A Father's Book of Wisdom, Compiled by H. Jackson
Brown, Jr.



TO HAVE AND TO HOLD

Gen. 2:24-25

- I. Do you remember the moment--or do you anticipate it--your wedding.
 - A. What did you say?
 - B. Did you "I take you, John, to be my husband--to have & to hold from this day forward."
 - C. Purpose of this lesson--what do you as a woman need to invest to get the job done.
 1. I realize it "takes two to tango"--but I speak to you as a woman about your part.
 2. There are definitely things for the husband--we will get him later, but now the emphasis is on you
 3. I further realize this isn't all--but it least is part of the "glue". (Tell story of seeing the Belter furniture in Union City--Knowing that renowned cabinet maker used violin glue in his lamination because it's the best he had. I give you some "violin glue" to help you make some sweet music you provide your own "Elmer's" as you further strengthen this lesson.
- II. It seems 1st imperative we ask "What is your attitude toward marriage to start with."
 - A. Answer for me these 7 questions:
 1. Have I or will I enter marriage idealistically?
 2. Which one of us is getting the better end of the bargain?
 3. Have I considered a possible termination point to this marriage anywhere short of death?
 4. If quizzed as to the attitudes I feel are imperative to possess that this marriage may truly work,

what essential attitudes would I list? Does my list include:

- a.) Love.
 - b.) Self acceptance of self & of spouse - or are we in a process of remaking?
 - c.) Circumstantial acceptance--income, house, education, vocation, in-laws?
5. Do I anticipate happiness?
 6. Am I tuned to the ideal that this can be nothing but successful?
 7. What am I as a woman?
 - a.) Earth mother?
 - b.) Temptress?
 - c.) Weakling? Read Gen. 1:26 "Let them, etc.
 - d.) Matriarchal aggressor?
 - e.) Made in the image of God?
 - f.) What Bible impressions do I get from the Bible & everyday speech of a woman's "place":
 - (1) Sun (he).
 - (2) Earth (Mother).
 - (3) Dove (her) Gen. 8:11 - Holy Spirit - Matt. 3:16 - John 15:26.
 - (4) Freedom Gal. 4:4; 3:1
 - (5) Purity Rev. 21:2
 - (6) Wisdom (her) Prov. 9:1; 14:1
 - (7) Church Rev. 19:7-8
 - g.) Are you mad because God is He? What's the Devil? Rev. 12:9 2 Cor. 11:14-15 Isa. 14:13

B. Are you ready for a test--how do you measure up to the worthy woman? Prov. 31:10-31

1. Heart of husband safely trusts.
2. Does him constant good.
3. Works willingly & long.
4. Healthy, Faithful, Happy.
5. Realistic.
6. Cares for family.
7. Organized.
8. Makes long-range plans.
9. Exercises good business judgment.
10. Compassionate.
11. Courageous.
12. Wants quality.
13. Asset to her husband, encourages him.
14. Optimistic.
15. Intelligent.
16. Loved by her children.
17. Her husband proud of her - and tells all.
18. Fears God.

III. Womanly obligations in marriage (Gen. 2:20 - Help mate).

A. Can I satisfy my husband's needs:

1. Spiritually.

Ps. 37:4 "Delight thyself also in the Lord

I Pet. 3:1 "Likewise ye wives be in subjection

Deut. 30:6 "Love God...that thou mayest live"

2. Mentally.

I Peter 1:13 "Wherefore gird up the loins of your

James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom

Mk. 12:30 "Thou shalt...all thy mind

- a.) Can you intelligently discuss what means most to him?
- b.) Can you let him come home & forget his work?
- c.) Do you help him maintain balance?
- d.) Are things kept in proper perspective?
- e.) Do you do "outside readings" & run a "clipping service" for him?

3. Sexually

Gen. 1:31 "And God saw everything...very good

I Cor. 7:5 "Defraud ye not one the other

- a.) Do sexual relationships demonstrate love?
- b.) Is there a need to be met in man stronger than in woman?
- c.) How do you avoid the two pitfalls--she feels used of body & he feels abuse of pocketbook?

4. Emotionally

- a.) Do I have a steady disposition?
- b.) Do I know what makes him:
 - Sad?
 - Glad?
 - Satisfied?
 - Frustrated?
- c.) What do I appreciate most in my husband - tell him!
- d.) Does he carry the workload? If so, does he want supper, paper, TV, kids, or sloppy clothes when he comes home & do I cooperate?
- e.) Do I watch for the minor crisis
- f.) Clipping on Male emotional cycles.

B. Am I Aware of the Marriage Murderer?

1. Name some problem areas.

- a.) Submission. See both Eph. 5:22 & 21.
- b.) Authority - who decides - we form a jury & try ourselves!
- c.) Pride.
- d.) Differences of temperament.
- e.) Being a door mat.
- f.) "Space whirl" - Pressure crushes.
- g.) Recreation - what type - golf vs. needlepoint.
- h.) Having guests.
- i.) Money management I Cor. ~~12:14~~
- j.) Staying beautiful.
- k.) Absentee husband.
- l.) Married to a job hopper.
- m.) Failures.
- n.) Non-communicative husband.
- o.) In-laws.
- p.) Possessiveness.
- q.) Sagging gentlemanly qualities - no longer opens doors.
- r.) Weariness - Mother would say "I'm life weary."
- s.) Jealousy.
- t.) Moods.
- u.) Age.

2. How shall I solve them?

- a.) By nagging?
- b.) By running from them?
- c.) By refusal to face?

d.) Do I meet pressure by exploding? Or do I leave home for the library or picnic? Have I identified the stress? Do I recheck my schedule? Are there some jobs I always put off because I don't like them?

Ecc. 9:10 "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, (Prov. 22:3 "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, a

e.) Private argument vs. table debate. Can I discuss it, drop it, divine it - in prayer?

f.) Would family worship help?

3. Remember: Life has a great constant - the Lord & His Word. Truth is absolute; the uncompromising manual is His Word.

West End Wed. Night class 10-6-76

Male Emotional Cycles

Did you know that men have emotional cycles too?*

The cycle usually changes every two weeks, but their "moods" seem more pronounced once a month. I have read that many businessmen are aware of these cycles and will not make important decisions during their low points. With some men these moods are more obvious. During these times they need special, tolerant understanding. You may find that your husband sinks periodically into gloom and discouragement for seemingly no reason at all. His responsibilities at work trouble him and he tends to lose his perspective. From his

*Time Magazine, August 31, 1970, page 7, "Rarely publicized male condition . . . cycle every 51-55 days . . . Nice men became monsters . . . some decisions made . . . hastily changed."
Hargreaves, Industrial Health Consultant.

Better check his cycles know when he's in
a good frame of mind!



A LI'L FUN

it to Laugh

A CERTAIN husband was angry because his wife had bought a very expensive fur coat. "Why did you have to spend so much money?" he roared.

"Well, dear," confessed his contrite wife, "I guess Satan tempted me too much."

"Then why didn't you say, 'Get thee behind me, Satan?'"

"Darling, I did, but he just looked over my shoulder and said,

A MODERN mother and her young son were shopping in a supermarket. The child, trying to help, picked up a package and brought it to her. "No, no, honey," protested the mother, "go put it back. You have to cook that."

A TEXAS rancher and his wife walked into a bank with a huge sack of money.

"I want to deposit this cash. It adds up to \$65,000."

The teller said, "It will take two hours to count this."

"All right," said the rancher, "I'll be back after lunch."

When the couple returned, the teller said, "I'm sorry, sir, we have counted the money four times, and each time we get only \$60,000."

"You see, I was right," said the rancher to his wife, "we brought the wrong sack."

ONE MAN approached another man on the street, tapped him on the back and said, "Joe Smith! I'm glad to see you, but tell me, what happened to you? Last time I saw you you were short and fat; now you are tall and thin."

The other man interrupted him and said: "Look, my name is not Joe Smith."

"So," said the first man, "you changed your name, too?"

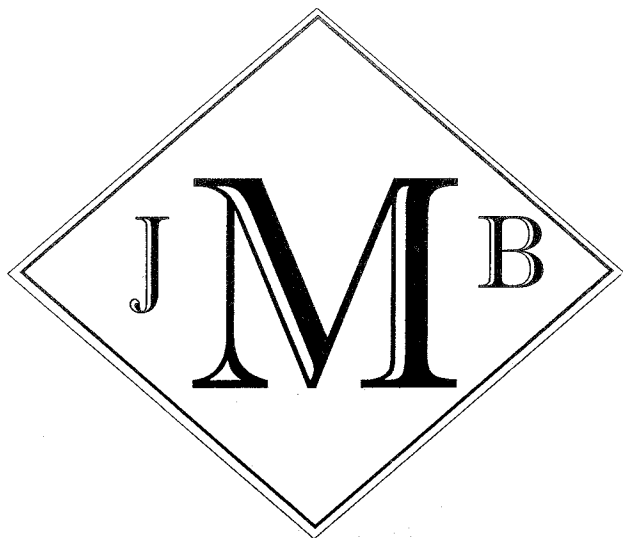
Understanding

~~Next to acceptance, the most important key to a happy marriage is understanding.~~ Understanding your husband should be one of your most important concerns. Does he feel you really understand him? Here are some questions to check your U.Q. (understanding quotient). Can you answer them?

1. What is the happiest thing that ever happened to your husband? What brings him the most happiness today?
2. What about you does he appreciate the most?
3. What has been the hardest experience in his life, the saddest thing that ever happened to him? What causes him the most anxiety today? What are his deep fears?
4. What are his secret ambitions, his goals for his life?
5. On what does he place the most value? What is his attitude toward money, savings, insurance and security?
6. What is his attitude toward sex, children, his family? Your family?
7. Which man or men does he most admire?
8. Which traits of yours would he like to see improved?

Do you really know and understand your husband? Can he talk to you and not be ridiculed? Can he confide in you and know his confidences will be safely guarded? Do you minimize his weaknesses and empha-

To Have & to Hold
Gail Benich



THE BEGINNING OF SIN

Gen. 3:1-12

(These notes are from Elam's Notes - 1926)

I. Today we cannot positively locate the garden.

A. Eden means pleasure, delight.

B. But we can locate the beginning of sin.

II. Note these things.

A. Sin began when man disobeyed God.

Gen. 2:16-17

1. But sin was already in existence before man fell.

Jn. 8:44 "He was a murderer from the beginning..."

2. Angels sinned.

2 Pet. 2:4 "God spared not the angels that sinned..."

Jude 6 "And angels that kept not their first..."

3. Sin lawlessness.

1 Jn. 3:4

1 Jn. 5:17 "All unrighteousness is sin..."

Rom. 3:20 "Through the law cometh..."

4. Adam and eve sinned when they disobeyed.

B. Sin begins in yielding to temptation.

James 1:13-15 "Let no man say when he..."

C. Sin began when Adam disobeyed God.

D. Disobedience brings ruin.

Rom. 5:19 "For as by one man's disobedience"

1 Cor. 15:21-22 "For since by man came
death..."

Jn. 5:29

Rom. 5:12-21

E. Tree of life there for a purpose.

Gen. 3:22-24

F. Separated from the tree man had to
die.

Rev. 22:2

III. Note the subtlety of Satan.

A. Jesus commends his wisdom.

Matt. 10:16

2 Cor. 11:3 "But I fear, lest by any means."

1. He is the old serpent.

2. He is the deceiver.

Rev. 12:7-9

2 Cor. 11:13-15 "Satan fashions himself
into..."

3. There is no truth in him.

4. He well knew what God had said
when he asked the question.

B. Instead of driving Satan away Eve parleyed with him.

1. She was unsatisfied with what she had.
2. Satan progressively moved her to sin.

C. Temptation threefold.

1 Jn. 2:16 "The lust of flesh, eye, vain of glory.."

1. Good for food--lust of flesh.
2. Delight to eyes--vain of glory.
3. Made wise.
4. Didn't see shame, sorrow and death.

D. Eve yielded and felt consequences.

Gen. 3:16

1 Tim. 2:11-15

1 Cor. 11:3

1 Cor. 14:34-35

E. Woman out of place a great menace.

F. Rebellion greatest sin - but submission brings peace.

G. Made ashamed and afraid.

Jn. 3:19 "And men loved darkness ..."

1 Jn. 4:18 "There is no fear in love..."

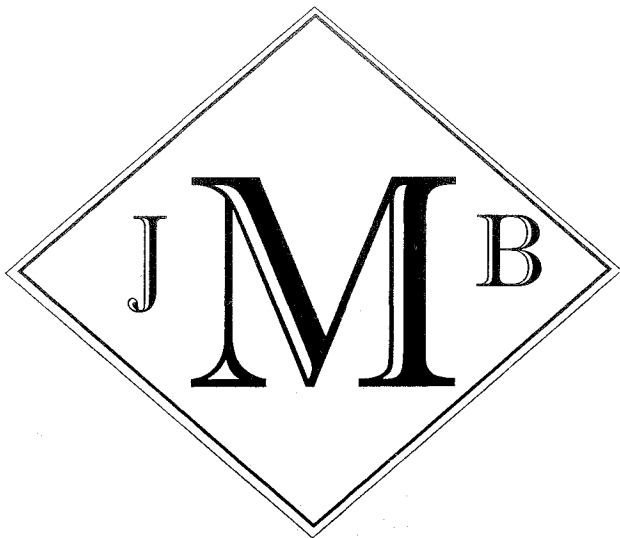
Nu. 32:23 "Be sure your sins ..."

IV. Great question now - where art thou?

Rom. 6:23

"For a lie which is half the truth is ever
the greatest of lies
Since a lie which is all a lie may be
met and fought outright
But a lie which is part a truth
is harder matter to fight.

Tennyson



WHAT'S MEANT BY SUBMISSION?

Gen. 3:14-16

1. Do you remember Chaucer's version of Patient Griselda? (It was from the Middle Ages - Petrarch recorded it in Italy about 1350 and Chaucer 1390 - called it "The Clerk's Tale".)
- A. It goes like this:
1. Lord Walter was urged to marry.
 2. On wedding day announced choice of bride - very poor but very poor girl, beautiful and virtuous.
 3. They had a daughter.
 4. Walter said baby was wrong sex - rough servant took it off to die. Griselda, meek, no protest must obey husband.
 5. Four years later - boy born. When he was two Walter said baby must die - he came from commoner, unfit to inherit throne. OK by Griselda.
 6. Six years later Walter told perfect wife he must divorce her, marry royalty - she went home in disgrace but no complaint.
 7. Later in rags she's called back to palace to prepare for Walter's wedding. Did so sweetly. One request - don't kill children of this union - high born lady might not could take it.

(from her)

8. Walter satisfied - revealed his new bride was their 12 year old daughter. 8 year old brother brought back.

9. Griselda passed 3 tests - 2 pretended murders, cruel divorce - now could live in peace - proved she was submissive.

10. Do these 1212 lines of Middle English poetry prove submission?

B. Reminded of Martin Luther when Copernicus taught earth orbits sun said "This fool wishes to reverse the entire scheme of astronomy. But sacred Scripture tells us Joshua commanded the sun to stand still, not the earth." One wrote, Kathrun Lindskoog, "I enjoy a man who errs in heroic proportions when he errs."

II. What Then is Submission of Woman to Man: Is it true, is it absolute, is it current?

A. True?

Gen. 3:16 "Thy desire shall be to thy husband & he"

1. Was this to punish Eve or give Adam responsibility for order in the family?

2. "Rule" is used in Bible to speak of a ruler of a nation, how a person rules his own spirit.

3. Have dominion, subdue, guide, oversee.

2 Sam. 23:3 "He that r. over men must be just, fear"

Prov. 12:24 - Diligent

Prov. 29:2 - Righteous

Prov. 28:15 - Roaring lion, ranging bear - wicked
(husbands bears & lions?)

so is a
ruler

over his people

4. Rule was for protection, not punishment.

B. True today?

Eph. 5:21 "Submitting yourselves one to another"

1. Mutual subjugation - both parties submit themselves one to another.

2. Each has a role.

Eph. 5:22 "Wives submit yourselves unto your own hus."

3. Never unqualified but "as to the Lord".

4. Never submit to sin, selfishness, or arbitrary will of husband. *Disagree say I just say*

5. Help husband grow to full measure of the stature of Christ. (4:13)

6. Christ is our model.

7. Wives are not independent, arrogant.

8. They are in subjection to agape love of husband.

a) Selfless.

b) Self sacrificing.

c) Come from the heart.

9. Christ "gave" (v-25) wives submit to the giving of the husbands.

10. All creatures with 2 exceptions have willingly taken place appointed them by God: angels who rebelled & Adam and Eve.

11. Elliott Page.

Col. 3:18-19 "Wives submit...as it is fit"

Col. 3:19 "Husbands love...be not bitter"

12. Agape: seeks not its own good but that of others.

13. Harshness, bitterness out - tenderness & sensitivity in.
14. Embittered - (PIKRAINO)
- Sharp.
 - Pointed.
 - Gouging of wife physically or emotionally.
 - Don't let responsibilities of headship become sharp pain to the husband.
15. "You can't make proper use of a thing unless you know what it was made for, whether it is a safety pin or a sailboat".
Eliz. Elliott.
16. Russian proverb, "It is easier to manage a sackful of fleas than one woman".
17. Goldwater clip. #4

III. But you rightfully say, "You are dealing with marriage - show a universal sphere."

A. Turn to 1 Cor. 11:3-15. *As affects church*

1. Is this broad or does man and woman stand for husband and wife. *rolls r*

2. Tough passage because: *leadership*

V-5 "Women pray & prophesy" where?

V-continuing - covering, hair, veil. *IRS clip*

Are hats or hair veils? *#3*

Scholars aren't sure - my Sisters are - few with hats!

3. In those days of Paul.
 - a) When in public women veiled.
 - b) Hair in knot or braid on top of head.
 - c) This a sign: not available.
 - d) Unmarried & prostitutes not so.
 - e) Shaven if guilty of adultery.
4. Did Christian women go to extreme to show new liberty?
5. Should we be concerned about our appearance & example?
6. Headship does not mean superiority or rule but source or origin.
7. Authority - v-10
 - a) Does not mean exert strength.
 - b) But being in leadership roll.
8. If not married, are all women to be in subjection to all men? Hardly think so.
9. Ramsay on veils. #6

IV. Submission is What?

A. Overt behavioral action.

1. Proceeds out of attitude of humility.
2. We esteem others above ourselves.
3. We are concerned about another's needs & yield our own rights to benefit.

B. We submit to -

1. God's will.

James 4:7 "Submit yourselves therefore to God"

2. Christ

Eph. 5:24 "Therefore as the church is subject unto Ch.

3. Higher authority.

Rom. 13:1 "Let every soul be subject unto the h. powers"

4. Children to parents.

Eph. 6:1 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord"

C. Submission is not:

1. Power conquering but voluntary yielding.

2. Not Big I but loving you.

3. Circuit Judge illustration. #17

4. Peter Peter Pumpkin Eater

Had a wife & couldn't keep her;

Put her in a pumpkin shell

And kept her there very well.

5. Not submission to evil.

1 Pet. 3:2 "While they behold your chaste conversation"

6. Good leaders delegate authority - wife makes decisions too, offers counsel.

7. Titus 2:1-5

a) Subject: to set in order.

b) Word not dishonored or spoken injuriously of.

8. H. L. Menkin 1918 quote. #18

West End 3/17/85

Office manager to a group of employees: "All those disagreeing with me signify by saying, 'I quit'."

#1

vented Ms. had a patent on it, he or she would be rich today.
(How does he or she grab you? Yech.)

WHAT ARE WOMEN ENTITLED TO?

Miss and Mrs. are both abbreviated forms of the old title Mistress (remember "Mistress Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow?"), and Mistress was used for either single or married women. Ms., although a new invention, follows naturally in that old tradition as a new abbreviation of the same old neutral term that gave us Miss and Mrs.

There is nothing sinister or disrespectful about the non-committal Ms. It is short, polite, and practical and will save the nation much ink, time, and energy. (Of course, we would save more ink, time, and energy if we followed the example of the old Quakers and dropped the whole silly title business altogether.) The only disadvantage to Ms. is that it looks better than it sounds. Try reading my limerick aloud. (This limerick is having fun with abbreviations rather than making fun of feminists.)

Gee Whs.!

A thirsty young lady named Ls.
Was a libber and called herself Ms.
She drank a whole pail
Of ice-cold ginger ale
And said, "How I do like its fs."

Of course the adoption of Ms. is a minor matter compared to the trend for some women to retain their birth-given names when they marry rather than taking their husbands' names. Women who are public figures have done that all along, but rarely have ordinary women tried it until now. It is legal in most states. It will make record-keeping more difficult, I suppose, but the real puzzler is how to name the

Children; so far ¹³⁰ couples are handling
This in various interesting ways.
'up from Eden' Linda Koog

Is Submission Stifling?

#3

Does a submissive woman do nothing else but submit? It is too bad that the issues raised by those called liberationists have led to the making of false antitheses. It is an old political tactic and seems at first to strengthen the case for one side against the other, but ultimately it is self-destructive. The mail has just come, bringing a letter which illustrates this confusion.

You were present when I spoke recently to the honor society in your college on "A Christian View of Liberation." The college forwarded to me the protest of an alumna:

"To invite a speaker to tell the women who have just been chosen as the most academically gifted in the entire graduating class that their highest fulfillment is to be found in subjecting themselves to a man in marriage is incredible in this day and age. It would have been unthinkable even a century ago! Why is this college educating women if their primary calling is to be motherhood? Intellectual women in the Christian world have a difficult enough time without adding insult to injury. They

need encouragement not stifling
(Eliz Elliott) Let Me Be a Woman

...man good to say, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen." In contrast, Senator Barry Goldwater said that he has nothing against a female Vice President so long as she still cooks dinner and gets home on time. I didn't find that very funny. And neither would the extremely gifted older couple I know who have always left the cooking to the husband because he enjoys it and she doesn't. (I wouldn't want to guess who does the cleanup.)

1976

WOMEN

Women's lib lost one and won one against men's lib. First the N.Y. State Human Rights Division ordered race tracks to scratch "Ladies night" on grounds that they discriminated against men. But then the Internal Revenue Service ruled that a bald woman can deduct the cost of a wig if it contributes to her mental well-being. No such allowance was made for males.

St. Louis Labor Tribune

When you meet someone who can cook and do housework, don't hesitate a minute—marry him.

I admit I don't understand women. But I don't understand some men, either!

—Val Palmer

#6

34). This is followed by confronting the Corinthians' abuse of spiritual gifts including the undue stress on some to the depreciation of others (12:1-31) and their loveless use of them (13:1-13). Then Paul deals with the problem of exercising tongues without interpretation (14:1-25), and concludes with the church's disorder in worship (14:26-40).

The Apostle begins 11:3-16 from the general and probably cross-cultural (Jew and Gentile) position that women in public are to be veiled.² On this Sir William Ramsay writes, "In Oriental lands the veil is the power and the honour and dignity of the woman. With the veil on her head she can go anywhere in security and profound respect. She is not seen; it is a mark of thoroughly bad manners to observe a veiled woman in the street. She is alone. The rest of the people around her are non-existent to her.... But without the veil the woman is a thing of nought, whom anyone may insult.... A woman's authority and dignity vanish along with the all-covering veil that she discards."³ Thus for Paul, Christian freedom cannot mean unveiled women who violate the general order of society. The church is not an enthusiastic cult abrogating the common life. Paul's dictum, "Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please all men in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of the many, that they may be saved" (10:32-33), is here applied to women in worship.

The discussion begins by establishing that there is a divine order of hierarchy of headship. God is the head of Christ (literally, "the Messiah"), Christ is the head of man and the husband is the head of his wife.

Headship does not so much mean superiority or rule as it means source or origin.⁴ For example, in Ephesians 5:23ff Christ is the head of the church because as its Savior He brings it into existence. In Ephesians 4:15-16 Christ as the head nourishes His body as it grows up into Him. Since the head is the source of life, when Paul writes that "the head of every man is Christ," he means

WOMEN AS WIVES

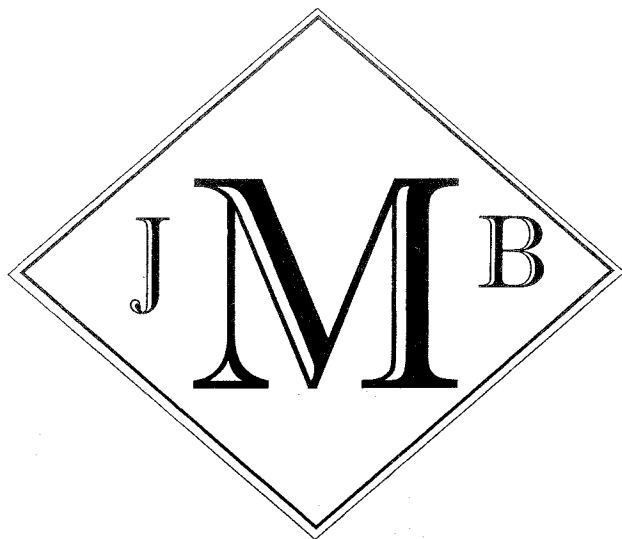
#7

A circuit court judge friend of ours illustrated the principle this way: "While I am in the court room, I am the final authority (the "head") in the relationship there. Everyone else in the courtroom must submit to me. I am not the "head" because I am superior to everyone else, but because that is my role or position—that is my job in the judicial system. But when I leave the court room and drive down the street toward my home, I have to submit to the school crossing guard. That young child is not superior to me, but in that situation, the child is the authority (the "head") and I must submit to him."

In 1918 H. L. Mencken declared, "Find me an intelligent man, a man free from sentimentality and illusion, a man hard to deceive, a man of first class, and I'll show you a man with a wide streak of woman in him."

#8

And clear back around 1800 Samuel Taylor Coleridge came



THE EVERLASTING EVE

Gen. 3:20-21

- I. When we say "Eve" it's the immediacy of a coming event.
 - A. Christmas Eve *Lost Boy #1*
 - B. New Year's Eve
- II. It usually heralds an event that quickly will pass.
- III. May I tell you of an "Everlasting Eve." It tells of a blessing still ours and still gloriously producing good, namely women.
 - A. The first one was Eve, the mother of all living.
 - B. The present one is all my sisters in Christ, producing good--married, single, or widowed.
- IV. From 2 verses may I tell you the 1st Eve.
Gen. 3:20-21
 - A. See the timing.
 1. Just after the promise of the seed of the woman bruising head of serpent.
 2. Just before garden expulsion.
 - B. Thus note it was a Garden of Eden event.
 - C. Adam called his wife Eve.
 1. Adam = red earth.
 2. He named his wife - we still do and it finally ends up "Momma."
 3. Think of all the pet names that husbands call wives!
 4. Broadman says when Adam 1st saw Eve he was so startled (contrasting her with apes & baboons) he could not have named her had he tried.

All he could say was "Part of me,
Part of me."

5. He also said "It's a hit."

D. Eve

1. Define

- a) Living
- b) Life
- c) Chawwah
- d) Zoe in Greek = life
- e) Life source
- f) Latin = Vivo (life)
- g) Barnhouse says it's a title not a name.

E. Mother of All Living.

1. She was the pledge of life.
2. She's the remedy for death.
3. Adam the name of the dying body--
to dust we will return.
Eve the name of the living soul.
4. Adam heard the word of the
promise & called her Eve.

Rom. 16:20

Rev. 2:7

God of peace reverse head of S

5. Husbands, note this attitude and follow it.

- a) He saw his wife in thus a higher value - life.
- b) She is the compensation.
- c) Adam looked not to Eve and thought of the fall - but thought of hope for the future.
- d) Do we try to see the best in people?

V. Now note what God did for our Parents.

A. The Lord God Spoke

1. It is God who made the gift of clothes - so acknowledge Him.

Gen. 28:20

2. He still has gifts for his people.

Hos. 2:9

3. God corrects but doesn't disinherit because of a mistake of which we are penitent and learning.

4. God cares in spite of our sins.

B. He makes clothing.

1. God not a furrier.

2. Nor a tailor to make clothes.

3. He makes us do his orders and thus he does it same way with us -- we take credit for a word ~~we~~ we authorized and expensed.

C. Clothing was of Skins.

1. Adam & Eve mentioned individually shows 2 different kinds of clothes since man & woman are not to be alike - Bush. *Feminist Movement #2*

Deut. 22:5

2. We accommodate our body's appearance for the benefit of all.

3. I've lived through many style changes and 2 hair revolutions -- women short and men long.

4. I'll be like the little boy who wanted a haircut like his dad's - it had a hole in the middle.

5. Skins

- a) Earlier had fig leaves.
- b) Lit. twined tender branches of fig tree for girdle.
- c) Now skins.
- d) Clothing strong - and plain - added Scott - could be.
- e) 3rd garment worn by man in this chapter: light, figs, skins - Barnhouse.

6. Several factors this supports.

- a) It's right to kill animals for man's benefit.
- b) It does not say at this time they ate flesh.

Gen. 9:3

- c) Slaying of a beast would show them what death is.

Ecc. 3:18

- d) It would pinpoint the necessity of sacrifice, tho surely not sacrifice there in the garden.

VI. Was there a spiritual lesson in the Sacrifice & the Clothing of Man?

A. These points are often made.

1. Man has shame and cannot cover it.
2. All man has is fig leaves & that is not enough. We have virtually nothing to offer.

Isa. 28:20

3. Man can't cloth himself - God can.
4. Clothing comes at the price of life.

5. The life given had no guilt -- it had no share in their sins.
6. Unfallen man - no covering.
Fallen man - conscious of need.
Fallen man - attempts to cover.
Fallen man - must have God provide.

B. Spiritually - atone means to Cover.

1. Christ's death provides our covering.
2. Clothes God makes are durable -- so is Christ to cover us.
3. Adam's apron had no blood on it - God's clothes do!
4. When clothed we are not naked - no reason to hide - God covers us spiritually - come boldly into His presence.

Madison Church - 12/23/87

Riverwood Church - 12/27/87

Southside Church, Shelbyville, TN - 1/3/88

Oak View, CA - 1/10/88

West Nashville Heights - 2/14/88

Watters Rd., Pasadena, TX - 2/28/88

Tuscumbia, AL - 3/27/88

West Erwin Church, Tyler, TX - 4/3/88

Shiner Church, Williamsburg, KY - 4/10/88

Isabel, KS - 4/17/88

So. Main Church, Weatherford, TX - 4/24/88

Antoine, AR - 5/8/88

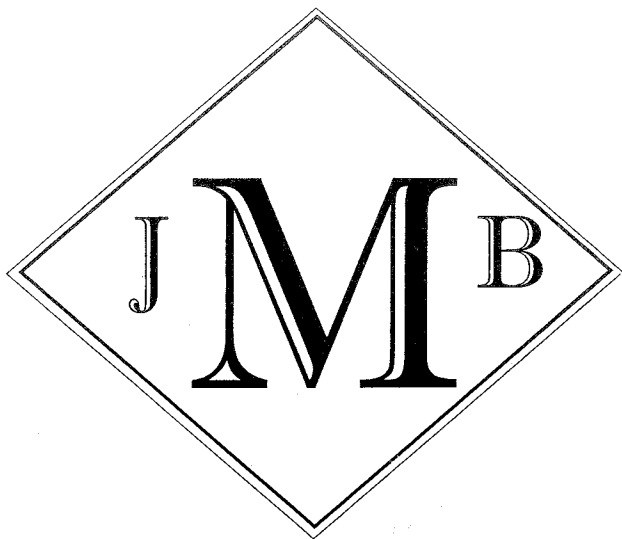
Echo Meadows Church, Oregon, OH - 5/22/88

W.7th Church, Columbia, TN - 6/5/88

Lafayette, TN - 6/13/88

Somerville, TN - 7/24/88

Chisholm Hills, Florence, AL - 8/22/93



FACTS FROM CAIN AND ABEL

(These notes from Elam's Notes 4/25/1926)

Gen. 4:1-2

I. Abiding in this account are great lessons.

A. Proper Worship - first worship account.

B. Necessity of Faith.

C. Anger and Murder - first murder

D. Religious Divisions - first time

II. Relative to Faith

A. It's impossible to please God without it.

Heb. 11:6 "He that cometh to God..."

B. God required blood.

Heb. 9:22 "Apart from the shedding...no remission."

1 Jn 1:7 "The blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth..."

C. Sacrifice prefigured Jesus- Jn. 1:29. The lamb.

III. Worship

A. We cannot substitute man's wisdom for God's way.

B. God states how He wants to be worshipped.

1. Worship in spirit and truth.

2. It is after the spirit not flesh.

Gal. 4:29

3. Satan's way is not superior to God's.

4. He tells man he knows best.

Mark 7:6-9 "Well did Isaiah prophesy..."

a) To worship via tradition is to reject God's commands.

b) To worship God's way is to reject the "doctrine and precepts of man."

c) We make the choice of the method: God's way or devil's way.

C. Cain and Abel never in Eden.

Gen. 5:4

1. Eve rejoiced with Cain firstborn "with the help of Jehovah."

2. Then came Abel not twins, and there were many more born.

3. Abel a shepherd; Cain a farmer.

4. Adam 130 years old when Seth came.

Gen. 4:25-26

Gen. 5:3

D. After a time Cain and Abel came to worship God as from the beginning men need to do this.

Gen. 4:26 "Then began men to call upon.."

Gen. 8:20

1. There were altars, offerings, and the revealed will of God.
2. Worship could be acceptable or unacceptable.
3. Cain brought the fruit of the ground.
4. Abel brought the firstlings of his flock.

E. Obvious Truths

1. Both men believed in the existence of God.
2. Both believed God should be worshipped.
3. Both worshipped God.
4. To Abel God had respect.
5. To Cain God had not respect.

F. Why was one acceptable and one not?

1. Cain's (v.7) sin lay at the door, sin prompted what he did.

1 Jn. 3:12 Cain was of the evil one and slew--his works were evil, his brother's righteous.

- Jude 1
1. Wicked and rebellious went the way of Cain.
 2. Satan led Cain to offer unacceptable worship.
 3. A man can be unrighteous and evil while offering to God.
 4. Difference was not in the worth of the sacrifice.
 5. Faith was the difference.

- Heb. 11:4 "By faith Abel offered unto God.."
- Rom. 10:17 "Faith comes by hearing the word..."
- Heb. 11:6 "Without faith it's impossible to please..."
6. One cannot do by faith what God has not commanded.
 7. If God has not spoken it, we cannot know what pleases Him.
- 1 Cor. 2:10-16 "Not in the words which man's wisdom teaches but what spirit teaches..."
8. God said what He wanted else Abel could not have worshipped by faith.
 9. By faith we can't offer a sacrifice God has not commanded.
 10. No blood via Cain.
Blood via Abel's sacrifice.
 11. Cain offered that of his own choosing.
 12. No salvation without blood of Jesus--so must not in any way slight it.
- G. Essential we believe in God, that He should be worshipped, it's done by faith, not human wisdom.
1. Devil trip to get us to alter it.
 2. Example of Moses at Kadesh.
- Num. 27:12-14

- a) Aaron rebelled against word.
- b) Action shows they "believed in God."
- c) Moses struck twice and spoke unadvisedly.

Mark 20:10

Ps. 106:33

- d) Speaking not enough--so he did more, doing what God did not command.
- e) Such action springs from an "evil heart of unbelief."

Heb. 3:12

1 Sam. 15:22 "To obey is better than to sacrifice..."

H. God conversed with Cain.

Heb. 4:6-7

1. We can worship God and not do well.
 2. We do well when we obey; the conscience then is clear.
 3. If we do not well; sin is at the door.
 4. We should rule over sin.
- I. Satan is happy for you to worship if you do it his way.
1. Cain never asked for God's instructions.
 2. We get it today from the Bible.
- J. Cain and Abel talked it over - v.8.

1. Only safe way is to do what God calls for.
2. Our way not superior to God's.

Isa. 55:8-9

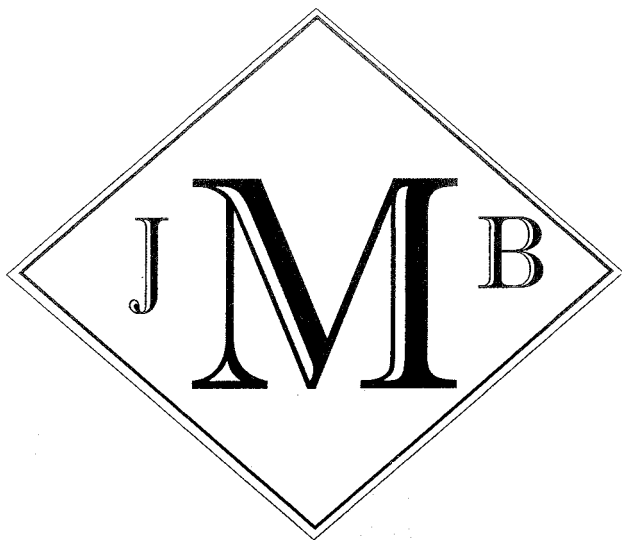
3. Thus the first religious division came.
4. What caused it? Your way, my way, or God's way?
5. Are we the ones at blame if we do it only God's way?
6. Cain had the bitter spirit.
7. All this led to murder, as one sin leads to another--vain worship, jealousy, lying, murder.
"Where is your brother? I know not."
8. Let's be our brother's keeper.
9. Can't live and die unto ourself.

Acts 20:26

Rom. 14:7

10. Abel bless us.

Heb. 11:4



RAISIN' CAIN

Gen. 4:1-7

1. I have no idea why she chose one son's name.
 - A. Eve sometime in her marriage to Adam, apparently living close to the garden of Eden out of which they'd been shoved, gave birth to two boys.
 1. Not her only children.
 2. Perhaps not her first.
 - B. Cain and Abel
 1. Little boy answered "who was Cain's brother?" with "Sloan, I think."
 2. Cain
 - a) Acquired
 - b) Obtained
 - c) Gained, possession
 3. Abel
 - a) Vanity, life miserable(?)
 - b) Loss
 - c) Breath
 4. Why?
 - a) Did she know the messianic promise?
- Gen. 3:15 *Thy seed - her seed - to bruise head heel*
- b) Was this birth hard & Abel's a breeze?
 - c) Were they twins--conception is mentioned only with Cain.
- C. Timely question--how did they get here? Miracle or natural?
 1. Knew--Adam knew Eve.
 - a) More than obtaining facts.

b) Intimate relationship with same person.

c) Know her nature & ability. "I know not."

2. Man - woman - God

a) John Willis - "conception and birth a cooperative enterprise with man-woman-God!"

b) God:
makes

Job 31:15 "Made me in the womb"
fashions

Ps. 139:14 "I am fearfully & wonderfully made"

Ps. 139:13 "Thou covered me in my mother's"
forms

Jer. 1:5 "Before I formed thee in the body"
knits

c) Children are a gift of God.

Gen. 33:5 *The children with whom God hath graciously*
49-9

Ps. 127:3 *Heritage of the Lord*

d) If we regard all as God's gift
I'll respect you.

e) By help of the Lord.

II. Men with varying jobs.

A. Abel kept sheep.

B. Cain tilled ground.

1. Some animosity between 2 vocations-
shepherd wants grass & farmer
wants row. *Cowboy & Sod buster*

2. Men differ in taste, talents and
pursuit of work.

3. Nothing derogatory intended about
either.

4. Poem--when God, etc. #1

III. Men had varying offering.

- A. Both to the Lord. *No wonder sometimes, how*
- B. Both in the process of time. *you ever?*
 - 1. End of days. *considered how many people*
 - 2. God author of order. *are out of the world?*
- C. Cain's was fruit of the ground. *Ernest*
 - 1. It was inadequate.
 - 2. We must bring God what He wants--not what we think is best.

Prov. 14:12 *There is a way that seemeth right*

John 4:24 *God is a spirit & they that worship*

- 3. "Cain wanted the world to spin on his axis." (Murray)
- 4. Cain came to God on his own terms.
- 5. Coffman calls him the 1st innovator.
- 6. Kettering short circuit. *#13*
- D. Abel brought Firstlings--the fattest of his flock.
 - 1. We don't know how animal sacrifice started.
 - 2. Nothing is too good for God--we bring the best we've got.
 - 3. Barnhouse shows the progression.
 - 1 man -- 1 lamb
 - 1 household -- 1 lamb (Exo. 12)
 - 1 nation -- 1 sacrifice (Day of Atonement)
 - 1 Christ -- 1 world

John 1:29 *Sees Jesus - Behold The Lamb of God*

- 4. Animals compared with animals he brought the best.
- 5. Fat is best of the best.

Gen. 45:18 *Fat of the Land*

Ezek. 34:3

6 See:

Exo. 13:12 *Set apart every firstling*~~Job 18:18~~~~Heb. 12:23~~

E. God Can Accept & Reject

1. Why accept?

a) By faith.

2. Why reject?

a) Not properly prepared.

b) Not bloody

c) Not the best

d) Not himself with it

1 Jn. 3:12-12 *(Read)*

e) Not in faith

f) Not from one who would resist temptation.

3. We want our way!

~~Rom. 8:17~~

4. Do we see a personal God?

5. Nothing special about Cain's gift-- anything will do.

6. Cain's Countenance Fell--was angry, (burned).

*Count 10
Very, count 100
T. Jefferson
#4*

a) Face that reveals God is prettiest.

b) First disturbance in act of worship *(resulting from it)*

7. God's quiz and warning.

a) If Cain does right the next time all will be OK.

b) See the mercy.

c) Two alternatives--humble self and return doing right; or reject and pout.

d) Do good & communicate.

Heb. 13:15-16 *But to do good & "forget not"*

e) Do well--sinless & innocent.

8. Sin crouches at the door.

a) Bible same in every generation--sin--evade--punish; repent, live.

b) Sin offering at the door--take it via grace.

c) Sin crouches.

d) It's near--at door--opening.

e) It's not difficult to obtain.

9. Some do not profit from what God says--will we?

Woodmont Hills church - 1/25/89

Goodpasture Christian School (Chapel) - 1/27/89

Bethel church, Joelton, TN - 1/29/89

Eureka church, Olney, IL - 2/5/89

40th & Hazel. Pine Bluff, AR - 3/5/89

Palo Alto church, Panama City, FL - 3/12/89

Pratt, KS - 3/19/89

Cox Blvd., Sheffield, AL - 3/28/89

Benton, AR - 4/11/89

Richmond, KY - 4/16/89

Auburn, AL - 4/23/89

Meridian, MS - 4/29/89

Northeast church, Indianapolis, IN - 5/14/89

Shady Grove church, Duck River, TN - 5/21/89

Central Ave., Valdosta, GA - 6/6/89

Echo Meadows church, Oregon, OH - 6/25/89

When God passed out looks,
I thought he said books,
So I didn't take any.

When God passed out brains,
I thought he said pains,
So I didn't take any.

When God passed out noses,
I thought he said roses,
So I took a big red one.

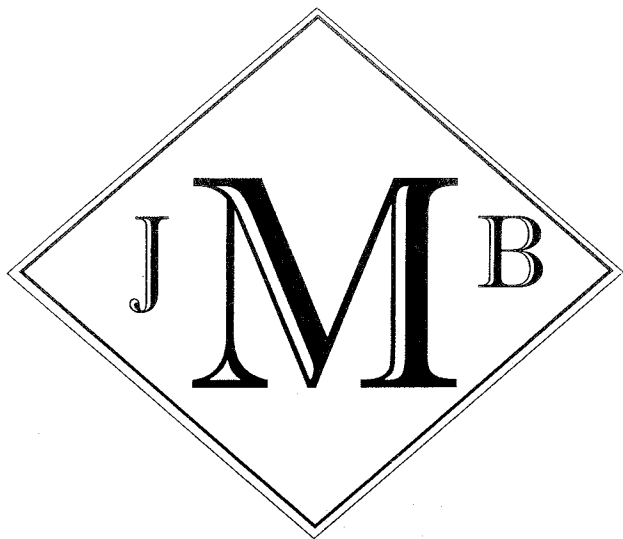
When God passed out ears,
I thought he said years,
And I said, "Make mine generous."

X When angry, count 10 before you
speak; if very angry, a hundred.
THOMAS JEFFERSON.

10

When Charles Kettering, for years vice-president and director of General Motors' research laboratories, was just beginning his inventive career in Ashland, Ohio, he worked out a central battery telephone exchange. This did away with the nuisance of cranking the phone in the rural communities. It seemed like a huge success, but at one point was in danger of being scrapped. Every afternoon the whole system went dead for about two hours. Kettering worked frantically for weeks trying to locate the trouble. He finally discovered that out on one of the farms a certain grandfather had the habit of laying his spectacles on top of the telephone every afternoon while he took a nap. This explained the difficulty. His glasses short-circuited the whole system.

The unrepentant Cain in us short-circuits the blessing of worship.



INFURIATING WORSHIP

Gen. 4:1-15

- I. The worship of God should bring peace and joy--not anger and hurt.
 - A. Rachael Slimp article.
 - B. Dr. Thurman and Ed Turrentine argue and Ed walks home.
 - C. With Cain and Abel we come to praise and poison--it should not be.

- II. Early days of civilization and God speaking to man--Annual Lessons, July 19, 1942.
 - A. These early Genesis chapters cover many years.
 1. Small amount of events could be told, but what we need to know is revealed.
 2. No idea how many children Adam and Eve had.
 3. Of necessity brother and sister married each other.
 4. To show how great was the population sometime after the Abel episode, Cain built a city and that takes a lot of people.

Gen. 4:16-17 "Cain went out from the presence of the Lord."

 5. But let's go to the story at hand.- B. We tell the story to emphasize the importance of God authorized worship.
 1. We are not left to our own desire..

2. We are to offer him what he asks for.

III. Cain and Abel

- A. Are they the first children born?
Don't know.
- B. Were they twins as Adam Clark says?
Don't know.
- C. Were they children in this event?
No, many years passed.
- D. Were both established in their occupations? Yes.
 1. Abel kept sheep.
 2. Cain tilled ground.
 3. Life rather simple and spacious.
- E. "In the process of time" they bring gifts to God.
 1. Who told them what to do?
 2. It was not following Adam as there is no record of their dad doing such.
 3. Yet at same time it seems they both brought sacrifices.
 - a) Surely something coordinated this.
 - b) Surely they had some instructions.
 - c) We have yet to find any tribe on earth that does not have some expressed feeling that there is a hereafter.

- d) Did their worship idea come from human reasoning?
- e) Was it a movement by an altruistic spirit?
- f) If God had said nothing why would he reject one and accept the other?
- g) Was pleasing him a wild guess?
- h) Scripture says it was by faith and faith comes by hearing the Word of God.

"Without faith it is impossible to please." (Heb. 11:5-6)

- i) It is not enough to believe in God, we must do what he says.
- j) To do what we please, like, or receive joy is not the criteria for worship.
- k) It's God's way--not my way as we do all, not part of what God says. It's more than sincerely.

4. So they made their offerings (V.3-5) - read this.

F. Reactions to worship experience.

V.5-7 (Read)

1. Cain disappointed.
2. God told him how to worship correctly.
3. Lessers Translation: "If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?"

(cont'd)

3. (cont'd)

If thou doest not well sin both at the door; and unto thee is its desire, but thou canst rule over it."

4. Every way of man is clean in his own eyes.

5. Contrast with.

Acts 10:35 "But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him."

6. It's God's way, not mine, as we seek to adore him.

I Jn. 3:12 "Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous."

7. We are not asked to be spokesmen for God but servants. (Bond)

G. Rest of the story.

1. Cain killed Abel.

2. Am I my brother's keeper?

3. Where is your brother?

Heb. 12:24

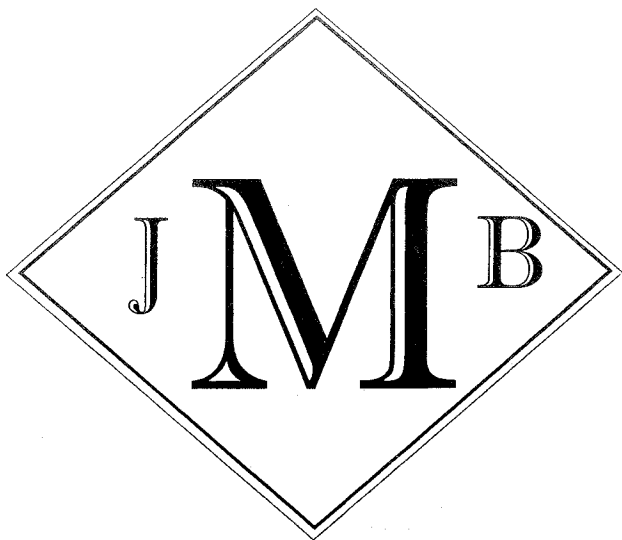
4. Mark of Cain--God's grace to him.

5. (V. 11&12) Ground not full strength.

6. Fugitive and wanderer.

Jude - "for they went in the way of Cain he remembers worship God in beauty of holiness.

Heb. 11:4 "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain."



A BLIGHT ON BROTHERHOOD

Gen. 4:8-16

I. Perhaps no sadder chapter in the church than when brethren are at odds.

A. You've seen it sadly.

B. The tragedy is as old as man.

C. I want to tell you the story of the first altercation.

Gen. 4:8-16

II. Abel & Cain Sacrificed

A. One accepted, one rejected--and a countenance fell.

B. God's grace entered before the evil conceived bore its fruit: "if you do well, accepted."

C. He turns his back on grace.

III. Cain Refused To Hear

A. Talked with Abel.

1. Sin originates in the heart.

2. Many men have plotted evil.

a) Abner

2 Sam. 3:26-27 Joab took aside - 5th rib

b) Joab Killed Amasa

2 Sam. 20:9

c) Absalom Tamar

2 Sam. 13

3. Sin is always in the heart before in the deed.

Rom. 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death"

B. Talked with Abel, his brother.

1. 16 verses 7X BROTHER.

2. It compounds the crime.

C. Slew Abel

1. Case of willful murder.

2. First murder--brother against brother--(don't say what you won't do).

Lu. 22:23 Inquire among themselves

3. Premeditated---chose time & place
4. Bottle up jealousy & hate--it will explode.
5. Watch your heart.

Prov. 4:23 "Keep thy heart with all"

6. A religious act caused murder!

IV. There is Always a Consequence with Sin

A. The Questioning Lord Came

v-9"Cain, where is Abel, thy brother?"

1. God is not seeking information--rather seeks to bring him to his senses. (Willis)
2. He wants him to see the seriousness of his sin.
3. God made us strong enough to act responsibly.
4. "There is a community of interest in the welfare of humanity that makes it incumbent upon all to be concerned and thoughtful for the well-being and prosperity of others as well as ourselves."
(Coffman)
5. God's question leads Cain to see his responsibility.

B. Cain Evades--"I Know Not"

"Am I My Brother's Keeper?"

1. Stung by question and the word brother in his throat too.

2. Shamed he's caught.

Jer. 2:26 "As the thief is ashamed when"

3. Faces 2 courses of action:

- a) Repent & be forgiven/OR
- b) Disclaim personal responsibility
- c) I can humble myself & repent or be irritated and provoked.

4. Chooses to speak with indifference and lack of concern as he lies.

5. We pass by on the other side.

Lu. 10:31-32 - Priest & Levite

6. Rather than:

Rom. 1:14 "I am debtor both to GK & barbarians

C. God: What hast thou done?

- 1. We can't cover our sins--God brings them into the open.
- 2. Whether immediately or delayed God brings us to face our deeds.
- 3. Sin leads us to think God does not see; produces arrogance.
- 4. How heavy was the heart of God!

D. God Proceeds to Tell Him What He's Done

- 1. Blood cries.
- 2. You can visit a museum in Jer. & see human lamp skins on lamps; bars of soap from human fat--above it is Gen. 4:10 on a plaque: "Listen, Your bro. blood cries out"
- 3. Remember Judah.

Gen. 37:26-27 "What profit--slay & conceal"

- 4. Now--there is always a now--it may be today; it could be tomorrow--as God wants none to perish.

- a) Cursed from the earth.
 (The righteous may fall before the wicked but the wicked is not allowed to escape).

Ps. 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord

- b) Opened mouth--personifies ground & blood.
- c) When you till--not yield strength.
 (1) It will not produce.
 (2) It will not welcome Cain.
- d) Fugitive & Vagabond
 (1) Being examined by a divine voice.
 (2) Bloods--all subsequent martyrs.
 (3) Blood disappeared in the ground but not forgotten.
- e) Fugitive--literally moving, wanderer
 (1) No longer sweet relations with man & God.
 (2) The unsaved have no place to hide.
 (3) Human reasoning vs divine revelation leads to wandering.
 (4) Alone in the midst of a crowd.
 (5) Ultimate penalty of sins is isolation.
 (6) No longer a settled farmer but a wanderer.

E. Cain Cries Out--Too Late

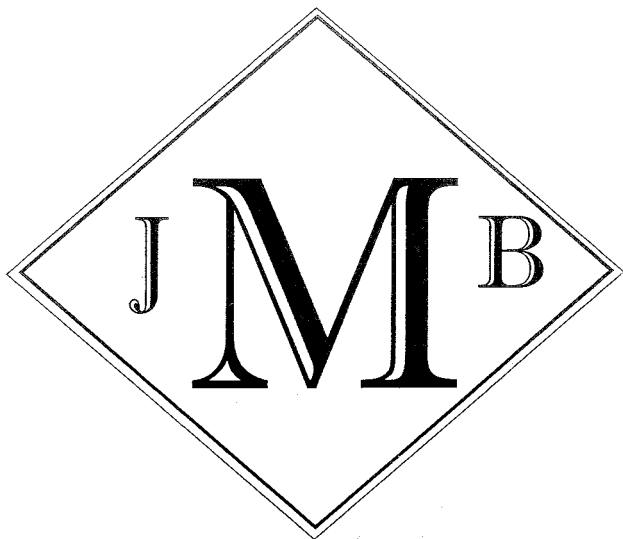
1. Punishment greater than I can bear.

- a) Loses home, freedom, family, fellowship, now fear gets him.
- b) Look at his character.
 - (1) Always concocting his own solution.
 - (2) Every decision is falacious.
 - (3) Shows no remorse; just wants protection.

F. The Mark of Cain

- 1. Unknown symbol of mercy--tattoo.
- 2. Mark of warning--7 will die if you kill Cain.
- 3. Actually protection & grace.
- 4. Cain will change his geographical location but God watches everywhere.
- 5. Not mark of shame but grace--this man is my property--don't forget it in your dealings with him.
- 6. Shows God not yet finished with him.
- 7. Cain had no right to complain & no reason to despair.

Northside, Terre Haute, IN - 8/22/89



WHAT ELSE IS 90?

Gen. 5:9

Adon
seth
Enos

I. So 11th Street is 90!

A. Who else is?

B. How many have risen & disappeared?

1. Foster Street

2. Grace Avenue

3. Trinity Lane

Caithen

Mahabaleel

C. You are to be congratulated on strength of continuance.

Sored

II. As rare as you are, also rare are 90's in the Bible.

A. Enos Gen. 5:9

Sarah Gen. 17:17

Enoch
Methuselah
Noah

1. Neither about 90's birthday--rather begetting & conceiving.

2. Know of none with a birthday celebration.

B. We do have:

1. Sons of Zerah--690 (I Chron. 9:6)

2. Solomon's servants--392 (Neb. 7:60)

3. Sons of Gibbar--95 (Ezra 2:20)

4. Lamech--595 (Gen. 5:30)

5. Pomegranates--96 (Jer. 52:23)

6. Eli--98 (I Sam. 4:15)

7. 99

a) Safe sheep (Lu. 15:4)

b) Abraham circumcised (Gen. 17:24)

8. But just 90--rare

Enos and Sarah

III. If I were 90, contrast with church.

A. Not much time left.

B. Could not:

1. Be youth minister.
2. Drive the bus on trips.
3. Wash walls & roof.
4. Take care of the nursery.

C. But the church is not so encumbered--
already 2000 years old and much alive.

IV. But I want to go back to Enos--90 years
old & begat Cainan.

A. Not marvel at age but just starting
his family.

B. 815 years more living.

C. Begat sons & daughters.

D. Died 905th year.

E. One of 10 men listed, Seth's son.

V. What did Enos (the frail one) see that
can touch us?

A. Days of opportunity vary--for some
long, some short.

B. Days of mortality unfold all around me.

1. Also saw moral deterioration.

2. Measure our days and think of
mortality.

C. Days of confusion perhaps--Enos &
Enoch.

1. Sheet on church attendance.

D. Days to just start something beneficial.

1. Only change is constant. (card)

2. One does not discover new lands
without consenting to lose sight of
the shore for a very long time.

Enos 126 "Then began men to call
3. Caterpillar story

E. Days to train a family--how well--Noah soon on the scene & no righteousness to be found.

1. Read Larimore Rules.

2. Newsweek card.

F. Days to magnify our God.

1. I am an old man and I have known a great many troubles, but most of them have never happened.

(Mark Twain)

2. Read Ps. 3.

G. He is listed as an ancestor of Christ (Lu. 3:38) What is our connection with Jesus?

Gen. 4:26 "Then began men to call"

- 70% say adultery harmful to marriage
- 22% say adultery sometimes helps
- 50% say adultery morally wrong
- 25% say adultery wrong because can break up marriage
- 17% say adultery catch aids
- 51% say adultery more common than 10 years ago
- 36% most married couples they know have had affairs

CHANGE IS:

- 1) OFTEN DESIRABLE
- 2) FREQUENTLY NECESSARY
- 3) ALWAYS INEVITABLE

--Author Unknown

*The only thing that remains
The same is change*

I like to use the illustration of an experiment conducted by Jean Henri Fabre, the great French entomologist. He took a number of processionary caterpillars--so named because they always marched in military-like formation - and lined them around the inner edge of a flowerpot until they formed a complete, unending circle. For three days he monitored them as they marched around and around the edge of the flower pot, never once breaking the circle. At the end of the third day, he placed several pine needles the food of processionary caterpillars - in the center of the pot. For four more days and nights the caterpillars marched in a circle.

-over-

Eventually they dropped dead from starvation and exhaustion.

They had been walking less than six inches from food, and yet one by one, they starved to death. For seven days and nights they marched, and never once did any of them leave the circle to eat.

--Frank Martin
The Kid-Friendly Dad, pg.24

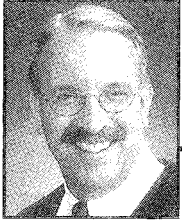
T.B. Larimore's "Life Rules"

Be kind. Be meek. Be true. Be humble. Be gentle. Be polite. Be patient. Be earnest. Be careful. Be hopeful. Be faithful. Be cheerful. Be grateful. Be generous. Be prayerful. Be courteous. Be unselfish. Be thoughtful. Be consecrated. Be conscientious. Always do right. Do as much good as possible. Do as little evil as possible. Eat to live and not live to eat. If possible, be perfectly pure. If not, be pure as possible. Always make the best of a situation. Be clean in thought, in word, in deed - always clean. Conscientiously consecrate all to Christ - head, hand, heart, body, soul, spirit, time, tongue, talent, mind, muscle, money - consecrate all to Him who gave His very life to ransom a recreant, lost and ruined race.

A Pause for . . . GOOD NEWS

Faith Village Church of Christ Family Newsletter

..... Les McGalliard



REFLECTIONS

By J.K. JONES, JR.

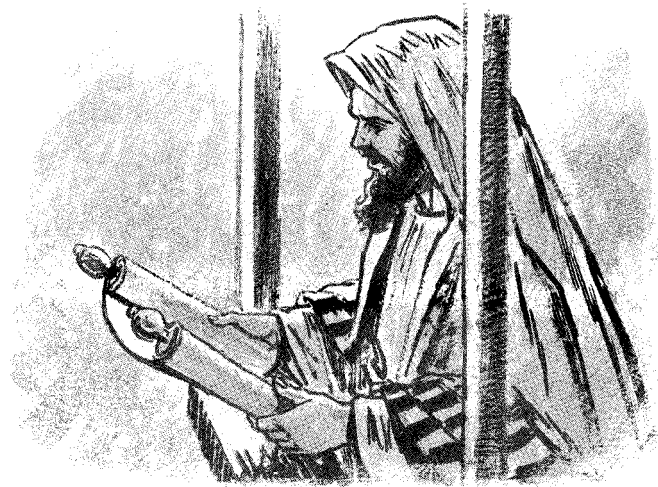
Chasing Fads or Cultivating the Soul?

“WE read to know that we are not alone.” That’s what a student once said to C.S. Lewis. If you’ve seen Anthony Hopkins’ performance in “Shadowlands,” you may recall that line. It once again reminds me of the legitimate and powerful role books and reading can play in life.

I don’t know if there is a connection between the number of books published each day in the United States and the acute loneliness that seems to permeate our contemporary culture. I do know that on an average day in the United States 105,108,286 Americans read a newspaper. Out of that vast number 27,000,000 read their horoscope; 52,000,000 read obituaries; 70,000,000 read “Dear Abby”; 79,250,000 read the comics; 81,500,000 read the editorials; and 86,202,000 read the sports page.

Did you know that 124 new book titles are published each day? I have no idea how many people access the Net to read and discover information they believe they must have for school, job, or home. Many of us digest our daily portion of information and in our more honest moments acknowledge an acute ache in the pit of our soul. Christian bookstores alone sell 34,932 Bibles every day!¹ Maybe the connection between reading and loneliness is not a valid one. I’ll let you decide.

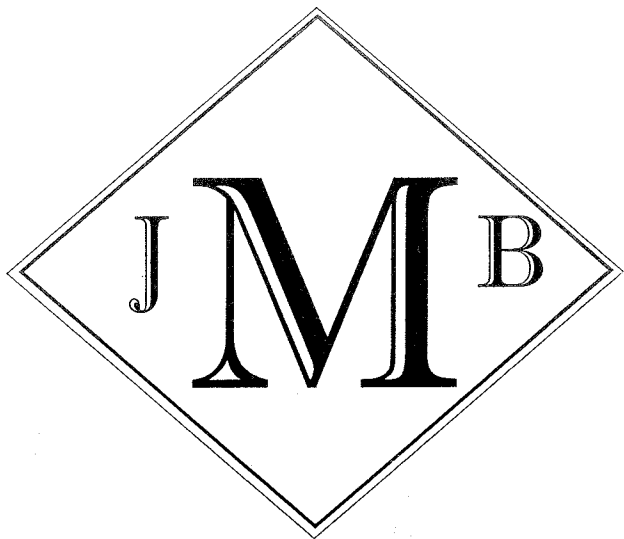
You might recall Mother Teresa’s visit to this country several years ago. She reminded all of us who would listen that she had witnessed poverty all over the world, but she had never seen the poverty of the soul that she discovered in this country. She found us starving to death for love and real community. It does not enter the mind of most of us that a good book, one centered on helping us cultivate a strong inner life, could possibly help us to remember that we are not alone.



Paul and His Books

This relationship between reading and loneliness got me thinking about the apostle Paul and the circumstances in which he found himself. You may recall his first letter to Timothy. Paul had reminded the young preacher about how to have a healthy congregation without losing his own soul. Paul had encouraged Timothy to confront godless teaching, seek godly character, model godly servant leadership, develop godly leaders, practice godly stewardship, and evangelize, edify, worship, and pray to the glory of God!

Timothy found himself smack dab in the middle of Ephesus with its smorgasbord of religious options. Nero was on the Roman throne and decadence seemed to be winning hands down. In Paul’s second and final letter to his young associate, the apostle underscored the importance of being a healthy leader. This global Christian found himself deserted, tired, and imprisoned. Demas had abandoned Paul, embraced the world, struck out on his own, apparently chasing fads (2 Timothy 4:10).



THE WORLD'S FIRST THANKSGIVING

Gen. 8:20-22

I. Why is Gratitude a thing hard to convey?

- A. Cicero, "Gratitude is not only the greatest virtue but even the mother of all the rest".
- B. Seneca, "Nothing is more honorable than a grateful heart".
- C. Chinese Proverb, "When you drink from the stream remember the Spring".
- D. Many wait:
 1. Parents
 2. Elders
 3. Employees
 4. The Lord - even at His table. *Just Thank*

Ps. 92:1 "It's a good thing to give thanks to the

II. Let me tell you of the first Biblical Thanksgiving.

- A. Or was it?
- B. Had there been 6 generations and no one thanked God. *plus*
- C. If it didn't rain til the flood were thanks not said until afterward?
- D. Even with the altar did they say thanks - it does not say so - yet the mood and moment demand it.

III. Study of Gen. 8:20-22. *Euthychus article*

- A. Noah built an altar.
 1. Flood is over.
 2. Dry land appears habitable.
 3. First altar built.
- B. Altar
 1. 1st mentioned.

2. Lit. a place for slaying.

3. Altar = high, lifted up.

C. Took of every clean beast.

1. 1 of 7 (male) & (female)

1 of 14 counting the couples.

2. Very generous to say the least - his sacrifice a major one.

3. One man enthused said - not 10% - let's make it 20% of what we give.

D. Burnt Offering.

1. Only this.

2. No sin or peace yet as offering.

3. This recognized sovereignty of God. (Bruce)

4. Lit. "Things that ascend".

5. Does our worship reach up to Heaven?

6. When Heaven is your home what do you envision doing first? What will be your 1st act of worship?

E. Lord smelled a sweet savor.

1. Happy day - when Jesus washed.

2. An odor of satisfaction - why?

a) Sprang from gratitude and obedience.

b) Truth conveyed - we are saved only through life of another.

c) Type of a greater sacrifice yet to come - Jesus gave all.

d) Authorized "All religious services which are not perfumed with the odor of faith are of an ill savor before God". (Calvin)

*Thanks
I get
hot back*

*Joseph
Conrad
story*

F. God Responded.

1. God viewed as treating ground as tho it had no real value - not now!
2. No universal disaster, no destruction of the balance of nature.

IV. For what are we grateful?

Phil. 4:6 "Be careful for nothing; but in everything

Rev. 7:12 "Blessing, & glory, & wisdom, & thanksgiving

Hillsboro Church (Wed. night) - 11/26/86

Fables of the Famous

Joseph Conrad had a low opinion of doctors. But late in life he finally found one to his liking, and over a period of months, consulted him several times.

"You're sure he's the right one for you?" a friend asked.

"Yes, I've had a good luck with him. He examines me, and prescribes a medicine. I don't take it and I get well.

Richard Wagner put himself in the mood for composing his operas

TO THE POINT

by Steve Goodier

A minister was asked to preach one Sunday at a church that had a reputation for being particularly tight-fisted when it came to financially supporting their church. After the sermon, he passed his hat for the offering. It came back empty. Just to make sure, he tipped it upside down and shook it, but nothing dropped out.

"Now let us give thanks," he said to the curious congregation. They wondered what he could possibly give thanks about.

"I thank Thee, Lord," prayed the pastor, "That I got my hat back!"

Sometimes it seems that there is nothing we could possibly give thanks for. We feel like Simon Soggs in W. F. Croffut's poem *Give Thanks for What?*. Simon Soggs lists all the adversities and problems of the past year. Way down a long list he asks:

"Give thanks?

Jest look at what a fix we're in!
The country's rushin' to the dogs
At racehorse speed!" said Simon Soggs,

"Rotten all through — in every state —

Why, if we don't repudiate,
We'll hev to build, fer big and small,

A poor-house that'll hold us all . . .
Give thanks? How mad it makes me feel,

To think how office-holders steal!

99-able
QUIPS

The man who first called it the easy payment plan was a might careless with his adjectives.

Life is 10 percent what you make it and 90 percent how you take it.

— *Bits and Pieces*

Misery loves company, but happiness throws more parties.

Premeal Tribulation

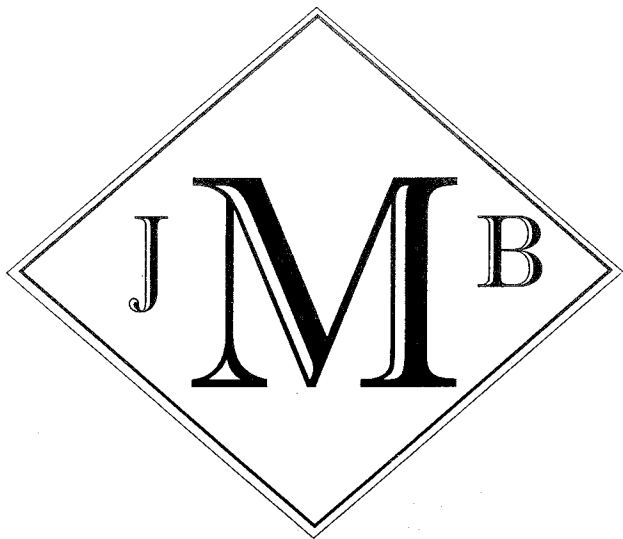
There are some who never pray before meals except at Thanksgiving. Even then the lot usually falls to children who still think "God is great, God is good . . ." is a pretty nifty turn of phrase. And then there are those at the other extreme, who pray not only before every meal, but before popcorn or a candy bar; in short, prior to any oral ingestion of an edible substance, with the possible exception of liverwurst. Let's face it: it's hard to be genuinely thankful for liverwurst.

I've also witnessed variety in prayer length. I've heard four word prayers and prayers that were so long the food had to be reheated.

I guess, like most people, I fall somewhere between the extremes. On the one hand, I realize that praying is important. But I just can't bring myself to go to God before sitting down to a Pop-Tart, especially at 6 a.m. when there is nobody around to appreciate my spirituality. So where do I draw the line?

To pray or not pray? And how to pray? Should I pray as long over a hot dog as I would over steak? Do I have to close my eyes if it's just a peanut butter sandwich? Does God understand those hurried times when I pray while chewing? These are the issues I try to resolve each Thanksgiving. Now that I have considered it, perhaps it's more important just to be genuinely thankful. Maybe even for liverwurst.

— *Eutychus*



It Couldn't Happen to a Most Unlikely Man

less likely

Genesis 9:20-

I. Noah! I've said the name and what first came to your mind?

- A. The hero of the flood. Name means comfort or rest.
- B. Perfect in his generation (Gen.6:19).
- C. Father of Shem, Ham, Japheth.
- D. Preacher of righteousness.

Heb. 11:7

2 Pet. 2:5

- By F. N. being warped at end of things not moved a hair, prepared-saving-condemned*
Saved N. the 8th person = preacher of it
- E. First (Gen.6:5) act after flood built altar and worshiped God.

- 1. Received promise about seed and harvest time. Abraham born 292 year after flood--for 58 years a contemporary of Noah.
- 2. Got sign of the covenant--rainbow.

F. Lived almost ~~10~~ century.

- 1. Saw tower and dispersion of humanity.

G. Old man of 620 years (that alone creates interest in the person) through all the vicissitudes of life starts all over as a husbandman.

- 1. Lit. "man of the ground" -- honorable occupation--not lazy or indifferent in old age.
- 2. May have seen Seth, Enoch, Methuselah.

3. Worked--no old age leisure and depend on someone else--not expecting sons to take care of him, nor expecting God to do special care.

H. One blot--drank wine, got drunk.

1. Even biggest fall.
2. Can't imagine it happening to the noble man.
3. Don't know how long this was after the flood.

II. Noah planted, drank, drunk.

A. Inspired historian with perfect impartiality tells the errors of its heroes.

1. Best of men can fall.
2. Must be kept dependent on God's grace and strength.
3. All need the pardoning mercy of God.
4. Only Jesus is perfect.
5. Never know when temptation and carelessness can overcome one.
6. Noah who was kept sober in drunken company is now drunken in sober company.

Luke 21:34

B. Planted a vineyard, drank wine, was drunken--note rapidity.

1. First mention in Bible of wine.

2. To drink and become drunk is sin.
3. Ignorant? Didn't know wine would make you drunk.
4. Age? Got careless.
5. Wine has not ceased to be a mocker--it still deceives--no one knows he can resist it--just stay from it.
6. Momentarily we will find a man who for centuries has walked with God now lying naked on the floor of his tent in a drunken stupor.
7. Neither age nor experience can make one immune to the evil of this assault.

Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. Watch and pray ye enter not into temptation.

C. Feel the word--DRUNKEN

1. Bible tells it like it is.
2. Drunkenness leads to further shame. *PICTURES OF BONDAGE*
3. It leads to sensuality.

Rom. 13:13 - "Let us walk honestly as in the day . . .

1 Cor. 5:11 - "Drunkard with such a man..

1 Cor. 6:10 - "Drunkards--not inherit kingdom..

4. Exposes our infirmities and secrets.

- D. Uncovered in tent--Ham saw and told.
1. He sins against his daddy.
 2. Impropriety and gossip.
 3. Grandson Canaan does worse though not told that.
 4. Do we delight in the fall of others?
 5. Did he tell brothers with the delight of what he saw? Fill him with joy his dad fell?
 6. Disregarded that this man was perfect in his generation, walked with God, pure in life and piety, was a constant companion of God and walked in harmony with his purpose, ever submits to God's will.
 7. What was the sexual offense we are not told?
 8. Flagrant filial irreverence, no son has the right.
 9. The way man regards the sins of others is a touchstone of character.
 10. Do we see drunkenness as a joke, a jest and enjoy its scene?
 11. It's described as "looking on" yet when Noah awoke he knew something had been done to him--cursed Canaan.
 12. Instead of hiding the shame he goes and tells it.

*Father
Complains
his feezy
son talks
2
languages:
English
Back*

E. Acts of Shem and Japheth

1. It's a well-established fact that children in the same family can be distinguished by widely different dispositions.
2. One child--son of mercy; another--of the devil.
3. Unexpected events percolate these differences.
4. Shem and Japheth use pious care to cover their father's nakedness.
5. They throw a mantle of love over his faults.

I Peter 4:8 *Above all things, have for charity*

6. We need to protect parents and superiors.
7. God blesses those who honor parents.
8. They did not treat the matter lightly.
9. They treated him as one who had fallen and who by God's grace could be restored.

I Peter 4:8 - "Charity covers a multitude of sins."

10. Took garment, laid it on both their shoulders, went backward, covered the nakedness of their father.

11. Honored their dad and preserved their own modesty.
12. There is a veil of modesty God designs for everyone--be wrapt in it and jealously guard it.
13. Only a man's wife should see her husband's nakedness.

Lev. 18:6-7 *The Read. nakedness of thy Father, mother shalt thou not uncover, she is thy mother not uncover*

F. Noah awoke and knew someone had mistreated him.

1. Not told what was done nor how he knew it.

2. But it resulted in curse of Canaan.

III. *Abhor sin - restore in spirit of meekness*
 What lessons do we learn? *How weak or*

- A. See typed work. *the best of men*
- B. Also *Love of drink fills preacher of it.*

1 Cor. 10:12 *Don't Parze Pro. sins*

Eph. 5:18 *Be not drunk w/ wine - full spirit*

1. Hardly a sin to which intoxication does not lead.
2. Drink unfolds our weaknesses and unveils our secrets.

Heb. 2:15-16

3. Action of a father often determines fate of his descendents.

C. Nothing more said of Noah until he died 350 years after the flood - 950 years old.

D. (F. B. Meyer)

1. How weak are the best of men?
2. Love of strong drink will drag a preacher of righteousness into the dust.
3. If our brethren sin, don't parade their faults but cover with mantle of divine love.
4. Abhor sin but restore one in spirit of meekness remembering we may be tempted (Gal. 6:1-4).

E. Lessons from this narrative are many:

1. Temptation and sin are of the greatest danger immediately following victory.
2. Satan assaults the soul with the most vigorous efforts both at the beginning of life (or a career), and at the end of it. Either way, if one falls, the shadow lengthens to lie over the whole life.
3. Idle gossip is exceedingly sin and dangerous.
4. Countless generations may suffer as the result of a single individual's sickness. Cain and Canaan both appear in these early chapters as examples of this.
5. It is not the big temptations alone that cause men to fail, but the little ones as well. Noah could withstand the scorn of the whole world, but he could not resist the over-indulgence of his appetite.

6. Even the greatest and best of men are no substitute for Christ, who alone is the Perfect One and the Saviour of all men.

F. Past work does not furnish power for future victory.

Franklin, KY - 6/15/03

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying, "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors which would get slippery in the winter when wet. So they spread threshed straw on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed at the entry way—a "thresh hold."

Charles Coburn, the actor, enjoyed telling the following as his favorite story: As a boy I fell in love with the theater and worked to earn money so I could see plays pretty often. Knowing this my father warned, "One thing, son: Don't go to burlesque houses." "Why not, Father?" I asked. "You might see something you shouldn't" he replied. That was all I needed. The next time I earned money I went to a burlesque show. Father was right. I saw something I shouldn't have seen—my father.—American Opinion, 7-8-72.

Father

18. Lessons from this narrative are many: (1) Temptation and sin are of the greatest danger immediately following victory. (2) Satan assaults the soul with the most vigorous efforts both at the beginning of life (or a career), and at the end of it. Either way, if one falls, the shadow lengthens to lie over the whole life. (3) Idle gossip is exceedingly sinful and dangerous. (4) Countless generations may suffer as the result of a single individual's sickness. Cain and Canaan both appear in these early chapters as examples of this. (5) It is not the big temptations alone that cause men to fail, but the little ones as well. Noah could withstand the scorn of the whole world, but he could not resist the over-indulgence of his appetite. (6) Even the greatest and best of men are no substitute for Christ, who alone is the Perfect One and the Saviour of all men.

(over)

Studies conducted by Josh McDowell and Norm Wakefield have shown that in many cases it is the father who will have the greatest impact on their future and their view of themselves.

In their book "The Dad Difference," they explain that children often give greater significance to a relationship with their father because he is usually unavailable to them during the day. After conducting numerous surveys, they found that the five most important factors in the formation of a child's self-image are (1) a close relationship with the father, (2) spending a lot of time with the father, (3) spending a lot of time with the

-over-

mother, (4) feeling secure and loved at home
and (5) a grade average of A or B.

--Frank Martin
The Kid-Friendly Dad, pg. 45

A True Advertisement. "If the saloons in a certain town should all agree to advertise facts, this is what they would say--

"Wanted.

"One hundred boys for new customers. Most of our old ones are rapidly dropping out.

"Ten committed suicide last week.

"Twenty are in jail; eight are in the chain-gang.

"Fifteen were sent to the poorhouse; one was hanged.

"Three were sent to the insane asylum.

"Most of the balance are not worth fooling with--they have no money.

"We must have new customers--fresh, young blood.

"Or we will have to shut up shop.

"Doesn't make any difference whose boys you are--We need you. You will be welcome."

Record of Christian Work.
Peloubet's Select Notes

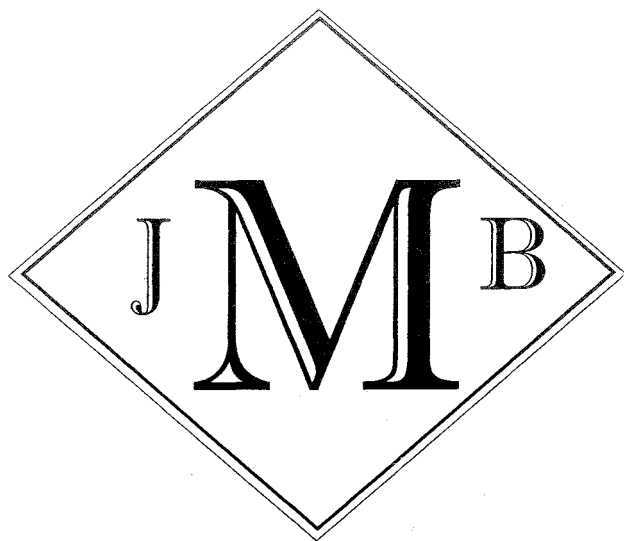
Page 106

1919

I once read about two young boys who were raised in the home of an alcoholic father. As young men, they each went their own way.

Years later, a psychologist who was analyzing what drunkenness does to children in the home searched out these two men. One had turned out to be like his father, a hopeless alcoholic. The other had turned out to be a teetotaler. The counselor asked the first man, "Why did you become an alcoholic?" And the second, "Why did you become a teetotaler?" And they both gave the same answer. "What else could you expect when you had a father like mine?"

— *Pulpit Helps*



THE TOWER OF BABEL

Gen. 11:1-9

- I. All the OT has lessons - this one quite unusual.
- II. Let's see what's there:
 - A. Whole earth - one language, one speech.
 1. Literally of one lip.
 2. One articulation.
 3. One meaning.
 4. Lit. one kind of words - all understood.
 5. Some say it was Hebrew - no proof.
 - B. Journeyed from East Plain - Shinar - Dwelt There.
 1. From "pull up stakes".
 2. To move.
 3. Shinar = Babylon.
 4. Where was original East - (Why aren't we it).
 - C. Said - Make Brick - Burn Thoroughly - Brick vs Stone - Slime vs Mortar.
 1. Lit. a man to his neighbor.
 2. Bricks from "white" - meaning due to nature of clay.
 3. Usually sun dried - these burned.
 4. Slime - to boil tar pits, asphalt, Bitumen.
 5. See civilized men, not savages.
 6. No stones in that plain.

D. Go to - Us - City - Tower - Heaven - Name
- Scatter.

1. Go to = come on.
2. Cain first city builder.
3. Head in the Heavens lit.
4. Name - reputation.
 - a) Ambitious
 - b) Proud
 - c) Exalt self
 - d) Intoxicated with own power.
 - e) No place for God's name.
5. Avoid being scattered.
 - a) Maintain unity.
 - b) Wanted security.
6. We should exalt God's name not ours!

E. Lord came down to see.

1. No work of man escapes God's eye.

Prov. 15:3 "The eyes of the Lord are in"

Heb. 4:13 "All things are naked"

2. All revealed.

Matt. 10:26 "There is nothing cover - hid known.

3. All judged.

4. God's interested in man.

5. He's above - looks down to see what we
glory in.

6. What's so big to man, God had to look
down to see!

7. Lord is careful and thorough before He
passes judgement. So should we be.

F. Lord - People Are One - Powerful

1. One race, one tongue, one purpose.
2. Nothing too hard for them.
3. Unity in sin.

G. Down - Confound - Not Understand.

1. Unexpected may come.
2. Can't resist God!

H. Scattered - Left Off to Build.

1. Abandoned project.
2. Monument to failure and folly.
3. Ultimate benefit of man to scatter.
4. Learn lesson of our littleness.
5. Supremacy of one God over whole earth.

I. Name Babel

1. Confusion - or gate of God.
2. To confound.
3. Doesn't explain how - but maybe change meaning of words - Duck (verb or bird)

West End Wednesday Night - 12/5/84



Early Restoration Leaders

David Lipscomb: Elder and Editor

By Sylvia Root Tester

David Lipscomb's career began before the Civil War and ended in the twentieth century. Because he lived so long, and because he was a man of extraordinary conviction, he had a profound influence upon the restoration movement.

Lipscomb was born on January 21, 1831, in Franklin County, Tennessee. He was a second-generation Disciple. His father had begun reading Campbell's *Christian Baptist* and had shown it to his own brothers. Together they worked in their Baptist church, trying to get the congregation to return to the New Testament plan, until the congregation kicked them out. Then they joined a church that was part of the Barton Stone movement.

Lipscomb grew up in a small congregation for which his father often preached. His father's way of preaching was simple; he read from the Bible and then talked about what he had read. It was a method Lipscomb approved of highly and later adopted as his own.

Schooling was scarce in Franklin County. Lipscomb spent much of his time working on the farm alongside the slaves his father owned. Now and then when there was opportunity, he and his brother would go to school awhile.

A Guiding Principle

When David was thirteen, his father sent him and his brother to live with their grandfather for a year so they could go to school. The school was run by Baptists and stressed the memorization of Scripture. In that year David memorized the Gospels and Acts.

David and William, his brother, re-

turned to help their father. Their taste for schooling, though, had been whetted. So on January 21, 1846, when David was fifteen, he and William enrolled in Franklin College, near Nashville. Franklin College was run by Tolbert Fanning, a well-known leader in the restoration movement. The school was then in its second year.

Lipscomb spent about four years there, completing his work by July of 1849. He wasn't the best of students. His brother William was far better in the classroom. In later years Lipscomb told of a time when he fell asleep in class. He also told of the last whipping he ever received—from Fanning, for stealing a kiss from a Baptist lass.

While Lipscomb was in college, a basic principle crystallized in his mind. Stated simply, Lipscomb developed a profound belief that the only important thing in his life was to follow God's laws. All he did, from this time on, arose from this belief.

He had no wish to be a preacher. When he left college, he wanted to be a farmer and to do what he could to advance Christ's church. After he began preaching, people urged him to let the elders ordain him as an evangelist, but he refused. His preaching might be part of his work as a Christian, but he did not wish to be thought of as a preacher nor confined to preaching alone. Later he did accept the position of elder. All of his work, he felt, was appropriate work for an elder.

For a while Lipscomb worked as a supervisor on a plantation. Later he worked on a railroad line. Then he came back to Nashville, and after a time, he bought a farm.

The Civil War was looming. War fever ran high. Lipscomb thought about events and about the Christian's relationship to civil government. He came to the conclu-

sion that the Christian's duty was to God and God's laws first, that civil governments were not of God's making and, indeed, had been formed in violation of God's overseership. He decided he would obey whatever government was in power if he could, but would not disobey God to obey the government. He followed this course openly throughout the havoc that followed.

As a result, the Confederates thought him a traitor, for he refused to join their cause. Moreover, he tried to persuade others to join him in this refusal. Soon the Union army captured Nashville. The federal officials confiscated Franklin College, where Lipscomb's brother was teaching, and made it into a hospital. Now the Union leaders thought Lipscomb was a Confederate sympathizer, because he refused to join the Union cause. Lipscomb's biographer said, "Amid these chaotic events David Lipscomb moved with as little perturbation as possible."

He even got married. On July 26, 1862, he and Margaret Zellner were wed. Two years later, in June, a baby son was born to them, but the boy died the next spring. Here is the stark account of the burial of their son:

They discussed where they should bury him, and decided that due to the uncertainty of their possessions near Nashville, they should bury him in the Zellner family lot in Maury County. Margaret instructed on old Negro man to cut down a cedar tree and dress some pieces for the coffin. A neighbor lady helped her make a heavy cotton gown for the little corpse. The baby had died early in the night, and by four in the morning, they had loaded their buggy with a few possessions, placed the coffin in their laps, and were riding through Nashville toward Maury County. They were delayed getting through the picket lines but reached Franklin

This is the eleventh of twelve articles in this continuing series by Sylvia Tester.

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that night and stayed with friends. The next day, they arrived at Henry Zellner's home and buried the infant. Margaret found it hard to comfort her husband. But he finally said with grim resolution, "I'll just have to work hard and forget."

David Lipscomb did work hard. He did everything he could to help churches and people during this time.

Finally the war was over. Lipscomb's biographer wrote, "A picture of desolation greeted him everywhere he looked. Farms had been burned, and poverty, like a grim, ghastly monster, stalked the land. These poor people would have to be fed and clothed."

A Revival Journal

Before the war Tolbert Fanning had started a journal, the *Gospel Advocate*, which he and William Lipscomb edited. They ceased publication when the war began, for the mails were stopped and there was no other way to get the journal to readers.

Now, with the war over, it was time to revive the journal. But Tolbert Fanning had all he could do to get his beloved Franklin College going again. (He did begin again, but fire wiped the school out. Later Fanning began and ran Hope Institute, a school for girls.) William Lipscomb was too ill to even consider editing the journal. David Lipscomb thought J. W. McGarvey would make a good editor, but McGarvey was not interested. Reviving the journal was very important to Lipscomb, so he did it.

The *Gospel Advocate* resumed publication in January of 1866, with Tolbert Fanning and David Lipscomb listed as its editors. It soon became clear that Fanning had turned most of the work and all of the editorial direction over to Lipscomb.

Through the postwar years, Lipscomb used the *Gospel Advocate* to raise money to help people in the destitute South. Lipscomb's biographer wrote:

Lipscomb possessed an insatiate desire to help the stressed people of the South. Before the crisis was over he had raised a hundred thousand dollars for the poor. Upon receiving money he would send it on to the elders of a local church to be dispersed among their needy. His rule was to help the needy preacher first so he could go and preach the gospel. Then he would assist the widows and orphans and finally, help the people of the world.

Lipscomb thought this work of helping the needy in the South would be over in a year or two, but he was wrong. A drought hit the South, making conditions even worse for poor people. Then in 1869 a cholera epidemic struck Nashville. Through all this time, Lipscomb solicited



Even his enemies—and he had several—were forced to express their praise for him.

funds through the paper, traveled extensively asking churches in the brotherhood for help, and distributed the funds.

The journal itself was having a difficult time. For three years Lipscomb was hard pressed to pay the paper's bills. Several times he simply stopped publishing until he had enough money for another issue. His own living he made by farming. His way of life had always been simple, and the farm made him and his wife self-sustaining.

In addition to running the *Gospel Advocate*, collecting and distributing money, and farming, Lipscomb helped to build up the churches in the area. He preached often, to three or four people as readily as to a larger group. No one ever described Lipscomb as a great preacher. He stammered. His delivery was low-key. He refused to tell stories. But his method worked. He read from the Bible and then talked about what he had read. People were touched by what he said. Many congregations in the Nashville area were either started or helped along by David Lipscomb.

In his work of helping the poor and encouraging the churches, Lipscomb raised no color barriers. He preached to and worshiped with blacks as well as whites. The congregation he grew up in had been integrated; he believed that all people should be welcomed into the church. The movement toward separate black and white churches gave him great sorrow, and he spoke against it often.

How he managed to do all of this work is difficult to say, for it would have been a heavy load even for a very healthy person, and Lipscomb was often ill.

In the journal Lipscomb spent much time discussing the Christian's relationship to civil governments. His views on the subject were controversial, and not many people in the brotherhood agreed with him. He felt that Christians simply should not be involved; he even felt they should not vote.

He also became deeply embroiled in discussing almost every issue that was troubling the brotherhood. He was against missionary societies, feeling that they were an organization outside the church and in competition with the church. He was against using musical instruments in worship services, feeling that if Christ had wanted His followers to use them, New Testament congregations would have used them.

A Blunt but Concerned Leader

Lipscomb's way of speaking and writing was blunt and plain. People often thought him stubborn and irascible. Some of his opponents disliked him intensely. Yet Isaac Errett, who seldom agreed with Lipscomb on issues, said:

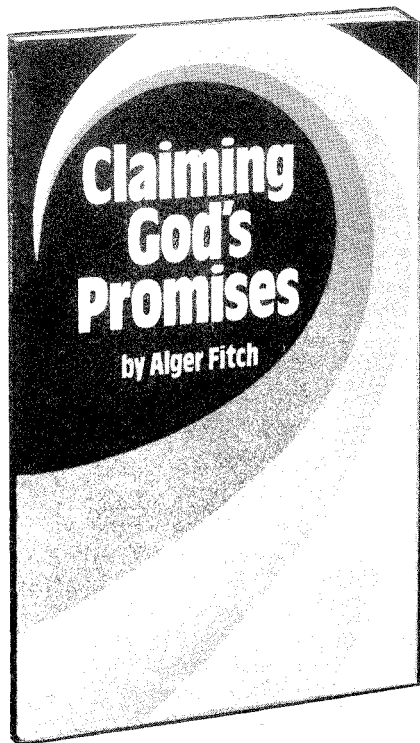
We like Brother Lipscomb for one thing—his entire frankness. There is nothing of the assassin in his warfare—no sulking about the pathway of his opponent with cowardly insinuations, ready to hurl them murderously at the reputation of an unsuspecting and unarmed antagonist. He comes into the field armed *cap-a-pie*, publishes his cause of quarrel, throws down the gauntlet, and waits, in true knightly posture, for an honorable tilt. He may, perhaps, be charged with an excess of frankness. We are inclined to think that ill health and a somewhat atrabilious temperament give an undue soberness to many of his editorials. But we always know where to find him; and if we must have a controversy, we prefer to deal with an open and honorable disputant.

Most of the time, Lipscomb refused to attack others personally. He attacked beliefs and practices, but not people. When one of his editors got embroiled in a fierce debate with an editor of another paper and the attacks turned personal, Lipscomb simply refused to print the articles.

The years passed, and the divisions in the brotherhood became more pronounced. Those who were against musical instruments refused to worship with those who used them. Lipscomb sometimes preached in a church that had an organ, if the congregation agreed not to use the organ while he was there. Other people refused even that amount of fellowship. Lipscomb viewed the division with sadness but felt it was inevitable.

After Tolbert Fanning died, his widow decided to start an orphans' home and school. This had always been a dream of Fanning's, and his widow deeded over her

which of God's precious promises are meant FOR YOU?



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"Every promise in the Book is mine," says an old song. "No," says Fitch, "not literally every promise." He summons us to distinguish the promises meant for us from those that are not. Then he pens a stirring discussion of some of the most precious promises: those of forgiveness, God's presence, security, healing, joy, and eight other things we long for. 41028 \$2.95
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CLAIMING GOD'S PROMISES is the Adult Discovery study for Winter 1984

estate to make the dream come true. David Lipscomb was one of the people she turned to for help in this enterprise. Lipscomb became one of the trustees of the Fanning Orphan School and the agent responsible for raising funds for it. He appealed to readers of the *Gospel Advocate* and traveled extensively to raise money.

The school opened in 1884. Lipscomb visited frequently, always admonishing the girls there to be "neat and tidy." In time he merited the title they affectionately gave him, "Old Brother Neat and Tidy."

In 1889 Lipscomb began planning for a school of higher learning. The Nashville Bible School opened in 1891. It was not a preacher-training school, for Lipscomb thought such institutions were not needed. It was open to any who cared to enter and, in addition to classes in the Bible, it taught many college subjects. By Christmas of 1891, there were eighteen young men enrolled. By October of 1894, there were eighty students, including eighteen young women.

So, at sixty-three, David Lipscomb was still involved with the *Gospel Advocate* (though he had turned over much of the business detail to others), he was still involved with the Fanning Orphan School, he was still preaching near and far, and he was directing and teaching in the Nashville Bible School.

A Difficult Time

More difficulties arose in the brotherhood. Some ministers began preaching against the virgin birth and bodily resurrection of Jesus. Lipscomb attacked these views strongly in the pages of the *Gospel Advocate*.

The nineteenth century was almost over. In the *Gospel Advocate*, Lipscomb wrote,

This number of the *Gospel Advocate* is the last one for the century, and closes thirty-five years of work I have given to the *Advocate* . . .

I feel very sensibly the infirmities of age creeping over me, and the incurable disease, old age, will soon finish its work. . . . I have tried through three score years and ten to keep a conscience void of offense toward God and man. . . . I have tried to do that which would help my fellow men. I have not always succeeded. I have not tried to do what would please them. . . . I have tried to get them to be pleased with that which would build them up, do them good, and fit them for the service of God forever.

In 1902 the church at Newbern, Tennessee, went to court over the question of whether the pro-organ or anti-organ people should retain the church building. Anti-organ elders had come earlier to talk to Lipscomb, who advised them to give up the building, if necessary, to avoid going

to court. He told them it was better to suffer wrong than to do wrong. They went ahead against his advice.

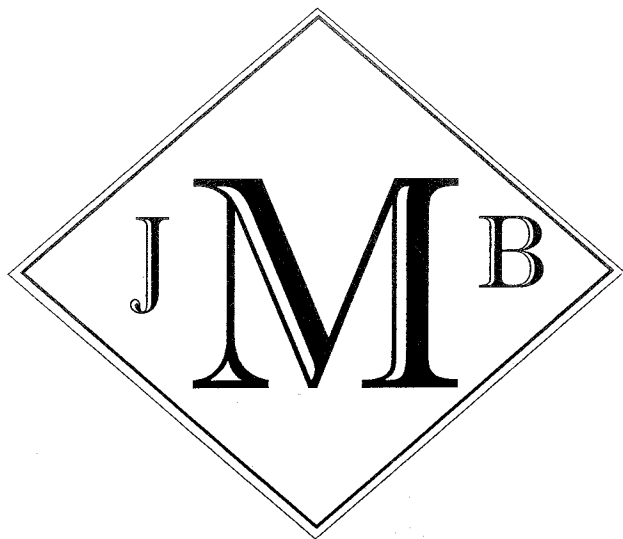
Lipscomb was called as a witness. The court battle dragged out over several years and was a sore tribulation to Lipscomb, who was now past seventy. Not until 1905 was a decision handed down, in favor of the pro-organ people.

During this time Lipscomb's articles were seen less and less in the *Gospel Advocate*. Lipscomb's health was getting worse. By 1904 his eyesight was nearly gone and his hearing was failing. He continued, though, to preach now and then and to write on a fairly regular basis. Lipscomb died in 1917, shortly before America's entry into World War I.

Earlier, an editor of the *Gospel Advocate* had written a short biographical sketch of Lipscomb. Lipscomb read it and was dissatisfied. He felt it was too complimentary and left out his failures. He mentioned this to the author, who answered, "You needn't worry. Your enemies will take care of that."

Lipscomb thought a moment and said, "Possibly things may be adjusted in that way."

Even his enemies, though, paid tribute at his death. For, as one admirer wrote, David Lipscomb saw both the "faults in his friends and the virtues in his foes." ■



BY THE WATERS OF BEERLAHAIROI

Gen 16:14

I. So you have a problem--

A. It's fashionable.

1. Class for teenagers invariably is problems.
2. Open discussion adults--its problems.
3. Camps encourage counseling.
4. Churches have min. of counseling.
5. Feel down right odd unless you have one!

B. But if you think you have one let me tell you of another. The reason for telling it is to tell you of the waters of Beerlahairoi

1. Foreigner in another land.

2. Slave.

3. Ordered to pregnancy by master.

4. Reason is religious.

5. Man's wife commands it.

6. Conception and despite go together.

7. Run away, alone and destitute.

8. Challenged by angel who calls you to revert to former bondage.

9. Told her son would be a wild man.

10. She called the place Beerlahairoi, then God seest me!

11. When I read this clip to Mark and asked

"What would you say?" He answered

"I'd get another chapter."

II. Let's see the story.

A. Highlights of chapter.

1. Sarai took the matter in her own hand.

- a. We need to await God's wishes.
- b. God wants race propagated by marriage.
- c. Suggested Abr. take Hager (means stranger or sojourner.)
- d. Handmaids have not power over own body. Slave is the absolute property so are children born to her considered that of her mistress.

(1) Why shirk from this when we read of Hoffa when we read of Hoffa and women at his trial.

e. When we are wiser than we should be we are snared. (Modernism leads us to lie

f. Calvin said she fanned the flames of impatience.

g. Abraham acquiesces.

JDBates says of liberal of today

2. Hager resentful.

a. Hard to keep down family *guerrilla.*

b. Abraham agrees again.

3. Hager afflicted.

a. Dealt harshly = bring down body, humble mind.

4. Hager flees to Shur (road to Egypt).

a. Angel calls her servant -- liberty by man umission not by flight or stealth.

b. Violation of law is inexcusable.

c. Lawful authority to be obeyed.

d. God will punish the tyrants. *-V-9*

e. She was told to "return and submit".

5. Angel promises.

a. Clark says it was Jesus, none but him

could do such.

b. Have son - - Ish. = God hath heard thy afflictions.

c. He'll be wild, war like.

d. First man in the world God named.

6. Named a well - - Beerlahairoi. (V-13)

B. Purpose of the lesson.

1. First man God named show he's conscious of human needs.

2. She named a well - - to the living one who sees me.

3. Man's wanted the consolation of those waters ever since.

a. God deals kindly even when we need punishment sometimes.

b. It's God who releaves - - ours in to bear.

c. Prayer opens doors - - crys of distress do - - even whine of a puppy.

d. We pray to a God who lives, sees all, hears, and considers.

e. She knew she was favorably remembered.

f. For her the qt. is answered - - God does care! He lives and knows my needs.

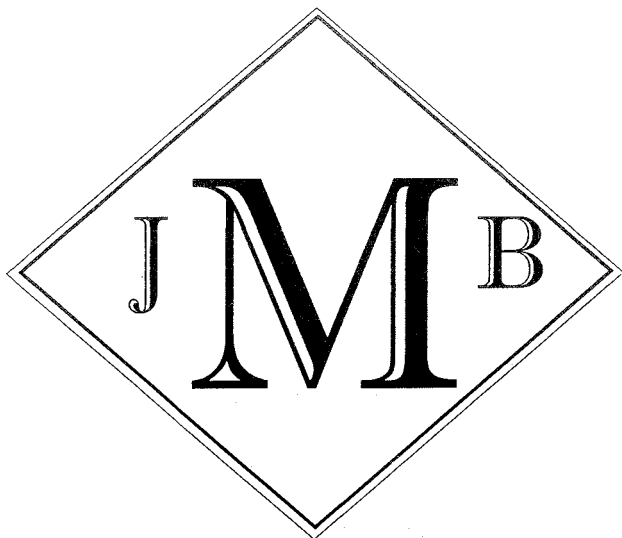
4. She appreciates the events so much she seeks to perpetuate it by naming the well.

C. Let us find peace and transmission of this to others.

1. How gracious is God!

↓ Mother's letter

West End - 9/5/65.



When Pregnancy is Announced

Gen. 18

- I. Many of you are mothers - when you first heard you were pregnant what did you say?
- A. Great joy
 - B. Too much on me already
 - C. Surprise
 - D. Feed another mouth
- II. Let me tell you the reaction of three women who had this experience:
- A. First we go to Sarah - Gen. 18
 - 1. Lord appeared - plains of Mamre
 - 2. Abraham indoor of tent in the heat of the day
 - 3. 3 men - ran - bowed - invitation to wash feet and rest (Lord and his angels)
 - 4. Morsel - Sarah - 3 measures of meal equally - calf, butter, milk (20 qts.= 3 seahs)
 - a. Gave their best
 - b. Wanted Lord in their house
 - 5. Old folks promised a son
 - a. Laughed (Isaac)

b. Is anything too hard for God? (114)

B. Next Elizabeth Luke 1

Luke 1:13 "Fear not 3, prayer heard
E bear

1. We have so few stories in Bible about childhood; Moses, Samson, Samuel, Jesus but little about John
2. Two righteous parents of heir Righteous, walked in all the commandments and ordinances blameless (V-6)
(How do I stand before God?)
 - a. Commands - action, practical life
 - b. Ordinance - regulations of worship
3. "But they had no child" - life has shadow and sorrow
4. Priest ministred in temple - incense - angel - prayer heard "great before God" turn many to the Lord
5. How shall I know this - silent
6. V 23-25 Elizabeth
 - a. Didn't share his doubt
 - b. Disgraced man keeps silent
 - c. Believing woman - gives birth

d. Completed his work as he stayed in temple

e. Modesty fruit of piety

V 57 Now the time came for Elizabeth

7. Elizabeth - my God is an oath - thus God is faithful to keep his promise

C. Now Mary - Luke 1:27

1. Virgin - "Paul never preached it - need only crucifixion and resurrection" - false idea
2. David's house
3. Angel - highly favored - Lord is with thee - would not say that to a wicked woman Deut. 22:13-22
4. Troubled - greatly agitated
5. Fear not - found faith
6. Conceive - Jesus - great, Son of Highest, throne, reign, Kingdom no end
7. How? Holy Ghost

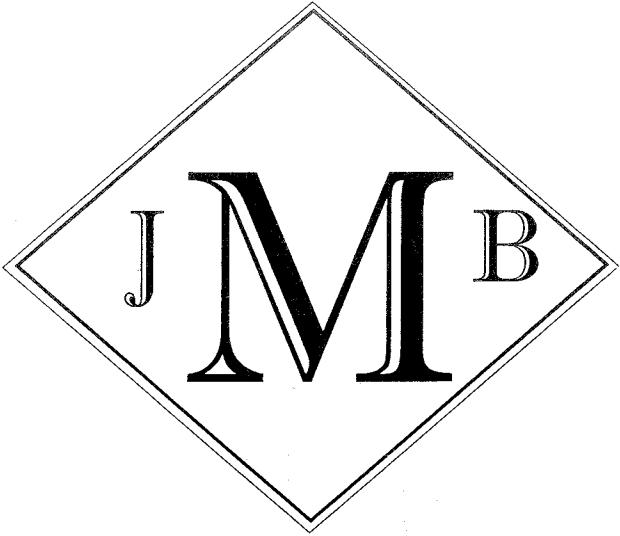
V 38 Behold the hand maid

a. Did not challenge the announcement

b. Did quit the method

Riverwood Bible Class (TCC) - 12/6/95

Berry's Chapel Bible Class (TCC) - 12/7/95



THE DIVERSITY OF GREATNESS

Gen. 18:16-19

I. Put the pencil to it.

A. How many men today would you call great?

(Wife to husband, "One less than you think, dear.)

B. Why did you choose whom you did and what do you see them doing?

1. Advise if free; counsel--pay; work miracle.

2. Dream--creature catch--set alarm.

II. If--and as it should be--did you have Bible men in the list--if so, surely Abraham.

A. In one little paragraph--Gen. 18:16-19--we see it outlined.

1. Billy Mattox & Kiefer statement.

2. May we examine the evidence.
See 8 evidences.

3. George B. Shaw--Hard hearing.

III. As I look for greatness:

A. Great men walk with God.

Gen. 18:16 "Abraham was walking with them"

1. Angels came & promised a child.

2. Were also going to investigate Sodom.

3. Divorce causes: Money, in-laws, sex, addition, religion, children.

4. Germs on \$1.00--nothing live.

2.

B. Secondly, great men establish great friendship.

v-17 "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am"

1. God speaks after the manner of men.
2. Abraham is his friend.

Isa. 41:8

James 2:23

3. With friends we can bare our souls-- they have our trust.

Ps. 25:14

Amos 3:7

4. Secrets of the Lord with those that fear Him.
5. Abraham a prophet and has a right to know.

Gen. 20:7

6. Candidate "Rather vote for Devil."

C. Great Men Have Lofty Purposes.

v-18 "Since Abraham will surely become a great"

1. Split for religious reason--she worships money.
2. Baptism Gen. 1:1 1 part land; 2 parts H₂O.
3. Cleaning shop--remove or sew.

D. Great Men Are A Blessing to Others.

v-18 "And in him all the nations of"

1. Ladies pulling at shopping cart.
2. Lost husband clip.

3. 2 AM call--dog barking.
4. Coonskin--ain't often I get shot.

E. Great Men Are Home Teachers.

v-19 "For I have chosen him in order"

1. Commands by parental authority and personal example.
2. Influence begins at home.

Dan. 12:3 "Those who lead many to righteousness

3. We have a similar calling.
4. Our families vital.
5. Rill--streamlet--creek--river--ocean idea as influence ever widens.
6. Our children are trained for the work of God.
7. Abraham had time to pray with and teach his children.
8. Isaac with him 75 years, Jacob and Esau 15 years.
9. Those who expect family blessings must be conscious of family duties.
10. Insurance--sleep on it tonight.
11. Have any brothers? Thank goodness.

F. Great Men Teach Households

1. Influence servants and workers.
2. He was the only Bible they read since no written word--his teaching and his told experiences counted.

G. Great Men Prepare & Serve Tomorrow.

v-19 "And after him to keep the way"

1. What we are must be projected unto tomorrow.
2. Teach children that they may teach theirs the way of the Lord and be regulated by it.
3. After he's gone he wants God's way to be honored by succeeding generations.
4. Way of the Lord specific.

5. *Model to son-in-law - don't you
like the other's water*

H. Great Men Know What Truth Is

v-19 "By doing righteousness and justice"

1. Must know--take notice of these basic truths.
2. Preserve pure faith and pure morals amid corruption--and this is said on the outskirts of Sodom!
3. Be serious in our worship of God & be honest in dealings with all men.
4. Note: declare his judgements to be executed on workers of iniquity.
5. David May clip.
6. Term limits--10, 20, life.

Costly Matters

If it's free, it's advice; if you pay for it, it's counseling; and if you can use either one ... it's a miracle!

Edwardsville, Ill. Rudy

Friendly Advice

"Doctor, every night I dream I'm being chased by a creature from outer space. Just when it is about to catch me, the alarm goes off. I wake up and I'm safe. What's your advice?"

Service

Message in dry cleaning shop:
"No matter how bad the spot, we'll take it out — or sew up the hole."
San Diego, Calif. Anna

"Don't forget to set the alarm."

Arlington, Texas Al

Bob Orben; "The Joke Teller's Handbook"

The candidate was beating the bushes for votes and stopped to talk to a farmer working in his garden.

"Here's my card," he said. "I'm running for the state legislature and I hope you'll vote for me."

"Vote for you?" the man shouted. "Why, I'd rather vote for the Devil himself."

"Well," the candidate said, "in case your friend decides not to run, I'd like for you to vote for me."

Winston K. Pendleton; "Funny Stories, Jokes, and Anecdotes"

A slightly discombobulated lady strode up to the lieutenants desk of her neighborhood police station to report the disappearance of her husband.

Asked to describe him, she began, "He's a pathetic little shrimp, about four feet seven, bald as an eagle, one leg shorter than the other, and a nose broken in three places. Also, his arms are too long and hang down past his knees like a gorilla." She sighed heavily, and concluded, "to tell you the truth, I don't know why I'm asking you to look for him!"

k

I'm in favor of term limits for Congress; I just can't decide whether the term should be ten, twenty, or life.

Vicki L. Westing

Quoted in Robert Makinson's "Latest Jokes"

The old man lived in a shanty by the river. When cold weather came he put on a scruffy old coonskin coat whenever he went out wandering. One evening some duck hunters spied what they took to be a bear advancing on them through the riverside brush. Before old Jim could shout, one stood up and fired. The hunters rescued him and rushed him to a hospital, where a nurse immediately undressed him and began to bathe him.

"You don't take a bath very often, do you?" she sniffed, scrubbing vigorously.

"Nope," drawled old Jim. "It ain't very often I get shot."

Cammie G. Pyles

David May, who resigned as a vital statistics registrar for Buffalo, N.Y., after admitting taking \$200,111 in cash from document fees, asked the city for \$8,500 due him for 50 days of unused leave, and Councilman Alfred T. Coppola said, "The man couldn't afford to get sick or take a vacation because he was too busy stealing."

■ A -

Paradox

As two friends ambled through the cemetery reading inscriptions, one said to the other: "Look at this one, it says, 'Here lies a lawyer and an honest man.'"

The other man replied: "How come they buried two fellows in the same grave?"

Bowen, Ill.

Bobbie

An Only Child

"Mother," said the little boy. "Today my teacher asked me whether I had any brothers and sisters, and I told her I was an only child."

"And what did she say?" asked the mother.

"She said, 'Thank Goodness.'"

Bay City, Texas

M.S.

Baptism

Faced with the complaint he preached too often on baptism, the pastor asked for suggestions.

"How about Genesis 1:1?"

asked one member of the church.

"Thank you," said the preacher, and began to quote: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

"Now everyone knows the earth is composed of one part land and two parts water, and that's enough to baptize everyone in the world."

Spruce Pine, N.C. Taylor

Religious Controversy

Overheard: "My girl and I split up because of religious reasons: She worships money, and I don't have any."

Appleton City, Mo. E.V.

Modern Version

The children in the first grade were singing "God Bless America." The teacher heard a little girl singing it this way, "Stand beside her and guide her, through the night with a light from a bulb."

Bay City, Texas Mildred

No Hurry

Life insurance agent to possible client: "Don't let me frighten you into a hasty decision. Sleep on it tonight and, if you wake up tomorrow, let me know what you decided."

Webster Groves, Mo. R.R.

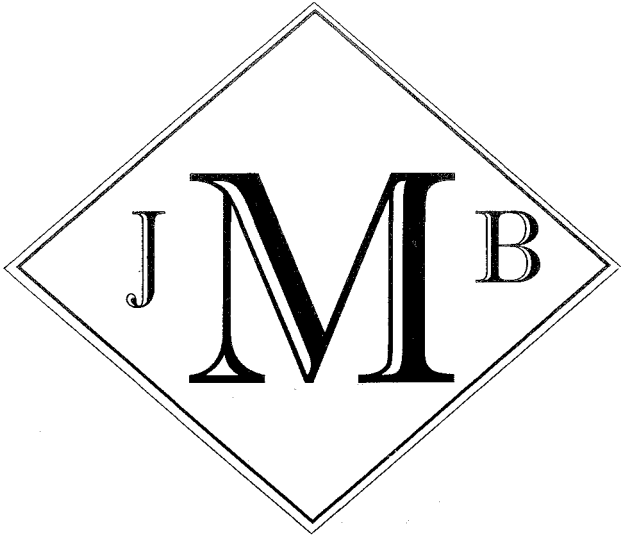
Supermarket Struggle

I grabbed a grocery cart stuck to a long line of carts, and it wouldn't let go. A stranger saw my problem, grabbed the other end and started pulling.

Presently, someone offered, "Please, ladies, let's not fight over a cart. Here, take mine."

Akron, Ohio

Holly



Issues That Face The Home

Gen.18:16-19

- I. My assignment: Issues Facing the Home." I begin by quoting great folk of various generations.
 - A. First, God's view of Abraham.
 1. When God wanted to start a nation, He started with a home.
 2. Our text shows many great principles.
 - a) Authority-see "command."
 - b) Example - "his household after him."
 - c) Obedience to the "way of the Lord."
 - 1) To do justice.
 - 2) To do judgment.
 3. Clipping on Abigail Van Buren
 4. Rearing of Alex Campbell
 5. N.B. Hardeman quote
 - B. Thus I believe we are off to a good start.

II. It is not a desire to be negative, yet that is the framework in which we usually place issues.

A. I will deal mostly with the negative.

B. But please remember the antedote to the poison I tell about is the very opposite of these things in a positive way.

C. I'd like, as an aid to memory, to suggest the ABC's of home issues.

1. The absence of parents.

2. The banishment of Beatitudes.

3. The compromise of convictions.

III. The ABC's of Issues

A. The absence of parents.

1. I do not believe it is the crime of the male alone, but also the female.

2. Both are needed - even as a young man wrestles with what is E-mail.

3. Ideal home has a mother and a daddy-though not always possible-neither can entirely take over for the other.

4. Black athletes give houses to their mothers, not dads.
5. Why are we absent?
 - a) Satan enters - see Bledsole card.
 - b) Haggai clip.
 - c) Christian Appeal - front and back articles.

B. Banishment of Beatitudes

1. How much are we teaching our children?
2. Are we role models?
3. Gallop quote.
4. ACU findings.
5. Mark McGwire interview.
6. Kid friendly dad card.
7. Bungalow clip.
8. Clean sweep.
9. Spiegel quote.
10. Can opener on Tuesdays.

C. Compromising of Convictions.

1. I love the Passover celebration.
 - a) Feast a joy.
 - b) When our children "ask"- parents are to answer.

2. Search for America's faith.
3. Haggai on "Remember."
4. Wilson quote.
5. Homosexual quote.

IV. Surely none of these Issues are unsurmountable.

A. Crowell poem.

B. Absence of Parents

Banishment of Beautitudes

C. Compromise of Convictions

Minerva Drive, Murfreesboro, TN - 6/14/00

I was reared in a home with a mother and father who really loved each other, so I know what love is. I have seen both a son and a daughter safely through the trials of their tempestuous teens, so I know what satisfaction is. I have had by my side for 25 years the gentlest, kindest, most considerate human being I have ever known, so I know what happiness is. I have prayed. And my prayers have been answered, so I know what faith is. And because I have known all these things, I know what wealth is.

—Abigail VanBuren

Home

HOW ALEXANDER CAMPBELL WAS REARED

"It was their rule that every member should memorize, during each day, some portion of the Bible, to be recited at evening worship. Long passages were often thus recited, but if only a single verse was correctly repeated by the small children, it was received with encouraging approbation. Attention was usually called to the important facts or truths presented in each recitation, questions were asked in regard to them, and appropriate remarks briefly offered. Finally, the Scriptures repeated during the week were again rehearsed on the evening of the Lord's Day.

"This sacred day also was faithfully observed. Every member of the household was expected to go to meeting, and it was understood that each one was to give, upon returning home, an account not only of the test, but of the discourse itself, embracing its leading points. This was designed to secure, on the part of the young especially, a proper attention to the services of public worship, so that the church might not be a place for the observance of cold and lifeless forms, but in reality a house of prayer and of true religious edification...

"[Alexander Campbell]..., long after the death of his mother, paid to her memory the following tribute..." 'Having a peculiarly ready and retentive memory, she treasured up the Scriptures in early life, and could quote and apply them with great fluency and pertinency from childhood to old age. She, indeed, also possessed a mental independence which I have rarely seen equaled, and certainly never surpassed, by any woman of my acquaintance. Greatly devoted to her children, and especially to their proper training for public usefulness, and for their own individual and social enjoyment, she was indefatigable in her labors of love, and in her attention to their physical, intellectual, moral and religious training and development...

"To my mother, as well as to my father, I am indebted to for having memorized in early life almost all the writings of King Solomon--his Proverbs, his Ecclesiastes--and many of the Psalms of his father David. They have not only been written on the tablet of my memory, but incorporated with my modes of thinking and speaking."

Home

N. B. Hardeman Said.....

There are but two divine institutions known to man. One of them is the home and the other is that church about which so much is said in the New Testament. It also is a family, in many respects based upon similarities and likenesses of the earthly family. God is the Father thereof. Jesus Christ is represented here on earth as the bridegroom, and all Christians everywhere constitute the bride. I would not be misunderstood, and I would love to get this matter clearly fixed in your mind that every man and every woman who has believed and obeyed the gospel is a member of God's family, God's church, by virtue of the fact of the new birth

Now, many of those, perhaps thus born again have, in addition to and without the slightest authority on earth from Jehovah, become identified with other institutions, and in that act I verily believe they have gone farther than God ever intended. Now, the difference between that class of people and myself is this: I am trying to get them to leave off that for which there is no authority and just stay where they were the very minute they became God's children, feeling absolutely certain that as long as we are governed by the Bible, that is sufficient. Other matters have but a destructive influence by their divisive nature and their partisan spirit.

I do not claim, and have never so done, that those who have taken no stand with denominations are the only Christians upon earth; but here is the contention: Having simply believed and obeyed the gospel, we propose to be Christian only. Now, there is a wonderful difference between saying that we claim to be Christian only and that we claim to be the only Christians.

The Bible clearly predicts that the Lord's people, some of them, will be engaged in a state of confusion; and the Lord bids his people to come out of that state and just stand, if you please, as humble Christians only."---N. B. Hardeman, Hardeman's Tabernacle Sermons, Vol. 2, page 252-253.

I. HOW SATAN ENTERS THE HOME

III. A. 5a

A. Makes a supreme effort to master one--Eve.

B. With this one he finds greatest weakness and concentrates his efforts there.

1. It may be secret desire to eat the forbidden fruit--adultery.

2. Tempers, liquor, gambling, vanity, pride, selfishness.

3. Money, power, popularity.

C. He gently prys loose the moral restraints.

D. He raises questions about the right of God to lay down rules.

E. He appeals to the desire to be free and do as one pleases.

"Sermon Outlines on The Family and the Home"

By Adolph Bedsole

Page 24

Home, sweet . . . III. 56.

A modern woman confronted the zealous Realtor who was trying to sell a home to her. "A home!" she snapped. "Why do I need a home? I was born in a hospital, educated in a college, courted in an automobile, and married in a church. I live out of paper bags from fast food places, spend my mornings on the golf course and my afternoons and evenings in front of the television. And when I die I intend to be buried at the mortuary. All I need is a garage.

Thomas S. Haggai
quoted in *IGA Grocergram*

FOREVER A FATHER

Today's Heroes

In their hit song "Homesick" the rock group Soul Asylum scream, "I'm homesick for the home I've never had." Most of us over 30 probably can't understand their words, but we need to hear what they are saying.

In this age of throw-away marriages and transferable children, a growing host of angry voices are joining in this tragic chorus, grieving for the family relationships and the normal home experiences they have been denied. We will likely deal with their grief and anger in America's social patterns for decades to come.

Recently a host of popular religious leaders have raised their voices to decry the absenteeism of fathers in so many American homes. Their concerns are on target, of course, but I think we're overlooking something very obvious.

With so many fathers going AWOL, the child-raising duties in America are being borne valiantly by a growing army of single mothers. Former education secretary William Bennett correctly observes that "for 9 out of 10 children in single-parent homes, the father is the one who isn't there." Mama is, and she's bearing the load.

"Noah loaded the Ark with two

horses, two cows, two sheep, and two of every kind of animal he could find," one first-grade Sunday school teacher told his spellbound class. When he asked them what they had learned from the story, one little fellow volunteered, "You've got to be married to be saved." Maybe so on the Ark, but not in America today.

In his fine little book *Success Is a Moving Target*, Robert Raines points out a modern paradox.

"Men in our society are not allowed to fail in career but are allowed to fail in personal relationships," he notes, "while women are allowed to fail in career but not allowed to fail personally as mother and wife."

I'd never really thought about it that way, but Raines may be right. This may explain at least in part why so many lonely ladies are struggling to the limits of their ability to house and feed and nurture their offspring with little or no help from the fathers who sired them.

Let's pay special tribute to this growing band of modern heroes, these mothers who against all odds are doing their best single-handedly to raise sons and daughters in a difficult world.



The current survey, however, indicates that 75 percent of parents say the home is the most important, 16 percent name the church, and 3 percent say the school. The prevailing opinion among all groups and faiths and in all regions of the country is that the home is the key factor in the religious and spiritual development of children.

From: The Search for America's Faith,

George Gallup,
David Poling

Page 50

III B.3

SURVEY SAYS...

You might remember the television game show, "Family Feud." The object of the show was for the families to match their answers to answers given by the studio audience. The family whose answers were most often matched by the studio audience was the winner. After the family would answer, the host, Richard Dawson, had a famous line. He would very dramatically say, "survey says...." and then the answer would be revealed.

Recently, Abilene Christian University surveyed 530 teens, ages 11-19, who are members of the church of Christ south, west, midwest, and east regions of The United States. Survey says.... and what it does say should be disturbing to people of the faith.

1. 39% believe that adultery is the only biblical reason for divorce.
2. 22% believe that Christians should only marry Christians.
3. 71% said they were interested in the church.
4. 92% believe Satan is real.
5. 79% believe God will punish the wicked in hell.
6. 65% believe that church membership does not matter as long as you love God.
7. 81% believe that God guided the authors of the Bible as they wrote.
8. 80% believe that salvation comes by faith and baptism.
9. 70% believe that Christians should partake of the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week.
10. 22% believe women should never take a leadership role in worship.
11. 14% believe that one must be an active member of the church to go to heaven.
12. 11% believe that it is wrong for girls to lead youth group devotionals and songs.
13. 10% believe that musical instruments in worship is wrong.
14. 81% of those polled, who said they did not drink alcoholic beverages, said they were virgins.
15. 37% of those polled, who said they drank alcoholic beverages, said they were virgins.
16. 85% polled said they were virgins.

- Wayne

The Record Last Week
 Bible classes -
 AM Worship - 97
 Contribution - \$1,456

Sheridan
ARK

The KEN BURNS interview McGwire

CLICK ON OUR WEB SITE
www.usaweekend.com for the complete transcript of Ken Burns' 2-hour interview with Mark McGwire. In the transcript, McGwire talks about last summer's exuberant home run chase as a counterpoint to the rest of the news:

KB: So were you an antidote to a year of politics and scandals?

MM: It took the heat away from him [Clinton] in a funny sense, yeah.

KB: Do you dabble in politics or have any opinions on all that?

MM: No, but he called me twice, the night of 62 and then the last game, 70. That's pretty cool.

order to hit a baseball or to open your

der for somebody to open up and tive side than to hit a baseball. I always work on hitting a baseball. to work on showing their emotions.

man upstairs" has a plan for you. It's as

t on this Earth for a reason, and he hat it is. He gives you certain tal-with most people is they don't want is. Obviously, he gave me the great tion I have to hit a baseball, and the to play the game. There's been so rough my life. Adversity happens slow you down, kick you in the butt, d I don't think it happens by chance.

in open heart, too, that allowed you to ds with Roger Maris' family, allowed competitor Sammy Sosa during the chase, allowed you to keep your son,

ility to be who I am. I'm not going and try to be somebody I'm not. emotion in my press conference, lieve it. Athletes aren't supposed to e — I'm an athlete, I'm a human gs, I have a heart just like anybody who resist showing their emotions lon't advance in life.

I am. Take it. I'm talented in my a being who is sensitive toward my other people.

s that what makes heroes interesting it strength but their weaknesses. You sion to the word "hero," because you ur obvious gifts, but your weaknesses. d to talk about them. If people look "This guy has a suit of armor on; ies him" — my Lord, how false is o talk about my divorce, and going ms I had injury-wise and going to . How many people are going to psychologist? They think you're

crazy. But you know what? Everybody needs one, whether they want to admit it or not. Everybody has some problems they need to talk to someone profes- sionally about. I'm not afraid to talk about it.

It took me 28 years to try to start to figure out who I was. Can you imagine somebody that's, like, 50 years old that never started?

Q: In the public eye, everything's either all good or all bad. That's what I learned from you in the past year: how complicated human beings are, and how to tolerate that complexity and the undertow that exists in every human life.

We are complicated. It's that simple. But nobody wants to use common sense and talk about it. They want to talk about the simple, easy things.

Q: You tell kids who come up and say, "You're my hero," that "your mom or dad should be your hero. You should consider them."

That's the way I was taught. But how times have changed: Divorce is at such a high rate; there are children being born who don't have a father. It's tough for them to say "My parents are heroes" because there aren't parents around. Another thing is that people don't want to stand up to the responsibilities of being a parent. I went through a divorce, and divorce isn't easy, but thank God I have a great ex-wife and we've made things work out for the better of the children. I've had people come up to me, professional people, and say, "You know what? My wife and I are going through a hard time and we read what you said, and we're working on it." It's made them understand that two grown human beings — OK, the hardest thing in the world today is to have a relationship with the opposite sex.

Q: Harder than hitting a baseball?

It's harder than anything, and today the majority of it doesn't work. But if there is a child involved and they see all this bad stuff that goes on, the child is going to be worse off.

Q: Where did that concern come from in you? I know you donate money anonymously to groups that help kids. Are there experiences in your childhood that you are confronting or dealing with by manifesting your love for children and your concern?

No, it is just seeing how messed up children are today. I have been lucky enough to be put in this position to have a slight say and try to help people. That's where the man upstairs puts you in situations to do something. The way children are being raised today is not good.

To see that they are not interested in school, that they are getting into drugs, getting into violence, the thought of kids bringing guns to school and shooting people — there's a reason that happens. You have to get back to their homes.

Q: Cecil Fielder said sometimes when he's at the plate the ball looks as big as a watermelon, and other times it looks smaller than a golf ball. Talk about that moment of sight.

To me, the ball looks clearer. You can see [National League president] Leonard Coleman's name on it. You can see the Rawlings stamp. You can see the dot on the slider; you can see the tumbling of a split finger [fastball]. It goes with really studying that pitcher and being totally mentally locked in.

Q: How did you handle the pressures? I am realistic about things. I realize the season is a very long season.

Continued on next page

"People who don't show emotion don't advance in life."



Five Major Time Wasters in the Home III B.6

1. Television. Nothing has gobbled up more time than the one-eyed monster that resides in most living rooms around the country.
2. Newspapers and magazines. I enjoy my afternoon reading as much as the next person, but if my children feel left out, my reading time must go.
3. Unnecessary housework. An old professor used to refute the saying "If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right." He would reply, "I can think of a lot of things worth doing that are not worth doing right - like ironing and

-over-

folding bedsheets." We all want to keep a clean house, but we don't need to let it become an obsession. Time with our children is more important.

- 4. Personal hobbies. An enjoyable hobby can be good for us, but not if we're constantly using it to get away from the wife and kids. Let's use hobbies to get our kids involved with the family, not to escape.
- 5. Catching up on office work. "Wait a minute-that's not a waste of time!" you might say. But it certainly does take time that could be spent with your kids. We all have to use our own time to catch up on occasion, but we

Should see that it remains the exception rather than the rule The Kid Friendly Dad - Pg 23 Frank Martin

BUNGALOW

Home

"I can't understand why you call your place a bungalow," said Smith to his neighbor.

"Well, if it isn't a bungalow, what is it?" said the neighbor. "The job was a bungle, and I still owe on it."

III B.7

Feb '90

Clean Sweep

Home III B.8

I AM NOT the world's best housekeeper. Clean but cluttered describes my usual state of affairs and I do tolerate a little bit of dust. One day, while my grandson and a friend were in my house, I overheard them talking.

"We don't have anything like this at our house," the friend remarked as he traced pictures in the dust.

"It's okay to write your name," said my grandson. "But you're not supposed to write the date."

—Contributed by Nancy Martin

Time for a Change - A survey sponsored by Spiegel, Inc. found that one out of every five Americans rearrange their furniture every single month. The most common reason found for this action is boredom.

Home
B.9

I HAVE a close friend who is a talented poet. She claims that her home is one of the most disorganized households in the country. To emphasize her point, she once told me: "My poor husband has learned to live with the mess. He came home a few days ago, stood in the middle of our chaotic kitchen and, in a totally unruffled voice, asked, 'Dear, where do we keep the can opener on Tuesdays?'"

- LILIANE ROBERTS (Babster, N.Y.) *B.10*

- 17 percent of parents read the Bible together with their children
- 44 percent of parents talked about God and religion with their children
- 31 percent of parents prayed or meditated with their children
- 23 percent watched or listened to religious programs on TV or radio.

From: The Search for America's Faith, George Gallup, David Poling

Pgs. 50, 51

III. C 2.

In our survey, parents of children under 18 years old who live in the same household were asked whether or not they had done the following, in the previous seven days, with their children: said grace at meals, attended church services, attended other church-related activities, read the bible together, talked about God and religion with their children, watched or listened to religious programs on TV or radio with their children. Here are the findings:

- 42 percent of parents said grace before meals with their children
- 38 percent attended church services with their children
- 28 percent attended church-related activities with their children

OVER

One Minute Please

By DR. TOM HAGGAI

Remember, most failures are not the result of someone lacking knowledge as much as having a bad attitude. It is sad that we have poor students, a poor home life, a poor sense of worth, because of parents lacking pride and failing to be good examples. There are parents who can and will be effective models for their children.

There are those who can but will not. They live for their own excitement and satisfaction. Doing so, they mentally abandon their children. Then there are those parents I respect and pull for. It appears life has dealt them some tough blows. They cannot do what they would for their children, but they seem to be willing to die trying.

The home incubates what our society will become.

Home; No place like

The perfect home is a drawn curtain against mistrust and discontent. It is a magnet which draws those whose duties have taken them abroad back to the heart of contentment and rest.

Home is a field where there may be grown character, nobility, and song, or where by neglect may grown the thorn tree of strife and the bramble bush of discontent.

Home is what you make it. Home is heaven or hell. It is a residence for angels or a dungeon filled with demons.

Oliver G. Wilson

May/June, 1997

Quote, "The Sp

Unfortunately, some of the most sincere people can rear the most profound sexual deviates. The homosexual, for example, has been found to have had two prime influences: a domineering, overly possessive and aggressive mother, and/or a detached, hostile, passive father. The combination is lethal. Mark it well—a clear reversal of the biblical roles produces perversion. One study involving 1,800 homosexuals strongly concludes, "A constructive, supportive, warm relation with a father precludes the possibility of a homosexual son." Homosexuals are usually not the product of a strengthening, undergirding home.

2. *Children should be exposed to parents deeply in love with each other and unashamed to demonstrate that love in the presence of their children.*

Home

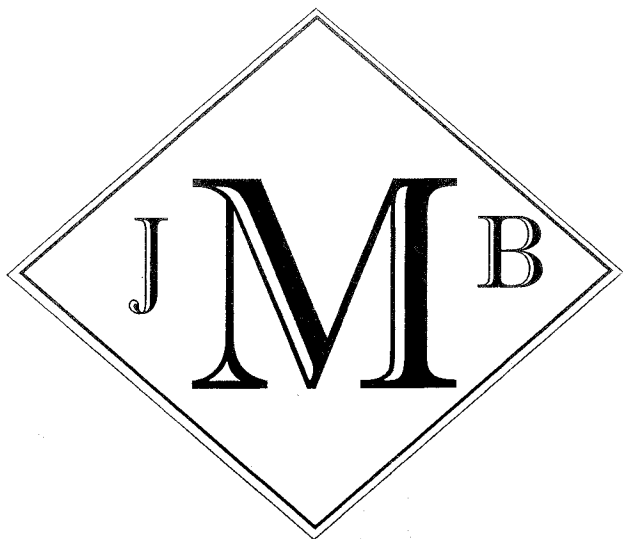
III C. 5.

SO LONG AS THERE ARE HOMES

So long as there are homes to
which men turn
At the close of day,
So long as there are homes where
children are,
Where women stay,
If love and loyalty and faith be found
Across these sills,
A stricken nation can recover from
Its grave ills.

So long as there are homes where
fires burn
And there is bread,
So long as there are homes where
lamps are lit
And prayers are said,
Although a people falter through
the dark
And nations grope,
With God Himself back of these
little homes,
We still can hope.

GRACE NOLL CROWELL



THE MOUNTAIN, THE MAN, THE MASTER

Genesis 22

I. Some places loom with great importance:

- A. Moriah
- B. Here meet the Man, the Moment, and the Master.
- C. May I tell you the very familiar Gen. 22 story.

II. Came to Pass - After These Things

- A. Sunset years for Abraham.
- B. Old man has just endured much, and now more?
 1. Waited fulfillment of promise.
 2. Ishmael sent away with all that heartache.
 3. All promises for a son failed - finally Isaac.
 4. All future based on him.
 5. Tranquil period - 6 promises made earlier - now 7 & last appearance of God to him.
 6. Trials often come when we are weakest, unexpected.
 7. Always remember - there is more to come.

III. God Tempted Abraham.

- A. I may not know what it means here but I do know a perfect God never tempted anyone to do wrong.
 - B. Word means:
 1. Proven for a purpose.
- 1 Pet. 1:7 "That the trial of your faith"
2. Put to the proof (Candlish)
 3. Prove (Strahan)
 4. Test (Nicoll)

C. Significance of this.

1. True faith is sure to be tested.
- 2. "There is no way to self knowledge but thru trial". Augustine
- 3. "Talent is formed in solitude, character in the stream of the world". Goethe
4. Only way to be truly strong is to have faith.
 - a) All loves must be subordinate to the love of God.
 - b) God never fails under the leanings of faith.
 - c) Faith is expressed in dutifulness.

D. The Unusual Command.

1. Calls Abraham.
 - a) 7th Communication - and last.
 - b) Here Am I - ready in a moment's notice - respond like athlete from the bench - who, me?
2. Take now, etc.
 - a) No mistaking of what he said.
 - b) God gave no reason for his command - seems against his law.
 - c) Moriah = chosen of God. (Coffman says mt. was Calvary)
- 3. Reason with me about this.
 - a) It would be natural for Abraham to now rest on Isaac more than a future with God - he's it.
 - b) We are all tested on what we love most.
 - c) We each must part with an Isaac.

Land of
Region of

1 Sam. 3:18

It is the Lord; let him do what he will 3.
seemeth him good
d) God must have reality.

4. Was it real?

- a) Some make play that Abram misunderstood - offer, not slay.
- b) Broadman says a parable.
 - (1) Abraham thought it up himself.
 - (2) Not real?
- c) Abraham was not crazy - would never have thought of this unless God said do it.

E. Unusual Obedience.

→ 1. Rose Early. *Next AM NW*

- a) Explain to Sarah? Pagans? that a man would cut the throat of his own son to the glory of God?
- b) Faith is believing God & acting on it promptly - Boice.
- c) No delay.
- d) Calm exterior tho in deep trouble.
- e) Never rose late.

Mk. 1:35 "In the morn., rising up a great while
f) Quickly to task.

Ps. 119:60 "I made haste, & delayed not to keep
g) "His obedience was action ready, quick because of absolute faith".
Morgan.

-
- h) We must always accept God's will & believe he has our best interest at heart.

2. Took 2 men.
3. Saddled ass.
4. Isaac clave wood.
5. Rose & went.
 - a) Went where sent.
 - b) Did not charge foolishly.
 - c) Didn't defer until he understood God's secret counsel.
 - d) Went north 50 miles.
 - e) Faith taught him not to argue.

IV. The Day of Sacrifice Came.

A. 3rd Day

1. Many 3rd days in Bible.
2. All show resurrection.
3. Son dead for 3 days in the mind of Abraham. (DeHoff)

B. Saw Mt. Afar Off

1. On journey no word or deed betrayed his plan.
2. Retained complete mastery over feelings - seeing him thru.

Job 22:21 "Acquaint thyself with him & be at peace"

C. Abide here

1. Left servants so they would not interpose. (Henry)
2. Worship

a) Lad - how old was Isaac:

(1) 10, 20, 33

(2) Old enough to walk from Beersheba to Moriah, understand nature of sacrifice, carry wood up a mt., grasp God's will, & be ready to die.

(3) Word lad one for armed soldier.

- b) In worship - see God.
- c) Worship is not estasy, subjective attitude but doing what God commands.

3. Come again.

- a) Never lost hope.
- b) Raise him up.
- c) Faith only looks at God, not circumstances. *could never preach*

Gal. 1:15-16 *But when it please God, who separate*

D. Conversation Up the Mountainside

1. Wood on Isaac.

- a) Jesus carried own cross.

John 19:17 *"And he bearing his cross went forth*

- b) Willingly submitted - tho asked why?

2. Fire, knife, went

- a) Lose your only son by your own hand.

- b) Every circumstance deepened the stab in parents' bosom. (FJB)

3. Went both together.

- a) Said twice. *Knew? was*

- b) Heart & bodily presence *coming*
submissive.

- c) One in suffering.

4. Where's Lamb - God Provide

- a) Abraham expected a substitution??
- b) Provide - see to himself.

Rom. 8:32 "He that spared not his own Son"

- c) Or Providence

- d) Did actually provide for us.

Isa. 53:10 "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him
Zech. 13:7

e) 2 ways Ram & Lamb.

f) God will ever provide for the soul.

E. Isaac Bound.

1. Via great father, son, wife he always a lesser role - except here!
2. Isaac obeyed - no struggle.
3. Isaac trusted his father's love.
4. Submitted. *that I might take it*

John 10:17-18 *... doth my father love me, because I lay*

F. Sacrifice Stopped - Now I Know.

Heb. 11:17-19 *By faith A when he was tried, offer*

James 2:21 *was not A. just by words, when he had*

1. God speaks after human fashion.
2. No way to approach God but by faith.
3. Nothing more worthless than a spirit of empty pretensions.
(Loiexeau)
4. When put to the test we truly discover God.
5. Without trial we are theorist.

G. Ram - Mt.

1. Blood has to be shed by either us or a substitute.
2. No blessing that does not come to us except via cross.

John 8:56-58 *Your father A rejoice to see my day*

3. Jehovah Jireh. *He saw it & was glad*

Ps. 55:22 *Cast thy burden upon the lord & he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the rt. to be moved*

V. New Covenant

A. God renews his promise.

1. With an oath.
2. 7th X
3. Faith rests on promises received.

B. Stars - Sand

1. Equal in number.
2. Gate secure.

C. Seed

1. Jesus

Gal. 3:14-16

- Not to seeds many but one christ*
2. All nations reconciled in Him & united in one body.
 3. Rejoiced to see my day.

(John 8:56)

4. Seed singular - not Israel today but Jesus.
5. Did whole thing open for Abraham to see?

D. Obeyed.

- v-18 Because thou hast obeyed!*
1. Connection between faith & works.
 2. Heb. word for obey - to hear.
 3. To believe is to do.
 4. The best to God is the heart of true religion.

E. After Offering - Go Home!

Mid.Tenn.Bible Encampment, Beersheba Spgs., TN-

6/25/87

Antoine, Arkansas - 7/26/87

Earleville, TN Church - 8/7/87

Broad St. Church, Mineola, TX - 9/16/87

Sycamore Chapel, Ashland City, TN - 9/23/87

Dalraida Church, Montgomery, AL - 10/14/87

40th & Hazel Church, Pine Bluff, AR - 11/11/87

West Side Church, Searcy, AR - 2/10/88

Watters Rd., Pasadena, TX - 3/1/88

Abraham journeyed across trackless deserts, down valleys between Lebanon, under snowcapped Hermon to the strange land of Canaan -- famine struck -- nearly 100 and his wife 90, strange visitors came to the oaks of Mamre, the laughter followed and Isaac was born. Then suddenly Genesis 22.

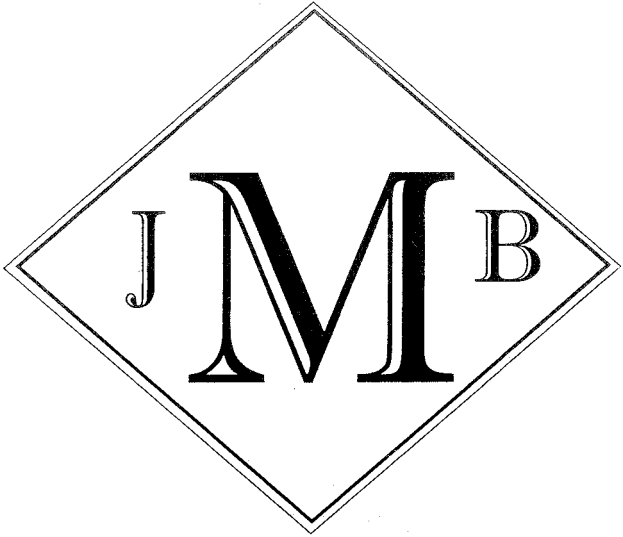
How do you explain it? Are you losing your mind? "None of the ransomed ever knew how deep were the waters crossed."

Together Isaac and Abraham built an altar, Isaac had done so many times he knew what was to be done, he knew something was missing, Abraham could see the question coming. Isaac is no slow-wit, he could count - daddy, fire, wood, knife and Isaac.

Isaac came close to watch smoke - it could have been me is the idea. Look to skull-shaped Calvary, another father watched his boy crawl up that hill, wood on his back shaped like a cross, he too laid down and nailed him there. There was no cry as the Lamb is dumb before his shearers. You know why? God could not save his son and save me at the same time. He died for me to live and to that cross we must all come running. What God asked of Abraham he gave of himself.

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

(This from "The Word Comes Alive" by Ward)



LEHOUAN-JIREH - God will Provide Himself Gen 22:8

I. Two pathetic stories of unexcelled devotion.

II. Gen 22 1st story.

A. Abra, beginning of Promise-drawing, test once more

1. God author - not Satan nor Abra.

v-2 "Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom

2) Increase in affection words - wants holocaust, not ^{spiritual} surrender.

B. Abra. Reaction.

1. Rose up early - Prompt, saddled ass, 2 men & I, dark wood (with own hand) - Exactness, rose up (resolute determ) went where God said - Sincerity.

2) Abr. must trust naked word - not Isaac flesh.

2. 3 days, (60 miles from Beer Sheva) Moriah (at Jerusa)

C. Abra. Sacrifice

1. Left men behind v-5 "I & the ^{dit "look at me"} led will do ... & come

2) Note "voice of his ad conquering faith" (Audus)

2. Wood on I; fire & ~~wood~~ ^{knife} with Abra. silence ???

v-6 "And they went both of them together."

v-7 "My father & he said 'Here am I, my son' And

3. Stopped, altar built, laid wood, bound (violence) I.

Knife v-11 "And the angel of the Lord called unto

2) iterally - "have known" - caused others to know

Heb 11:17 "By faith A. when he was tried stood up

Rom 4:10 "he staggered not at the promise of God

4. Ram seen v-14 "And Abra. called the name of

Shelby 9/16/56

Schock 10/9/56
Portland 7/29/62
S. Harpeth 9/1/62

III. 2nd Story Rom 8:31-32 "If God be for us who

A. God interposed himself - His Son the Lamb.

1. So I tell the story to my son like this.

Rom 3:23 "For all have sinned & come short

Rom 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death

Micah 6:6-7 "Where with shall I come before the

dn 1:29 "The next day John seeth Jesus coming

Phil 2:6 "Who being in the form of God that it

2 Cor 5:21 "For he hath made him to be sin for us

Isa 53:4-6 "Surely he hath borne our grief

dn 19:17 "And he bearing his cross went forth

Delivered him up for us.

dn 1:11 "He came unto his own & his own

Obsecurity, in difference, in fanny, scorn, jokes,

denial by Peter, Herod, Pilate, soldiers.

Matt 27:46 "And about the 9th hour Jesus cried

freely went not for angels or saints, - sinner!

Rom 8:32 "For us all Heb 9:26 "To put away sin by

To limit drece to limit type sin forgiven.

Isa 53:11 "He shall see the travail of his soul

1. There hangs the lifeless body - God treated

Christ as sin & you see end result. Remember

death doom of Jack Tisdale & cancer.

2. Threnody of broken heart heard.

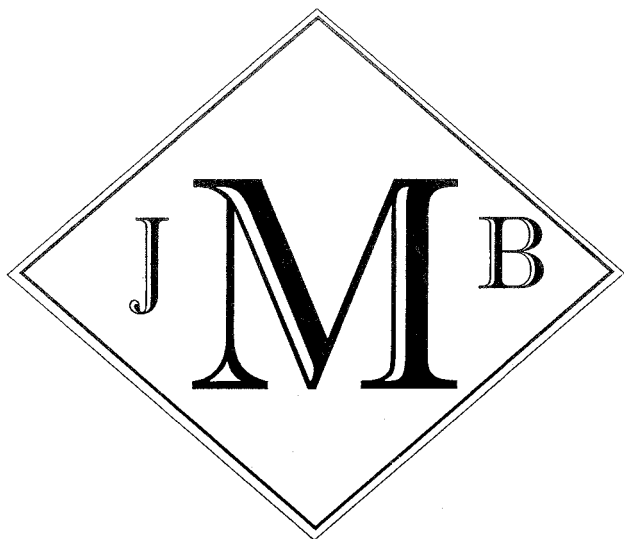
3. Abr. saw ram v-13 "And A. went & took the

1 in 1:1 "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son etc.

4. God will not lightly regard rejecter

II Thess 1:7-9 "And to you who are troubled

Eal 3:13 "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the



DEATH OF A GREAT WOMAN

Genesis 23:1-2

- I. Events take on importance because of:
 - A. People Involved.
 - B. Emotions Stirred.
 - C. Irreversible activities.
 - D. The firsts that occur.
- II. Let's Look at the Firsts.
 - A. We have the first and only age of a Bible woman that expires.
 - B. We have the first record of Abraham crying: not over leaving Ur, not over Lot's capture, or Isaac's offering.
 - C. First Biblical mention of grave--though men have been dying.
 - D. First mention of metal as a medium of exchange.
 - E. First time shekel is used in the Bible.
- III. It is Sarah who precipitated all of this. So we study her.
 - A. Example for all women.
 - 1 Peter 3:4-6
 1. Held up in Scripture--not the Virgin Mary.
 - Isa. 51:2 "Look unto A. your father & S. that"^{bare you}
 2. Not known for glamour, flesh, though lovely.
 - B. As are all, she was not perfect.
 1. Episode with Hagar.
 2. Laughed about Isaac's birth when she was 90.
 - C. Yet Revered.
 1. Married more than 60 years.

2. Left Haran when 65.
3. So Scripture literally speaks of the lives (plural) of Sarah.
4. Sarai--the contentious one.
5. Sarah--the Princess. *Mother of Nations*

Gen. 17:15-16 (READ) *God changed it: Kings of people be of her*
 6. Yet walked by favor & grace of God.

D. Lived a long time.

1. 127 years. *Judged him faithful. promised*

Heb. 11:11 "Through faith also S. herself"

2. Faithful to the end.

1 Pet. 3:6 "Even as S. obeyed A./calling him"

3. Not afraid of amazement of fear.
4. Ever devoted to her husband.
5. Isaac 37 at her death.

Ps. 91:16 "With long life will I satisfy"

E. As all must, she died at Kirjatharba.

1. Another name for Hebron.
2. Literally the town of Arba--he must have been a man of renown.
3. 22 miles south of Jerusalem.
4. Hebron the original name, supplanted by Kirjatharba but restored at the conquest.

Gen. 13:18 Plain of Mamre which is in Hebron.

5. Arba Hebrew for 4, thus City of Four.
6. Hebron = Alliance.

F. With death is demanded a disposing of the body.

IV. Death Brings Sorrow.

v-2 "And A. came to mourn for S. & to weep"

A. This verse introduces three vital thoughts.

B. Abraham came.

1. Was he not at home when she died?--
he had many business interests that necessitated his absence.
2. Or does it mean he came to tent where her body was?

C. Came to Mourn.

1. Death may be a release but it is still a time of felt sadness.
2. Out of respect & emotion he deliberately came to mourn.
3. Is this not natural?
4. Can we not sorrow without sinning?
5. Time to weep--time to mourn.
6. Faith does not kill affection.
7. Felt deep sorrow over lost love.
8. Mourn refers to beating of the breast.

D. Came to Weep.

1. Means to flow by drops--a quieter and more moderate sorrow.
2. Salvation does not dehumanize--
we cry!

Ps. 103:14 "For he knoweth our frame, he r."

I Thess. 4:13 "But I would not have you"

3. Crying is not improper--Jesus did loudly.
4. Here is a parting not to be reversed in life. It's final!
5. So Abraham cries--first time and only time so stated.
6. Strongest manhood has its roots in tender feelings. (Strahan)

- 7. Abraham not unmanned because of his tears.
- 8. 60-70 years of marriage--surely feels it.
- 9. Separation painful though long delayed.
- 10. When the body is sown it must be watered but not as those who have no hope. (Henry)

E. But Living Must Go On.

v-3 "And A. stood up from before his dead"

- 1. To carry on is no insult to the dead.
- 2. Stood, for sitting on the ground was oriental posture of mourning.

V. Now begins the business interaction to purchase a burial plot.

A. Do you already have yours?--we all want to be buried on our own possession.

B. Negotiations Begin.

- 1. First Abraham describes self and needs.
- 2. Stranger & Alien.

1 Chron. 29:15 "For we are strangers before thee"
Lev. 25:23

Ps. 39:12 "Hear my prayer, O Lord, & give"

Heb. 11:13 "These all died in faith"

3. Needs a burial plot.

a) Land promised him and he has not a grave site!

Gen. 12:7 "Unto thy seed will I give this land"

Gen. 13:15 "All the land which thou seest"

Gen. 15:18-21

- b) Abraham had renounced Padan Aram & declares Canaan his homeland--expects it to be his and his descendents.
- c) This his final choice of country.
- d) Here 60 years and did not own a burial plot.

Acts 7:5 (READ)

- e) Nomad but a corpse demands a permanent resting place.
 - f) Whatever our possessions are there is a sepulcher at the end of them. (Scott)
4. Decency demands proper burial.
- a) Earliest history shows man cares for the dead tenderly.
 - b) See "intimations of immortality" for he looked beyond to a city.

Heb. 11:13-16

Heb. 11:10

- c) Through the gloom saw city of God.

Phil. 3:20

Heb. 13:14

C. Polite exchanges.

1. Abraham called a mighty prince.
 - a) True religion develops the highest kind of manhood.
 - b) Being to God what wax is to the seal, he is stamped with the image of God. (Strahan)
2. Wants a practical honorable sepulcher.

3. Note all the 3X bowing and exchange of words.
 4. "A friend takes nothing he would not restore." (Erdman)
 5. Business is carried out with scrupulous care.
 6. Effort to "make sure."
 7. Abraham ever a courteous gentleman.
 8. We need to be civil to all.
 9. Religion teaches good manners.
- D. Ephron Proposal and Counter Ones.
1. Abraham wants a cave.
 2. Ephron selling cave & field.
 3. Abraham will get more than he really wanted.
 4. Machpelah = double, 2 large caves.
 5. Machpelah will be the embryo of a greater inheritance. (Bruce)
 6. Moslems won't let you go below and see them today.
 7. Took ineftment in his inheritance.
- E. Money Talks
1. First mention of metal as medium of exchange.
 2. Money not good word here--came later.
 3. Metals were soft in absence of presses.
 4. Men would snip off edges and sell lighter "coin".
 5. Lightweight coin--same word for castaway.
- 1 Cor. 9:27

6. Abraham was honest.

Rom. 12:17

7. He believed God would keep his promise.

8. 400 years later his folk got it.

F. Transaction. *CATE*

1. At ~~gate~~^{gate}, in open, detailed, repetitious.

2. 400 shekels very high but Abraham rich. Shekel a wt. not a coin.

Gen. 13:2

3. Gave Ephron the advantage--"what's a little gold between us?"

Jer. 32:9

4. Middle East seller sets high price, buyer lower & they negotiate--here Abraham just pays--meets emergency.

G. Interesting:

1. First possession in land is a grave!

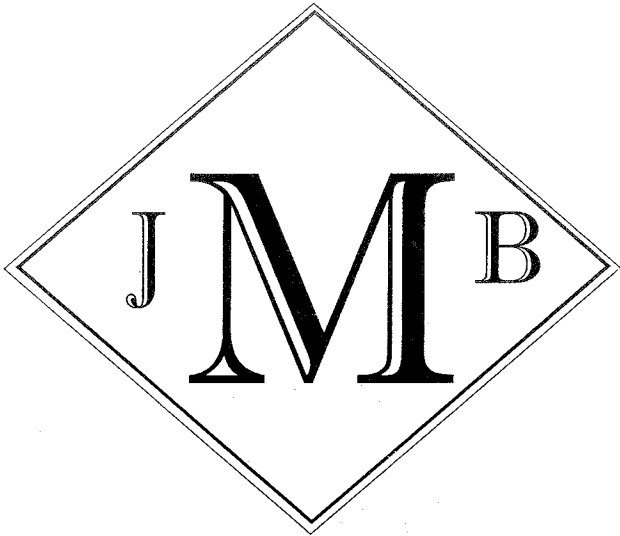
2. Faith moving to duty puts a check on sorrow.

3. Rachel alone not buried here-- Sarah, Abraham, Isaac, Rebekkah, Jacob, Leah.

South Nashville - 4/30/95

Harpeth Hills - 4/30/95

Robinson & Center, Conway, AR(L.class) 9/19/95



IN GOOD OLD AGE

Gen: 25:1-10

I. We come to the last days of Abraham.

A. He remarried (V. 1).

1. Keturah his wife.

2. Many sons.

B. He divided his property (V. 5).

1. Gave it to Isaac.

2. Sent sons of concubines away.

3. Some sons are more impressive.

4. Make a will - be fair. Provide peace & prosperity.

C. He completed his days.

1. He lived!

(a)

2. Was 175 yr. old.

a.) Lived 75 yr. after Isaac born.

b.) 38 yr. after Sarah's death.

c.) His granddad - 148.

His dad - 205

His son - 180

His grandson - 147

d.) Good folks live longer.

Ps. 34:12 "What man is he that desireth life, and lo

Eph. 6:1-5 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord

II. He gave up the ghost - good old age.

A. Gave up ghost.

1. Lit. breathed out.

2. Others did.

Gen. 35:29 "And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died,

Gen. 49:33 "And when Jacob had made an end of coi

Ps. 31:5 "Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou has

Lu. 23:46 "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voi

Ps. 37:37 "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upri

B. Good Old Age - Old Man - Full of Years.

1. Lit. with a good hoary age.

2. Full of years lit.

a.) Satiated - completely satisfied.

b.) Satisfied c living.

c.) Tasted the sweets of life - ready to move on.

d.) Ready for transition to higher realm.

3. Note good.

Prov. 16:31 "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it

C. Gathered to his people.

1. Reunion c those gone before.

2. Presupposes continuance of life - in consciousness

3. Went to a better country.

Heb. 11:13-16 "These all died in faith, not having re

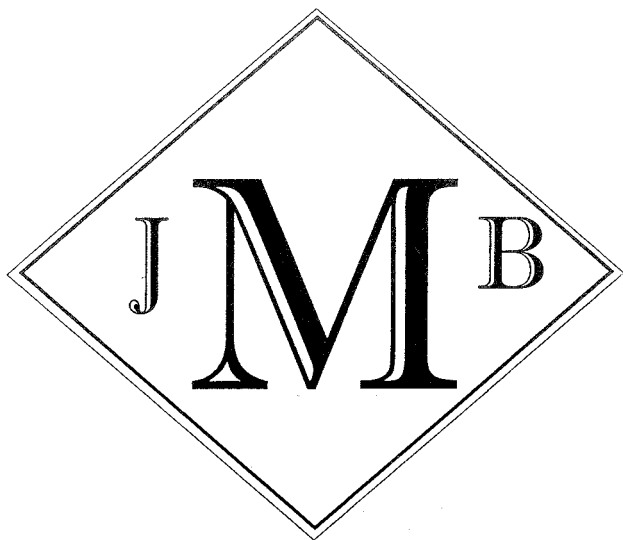
4. Soul's immortal.

5. Rt. & wicked are separated.

D. Isaac & Ishamel buried him.

1. Two oldest perform sacred rites.

*Michigan Christian Devotional During Lectureship
West End Med. Night Class 11-77 10-6-77*



LOVE TAKES NO SEXUAL ADVANTAGE

Gen. 25:15-21

- I. God calls us to purity.
 - A. Never is it more challenged than in man - woman relationship.
 - B. One of the boy's favorite plays is "Prove you love me."
 - C. If either falls victim to such a play, it is not love.
- II. I'd like to tell the story of Jacob & Rachel.
 - A. Laban suggests Jacob's worthy of his hire.
 1. Had two daughters.
 - a.) Means wearied, dull, stupid, pining, yearning
 - b.) Tender eyed - didn't sparkle like Rachel.
 2. Leah.
 - a.) Ewe.
 - b.) Beautiful & well favored.
 - (1) Form.
 - (2) Outline.
 - (3) Make of body.
 - (4) Well made - beautiful in appearance.
 - (5) Desired personal symmetry & grace.
 3. Rachel.
 - a.) Ewe.
 - b.) Beautiful & well favored.
 - B. Jacob asks for Rachel.
 1. Loved her at 1st sight.
 2. Better I give her to thee than to another.
 - a.) Stay in right circle.
 - b.) Seek parents' advice.
 - C. Served 7 years.
 1. Hard service.
 2. She was worth something.

3. Uncle Homer got 25¢ for wedding of "whatever she's worth to you."

4. He was 57 or 77 at the time.

5. Seemed but a few days!

a.) Love stops the clock.

b.) She made him lose track of time.

D. At the end of the contract, he asked for his wife.

1. Wanted to go in to her.

2. Relationship was pure & true.

a.) "Going to marry anyhow"

b.) "What's a piece of paper"

III. Marriage Feast & Deception.

A. Made a Feast (V. 22).

1. Mishteh.

2. Drinking.

3. Banquet.

4. Bride - ale - bridal.

B. The deception.

1. How could Leah be a part of it?

2. Jacob had done to him what he'd done to his dad.

3. Sins come home to roost.

2 Sam. 12:10-12 "Now therefore the sword shall never

C. Jacob's credit.

1. Didn't annul marriage.

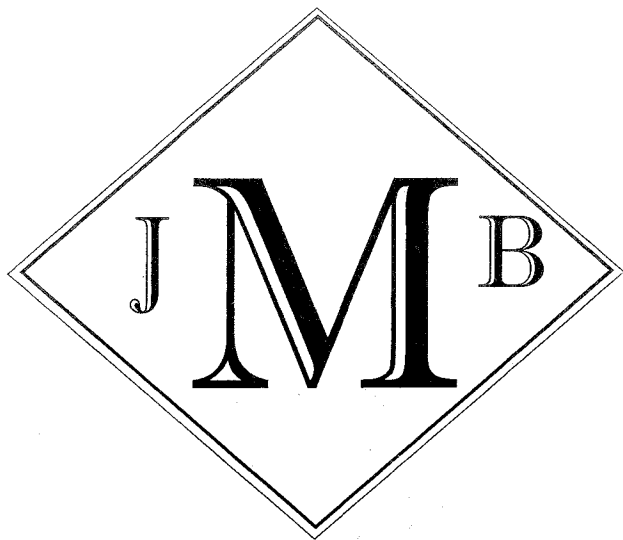
2. Accept custom that must not be otherwise, as custom grew to moral obligation.

3. Tho he loved Rachel more, Leah had a place in his heart.

4. He was keeping his end of the bargain so he thot.

5. Patiently waited for what was right.
6. Seek amicable family solutions.
7. Power of heart over will is seen.

Wash End 11-6-77



DEALING WITH A CONTENTIOUS PERSON

Gen. 26:18-31

I. Perhaps everybody has had to deal with a contentious individual. (It could be that I am that person).

A. Isaac had that problem and won the day.

B. Let's study his method and use it.

C. Story is in Genesis 26 and has to do with a successful man digging wells.

II. Let's begin as does the Annual Lesson, August 16, 1942, with these facts.

A. We do not know how long this aggravation continued, but probably from 1830 BC until 1790 BC.

1. Abraham was 100 when Isaac was born.

Gen. 21:5

2. Isaac was 40 when he married.

Gen. 25:20

3. Isaac was 60 when twins, Jacob and Esau were born.

Gen. 25:24-26

4. This story comes after their birth.

B. The place it occurs is the valley of Gerar, Beersheba.

1. Gerar near the southern boundary of Philistines.

2. Not far from Gaza or Beersheba.
3. It had a king of its own.
4. The well of Beersheba was dug by Abraham and with an oath with Abimelech was confirmed.
5. It became a town by that name and was Israel's most southern city.

C. People involved in our story are Isaac and his herdsmen; Abimelech, title given kings of Gerar (little Pharaoh for Egypt). Abimelech was a strong character (read verses 6-11). Remember Philistine was that narrow strip along the Mediterranean Sea. Isaac lived at Beersheba (Gen. 24:62, and 26:11).

D. An Event

1. Famine came and Isaac went toward Egypt.
2. The Lord stopped him at Gerar.

Gen. 26:1-11

3. Isaac became very prosperous.
4. Philistines envied him and stopped his wells.
5. Isaac began his moves.

III. Contention came (V. 18-21)

A. He re-dug wells.

B. He found one with "spring water."

1. That would save labor.
2. Flowed freely.

3. Others claimed his wells but he kept moving and digging new ones.
 - a) Sitnah (enmity) - They took it.
 - b) No retaliation, moved on, keep the peace.
 - c) Earlier Esek (contention).
4. What about us?

Rom. 12:17-19 "Render no man evil for evil."

Rom. 14:19 "Let us follow after things which..."

Phil. 4:5 "Let your forbearance be known."

C. Isaac moved far away.

1. Dug another well and they strove not.
2. Well Rehoboth (broad places or room).
3. He said "For now Jehovah has made room."
4. He loved places and furthermore he recognized he was a foreigner when in Gerar.
5. He went to Beersheba thus moving away from strife.
6. He stayed there.

Gen. 27:1

Gen. 28:19

7. Finally to Hebron when 180 years old.

Gen. 35:27-29

8. God said, "Fear not, I am with thee."

9. He kept the peace and God multiplied him.

D. He built an altar (V.25).

1. Prayed

2. Sacrificed

3. These two elements go well with worship.

4. He practiced no retaliation.

5. Peace pact came (V.26-31).

We have done nothing to thee but good is a bit strained, but Isaac created no friction.

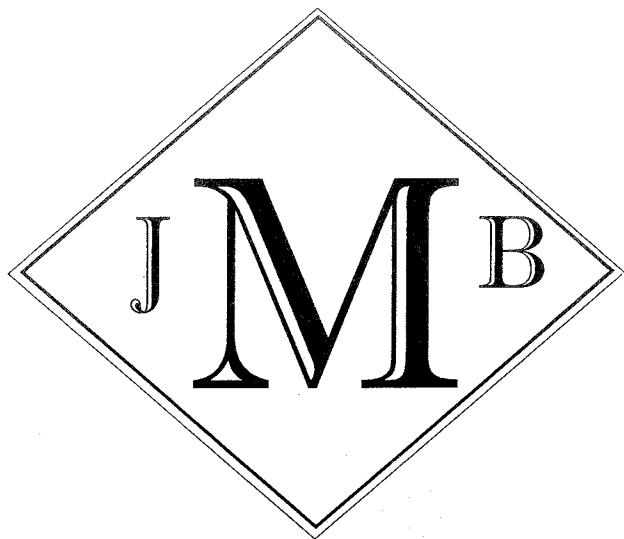
6. He made for his visitors a feast.

E. Observation

1. One party can make a war but it takes two to sign a covenant.

2. Forbearance is a beautiful thing and is very personal.

3. We are not called to contend.



STRANGE MATH: 1 WRONG + 1 MORE =
ACCEPTABILITY Gen. 28:6-9

- I. The training & instruction to capable young folk today is amazing.
 - A. Introduction to Science.
 - B. Training in Computers.
 - C. A few years ago: New Math.
- II. But can you add two wrongs and make a right?

Let me tell you of one who tried it.

A. We all know the story of the stolen birthright & blessing.

1. Isaac - old, dim eyesight, death near.
2. Esau - go get meat, his son.
3. Rebekkah, Jacob, goats (not deer).
 - a) Feel
 - b) Deceives
 - c) Curse on me, my son.
 - d) Obey my voice.
4. Dress Jacob in Esau's clothes, hairy arm (Note Jacob her son.)
5. How so fast (v 20) - The Lord brought it to me, voice of Jacob, hands of Esau.
6. Art thou my very son? I am.
7. Kiss, Smell, Blessing.
8. Immediately Esau + food.
9. Isaac trembled, Esau's bitter cry.
10. Jacob well named.
11. Another secondary blessing.
12. Esau hated, planned to kill.
13. Rebekkah sent Jacob away a "few days" (never saw him again).

B. Jacob Dispatched

1. No daughters of Heth - "What good shall my life do me?"
2. We want children to marry well.
3. No daughter of Canaan - but cousin of Padanaran.
4. V-3 "El Shaddai".

III. Plan of Esau Gen. 28:6-9

A. When Esau Saw --

1. He is an opportunist.
2. He imitates a good example.
3. He is more interested in what his dad might want than in his mother or his God. After all, Dad had the blessing. (We cater to what helps us.)
4. Daring transgressors glory in their shame and wickedness.
5. He became too late wise.

Matt. 25:11

6. Example of after-wit; which for us.

B. No Daughters of Canaan.

1. Pleased not - lit. were evil in the eyes of Isaac.
2. Perhaps a dual effort - this would get Esau in with the Ishmael side of the house - not just Laban. These are close - others 500 miles way.
3. Marriage so vital.
 - a) Let it be from one's kind.
 - b) Your faith determines how you spend your money; who your friends will be; your recreation;

your career; how you will rear your children.

- c) We want our children to be faithful in the church.
- d) We do not want an adulteration of the faith.
- e) What gaps does courtship show?
 - (1) Education
 - (2) Parents get along
 - (3) What type home
 - (4) Social habits
 - (5) Economic level
 - (6) Want children
- f) Children require you to be better than you would be if you didn't have them.
- g) Book of Common Prayer cites 3 reasons for marriage.
 - (1) Procreation
 - (2) Avoid fornication
 - (3) Mutual society, help, comfort.
- h) Marriage is singular & for keeps. (Lawson)

C. Went to Ishmael

1. Related thru Abraham - this should please Isaac.
2. Jacob marries Mom's niece.
Esau marries Dad's niece.
3. Genetic problems not so acute.
4. But:
 - a) Ishmael - tho God in his name - separated from the house of Abraham.
 - b) Marrying out of covenant line.

D. Wives which he had!

1. Already married - two!

Gen. 26:34-35

2. His wives neither dead nor divorced.

3. Mahalath - Nebajoth

a) Also Bashemath

Gen. 36:3

b) $\frac{1}{2}$ cousin on Dad's side.

c) Nebajoth - Ishmael's 1st born.

IV. OK - The So What!

A. Intentions may be good but try to please God first and then all others.

B. Never compromise a truth to please some man.

C. When we temporarily bargain for frivolity, weakness, madness and sinful passion, we are foolish.

D. Don't wait too late to please parents.

E. We can't atone in 1 thing & overcome all other mistakes.

Judges 17:18

Blue Ridge Encampment (Teenagers) - 6/22/88

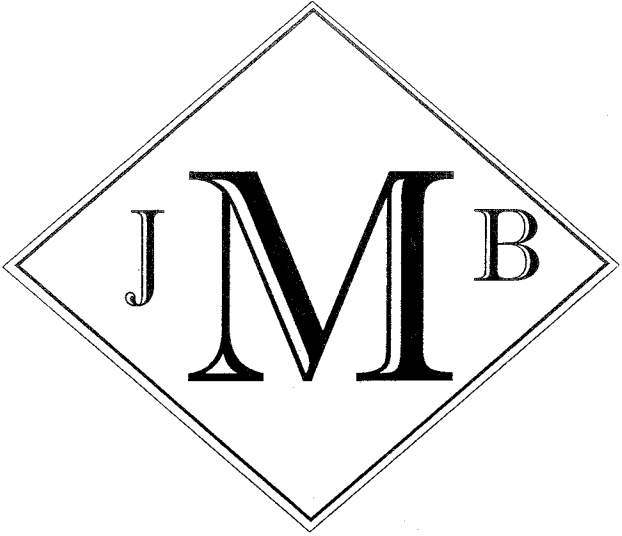
Park City church, Fayetteville, TN (BC)-6/26/88

Service above self

Basic human nature dictates that when an individual is left to make moral decisions without reference to some standard above self, he or she invariably makes those choices on the basis of self interest . . . But the existence of society depends on people who will act on the basis of motives superior to their personal self interest. Cultures simply cannot function or survive without relying on the selflessness of men and women of *character*.

Chuck Colson

Jubilee, newsletter of Prison Fellowship



WHEN A PILLOW BECAME A PILLAR

Gen. 28:10-

I. We've all seen things change.

- A. Caterpillar becomes a butterfly.
- B. Nectar becomes honey.
- C. Grass becomes milk.

II. I want you to see a pillow become a pillar-
Gen. 28.

A. Our cast of characters in this drama is one lonely man, one merciful God, and a ladder full of angels. *Not an ordinary man*

1. ~~1st see the lonely man.~~ *100% Harold*

a) His name is Jacob. *100% Harold*

b) He's just deceived his dad and stolen his brother's birthright.

c) He's just been dispatched from home to search for an appropriate wife.

d) He's on a 500 mile journey and just logged the 1st 50 of it.

(1) Same journey his granddad made only in reverse direction.

(2) Also reversed emotions: Abraham in faith, Jacob in fear. *Never see him again*

e) Scholars have guessed he's about 77 years old.

2. ~~Lighted at a certain place - sun was set - tarried all night.~~

a) See his possible emotional status- (maybe you have been to this certain place as the sun sets, darkness, alone).

*A. c 100% Harold
S. c none*

*heard no track
time for life*

*Expect wealthy
son to have*

*car even -
Mary Bradley*

*rehabilitating
lawyer M. S. S. S. S.
son*

- (1) Behind him the murderous designs of his brother, Esau.
- (2) Before him an unknown future with many strangers.
- (3) His dad wants him to marry a proper woman.
- (4) His mother wants him to run from Esau's wrath.
- (5) Totally alone.
- (6) Do you suppose the darkness of the night reminded him of the sin of his soul?
- (7) About 3 hrs. north of Jerusalem.
- (8) Scared of shadow?

b) Weary - Stone for a pillow & slept. *(And bed is made)*

- (1) Hedges for curtains
Heaven for canopy
Earth for bed
Stone for pillow
God for companion

(Spurgeon)

- (2) Many famous pillows of stone of antiquity.
- (3) Lit. Head bolster.

c) He had a wonderful Dream.

(So impressive we'll have 3 "beholds".) Busy ladder.

- (1) Only usage of word is here.
- (2) Coffman scoffs at it being a stairway; others think it was. *hit. to keep up, ramp*

→ ZIGGURAT

*Wife's pilgrimage
Gen 47:7-4
135-1001841*

*Strahan #3
CARD*

*Let in my
dreams I will
be - Never*

Dehoff

- (3) Pulpit Com. says stones of mt. seem like ladder.
- (4) ~~Set on earth & reached Heaven~~
- (a) Earth is the Lord's.
- (b) Note ladder reached Heaven connected with Earth.
- (c) Song:
O the love that drew
sal. plan
O the grace that brought
it down to man
- (5) ~~Angels ascending & descending~~
- (6) ~~The Lord~~ stood above - God stands above it all.

d) ~~What is so significant.~~

- (1) Heaven & earth are connected.
- (a) ~~Bible our ladder today to reach it.~~
- (b) ~~Christ is proclaimed as our only avenue of communication.~~

1 Tim. 2:5

There is 1 God & mediator

- (c) ~~The way is original, open, God given, exclusive, satisfactory.~~
- (d) ~~God is interested in us - earth is not isolated from Heaven.~~

e) ~~Jesus refers to this in Jn. 1:50-51~~

- (1) Nat. came with open mind.
- (2) Jesus was his interest.
- (3) Jesus the center of redemption.

*(Nathaniel)
Angels ascending
& descending
upon Son of
Man*

f) The way is plain - he clearly saw the ladder.

B. ~~The Merciful God Who Spoke.~~

1. "I Am" *God came in the mts. heights*

a) Always start with God.

b) He has a plan for our lives.

c) Listen

d) He's meeting God personally for the first time. *Not abstract, absent.*

2. He renews his promise.

Gen. 13:16

26:4

a) Seed

b) ~~Spread lit. break forth~~ - universal Kingdom.

c) With thee.

3. ~~With thee reviewed.~~ *Renewed*

a) God is ever there.

b) His word brings comfort.

c) Tho Jacob started dishonored God is merciful.

d) Great future ahead.

e) Won't leave you. *forse*

Deut. 31:6

Josh. 1:5

1:8

1 Chron. 28:20

Matt. 28:20

Heb. 13:5

f) Great to have noble dad and

granddad but Jacob must act in his own right.

g) God is ever faithful.

Man at his fullness only in fellowship c God

*How from
2 fd*

How to pray

*God is he that doth go c thee; fail
Some thing to Josh.*

David to Solomon

Jesus to Apostles

I will never leave thee nor forsake

2 Kings 6:17

Rom. 8:32

Ps. 5:2

*Open his eyes that he may see
that spares not his own son*

C. ~~Jacob Awakens~~ *A new day dawning*

1. ~~The Lord is in this Place~~

a) Omnipresent

b) Jacob sees:

Divine Companionship

Divine Protection

Divine Sustenance

Divine Favor

Divine Salvation

*It's teacher
knew*

*Paul Edwards
story #*

*Ignorance of
future begets
anxiety*

c) Note God is in the ~~place~~, ~~not~~
~~in the stone.~~

d) ~~Knew it not~~ - ignorance is
tragic - are we aware of God?

see clip #6

e) Afraid - Divine presence scares.

f) ~~Dreadful~~ - Reverence

Ps. 139:7

whether shall I go from thy spirit

D. ~~Pillow Becomes a Pillar~~

1. Early

2. Stone

a) Abraham had an altar here -
Gen. 12:8

b) Suppose he used his granddad's
stone?

c) Honor God & commit future to
him.

d) Poured Oil.

e) Named it Bethel.

(1) 11 miles North of Jerusalem.

(2) Ark pitched within - word
Beth - thus ~~withiness~~
there.

*No
Jehichism
(in stone)*

*later destroyed
when completed
Amos 5:1*

(3) Was Luz - almond tree -
God changes things!

- f) Made vow - *Rich man's son asks only for acceptance*
- (1) 1st in Bible
 - (2) Voluntary
 - (3) 2X for tithing - 1st Abraham & Melchizedek

III. Lesson Learned

A. Do you see the Open Way?

B. Angels show Providence of God

Hos. 12:4

Blue Ridge Encampment - 6/22/88

Red Boiling Springs, TN - 8/12/88

Refuge, KY - 7/15/88

Tompkinsville, KY - 9/17/88

Washington St., Fayetteville, TN - 11/9/88

Eureka church, Olney, IL - 2/6/89

40th & Hazel, Pine Bluff, AR - 3/8/89

Pratt, KS - 3/22/89

Cox Blvd., Sheffield, AL

Auburn, AL - 4/23/89

Shady Grove, Duck River, TN - 5/24/89

David Lipscomb Middle School (Chapel) - 1/17/90

Walnut St., Dickson, TN - 1/28/90

Chisholm Hills, Florence, AL - 8/22/93

Through each perplexing path of life
Our wandering footsteps guide;
Give us each day our daily bread,
And raiment fit provide.

#3

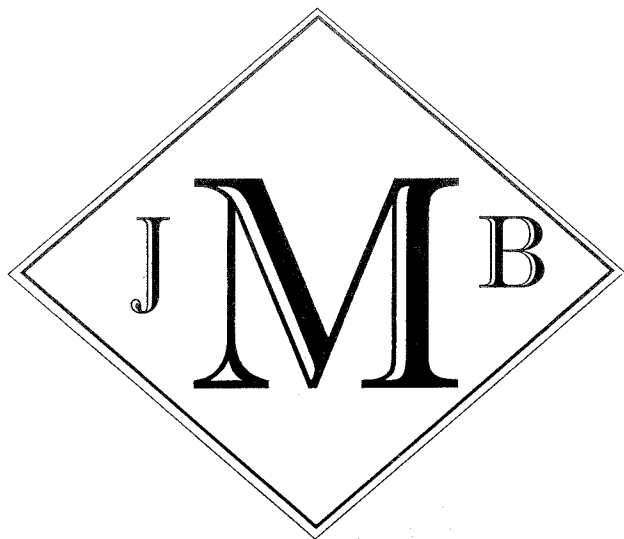
O spread Thy covering wings around,
Till all our wanderings cease,
And at our Father's loved abode
Our souls arrive in peace.

Such blessings from Thy gracious hand
Our humble prayers implore;
And Thou shalt be our chosen God,
And portion evermore.

James Strahan

"Hebrew Ideals in Genesis",

pg. 238



IN-LAWS, OUTLAWS, AND BY-LAWS

Genesis 29

- I. I'm assigned two chapters to cover, In-Laws and Outlaws.
 - II. I really don't need but one chapter with a little of Chapter 30 quizzed in, skipped Chapter 31 though I have many notes on it.
 - III. I've added "By-Laws" as we will note some things both advantageous and disadvantageous to marriage and how--just a little extra thrown it.
 - IV. Let's go to Genesis 29.
 - A. Jacob leaves home under duress as he stole the birthright.
 1. Parents played favorites.
 2. Heel snatcher lives up to his name.
 3. On his way, via spiritual development to becoming Israel!
 4. On his way to get a wife.
 - a) Will love her.
 - b) Work for her.
 - c) Comes among his own people.
 - d) All within the canopy of God.
 - e) He's 77 years old; will be 84 when he marries. No kid!!
 - f) His family will have some problems.
- Hosea 12:12 *J. fled Syria served for a wife. Kept sheep*
- ↓*
- He observed her employment & prized her*

g) 600-mile journey, only go where God can bless.

Deut. 32:9-13 *Read*

h) Go to the right place to get a wife (Gen. 28:2).

B. Courteously meets his future in-laws v-26.

1. He asks about the family and their welfare.
2. Good to know where you and with whom you deal.
3. Haran, chief town of Padanaram.
4. A courtship will begin and each stays put long enough to know who you are.
5. Laban, son of Bethuel, grandson of Nahor, thus knew something about the family.

C. Then came Rachel and the sheep.

1. Jacob said water sheep--get rid of "little brother."
2. Saw Rachel who worked (v-9).
3. Saw sheep--"don't marry for money but it's okay to marry someone who has it."
4. Rolled the stone--he's strong and excited. *If she doesn't excite you - forget it*
5. Kissed Rachel and wept out loud.
 - a) Knows he's at his journey's end.

b) Eliezer found Rebecca--same well?

c) Watered sheep--water important.

6. Rachel ran and told her father about Jacob. Good to share with parents. *SURE*

D. Laban hospitable, brings Jacob home v.13-14.

1. "Bone of bone customary greeting then.

2. Ran, lifted up his feet.

E. After one month salary talked.

1. Pine Bluff--where get your mail?

Where do you live? Salary expected? *Certainly*

2. Open negotiations--not serve for naught.

3. Be a shepherd. *Honorable vocation*

4. Two daughters.

a) Leah, older, "wild cow" or "gazelle."

b) Rachel, "ewe", first woman named for animal world maybe, younger sister.

c) Leah--tender eyed, hard to interpret, principle beauty, luster and softness of eyes.

d) Rachel - "beautiful, well-favored" - excellent figure, exquisite, delicacy of features, appearance more sensational.

5. Jacob loved Rachel--she never said that to him--seven years, but few days.

- a) Coffman - Second wife, impatient, demanding. Through her homosexuality (Hosea 9:9; Judges 9:10), Ephraim led rebellion that divided Israel. Her body not at Machpelah, practiced idolatry, followed Abraham and introduced concubinage.
- b) Leah, first wife, stronger of the two, principal in patriarchal family, mother of six sons, 1/2 of patriarchs and a daughter, son Judah gave us Jesus, David, lion tribe, buried by Jacob.
- c) Rachel was dowry via crafty Laban.
- d) Relations honorable, v-21.
- e) Head to toe she's pretty, but beauty alone not enough.
- f) Love comes while we are busy with the ordinary things of life. First love story in Bible.
- g) All those years of work seemed short--goal in life makes work pass quickly.

Heb 13:4
 Marriage is
 honorable -
 add words:
 Permanent
 Fruitful
 Mutually
 Beneficial
 Strengthening
 to both parties

E. Then the peculiar wedding.

1. Men of city came, feast, good we honor weddings. *\$50,000 today!*
2. Gave Jacob Leah and he slept with her. Also give Zilpah as handmaid.
3. False nuptials--don't know how they pulled it off.
4. Laban saw Jacob could make him rich. Will get double year's service.
5. Had to be with consent of both Leah and Rachel. Rachel pretty sure of herself that she'll eventually get him.
6. Jacob didn't know his wife was Leah until next morning--how dark ~~the~~ tent.
7. Payback time--Jacob fooled Isaac.

Nu. 32:23 "Be sure your sins will find you out."

Gal. 6:7 "Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."

8. "What is this thou hast done unto me?" - v-25.

"Wherefore then hast thou beguiled me?"

a) Horrible fraud.

b) Heel snatcher taken by the heel.

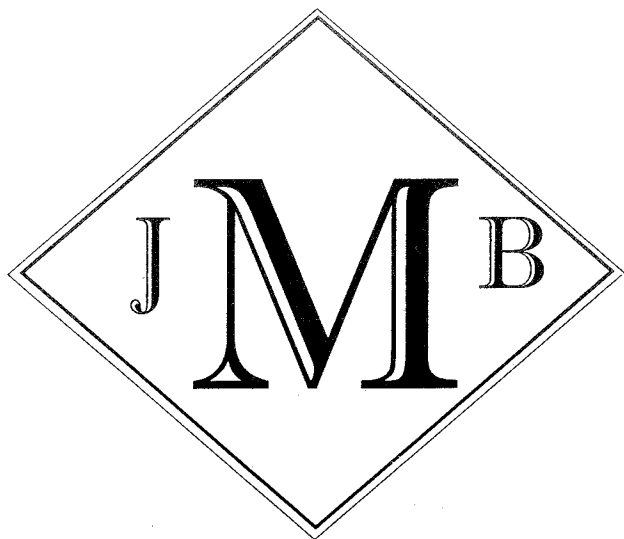
- c) Later Laban loses both daughters and all his grandchildren, plus great wealth.
 - d) Did Leah think this would win Jacob?
 - e) How did they make the departure?
 - f) Produced Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah.
9. Was it really a custom or did they manufacture it--as Brother Coleman "old Indian custom--men go first to food."
10. Father-in-law took advantage.

F. Rectified

- 1. Worked seven more years--she's worth something. Uncle Homer 25¢ wedding.
- 2. Got her in a week.
- 3. Kept word!
- 4. Patiently wait for what's right.
- 5. Power of heart over will.

G. In the end Jacob finds himself rich in children, property and a safe return home.

- 1. Think what God has to forgive to save any of us.
- 2. Psalm 37. 3-7 23-26 34-40



WHEN JACOB SAW RACHEL

Gen. 29:10

I. When Jacob saw Rachel:

- A. Arrows of cupid flew.
- B. Love at 1st sight unfolds.
- C. Begins a "marriage made in Heaven" idea.
- D. Rivals my personal story when I first saw Betty at Harding.
 - 1. I know how Jacob felt though I'm not yet 77.

2. Gen. 29:17 Beautiful in face & form"

II. Our story. *Gen 28:1-4 The Blessing*

A. Gen. 29 starts on an upbeat note.

1. "Jacob went on his journey" vs. lit.

"he lifted up his ft." *Gen 29:1 margin*

a) Strahan "animated by hope".

b) Leaves Bethel's ladder to complete 450 miles of 600 mile odyssey.

c) "We became physically nimble & lightsome; we tread on air, life is no longer irksome, and we think it will never be so." (Emerson)

Isa. 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord"

2. Jacob knew where he was going!

3. Finally to Haran, Padan Aram, *Why!*
Mesopotamia.

a) Targeted town.

b) Good to mature honorable plans. *- looking for wise*

B. Jacob at the Well

1. Important place of meeting.

2. 3 flocks of sheep.

3. High Noon

4. Wait for all flocks to come, roll stone, water.

5. Partial assembly of flocks.

C. Jacob Initiates Greetings.

1. Where from? *NORAN EVE W*

2. Know Laban? Pay dirt! *Is he well?*

3. Promise fulfilled.

*Peace & harmony
(Margin)*

Gen. 28:13-15

a) None ever fail.

b) Dependable

4. Shepherds men or boys.

a) Get rid of little brother to court big sister.

b) Saw Rachel--never left target.

5. Jacob told shepherds how to do their work.

a) Plan to his advantage.

b) Yet not according to their custom.

c) Give up?

(1) Double vision--Girl & Sheep

(2) Marry one that's got money.

(3) 20 yr. course in University of Hard Knocks--7 yrs. to marriage.

6. Rock's moved.

7. Rachel waters sheep.

8. Now on not Hebron or Esau but Rachel!

Gen. 29:20 "They seemed to him but a few days"

9. Sparks flew Heb. man & Syrian maid.

a) Candlish "love that was quick, strong, lasting."

b) Thought of her in dying.

Gen. 48:7

*Rebel died by me in the land of Can.
in the way... little way to come to Bethlehem*

- D. Jacob Kissed Rachel (Gen. 29:11).
1. Folks started running everywhere.
 - a) Rachel home to tell dad (v-12).
 - b) Laban ran to Jacob (v-13).
 2. Jacob lifted up voice and wept.
 - a) Ugly?
 - b) Missed opportunity?
 - c) No--Joy. "No man could be a bad man who loved as Jacob loved Rachel." (Coleridge)
 - d) He also loved his God.

Deut. 32:9-13

III. Side Issues

- A. Water essential to story--no well, no Rachel; no baptism, no salvation.
- B. Good marriages last & are not hastily entered into.
- C. Good marriages honor the providence of God.

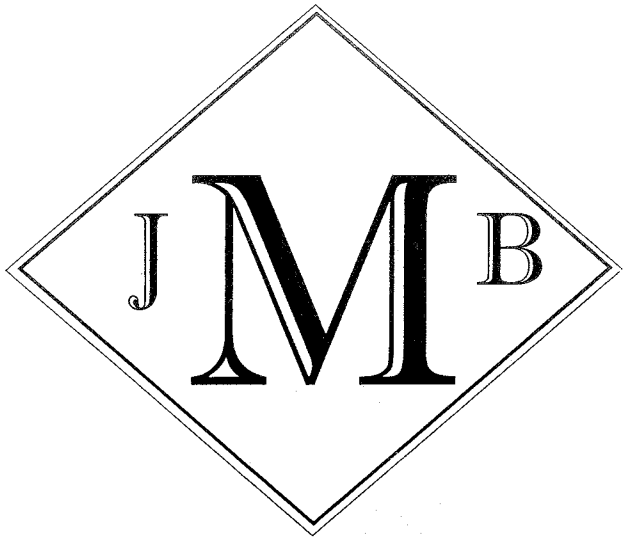
IV. A Love started when "Jacob Saw Rachel" (v-10).

V. Beautiful story of the way of a man with a maid.

Devo/Harding Lectureship - 9/30/91

Oxon Hill church, Temple Hills, MD - 5/17/92

Elizabethtown, KY - 9/27/92



WHEN YOU EXPECT THE WORST

Gen.30:25-on

- I. Who of us has not had bad feelings about the future; i.e.
 - A. An exam physically demanded.
 - B. A soldier taken from home to the front.
 - C. A testing as to worthiness;
 - 1) Loan for a house.
 - 2) Application for a job.
 - 3) Procedure for taking care of parents or a loved one.
- II. Were your fears justified?
- III. Did the worst come to pass?
- IV. Or was God merciful in your deliverance?
- V. Tell some encounters in the life of Jacob--with the hope you too will have a happy ending.
 - A. Jacob and Laban, father-in-law.
 - B. Jacob and Esau, his twin brother.
 - 1) All family troubles.
 - 2) All involve money.
 - 3) All claims on both sides of the event.

VI. Jacob and Laban

Gen. 30:25 - "Send me away, that I may go unto mine own place, and to my country."

A. Leah and Rachel plus hand maids have children.

- 1) 14 years for daughters
- 2) 6 years for cattle
- 3) Wages changed 10 times
- 4) Laban - Gen.30:27 - learned - blessed
- 5) Make a livestock contract

v.31 - "Thou shalt not give me anything..."

v.33 - Color of cattle mine.

B. 31:2 - "Countenance not as before."

C. God told Jacob of Bethel to leave.

- 1) Shared dream and plans with Leah and Rachel.
- 2) 31:20 - "Stole away unawares .."
- 3) Told Laban three days.
- 4) God spoke to Laban--speak not good or bad.

D. Laban overtook Jacob

- 1) Stolen away
- 2) Daughters as captive with sword.
- 3) Flee secretly--no celebration--no kiss--done foolishly.
- 4) It is in the power of my hand to hurt.

- 5) Afraid, take by force, not live
- 6) Not eaten of flocks, loss of torn, stolen, drought, frost, ten times changed.

E. Stone covenant - Galeed, mizpah, sacrifice.

v. 55 - "And early in the morning ..."

- 1) First crisis averted.
- 2) Get set for second.

VII. Encounter with Esau

- A. Birthright eaten
- B. Blessing stolen
- C. Saw favorite of Rebecca
- D. Chapter 32

- 1) Angels come after covenant of peace.
 - a) Not a time of enmity with fellowman.
 - b) Troubled sea reflects not face of God.
 - c) Wrath does not invite God's approval.
- 2) Mahanaim
 - a) Jacob proceeds with duty.
 - b) Walk in way of his commands.
 - c) This is the Lord and host.
- 3) Dispatch sent to Esau
 - a) Inform of prosperous state.
 - b) Depreciate Esau's wrath

c) 400 men "greatly afraid,"
"distressed."

4) Divided family and property

a) Keep your head

b) Prudently provide

c) Chivalrous and meek

5) Prayed - not worthy, only staff
deliver me, keep promises, show faith

Prayer 32:9-12

6) Presents sent--drove after drove

Prov. 18:16 - "A man's gift makes room for
him and bringeth him before
great men."

Prob. 21:14 - "A gift in secret pacifies
anger."

7) Promptly dispatched

8) Humble: alone now two bands

9) Wrestling match

10) Hand maids, Leah and Rachel

11) Jacob first bowed seven times to
ground

12) Esau ran, embraced, fell on neck,
kissed him, wept.

13) Parade came bowing.

14) Urged him to take gifts, declined
journey together.

E. Read rest of Genesis 33

v. 13-17

v. 20 - "God, the God of Israel - altar of
God.

VIII. All can be better:

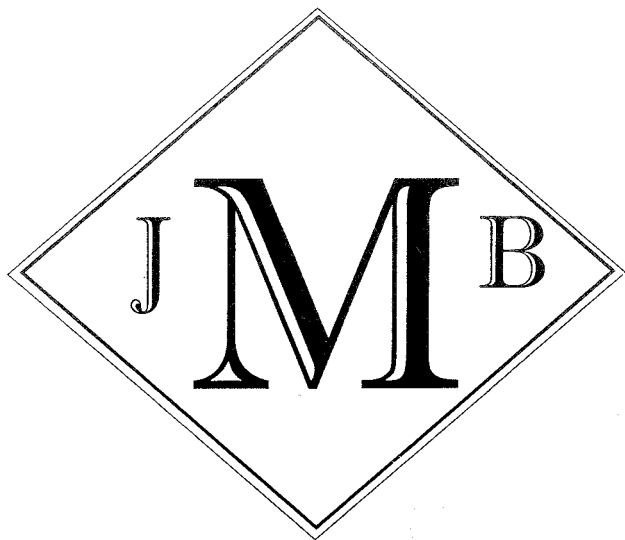
A. If I pray.

B. If I do my duty.

C. If I lay grounds for recitation.

D. If I worship God.

Neely's Bend - 7/6/03



TROUBLE WITH FATHER-IN-LAW

Gen. 31:1-2

I. Aren't we glad the Bible is a fair Book.

A. Many insulting stories against Mothers-in-law, tho mine was great.

B. Bible has a Father-in-law story & I want to tell it.

1.) Because it's Bible.

2.) Because it's needed.

3.) Because Commentaries say no man can preach or should try a sermon from Gen. 31.

II. We'll study the chapter.

A. It's long but interesting.

B. We'll just wade the stepping-stones across the creek, stopping now & then to wet our feet.

Who knows, we may slip on a rock & sit down & lap it up awhile.

III. Genesis 31.

A. "And he heard the words - V. 1 & 2.

1. Rumor delights to repeat the ominous remarks.

2. Rumor feeds on insults & insinuations.

3. Rumor can hurt relations.

4. Note the words were by Laban's sons. It's the 1st mention of sons - 1st time we ever heard of them in a bad light.

Ecc. 4:4 "For every right work a man is en.

a.) They were jealous.

b.) Our prosperity excites envy in others.

c.) We can maintain a good conscience even if our good name is insulted in a censorious world.

5. Laban's countenance changed.

a.) Lit. "was not the same yesterday and the day before."

b.) He knows me every time he sees me.

B. The Lord spoke to Jacob (V. 3).

1. Jacob had stayed at post of duty in Haran until now relieved.
2. We need to report to our assigned duty until relieved.
3. God had made a "Bethel" promise & God keeps His Word.

Gen. 28:15 "Behold I am with thee

4. Man needs to set the Lord before him & acknowledge Him in all his ways. Was this God's providential way to nudge Jacob home?

C. Jacob calls a Family Conference (V. 4-13) and makes a speech.

1. Becoming that a husband takes his wife into the counsel of his plans.
2. Rachel & Leah called - afraid to go to Laban's house?
 - (a) Rachel 1st as chief wife.
 - (b) Secondary wives not called.
3. Good husbands trust their wives.

Prov. 31:11 "The heart of her husband doth

4. Jacob doesn't tell his own deviousness, only that Laban changed his wages 10X.
5. Justifies himself before his wives.
 - (a) Own scheme was O.K.
 - (b) God made a promise at Bethel.
 - (c) Want my conscience to be at peace.
6. Projects idea he is acting from principle of religious obedience.

- 7. Wages changed 10X maybe not literally but expression to say as often as he could & to Laban's advantage.
- 8. Uses (V. 8) "I see your father's countenance", - means "I have been observing." I've studied it out.
- 9. Interesting God noted what Laban did (V. 12).
 - (a) God notices sinners.
 - (b) God notices what is done to His children!
- 10. Laban was still rich.
- 11. Cattle = sheep.
- 12. Gift of cattle really from God - not from human ability in primary matter.
- 13. Grissled = spotted.
- 14. Old sores last awhile.
- 15. Jacob's word for serve "means pant" - exert strongly one's strength.
- 16. God so intently interested in His children He notices even the breeding habits of His children's flocks.

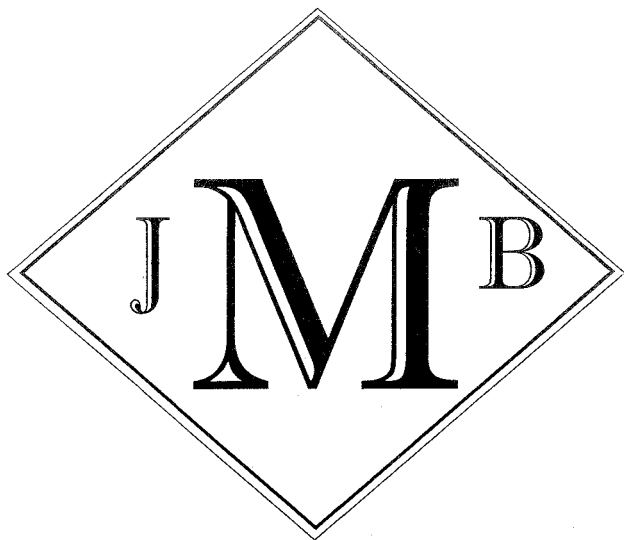
D. Wives Offer Comment (V. 14-16).

- 1. Don't call a family conference unless you want input.
- 2. Henry said, "Worthy wives never interfere c husband doing duty to God."
- 3. 2 wives of 1 mind - agree.
- 4. Said Father treated them as foreigners.
- 5. Laban entirely used what came from daughters - he had eaten it up.
- 6. Jacob was obeying God.

- 7. Wives saw dollars & material advantage.
- 8. Good wife will not hinder husband doing God's will.
- 9. Wives engaged in a spirited inquiry in which a negative response was expected.

III. Observations

- A. All have ability to create unrest
 - B. Families not immune to envy & covetousness
 - C. Matters need to be openly discussed.
 - D. Will of God must be motivating factor
 - E. Care of differences can come direction (providentially) of God
- Thresh End 12-5-76



WHO WANTS A GOD YOU CAN SIT ON?

Gen. 31:31-35

- I. We are in the midst of Jacob leaving Haran.
 - A. Laban's not the same - son started rumors.
 - B. Lord told Jacob to leave.
 - C. Jacob calls wives for a family conference & they decide to leave.
 - D. All that remains is the execution of the plan.
- II. Flight of Jacob Gen. 31:17-21.
 - A. Moved with dispatch.
 1. Didn't take any of Laban's cattle.
 2. When in danger, depart immediately.
 3. Jacob lit. "lifted up" - proceeds orderly c matters.
 4. Still felt he belonged to Isaac--the ties of home!
 - B. Laban was at sheep shearing.
 1. Festive time of harvest.
 2. Kept Laban away from home.
 3. Jacob didn't let him know he was leaving, i.e., deceived his mind & intelligence.
 - C. Rachael stole her daddy's gods--teraphims.
 1. Strange action.
 2. Possibly small human figures.
 3. What were her motives?
 - (a) Keep her dad from worshipping them.
 - (b) Granted title to property.
 - (c) Still heathenistic at heart.
 - (d) That they were good luck - won't hurt anything to carry a buckeye.
 - (e) Keepsake from home.

- (f) Maybe they had a material value.
- (g) Gave earthly prosperity.
- (h) Were oracles.
- (i) She was superstitious.

4. 1st direct mention of images in worship, tho Nimrod an idolator.

Josh. 24:2 "And Joshua said unto all the people, T

5. Gods resembled human form.

I Sam. 19:13 "And Michal took an image, and laic

6. Also shows what parents training does to a child - you drink, they will!

III. Laban's Pursuit (V. 22 on).

A. Laban found out 3 days later.

1. Caught him 7 days later. About 275 miles - quite a trip.

(a) Worldly men get in hot pursuits for possession

(b) What would drive me 300 miles?

2. God told Laban not to say a word (V. 24).

(a) Laban's hands tied by an invisible power.

Ps. 76:10 "Surely the wrath of man shall praise the

(b) Don't ask J. to return or hinder his departure speak only in a kindly fashion.

(c) God interested in mundane affairs.

3. Laban makes an impassioned speech & then accuses him of stealing gods (V. 26-30).

(a) Stole my heart.

(b) Stole my grandchildren.

(c) Acted like booty from acts of war.

(d) Passion resulted in some wild charges.

(e) Who wants a god you could steal, or sit on

4. Jacob offers rebuttal (V. 31-32).

- (a) Perhaps viewed stealing charge as an excuse to search.
- (b) Afraid - force = to lit. strip skin from flesh.
- (c) Jacob himself would instantly kill thief.
(Don't be too sure of yourself).
- (d) Soft ans. here turns away wrath.

5. Laban's search (33-35).

- a.) How would you feel searching daughter's quarters for your stolen property?
- b.) How would your daughters feel if so accused?
- c.) Note each wife had separate quarters.
- d.) His search lit. feel out or explore c hands.
- e.) Humorous to see man hunt for his gods.

For us, our God looks for us!

6. Jacob's Hot Words (36-42).

- a.) Never made exceptions for losses.
- b.) Stayed in all kinds of weather as area subjected to keen temperature changes.
- c.) Wrath = burned.
Chode = strive c hair or hands, intense.
- d.) Said Laban felt of everything!
- e.) Don't eat female sheep.
- f.) Said worked so hard he was fatigued (V.42).

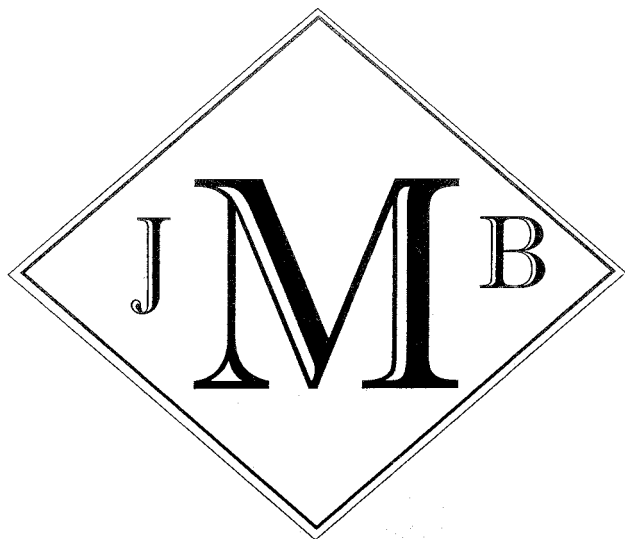
7. Monuments of Peace (43-55).

- a.) Circular pile of stones c an altar in middle
- b.) Folks with one God need one heart.
- c.) Proper ways to end arguments.
- d.) Different words used mean the same thing
"Heap of witness.

- e.) If we are sincere, we are not afraid to bind ourselves to public ceremonies.
- f.) Completely separated one from another - this is the way to handle temptation.
- g.) If spiritual life is feeble, you need public ceremony.

West End 12-12-76

Greater atlanta chr. Schools 7th + 8th Grade Chapel 10-12-81



CRIPPLED BUT CROWNED

Genesis 32:22-32

- I. Sandwiched between the reconciliation of 2 brothers, is the strangest wrestling match known to man. (Bruce said the story is so skillfully told you no more quickly recognize the opponent than Jacob did.)
 - A. Luther calls this the most obscure text of Bible.
 - B. Barnes said no expositor can clear up every detail.
 - C. Then what am I doing with it? I believe:
 1. We can go back to the mts. of Galeed.
 2. Observe a 97-year-old man in the loneliness of a black night.
 3. See him await his crisis meeting with Esau (for if Esau wins the line is broken and we have no Savior).
 4. Visit River Jabbok, called Blue River today, and see how a crippling can result in a Crown.
 5. Let's then move to our story.
- II. Jacob's Final Preparation.
 - A. He's prayed (tho not often)--we've seen many experiences of his without prayer. He usually wins by cunning--Jacob!
 - B. Went out with staff in his hand--now 2 bands.
 - C. Went out alone--in 20 years back with many.

- D. Employs all his craftiness as a protection, after all he's always won before.
- E. Ford at Jabbok--all his company though did not count daughter--4 wives, 11 sons.
 - 1. Jabbok from wrestling--word play Hebrew way--yē abeq.
 - 2. Alone--to pray?

III. The Match

- A. Suddenly a hand seizes Jacob and a long wrestling match begins.
 - 1. It's night.
 - 2. The assailant is unknown.
 - 3. Another obstacle in his path of returning home.
 - a) We all have them.
 - b) Will discouragement shake our faith?
 - c) We do not know time of night it all started--we just know Jacob didn't start it--a "man" did.
 - d) The man wrestles with Jacob--not Jacob with the man.

Lam. 3:3-10

- e) When a man wrestles with me he wants to obtain what I've got--this is very important.

B. Question: Who is the Man?

- 1. An Angel--created for this or Michael.

Hos. 12:4

Isa. 63:9 Angel of his presence

- 2. Local diety? Esau? Demon? Vision? Conscience? Self?

3. God of Righteous says Jacob.
 - a) 1st X his enemy is God not Esau or Laban.
 - b) God eventually calls us all to account.

C. Long Match

1. Till breaking of day, not over 6 minutes.
2. The man prevailed not.
 - a) Does this shake the omnipotency of God?
 - b) Remember Moses.

Exo. 32:10 "Now therefore let me alone that my"

- c) God lets us see his attention to us, he'll even change this man's name!
3. Touched hollow of thigh--out of joint.
 - a) Man can't disjunct with a touch, ball and socket.
 - b) Touched, not struck.
 - c) Dreams don't dislocate hips.
 - d) Since hip touched we see the grace that allowed a victory, rather than man's prowess.
 - e) Clark--luxation of thigh bone.
 - f) We all get out of joint at times.
4. Let me go--day breaks.
 - a) Note power of prayer--God allows man to be mighty with Him.
 - b) God opposes with a "No" parts of prayers.
 - c) God chose not to prevail.

- d) Lit. send me away--give victory to Jacob.
5. Why day break leaving?
- Day comes--Jacob has work to do.
 - Day to day needs breaks communion with God--can't be on knees all day. Wives need you.
 - If see God's face--die.
 - Spirits dissipate at daybreak.
 - Night demons not abroad at day time.
 - Can wait no longer to see Esau as we lit. come to ascending of the morn.
6. I will not except Thou bless me.
- A lame man learns to cling lest he fall.
 - Manifests great hunger for God.
 - Relying on God, we win.
 - Jacob must see he deserves nothing.
 - To be right with God we must be disciplined and chastened.
 - As he begs the blessing he admits his inferiority.

IV. The Name Exchange.

A. God asks "What is yours?"

- Names index character & personality.
- But why ask if he already knows?
- Names are more than labels--that is why we forget one so easily.
- Not so much for information but to show the change that's coming.

B. Jacob

1. Heel snatcher, Trickster.
2. I am not worthy.
3. Assaulted in his strong point--wrestler.

C. Change--no more Jacob--Israel.

1. No more exclusively Jacob.
2. Result of wrestling--a name change.
3. Signifies a break with the past.
4. New name--surely a new spirit, new destiny.
5. Israel--multiple definitions.
 - a) Proud new name bestowed--1st X in Bible.
 - b) God rules.
 - c) Perseverer with God. Hos. 12:4
 - d) Prince of God--greater than any worthy title.
 - e) Man seeing God.
 - f) He who rules as God.
 - g) Fighter with God.
 - h) God's strives.
6. Significance
 - a) He prevails over man by cunning. He prevails with God by submission.
 - b) God's purpose--overpower J. self-life.
 - c) Supplanter is supplanted.
 - d) Now has power with God and man.
 - e) Supplanter becomes suppliant.
 - f) If powerful with the Almighty surely you will be with man.

7. Tell me your name.

a) Got evasive answer. Learn to be satisfied with what you've got rather than want more.

b) Manoah also asked.

Judges 13:17-18 "M. saith unto the angel of the L!"

c) Heaven is not beholden to man.

d) We don't grasp every blessing nor understand it.

e) Important thing: what does God think of us?

8. Blessed Jacob

a) J. now sees his weakness, must not rely on his own strength.

b) Wins by surrender & confession of unworthiness.

c) Can't snatch blessings--it's a gift of God.

d) By submission do we win.

e) Hosea said J. wept.

V. Place Identified

A. Peniel--Penuel

1. The face of God--thus no need to fear Esau--I'm in the presence of God.

2. Name of place reflects honor to God--not to his own victory.

3. "Man" then was God.

B. Sunrise--Sunshine without & within.

1. Always does when soul's in harmony with God.

2. A new day dawns for Jacob.

Mal. 4:2 "Unto you that fear my name shall"

3. We rise from night of loneliness to new power.

C. Halted on Thigh

1. New life, new limp.

2. It's well to be maimed if we learn to lay hold on everlasting strength.

(Meyers)

3. Then hold on--a better day dawns.

4. We bear marks of Jesus.

Gal. 6:17

5. True faith must persevere.

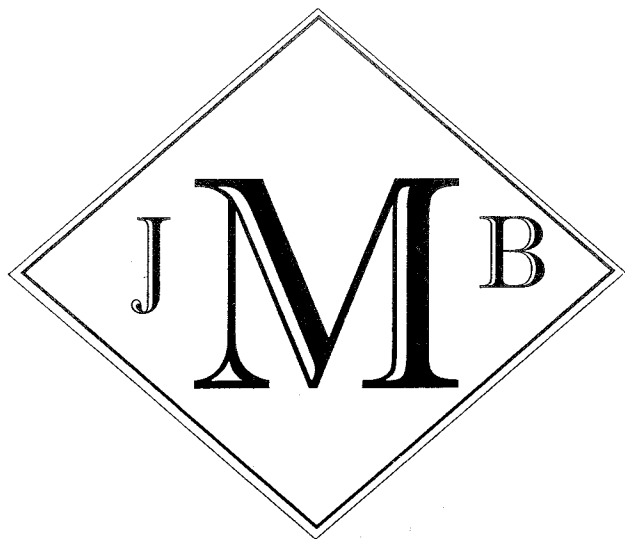
6. Lame Jacob better than a whole one-- spiritual enrichment may come with material deprivation.

7. After being in God we still may limp from losses, adversities, anomosity.

8. Song: Jesus, Lover of My Soul-- hangs my helpless soul on thee.

Harding lectureship - 10/1/91

Madison - 10/23/91



THE 2 COATS OF JOSEPH

Gen. 37:2-4; 39:6

- I. Have you ever worn anything that got you in trouble? *Innocently spending*
- II. Have you ever for any reason left behind a garment that got you in further trouble?
- III. If either or both of these events have been your experience, perhaps your name is Joseph. It's these two events we want to see. *Can be by the same situation*
- IV. 2 garments: Jacob's house, Potiphar's house.

A. ~~Jacob's house.~~

1. Joseph--God will give me yet another son.
2. 17 years old.
3. Jacob 91 when Joseph born, now 108. *Vaughn card*

B. ~~Fed flocks with brothers.~~

1. Literally shepherding.
2. Taught to work as parent teaches child to be useful.
3. Homes prepare to lead a future life.
4. No Bible--learned via oral teaching.
5. Father was at home with them.
6. Home we learn respect of superiors.
7. Remember some of his brothers old enough to be his daddy.

C. ~~Brought an evil report.~~

1. Talebearer OR
2. Truth teller--child of 17 lacks maturity.
3. Weakness on Jacob to leave him as a spy and informer.

- 4. He meant no harm in telling his dreams, but made no friends. He felt no reservations. Just felt they needed to know. *Specifically to family*
- 5. Word "brought" from "to go slowly" or "creep about."

D. ~~Jacob loved him more than all.~~

- 1. Excuse--son of old age.
- 2. Fact that Joseph would not go along with any evil ways of brothers.
- 3. Partiality ever good?
- 4. Do we set one child against another?
- 5. Why? Response to Joseph's kindnesses, or look like beautiful mother, or contrast his piety with his brothers.

E. ~~Made him a coat of many colors.~~

- 1. No ordinary tunic.
- 2. Mark of a superior status or at least a preferred one. Expresses rank, distinction. Regal robe.
- 3. Tunic--to cover, usually to ankles, sleeves to wrist.
- 4. One said displays superiority, rich and valuable coat of ends and pieces. (P.C.)
- 5. Shows Joseph was to be future leader and the sheik of the intentment.
- 6. Steiger says nothing in term indicates sleeves or color, but KJV comes only as attempt to give meaning to total term--thus contradicts Josephus.

II Sam. 13:18-19

Tamar, Amnon Absalom

*Richly
ornimented
Rphke
NIV*

F. Reaction

DREAMS

1. Hated

S. observed 3721

a) Jealous

BRO. ENVIED

b) Talebearer

c) Would not go along with their ways.

2. Could not speak peaceably with him.

a) Out of father's sight all restraint his presence might have inspired--gone.

b) Hatred progressed--disgust--not speak--hurt him.

c) "A gathering storm was about to burst--all things mundane, evil as well as good, strive after completion--lust when it has conceived, bringeth forth sin and sin when it is finished bringeth forth death" (James 1:15). (P.C.)

3. Rightful honor comes at great costs.

4. Unless very exceptional circumstances are there, all are equally entitled to a father's care and a mother's love.

V. Potiphar's House

Gen 39

A. Joseph, a domestic slave--no regal robe!

B. Potiphar

1. Captain of the executioner.

2. Man of authority to carry out King's businesses.

3. Also used as one who kills animals for food.

C. Lord was with Joseph.

1. Prosperous
2. All he did prospered.
3. Found grace.
4. Overseer.
5. All he had put in Joseph's hands.
6. Lord blessed the house for Joseph's sake--both house and field.
7. Goodly person.
8. Well favored--handsome.
9. Knew not what he had except bread he ate. *DIME OR DOLLAR*

D. Perhaps 7 to 9 years here.

1. Can he live in Egypt and be pure?
2. Will he be better?

E. Potiphar's wife--v. 7

1. Cast her eyes--lie with me.
2. Refused
 - a) Told her why--v. 8 & 9.
 - b) Prompt & full.
 - c) Yet she is insistent--day by day.
 - d) Harkened not--nor to be with her.
 - e) Adultery--great wickedness and sin against God. (v-9)
 - f) Mark ^{use your feet!!}
3. Tempted by slavery, success, prosperity, sensual.

F. One day--about this time (v-11)

1. Business
2. No men in the house
3. Caught by garment
 - (a) Persistent
 - (b) Joseph can't live anywhere else.
 - (c) Can't tell his boss.

5.

4. Ran--flee fornication--surest way to handle it.
5. Left garment--careless? Can't cover ever detail.

v-12 Left his garment in her hand, fled, got him out.

G. Spurned--she got her revenge.

1. Joseph lost job but not virginity.
2. Lost lofty position--ended in jail but lost not his purity.
3. Lost master's esteem but not his character. *innocence*

VI. Two garments and both speak to age and to youth.

Hillsboro - 9/26/99

Double Springs, AL - 11/7/99

New Concord, KY - 4/19/00

Silver Point - 7/27/00

Old Union, Castalian Spgs., TN - 7/16/01

Recently I read a thought-provoking article that pointed out the great value of youth. think about these facts.

...Jesus was a young man during the whole of his ministry.

...50% of all Americans are under 25 years of age.

...In Los Angeles, there are more students (in all schools) than there were in the whole U.S. in 1990.

...Thomas Jefferson was only 33 when he wrote much of our Constitution.

...At 27, Patrick Henry was a national hero.

...Alexander Hamilton was only 19 as he set the finances of a nation

...Those between 18 and 34 buy 38% of all the homes in America.

...They also buy 43% of the major appliances, and 47% of all furniture sold.

...Young people spend \$11 billion a year, and influence the spending of \$30 billion more.

But, as J.R. Chism said, "the main reason we are interested in young people is because of their souls."

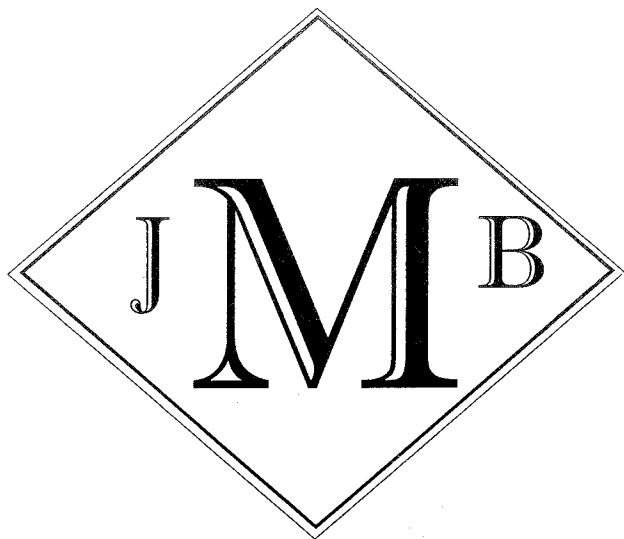
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(Copied from the Graymere Bulletin)

John R. Vaughan

Ted Roosevelt When you educate a man in mind & not in morals, you educate a menace to society

5 yr old offered dime & dollar bill
Which one? Mother taught me it was
polite to take the smallest. I'll take
the dime but I also need that
little green paper to wrap it in
so I won't lose it



TAMAR--SHE HATH BEEN MORE RIGHTEOUS THAN I

Genesis 38:25-26

I. Words carry force.

A. Clip on sweetest and saddest words.

B. Add "She Hath Been More Righteous Than I."

1. Vindicating compliment.

2. Has forgiving proportion--it was about Tamar--may I tell you the story?

II. Tamar's life in a primitive age.

A. Difficult for us to conceive of it.

B. Yet was the law of the time as she was a "woman of the land."

III. About Tamar--

A. We know little about her early life.

1. "Date palm" is her name--suppose tall, stately, regal.

2. Was she graceful and charming?

B. She had tragedy in marriage.

1. First husband was Er.

Gen. 38:7 Er "was wicked in the sight

a. We know he was Judah's ~~grandson~~ grandson.

b. We don't know the nature of his wickedness.

c. We don't know whether it held her to open shame.

d. No sins committed God cannot see whether declared or not.

e. Some God alone sees.

2. Next married Onam.

a. Practicing birth control he refused to

raise up children.

Gen. 38:10 "Displeased the Lord; wherefore

b. Act of faithlessness to the dead.

3. Judah advise Tamar to remain a widow 'til Shelah, younger son of age, to marry.

a. Remained at Judah's house.

b. J. got cold feet.

c. Thinking Tamar might possess strange power wouldn't allow wedding.

(1) How would you feel waiting to grow up to marry someone else?

Deut. 25:5 "If brethren dwell together, as

Matt. 22:24 "Saying Master, Moses said,

C. Judah's wife dies ~~named~~ Shuah. ✓

1. Considerable time passes. *both Shuah*

2. He then goes to hills of Timnath to see *cross the father* friend Hirah, the Adullamite. *law!*

3. Sheep shearing time. *(v-12)*

D. Tamar's plan.

1. Has right to a husband thus a son.

2. To take this right craftily.

3. Removes garments of widowhood, put on veil, and "wrapped herself."

a. We telegraph things the way we dress!

4. Judah passes by and thinks she is a harlot.

Gen. 38:16 "Go to, I pray thee, let me com

Gen. 38:16 "What wilt thou give me, that the

5. Kid vs Pledge.

Gen. 38:17-18 "And he said, I will send thee

a. Signet, bracelet, staff.

6. Adultery committed--really incest since he was her father-in-law.

E. The after events.

1. Tamar goes home with pledge and pregnant.

2. Removes veil and puts on garment of widowhood.

3. Kid sent but couldn't find harlot or get back bracelet.

a. Said no harlot there--evidentially Tamar okay.

4. Three months later Judah gets word Gen. 38:24 "With child by whoredom

a. Think of the gossipers heyday.

5. Angered--asks to burn her.

6. Tamar came.

Gen. 38:25 "Discern, I pray thee, whose art

7. Judah's review.

Gen. 38:26 "She hath been more righteous than

a. She tried illegitimately to get what she was rightly hers.

b. Had twins by Judah.

c. Judah motivated by lusts, Tamar by nobler motives.

d. Twins--Pharez Judah and Zerah.

Matt. 1:3 "And Judas begat Phares and Zarah

IV. Other Tamars--

A. "Fair Sister" (2 Sam. 13:1) of Absalom.

B. "Fair countenance" (2 Sam. 14:27) his daughter.

C. But about ours--

1. Claimed her rights at all costs.
2. Graphic description of child bearing.
3. Refused to bend to winds of fate--stood like a tree.
4. One defeat does not stop her.
5. By hook or crook was in the blood line of Jesus.
6. By incest she saved alive the line by which Jesus was to come.
7. In Jew and Gentile blending of blood by Judah and Tamar you see Jesus ready to make all one.

Preached at West End-- Jan. 21, 1968

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Little Rock, Ark.

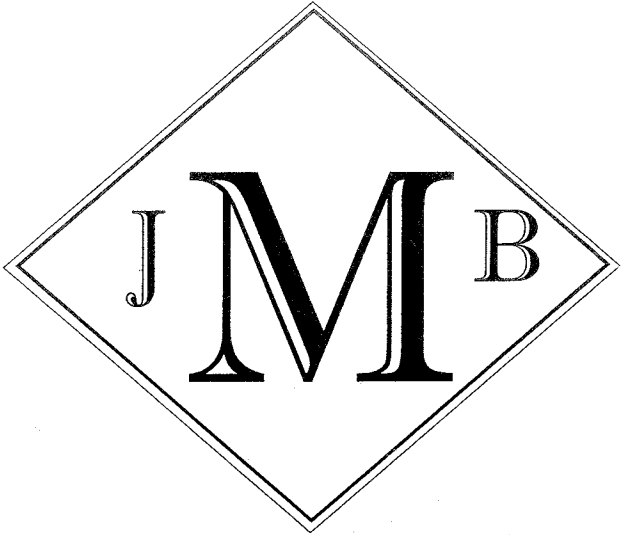
Jan. 30, 1968

Abilene Teachers'
Workshop Dev. 7/24/68

LANGUAGE—34

These were voted top as the three sweetest words in the English language: 1.) I love you, 2.) Dinner is served, 3.) All is forgiven, 4.) Sleep 'til noon, 5.) Keep the change, 6.) Here's that five.

And the saddest were: 1.) External use only, 2.) Buy me one, 3.) Out of gas, 4.) Dues not paid, 5.) Funds not sufficient, 6.) Rest in peace. —
Live Lines



BIRDS IN A BASKET

Genesis 40

- I. Our story seems so simple, yet as with the parables of Jesus, it is truly profound.
 - A. We find stories so applicably to live in great principles.
 - B. We must profit from what is taught, so let's go to our story.
- II. Joseph is receiving another bad break but unknown to him it's another step toward the throne.
 - A. Potiphar's chapter is over; *also being sold*
 - B. Now Joseph finds himself with further prison duties.
 - C. A Butler and a Baker offended Pharaoh.
 1. Butler = cup bearer, lit. one who causes to drink. *Neh 1:11 (He was one)*
 2. Everything done in the King's presence.
 3. Important assignment as he had confidential access to the King.
 4. Baker = prepares King's food, cook, confectioner.
 - D. Both were chief.
 - E. Both offended.
 1. Guilty of some political blunder not told us.
 2. Offended = sinned against.
 3. High places are slippery if only praise of men we seek.
 4. Wrath = broke forth.

Prov. ~~19:12~~ 16:14 *the wrath of a King is as messengers of death, but a wise man will pacify it*

F. Both put in prison.

1. Potiphar was captain of the guard.
2. Joseph bound there--means confined.

Ps. 105:18

G. Joseph commanded to serve them.

1. Attendant, wait on them.
2. Does this show Potiphar now saw his innocency?
3. Brings up many things:
 - a) Attitude is very important--rebel or comply.
 - b) Compliment Joseph could treat them fairly.
 - c) Sometimes we are thrown with worst of men.
 - d) We can be supreme in a most narrow sphere.
 - e) Can we learn to make the best of a bad situation?

III. Dreams Came

A. Stayed for a season.

1. Length unknown.
2. Time an element we cannot control.

B. Dreamed

1. Similar in nature.
2. Same night.

C. Butler's Dream *erites*

1. Vine--credits used to say Egypt had none--proven wrong.
2. 3 branches.
3. Bud, blossom, bear.
4. Clusters ripe.
5. Pressed
 - a) Cups had no handles or stems.

b) Places on palms.

c) Details show inspiration.

6. No interpreter.

D. Next morning Joseph asked why sad.

→ 1. Good to be honestly concerned about our fellowman.

2. Every day not an up day--mountain tops & valleys.

→ 3. Word for sad = angry, wrathful, irate--this is what ignorance does to us when we want truth.

→ 4. Joseph felt for them--did not gloat over their misery.

E. God the Interpreter.

1. He alone can.

2. Egyptians wrote scientific treatises on interpretation of dreams.

3. Providence of God will present a great opportunity.

4. Do we give God the credit due Him?

F. Joseph "Tell me."

1. Knowledge & the impartation of it a great blessing & privilege.

→ 2. Many yearn for truth--"tell me"--
"how can I unless someone guide me?"

3. Daniel & Joseph interpret for non-Israelites.

IV. Butler's Interpreted.

A. 3 branches - 3 days.

B. Lifted up.

C. Restore.

V. Joseph's Remember Me.

A. First time he's spoken his feelings.

1. Best of men can be in humiliating circumstances innocently.
2. Think of me when well with you.
3. Show kindness to me.
4. Make mention to Pharaoh.
5. Bring me out of this house--OK to try to get out of misery.
6. I was stolen.
 - a) Abducted. *"breachably carried off" NIV*
 - b) Without knowledge or consent.
 - c) Generates sympathy.
7. I was innocent--did nothing wrong.
8. Note:
 - a) He does not reflect on his brethren who stole him.
 - b) Forces come against us we cannot master--submit & make the best of it.
9. Dungeon--pit, cistern, empty cesspool.

VI. Baker Encouraged by Report & Asked His Interpretation.

A. 3 White Baskets.

1. Lit. baskets of white bread.
2. White basket full of holes--wicker?
3. 3 stacked one on another.

B. Filled with Baked Meats. *bakemeats*

1. All kinds of food.
2. Confectionery.

C. Birds ate it.

D. 3 days.

1. Lift off head--usually means favor--not here.
2. Short time for all of us.
3. How would you feel if only 3 days to live?
4. Beheaded--hang up by hands or put on hooks.
5. Eat flesh--
 - a) Disgrace.
 - b) Indignity heaped on him.
6. Dr. Felix Morris told me he went to a Mr. Hall's room at 10 PM--had heart surgery, found spot on lung--cancer--"My doctor said nothing", "reason I'm here--discuss tomorrow." Next day found he went to wrong Hall so came back to correct. Family fell sobbing in each other's arms--so we are happy when redeemed.

VII. Pharaoh's Birthday.

- A. Pharaoh's birthday one of the details of the Joseph chapters, authenticated from Egyptian records in the case of the famous Rosetta stone which 1st provided the clue to the decipherment and understanding of the Egyptian language.
- B. To a great extent I am at the mercy of time and events--I've no control over Pharaoh's birthday and its date on the calendar.
- C. Power play leaves me only as a spectator, or victim or victor.

D. Words of God came exactly true.

- 1. Joseph could not soften--only repeat the truth.
- 2. Some news good; some sad.

VIII. Butler Forgot.

A. Not remembered.

1. Butler different out of prison than in.
2. We forget in prosperity.

B. But forgot him.

1. Spent 2 more years in prison (Gen. 41:1).
- 2. He was being prepared for his next step but this was not the school he wanted. (Bruce)
- 3. God & God alone would deliver Joseph.
4. We see failure of human help.
5. Easy to forget benefactors.
- 6. What type of epitaph "He forgot me." *I, I've 3 days to live - what would I do?*
- 7. Brothers abuse Potipher's wife lies. *I, Have I complete confidence in God's word?*
Butler forgot him.

IX. A 10 Point Test

- A. Is God alive in your life? Matt 28
- B. Have I made some serious mistakes?
- C. How do I react to adversity?
- D. What load from my brother have I lifted?
- E. Am I a spokesman for God--"tell me"?
- F. Is there one I've forgotten?
- G. Do I gloat over others' misfortunes?
- H. Can I w/o favor speak the truth?

BIRDS IN A BASKET

7.

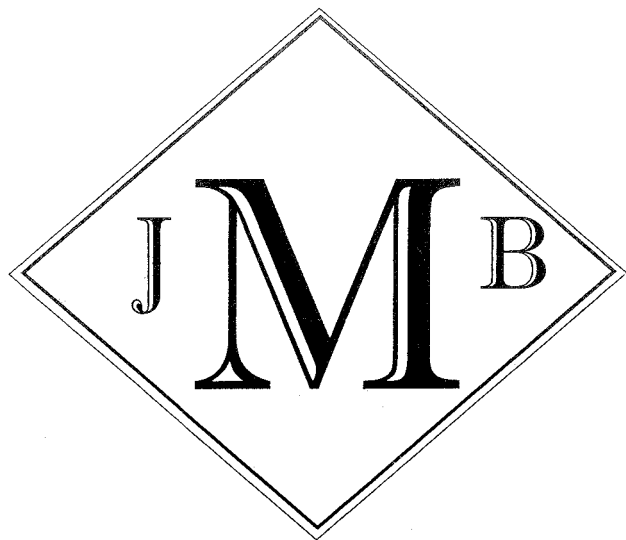
Paragon Mills - 6/28/93

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JOSEPH: PRISON TO PALACE

Gen. 41:39-44

I. Some men are such a joy.

A. Unblemished record.

B. Vast trials.

C. Wide scope of living - Joseph one of these.

1. Pick isolated incidents.

2. Tell bare details.

3. Hopefully, he serves as an inspiration to us.

4. Few men have endured more - many have favorably compared him to Christ tho no Scripture says about any type & antitype relationship.

II. Events from the Life of Joseph.

A. The accident of Birth.

1. Object of his father's love.

a.) Rachel's 1st child.

b.) Rachel dearly loved by Jacob & yearned for children.

c.) Joseph, "May God add or increase" all he had thru Rachel till Benjamin born & Rachel died.

d.) Good boy - even told of his brother's misbehavior

Gen. 37:2 "These are the generations of Jacob, Joseph

e.) Parental partiality via coat of many colors, naturally favor those that behave. (Will you leave your goods to those that love not the church?) *Brotherly report*

Gen. 37:3 "Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his

f.) Dreams via God told of higher honors.

2. Object of brother's hatred & envy.

a.) Blinded by envy they saw nothing Good in him.

b.) Ck. our envy.

(1) Does person merit his advantage.

(2) Did God providentially grant.

Matt. 20:15 "Is it not lawful for me to do what I will?"

(3) Are you happier because of it? *(mine own)*

(4) What is it? *Is thine eye evil because I am god?*

James 3:16 "Rottenness of the bones"

(5) Is it God like?

(6) Is it petty for me to dislike one who can do what I can't.

B. Resisting Great Wickedness.

1. We need ever to be righteous: in prosperity & adversity.

2. Joseph surely not happy as a slave but blessed to be in Potiphar's house. *Left all he had in J. hands*

3. Yet wife sought to seduce him. *knew not - save broth*

Gen. 39:6 "Joseph was a goodly person & well favoured"

4. He had the adversity of handsomeness.

5. Joseph was one of "unshaken constancy."

6. Customs of world sanction such as she proposed.

a.) Wanton.

b.) Profane.

c.) Drunk.

d.) Gamble.

7. "Indulgence is living" - men glory in their shame

8. If sin's nonimportant, explain Gethsemane & Calvary.

9. Solomon said "fools make a mock of sin."

(Prov. 14:9)

10. It was against God.

Gen. 39:9 "How can I do this great w. & sin

a.) Defies his authority.

Ps. 51:4 "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and

b.) Threatens his sense of justice & punishment.

c.) Abuses goodness & mercy.

Zeph. 1:12 "God will not do good, neither will he do

Exo. 5:2 "Who is the Lord that I should regard

11. Don't let beauty be a snare.

12. Accept heartache.

Ps. 105:18 "Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was

C. Pains of Ingratitude.

held in iron

Gen. 40:23 "Yet did not the chief butler remember Jo

1. David, "Let me fall into the hands of God & not
into the hands of man."

but forgot

2. His rejection of Mrs. Potiphar got him imprisoned

a.) Passion became rage.

b.) From solicitation to imprisonment - Such "trash"
deals us.

3. In prison he:

a.) Showed kindness.

b.) Never recrimination against any: woman, King,
brethren.

Gen. 39:14-20 (Read). - *Need of prisoners*

c.) Was gracious.

4. Ingratitude is common in every sense of word.

a.) "Jeshurun waxed fat & Kicked."

b.) We neglect those who benefit us.

c.) It makes us hesitant to trust the next man.

d.) He stayed 2 yr. longer in prison than he should

Gen. 40:14 "But think on me when it shall be well with me."

5. He needed to learn trust in God's deliverance, not Pharaoh--not arm of flesh but the Lord.
6. Revenge never his method.

D. Position of Prominence.

Gen. 41:41 "See I have set thee over all the land of Egypt."

1. Sudden changed: prison to palace.
2. Story of his life: Daddy favorite, dungeon, slave Potiphar, etc.
3. From any state God can deliver us.
4. Seems dark: his case never properly tried - but when God ready to move it did.

"Til his time was come, the word of the Lord tried him."

5. Nothing impossible c God - never at a loss for means to do his purpose.
6. Wait - even in suffering.
7. Cheerfully submit to providence.
8. God appoints the Kings.
9. Can we live in our success.

E. Recognize the Providence of God.

Gen. 45:8 "So now it was not you that sent me hither."

1. God overrules.
2. Christian can be content.

Gen. 45:5 "Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry."

F. Privilege Interviews.

Gen. 47:7-10 (Read).

1. Jacob had seen the wagons.

Gen. 45:27-28 (Read).

2. Jacob met Pharaoh.

3. Pharoah quizzed him - How old?

a.) Old folks like to talk of yrs.

Prov. 16:31 "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it

b.) How advanced are you?

c.) Have you finished your work?

4. Jacob's ans.

a.) Filled c God thoughts.

b.) Make good impression c least offense.

(1) Life's a pilgrimage.

(2) Yrs. are few.

(3) Much evil.

(4) Acknowledge good granted.

(5) Invoke God's blessings.

c.) Never ashamed of our religion. Don't exclude from your conversation.

d.) Lead men to know God.

e.) Seek to impress.

Gen. 48:15-16 "And he blessed Joseph and said, God

5. 2nd interview.

a.) One is dying - words are impressive.

b.) Wanted Manasseh, 1stborn to have rt. hand - Jacob reversed it. God often "crosses hands."

c.) Concern for spiritual welfare of next generation Above the temporal.

d.) Do we put right example before kids.

Exo. 2:9 "Bring up this child for me"

e.) Do we truly put God 1st.

Gen. 49:22 "Joseph is a fruitful bough (2 kids of the 12).

6. 3rd interview.

Gen. 50:15-17 Read.

a.) Are we vindictive.

1 Sam. 24:19 "If a man find his enemy, will he let hi

b.) Pled mercy because of Father.

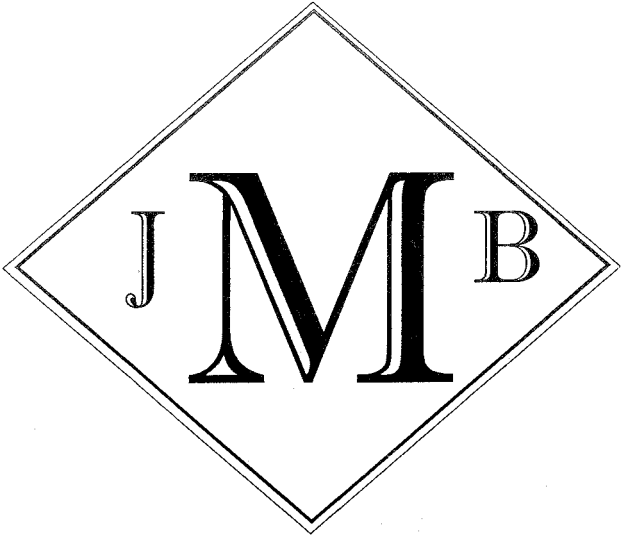
c.) Joseph wept.

(1) Suspicion worry him?

(2) 17 yrs. he's been kind - will he change.

(3) Or delighted in the evident repentance?

Locust Grove Church and Sunday School 7-12-81
West End 8-7-83



ATTITUDES THAT MAKE FOR VICTORIOUS LIVING

Gen. 41:46-55

- I. All of us have problems, trials, burdens.
- II. I trust all of us have changes - and many are for the better.
- III. But how do we react when life hands us a lemon:
give up, revenge, sour, smart, pout, succumb, or else we overcome.
 - A. I can't stop the bullets but I can put a vest on you that sheds them.
 - B. Via Joseph I want to tell you 2 attitudes that make for victorious living.
- IV. "And Joseph was 30 years old"
(Gen. 41:46) -
 - A. Can you realize what that means?
 1. 13 yrs. from Dothan.
 2. Sold as a slave by his brothers when 17.
 3. Carried by Midiate traders to Egypt.
 4. Sold again as a Slave.
 5. 10 years a bond man - 1st as valet of provost marshall of slaughters.
 6. Overseer of a great man's house.
 7. Tempted by a vicious woman.
 8. 3 yrs. in prison for a crime he didn't commit - (evidently didn't hurt this youngster to be c older ones).
 9. Forgotten by those he befriended.
 10. Was 30 & the wisest man in all Egypt.
 - B. Look at it this way.
 1. From obscurity to honor.
 2. From teenager to Prime Minister.

3. From disaster to highest honor - God does control history.
4. From costume of sordid jail to royal attire.
5. From exile to Exaltation.
6. V. 42 starts 6 official acts of Joseph.
 - a.) Signet ring.
 - b.) Fine linen.
 - c.) **Gold** chain
 - d.) 2nd chariot (we saw Tut's), Cry "Attention - Make Way". *205-10th-p5-2-nē+h*
 - e.) Name changed to Revealer of Secrets - the gods speak & he lives.
 - f.) Marriage of honor.

V. His Administration.

- A. Went thru all the land of Egypt.
 1. Victory over abuse of power & also self ease.
 2. Prosperity tests more than adversity.
- B. 7 plenteous years.
 1. Hands full = abundantly.
 2. Gathered food.
 - a.) Income tax of 20%.
 - b.) Later sold grain back to people.
 - c.) Practiced thrift rather than debt & extravagance.
 - d.) Practiced diligence.
 - e.) Practiced patience - 7 years & no sign of want.
 Suppose he was criticized for running a nation by a dream - Reagan by the Reader's Digest.
 - f.) Do we give 20% to our King Jesus?
3. Was as sands of the sea.
4. Quit numbering (Drawings of Egypt show greenie

VI. His Sons. *OS 3 - NATH*

A. Married Asenath, daughter of Potipherah.

1. Priest of On her dad.
2. Great person.
3. Marriage not condemned, yet not like Abraham's children usually did.

B. Sons born.

1. Manasseh.

- a.) Means Forgotten - miserable toil forgotten.
- b.) Men expressed their feelings thru names of sons
- c.) Birth of children interpreted as divine favor.
- d.) Significance of name.
 - (1) Won't allow memory of former misery change the value of his current state. *"Can't go home again"*
 - (2) Harbor no resentful memories.
 - (3) Forget Canaan - some things can't reenact.
 - (4) Yet not absolutely - it was relative. Means he was relieved of former pressures & would overcome his loss by building his own house.

2. 2nd Ephraim.

- a.) Means Double Fruitfulness.
- b.) Fruitful in adversity.
- c.) I can overcome.
- d.) 2 boys became 2 tribes - no tribe of Joseph & Levi got no land - priest to serve others thus avoid the 11.
- e.) Also shows he'd not completely forgotten his father & all his toil, but it didn't overcome him.

f.) Sadly, no information that says Pharaoh ever turned to God tho.

VII. Joseph wrote a great chapter.

A. Fidelity & Piety rewarded.

B. All God's words & promises always come true.

V. 54 "According as Joseph said"

C. Good Administrator.

D. Savior of People.

E. Whim of Oriental despot not to overcome him.

F. Totally Justified.

V. 39 "Pharaoh "There is none so discreet & wise

G. Not frustrated that all desires not fulfilled.

H. Suppose he gave any thought as to why there was a famine? Why didn't he communicate c Jacob?'

I. He was tested - confirmed.

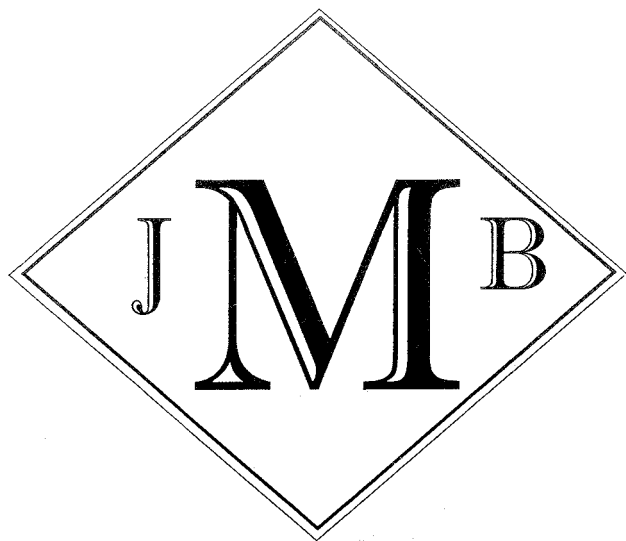
Deut. 18:22 "When a prophet speaketh in the name of

J. Trampled on by a nation now bends the knee to him.

K. Encourage frugality & being somebody via buying rather than giving to them.

VIII. Life will see Dearth in one place - plenty in another - can you forget & be fruitful?

Sheet End 1-2-83



GADDES' GIFT AND JUDAH'S JOURNEY

Gen. 43:11-14

1. A family crisis occurred - food was exhausted & there was no way to get more except at the risk of a family member.
 - A. Story of Gen. 43.
 1. Famine was sore in the land (V. 1). *bit "heavy"*
 2. Jacob seeing the food's exhaustion said Go again & buy (V. 2).
 3. Judah introduces "The Man" (V. 3).
 - (a) How often we speak like this *wonder why he*
 - (b) Air of mysterious dread. *new spots men*
 4. "The Man" said.
 - (a) No bro. - no sight of me.
 - (b) Clear alternative.
 5. Judah's proposition.
 - (a) Send Ben - we go.
 - (b) Retain Ben - won't go.
 - (c) "For the man said" - he meant it.
 6. Israel's rebuttal. *zayx used in Joseph history*
 - (a) Why have you dealt so c me to tell you had a bro. ?
 - (1) Always second guess.
 - (2) Always pass blame.
 - (b) Ans. "The man asked straitly" V. 7.
 - (1) Is your dad alive ?
 - (2) Have you another bro. ?
 - (3) We ans. - could we imagine he'd say bring bro. down ?
7. Judah said send him - we will live & not die - & "our little ones" - I will be a surety for him.

but I shall be a winner" is liable to be punished 2.

8. Israel said, "If it must be so now, do this."

- (a) Best fruits - a present. *lit "sons of the land" the best*
- (b) Balm.
- (c) And a little honey.
- (d) Spices, myrrh, nuts, almonds.
- (e) Double money.
- (f) Your bro.

B. Gaddes came to our devotional at Xmas - brot us a little honey. (Johnson's sour wood honey).

- 1. A little honey isn't a bad thing to smear around.
- 2. All can't have bees but we can another honey.

Ps. 81:16 "With honey out of the rock

II. ~~Honey to share.~~ *this could have been grape honey B. The queen made wine*

A. It's nature's perfect food - honey & vinegar.

- 1. Honey gives energy.
- 2. One food goes straight to heart.

B. ~~Foy Smith~~ said we need the honey of kindness.

Ps. 31:21 "God hath showed me his marvelous kindness

Ps. 117:2 "For his merciful kindness is great toward us

Prov. 31:26 "In her tongue is the law of kindness

Isa. 54:8 "With everlasting kindness will I have mercy

2 Cor. 6:6 served with kindness

Col. 3:12 "Put on K., humbleness of mind

2 Pet. 1:5-7 "Brotherly kindness

Rom. 12:10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with

C. Where shall I practice it?

1. Home.

(a) Scout - Did you ever have a mother?

2. In religious discussion.

2 Cor. 7:4 "Great is my boldness of speech toward you

nurse cherisheth her children 36
1 Thess. 2:7 "But we were gentle among you, even as a

(a) Camus quote, "Man can be nourished only by the wine of the absurd & the bread of indifference."

3. In relations c brethren.

Gen. 50:21 "Joseph dealt kindly c his br."

1 Jn. 3:15 "No murderer hath eternal life abiding in h *whoever loveth his brother is 2*

Prov. 18:21 "Death & life are in the power of the tongue

"Say it with flowers, say it c mink."

But never, no never, say it c ink."

(a) Don't imagine wrong things.

(b) Mark Twain & mirror.

4. In business relations.

(a) Is it dog eat dog?

Gen. 24:12 "O Lord show kindness to my master Abrah

"I have wept in the night,

from the shortness of sight,

That to the needs of others made me blind

But I never have yet,

had a cause to regret

For being a little too kind."

(b) Can we relay reality of Jesus - Campbell quote.

(c) Check for 1¢.

5. Like Ed & Judah - take a little honey c you.

Week End 2-18-73

Ala. Christian College 6-21-73

After an efficiency expert received his check for services rendered, he noticed it was one cent short. A stickler for detail, he called his client and insisted the difference be paid. When the check for a penny arrived, he took it to his bank. The teller first carefully studied the check, then leaned forward and whispered confidentially to the expert: "How would you like it — heads or tails?" — CLAUDE A. BURNETTE, JR., Little Field, Tex., *True Magazine*, 11-72. n

YOU CAN USE

"This was my first flight," he told her. "It was very nice, but now that it's over, could you tell me how to get the gum out of my ears?" d

During preliminary inspection at a Boy Scout camp, the director found an umbrella in the bedroll of a tiny Scouter. Since the umbrella was obviously not one of the items of equipment listed, the director asked the lad to explain. The tenderfoot neatly countered with his question:

"Sir, did you ever have a mother?"—*The Baptist Courier*, 9-14-72. e

Copy Editor Glenn Dietrich



Each week Capper's Weekly pays \$1 each for the two best anecdotes or stories contributed under this heading. Address: Anecdote Editor, Capper's Weekly, Topeka, Kan. 66607.

Fresh Air

Once when Mark Twain was on tour, he woke in the middle of a stifling hot night at a hotel and couldn't get back to sleep. In the dark, he tried to open the window, but it wouldn't budge. Impatiently, he grabbed a shoe and broke the glass. Filling his lungs with cool fresh air he went back to sleep, refreshed.

In the morning he discovered that he had broken a mirror.

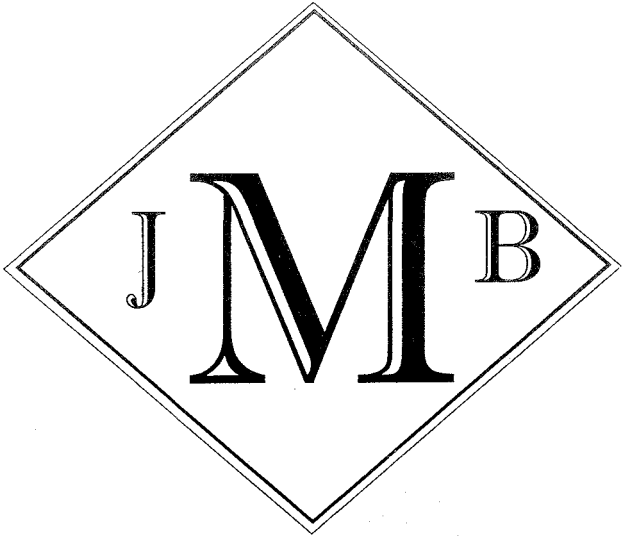
Kathy

Logan, Kan.

"God help us, we live in a world in which hero is a sandwich, life is a magazine, gusto is a drink, power is a candy bar, joy is a detergent, my sin is a perfume, a star is an actress thrice divorced, the real thing is a soda pop."

Ernest Campbell

"The Earth is the Lord's?" - By Joyce Blackburn - Page 99



WHEN WE HAVE A REUNION

Genesis 43:15-

- I. What happens when we have a reunion--
when we go home?
A. We laugh *Cosy all (free us more)*
We cry *wounded but not conquered*
We comment -- "Look Good"
We leave refreshed
 - B. Bible tells the Joseph story.
 1. More space than any other in Genesis.
 2. From Genesis 43:15 on I tell it.
- II. It's time for the 2nd visit.
- A. Judah becomes spokesman.
 - B. Jacob to be overruled.
 - C. Simeon, hostage, to be restored.
 - D. Benjamin to be risked.
 - E. Presents to be given, money to be restored.
 - F. God to be trusted.
 1. Reuben's offer.
 2. Jacob's statement like Esther's (Esther 4:16).
- v-14 "God Almighty give you mercy"
- III. Egypt Revisted
- A. Sacks--traveling bags.
 - B. Stood before Joseph.
 1. Public view.
 2. Joseph speaks Egyptian language.
 3. Saw Benjamin and moves to private view.
 - C. Instructs ruler of the house:
 1. "Bring these men home"(v-16).
 - a) Country boys, shepherds, to palace of govenor.
 - b) Which folk do I use?

2. "Slay & make ready" (v-16)
Lit. "Kill a Killing"
3. "For these men dine with me
at noon"
a) Lit. at double light.
4. Man did as Joseph bade.
Brought men to Joseph's house.
5. Blessing to be associated with
Governor.

D. Fear Seizes the Men.

1. Conscious calling?
2. "Because of the money"
a) It cuts such ice.
b) Sometimes we've not control--
how did money get in our
sacks?
c) "Fall on us"--lit. roll on us,
fall, deprive of liberty.
Terror --"must be shaken
first over the pit before coming
to senses". (Barnhouse)
d) Seek occasion--make us slaves
and take our donkeys.

E. The Stewart is Informed.

1. Speaks outside the house.
2. Money restored.
3. We've got double money.
4. Don't know how it happened.
5. Tried to explain.
6. No longer deceitful men.
7. Oversight = something caused
to wander, go astray.

F. Steward teaches them.

v-23 "Peace be to you"

v-23 "Fear not "

v-23 "Your God & God of Your Father"

v-23 "I had your money"

v-23 "Brought out Simeon"

1. Conductor has no fear.
2. Who taught him about God.
3. Baptism in Hawaii--man saw such love.
4. If conductor does not fear God, he respects those who do.
5. Simeon reassures them--he's OK.
6. How wide is our influence?
7. Do we learn from unexpected sources?

IV. The Noon Meal

A. Great hospitality.

1. Brought into house.
2. Given water.
3. Asses provender.

B. They gave presents to Joseph at noon meal.

1. Gave from their hand.
2. Bowed to Joseph--as in his dream.
3. Eyes to the floor.

C. Joseph questions them.

1. Your welfare (peace literally).
2. Is your father well, yet alive?
3. Answered truthfully & bowed again.
4. No longer an open levee.
5. Joseph incognito.
6. Had not looked them in the face--contempt? Indifference? Absent-minded? Emotions?

D. Lifted eyes & saw Benjamin "his mother's son."

1. "Is this your younger brother?"
2. Before they answered, "God be gracious unto thee, my son" v-29.
3. Great benediction.

Nu. 6:25

Ps. 67:1

*Face Bless, keep, face shine, gracious,
countenance, Dece*

E. Joseph Excuses Himself

1. Made haste.
 - a) Emotion gets him.
 - b) Nervous? Crisis has come.
2. Bowels yearned for his brother.
 - a) We seek to locate emotions.
 - b) Word is "warm".
 - c) Tender affection.
 - d) Tension arises.
3. Sought where to weep.
 - a) In chambers.
 - b) Wept there.
 - c) See marvels of palace.
 - d) Nature makes us kin.
4. Jeremiah weeping prophet.
5. Joseph weeping monarch.

Gen. 42:24

45:2

45:14-15

6. Washed face--perhaps violent weeping.
7. Regains composure & returns.
8. "Set on Bread".
 - a) "Dinner's ready."
 - b) "Let's eat."
 - c) Egyptian way of saying it.

F. 3 Tables

1. Joseph alone.
2. Egyptians would not eat with Hebrews--they ate cows, sacred to some in Egypt.
3. Joseph's brothers.
 - a) Firstborn to youngest.
 - b) What do others know about us?
 - c) What do we hide from God?
 - d) If he knows order of birth does he know other secrets? Our private history?
4. Monuments show Egyptians sat-- Jews, like Romans, reclined. We are touched by our culture.
5. Seating perplexed but did not enlighten. "Men marvelled."

G. Host Sent Messes--Benjamin 5X as much.

1. Gracious of host.
2. What manner of men will Joseph find his brothers?
3. Can they pass the test?
4. Always right to keep the body right and weed out openly rebellious and unfit.
5. Purpose of discipline is to reclaim the offender.
6. Will his brothers be jealous of Benjamin?--they were of Joseph years ago.
7. Are we content with what we have-- or jealous?

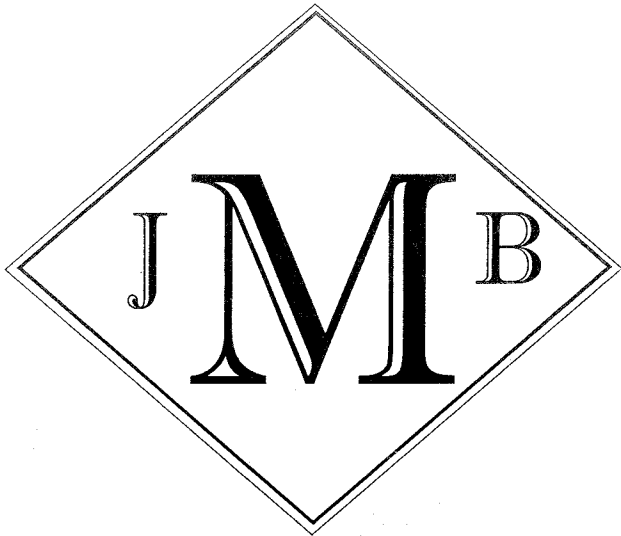
H. "Drank and were merry"

1. Enjoyed it all.

2. Good terms with the host.

Haggai 1:6

West End "Homecoming" - 11/1/98



GOD CAN TURN OUR MISTAKES INTO BLESSINGS

Gen. 45:1-15
47:11-12

I. Where lives a man who has never made a mistake?

- A. Bought the wrong thing.
- B. Moved into the wrong house.
- C. Courted the wrong friends.
- D. Backed the wrong power.
 - 1. Men do it.
 - 2. Nations and governments are guilty.
- E. But God has demonstrated via past events how he can turn tragedy into triumphant.
 - 1. Nothing shows it more clearly than Joseph, so no wonder he has so much told of him in the Bible.
 - 2. And you name your sons Joseph.
 - 3. Let's study the Annual Lessons of September 27, 1942, bids us review.

II. Some Facts:

- A. Time at least 1,700 years before Christ.
- B. Place, Governor's house and land, Rameses, Egypt.
- C. Persons, Joseph, Jacob and his family, Pharaoh.

- D. It's the close of his brother's visit for food with five years of famine remaining.
1. A special cup is missing and must have been taken by one of the brothers.
 - a) If they'd sell into slavery, then
 - b) Surely they'd steal to avoid proper payment.
 2. The returning caravan from Egypt to Israel and a search is made.
 3. Started with oldest and descends to youngest with cup in Benjamin's sack.
 4. Demand of caravan to reverse its course and return to Joseph's house.
 5. At this time his identity is unknown to his brethren.
 6. A weeping scene will unfold as we see resentment abolished, forgiveness reinstated, wrongs righted, and God's providence revealed.
 7. We'll behold the unfolding of "I repent," "I forgive," "I love you" as action reveals it without the expressed words being spoken.
 8. Let's move to the story.

III. Events in Joseph's house.

- A. Judah, and note the tribe, has made a great, self-sacrificing plea, and willingness to substitute himself.

- B. By it Joseph is deeply touched and on the verge of becoming emotionally overcome.
1. He orders all out of his presence except his brethren--still not knowing who he is.
 2. Egyptians are not to witness this scene even as we shield the bereaved at funerals for final viewing.
 3. Brethren must have been filled with great wonder as this powerful man had stated he'd imprison Benjamin and send them to Israel without him.
 4. They are so amazed that they said nothing.
- C. Suddenly to the exclusive family the confession, "I am Joseph."
1. Imagine their surprise!
 2. Hear the question: "Does my father yet live?"
 3. They could not answer because they were troubled at his presence.
 4. They could not imagine what he would do to them since they sold him into slavery, told their dad the lie that he was dead.
 5. Conscience troubles us.
 6. They know Joseph is Lord of the land and he can do whatever pleases him unto them.

7. Yet they currently detected no bitterness in his speech.
 8. Not one harsh word was said.
 9. Could their humiliation be worse?
- D. Next command, "Come near to me."
1. First time very close to him.
 2. They obeyed.
 3. But what would he do?
 4. When they put him in a pit, sold him, they meant harm to him.
 5. All this a horrible way to treat a brother--would he reverse it?
- E. They heard, "And now be not grieved or angry with yourselves that you sold me for God did send me before you to preserve life."
1. You sold - God sent!
 2. God had life in mind.
 3. God overrules man's evil for good.
 - a) Assyria rod of mine anger, the staff of whose hand is my indignation.
 - b) Nebuchadnezzar my servant.
 - c) Egypt has yet five years "neither plow nor harvest--thus persevere remnant save alive a great deliverance."
 - d) "So now it was not you that sent me hither but God."

Isa. 10:5-7

Jer. 27:6

e) (This was current to them, as his hand tied that he will not act for us now.)

F. Next order (9-11) with haste go to my father (Read these verses).

G. Scene of weeping as actions show repentance.

1. First Benjamin.

2. Then all the rest (V.12-15).

3. Demonstration of complete and universal forgiveness.

4. Kisses to all.

5. Surely great relief without any revenge.

6. All, even Benjamin, could go home and plan their exodus and return.

7. All promised preservation.

IV. Now Pharaoh's part (Gen. 47:11-12).

A. Read these verses.

B. Jacob believes when he saw the wagons.

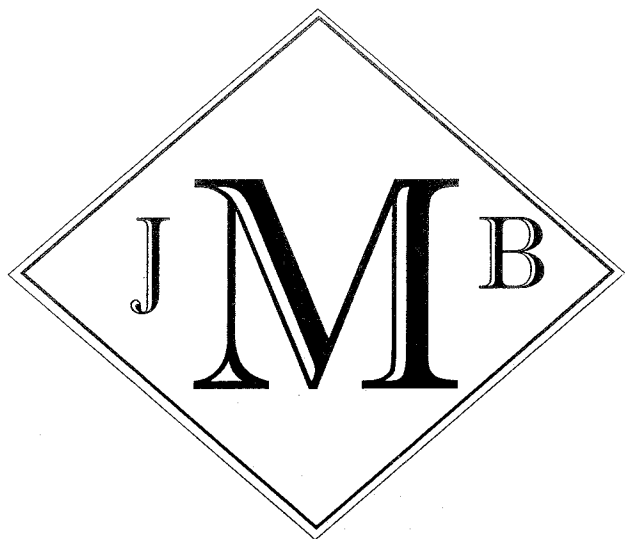
1. Can you imagine that caravan as a nation moves.

2. Judah sent before him to lead the way to Goshen.

C. Judah's son goes before us to lead the way to glory.

D. God protected them later as they went to Jerusalem for three feasts--no one invaded in their absences.

Exo. 34:24 "Neither shall any man desire
thy land..."



WHEN HE SAW THE WAGONS

Gen. 45:16-28

I. A tearful reunion has occurred with Joseph and his brethren.

A. Invitation extended--"bring him down".
(You can forgive when you know others have!)

B. Weeping time. *Salt: sweat, tears, Ocean*

C. Then "his brethren talked with him."

II. Good News Spreads

A. Heard in Pharaoh's House

1. Fame = voice, rumor.

2. News--Joseph's brethren are come--
happy about their good fortune.

They've arrived.

3. Whole court joined with Pharaoh in delight.

B. Pharaoh extends invitation--(sadly which some brethren no longer do!)

1. Joseph could have issued the invitation but best to come from the ultimate power--the King.

2. Immediately & sincerely given.

3. Warmly urged.

4. Shows he is grateful for what Joseph has done for Egypt.

5. Takes Joseph off the spot--he did not overstep his bounds.

6. Lit. "it was good in the eyes of Pharaoh."

C. Pharaoh's Invitation Included:

1. Presents sent to Jacob.

2. "Come unto me" - v-18.

a) An independent invitation above Joseph's.

God good to us not because of us, but bc cause of our Elder Bro

Child: Forget #2 Birthday

- b) We have preachers, but it's the Lord that invites.
3. Good of the Land of Egypt.
- a) Best part *Goshen 30x30 Miles*
- b) Wealth of Egypt placed at disposal of Israel.
4. Eat of fat of the Land.
- a) best we have - Goshen.
- b) Riches & most fertile.
- c) Sounds "heavenly."
5. It's a command! From my mouth, lit.
6. Load the wagons.
- a) ~~1st mention in Bible but we will hear more.~~
- b) Chariots.
- c) Small 2 wheel vehicles--good for roadless desert.
- d) Usually drawn by cattle.
- e) Not only Joseph's invitation, Pharaoh's command, but obviously wagon loads of gifts & return transportation & provisions.
7. Regard not your stuff.
- a) Eyes not grieving over what you leave behind since the good of Egypt will belong to you.
- b) ~~But it's hard to clean out the attic & throw it away.~~
- c) ~~But why burden with impediments when you are going to a new home.~~
- d) Don't follow your own instincts--6 planes dove into Myrtle Beach Atlantic--pilots did not trust

*Margin
See it, cart
bear to
throw it
away.*

instruments--followed each other into sea.

D. Joseph too sent presents.

1. Raiment

- a) Change of clothing for special occasion.
- b) Dress to meet the King.
- c) Dress appropriate to the occasion.
- d) Robed in the 1st of Egyptian craftsmanship--even as we put on Christ.
- e) Gifts show love.

2. Specials for Benjamin

- a) 300 pieces of silver--price of 10 slaves (Exo. 21:32).
- b) 5 changes of raiment.

3. Special for his Dad

- a) 10 asses of good things of Egypt.
- b) 10 to return on.

E. Got a warning--"See that ye fall not out by the way." **DRUCKER Quote #3**

1. Means disturbed, violent emotions, anger, quarrels.
2. Don't get into arguments while traveling, else that thwarts the mission.
3. We've work to do--disputes hinder.
4. (How do we act away from church house?)
5. Family quarrels never help.
6. Why this warning?
 - a) We are all vulnerable.

Remember me!

You did it before

We still give clothes

Some special food Jacob had

Lit. "Be not stirred"

OUR "Brother" today so wants Christmas

- b) Remembered how they were jealous of his coat & his dreams-- would they be of Benjamin's good fortune?
- c) Would they argue over the past as to who did what?
- d) Would they think Joseph has future plots against them?

III. Reunion with Jacob.

A. Joseph is alive & ruler over all Egypt.
(See the providence of God--"not you that sent me but God.")

- 1. Believed he was dead. - *WRONG!*
- 2. Moaned him 20 years. *(Sincerely)*
- 3. Saw Benjamin, Simeon, & this news-- just too much!
- 4. Told all the words, quickly, accurately.

B. Heart fainted--Believed not.

- 1. Lit. grew chill, stopped in amazement.
- 2. Some things hard to accept.
- 3. Piecemeal we learn if we keep hearing.

42:36 "All these things are against me."

C. He saw the wagons.

- 1. Carriages touched his heart.
- 2. God's making full provision for journey.
- 3. Wagons like Jesus & Thomas--touch me.
- 4. Barnhouse calls them the "down-payment."

D. Spirit Revived

stirring up almost⁵ extinguished embers (Septuagint)

1. Lived
2. His incredulity conquered.
3. He must--as we--believe there is a better home prepared.
4. Our reward is above our ability to imagine.

E. "Israel" said!

1. Name is important--prophesy is fulfilled.
2. It's Israel that rises to the emergency-worthy of his name.

F. It is enough.

1. One word sufficient.
2. Since this was enough he could not be satisfied where he was--he must go.
3. Follow voice of God--it's enough--His word is sufficient.

G. Joseph is alive.

1. Meant more than him being a ruler.
2. I go--young in spirit.
3. Left with confidence.
4. Israel has something to live for.

"Death" closes all: but something ere the end
Some work of noble note, may yet be done...
Tis not too late to seek a newer world."

Tennyson - Ulysses

IV. Can you see the wagons?

Swing low - Sweet Chariots

Echo Meadows Church, Oregon, OH - 6/24/89

Nashville Jubilee - 7/8/89

Homewood church. Birmingham, AL - 7/9/89

Union Ave., Memphis, TN - 11/8/89

Q/D

*Friday -
rain in 2
After rain*

Emergence

Continued

*rain in 2
crosses after
event 25*

*Free the
Foreclosures*

Writer Arthur Gordon once said that salt water could cure anything, be it in the form of sweat, tears, or the ocean. I have thought about that solution and used it often. A good workout, a walk along the beach, or a good old-fashioned cry can send us back as better helpers. #1

HOW CAN I HELP -Kolp - P.131

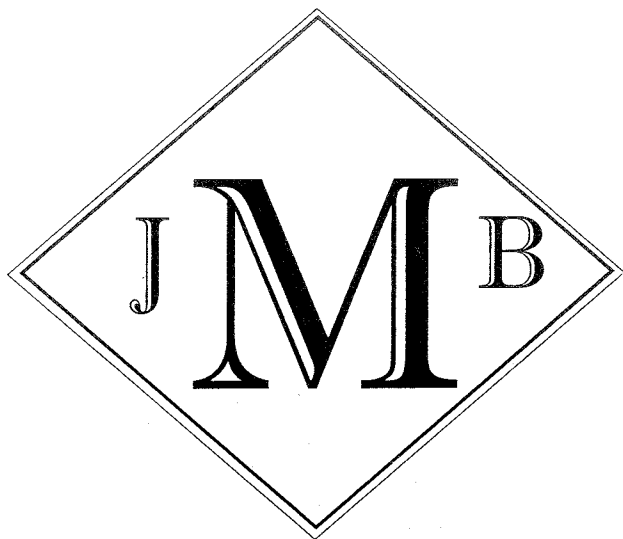
X A LITTLE BOY wrote this letter to his grandmother: "Dear Grandmother, I'm very sorry that I forgot your birthday last week. It would serve me right if you forgot mine next Tuesday." #2

Peter F. Drucker, management consultant and educator, has noted that "anyone over forty lives in a different world from that in which he came to manhood, lives as if he was emigrated, fully grown, to a new and strange country." #B

PEOPLE WHO CARE -

CW Brewster
Pg 20

X Frog Forecasting - Studies done in modern China have shown that one can predict the upcoming weather with 80 percent accuracy by monitoring the croaks of frogs. Chang Chi-tsai, a peasant, devised a formula which has been adopted by millions of Chinese farmers and peasants. The formula is: "If frogs croak on a fine day, it will rain in two days. If frogs croak after rain, there will be fine weather. It will continue to rain if frogs do not croak after successive overcast days."



WHEN JACOB SAW THE WAGONS

Gen. 45:24-27

I. Life holds many surprises. Some so unexpected we say "give me proof."

A. Missionaries need our prayers-- tell story of Mrs. Caskey and snakes following her violin. (Some hit you and you only see the ceiling as you fall--others nothing, you die so quickly. These followed her head hi--husband had his door locked--she waltzed them around room, outdoor, just then snakes mate came--back in, to sleeping bro. bed room--not awaked--hubby did, shot gun out window, had to get 2 snake heads together, after eternity shot, recoil snake wrapped around her neck, she fainted unhurt. On crocidile bury woman on shelf, not completely drown, came to, dug out.

B. Christians practice hospitality.

1. Tell of Don Griffith turning home in Tulsa to us.

C. Jacob told Joseph alive.

Fainted

Gen. 45:26 "And J. heart fainted

27 "And when he saw the wagons

II. Let's see that story.

A. Joseph sold for 20 pieces of silver.

1. Midianite merchant men (Gen. 37:28)

2. Joe's coat in kids blood.

3. To Jacob "This have we found, know not

4. V-33 "And he knew it, and said 'It is my
5. Moaned, no comfort

v-35 "For I will go down into the grave.

a. Felt his son torn as was the coat.

B. Joseph saves Egypt and stocks for famine,
all come to him. *you heard they had corn (42:2)*

1. Chapter 42 Jacob sends 10 sons *let us buy*

a. Benjamin left at home. *near about good / Ben*

2. Joseph recognizes them as they bow,
recalls dreams, speaks roughly by *hard things*
interpreter, accuses them of being spies.

3. Denied--sons of 1 man, 12 brethren,
youngest is with father and "one is not."

4. Imprisons all 3 days and then another
conference.

5. All go with supplies, leave one, bring
youngest to verify and release hostage.

6. They are haunted by past (v-21, 22),
Joseph leaves to weep, bound Simeon into
their sight. *Didn't know he knew!*

7. Gave them corn, restored money and
provisions for way.

8. At caravansary opened sacks, saw money,
scared. *"heart went forth"*

9. Told Jacob, saw money, all scared, but
Ben. can't go! *Said we can't see his*

C. Jacob changes mind. *see last Ben there.*

1. Reuben said "Slay my 2 boys" *God said same to us Acts 4:12*

2. Why did you tell him you had a brother.

3. Judah "I'll be surety" or our little ones
will die.

4. Time is now important.

5. "If it must be so now, do this" and so they went Benj., double money presents and a prayer "God give mercy"

D. Appeared before Joseph.

1. Make real noon meal as he saw B.

2. Joseph questions about family leaves weep

3. Great segregated feast, perhaps 3 tables - Joseph, Egypt and Hebrews.

a. Hebrews seated by age marveled.

(1) Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zehibun, Benj.

b. Benj. mess 5x any others.

4. Sent away -- money and silver cup.

5. Overtaken -- not us -- oldest to youngest and cup in Ben. Rent clothes, return.

6. Judah's speech.

44:33 "Let thy servant abide instead of the

7. Too much for Joseph, Egyptian, sent out

45:3 "I am Joseph."

8. God sent me, not you "preserve you a posterity in the earth."

9. Pharaoh heard, delighted, ordered the wagons.

10. Sent wagons, money, clothes, food, 20 laden asses.

11. Went to Jacob -- told him

45:26 "Joseph is yet alive and he is gov.

26 "And J. heart fainted for he believed

27 "And they told him all

- 27 "And when he saw the wagons,
a. Don't fall out on way--either punishing
self for sale or envy of Benj. we
quarrel over an inheritance.

III. Am I to see my loved ones again?

A. Is there immortality? *It is erw f*

1. Character of God says it. Jesus said
"God is not the God of the dead but of
the living."
2. We want life after this--it doesn't seem
complete.
Ecc. 3:11 "He hath set the world in
3. Curtain of death leaves life incomplete--
what more he could have done. We visit
the grave and yearn for reunion.

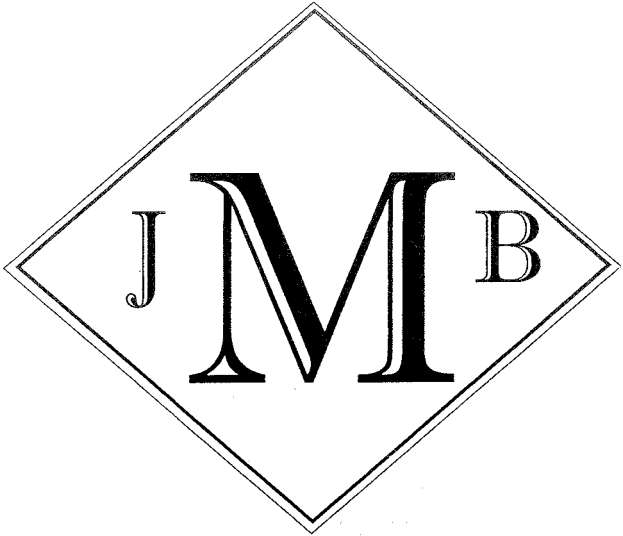
B. Our proof is better!

1. Jacob saw the wagons--believed.
2. We see Jesus.
"I am the res. and the life."
"I have the keys of hell and death."
3. Jesus, our hope, our answer via the
resurrection.

C. As to Jacob may our proof completely
revive and lift our spirits.

West End - 6/20/65

Dodge City, Kansas - 9/11/65



IT'S TIME TO LEAVE HOME

Gen. 46:1-7

- I. It is the nature of man and the procedure of families that there comes a time to leave home.
 - A. Various are the reasons:
 1. It may be to pursue an education.
 2. It could be the call of the military.
 3. It could be calamity and necessity.
 4. But as life unfolds, we grow, we mature, we marry--we are "on our own."
 - B. We may not at the very moment sense its finality, we love our rearing and expect to be back.
 - C. In a sense we see "home" as where we grew up and long after we are somewhere else we still go "back home."
- II. I want to tell you of a complete family--oddly enough--that left home.
 - A. It is the story of Jacob.
 - B. It's the result of a famine.
 - C. It's the story of the providential protection of our powerful God who can put all the pieces in place.
 - D. It's told in Genesis 46 and 47.

III. You will recall:

- A. Joseph, the lad with the coat of many colors and the egotistical dreams gaining the hatred of his brothers.
- B. He is sold as a slave to the Midianites and then to Egypt.
- C. He has unbelievable experiences of victory and defeat.
- D. He eventually becomes Lord of Egypt.
- E. You know the seven years of famine following seven years of plenty, Joseph is Governor.

IV. In great drama Joseph reveals his identity.

- Gen. 45:3 "I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him."
- Gen. 45:5 "God did send me before you to preserve life."
- Gen. 45:7 "Preserve you a posterity in the earth and to save your lives."
- Verse 8 "You did not send me, but God."
- Gen. 45:8 "He hath made me a father..."
- A. Time--make haste--for all Israel to leave home.

1. Lots of weeping--even Pharaoh heard.
2. Fame spread.
3. Bring them to Goshen--the best of the land.
4. Sent wagons for transport.
5. Raiment--Benjamin five changes and 300 pieces of silver.

B. Jacob knows none of this.

1. He thinks Joseph is dead and has believed it 22 years.
2. People can be honest yet woefully deceived.
3. Sorrow as strong as though Joseph were dead.
4. Believing a lie does not make it a truth.
5. But when told Joseph is governor of all Egypt his heart fainted and he believed them not (Gen. 45:26).
6. But when he saw the wagon he revived.

Gen. 45:28 "And Israel said, it is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive."

V. Events of the Exodus

- A. Went immediately - faith obeys.
- B. Believed God authored it.
 1. Stopped at Beersheba and offered sacrifices.

Gen. 46:1

2. Isaac did the same earlier.
3. Abraham did earlier.

Gen. 21:33

4. Tradition is valuable.

Gen. 26:23-25

5. God appeared to Jacob and made promises.

Gen. 46:3 "Fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation."

Gen. 46:6 "...all his seed with him."

C. Jacob meets Joseph.

Gen. 46:29

D. Jacob meets Pharaoh.

Gen. 47:5-10 Read

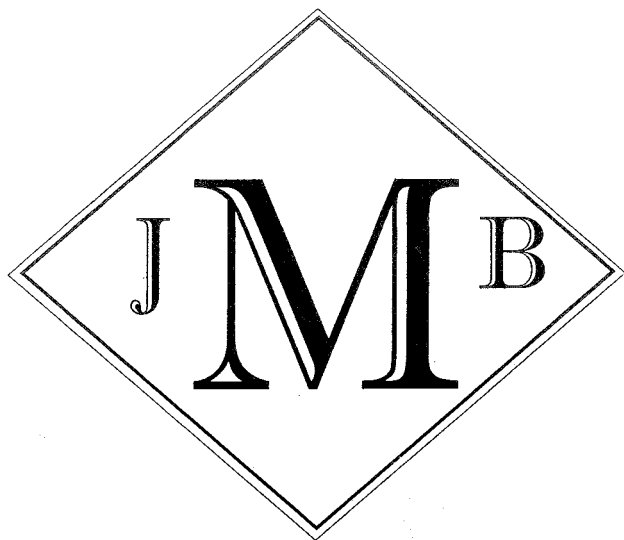
1. Journey 200 miles.
2. To the best of the land.

E. Jacob lives 17 more years--dies at 147 years.

1. Later buried in Canaan as it's home.
2. Here he gained great possession.
3. Great funeral procession, took him home (Genesis 50).
4. Loved God wherever he was.

Gen. 48:15-16

5. He always took God at his word and stayed faithful through all trials.
6. May your leaving home be rewarding.



THE CLOSE OF THE BEGINNING

Gen. 50

- I. All of us know the moving story of Joseph & God's providential protection.
 - A. The last chapter of Gen. says much.
 - B. Shall we see these principles.
- II. Gen. 50:1-6 "And Joseph fell upon his father's face"
 - A. Age should intensify our love of parents.Exo. 20:12 "Honour thy father and thy mother: that th'Eph. 6:1-4 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord:"
 1. Do we remember with visits, cards, letters.
 2. Is there an overt expressed interest?
 3. As parents do we deserve such recognition?B. What have I done for my parents this week?
- III. Gen. 50:7-9 12-13
 - A. Time can heighten family responsibilities.
 1. Joseph didn't beg off.
 2. Was not too busy.
 3. Yes, others could have buried him - he alone is Prime Minister.
 - B. Are we rightfully accepting our responsibilities.
- III. Gen. 50:15-18, 21
 - A. Will we extend forgiveness for wrongs suffered.
 1. Joseph's pure motives were misconstrued.
 2. Your brethren may misunderstand you.
 3. No record Joseph ever cried at Potiphar's house or prison - but did here.
 - B. His forgiveness was genuine.
 1. Do we harbor ill.
 2. Can we expect some misunderstanding even in families.

Eph. 4:32 "Be ye kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one c

IV. Gen. 50:19-20 24-25

A. Add purpose to life.

- 1. Life has bitter & sweet.
- 2. Can we propagate the faith?

B. Have I learned valuable lessons?

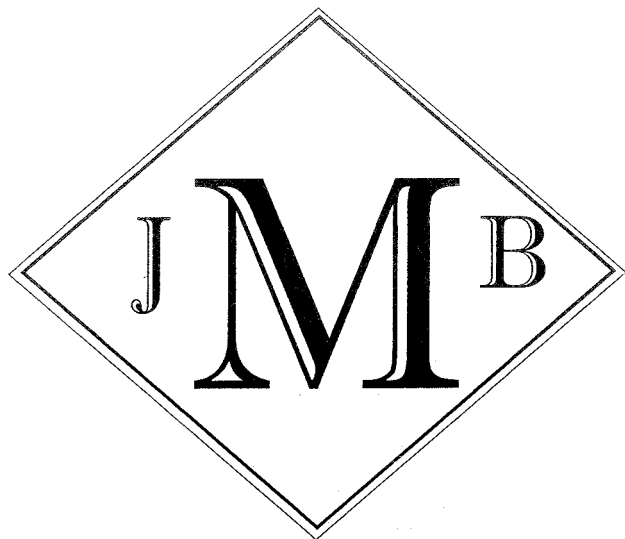
V. Gen. 50:25-26

A. Develop a fearlessness toward death.

- 1. Do you see it as the end?
- 2. Can we see life beyond the immediate moment?

B. He saw God's promised intervention.

Next End 3-26-80



HOW FULL IS OUR FORGIVENESS?

Gen.50:15-21

- I. With this text we come to the close of Joseph's history.
 - A. He's Lord of Egypt and has things earlier to say about his power.
 - B. Text above is his last recorded translation - 54 years later he dies.
 1. We are not told what happened in the last half of his life.
 2. Fifty chapters of Genesis covers 2,500 years.
 3. Bible characters teach us about positions, fidelity or otherwise, Joseph a great example of fidelity against great odds.
 4. He ever gave God the credit for all good things.
 5. God used Joseph's abilities.
 - C. Sometimes the grave lets us bury animosities.
 1. Abraham buried by Isaac and Ishmael.

Gen. 25:9

2. Isaac died, Esau and Jacob there.

Gen. 35:20

3. All Jacob's sons at his burial.

- D. We never get rid of evil acts.
Jacob's brother remembers what 22 years earlier they did to him.
- E. Justice demands evil be punished--
they had 17 years to think about
their deeds to Joseph as they
worked in Goshen.
- F. Predicament--was Joseph good to
them only while daddy lived?
 1. Whether Jacob gave the command
no way of knowing.
 2. Did he anticipate trouble to come?
 3. It would be good if they humbled
themselves before Joseph.
 4. They made no effort to evade
what they had done.
 5. Better to confess than evade.

I John 1:9

6. As Joseph said they would via a
dream--they bowed to him.

III. Joseph Forgives (19-24)

- A. Fear not --Jesus' words too.
 1. Great to bring peace.
 2. Great to be honest with guilt.
- B. Note God's place: Am I God?
 1. It was his place to handle.

Rom. 12:19 "Avenge not yourselves..."

2. God overrules hurt for help. He
used Joseph to save much
people alive.

C. Not only forgive, but help them.

V-21

Rom. 12:20 "But if thine enemy hunger,
feed him."

Rom. 5:8 "But God commendeth his love
toward us..."

D. Joseph "spake kindly."

1. Margin "spoke to their hearts."

Matt. 12:34 "For out of abundance."

IV. The End

Gen. 50:22-26 His last words.

A. Saw his grandchildren.

B. Died 110 years old.

C. They were taught the promises.

D. Joseph embalmed.

Exo. 13:19

Josh. 24:32

E. For us!

1. Do we live in all good
conscience (Acts 23:1)?

2. Do we believe any lie as the
truth?

3. Do we truly repent?

4. Have asked for pardon?

5. Have we in our journey received
"strong encouragement?"

6. Do we truly love enemies?

Neely's Bend - 3/18/07

