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April 2011 - Newsletter

Dear Family and Friends,

We want to thank our wonderful God for all our family and friends.

We are thankful for all of you that are getting our newsletters and those of you that are taking the Bible Studies. You are all such a blessing to us!

Rodney and I sometimes get busy and don't take time to tell our children and grand-children how much we love them. But we want you all to know you are never out of our thoughts or our prayers. We love you all very much!

Many of you we have never met and perhaps never shall in this world, but there is another place where we can all get together if we are faithful.

Our subject this month is: I Believe In Angels

Curious Questions

Harold Jenkins later confessed that he was "a self-righteous follower of the world and its frivolities." His religion was psychology and logic. He did not pray or believe in prayer, nor did he go to church or any religious function. He claimed that religion was a hoax and its followers

were hypocrites. He did, however, believe in basic morality, hard work and in doing the best one could.

Upon having a son, he became anxious about his welfare and future career. He knew that as little Jason grew up he would face temptations of drugs, sex, and homosexuality, and that he would be exposed to all kinds of evil influences in today's permissive society. His mind was exercised as to what would eventually become of him.

Harold's concern for his son led him to take great care in the choice of a babysitter. The one he chose was a young Christian woman whom he felt would be honest and faithful. It was from her that Jason first began to learn about Jesus and the Bible.

Soon he was asking his father the strangest questions.

Harold couldn't figure out where they were coming from or why he was asking them. They were questions about his "Heavenly Father," and "that happy land, far, far away."

Harold was puzzled, and yet the questions were asked in such a sweet and earnest manner that he couldn't bring himself to shatter his son's simple belief. He himself had been raised in a Christian home and was taught these same things when he was a boy. Though he was no longer a Christian, he was sure it was the Christian principles he had learned as a boy that made him the industrious and prosperous man he was.

Yet, how could he answer his son's questions? He began to distrust himself and to sense a degree of inability to raise his son with the same values he enjoyed. His son didn't pray when he went to bed as he had been taught to pray. His son didn't have the same simple trust in a God to protect him while he was going to

sleep that he had had when he laid his head upon the pillow as a lad. Why, he didn't even have a Bible in the house! Harold was greatly perplexed as to whether he should teach his son about Jesus, as he had been taught but how could he teach him something he didn't believe anymore?

One day tragedy struck. One of his little son's playmates died. Before the year was over, another friend was laid in the grave, and then an uncle died. It was a year of bewilderment for the little lad. At first he cried, and then he began to rebel against the sorrow. He began to grow bitter. He wanted to know why "God had done it?" "Why, Daddy? Why?" he wanted to know.

What was a father to say to a question like that? He didn't want his son bitter or hard. Somehow he had to explain the best he could.

He explained how God didn't bring the suffering but that an angel named Lucifer had rebelled. Then Adam and Eve had chosen to disobey God. "It was sin which led to the suffering and misery we see in the world today," he told his son.

The whole time Harold was trying to explain the things he had learned as a boy he felt like a hypocrite, for he claimed he didn't believe such things any more. Yet he felt he had to give his son an answer.

Then one evening little Jason was lying in bed. Harold was sitting with his wife by the fire. She had been telling him that Jason had not been a good boy that day and had to be reproved for his behavior. All was quiet, when suddenly Jason broke out in loud crying and sobbing. Dad and Mom hurried up the stairs to his bedroom to see what was wrong.

"I don't want it there, Daddy! I don't want it there!" cried the child.

"What is it my child? What don't you want?"

"Why, Daddy, I don't want the angels to write down in God's book all the bad things I have done today. I don't want it there! I wish it could be wiped out!"

He was in great distress for a little boy. What could Harold do? He did not believe in all those Christian things anymore, at least he was trying not to believe. But here was his boy in great distress with a guilty conscience at such a tender age. He had to be taught the way.

"Well, you do not have to cry," his father suddenly said in a most tender manner. "You can have it all wiped out in a minute if you want."

"How, Daddy?"

"Why, just get down on your knees, and ask God for Christ's sake to wipe it out and He will do it." He did not have to speak twice.

Little Jason jumped out of bed, saying, "Daddy, help me do it!"

Now came the real trial for Harold, who was trying hard to maintain his unbelief. It was one thing to say things he didn't believe but to pray! How could he pray? And yet the boy's anxiety was so great and his pleading so earnest that Harold was nearly overcome with emotion. And so, ever so reluctantly, though he dared not show it, he bowed down on his knees before God for the first time in many years. There, doing the best he could remember to do, he humbly asked God to wipe away his son's sins and give him a clean heart and a clean record on the books of heaven. Then he said amen.

"Daddy, are you sure it is all wiped out?" asked little Jason.

It seemed that every question Jason asked cut a wound into his father's heart. It brought his mind back to his mother's prayers and how he had once believed. And now he had a son. What would happen should his son die? Would he be ready for heaven? What would happen when he himself died? Would he be with his son? All the while he thought, Jason sat expectantly waiting for an answer.

"Daddy, are you sure it is all wiped out?"

"Yes, Son. The Bible says that if from your heart you ask God for Christ's sake to do it, and if you are really sorry for what you have done, it will be all covered up."

A smile of pleasure passed over little Jason's face as he quietly asked, "And what is it covered up with? A black marker?"

Harold had to smile, but again his feelings were stirred. It was as if the Holy Spirit was determined to bring him back to his childhood faith. The Bible says "a little child shall lead them." And so it was that God was using a child to lead his father to a saving belief in the Lord.

"No, Son," Harold finally answered. "It is not covered up with a black marker, but with the precious blood of Christ. 'The blood of Christ cleanseth us from all sin.' " He hoped he had quoted the verse right.

Something changed in the heart of the father as he explained this beautiful Bible truth to his son. The tears began to flow and he could not check them. He felt like a poor, lost sinner.

Turning away he said to his wife, "Mary, we must find the Lord. Jason must know the Lord, but we must find Him ourselves in order to teach him the way." Harold could not sleep that night. At last he got up and knelt beside his sleeping son's

bed and poured out his heart to the Lord, "Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief!" Mary, too, could not sleep. And so she joined him there beside the bed of their dear son who asked such curious questions.

And God heard their prayers. In fact, he had heard their prayers long before they were prayed, for it was He who had touched Jason's heart in order to reach his parents.

Dear reader, do you know the Lord loves you? Even if you have not yet given your heart to Him. He is even now seeking to bring you to the point of conversion. And if you have at some time surrendered, He is still seeking to teach you more and to lead you step by step into a closer relationship with Him. May the Lord bless you that you may not only learn about it, but that you may experience it.

HEALTH NUGGET

CHLOROPHYLL

The benefits of chlorophyll have been discovered for many years in the field of science and research. But what is chlorophyll, what makes it special and what benefits can you get out of it? This short article presents some basic information about chlorophyll and its health benefits.

WHAT IS CHLOROPHYLL?

Chlorophyll is actually responsible for the green pigmentation in plants. What does chlorophyll do? Chlorophyll is what absorbs energy from the sun to facilitate photosynthesis in plants. Chlorophyll to plants is like blood to humans. It is important in many plant metabolic functions such as growth and respiration. Interest-

ingly, chlorophyll is chemically similar in composition to that of human blood, except that the central atom in chlorophyll is *magnesium*, while *iron* is central in human blood. This, and the fact that chlorophyll is central in plant metabolism, has prompted scientists to find out if chlorophyll can offer similar benefits to humans. A number of chlorophyll researches have been focused on finding out the potential chlorophyll health benefits in humans.

HEALTH BENEFITS

Chlorophyll has been seen to provide health benefits to those who consume it. It has anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory and wound-healing properties. Some of the benefits are:

- Helps growth and repair of tissues.
- Helps in neutralizing pollution we breathe in and intake every day.
- Delivers magnesium and helps blood carry oxygen to all cells and tissues. It stimulates red blood cells to improve oxygen supply
- Useful in assimilating and chelating calcium and other heavy minerals.
- Along with vitamins such as A, C and E, helps neutralize free radicals that damage healthy cells.
- An effective deodorizer to reduce bad breath, urine, fecal waste, and body odor.
- May reduce the ability of carcinogens to bind with the DNA in different major organs in the body.
- May be useful in treating calcium oxalate stone ailments.
- It can be used to treat infected wounds naturally.
- It has antimutagenic and anti-carcinogenic properties so that it

may be helpful in protecting your body against toxins and in reducing drug side effects.

- These are only a few of the multitude benefits that chlorophyll can do to the body.

The most obvious source is uncooked green leafy plants. You need to eat lots of green leafy plants in their raw state, in salads, etc. You can get supplements to take but they will not do for you what the fresh greens can do for you.

FROM KATIE'S COOKBOOKS

If you like coconut you will love these coconut macaroons! They are so easy to make.

COCONUT MACAROONS

Combine in a large bowl:

- 1 cup chopped prunes, (apricots or other dried fruit of your choice)
- ¼ cup water
- 1 tsp vanilla
- ½ cup honey
- 2 cups shredded coconut (unsweet)
- ½ cup oat flour (blend quick oats in blender to make flour)
- ½ tsp salt

Let mixture stand 10 minutes. Shape into small cookies with your hands and place the cookies on a nonstick cookie sheet. Bake 350° for 25-30 minutes or till golden. Don't let coconut burn.

That's all for now but we'll see you again next month.

Remember God loves you and so do we!!

Katie and Rodney

