

March 2014 Newsletter



CLEAVER OF TRUTH MINISTRY

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Dear Family and Friends,

I have a praise report! Four years ago I had an operation on my left ear to restore some of my hearing. The bones in that ear were gone due to childhood chronic ear infections. The doctor cleaned out all the calcium debris from the deteriorated bones and inserted a prosthesis to replace the tiny bones. (The tiny bones in your ear are supposed to vibrate somehow and this enables us to hear.) I was disappointed because the operation was not successful and I was not even able to use my hearing aid in that ear anymore. To make matters worse, during our move to Georgia I dropped my right ear hearing aid and broke it. Lately my hearing has not been good and Rodney talked me into going to have my ear problem checked out. (I suppose he was getting tired of having to repeat everything he said to me.)

I got out my forgotten left ear hearing aid and put it in my left ear. I was so surprised to find I had some hearing in that ear. Of course it isn't 100% but I am so thankful for the healing that has occurred in that ear! God is so good! Now I have a new hearing aid for my right ear and my hearing is greatly improved. (By the way, my daughter Traci financed my first set of hearing aids.) Thanks again honey for your concern and I am grateful to you for starting me on the road to better hearing! Now Rodney says I can't use my "selective hearing" on him anymore!

Our message this month is: NOW IS THE TIME

THE PREACHER WHO DIDN'T BELIEVE THE BIBLE

William Miller was an intellectual and read the great classics of the day. He was also a Deist, which means he believed in a "supreme being" but didn't believe that

this supreme being had anything to do with planet earth.

He believed that at some time, millions of years ago, the earth was created by this supreme being, but after that the earth was left to evolve at will.

He didn't believe in the Bible, or in Jesus, or in eternal life.

To be polite, Miller attended the local Baptist Church where he was raised. His uncle was the pastor and was a good speaker but when he was gone the deacons read the sermon. After church, he would go home and mimic the way the poor deacons had read the sermon--gestures and all. He knew just how to make it entertaining and everyone was soon rolling with laughter. But after a while that got boring, so he quit attending church altogether except when his uncle was preaching.

"We missed you at service last Sunday," his mother said one day after he had missed as usual.

"You can't expect me there when Uncle's gone, Mother."

"Why not my son?"

"It's the way the deacon's read the sermon."

"They do the best they can, I'm sure," she replied.

"When Uncle's away, Mother, why don't they let me read it?"

He didn't think they would take him--who didn't even believe in the Bible--up on this sarcastic suggestion. But they did! The deacons knew how Miller had made fun of them, and now they were going to make sure that he had his turn to read! Thus Miller unwittingly set a trap for himself. The sermons they assigned him to read were from Alexander Proudfit's Practical Discourses.

Somehow Sunday after Sunday as he read the sermons, they began to sober him. Moreover, he was reminded of experiences from the war that he had just returned from.

William Miller had been a captain in the American-British war of 1812. Convinced that love of country rather than love for Christ was mankind's greatest hope, Miller had volunteered for service in this second war for American independence.

Forty-seven others also volunteered, on condition that they serve directly under his command!

The war of 1812 was a desultory, do-nothing affair most of the time. The Battle of Plattsburg, fought on a shore of Lake Champlain not many miles from Miller's boyhood home, was a brilliant exception.

During the first two years of the war, Britain had been heavily involved in fighting Napoleon Bonaparte, but after his abdication on April 4, 1814 the British could give full attention to their American encounter.

The British brought some of their best troops, seasoned from years of successful fighting against Napoleon's army, and sailed them past Quebec on the St. Lawrence River and on into New York and Vermont via the mighty lake Champlain.

On the morning of September 11, 1814, the British, with 15,000 seasoned soldiers, supported by a well-equipped navy on the lake, met the Americans near the city of Plattsburgh, New York.

The Americans numbered only 5,500 recently recruited soldiers, most of whom had never seen a battle. Without navy, numbers, or experience, many of the Americans were certain of defeat, but determined to show the American spirit and fight to the last. William Miller was a captain on the American side.

The outcome was a total surprise. Listen to the excited report of one of the young, enthusiastic American officer's as he described the outcome in a letter he transcribed after the battle, dated 2:20 p.m. that very day.

"Sir: It is over, it is done," the officer writes. "The British fleet has struck to the American flag. Great slaughter on both sides--they are in plain view, where I am now writing.....The sight was majestic, it was noble, it was grand.

This morning, at 10:00 a.m. the British opened a very heavy and destructive fire upon us, both by water and land. Their...rockets flew like hailstones.... You have no idea of the battle.... You must conceive what we feel, for I cannot describe it."

The officer reviewed with pride the part that he had played. "I am satisfied that I can fight. I know I am no coward....Three of my men are wounded by a shell which burst within two feet of me."

"Huzza! Huzza!" he exclaimed in his excitement; and then, as 20 or 30 prisoners were led into the fort, he carefully signed his name: Yours forever, William Miller."

At first, William Miller was too excited at the unexpected victory to think about the impossibility of a shell bursting two feet from him without killing or even injuring him! But later, upon reflection, he began to wonder how that could be. Furthermore, if there was no personal God, and everything happened without intervention, how could 5,500 ill-equipped and inexperienced Americans defeat a much larger regiment of seasoned British troops, complete with Naval support!

Back at his home, as he milked his cows and plowed his farm, his mind continued to probe into the mystery of it all. The patriots, by and large, were Christians who believed in God. By the law of cause and effect, he rea-

soned the victory of Plattsburg ought to have gone to the British--could God indeed have honored the Patriots' faith? A modern historian has called Plattsburg the "decisive action" of the war, and the American commodore in his report to the war officer at the time, gave the glory to God, stating that "The Almighty has been pleased to grant us a signal victory." Was it possible, perhaps, that God had taken a personal interest in America?

Thus it was that when William Miller, a man who did not believe in a personal God, was caught in a trap and forced to read the Sunday sermons at his Baptist church, he was sobered. He was moved by the messages that he had once scoffed at, and he was reminded of the "impossibilities" that had happened during the war.

September 11, 1815, rolled around, the one-year anniversary of the victory of Plattsburg. A public dance was scheduled; a sermon, too, on the night before.

The visiting evangelist sent the people home bathed in tears. A revival was on and the dance was off. Next Sunday it was Miller's turn to read again, this time it was a homily of Proudfit called, The Duty of Parents to Their Children.

Overcome by emotion in the middle his message, he could not make it to the end. The Holy Spirit, believed or unbelieved, was touching his heart!

In despair over his sins, Miller imagined how good it would be to throw himself into the arms of a Saviour and trust completely in His grace. He needed a Saviour.

The world needed a Saviour. But did such a wonderful being exist?

Back to the Bible he went; and in its covers he found the Saviour whom he sought. "I was constrained to admit that the Scriptures must be a revelation from God," he wrote later. "They became my delight, and in Jesus I found a friend."

Immediately he began regular family worship. But his worldly friends taunted him now, as before he had often taunted other Christians.

"How do you know the Bible is the Word of God?" they teased. Him now, as before he had taunted the Christians. "What about its contradictions?"

"If the Bible is the Word of God," Miller responded staunchly, "then everything it contains can be understood, and all its parts made to harmonize. Give me time, and I'll harmonize its apparent contradictions or I'll be a deist still."

Laying aside every book except the Bible itself and Crude's Concordance, he began with the first verse of Genesis 1 and advanced no more quickly than he could

handle the problems that arose. Using the margin and the concordance, he let the Bible explain itself. One by one, most of its seemingly insoluble inconsistencies faded away.

Not only did he find a change of life, but he found that the prophecies of the Bible, one after another, had all been fulfilled to the letter. He became convinced that God indeed can foresee the future and can control the events of history, such as He did at Plattsburgh.

As he continued to study he found that, just as God had predicted the past, so He has predicted the future. Some of the prophecies that especially moved William Miller were the prophecies about a coming "judgment," in which we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. (2 Cor. 5:10).

Another text that struck home to his conscience was from the book of Revelation: "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of water" (14:6, 7).

He thought that this event must occur when "The Son of Man shall come in His glory: and before Him shall be gathered all nations." (Matthew 25:31,32).

As he realized that most people were not ready to face this judgment, nor even knew that such an event was to take place, he became convicted that he must tell others about what he had learned, and of how Jesus could save them from their sins and prepare them for this climactic event.

But though convicted, this he could not do! Not he! He may be able to read a sermon on Sunday, but to warn the world about a coming judgment was unthinkable. And yet the call persisted. For thirteen years Miller brushed the call aside, but during those years he was glued to his Bible. Whole nights he spent in study. But with every passing day the impression that he must share with others what he had learned persisted to grow stronger and more persistent. The call became almost unbearable. "I told the Lord," he later said, "I was diffident and had not the necessary qualifications."

He tried everything he could do to satisfy his burdened soul—everything, that is, except to preach those truths to others. But nothing could satisfy the persistent inner call to preach. The call kept ringing in his ears; "Go tell it to the world."

One day, as he was reading his Bible, it was as though he heard a voice saying, "I have appointed you a watchman. Tell it to the world!"

He looked up from the Bible he was reading, deeply troubled by the call of God. Or was it a call of God? He must know beyond a doubt.

He pounded his fist on his desk. Stood up. Knelt down. And prayed, "No, God. No! Thou knowest that I cannot preach. But perhaps it is Thy will for me to go," he argued with himself and with God.

"O Lord, I will enter into a covenant with You. If You will open the way; I mean, if You will send an invitation for me to preach, why, then, O God, I will go."

He settled into his chair at ease. "Now," he mused, "I shall have peace, for if I receive an invitation, I know that God will attend me. But it isn't likely," and he smiled contentedly, "that anyone will ask a 55 year old farmer like myself to preach on the judgment at the end of time."

William Miller had first felt the call to the ministry at age 42, but had stifled the conviction until now—surely no one would ask him to preach now. But within thirty minutes there was a loud knocking at the door.

"Who can that be, so excited on a Saturday morning?" he asked himself absent-mindedly.

The knock came again. "I had better go and see," he said to himself.

"Good morning to you, Uncle William," the boy at the door cried cheerily.

"Nephew Irving!" exclaimed Miller, "And what might you be doing sixteen miles from home so early in the morning?"

"Uncle William, I left before breakfast to tell you that our Baptist minister in Dresden is unable to speak at services tomorrow. Father sent me to request of you. He wants you to come and talk to us about the things you've been studying in the Bible. Will you come?"

Miller turned on his heel without a word, stormed out through the kitchen door, stumbled into a maple grove that stood nearby, and wrestled with the Lord. He was angry with himself, angry with God, and very much afraid. For a solid hour he pleaded to be released from his pledge. "O my God, send someone else, I pray!"

Even as a Deist he had kept his word. As a Christian could he do any less? After anguished tears, he gave in to God at last.

Then what feeling overcame him! Thirteen years of reluctance overcome! The joy of surrender! "Glory to His name!" he exclaimed, as a flood of peace and joy flooded his soul.

Immediately after lunch Miller was on his way with his nephew to Dresden, several hours away.

So inspiring was his discourse the next Sunday morning that the townspeople asked him to stay and preach every night that week. By the end of the week, over a dozen entire families had accepted Jesus as their Saviour.

Over the next several years William Miller spoke to over a half-million people. As he himself had been converted from Deism, he was able to reach many other Deists and Atheists. It is estimated that over 3,000 Atheists accepted Christ as their Saviour as the result of William Miller preaching on the prophecies of the last days!

Prophecy is one of the proofs that the Bible gives that it is inspired. God says: "Remember...I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done" (Isaiah 46:9, 10).

There were several things that lead William Miller to accept the Bible as the inspired Word of God:

He felt the presence of the Holy Spirit working upon his heart.

He witnessed and recognized the providential acts of God.

He saw that Jesus was the answer to man's needs.

He found that the prophecies in the Bible were all true, showing that God can foretell the future.

HEALTH NUGGET

Vaccinated Children Two And A Half Times More Likely To Have Neurological Disorders Like ADHD And Autism, New Survey In California And Oregon Finds

As the first trial in Vaccine Court explores the relationship between vaccines and [autism](#), a new survey released today indicates a strong correlation between rates of neurological disorders, such as [ADHD](#) and autism, and childhood vaccinations.

The survey, commissioned by Generation Rescue, compared vaccinated and unvaccinated children in nine counties in Oregon and California. Among more than 9,000 boys age 4-17, the survey found vaccinated boys were two and a half times (155%) more likely to have neurological disorders compared to their unvaccinated peers. Vaccinated boys were 224% more likely to have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and 61% more likely to have autism.

For older vaccinated boys in the 11-17 age bracket, the results were even more pronounced. Vaccinated boys were 158% more likely to have a neurological dis-

order, 317% more likely to have ADHD, and 112% more likely to have autism. Complete survey results are available at <http://www.GenerationRescue.org>.

Generation Rescue commissioned the phone survey. Data was gathered by SurveyUSA, a national market research firm, which surveyed parents by phone on more than 17,000 children, ages 4-17, in five counties in California (San Diego, Sonoma, Orange, Sacramento, and Marin) and four counties in Oregon (Multnomah, Marion, Jackson, and Lane).

The survey asked parents whether their child had been vaccinated, and whether that child had one or more of the following diagnoses: Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), ADHD, Asperger's Syndrome, Pervasive Development Disorder -- Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS), or Autism. The phone survey was chosen to mirror the methodology the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) uses to establish national prevalence for neurological disorders in their national phone survey.

Timed to the release of the survey results, Generation Rescue also ran full-page advertisements in Washington's Roll Call, The Oregonian, and The Orange County Register today. The ad compares the 36 pediatric vaccines the CDC recommends today to the 10 recommended in 1983, and asks, "Are We Over-Vaccinating Our Kids?"

"No one has ever compared prevalence rates of these neurological disorders between vaccinated and unvaccinated children," said J.B. Handley, co-founder of Generation Rescue, whose son was diagnosed with autism. "The phone survey isn't perfect, but these numbers point to the need for a comprehensive national study to gather this critical information." In Washington, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) has been advocating for such a survey. Co-sponsored by Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX), the "Comprehensive Comparative Study of Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Population Act of 2006," or H.R. 2832, was introduced on June 22, and would require the National Institutes of Health to complete this research.

Generation Rescue's study is impressive and forcefully raises some serious questions about the relationship between vaccines and autism. What is ultimately needed to resolve this issue one way or the other is a comprehensive national study of vaccinated and unvaccinated children," said Congresswoman Maloney. "The parents behind Generation Rescue only want information. These parents deserve more than road blocks, they deserve answers. We can and should move forward in search of those answers. That's why I've introduced a common sense bill that would require the Na-

tional Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct a comprehensive, comparative study on the possible link between autism and thimerosal."

From 1983 to 2007, autism rates have climbed from 1 in 10,000 children to 1 in 150 children, a growth rate of 6,000% (boys are significantly more affected by neurological disorders, accounting for approximately 80% of all cases). ADHD currently affects 1 in 13 children. In the same period, the CDC's recommended vaccine schedule more than tripled. The simmering debate over the cause of childhood neurological disorders shows no sign of cooling, but no study had ever been done to look at unvaccinated children.

Lisa Handley, co-founder of Generation Rescue, adds, "Everyone working with autism wants to identify the cause so we can focus on treatment and prevention. A national study like HR 5940 could help end this debate and focus all of our resources on helping our kids. Its time has come, and we hope Congress will choose to put our children first."

About Generation Rescue: Generation Rescue was formed by parents of children who have been diagnosed with childhood neurological disorders (NDs), and is dedicated to examining the causes and biomedical treatments for Autism, Asperger's, ADHD, ADD, PDD-NOS, and other learning disabilities.

Visit <http://www.GenerationRescue.org> for more information and to see complete survey results.

Generation Rescue <http://www.GenerationRescue.org>

The Story of Christian

"Christian will be 14 years old this month. He was diagnosed with Autism just before his 4th birthday. About two and a half years ago (pre-puberty) he began having Compulsive Aggressive Behavior. Over the course of this time his doctors prescribed numerous types of psych prescription drugs. Some worked for a little while to help calm Christian, but they all had bad side effects. His parents tried everything they could. Christian also had 140 treatments of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy over this period. Although Christian does not tolerate eating fresh vegetables very well his mother makes fresh vegetable juice for him every day. A couple months ago his parents got him off the last psych prescription the doctor had them try. After getting off the prescription drugs what his mom found most beneficial was using natural supplements. Christian's meds are crushed and put into almond milk.

Here is what Christian takes each morning:

1 teaspoon of coconut oil (used to keep the yeast down)

1 GABA capsule (for calming .. gamma-Aminobutyric acid)

1 probiotic (he has been on for years)

For baths: 2 capfuls of Braggs apple cider vinegar is added to his bath water daily which help with skin sores and itchy skin.

Christian does take a prescription seizure medication. We give God the glory for the remarkable improvements Christian has made over the past couple of months. His teachers are amazed at how well he is doing. Although Christian is still non-verbal for the most part he has his ways of letting his mom and dad know that he is happy and is feeling good.

You can google gaba and read about the benefits this offers. Amazing!"

(Our thanks to Christian's mother and grandmother for sharing this information with us). We are happy Christian is improving and his mother is finding great success in using the natural herbs and getting Christian off most of his prescription medications.) God is truly blessing this family in their efforts to get Christian onto a more natural way of healing. Our love and prayers are with Christian and his family.

NOTABLE NEWS

Government Waste

It might not be the sheer dollar value of these items that shocks you; it's more likely to be the nature of the projects themselves that would cause you to shake your head. The Heritage Foundation produces an annual rack-up of "wasteful government spending" stories that tend to make you question what goes into the decision making processes in our nation's capital

Here's a quick rundown of Heritage's "Top 10":

1. \$98,670 – for a single prefabricated outhouse at a trailhead in Alaska.
2. \$1,100,000 for a luxurious, stainless steel bus stop on a heated pavement with heated seats. (but no protection from the elements!)"
3. \$10,000 to produce a choreographed performance of utility workers using bucket trucks, cranes, and field trucks to "dance" on a set of 20 utility poles.
4. 124,995 to produce a 3-D printer capable of producing edible pizzas.
5. \$335,525 for a study to determine how much more satisfying marriages could be if the woman in the equation would calm down faster after an argument (a quicker female calm-down

led to longer periods of bliss, the study concluded!”

6. \$5,400,000 for bourbon, whiskey and wine for State Department embassies around the world (and, of course, a stockpile of hand-blown crystal glassware to go along with it).
7. \$82,800 for a study to find out how best to use social media, specifically Twitter, to provide for shadowing of potentially depressed individuals.
8. \$1,000,000 for construction of a granite statue for the State Department’s London Embassy.
9. \$562,000 in artwork for the Department of Veterans Affairs (all bought in a single week during the annual “use it or lose it” budget depletion exercise.)

If you’d like more background on these items, here’s a link to a video that provides more detail: youtu.be/hSwBz1npll4

THE FEDERAL DEFICIT – SO WHAT REALLY IS A TRILLION?

News reports, pundits, and most of your neighbors frequently talk about the national debt and its long range implications, Indeed, the dramatic rise in our collective liability has grabbed a lot of attention over the past few months as our political system grapples with fiscal policy, but to so many of us, the terms used to define it are often beyond comprehension. (In fact, usdebtclock.org tells us the debt increased by over five billion dollars just while this article was being written!)

As of the end of 2013, the national debt level stood at 17,000,000,000,000 (that’s 12 zeros – 17 trillion) but that’s a measurement that’s hard to grasp. So here (courtesy of thewisdomjournal.com) are some other ways to think about what a trillion really is:

Texas is roughly 270,000 square miles. One trillion square miles would equal 3.7 million Texas-sized states.

One trillion dollar bills laid end-to-end would stretch from the earth to the sun, and back, with a lot of miles to spare.

With one trillion dollars, you could buy 50 aircraft carriers like the USS Ronald Reagan and outfit each of them with 45 of the newest fighter jets, the F-22 Raptor.

One trillion barrels of oil would fuel the ENTIRE WORLD for almost 35 years.

One trillion seconds is longer than all of recorded history, about 32,000 years.

(Just remember you need to multiply each of these measurements by 17 to get a feel for how deep our financial hole actually is!)

HOMESCHOOLING

Home schooling is forbidden in Germany, a ban dating back to that country’s totalitarian past, and German authorities have gone so far as to construct a new wall to enforce it: The Wunderlich family has lost custody of its children and is being held hostage in Germany by authorities who refuse – in the face of German law, European law, and civilized expectations – to let the family relocate in France, where homeschooling is legal. That is the environment into which the Obama administration is seeking to expel the Romeike family, who sought and were granted asylum in the United States after being similarly targeted by German authorities. The administration successfully had the family’s asylum status revoked and now seeks to deport them. The Romeikes, like the Wunderlichs, are evangelical Christians, who are counted near the very bottom of the Democrats’ social totem pole. The U.S. has a great problem with disorderly immigration, but it does not primarily involve persecuted Germans whose religious and political preferences are at odds with Berlin’s. To eject the Romeikes while rolling out the red carpet for millions upon millions of illegals is grotesque to say the least!

FROM KATIE’S COOKBOOKS

PEANUT BUTTER PIE

1 cup peanut butter
 1 lb soft tofu
 ½ to 1 cup water or non dairy milk (soy milk, almond, etc)
 2/3 cup honey
 1 tsp vanilla
 1/8 tsp sea salt

Blend all ingredients till smooth. Pour into a pre-baked pie shell. Sprinkle carob chips and crushed peanuts on top. Place pie in freezer. Yum Yum!

See you next time!

Remember God loves you and so do we!

Rodney and Katie

NOW IS THE TIME



Whatever we are planning to do for God and our fellow men and women - *Now is the time because time is short!*

"For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation." 2 Corinthians 6:2

If you have not surrendered your life to Christ, *Now is the time*; there may not be a tomorrow. This world is a ticking time bomb and 153,000 + people die every day in the world. It is heartbreaking so many of these people have not heard about the saving power of Jesus.

We all have a sphere of influence, friends relatives and neighbors. If we have taken the name of Christ (Christian) and are not active in some way spreading the gospel we have broken the third commandment.

"Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." Exodus 20:7

We are living in an awesome time of earth's history. Each one of us is privileged with a knowledge of truth that the world needs. I would like to throw out a challenge to each of you. Would you along with me pray every morning that God would give you a greater love for lost souls? If you will pray this prayer and mean it, it will put you to work for Jesus.

We call ourselves Christians. A Christian is a person who is Christ-like. Christ-like people do the works of Christ and search for His lost sheep as He did.

Everything God created "takes" to "give."

"In the beginning God was revealed in all the works of creation. It was Christ that spread the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth. It was His hand that hung the worlds in space, and fashioned the flowers of the field. "His strength setteth fast the mountains." "The sea is His, and He made it." Ps. 65:6; 95:5. It was He that filled the earth with beauty, and the air with song. And upon all things in earth, and air, and sky, He wrote the message of the Father's love. {DA 20.1}

Now sin has marred God's perfect work, yet that handwriting remains. Even now *all* created things declare the glory of His excellence. *There is nothing, save the selfish heart of man, that lives unto itself.* No bird that cleaves the air, no animal that moves upon the ground, but ministers to some other life. There is no leaf of the forest, or lowly blade of grass, but has its ministry. Every tree and shrub and leaf pours forth that element of life without which neither man nor animal could live; and man and animal, in turn, minister to the life of tree and shrub and leaf. The flowers breathe fragrance and unfold their beauty in blessing to the world. The sun sheds its light to gladden a thousand worlds. The ocean, itself the source of all our springs and fountains, receives the streams from every land, but takes to give. The mists ascending from its bosom fall in showers to water the earth, that it may bring forth and bud. {DA 20.2}

The angels of glory find their joy in giving,--giving love and tireless watch care to souls that are fallen and unholy. Heavenly beings woo the hearts of men; they bring to this dark world light from the courts above; by gentle and patient ministry they move upon the human spirit, to bring the lost into a fellowship with Christ which is even closer than they themselves can know. {DA 21.1}

But turning from all lesser representations, we behold God in Jesus. Looking unto Jesus we see that it is the glory of our God to give. "I do nothing of Myself," said Christ; "the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father." "I seek not Mine own

glory," but the glory of Him that sent Me. John 8:28; 6:57; 8:50; 7:18. In these words is set forth the great principle which is the law of life for the universe. All things Christ received from God, but He took to give. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all. And thus through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, representing the character of the great Giver, the law of life." {DA 21.2}

I saw a picture in a book of God's hand reaching down grasping the hand of Jesus and Jesus reaching down to grasp the hand of a person. This is an example of what we should be doing; reaching out to others with our hand in the hand of Jesus. The chain should never be broken, each one always reaching out to others till the entire world is holding hands. This is how God designed the Gospel to go to the world.

As long as there is selfishness and pride in our hearts it will not happen. Self must die.

Are you willing for self to die so Christ may live in you? In World War II many Japanese pilots committed suicide as they crashed their planes into US ships. Today Islamic extremists commit suicide by placing bombs on their bodies to kill their enemies. If they can do this for their cause, surely we should be willing to die to sin to save others! Jesus is not asking that we give out temporal lives now, just our life of sin (disobedience).

When one is truly converted, change takes place. What I once enjoyed I no longer want to do. At one time I spent a lot of time in pool rooms and played music in bars and clubs. Now giving a bible study gives me more pleasure than I ever received in a pool room or bar, especially when I see truth register on someone's face.

A lake or pool that has no outlet soon becomes stagnated. So it is with Christians that are not involved in outreach.

I am not saying that every Christian needs to start a ministry or become a preacher. We are not all suited for the same work. We all have different talents and aptitudes but we each should use what God has given us to glorify Him.

There are many ministries already organized that need volunteers to help reduce the load they have.

All are not suited to be preachers or teachers but there is a work for all. Everyone who takes the name of "Christian" obligates himself or herself to witness in some way what Jesus has done for them.

Everyone can buy tracts to give away at the grocery store, service station, Wal-Mart, Lowes, Home Depot etc. I mention these places because they are places where I have passed out literature.

You might say, "I am shy and cannot do that." I say when you really commit your life to Jesus you will come out of your shell and not be ashamed to witness for Him. He will build a fire in you that nothing can suppress. There are no introverted or lazy Christians.

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 2:5

We need not be fearful that we will not be able to succeed because, "Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have *boldness* in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." 1 John 4:17, 18

By Rodney Armstrong

"Yesterday is history,
tomorrow is a mystery,
and today is a gift:
that's why they call it the present"

Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)

