

# 2014 NOVEMBER



## NEWSLETTER

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*“Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!” Psalms 107:8*

Dear Family and Friends,

Soon it will be time for all to enjoy Thanksgiving with a good dinner with family and friends. We hope that each of you have an enjoyable day and remember those who are less fortunate than we. There are many lonely people out there that have no family or friends. Maybe you know someone like that who would really appreciate an invitation to your home for fellowship and a good meal. They would be grateful I know, but you will receive the greater blessing because it is “more blessed to give than to receive.”

Our Message this month is: **HARD TIMES**

### **GO AHEAD AND SAY IT**

One day a teacher asked her students to list on two sheets of paper the names of the other stu-

dents in the room, leaving a space between each name. Then she told them to think of the nicest thing they could say about each classmate and write it down. It took the remainder of the class to finish, and as the students left the room, each handed in the paper. The teacher wrote down on a separate sheet of paper the name of each student, and listed what everyone else had said about that individual.

On Monday she gave each student his or her list. Before long, the entire class was smiling. “Really,” she heard whispered. “I never knew that I meant anything to anyone!” and, “I didn’t know others liked me so much,” were some of the comments.

No one ever mentioned those papers in class again. She never knew if they discussed them after class or with their parents, but it didn’t matter. The exercise had accomplished its purpose. The students were happy with themselves and one another. That group of students moved on...

Several years later, one of the students was killed in Afghanistan, and his teacher attended the funeral. She had never seen a serviceman in a military coffin before. He looked so handsome, so mature. The church was packed with his friends. One by one those who loved him took a last walk by the coffin. The teacher was the last in the line.

As she stood there, a soldier who was serving as a pallbearer came up to her. “Were you Mark’s math teacher?” he asked. She nodded. Then he said: “Mark talked about you a lot.

After the funeral, most of Mark’s former classmates went together to a luncheon. Mark’s mother and father were there, and waited to speak with his teacher. “We want to show you something,” his father said, taking a wallet out of his pocket. “They found this on Mark when he was killed. We thought you might recognize it.”

Opening the billfold, he carefully removed two worn pieces of notebook paper that had obviously been taped, folded, and refolded many times. The teacher knew without looking that the papers were the ones on which she had listed all the good things each of Mark’s classmates had said about him. “Thank you so much for doing that, “Mark’s mother said. “As you can see, Mark treasured it.”

Mark's former classmates started to gather around. Charlie smiled rather sheepishly and said, "I still have my list. It's in the top drawer of my desk at home."

Chuck's wife said, "Chuck asked me to put his in our wedding album."

"I have mine too," Marilyn said. "It's in my diary."

Vicki reached into her pocketbook, took out her wallet and showed her worn and frazzled list to the group. "I carry this with me at all times," she said, and without batting an eyelash, continued, "I think we all saved our lists."

That's when the teacher sat down and cried. She cried for Mark and for all his friends who would never see him again. We all forget that life will end one day and we don't know when that one day will be.

Tell the people you love and care for that they are special and important. Tell them before it is too late.

"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love." Romans 12:10

#### HEALTH NUGGET

### Our Bodies – The Temple of God

In Corinthians 10:31 we read, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

The Bible is clear that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. "What know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:19,20)

It is only through our physical body and mind that God can communicate with us. If, through the use of harmful drugs, we deaden the capabilities of our brain and body to know God and respond to the Holy Spirit, the devil will have succeeded in closing off the channel between us and our Saviour.

**Therefore, the Christian who makes a full surrender**

**of his life to Jesus will not use alcoholic drinks, tobacco or other habit forming drugs such as coffee, tea, or soft drinks which contain caffeine.** The drug caffeine is a stimulant which has a varied harmful effect upon the body. To use it is like using a whip on a tired horse. They spur you on by deadening nature's warnings of fatigue. There eventually comes a day of reckoning when we keep borrowing ahead on tomorrow's reserve of energy. The fact that tea and coffee are habit forming is evident to many people as they try to give up their habit and find they are a slave to it. We cannot at the same time be a slave to a habit injurious to our health and be fully surrendered to Christ. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:36)

Both coffee and cola have been liked to cholesterol, now tagged the prime villain in many varieties of both heart trouble and arterial diseases. Dr. Samuel Bellet of Philadelphia General Hospital found that caffeine present in the coffee and cola drinks transforms stored fats into fatty acids, or cholesterol. This change lets otherwise trapped fats enter the blood stream.

Caffeine stimulates the effect of stress, Dr. Bellet says, stimulating the body's adrenal glands into adrenalin production. Adrenalin, in turn, changes stored fats into free fatty acids. Oddly enough, sugar-free colas (or coffee without sugar) produces a stronger cholesterol effect than drinks with sugar. Research Institute of America, New York, N.Y.

#### Food Animals -- Clean and Unclean

There are many who will tell us that what we eat and drink has nothing to do with our Christianity. Some say that all things are clean and good for food to those who have faith in the Lord.

Has God cleaned up those things He once called unclean? As we study His Word, we find the Lord does not change (Malachi 3:6). He makes a charge against some ministers in Ezekiel 22:26, "Neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean." Men may not make a difference, but God makes a difference. The Bible tells us that we defile our bodies if we eat the things God has

condemned. (1 Corinthians 3:16,17; 6:19-20; 10:31)

In Deuteronomy 14:9,10 the Bible says: "these ye shall eat, of all that are in the waters: all that have fins and scales shall ye eat: And whatsoever hath not fins and scales ye may not eat; it is unclean unto you." Verses 6 & 7 tell us that animals which are clean to eat must chew the cud, and split the hoof. Verse 8 says the swine or hog, is unclean because "it divideth the hoof, yet cheweth not the cud." The Lord did not make the unclean animals for food. Their purpose is the work of a scavenger, not to be eaten as food.

Millions of people have trichinosis, a parasitic infestation which comes from eating pork. Dr. Maurice Hall, formerly with the Public Health Service in Washington, D.C., has stated that many cases of trichinosis are missed by the diagnostician. The trichina is a small parasite, or worm-like organism, living in the flesh of the swine. It is so virile, it is not completely destroyed by the cooking process. In the eating of pork, ham, or bacon, these parasites are taken into the stomach, and from there pass into the walls of the stomach and other body tissues.

In Isaiah 66:15-17, the Bible says: that when "the Lord will come with fire, and with His chariots like a whirlwind, to render His anger with fury, and His rebuke with flames of fire, (Second Coming) For by fire and by His sword will the Lord plead with all flesh; and the slain of the Lord shall be many. They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination (unclean) and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord."

In Leviticus 11 a list is given concerning unclean animals. This list includes: Pig, horse, rabbit, Lobsters, crabs, shrimp, oysters, etc. The animals listed here are for the most part scavengers which gives an insight into the reason for God's warning against their use. Animals that are clean for food are: cow, lamb, chicken, turkey, buffalo, deer, etc.

Friends, God means what He says. Let's enjoy better health, and live longer, happier lives, by following His rules of health!

## SECOND PROPHECY IN BOOK OF REVELATION THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN FULFILLED

In October's newsletter we did an article on the Great Lisbon Earthquake of Nov 1, 1755; which Bible scholars believe is the fulfillment of the Bible prophecy found in the book of Revelation 6:12,13. This month we will talk about the Dark Day of May 19, 1780 which occurred almost 25 years after the earthquake. This is believed to be another part of that prophecy:

*"Thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Dan. 12:4.*

At last the time of the end was at hand, and the signs of the latter days had begun to appear in the earth and in the heavens. The Lord was preparing to send to all the world the closing gospel message.

## THE DARK DAY OF MAY 19, 1780

### SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS

*"Can ye not discern the signs of the times?" Matt. 16:3.*

### "The Sun Shall be Darkened"

We recall that in the vision of latter-day signs given to the prophet John, he saw the "great earthquake" followed by a sign in the heavens:

*"The sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood." Rev. 6:12.*

Of this event our Saviour spoke, in giving the signs of His second coming which were to begin to appear following the cutting short of the days of persecution. We repeat His words:

*"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light." Matt. 24:29.*

### The Prophecy Fulfilled

True to the order of the prophecy, following the great earthquake of 1755 in Europe, there came, in America, the second sign of the approaching end, the wonderful darkening of the sun, known in history as "THE DARK DAY."

This sign appeared at the time indicated in the prophecy, "immediately after the tribulation of those days;" or as Mark has it, "in those days, after that tribulation." On

May 19, 1780, the sun was darkened, and the following night the moon did not give her light. Whatever explanation men may have to offer as to the cause of the phenomenon, the fact remains that when the time of the prophecy came, the sign appeared.

The first volume of the "Memoirs of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences," published in Boston in 1785, contains a paper entitled, "An Account of a Very Uncommon Darkness in the States of New England, May 19, 1780. By Samuel Williams, A.M., Hollis Professor of Mathematics and Philosophy in the University at Cambridge [Massachusetts]."

Of the extent, duration, and degree of darkness on that occasion, this scientific observer said:

"The extent of this darkness was very remarkable.... From the accounts that have been received, it seems to have extended all over the New England States. It was observed as far east as Falmouth [Portland, Maine]. To the westward, we hear of its reaching to the furthest parts of Connecticut, and Albany. To the southward, it was observed all along the seacoasts. And to the north as far as our settlements extend...."

"With regard to its duration, it continued in this place at least fourteen hours: but it is probable this was not exactly the same in different parts of the country. The appearance and effects were such as tended to make the prospect extremely dull and gloomy. Candles were lighted up in the houses; the birds having sung their evening songs, disappeared, and became silent; the fowls retired to roost; the cocks were crowing all around as at break of day; objects could not be distinguished but at a very little distance; and everything bore the appearance and gloom of night." (See pages 234-246.)

Whittier has commemorated it in the poem,

#### "ABRAHAM DAVENPORT"

"'Twas on a May day of the far old year Seventeen  
hundred eighty, that there fell  
Over the bloom and sweet life of the spring,  
Over the fresh earth and the heaven of noon,  
A horror of great darkness....  
"Birds ceased to sing, and all the barnyard fowls  
Roosted; the cattle at the pasture bars  
Low'd, and looked homeward; bats on leathern wings  
Flitted abroad; the sounds of labor died;  
Men prayed, and women wept; all ears grew sharp  
To hear the doom blast of the trumpet shatter  
The black sky."

The words of the poet are substantiated by the plain prose of the dictionary maker. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary (edition 1883) says:

**"THE DARK DAY, May 19, 1780**—so called on account of a remarkable darkness on that day extending over all New England.... The obscuration began about ten o'clock in the morning, and continued till the middle of the next night, but with difference of degree and duration in different places.... The true cause of this remarkable phenomenon is not known."

#### Cause Unknown

At the time, some explained the darkness as being due to smoke from forest fires, others to the exceptional rise of vapors and atmospheric dust in the warm spring following the melting of unusually heavy winter snows. But forest fires were not of extraordinary occurrence in these regions, and many a springtime since has seen the melting of heavy winter snows and the rise of vapors; yet May 19, 1780, still stands unique in the annals of modern times as "THE DARK DAY." However observers and writers disagreed as to the nature of the mantle of darkness that was drawn over New England that day, they were *one* in recognizing the extraordinary character of the event.

The facts are fully covered by the statement in the dictionary, "The true cause of this remarkable phenomenon is not known."

What we do know is that the Saviour's prophecy declared, "*Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.*" And when the time for it came, the sign appeared.

#### Contemporary Records

Though the comparatively small-sized newspapers of the day were crowded with news of the progress of the Revolutionary War, then raging, no little space was given to reports and discussions of this remarkable darkening of the sun.

A correspondent of the *Boston Gazette and Country Journal* (of May 29, 1780) reported observations made at Ipswich Hamlet, Mass., "by several gentlemen of liberal education:"

"About eleven o'clock the darkness was such as to demand our attention, and put us upon making observations. At half past eleven, in a room with three windows, twenty-four panes each, all open toward the southeast and south, large print could not be read by persons of good eyes.



"About twelve o'clock, the windows being still open, a candle cast a shade so well defined on the wall, as that profiles were taken with as much ease as they could have been in the night.

"About one o'clock a glint of light which had continued to this time in the east, shut in, and the darkness was greater than it had been for any time before.... We dined about two, the windows all open, and two candles burning on the table.

"In the time of the greatest darkness some of the ... fowls went to their roost. Cocks crowed in answer to one another as they commonly do in the night. Woodcocks, which are night birds, whistled as they do *only* in the dark. Frogs peeped. In short, there was the appearance of midnight at noonday.

"About three o'clock the light in the west increased, the motion of the clouds [became] more quick, their color higher and more brassy than at any time before. There appeared to be quick flashes or coruscations, not unlike the aurora borealis.... About half past four our company, which had passed an unexpected night very cheerfully together, broke up."

Of the night following, this gentleman (then at Salem) wrote:

"Perhaps it never was darker since the children of Israel left the house of bondage. This gross darkness held till about one o'clock, although the moon had full but the day before."

The Boston *Independent Chronicle* of June 8 quoted from Thomas's *Massachusetts Spy*:

"During the whole time a sickly, melancholy gloom overcast the face of nature. Nor was the darkness of the night less uncommon and terrifying than that of the day; notwithstanding there was almost a full moon, no object was discernible, but by the help of some artificial light, which when seen from the neighboring houses and other places at a distance, appeared through a kind of Egyptian darkness, which seemed almost impervious to the rays.

"This unusual phenomenon excited the fears and apprehensions of many people. Some considered it as a portentous omen of the wrath of Heaven in vengeance denounced against the land, others as the immediate harbinger of the last day, when *'the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.'*"

Not only over the land, but out at sea also, the unnatural darkness of the day and night of May 19, 1780, was observed. In the *Independent Chronicle* of June 15, 1780, a correspondent, telling of interviews with various observers, said:

"I have also seen a very sensible captain of a vessel, who was that morning about forty leagues southeast of Boston. He says the cloud which appeared at the west was the blackest he ever saw. About eleven o'clock there was a little rain, and it grew dark. Between one and two he was obliged to light a large candle to steer by.... Between nine and ten at night, he ordered his men to take in some of the sails, but it was so dark that they could not find the way from one mast to the other."

### Thoughts Turned to the Judgment

This writer commented as follows concerning the feelings awakened by the event:

"Various have been the sentiments of people concerning the designs of Providence in spreading the unusual darkness over us. Some suppose it portentous of the last scene. I wish it may have some good effect on the minds of the wicked, and that they may be excited to prepare for that solemn day."

The *Independent Chronicle* of June 22, 1780, printed a letter from Dr. Samuel Stearns, who had been appealed to because of his knowledge "in philosophy and astronomy." First, he disposed of one suggestion that had been made:

"That the darkness was not caused by an eclipse is manifest by the various positions of the planets of our system at that time; for the moon was more than one hundred and fifty degrees from the sun all that day."

Then, in the rather heavy language of the science of that period, this writer told how the action of the sun's heat was continually projecting into the atmosphere particles of earthy matter; and in his opinion it was some "vast collection of such particles that caused the late uncommon darkness." But as to the real accounting for the phenomenon he wrote:

"The primary cause must be imputed to Him that walketh through the circuit of heaven, who stretcheth out the heaven like a curtain, who maketh the clouds His chariot, who walketh upon the wings of the wind. It was He, at whose voice the stormy winds are obedient, that commanded these exhalations to be collected and condensed together, that with them He might darken both the day and the night; which darkness was, perhaps, not only a token of His indignation against the crying iniquities and abominations of the people, but an omen of some future destruction."

Thus men's minds were exercised by this sign "in the sun, and in the moon."

The early records of New York City tell of the interest excited there, though evidently the darkness was not so marked as it was farther north.

### **In the Connecticut Legislature**

President Timothy Dwight, of Yale College, a contemporary, left the following account of one of the historic incidents of the day:

"The legislature of Connecticut was then in session at Hartford. A very general opinion prevailed that the day of judgment was at hand. The House of Representatives, being unable to transact their business, adjourned. A proposal to adjourn the council [a second legislative body called the Governor's Council] was under consideration. When the opinion of Colonel Davenport was asked, he answered, 'I am against an adjournment. The day of judgment is either approaching or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause for an adjournment; if be found it is, I choose to doing my duty. I wish therefore that candles may be brought.'"—*Barber, "Connecticut Historical Collections," p. 403.*

It was this striking incident that Whittier described with the poet's pen:

**"Meanwhile in the old Statehouse, dim as ghosts,  
Sat the lawgivers of Connecticut,  
Trembling beneath their legislative robes.  
'It is the Lord's great day! Let us adjourn,'  
Some said; and then, as with one accord,  
All eyes were turned to Abraham Davenport  
He rose, slow cleaving with his steady voice  
The intolerable hush. 'This well may be  
The day of judgment which the world awaits;  
But be it so or not, I only know  
My present duty, and my Lord's command  
To occupy till He come. So at the post  
Where He hath set me in His providence  
I choose, for one, to meet Him face to face,—  
No faithless servant, frightened from my task,  
But ready when the Lord of the harvest calls;  
And therefore, with all reverence, I would say,  
Let God do His work, we will see to ours.  
Bring in the candles."**

Thus, in a manner that arrested the attention of men and put awe and solemnity into their hearts, with thoughts of the coming of the great day of God, the first of the predicted signs in the heavens was revealed.

At a later time, when students of the Bible seemed moved upon simultaneously, in both Europe and America, to give attention to the doctrine of Christ's second

coming, it was more generally understood that these signs had come in fulfillment of prophecy.

We look to the past, we see how truly the tokens of the coming King began to appear as the church of Christ emerged fully from the long, dark period of tribulation. A new era was dawning, in which the Lord was to fill the earth with light before His second appearing, according to His word to Daniel the prophet of Christ's soon coming in glory. Next month we'll talk about the "Falling Stars".

### **FROM KATIE'S COOKBOOKS**

#### **Apple – Oatmeal Breakfast Bars (Country Life) makes 16 2x2 bars**

1 cup shredded raw apples packed into cup  
1 tsp grated orange or lemon rind  
1 ½ cup regular oats  
2 tbsp oil  
¾ cup water  
½ tsp salt  
¾ cup chopped dates  
¼ cup chopped nuts  
1 ½ tsp vanilla

Blend ¾ cup oats on high to make oat flour. Pour into bowl and add remaining ingredients. Stir together well. Press evenly in lecithin-oiled 8x8 baking dish. Bake 375° for 20-25 minutes. When cool, cut into bars

We hope you have a nice Thanksgiving Day. Rodney and I are planning to go to Collegedale, TN to spend the day with Rodney's Sister and her family. We had hoped to see Rodney's brother Bob and sister Linda and their families there but we were disappointed to learn they won't be able to make it this year. We will miss you guys this year!

I went to Ft. Myers Fl for my granddaughter's wedding in Oct. It was such a blessing to see all my kids together and all my grandchildren. (except one). God is so good!

Until next time,

Remember God loves you and so do we!

Rodney and Katie Armstrong

## HARD TIMES

Before the brunt of the next depression hits us there are some things we need to study and learn if we want our families to survive.

We need to learn to prioritize, (put first things first)

What are the most important things in a person's life?

Speaking for myself, my **relationship with my God is most important** because He has promised if I will be faithful to Him He will supply all of my needs and my first need is salvation (eternal life). See: Philippians 4:19 and Matthew 6:31-33

We need **shelter, food, clothing, heat in the winter. We also need education on how to be healthy without expensive drugs and their side effects.**

Therefore we need a study on each vegetable and fruit; its vitamins and minerals and what physical condition or disease it will be effective in relieving. (All vegetables and fruits are super foods!)

**Our food is our medicine** and we need to know how to choose food because the cells in our bodies are made of the food we eat. Knowing how to prepare food is most important because it is what sustains our lives. Mothers and wives; your work as a mother and wife are of the utmost importance! Many a person has died from a lack of knowledge of proper nutrition.

Most food is overcooked and nutrition depleted. Knowing how to cook properly and combine foods is very important.

We will not always be able to afford insurance and doctors which will probably be a blessing because pharmaceuticals and doctors are responsible for most of the deaths in the world.)

Seven million eight hundred thousand (7,000,800,000) people died over a ten year period because of pharmaceuticals and doctors mistakes. Hildelisa, (my former wife) was one of them.)

There are some things, which we now feel are necessary, which we will probably need to forfeit, like: cable-tv, telephones, computers, the internet, eating out, movie going, vacations, etc.

You may think you cannot survive without these conveniences -but you can if you have to!

I was born during the great depression. We had no running water in the house. Our toilet was out in the back yard and had no heat. The Sears and Roebuck catalogue was our toilet paper.

We took our baths in the kitchen in a galvanized wash-tub. We heated our bath water on a coal burning kitchen stove.

I was probably twelve years old before we had a telephone and a teenager before we had television. We finally got a bathroom and water in the house.

Money was not easy to earn. Sometimes my Dad worked two shifts in a day in the coal mines to make enough to support us. He made fifty dollars a week.

Yes, the depression is coming and people will need to put first things first and we will get back to basics whether we want to or not.

People did live before television, telephone, internet, electricity etc. and may have to again.

It probably will be a blessing in disguise because we will have time to contemplate on things that are important.

Putting first things first isn't always easy. An alcoholic will put alcohol first when he needs food or shoes.

Addiction is insanity whether it be alcohol, tobacco, drugs or soap operas because they take time and money needed to sustain life and contemplate on survival. That survival could be our eternal life.

It is a fact that the gospel goes faster in countries where there is the most poverty and it looks like our government is doing every thing it can to destroy prosperity in America.

God is merciful, He will permit hard times to come so His children will see the need to come to Him.

Our money has absolutely nothing to back it up; it is created out of thin air and our national debt is so big we cannot even pay the interest on it. The bubble has to burst and we need to be ready for it.

Get out of debt. Those that have no bills will fare much better. If you have the means, move into the country to a place where you can grow and preserve food.

People living in the cities will have the hardest time. When food gets scarce people who are now peaceful will become violent in order to survive.

We must get back to basics and learn how to do without the luxuries we have become accustomed to. You can live on much fewer dollars than you might think. Pay those credit cards off as soon as possible and refuse to buy what you cannot afford.

God has promised to supply all of our needs but if we are wasting what He has already given us, can we expect more from Him?

He will not do for us what He has given us the strength and intelligence to do for ourselves.  
He blesses obedience and effort.

We must first make an intelligent effort and God will bless the effort. We must pray as everything depends upon God and work as if everything depends upon us and then we can expect God to fulfill His promises.

Isaiah 58 is one of my favorite chapters in the Bible. There are some beautiful promises in it.

“Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?”

Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward.

Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity;

And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day:

And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. Isaiah 58:5-11

Jesus said, “Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” Matthew 25:34-40

Yes our Lord has the power to soften the blow if we will come to Him and develop a love for Him and our neighbors but the blessings will not come if we are only trying to escape hard times.

We must love God because He first loved us. Just think, God our Father and His son Jesus have been together from all eternity and are the epitome of love. There is no greater love than they have for each other, but God was willing for Jesus to be sacrificed to save you and me from sin. Jesus was the only one who could atone for God’s broken law.

“Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friends.” John 15:13

Hard times must come to prepare us for better times with Jesus and the redeemed in Heaven and the earth made new.

It will be worth it all !!!



